

December 13, 2020

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@syrдио.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 Sunday mass. We will be posting new videos of our weekend liturgies by 4:00PM on Saturdays **even after our reopening.**

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

You can still attend weekend mass virtually!



Saturday, December 12, Vigil of Sunday

4:00 p.m. James Foran by Kathy & Glen Tait

Sunday, December 13, Third Sunday of Advent

8:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People

11:00 a.m. Richard Kapinus by Wife, Kathleen

Monday, December 14

12:00 p.m. Peg Feheley by Bonnie Mando

Tuesday, December 15

8:00 a.m. Ann Marie Spenard by St. Francis Special Sunshine Committee

Wednesday, December 16

12:00 p.m. Gerald Davies by Marge Mangan

Thursday, December 17

8:00 a.m. Peggy McCormack by Sue Bucci & Maria Kirk

Friday, December 18

NO MASS

Saturday, December 19, Vigil of Sunday

4:00 p.m. Living Intention – Theresa Foran by Kathy & Glen Tait

Sunday, December 20, Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People

11:00 a.m. Peg Smith by Arlene Peters

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 (12-06-20)

Regular/Holy Day Envelopes.....\$9,082.00
 Loose Collection.....\$42.00
 Electronic Collection.....\$3,413.00
 Total Collection.....\$12,537.00

Thank You for your generous contributions!

FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation for grades K-9 this weekend at 9:30 AM in the school.

First Reconciliation will be celebrated in January 2021.

No Confirmation Retreat in January. Confirmation candidates will have class **January 3rd** in the parish hall. The retreat has been rescheduled for spring 2021.

Zoom Book Club

The book club has been missing due to the need to social distance during the Pandemic. We are going to attempt a book club using Zoom. Many of you are already familiar with Zoom but you will need a device that connects you to the Internet. We are planning on two sessions, starting on the first Tuesday of January 2021 at 2PM & 7PM. We're aiming for 10 attendees (a household counts as an attendee). I think 10 is a reasonable number to start with. We will be reading and talking about Pope Francis' new encyclical called Fratelli Tutti which means All Brothers (and Sisters too I might add). Please contact the Delores in the Parish Office or call Deacon Steve at 607-648-2155 or steveblabac@yahoo.com to register. The encyclical is available at many sources but we will wait to see if anyone is interested before putting an order in.

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE 2020



Oplatki (Christmas Wafers)

Oplatki (Christmas Wafers) are available at St. Francis' Parish Center. If you are interested, please call Delores at the Parish Center (722-4388) to reserve a package or pick some up during regular business hours. 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.

3rd Week of Advent
Weekly Justice Challenges

December 18 is International Migrants Day. Migrant workers are often denied basic human rights—the right to a just wage or to safe working conditions or to benefits. They often have no voice in the decisions which affect their lives. Your challenge this week is to learn more about the work of the Catholic Church of the U.S. with migrants and refugees. Go online to www.usccb.org/committees/migration. Read some of the information provided by the Bishops’ Conference about the issue of migrants and refugees and how it connects to our Catholic faith. Then click on “How You Can Help” and choose one action on behalf of migrants which you as a family would like to do. Perhaps you want to read a statement by our U.S. Catholic Bishops or do advocacy on behalf of migrants and refugees. You may want to volunteer or get your parish mobilized to help. It doesn’t matter what you choose to do; stand in solidarity with your brothers and sisters who move from farm to farm, from place to place, to find work just so they can feed their families and live in hope.

Immaculata Award

Ten years ago, Bishop Cunningham established the Immaculata Award to recognize members of the lay faithful around the Diocese of Syracuse for their outstanding service to Christ and his Church. In our parish over these years a number of parishioners have been recipients of this award. This year we are happy to share with you that Scott and Donna Iglar are receiving this recognition. Scott and Donna have done much for the parish throughout the years, especially in regards to our Liturgical environment that captures special celebrations. Whether it’s Easter, All Souls Remembrance, Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmas, or any other occasion, they give their time to enhance our church for the special moments. We enjoy the end result but it comes about from the many hours of planning, organizing, and putting it together. They also have had wonderful assistance from various parishioners who work with them. We are very fortunate as a parish to have many people like Scott and Donna who are outstanding in the service they contribute for the good of the parish. So, Congratulations Scott and Donna Iglar as this year’s recipients of the Immaculata Award!



Christmas Affirmations

I believe that Christmas is more than a time for parties and ornaments; it is a time for remembering Christ and the incarnation of God’s love in human flesh.

I believe there are gifts more important than the ones under the Christmas tree: the things we teach our children, the way we share ourselves with friends, and the industry with which we set about reshaping the world in our time.

I believe that the finest carols are often sung by the poorest voices, from hearts made warm by the wonder of the season.

I believe in the angel’s message that we should not be afraid—that the Child of Bethlehem is able to overcome all anxieties and insecurities.

I believe in prayer and quietness as a way of appropriating Christmas—that if I wait in silence I will experience the presence of the one born in the manger, for He lives today as surely as He lived then.

I believe in going away from Christmas as the wise men went: “another way” I want to be different when these days are past, more centered, more thoughtful, and more caring.

The Light is On for You

As we prepare for the celebration of Christmas, the Sacrament of Penance will be available at the Parish Center in the Chapel during the following times:

- ✦ Wednesday, December 16th: 5:00PM—6:00PM
- ✦ Monday, December 21st: 4:00PM—7:00PM

These past months in trying to adjust to the COVID-19 virus have interrupted many aspects of our Sacramental life. These listed times will hopefully be helpful and encouraging for you to come celebrate and receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

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.

PLEASE, LET US KNOW THE NAMES AND THE ADDRESSES OF ANY SHUT-INS AT HOME OR IN NURSING HOMES. WE WOULD LOVE TO REACH OUT IN ANY WAY WE CAN! CALL DELORES AT THE PARISH CENTER (607)722-4388 TO LET US KNOW! THANKS!

Catherine's Cupboard Volunteer Schedule

Transportation

NO TRANSPORTATION

Shelving (Mondays)

NO SHELIVING

Distribution

December 15th— J. Wyatt, C. Botting, & D. Dobish

THE GIVING TREE 2020

"Tis the season" but this year we are doing it a little different, we want YOU to decorate the tree with gift cards see below.

Gift cards should be in values of \$20-\$25; Visa or Master cards work also.

"Children's Home holiday will look a bit different this year. Keeping safety as our first priority, not only for our youth and families, but for our community, we will be sending home family bags. The bags will contain a gift card from a grocery store, a warm blanket and a meaningful family activity. **We are requesting gift cards from Walmart, Target and Aldi's for the family bags.** Our goal is to help families engage in ways they may not have previously; while keeping you and your family safe by providing alternative ways to donate. With your donation we are one step closer to creating healthier, stronger family units in our community."

We also give gifts to Elizabeth Church Nursing Home which we will do again this year. **Instead of taking a tag just pick up a gift and leave under the tree in a holiday bag not gift wrapped.** Suggested items all under \$10 value would be hair brushes and accessories hair bands, barrettes etc. Residents have not been allowed to get their hair styled since MARCH due to COVID. Tins of cookies, soft blankets, or candy also are great gifts for them.

Our tree will be up on November 28th through December 13th. If you are not attending mass feel free to drop off items at the parish center during regular hours (Mon.—Thurs. 8AM—4PM) So shop at your local grocery or drug store for these items and STAY SAFE

Instructions for Celebration of Sacraments

In order to permit Mass each parishioner must:

- † Seek information for registration for Mass, and procedures
- † Remain home if sick, symptomatic, or at risk
- † Wear a face mask in church (required) and, if possible, bring personal hand sanitizer
- † Observe the commands on the posted signage and follow the directives of ushers

Prepare for the reception of Holy Communion:

- † Masks will be worn by ALL
- † Direction will be provided for those receiving
- † The Precious Blood will NOT be offered
- † Reception will involve: receiving the Body of Christ in the hand **ONLY**, stepping aside, lifting the mask, consuming the Eucharist, returning the mask..
- † Please maintain social distancing of 6 feet!

LET YOUR Soul SHINE

with Matthew Kelly

A FREE DAILY
ADVENT EXPERIENCE

Making 2021 the Best Year of Your Life
Begins at **BestAdventEver.com**

This Advent, please join your fellow parishioners for Dynamic Catholic's **BEST ADVENT EVER: LET YOUR SOUL SHINE**. Every day during Advent, you'll receive an email with a short video from Matthew Kelly and the Dynamic Catholic team. It's completely free and easy to sign up. All you have to do is go to

BestAdventEver.com and enter your name and email address. I encourage you to invite your family and friends once you sign up.

Again, that's **BestAdventEver.com**.

Want to make 2021 the best year of your life?

It begins with a great Advent.

So, let's all have an amazing Advent, together!

PARISH REGISTRATION

Our warmest welcome to all! We extend our hands and hearts in Christian fellowship to you, celebrating with us, whether you're a long-time resident or newly arrived in the Parish. Please check the appropriate box and place in the collection basket or return to the Parish Center. *We thank God that you're with us.*

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Cell Phone _____

- New Parishioner, send registration form
- Change of address or phone number
- Temporarily away. Stop envelopes
- Moving, please remove from Parish Roster

**St. Francis of Assisi Lectors,
Eucharistic Ministers & Altar Servers**
December 19th & 20th, 2020

4:00 P.M. Mass

Designation ONLY

8:00 A.M. Mass

Designation ONLY

11:00 A.M. Mass

Designation ONLY

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YouTube (St. Francis of Assisi Binghamton)

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virtually!**

**Children’s Liturgy of The Word will be
posted by Noon on Saturdays!**

Question of the Week

Question for Children: As we get closer to Christmas, name one thing you really want for your home or the world, such as peace, friendship, or food for the poor.

Question for Youth: John tried to help people prepare their lives for the coming of the Messiah. What do you need to change about your life to be ready for Jesus’ coming?

Question for Adults: If you were to write three suggestions for those who follow Jesus, to keep them strong in their faith, what would you write?

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 13th, 2020**

Deliver 250 copies to St. Francis of Assisi.