

December 12, 2021

St. Francis of Assisi Parish

1031 Chenango Street, Binghamton, New York 13901



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
Suzanne Ekstrom
Parish Media Manager
Edmund Savo
Organist
Fred Hazlett
Maintenance/Groundskeeper
Tina Silvestri
Housekeeper
Brendan Heaney
Nicholas Norton
Sacristans

Office Hours:
Monday — Thursday:
7:30 am to 4:30 pm
Friday: Closed

Parish Office Phone: 722-4388
Faith Formation Office Phone:
722-4177

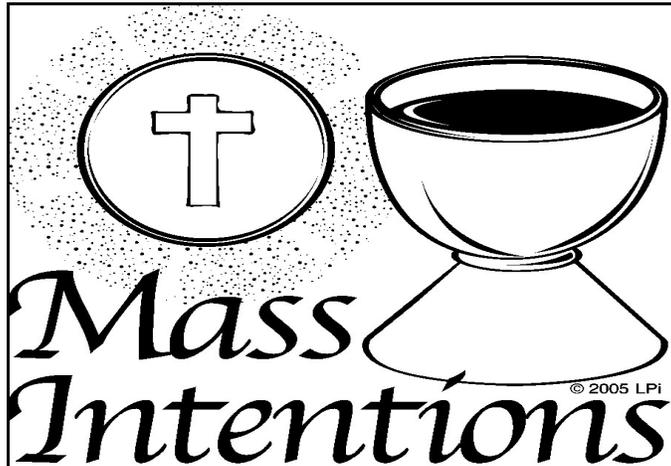
E-mail:
stfrancisbing@syrdio.org

Website:
www.stfrancisbing.org

Follow us on FB & Twitter:
[@stfrancisbing](https://www.facebook.com/stfrancisbing)

Please go online to
stfrancisbing.org to view
our latest weekend reflection.
We will be posting new
videos by 4:00PM on
Saturdays.

Also find the videos on our
Facebook (search
"@stfrancisbing")
Twitter (search
"@stfrancisbing")
YouTube (St. Francis of Assisi
Binghamton)



Saturday, December 11, Vigil of Sunday
 4:00 p.m. 50th Wedding Anniv. Tom & Marilyn Phalen by Karen Snieska
Sunday, December 12, Third Sunday of Advent

10:30 a.m. Kay Lynch by Family
Monday, December 13
 12:00 p.m. Thomas Husar by Chuck & Mary Guditis

Tuesday, December 14
 8:00 a.m. Richard Kapinus by Wife, Kathleen

Wednesday, December 15
 12:00 p.m. Dick Talbut by Wife, Doris

Thursday, December 16
 8:00 a.m. Alice Cavanagh by The Shields Family

Friday, December 17
NO MASS

Saturday, December 18, Vigil of Sunday
 4:00 p.m. Dorothy Walters by Family
Sunday, December 19, Fourth Sunday of Advent
 10:30 a.m. Bob Shields by Ruth Cole

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 (12-05-21)

Regular Envelopes.....	\$6,133.00
Loose Collection.....	\$645.00
Electronic Collection.....	\$3,172.00
Total Collection.....	\$9,950.00

Thank You for your generous contributions!

Faith Formation

Faith Formation for Grades K-9

Looking Ahead:

- † **December 18th First Reconciliation at 9:30AM** in the church.
- † Rehearsal for the Christmas Program will be Saturday, **December 18th 11 AM--12:30 PM**
- † The Annual Faith Formation Christmas Program will be **Sunday, December 19th at 9:30AM in the Church** followed by a reception in the hall.

Oplatki (Christmas Wafers)

Oplatki (Christmas Wafers) are available at St. Francis' Parish Center. If you are interested, please call Delores at (607) 722-4388 to reserve a package or stop by and pick some up during regular business hours. No offering taken

Advent Program--The Redemption of Scrooge

Discussions on "*The Redemption of Scrooge*" will continue **Tuesday, December 14th at 2 and 7 PM.** Please read the assigned chapters.

Christmas Mass Schedule

<i>Christmas Eve</i>	<i>Christmas Day</i>
4:00PM & 10:00PM	10:30AM

December 25th - NO 4:00PM MASS

Holy Family Sunday (Dec. 26th) - 8:00AM & 10:30AM



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 Rita Lobacz.



**Synod in the Syracuse Diocese
Community Participation Mission**

The Listening Session across the diocese have begun! The list of sessions which have been scheduled to date is below and the list will be updated. We invite and encourage all who wish to participate in a Listening Session to come and speak freely, boldly, and courageously to our Bishop. For everyone's safety we require everyone wear a mask.

Bishop Lucia will be holding several Listening Sessions in preparation for the World Synod of Bishops and the Syracuse Diocesan Synod. These will be opportunities for your participation in the Synodal Journey by sharing your hopes, dreams, and concerns for the church. Those who are interested but have been away from the church are especially encouraged to come. All are welcome!

All Listening Sessions will be held from 6:30PM—8:30PM. See the schedule below...

Monday, December 13	St. Vincent de Paul Blessed Sacrament (465 Clubhouse Rd, Vestal NY)
Wednesday, December 15	St. Thomas Aquinas (1 Aquinas St, Binghamton NY)

Synodality is this a way of being Church, a way of journeying together in communion, through participation in mission to live the good news of Christ.

A way of preparing for our upcoming listening session, use these suggested questions to assist you in what you would like to share with Bishop Lucia...

- 1.) What are your hopes and dreams?
- 2.) How do you experience the presence of the Risen Christ in your parish?
- 3.) Who is missing in our parish life?
- 4.) What would you like the church to be in the future?

****If you missed the first listening session please feel free to attend one or both of the next two dates. If you cannot make it in person to one of these sessions you may email Sr. Katie Eiffe, CSJ at keiffe@syrdio.org with the subject line "Individual Input for the Synod" and give additional ideas that you wish to offer as input for the Synod. ****

3rd Sunday of Advent: Creation Care Tips

"And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.'" —Luke 3:10-11

Are you ever at a loss for what gift to buy a person who has everything? This Christmas season, why not use the money you would spend on them to donate to a charity in their name? Pick a charity or a cause that is important to them and then let them know what you have done. Such a gift will have no negative environmental impact, and it can be your version of sharing a coat or food with someone who has none, rather than giving more to someone who already has plenty. Besides, *not* buying something is the first step in the "refuse, reduce, reuse, recycle" continuum.



'The Light is On For You' is an initiative of the Archdiocese of Washington and the Diocese of Arlington where Catholic churches across the United States are open for quiet prayer and Confession throughout Lent.

We will be participating in The Light Is On For You in our Parish on

Monday, December 20th, from 4:00PM—6:00PM in the parish center chapel.

By participating in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, whether our first time in days, weeks, months or years, we are experiencing God's individual and unwavering love for us, and one of the true graces made available to us by our Catholic faith. God loves us just the way we are, but he loves us too much to leave us that way. When we return to the Church for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Jesus rejoices like the father in the Parable of the Prodigal Son. It is never "too late" to return to Jesus and ask for forgiveness. Imagine how joyful you will feel upon confessing your sins, big or small!

Immaculata Award Recipient: Nora Bush



Eleven years ago, Bishop Cunningham established the Immaculata Award to recognize members of the laity in our diocese for their outstanding service to Christ and his Church. Our parish has recognized such people every year. This year we are happy to announce that our

Immaculata Award recipient is Nora Bush. Nora Bush serves in the catechetical ministry in our parish and is an outstanding witness for our young people. Nora's humility is evident in many different and behind the scenes ways. Her outstanding lessons in the care of the environment (Laudato Si) caused our parish to be the first winner of the Green Apple Award for parish Faith Formation programs. She has organized volunteers to work and be part of our parish's Laudato Si committee, she has written many grants so that our Faith Formation students have access to Smart TVs, tablets, and many other technological updates. Nora has the heart of a catechist demonstrated by sharing her faith with our youth. Her service to our parish is a blessing. Congratulations to Nora Bush, our 2021 Immaculata Award recipient!

Congratulations Eileen Forsyth

We at St. Francis of Assisi would like to congratulate Eileen Forsyth on her recent birthday. This birthday makes Eileen our parish's oldest active member at 102 years old. Join us in wishing Eileen Forsyth a Happy Birthday!

Catherine's Cupboard Volunteer Schedule

Transportation

NO TRANSPORTATION

Shelving (Mondays)

NO SHELIVING

Distribution

December 21st— J. Wyatt, K. Dotson, A. & S. Faughnan

Bereavement Support Group **A journey from grief to healing**

For those who are living through the loss of a loved one, our highly successful support group provides a safe space to share ideas, thoughts and experiences that can lead to healing. This is one of life's most difficult journeys and there is no need to travel it alone. New knowledge, skills and perceptions can ease your way to move on without your loved one. This 9 week program will begin on January 6th 2022 from 1:30PM—3:00PM and from 6:30PM to 8:00PM at the St. Francis of Assisi Parish Center. For more information and to register, please call Ginny Thompson at 607-222-1621.

2022 Le Moyne College CYO 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. Please send me 2-4 students that you would recommend for this award. 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.

You can find the application packet on our website stfrancisbing.org under the "scholarship forms and contests" tab. Completed application packets must be returned to the **Regional Chairperson, NOT Le Moyne College, no later than January 1st, 2022.** For questions or concerns please call (315)445-4300.

Hospital Visitation

Please remember, if you or another parishioner gets admitted to either Binghamton General Hospital or UHS Wilson Medical Center and you wish to be visited by Fr. Tim you need to tell someone. You should indicate that you are Catholic and belong to St. Francis of Assisi parish and that you wish to be visited by Fr. Tim or another Clergy member if you wish.

For Potential Godparents and Sponsors **for Baptisms or Confirmation**

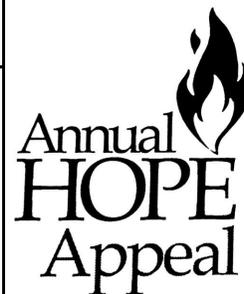
Anyone looking to be a Godparent or Sponsor to a Confirmation Candidate **MUST** be a registered member of St. Francis of Assisi to be able to get a letter of certification.

This is the only way that the Church can verify you are a practicing Catholic. Please call Delores at the Parish Center (722-4388) for questions.



Our Giving Tree will be up on **Saturday, November 27th until Sunday, December 12th**. Please pick a tag and purchase the requested item, then return back to the tree area no later than **THIS WEEKEND**. Please keep gifts **UNWRAPPED** but gift bags are fine.

Gifts will be going to **The Children's Home**: gift certificates only; **Elizabeth Church Manor Nursing home**: small personal gifts; **Jail Ministry**: bus passes (Weis sells them), playing cards, postage stamps, etc; **Birthingright of Binghamton**: diapers for newborn or small size and other baby items like clothing, blankets etc. Other extra gifts are always welcome, just label it "extras" (suggestions: blankets for adults, children's books, soft candy or cookies and socks/gloves/hats for all sizes/ages) This has been a long tradition for our parish and enjoyed by those who give and those who receive. **THANK YOU!**



I am reporting to you that St. Francis of Assisi Parish has **raised \$24,000** toward our HOPE Appeal **goal of \$43,000**. If we do not meet this goal, the shortfall will be taken from our general fund. In an effort to meet our goal, I am asking every family in the parish to consider a minimum gift of \$175.00 (averages out to \$0.48 a day or \$14.38 a month). If you are able to contribute more, I strongly encourage you to do so. **THANK YOU to those who have already contributed. PLEASE NOTE.... the Hope Appeal ends at the end of December.**

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Would you like to be a fully initiated Catholic, but have yet to complete sacraments? This is just to let you know that on any Sunday that we have Faith Formation, Deacon Steve will be in the Emmaus Room in the school basement available to talk about the RCIA Rite. If you have a desire to join our Parish Community as a full member of the Catholic Church or just learn more about the RCIA, please drop in anytime between **9:15AM and 10:00AM** to talk about what the RCIA is all about.

Safe Environment Week: Coloring Contest

Students in Grades Pre K – 12 may choose one of four coloring sheets and use their creativity with crayons, markers, colored pencils, or watercolors. (No glitter, please.) One winning entry will be chosen per grade. Winners will receive a \$50 Amazon gift-card. Submissions are due by **Friday, December 17, 2021**. Winning entries will be showcased in The Catholic Sun and on diocesan social media during National Child Abuse Prevention Month (April 2022).

For more information go to...
syracusediocese.org/safe-environment/safe-environment-week/safe-environment-coloring-contest/

**St. Francis of Assisi Lectors,
Eucharistic Ministers & Altar Servers**
December 18th & 19th, 2021

4:00 P.M. Mass

Altar Server.....Calliope Brennan
Altar Server.....TBD
Altar Server.....TBD
Lector.....Frederick Allabaugh Sr.
EM.....Steve Baxter
EM.....Denise Baxter

10:30 A.M. Mass

Altar Server.....Jessica Wojnar
Altar Server.....Kathryn White
Altar Server.....Lauren White
Lector.....Ed & Kay Corcoran
EM.....Maureen Mizzoni
EM.....Virginia Thompson

Children's Liturgy of the Word Schedule

4:00PM

TBD

10:30

TBD

Please go online to
stfrancisbing.org
to view our latest Sunday mass and
Children's Liturgy.

We will continue to post new videos for
reflection by 4:00PM on Saturdays.

Also find the videos on our
Facebook (search "@stfrancisbing")
YouTube (St. Francis of Assisi Binghamton)

**You can still view children's liturgy
virtually!**

Question of the Week

Question for Children: Why is it so
important to keep promises which
you have made?

Question for Youth: What do you re-
member from stories about your Bap-
tism? What does your Baptism mean
to you now?

Question for Adults: How can you
live the promise of your Baptism each
day?

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 12th, 2021**

Deliver 250 copies to St. Francis of Assisi.