

St. Francis of Assisi Parish

1031 Chenango Street, Binghamton, New York 13901



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ADVENT

December 13, 2015



Saturday, December 12 Vigil of Sunday
 4:00 p.m. Shirley & Frank, Jr. Clendening by Family

Sunday, December 13, Third Sunday of Advent
 8:00 a.m. Emily Vavra by Leo & Judy Hubik
 11:00 a.m. Pete Feheley by Bob & Betsy Shields

Monday, December 14
 8:00 a.m. Amanda Rose Ciccone Kosalek by Tom, Kathy & Gianni Contro

Tuesday, December 15
 8:00 a.m. Fr. Eugene O'Reilly by Friends

Wednesday, December 16
 8:00 a.m. Helen & John Kostun by Family

Thursday, December 17
 8:00 a.m. Dorothy Walter by Family

Friday, December 18
NO MASS

Saturday, December 19 Vigil of Sunday
 4:00 p.m. William Heath by Emily & Nova Martin

Sunday, December 20, Fourth Sunday of Advent
 8:00 a.m. Deceased members of the DeNinis & Legos Families by Family
 11:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People

Faith Formation

Faith Formation for Grades K-9 meets at 9:30 am today in the school.

Congratulations to:

Gabriella Barry	Amelia Paske
Zachary Blaise	Ryan Pepples
Ryan Ferrara	Juliana Rice
Anna Ginalski	Sarah Turna
Sarah Gonz	Lauren Vesci
Madison Laskowsky	Abraham Watkins
Ava Miller	Alexander Watkins
Shea McKeon	Kamryn Watson
Thomisha Newman	Jessica Wojnar
Kody Osteen	Stephen Yahner

who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. May the love of Jesus always stay in your heart.

Faith Formation Families: Please stop by our new Parents' Center to relax, have coffee, and socialize while your children are at Faith Formation. The parents' area is directly across from the Faith Formation Office.

Looking Ahead

Our Annual Faith Formation Christmas Program will take place **Sunday, December 20th at 9:30 am in the Church**; a reception will follow in the Parish Hall. Rehearsal for the Program will take place **Saturday, December 19th at 10 am in the church**. All grades will participate or attend. Parishioners, parents, family and friends are all invited to the performance.

Virtus Training

Protecting God's Children, the mandatory Diocesan Adult Safe Environment Training, will take place **Monday evening, December 14th at 5:30 PM in the Faith Formation Office**, in the Parish Center, 1031 Chenango St. This is the initial 3-hour training session. Go online syrdio.org to register or call Maria Kirk if you have questions.

Giving Tree

All GIVING TREE gifts have to be wrapped and returned with tag securely attached. no later than **Dec. 13th**. Extra gifts (e.g., toys) always welcomed as long as they are NOT USED.

St. Francis of Assisi Parish Binghamton, NY

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE 2015

Christmas Eve

Thursday, December 24th
Liturgy at 4:00 p.m. & 10:00 p.m.

Christmas Day

Friday, December 25th
Liturgy at 8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Prayers . . .

Please remember all of our parishioners who are in hospitals and nursing homes and our home-bound. Also, please pray for our deceased parishioners and loved ones.



Thanksgiving Food Baskets

THANK YOU to all for the tremendous response for food baskets. Over **450** people were fed this holiday by our parish alone, because of **YOU**..and there was a few items left over to take care of Christmas too. None of this is possible without **YOUR** support of shopping, helping organize baskets and then the monetary donations to cover our gift cards and bread given out. The Confirmation students did all the heavy work on Saturday carrying out basket and then cleaning up as one of their many service projects. Faith Formation students donated **225 lbs** of personal care & food during their payer service. What a great parish project for all to be involved in. **Add to this THE Chenango Forks Girl Scout service unit #321** held a food drive and dropped off **571 lbs.** of food 2 week ago....**OUR** shelves are full for at least the month of **DEC.** **Great job and THANK YOU to all.**

Congratulations to “Super 50/50” Raffle Winners

The 6th Annual “Super 50/50” Raffle was held last weekend during the Knights of Columbus Breakfast with Santa. The parish sold 241 tickets for a total of \$12,050.00, which was split between the parish and winners listed below. Thanks to Mary and Margaret Quinn and Bev Krinik for coordinating the many facets of the raffle, as well as everyone who purchased and sold tickets. Thank you to McCormack Funeral Home for printing of tickets and American Legion Post 1192 for use of the raffle hopper. This year’s winners are:

1st Prize Julie Wyatt	\$3,012.50
2nd Prize Michael Boyle	\$1,205.00
3rd Prize Tom Giblin	\$602.50
4th Prize Carol Parga	\$301.25
5th Prize Rev. Thomas Ryan	\$301.25
6th Prize Kathleen Brady	\$120.50
7th Prize Patrick Rogan	\$120.50
8th Prize Donna Briggs	\$120.50
9th Prize Mary Quinn	\$120.50
10th Prize Maggie Cross	\$120.50

Last Weekend’s Offering (12-06-15)

198 Regular Envelopes.....	\$7,612.50
Loose Collection.....	\$357.00
Electronic Donation.....	\$1,272.78
Total Collection.....	\$9,242.28

Thank you to everyone for their donations. They are greatly appreciated.

Sponsor of the Week

This week, St Francis of Assisi thanks:

**Hanks for Her
Clothing and Accessories
1339 Front St.
Binghamton, NY**

for sponsoring an ad in our bulletin

Blessing of the Bambinelli

Each year, on the third week of Advent, children and their families bring their Bambinelli (the Infant Jesus from their family’s manger) to St. Peter’s Square for the Holy Father to bless them. Here at St. Francis of Assisi, we will do this on the **Fourth Sunday of Advent (Dec. 20)**. So, please bring the Infant Jesus from your home nativity displays for the Blessing of Bambinelli, which will be done at all our Liturgies.

Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers

Once again we are preparing the next schedule. The deadline for requests is **Monday, December 14th**. If you would like to be **added to the list or make any long term changes**, please call Lynda Carpenter at 772-6732 (cell: 206-2798) or e-mail at joseph.carpenter28@gmail.com

Oplatki (Christmas Wafers)...

are available at St. Francis’ Parish Center. If you are interested, please call Delores at 722-4388 to reserve a package or stop by and pick some up during regular business hours. We have ordered only a limited quantity. Please, only two packets per family. No offering taken.

Catherine's Cupboard Volunteer Schedule

Transportation

Week of Dec 13th — Pat & George Clark
Dec 20th — Ann Wilcox

Shelving (Mondays)

Dec 14th — C&F Woodruff & M. Ryder
Dec 21st — E&K Corcoran

Distribution

Dec. 15th — M. Quinn, K. Dotson, S. Orband,
M. Hayes, M. Birtch

World Marriage Day Celebration ...

will be held on **Sunday, February 7th, 2016**. If you are celebrating your 25th, 50th, 60th or beyond, please call the Parish Center (722-4388) so this milestone in your lives can be recognized.

Children's Liturgy

Dates

Presiders

Dec 13th: Debbie Davis & Cindy White
Dec 21st: Shirley McCray & Marie Iobst

The Light Is On For You

"The Light is on for You," was created by the Archdiocese of Washington and has since been implemented by dioceses throughout the United States. The Diocese of Syracuse is proud to join in this effort.

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.

Visit St. Francis of Assisi on **Monday, Dec. 14, from 4:00—7:00 p.m.** to make your confession at our Chapel, located in the Parish Center. We will leave "A Light On For You"!

Thank You Bishop Matthew Clark...

who inaugurated the opening of the Jubilee of Mercy for our parish. His various homilies and the time he took with us left a lasting impression. Over the last few years, we have been touched by Pope Francis' example of servant leadership. But, long before Francis, there was Matthew, who, for over 30 years, served us as an exemplary servant healer to the Church of Rochester. I am deeply grateful for the time he took from his full schedule to be with us. Let us keep him in our prayers!

Gun Legislation ...

begins in our homes. We have witnessed these past few weeks such horrible violence and the public discourse has been what can we do? Our political representatives are immobilized in acting as they are bound to lobbyists that hinder legislative action. Gun violence claims more than 30,000 people every year. More than 30 people are shot and murdered each day, with 1/2 of them being between the age of 18 and 35, and 1/3 of them under the age of 20.

Toy guns in our stores and on the internet portray a widespread use of all types of rifles, machine guns and other lethal weapons. The video games offer glamorous horrific killings.

If legislators won't act, you, as parents and adults, can act by boycotting the purchase of these gifts for Christmas. At Christmas, we celebrate the birth of the *Prince of Peace*. How do our gifts reflect the real meaning of Christmas? Choose toys of peace and give gifts from your heart. Let's stop subjecting our children to the glamour of killing and violence, and teach them the Gospel of Peace!

LUNCHEON

DECEMBER 16, 2015



12 PM



ST. FRANCIS CHURCH HALL

**CHICKEN N' BISCUITS, CORN, SALAD,
DESSERT, SODA, & COFFEE**

\$15.00 PER PERSON

ENTERTAINMENT CV MUSIC DEPARTMENT

RESERVATION DEADLINE: DEC. 11, 2015

CALL ST. FRANCIS 722-4388

TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED

**St. Francis of Assisi Lectors,
Eucharistic Ministers & Altar Servers**

December 19, 2015

4:00 p.m. Mass

Lector	Dom Lomonaco
EM Host	Peggy Munson
EM Host	Catherine Shafer
EM Host	John Pierce
EM Cup	Mary Cooney
EM Cup	Jan Pandich
EM Cup	Teresa Creedon
EM Cup	Carol Danoski
Altar Server	Mary Katherine Doyle
Altar Server	Bryan Heller
Altar Server	Sarah Shafer

December 20

8:00 a.m. Mass

Lector	Tim Hogan
EM Host	Shirley McCray
EM Host	Mel Jones
EM Host	Joanne Horoschak
EM Cup	Tom Phalen
EM Cup	Marie Iobst
EM Cup	Debbie Davis
EM Cup	Mike Stricek
Altar Server	Natalie Broderick
Altar Server	Peyton Broderick
Altar Server	Braeden Krisko

11:00 a.m. Mass

Lector	Charles Linfear
EM Host	Steve Guth
EM Host	Sue Jones
EM Host	David Hanzes
EM Cup	Rose O'Neil
EM Cup	Kerri Hamilton
EM Cup	David Gill
EM Cup	Chris Gill
Altar Server	Brendan Heaney
Altar Server	Anthony Frissora
Altar Server	Zachary Carr

Question of the Week

Theme: John baptized with water, but the Messiah will baptize with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

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

Question for Youth: What do you remember from stories about your Baptism? What does your Baptism mean to you now?

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