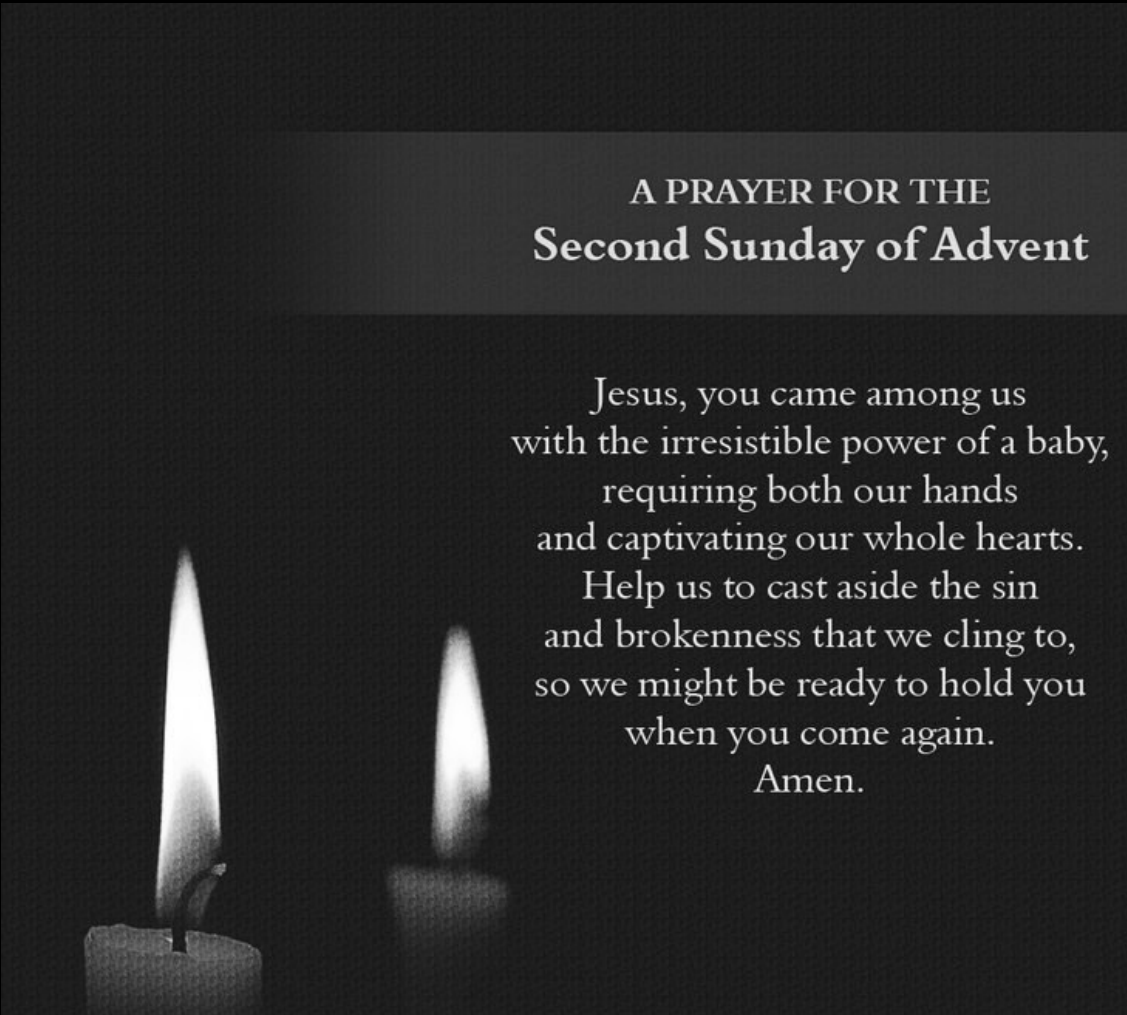


December 08, 2019

St. Francis of Assisi Parish

1031 Chenango Street, Binghamton, New York 13901

A PRAYER FOR THE Second Sunday of Advent



Jesus, you came among us
with the irresistible power of a baby,
requiring both our hands
and captivating our whole hearts.
Help us to cast aside the sin
and brokenness that we cling to,
so we might be ready to hold you
when you come again.
Amen.

Staff

Rev. Timothy Taugher, Pastor
Deacon Stephen Blabac
Delores A. Farwell
Parish Administrative Assistant
Maria Kirk
Director of Faith Formation
Joseph Carpenter
Parish Business Administrator
Suzanne Ekstrom
Parish Media Manager
Edmund Savo
Organist
Fred Hazlett
Maintenance/Groundskeeper
Agnes Miller
Housekeeping
Dominick Lomonaco
Nicholas Norton
Sacristans

Mass Schedule

Monday-Thursday
8:00 am at the Parish Center
Chapel
Saturday Evening
4:00 pm
Sunday Morning
8:00 am & 11:00 am

Confession:
2nd & 4th Saturday of every
month at 3:00 pm at the
Church

Office Hours:

Monday — Thursday:

7:30 am to 4:30 pm

Friday: 8:00 am to 12:00 pm

Parish Office Phone: 722-4388

Faith Formation Office Phone:
722-4177

E-mail:

stfrancisbing@syrдио.org

Website:

www.stfrancisbing.org

Follow us on FB & Twitter:

[@stfrancisbing](https://www.facebook.com/stfrancisbing)



Saturday, December 7, Vigil of Sunday
 4:00 p.m. Deceased members of the Totman & Truchan Family by Family

Sunday, December 8, Second Sunday of Advent
 8:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People
 11:00 a.m. 53rd Anniv. Albert Ritter by Family

Monday, December 9
 8:00 a.m. Arlene Johnson by the Kalivoda Family

Tuesday, December 10
 8:00 a.m. Rob Loftus by Wife, Sheila

Wednesday, December 11
 8:00 a.m. Richard Kapinus by Brother, Ed Kapinus

Thursday, December 12
 8:00 a.m. Dorothy Walter by Marge & Family

Friday, December 13
NO MASS

Saturday, December 14, Vigil of Sunday
 4:00 p.m. Karl M. Koch by Jim & Rose O'Neil

Sunday, December 15, Third Sunday of Advent
 8:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People
 11:00 a.m. Kay Lynch by Family

Catherine's Cupboard

Our parish pantry is open to anyone in need of food. We are open on the **1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month, 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.** No requirements except to show ID showing who you are. A person can come as often as needed. We are here to help, not to judge. So please pass the word to anyone you think may need assistance. Canned or dry goods, plus paper & personal care products (**toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, soap, baby diapers, women's personal items**) are always needed and welcome. Drop off in the barrel at the church foyer or leave the items in the Parish Center.

Weekend's Offering (11-17-19)

Regular Envelopes.....\$5,481.00
 Loose Collection.....\$255.00
 Electronic Collection.....\$484.00
 Total Collection.....\$6,220.00

Thank You for your generous contributions!

Faith Formation

Faith Formation this weekend for grades K-9 and Confirmation

Confirmation 2020 Rite of Acceptance at the 11 AM Mass.

Faith Formation Annual Christmas Program rehearsal Saturday, December 14th at 10 AM in the church. Rehearsal will last until 11:30.

Annual Christmas Program will be present at 9:30 AM on Sunday, December 15th in the Church. Refreshments will be served in the Parish Hall after the program. All are welcome to attend.

Confirmation 2020 Retreat will be held at the Newman Center January 5th. Permission slips have been distributed and are also online.

Giving Tree

Our GIVING TREE is up! We have 150 tags with requests from infants to the elderly. Please purchase the item or as close to the request as possible. Put items in GIFT BAGS **do NOT use wrapping paper as it is easier for groups to disburse.** The deadline is **December 8th.** Extra gifts can also be donated, we cover the Children's Home, Elizabeth Church Nursing Home, Birthright and the jail ministry plus families as we hear of with a need

Thank You for All You Do!

This year we have been so fortunate to have parish members tending a garden for the pantry visitor's, various groups donating year round (CF Girl Scout food drive is DEC 15th) and even a family member of a parishioner who brings a truck load of produce from his garden in New Hampshire. Simple words of THANKS seems so little for all we receive.....Nothing is possible without all of your support!

Children's Liturgy

December 7/8

4PM— Alison & Dan Brennan
 8AM— Cindy & Lauren White

December 14/15

4PM— Maria Kirk/Sue Lee
 8AM— Ede Blabac/Bridget Vavra

Prayers . . .

Please remember all of our parishioners who are in hospitals and nursing homes and our homebound. Also, please pray for our deceased parishioners and loved ones.



Border Experience

Many have asked me what my recent trip to McAllen, TX was like and what I saw. First, I did not travel alone. From our parish Carley Church, Emilie Kudela, and Bert Prohaska were part of our delegation to Texas. Along with them from our area; Deacon Ed Blaine and his wife Rose, and Jim and Judy Wolf. A wonderful representation from our area; that joined about eight others from upstate NY. So, upstate NY had a strong presence that made up the fifty people that could participate. It was great traveling with all of them, and truly appreciate all they did in their schedules to participate. We all returned impacted by all that we heard and saw. The situation in McAllen as well as many other areas on the border is a very fluid situation. Presently, refugees coming into our country is very low, but on the other side of the bridge in Mexico there is estimated 1,200 refugees living in tents and make-shift tarps, all waiting to have their cases heard, which can take months, or longer. The reason is due to a policy now in effect, Migrant Protection Protocols, that keeps asylum seekers in Mexico. This present policy goes directly against the U.N. Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol that “no contracting State shall expel or return a refugee in any manner whatsoever to the frontiers of territories where his [or her] life or freedom would be threatened on account of his [or her] race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion.”

Fortunately, many people and organizations are making trips daily across the bridge to bring food, personal items, medical supplies, and clothing, to make life on the border at more bearable.

Our time was spent meeting with various individuals and listening to what has been taking place over the last few years. It was very impressive on how people are organizing, and how they are trying to address the very challenging issue of immigration. My time was engaging, sad, and empowering— there is much work to be done!

— 

Star of Bethlehem Christmas Concert

The movie STAR OF BETHLEHEM and a Christmas music concert will be offered at the Kopernik Observatory & Science Center, 698 Underwood Road, Vestal, on **Friday, Dec. 13**. The Star of Bethlehem unlocks the mystery of the what the Wise Men saw in the night sky by relating scientific knowledge about astronomy and historical clues from the bible. Doors for this event open at 6:00 PM. At 6:30 PM, students in the flute studio of Aimee Backus will offer a concert of Christmas music. The movie begins at 7 PM.

Admission \$5 adults, \$3 seniors/students, \$16 family max, includes telescope viewing after movie (if clear). Kopernik members are free. Go to www.kopernik.org or call 607-748-3685 for more information.

Advent Penance Service

Our parish Advent Penance Service will be celebrated on **Sunday, December 15th at 4:00PM**. Visiting clergy will be here for individual confessions. Take this opportunity to prepare for Christmas, and make room in your hearts for Christ.

The Light is On
Monday, December 16th
4:00PM—7:00PM

Parishes throughout the area will be open for the Sacrament of Reconciliation during these allotted hours.

Pope Francis on Nuclear Weapons

Pope Francis made a recent trip to Japan, and his visit included visiting Hiroshima and Nagasaki, where he delivered a clear message; possessing or deploying atomic weapons is immoral. “Peace and international stability are incompatible with attempts to build upon the fear of mutual destruction, or the threat of total annihilation.”

Furthermore, he stated; “In a world where millions of children and families live in inhumane conditions, the money that is squandered and the fortunes made through the manufacture, upgrading, maintenance and sale of ever more destructive weapons are an affront crying out to heaven”

He spoke at the site where the United States exploded and atomic bomb on August 6th, 1945. This bomb killed 74,000 people by the end of that year and can be linked to the cancer deaths of many others who were there.

Why Volunteer?

There are so many reasons to volunteer:

- † *Lets you share your knowledge and talents.*
- † *Provides opportunities for making many new friends.*
- † *Brings the special fulfillment that comes only from helping others.*
- † *Helps you “get outside” yourself and put your own problems — even grief — in perspective.*
- † *Allows you to polish old skills and learn new ones.*
- † *Lets you “repay” an organization that has helped you or someone you love.*

****Attention Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, and Altar Servers!****

The holidays are upon us and so is the time for another ministry schedule.

This schedule covers January, February, and March of 2020. If you have any special requests please let us know **before December 15th**.

Again, let us know about those special requests Call Lynda & Joe Carpenter @ 772-6732 or email joseph.carpenter28@gmail.com.

Thanks... see you in church.

Catherine's Cupboard Volunteer Schedule

Transportation

Week of Dec. 8th — Michelle Warne

Week of Dec. 15th — George & Pat Clark

Shelving (Mondays)

December 9th — C. & B. Danoski

December 16th — K. Mohney

Distribution

December 17th — S. Lee, L. Gildea, A. Smilnak, A.

Short, J. Wyatt, AM. & S. Faughnan

Le Moyne & CYO College Scholarship

For many years, Le Moyne College and the Catholic Youth Organizations have worked together to offer eight \$4,000 scholarships (\$1,000/year). The C.Y.O. Scholarships will be conferred again this year to eight deserving students in the geographical Diocese of Syracuse. These scholarships will be awarded to prospective Le Moyne students who have demonstrated leadership abilities and have performed outstanding service to their school, community, and parish. Application packets are available on the parish website and at the parish center.

Deadline is January 1st, 2020

CHORUSES FOR CHOW

The Southerntiersmen Barbershop Chorus presents the 15th Annual Benefit concert for CHOW.

The concert will be held on Sunday, December 8 at 3:00 p.m. at St. Cyril's and Methodius Church

Come listen to the voices of The Southerntiersmen Barbershop Chorus, The Endwell Community Chorus, The Southern Tier Christian Community Choir
Call Ed Blaine for tickets at 607-372-1730.

\$10 in advance and \$12.00 at the door.

****Super 50/50 Raffle****

It's time again for our annual 50/50 Super Raffle here at St. Francis of Assisi Parish. The purpose and intent of the raffle is to assist in meeting some immediate needs of the Parish and to build earnings to renovate and update the church hall. Your assistance in supporting the raffle by purchasing tickets would be greatly appreciated.

We are selling 300 tickets this year instead of 400.

Drawing for all prizes to be held on

Sunday, December 15, 2019!

The drawing will begin at 10:00am in St. Francis' Church Hall following the Faith Formation Christmas Program.

Deadline for application is December 13th, 2019

Additional Applications are available at the Parish Center or e-mail us at: stfrancisbing@syrдио.org.

\$50.00 Check Payable to: St Francis of Assisi Parish

Mail completed applications & signed check to:

St. Francis of Assisi Parish

1031 Chenango Street

Binghamton, NY 13901

You do not need to be at the drawing to win.

Congratulations Bev Krinik!

Congratulations to Bev Krinik our parish's recipient of this year's Immaculata Award. The Immaculata Medallion is an award recognizing and honoring lay people who generously and unselfishly volunteer time and service to their parishes.

Every year when I am given the opportunity to nominate a parishioner, I find it very challenging because there are so many of our parishioners that certainly are nominees for this recognition. However, I find it important that our parish is recognized among all of the other parishes in the diocese that we too have exceptional parishioners doing wonderful work and ministry.

Bev and her husband John have been members of St. Catherine of Siena for 35 years, and have continued as members of St. Francis of Assisi for the last 10. When her family arrived she was involved in the parish school where her children attended. Her involvement has continued throughout the years.

One of our most vibrant ministries in the parish is Catherine's Cupboard, our food pantry that serves a wide range of people in our area. Bev has assembled a large and dedicated group of volunteers that unload food to arrange on the pantry shelves, and others who assist with distributing the food twice a month. The parish is very supportive to this outreach ministry with donations both of food and financial assistance. She has been able to connect our pantry with grants and other food services. Our pantry assists families during the year when emergencies occur, and during the various holidays.

Bev serves on our pastoral and financial councils, and facilitates our parish picnic in the summer. Bev has been very involved in overseeing the upkeep of our parish grounds with the planting of flowers, and making sure the landscape is reflective of the season.

She is always ready to assist in whatever roles needed. As a parish we can rely on her in helping us to fulfill our parish mission

Congratulations Bev, and thank you for accepting this recognition on behalf of our parish. Also, thank you to all our volunteers in the parish who do so much throughout the year.

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**St. Francis of Assisi Lectors,
Eucharistic Ministers & Altar Servers**
December 14th & 15th, 2019

4:00 P.M. Mass

Lector	Rosemary Rounds
EM Host	John Pierce
EM Host	Catherine Shafer
EM Host	Betsy Shields
EM Cup	Marge Mangan
EM Cup	Bob Shields
EM Cup	Daniel Minch
EM Cup	Dom Lomonaco
Altar Server	Dominic Lomonaco
Altar Server	Logan Lomonaco
Altar Server	Madelyn Strnatka

8:00 A.M. Mass

Lector	Ed White
EM Host	Scott Klein
EM Host	Denise Baxter
EM Host	Steve Baxter
EM Cup	Nancy Oliver
EM Cup	Melissa Kliment
EM Cup	Mike Stricek
EM Cup	Shirley McCray
Altar Server	Lauren White
Altar Server	Logan Kliment
Altar Server	Kathryn White

11:00 A.M. Mass

Lector	Virginia Thompson
EM Host	Rose O'Neil
EM Host	Chris Gill
EM Host	David Gill
EM Cup	Kerri Hamilton
EM Cup	Maria Lord
EM Cup	Anne Wolanski
EM Cup	David Hanzes
Altar Server	Abraham Watkins
Altar Server	Alexander Watkins
Altar Server	Nolan Sirgany

Question of the Week

Question for Children: Beyond toys and other things, what do you hope will happen in your family this Christmas?

Question for Youth: What are the greatest challenges you face as a young person today in terms of allowing Christ to be your teacher and following him?

Question for Adults: Name the one thing in your life which you must "move out of the way" in order to make more room for Christ – a grudge, a possession, a memory, hurt, or feeling

END OF BULLETIN

CHURCH NAME: St. Francis of Assisi
CITY, STATE: Binghamton, NY
FILE NAME: 06-168
PHONE: **607-722-4388**
Contact: Delores A. Farwell or Sue Ekstrom

Comments:
Bulletin copy for **December 8th, 2019**

Deliver 600 copies to St. Francis of Assisi.