

December 14, 2025

# St. Francis of Assisi Parish

1031 Chenango Street, Binghamton, NY 13901

*What do you want for Christmas?*



## **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  
Sarah Bush/ Calliope Brennan /  
Logan Kliment  
Sacristans

## **Office Hours:**

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

## **Confession:**

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

**Parish Office Phone:** 722-4388

## **Faith Formation Office**

**Phone:**  
722-4177

**E-mail:**  
stfrancisbing@syrdio.org

**Website:**  
[www.stfrancisbing.org](http://www.stfrancisbing.org)

Please go online to  
**stfrancisbing.org** to view  
our latest Children's Liturgy.  
We post new videos by  
4:00PM on Saturdays.

**Follow us on Facebook**



**@stfrancisbing**

**Subscribe to our YouTube  
Channel:**



**youtube.com/  
@stfrancisbing**



**Saturday, December 13, Vigil of Sunday**

4:00 p.m. Louis Mazzitelli by Family

**Sunday, December 14, Third Sunday of Advent**

10:30 a.m. Patrick Fitzgerald by the Roger's Family

**Monday, December 15**

12:00 p.m. Dick Talbut by Family

**Tuesday, December 16**

8:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People

**Wednesday, December 17**

12:00 p.m. Eric Mangan by Larry & D.D. Koch

**Thursday, December 18**

8:00 a.m. Kathleen Keane by Joan & John Storer

**Friday, December 19**

**NO MASS**

**Saturday, December 20, Vigil of Sunday**

4:00 p.m. Betti & Steve Charsky by Mary Frances

**Sunday, December 21, Fourth Sunday of Advent**

10:30 a.m. Richard Kapinus by the Kapinus Family

**Catherine's Cupboard**

CATHERINE'S CUPBOARD has been serving our community for the past 20+ years, it's **open the 1st & 3rd Tuesday each month from 1PM—3PM and 5PM till 7PM (or until all are served).** We serve anyone who comes, asking only for ID, if they have any. As members of SOUTHERN TIER FOOD BANK, we purchase at wholesale (or less), providing **basic dry or canned goods, fresh fruit and vegetables, dairy, and frozen meats.**

We try to provide **5 days of meals** and include **personal care items** also. We operate on **100% donations or grants.** Our location at the parish center means we have most overhead costs covered. However, we serve over 1500 people, requiring a budget of close to \$60,000 a year. PLEASE tell anyone you know who is feeling food insecure to stop in. **If you would like to donate food items, they can be left at parish center or food barrel in church foyer. Monetary donations can be mailed to our parish office or via the online giving tab at [stfrancising.org](http://stfrancising.org)**

**Profit & Loss Weekly Summary (12-01-25)**

Ordinary Contributions.....	\$9,019
Loose Cash.....	\$263
Repair & Maintenance.....	\$400
Catherine's Cupboard.....	\$2,415
Catholic Schools.....	\$5
Other.....	\$2,374
Capital Campaign.....	\$30
<b>Total Contributions.....</b>	<b>\$14,506</b>
Ordinary Expenses.....	\$8,426
Repair & Maintenance.....	\$769
Catherine's Cupboard.....	\$1,134
Capital Improvements.....	\$200
<b>Total Expenses.....</b>	<b>\$10,529</b>
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b>\$3,977</b>

**Faith Formation**

Faith Formation K—8 meets as usual this Sunday in the Parish Hall

**Looking Ahead:**

† Our Annual Christmas Pageant will take place on Sunday, December 21st at 9:00AM in the Parish Hall— ALL ARE WELCOME TO COME AND WATCH



**Children's Choir Schedule 2025:**

**December: 14th, 21st**

All rehearsals will be on **Sunday from 11:45am-12:30pm.** Contact [natalieehrensbeck@gmail.com](mailto:natalieehrensbeck@gmail.com) with questions.



**"The Light is On For You"** is an initiative where Catholic churches across the United States are open for quiet prayer and Confession. We will be participating in The Light Is On For You on **Monday, December 15th, from 4:00PM—6:00PM in the parish center**

**chapel.** 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!

**Oplatki (Christmas Wafers)**

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

**\*ATTENTION: Lectors, EMs & Altar Servers\***

It is time again to make the schedule for January, February, and March. If there are weekends when you are **not** available to Lector, Eucharistic Minister, or Altar Serve, let us know. Call Ed and Cindy White at 607-648-2784 or by cell phone 607-206-3469 **BEFORE DECEMBER 22ND!**

**3rd Sunday of Advent Gospel Short**

**The Position of Savior Is Filled**

The Text: "John... sent word by his disciples, 'Are you he who is to come, or shall we look for another?'" (Matt. 11:13) John the Baptist asked of Jesus: "Are you he who is to come, or shall we look for another?" In other words, "Are you the Messiah or not?" Jesus' answer spoke of his ministry then underway -his deeds of mercy, his proclamation of the Good News of God, the inauguration of God's kingdom on earth. "Yes," our Lord was saying. "The position of Savior is filled."

Christmas is about taking Christ at his word. We don't need anyone else to call Lord. Christ has come. Christ is God being with us person-to-person, face-to-face, heart-to-heart. When realize the difference Christ makes and has made throughout the centuries, we understand deeper meaning of Christmas: God with us.

**Advent Stewardship**

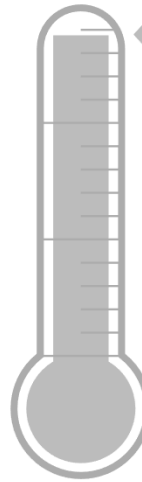
**Where We Give Money**

A friend of mine, a respected pastor, was once asked what the two greatest needs in the church were today. "The first," he said, "is preaching, the second — money." He knew that preaching sets forth the word of God, but money enables the work of God. Without both, God's Kingdom won't be furthered much. To put it another way, the places we make our most serious financial investments, where we spend and give our money, are the places where our real self, our inner self, really is. Where we put our money will be where we are most interested, most teachable, most responsive, most open! To deal with a person in terms of what he does with his money is to deal with most people where they really live. Financial giving can be an avenue to spiritual growth in a unique way. It can be so if we put ourselves and our money on the line for the Lord's work - because as Jesus said, "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

**The Grace of Giving**

Advent again, and our thoughts turn to Christmas; to the festal remembrance of the coming of the Christ. We give gifts to remember that God gave the greatest gift. God is the gift of God, for the only gift worth the giving is oneself. All sincere gifts are signs of personal love. To give a gift with no love for the one to whom we give is the greatest lie. The unmeant gift from the unloving heart is the cruelest deceit. God so loved the world that God gave his only son, and the son so loved us that he gave himself for our salvation. People have only one real need. We can get along with good food, clothes, and shelter, but we can't get along without each other. Our Christmas gifts are meaningful treasures no matter how little we pay for them, if they are symbols of our honest love. For gifts are different. They get their value from what we mean by them, not from what we pay for them. In the end, my real gift is myself. All other gifts are but signs of this gift of me. The gift of me must be made day by day in each encounter with a fellow person.

**\$30,684**

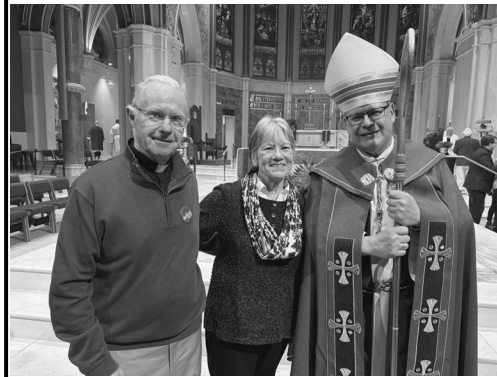


Raised  
**\$30,030**

**2025 HOPE APPEAL**

Thank you for your support of the 2025 HOPE Appeal. We are inspired by the generosity of **133 donors** thus far in our parish. We have raised **\$30,030** toward our goal of **\$30,684**. **ONLY \$650 LEFT!** If you have not yet made your gift, we ask you please help us meet our goal. You may bring your completed pledge card to Mass next week or drop it off at the parish office. You can also donate online at [syrdio.org/hopeappeal](http://syrdio.org/hopeappeal) or on our parish website's "online giving" tab.

**CONGRATULATIONS**  
**IMMACULATA AWARD RECIPIENT**  
**BARB BROZOVIC**



We are happy to announce that our Immaculata Award goes to Barb Brozovic. Barb serves as a Lector, Eucharistic Minister, and most importantly a faithful parishioner who is always ready to see

what she and her husband, Don, can do. She and Don can often be seen in Catherine's Cupboard assisting in our food pantry, sorting food and stocking shelves. Barb in her spare time is an artist, and her paintings are certainly marvelous works. Some of her paintings have been donated to the parish to be raffled off to support our parish Creation Care Team. These beautiful works have also been made into cards, such as Christmas cards. Barb has a wonderful personality and is so gracious. Several years ago, Don had a serious stroke that resulted in a process of rehabilitation and has made significant progress. Barb's caregiving certainly contributed to his being able to participate with Barb in daily life. **CONGRATULATIONS BARB!** Thank you for all you do. When you see her extend your congratulations as well.

**World Marriage Day Celebration**

43rd Annual World Marriage Day will be celebrated on February 15th, 2:00pm, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Syracuse. Bishop Lucia will celebrate Mass and invite all couples in attendance to renew their commitment to Holy Matrimony. He will specially honor couples who will celebrate their 25th, 50th, and beyond 50 anniversary in 2026. If celebrating such an anniversary please contact the parish office to receive a special invitation from Bishop Lucia.

## Catherine's Cupboard Distribution Volunteer Schedule December 16th

**1:00—3:00PM**

**5:00PM—Until Served**

K. Fitzgerald, C. Murray,  
M. Mizzoni, &  
P. Simonis

M. Hayes, N. & D.  
Oliver, and B. Grace



CATHERINE'S CUPBOARD

### DONATION PAMPHLET

Please feel free to take a Catherine's Cupboard donation pamphlet in the back of the church or at the parish center. This pamphlet has some great information about our food pantry as well as many easy ways to contribute to the pantry. There are numerous ways YOU can help those in need right here in our community. The pantry relies on people like you to do your part! Take or request one to be sent to you!

### Thank you

We would like to thank the Southern Tier Catholic Parishes, and neighbors for their support over the last two and half years for our Hom Ministry Luncheon Program at Mother Teresa's Cupboard. The four teams have served over 12,000 meals and continue to serve each Wednesday at School. The St. Veronica's Sewing Group, has made hundreds of "homen bags" from your generous donations of sheets and blankets. We wish you Spirit filled Advent Season.

### 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 \_\_\_\_\_

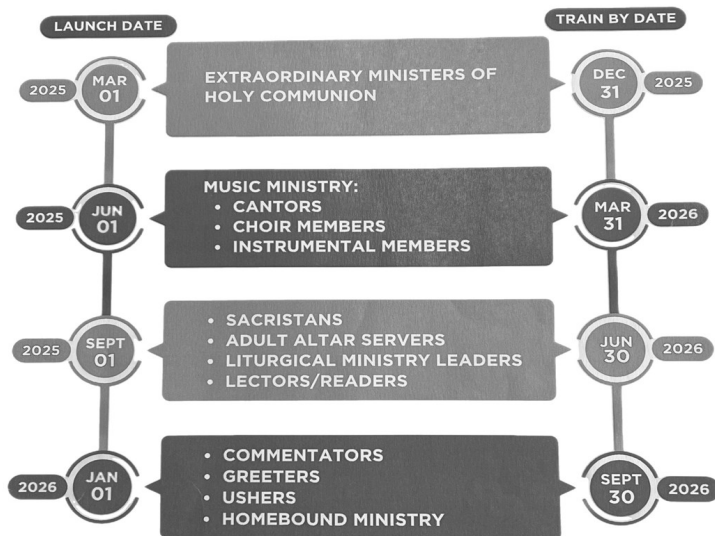
City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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

## Safe Environment Training is Now Required



### “The Star of Bethlehem” Movie Viewing at Kopernik

The movie STAR OF BETHLEHEM REVEALED will be offered at the Kopernik Observatory & Science Center, 698 Underwood Road, Vestal, on Friday Dec. 19 The Star of Bethlehem unlocks the mystery of 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 6:30 PM and the movie begins at 7 PM. Advanced ticket purchase is not. Admission \$6 adults, \$4 seniors/students, \$20 family max, includes telescope viewing after movie (if clear). Kopernik members are free. Go to [www.kopernik.org](http://www.kopernik.org) or call 607-748-3685 for more information.

### Become a Volunteer Driver with the Volunteer Transportation Service (VTS)!

Looking for a meaningful way to serve your neighbors and boost your own happiness? The Volunteer Transportation Service (VTS), part of the Rural Health Network of SCNY's Getthere program, is launching to help people in Broome, Chenango, Delaware, and Otsego Counties get to vital appointments-doctors, grocery stores, pharmacies, and more-when they have no other way to get there. You can help change that, one ride at a time! We're seeking compassionate drivers age 21+ with a clean driving record who are willing to use their own vehicle and give at least 4 flexible hours per week (you choose the days and times). A quick background check is required. Lend a hand and bring hope to someone who needs it most. To apply, visit [jotform.com/vtc/VTS-New](http://jotform.com/vtc/VTS-New) Volunteer Application or contact Jack Salo at 607-743-0120 or [jsalo@rhnscny.org](mailto:jsalo@rhnscny.org) for more information. Join us in getting our neighbors where they need to go!

PLEASE TELL US THE NAMES & ADDRESSES OF  
SHUT-INS, WE WOULD LOVE TO REACH OUT!  
CALL DELORES AT THE PARISH CENTER  
(607)722-4388 TO LET US KNOW! THANK YOU!

**St. Francis of Assisi Lectors,  
Eucharistic Ministers & Altar Servers**  
**December 20th & 21st, 2025**

4:00 Mass	Altar Server	Thalia Brennan
4:00 Mass	Altar Server	Calliope Brennan
4:00 Mass	Altar Server	TBD
4:00 Mass	Lector	Kelly Robertson
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Deacon Steve
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Beatrice Grace
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Robert Grace
4:00 Mass	EM Cup	Carol Danoski
4:00 Mass	EM Cup	Larry Koch

10:30 Mass	Altar Server	Natalie Miller
10:30 Mass	Altar Server	Lyla Harlow
10:30 Mass	Altar Server	Abby Harlow
10:30 Mass	Lector	Ildiko Mitchell
10:30 Mass	EM Host	Deacon Steve
10:30 Mass	EM Host	Nick Norton
10:30 Mass	EM Host	Adam Colvin
10:30 Mass	EM Cup	Kevin Murphy
10:30 Mass	EM Cup	Maureen Mizzoni

**Children's Liturgy Schedule**

**December 14th**— Dorene Aleccia & Maria Kirk

**December 21st**— Amy Drake & Ashley Cook

**December 28th**— ONLINE ONLY

**\*ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED!\***

Do you have a child or grandchild who has already received their First Eucharist? If so, they can be altar servers! **We are in desperate need of more altar servers** as we barely have enough to cover the masses alone week to week.

**Why altar serve?**

- 1.) It is a good way to get actively involved in the mechanics of mass. Some kids who find it hard to sit still may benefit from the activity that it provides.
- 2.) It allows for kids to be a closer part of the church community and make connections.
- 3.) Direct religious education learning opportunity
- 4.) Gives kids a sense of purpose and pride Church

**Call the parish center (607)722-4388 or fill out a liturgical sign-up form (on table in the back of the church) and drop it in a collection basket.**

**Question of the Week**

**Question for Children:** Why is Christmas such a time of happiness for people?

**Question for Youth:** God speaks to you every day: Isaiah tells us our ears and eyes will be opened in Christ to hear God's voice. What do you hear God saying to you?

**Question for Adults:** What is there in this promise from the Prophet Isaiah that gives you hope? How have you seen this promise fulfilled in Christ?