

December 10, 2017

St. Francis of Assisi Parish

1031 Chenango Street, Binghamton, New York 13901

Second Sunday of Advent

Peace

Three lit candles are shown in the background, with the word 'Peace' written in a large, white, cursive font over them.

St. Francis of Assisi Parish is a Eucharistic faith community committed to living and sharing the Gospel life.

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
Dave Bollinger
Parish Pastoral Care Coordinator
Sue Ekstrom
Parish Media Manager
Edmund Savo
Organist

Office Hours:
7:30 am to 4:30 pm
Monday through Thursday
Friday 8:00 am to 12:00 pm

Parish Office: 722-4388
Fax: 722-1336
Faith Formation Office:
722-4177

E-mail:
stfrancisbing@syrдио.org

Website:
www.stfrancisbing.org

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



Saturday, December 9, Vigil of Sunday
 4:00 p.m. Richard Clendening, Frank Sr., Frank Jr. Florence & Shirley by the Parasiliti Family

Sunday, December 10, Second Sunday of Advent
 8:00 a.m. Rob Loftus by Wife, Sheila
 11:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People

Monday, December 11
 8:00 a.m. Jeffrey Ryder by Nelson & Mirtie Sessler

Tuesday, December 12
 8:00 a.m. Helen & John Kostun by Family

Wednesday, December 13
 8:00 a.m. Marge Parkhurst by Elaine Spaziano

Thursday, December 14
 8:00 a.m. Jean Adagio by St. Francis Special Sunshine Committee

Friday, December 15
NO MASS

Saturday, December 16, Vigil of Sunday
 4:00 p.m. Deceased members of the Totman & Truchan Families by Family

Sunday, December 17, Third Sunday of Advent
 8:00a.m. Robert Clark by Suzanne & Don Carr
 11:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People

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 (12-03-17)

Regular Envelopes.....\$7,866.00
 Loose Collection.....\$382.00
 Electronic Collection.....\$919.00
 Total Collection.....\$9,167.00

There is still time to make Hope Appeal donations before the end of the year! Thank you for your generosity!

Faith Formation

Faith Formation for Grades K-9 meets this week. Opening Prayer in the church. Dismissal from the school as usual.

Congratulations to: Calliope Brennan, Connor Ferrara, Ian Ginalski, Jordan Grenolds, Fiona Hamilton, Ella Hart, Camden Ingerson, Keaton Lasicki, Aubrey McMullen, Gavin Michalko, Isabelle Panella, John Paske, Marley Podhayski, Makenna Robertson, Aidan Robinson, Madeline Vesci, Adrianna Walker, Katherine Yahner and Mitchell Zeccola who celebrated First Reconciliation on Saturday. May you always feel the love our Jesus in your heart.

Our Annual Christmas Program will be preformed on Sunday, December 17th in the church, 9:45-10:15 in the church. Rehearsals will be on Saturday, December 16th from 12:30-1:30 PM. There will be a reception in the parish hall immediately after the performance on Sunday. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Looking Ahead:
 The Confirmation Retreat will be held Saturday, January 6th at the Newman Center.

Country Additions Fundraiser for Catherine's Cupboard

COUNTRY ADDITIONS gift shop, 1085 Chenango St, is holding a special fundraiser that will continue from now until December 23rd. for our food pantry, Catherine's Cupboard. There will be gifts, also, so stop in for more details. We thank the owners, Cindy Fedish & Joan Wintergrass, for remembering our pantry once again this year.

Oplatki (Christmas Wafers)

Oplatki (Christmas Wafers) are available at St. Francis' Parish Center. If you are interested, please call Delores at 722-4388 to reserve a package or stop by and pick some up during regular business hours. We have ordered only a limited quantity. Please, only two packets per family. No offering taken.

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 especially DeEtta Lalley.

December 10th: Second Sunday of Advent

Why is it so hard to forgive, yet so easy to get even? Listen to John the Baptist in today's gospel and repent of the anger and ugly feelings, which block your ability to forgive. This Christmas give a gift, which makes a difference. Give forgiveness.



Human Rights Day Prayer

Crucified God of Compassion, from borders of obscure wastelands, open our eyes to see the treacherous paths the oppressed and the destitute walk as they search for the promised land — a land free of fear and injustice.

Crucified God of Compassion, from the valley of grief, bring relief to those living in battlefields of violence. Heal those whose lives have been so damaged by war and greed, those who find themselves dancing between despair and hope.

Crucified God of Compassion, from darkness to light, chase away the intruders of injustice, those who cloud our vision and blind us to our role as responsible citizens of the world.

Crucified God of Compassion, from fear to trust, replace our close-mindedness with openness and show us how to rise from fear and wounded pride to stand hand in hand with the oppressed of our world.

Crucified God of Compassion, from misperception to clarity, remind us to stand on the shoulders of our ancestors and draw from the pool of their wisdom to guide us on the way to a just world.

Crucified God of Compassion, from the desert to the sea, keep the seeds of compassion growing within us, compassion that allows us to share "a drop of life," restores dignity, and overcomes indifference.

Crucified God of Compassion, as we travel the roads of life, empower us to live a faith that does justice. Empower us to be more daring— more eager to dress for action as we commit to being your defenders of life and dignity. Amen.

**Special Christmas Concert
(Cassie Pinataro & Greg Santa Croce)**

St. Francis of Assisi will be holding a special Christmas concert here with two of our young parishioners. Cassie Pinataro and Greg Santa Croce will be showcasing their musical talents on **December 20th at 7:00p.m.** Cassie is an incredible young singer who has made a name for herself having performed many times on stage, on camera, and at school (Chenango Forks High School) where she is a senior. Greg graduated from the University of North Texas with degrees in Jazz Studies and Organ Performance and has won many competitions as an accomplished organist. He is currently studying for his Masters in Sacred Music at University of Notre Dame. Please join us for a very special holiday performance to remember! A free will offering will be made to support the Santa Croce family while Megan Santa Croce undergoes treatments for her illness.



Blessing for Expectant Mothers/Parents...

will be offered on the weekend of December 16th and 17th. Advent is a season of hope and expectation as we anticipate in celebrating the birth of Christ. We wish to pray with and for those families as they await the birth of their new child. All expectant parents and their families are encouraged to attend the blessing.

4th Sunday of Advent and Christmas

Explanation

Your calendar for Christmas this year is somewhat confusing because the 4th Sunday of Advent coincides with Christmas Eve. We are observing the 4th Sunday of Advent by keeping our regular weekend schedule, (4:00P.M. on Saturday; 8:00 A.M. and 11:00 A.M. on Sunday). Our Christmas celebration begins with the 4:00P.M. liturgy on Sunday afternoon and the 10:00P.M. in the evening. Christmas Day will be at 8A.M. & 11A.M. The liturgies are both different — one doesn't suffice for the other. So observe both and both celebrations are obligatory!

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE 2017

Advent Penance Service

Sunday, December 17th at 4:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve

Saturday, December 24th

Liturgy at 4:00 p.m. & 10:00 p.m.

★ Christmas Day ★

Sunday, December 25th

Liturgy at 8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Catherine's Cupboard Volunteer Schedule
Transportation

Week of December 10th — George & Pat Clarke
Week of December 17th — Karen Dotson

Shelving (Mondays)

December 11th — K. Mohney
December 16th — C. Woodruff & M. Ryder

Distribution

December 19th — P. & M. Peters, K. Dotson, A. Smilnak, R. Serafini, A. Short, M. Hayes, J. Wyatt

Tax Bill Vote "NO" Update

Decisions about taxation involve fundamental concerns of "justice and equity", with the goal of taxes and public spending "becoming an instrument of development and solidarity". No tax bill is acceptable that increases taxes for those living in poverty to help pay for benefits to wealthy citizens.

Please, we urge you to call our Congresswoman Claudia Tenney [NY-22], at (202-225-3665) and tell her to vote "NO" on this tax bill. Pray that we may move forward with a bill that benefits not just those who are fortunate in our society.

"For there will never cease to be poor in the land. Therefore I command you, 'You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and to the poor, in your land.'"(Deuteronomy 15:11)

"Whoever oppresses a poor man insults his Maker, but he who is generous to the needy honors him." (Proverbs 14:31)

Collection for Homeless Coalition

Faith Formation will be collecting items for the Homeless Coalition again **from now until April 15th**. These are the needed items:

- Bottles of Water or Gatorade**
- Insulated Socks**
- Thermal Underwear (L/XL)**
- Warm Gloves/Hats**
- Hand/Feet Warmers**
- Ponchos**
- Toothbrushes**
- Wipes**
- Fast Food Gift Cards**
- Clif Bars**
- Cracker Sandwiches**
- Raisins (or other dried fruit)**
- Ziploc Bags**
- Drawstring Bags**

* All clothing must be new and must be men's sizes, since women can wear them too.

There is a box just inside the front door of the school on Sundays during Faith Formation. Another box is be at the church and another at the Parish Center.

Super 50/50 Raffle Winners!

Congratulations to the winners of our recent super raffle— the good news is that many are parishioners. With 267 tickets sold, we brought in \$13,350 total and split it \$6,675 for the parish and \$6,675 amongst the winners. So, the winners were...

- 1st Place [\$3,337]—(Ticket 173) Kay & Ed Corcoran**
- 2nd Place [\$1,335]—(Ticket 118) Angela Pinataro**
- 3rd Place [\$667.50]—(Ticket 91) John Paske**
- 4th Place [\$333.75]—(Ticket 13) Timothy Giblin**
- 5th Place [\$333.75]—(Ticket 31) Dot Davies**
- 6th Place [\$133.50]—(Ticket 27) Arlene Peters**
- 7th Place[\$133.50]—(Ticket 217) Elizabeth Sheehan**
- 8th Place [\$133.50]—(Ticket 162) Rosemary Markoff**
- 9th Place [\$133.50]—(Ticket 158) Donald Freer**
- 10th Place [\$133.50]— (Ticket 57) Anne Smilnak**

Thank you to all who contributed to the raffle with your purchase of one or more tickets. Your participation is appreciated. Also a **big thank you** to Mary and Margaret Quinn who dutifully recorded names, distributed tickets, and did the financial work— your assistance made this years' raffle successful.

Attention: Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers, & Lectors

It's time to begin work on the next quarter's schedule for the Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers, & Lectors. This schedule covers January, February, and March of 2018. If you have any special requests, please let us know before December 17th. We will be completing and submitting the schedule on December 20th.

Again, let us know about those special requests, such as dates you will be out of town or otherwise unable to serve. Call Lynda and Joe Carpenter at 607-772-6732 or email joseph.carpenter28@gmail.com.

Thank You!

Santa Croce Family, Thank You!

Thank you so very much for the generous donation to Megan's care. It has gone to good use in paying medical and travel expenses. Thank you also for the meals, help, and prayers for a complete recovery for our girl! Keep them coming! We hope and pray so hard that she will be restored to health so she can pursue her dreams in the world.

Sincerely, The Santa Croce's

Knights of Columbus 11403



Hooley in Hillcrest
Save the Date
March 10th, 2017



**St. Francis of Assisi Lectors,
Eucharistic Ministers & Altar Servers**

December 16th & 17th, 2017

4:00 P.M. Mass

Lector	Barb Brozovic
EM Host	Debbie Carden
EM Host	Bea Grace
EM Host	Bob Grace
EM Cup	Judy Murphy
EM Cup	Carol Danoski
EM Cup	Teresa Creeden
EM Cup	Peggy Munson
Altar Server	Delaney Wood
Altar Server	Liam Wood
Altar Server	Madelyn Strnatka

8:00 A.M. Mass

Lector	Ed White
EM Host	Debbie Davis
EM Host	Ede Blabac
EM Host	Joanne Horoschak
EM Cup	Nancy Oliver
EM Cup	Kurt or Kelly Mohney
EM Cup	Mary Ellen Vaverchak
EM Cup	Tim Vaverchak
Altar Server	Andrew Rice
Altar Server	Jonah Rice
Altar Server	Juliana Rice

11:00 A.M. Mass

Lector	William Bennett
EM Host	Joseph Frissora
EM Host	Dave Bollinger
EM Host	Jules Furrer
EM Cup	Sue Jones
EM Cup	Maria Lord
EM Cup	Steve Guth
EM Cup	Kerri Hamilton
Altar Server	Brendan Heaney
Altar Server	Nolan Sirgany
Altar Server	Quinn Sirgany

Question of the Week

Question for Children: How do you experience God taking care of you, even in times of trouble?

Question for Youth: John went out to announce the good news of the Messiah's coming. How can you be good news to your friends and family this week?

Question for Adults: When you hear Isaiah comfort the people by promising that God is like a shepherd who gathers the lambs into his arms, what is your response?

END OF BULLETIN

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

Comments:

Bulletin copy for **December 10, 2017**

Deliver 600 copies to St. Francis of Assisi.