

December 21, 2025

# St. Francis of Assisi Parish

1031 Chenango Street, Binghamton, NY 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  
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](http://stfrancisbing.org) to view  
our latest Children's Liturgy.  
We post new videos by  
4:00PM on Saturdays.

**Follow us on Facebook**



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

**Subscribe to our YouTube  
Channel:**



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



**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

**Monday, December 22**  
 12:00 p.m. Louis Mazzitelli by Louis Samela

**Tuesday, December 23**  
 8:00 a.m. Margaret Turna by St. Francis Special Sunshine Committee

**Wednesday, December 24, Christmas Eve**  
 4:00 p.m. Liturgy for the People  
 10:00 p.m. Liturgy for the People

**Thursday, December 25, The Nativity of the Lord**  
 8:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People  
 10:30 a.m. Liturgy for the People

**Friday, December 26**  
 NO MASS

**Saturday, December 27, Vigil of Sunday**  
 4:00 p.m. Gerald & Carol Mullins (Foley) by Family

**Sunday, December 28, The Holy Family**  
 10:30 a.m. Lorenzo Altadonna by 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**  
 Christmas Pageant 9AM in the Parish Hall  
 No Faith Formation 12/28, MERRY CHRISTMAS!  
**Looking Ahead:**  
 † Confirmation Retreat on **Sunday, January 4th at the Newman House from Noon—5PM**

**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE**

**DECEMBER 24TH**

3:30PM– Quintet Prelude to Mass  
 4:00PM– Christmas Eve Mass  
 10:00PM– Christmas “Midnight” Mass

**DECEMBER 25TH**

8:00AM– Christmas Day Mass  
 10:30AM– Christmas Day Mass

**Christmas Blessings...**

to all of you as we celebrate the gift of God’s love in the birth of Christ. May the season of Christmas be truly a gift of love that enriches your lives in the year ahead. On behalf of the parish staff, may you have a merry and a very blessed Christmas filled in the peace and love of Christ.



**Blessing of the Home Nativity Scene**

*God every nation and people,  
From the very beginning of creation you have made  
manifest your love:  
When our need for a Savior was great you sent your  
Son to be born of the Virgin Mary.  
He brings us joy and peace, justice, mercy, and love.  
Lord, bless all who look upon this manger;  
May it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus,  
And raise up our thoughts to him,  
Who is God-with-us and Savior of all,  
and who lives and reigns forever and  
ever. Amen.*



**Christmas Tree Blessing**

To pray at home in preparation for Christmas  
*Blessed are you, Lord our God,  
Before whom all the trees of the forest sing for joy,  
For you have come rule the earth and all its peoples  
in your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace.  
By his death on the cross and his rising in glory,  
the tree of our defeat has become our tree of victory,  
and the pure light of Christ  
forever gladdens our waiting world.  
We ask you to send your blessing upon this tree  
which we have decorated in honor of your Son’s birth.  
Let it help us to celebrate this holy season  
as living branches of him,  
and bear the fruit of good works for your glory,  
this day and every day,  
both now and forever. Amen.*



**Bombings/Killing in the Caribbean**

What is happening in the Caribbean cannot be overlooked or ignored. **These extrajudicial killings are murder, "plain and simple"** (Johnny Zokovitch, Pax Christi) and they are morally and spiritually unjust.

In a statement released on December 3rd, Archbishop Timothy Brogolio, past president of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops, said:

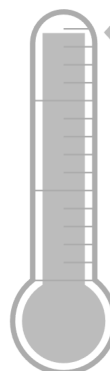
*"In the fight against drugs, the end never justifies the means, which must be moral, in accord with the principles of the just war theory, and always respectful of the dignity of each person. No one can ever be ordered to commit an immoral act, and even those suspected of committing a crime are entitled to due process under the law. As the moral principle forbidding the intentional killing of noncombatants is inviolable, it would be an illegal and immoral order to kill deliberately survivors on a vessel who pose no immediate lethal threat to our armed forces..."*

We **do not** know if every sailor on a vessel presumed to be carrying illegal drugs knows the nature of the cargo. We **do** know that there is a legal way to intercept a suspicious vessel, board it, and have members of the Coast Guard on hand who have the authority to make arrests. Then, **the courts** determine guilt and the appropriate sentence for those guilty of committing such crimes. Due process must apply to everyone, regardless of their role in illegal activity. The rule of law must guide all actions; abandoning due process undermines human rights, erodes public trust, and risks harming innocent people. True justice is achieved through transparent legal procedures, accountability, and respect for life—not through violence outside the law. Our voices as people of faith should be raised in objecting to these murders and in insisting that further bombings end.

**Prayer For Expectant Parents**

*This life you have given us  
is so tiny, fragile, and vulnerable,  
safe in the womb of flesh and hope,  
Yet subject to danger and death.  
O God of love, Creator of life, hear our prayer.  
We want this baby so much.  
Please grant this child of ours  
a full term of nurture, the joy and mystery of life,  
and the blessing of your love.  
Grant us the fulfillment of our dreams,  
a baby to cherish and protect,  
a child to teach and guide,  
a blessing to our family. Amen.*

\$30,684



**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 pledge card to Mass or drop it off at the parish office. You may also donate on our parish website’s “online giving” tab.

## Catherine's Cupboard Distribution Volunteer Schedule January 6th

**1:00—3:00PM**                      **5:00PM—Until Served**

J. Daniels, K. Corcoran,                      K. Dotson, C. Danoski,  
M. & D. Cole                                      and M. & P. Peters



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!

### Why Return to the Church? Reflection

1. Can you think of any time in your life that you returned to something you had given up? What made it easy? What made it hard?
2. People find that the church supports many treasured human values, e.g., family, inner peace, personal dignity, integrity, and hope. What values may the church support in your life?
3. What's the most important thing you received from your Catholic heritage? How do you see that continuing in your present and future life?

If you have any questions about the church or our parish or would like to speak to someone about the process of becoming a fully initiated Catholic, call us at the Parish Center (607)722-4388.

### Online Giving

Would you like to save paper and time when giving monetary donations to us? We have the option of online giving for your convenience. Visit our website [stfrancisbing.org](http://stfrancisbing.org) and click "online giving" in the menu. It's easy to set up using your checking account, credit, or debit card for automatic or one-time donation options and you choose where the money goes. The following accounts are available for donations:

**Ordinary Contribution, HOPE Appeal  
Repair, Maintenance, & Utilities,  
Catholic School Support, Catherine's Cupboard,  
Special Sunshine, Capital Campaign, STAR Fund,  
Sound System and Creation Care Team**

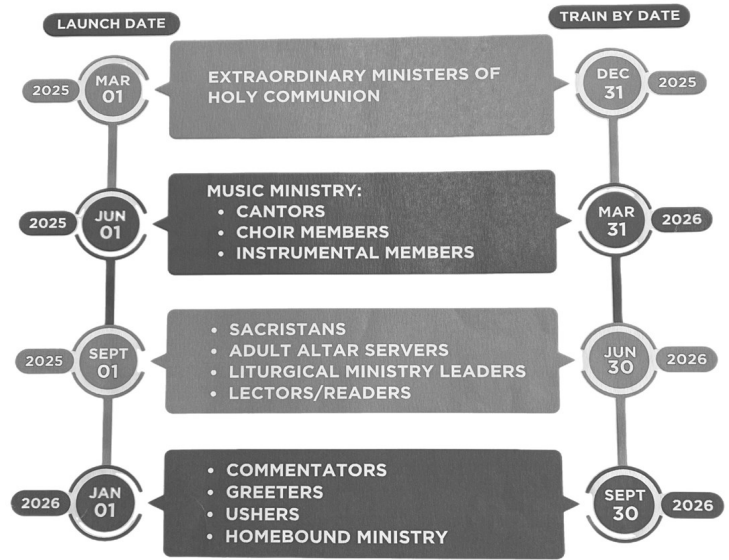
**Check it out!**

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!

## Giving Tree Thanks!

Our Giving Tree was so successful this year, THANK YOU to all for taking care of the needs of other's. I know many families will have a brighter Holiday because YOU CARED! Thanks to our Confirmation class for providing the effort of sorting and packing up the gifts and for addressing 100 cards to the residents of Elizabeth Church Nursing Home to be sure they each are included in the joys of the Christmas.

## Safe Environment Training is Now Required



## 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@rhnseny.org](mailto:jsalo@rhnseny.org) for more information. Join us in getting our neighbors where they need to go!

## 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.

**St. Francis of Assisi Lectors,  
Eucharistic Ministers & Altar Servers**  
**December 27th & 28th, 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	Dan Verdon
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Deacon Steve
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Terry Hanifan
4:00 Mass	EM Host	Marge Mangan
4:00 Mass	EM Cup	John Artman
4:00 Mass	EM Cup	Brenda Artman

10:30 Mass	Altar Server	William Keough
10:30 Mass	Altar Server	Clara Drake
10:30 Mass	Altar Server	Lucy Drake
10:30 Mass	Lector	Roy Santa Croce Jr.
10:30 Mass	EM Host	Deacon Steve
10:30 Mass	EM Host	Scott Iglar
10:30 Mass	EM Host	Donna Iglar
10:30 Mass	EM Cup	Mary Jo Lucas
10:30 Mass	EM Cup	Nick Norton

**Children's Liturgy Schedule**

**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:** When you pray, how do you hear God's voice in response?

**Question for Youth:** God speaks to us in our intuitions and imagination, as he did to Joseph in this dream. What is your experience of hearing God speak in this way? What is God asking of you?

**Question for Adults:** What experiences do you have of God "speaking to you" and directing your life and work? How does God speak to you in prayer?