

December 30, 2018

St. Francis of Assisi Parish

1031 Chenango Street, Binghamton, New York 13901



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@syrdio.org

Website:
www.stfrancisbing.org

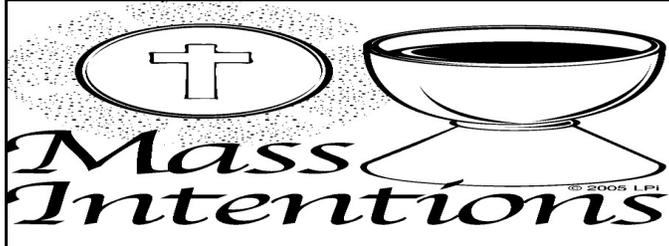
Mass Schedule

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



Weekend's Offering (12-16-18)

Regular Envelopes.....	\$5,298.00
Loose Collection.....	\$357.00
Electronic Collection.....	\$417.00
Total Collection.....	\$6,072.00

Thank You for your generous contributions!

Saturday, December 29, Vigil of Sunday
 4:00 p.m. Sophia Patsko by Theresa Kudra

Sunday, December 30, The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph
 8:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People
 11:00 a.m. Lorenzo Altadonna by Family

Monday, December 31, New Year's Eve (Liturgy in Church)
 5:00 p.m. Tozia Stacey by Jackie Lubniewski

Tuesday, January 1, New Year's Day (Liturgy in Church)
 12:00 p.m. Ann Marie Spenard by Friends of the Rosary

Wednesday, January 2
 8:00 a.m. Jack Houle by Vickie & Dave DeGroat

Thursday, January 3
 8:00 a.m. James Atria by Jim & Kathleen Brady

Friday, January 4
NO MASS

Saturday, January 5, Vigil of Sunday
 4:00 p.m. Samuel Tarreto by Diane Tarreto

Sunday, January 6, The Epiphany of The Lord
 8:00 a.m. Rick Vavra by Mary Bonner
 11:00 a.m. Mary & Bill Merrell by Family

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.

Faith Formation

No Faith Formation--Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Congratulations to everyone in our parish! Through your generosity and support we have succeeded in our goal to build a house in Central America through Food for the Poor. And special recognition goes to our Faith Formation classes who helped and continues to raise money for this project. Faith Formation classes will have more projects throughout the year to add to our commitment to serve the poor. Thank you to all! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Looking Ahead:
 Confirmation Retreat, Saturday, January 5th 10 AM--6 PM at the Newman Center, 400 Murray Hill RD, Vestal.

Parish Book Club

Our Book club will not meet again until Tuesday, January 8th at 2 PM and 7 PM.

Thank You to our Young Musicians!

Thank you to Greg Santa Croce, Cassie Pinataro, and Nick O'Neil for a beautiful concert. It opened the Christmas season with a wonderful evening of music and song as a memorial concert for Megan Santa Croce. All three have phenomenal talent, and what a gift they gave us days before Christmas. The attendance showed great support to Megan's family, and the very generous donations will be a strong start to a scholarship in Megan's memory. The Christmas spirit was in full display! Thank you!

Children's Liturgy

January 5/6

4:00 PM Mass— Robert Cushing/Catherine Shafer
8:00 AM Mass— Shirley McCray/Marie Iobst

January 12/13

4:00 PM Mass— Maria Kirk/Sue Lee
8:00 AM Mass— Ede Blabac/Bridget Vavra

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.

World Day of Peace 2019 Good Politics at the Service of Peace

In announcing the theme for this year's World Day of Peace on January 1, 2019, the Vatican made note of the call to all of us to engage with our civic systems saying, "Political responsibility belongs to every citizen and, in particular, to those that have received the mandate to protect and to govern." Instead of indifference, cynicism or thinking our voices do not matter, we believe the Gospel calls us to raise our voices for the common good, for "politics is one of the highest forms of charity." Advocating for and with communities who are oppressed, disadvantaged, or excluded is a response to our baptismal call to love all members of the Body of Christ, in imitation of Christ's love.

God created human beings as social and relational creatures, made in his own image. We are called to reach out and build relationships of love and justice, making love visible in structures and policies through political engagement. Two areas in which we are called to protect human dignity is in our "concern for the future of life and of the planet, of the youngest and littlest."

We must work to ensure that the dignity of all is protected is through our political, social, and economic systems. As Pope Francis teaches us in his World Day of Peace Message, these systems must always work to promote peace in our communities. Catholic Social Teaching demands that politics must have a preferential option for the poor and vulnerable, and not be used to promote violence or marginalize those in poverty. Instead, "Good politics is at the service of peace."

Pope Francis' message is the most recent in a long history of messages for the World Day of Peace beginning with Pope Paul VI in 1968.

What You Can Do...

- 1.) **Pray.** Pray for the grace to approach all political and social issues from a starting point of faith, love, and a spirit of generosity.
- 2.) **Learn.** Civic participation and faithful citizenship requires us to understand the political and social issues that impact our brothers and sisters throughout the world.
- 3.) **Act.** Join tens of thousands of Catholics to advocate for policies that support justice and peace in the U.S. and those experiencing poverty or conflict around the world.



A Christmas Thank you.....

To all who were generous with their time in assisting to decorate both inside & outside of the church, all reflected the beauty of the season.

To **Ed Savo, the choir**, and our guest instrumentals for the liturgies. Your music lifted our spirits with the wonderful sounds of Christmas.

To all of you who were so generous in the gifts of cards, cookies and so many other sweet goodies. For all of this and much more, I express much appreciation and gratitude.

May this sacred season of Christmas gift us with the magic power to stop the clock, so as to keep God alive within the world. For if God is love, then God may be found in the mystery of love exchanged. May we be holy messengers of the mystery.

Jr. Tim

New Year's Prayer for Peace

*Lord, our God, let there be peace in the world,
no more wars, no more fighting, no more killing.*

*Teach us to trust one another so we can share
our problems as well as our joy.*

*Teach us to care about one another and to
understand each other.*

*Teach world leaders to respect all people,
especially their own.*

*Help us make peace wherever we are and to do
our small bit to bring peace to the world.*

We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

May 2019 become a year of greater peace!

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER FOR PEACE

Lord God of peace, hear our prayer!

We have tried so many times and over so many years to resolve our conflicts by our own powers and by the force of our arms. How many moments of hostility and darkness have we experienced; how much blood has been shed; how many lives have been shattered; how many hopes have been buried . . .

Now, Lord, come to our aid! Grant us peace, teach us peace; guide our steps in the way of peace. Open our eyes and our hearts and give us the courage to say: "Never again war!" . . . Instill in our hearts the courage to take concrete steps to achieve peace.

Keep alive within us the flame of hope, so that with patience and perseverance we may opt for dialogue and reconciliation. In this way may peace triumph at last, and may the words "division", "hatred" and "war" be banished from the heart of every man and woman. . . . Renew our hearts and minds, so that the word which always brings us together will be "brother", and our way of life will always be that of: Shalom, Peace, Salaam! Amen.

Catherine's Cupboard Volunteer Schedule

Transportation

Week of December 30 — Nancy Oliver

Week of January 6 — Marie Giordano

Shelving (Mondays)

December 31st — **CLOSED**

January 7th — E. & K. Corcoran

Distribution

January 15th — D Kellet & team #1

Cruise: NEW ZEALAND & AUSTRALIA!

Join Fr. Ryan & Fr. Tim Taugher in February 2020 for a trip of a lifetime! Cruise departs from Sidney on February 1st aboard Holland America's Nordam and arrives in Auckland on February 13th. Call Touraid Travel at 518-563-5605 and ask for Christina King or cking@touraidtravel.com. All deposits are fully refundable until Sept. 30, 2019. What a great Christmas present for 2018 and 2019! Reservations are requested by **January 15**.

Night to Shine

First United Methodist Church of Chenango Bridge is proud to be an official host church for the 2019 Night to Shine, sponsored by the Tim Tebow Foundation. Night to Shine is an unforgettable prom night experience, centered on God's love, for people with special needs, ages 14 and older. The event will be hosted by an estimated 700 churches around the world simultaneously on Friday, **February 8, 2019**. We have rented space at the Chenango Valley High School to hold this event. For more information, refer a guest, volunteer or donate, please email: night2shinecb@gmail.com. To learn more, check out www.timtebowfoundation.org

Thank You from Birthright!

Birthright of Binghamton thanks the parishioners of St. Francis for their generosity to Birthright once again with your Giving Tree. The enormous amount of diapers, warm sleepers, onesies, and outfits, along with the toys and books will help our clients so much. This donation has already helped many families to have a nicer Christmas. Thank you very much.

~Diane Yajko and all the Birthright volunteers.

Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs)

Utilizing a QCD is a tax-savvy strategy that allows you to transfer up to \$100,000/year from your IRA directly to a qualified charity. It is only available to IRAs and individuals who have reached RMD age (70.5). Any amount processed as a QCD counts towards your RMD requirement and reduces the taxable amount of your IRA distribution. This lowers both your adjusted gross income and taxable income, resulting in a lower overall tax liability.

Giving Tree and Food Drives

It is certainly a busy time of year in and around the parish. THANK YOU to all who gave so generous this year. Over 170 gifts were delivered to the various organizations including; Children's Home, Elizabeth Church Nursing Home, Jail Ministry and Birthright . Girls Scouts from Chenango Forks held a food drive around the area of the high school and gave Catherine's Cupboard 500 pounds of food. Hillcrest Fire Department also held a food collection for us when Santa visited area homes, adding to our shelves another 800 pounds. Thanks to Ms. Diaz's class from the Children's Home, who sorted and shelved it all. It has been a very busy holiday with so much GIVING on your part to those in need. Visitors at the pantry on December 18th all received a turkey (thanks to TIOGA DOWNS & Wegman's) plus a few little gifts were donated by various people. YOU are all living the true meaning of the Christmas season. Thank You to all!

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!



TEAM TRIVIA

Saturday January 12th

7-10 pm

St. Thomas Aquinas Gym

\$10/person

Includes beer, wine, soda and munchies

Prizes for the top three teams

Call to register your team: Sue Miller@343-1040

Merry Christmas and Happy Hooley!

Save the Date: 03/09/19

KOC 11403



**St. Francis of Assisi Lectors,
Eucharistic Ministers & Altar Servers**
January 5th & 6th, 2018

**PLEASE
REFER
TO
YOUR
NEWEST
SCHEDULE**

Question of the Week

Question for Children: How does the Blessed Virgin Mary help you to follow Jesus?

Question for Youth: When have you experienced the presence of the Holy Spirit?

Question for Adults: What role does Mary play in your own spirituality? If you were Elizabeth, how would you greet her at your doorway, if she were to arrive there?

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 30th, 2018**

Deliver 600 copies to St. Francis of Assisi.