

February 28, 2016

St. Francis of Assisi Parish

1031 Chenango Street, Binghamton, New York 13901



SHELTER THE
HOMELESS



COMFORT THE
SORROWFUL



Saturday, February 27, Vigil of Sunday
 4:00 p.m. Gertrude Edwards by Dan & Alison Brennan

Sunday, February 28, Third Sunday of Lent
 8:00 a.m. 22nd Anniv. Vincent Cavanagh by Wife, Alice & Family
 11:00 a.m. Lorenzo Altadonna by Family

Monday, February 29
 8:00 a.m. Regina Paden by Kathleen Brady

Tuesday, March 1
 8:00 a.m. Dc. Ray Goskowski by Nick & Rosalie Roth

Wednesday, March 2
 8:00 a.m. Mannino Vita by Daughter Fina & Family

Thursday, March 3
 8:00 a.m. Dc. Ray Goskowski by Beverly & Norm Morse

Friday, March 4
NO MASS

Saturday, March 5, Vigil of Sunday
 4:00 p.m. Aileen Houseknecht by Bill & Irene Phillips

Sunday, March 6, Fourth Sunday of Lent
 8:00 a.m. Rita Holtslander by Jan & Jim Kalivoda
 11:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People

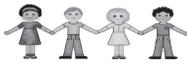
Catherine's Cupboard

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 any time.

Children's Liturgy

Dates	Presiders	
Feb. 28th:	Ede Blabac & Bridget Vavra	
Mar. 6th:	Debbie Davis & Cindy White	

Faith Formation

- Faith Formation classes meet today for grades K-9 in the school.
- Please note: There will be no LEAP event March 6. Faith Formation classes will meet as usual.

Please note: Our Lenten Mission Presenter, Biblical Scholar Stephen J. Binz will be at St. Francis of Assisi March 7-9 in the evenings and March 8-10 in the mornings. He will also be at Our Lady of Good Counsel giving other talks. See our bulletin for more details. Don't miss this exciting opportunity to hear his message on Mercy, Stewardship and The Word.

Works of Mercy

Shelter the homeless (Corporal Work of Mercy)

The National Alliance to end homelessness said last year that there were 578,428 homeless persons in the U.S. 54, 205 of them were unaccompanied children or youths! Newsweek repeated that one in 30 children is homeless. Imagine— one in 30! This is a crime. Homelessness becomes a reality in people's lives because of job loss, major health expenses, or mental illness. Then there are those who are the undernourished and the abandoned. About 33% of the homeless are veterans. This work of mercy reminds us about the wonderful work of Habitat for Humanity. Habitat is dedicated to eliminating substandard housing and homelessness worldwide and to making adequate, affordable shelter a matter of conscience and action. Their ministry is founded on the idea that every man, woman and child should have a simple, decent place to live in dignity and safety. A great way to put faith into action. We have a local organization— look into it! www.habitat.org

Comfort the Afflicted (Spiritual Work of Mercy)

"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28)

Katherine A Greiner contributed an article to Daily Theology where she said,

"Because they grapple with every human emotion and experience, such as anger, shame, envy, fear, joy, love, sorrow, anxiety, praise, gratitude, loneliness, wonder and awe, the Psalms give us a language to address the Holy one. This honest and heartfelt language reminds us that the creator and sustainer of the universe cares passionately for each of us and desires intimate relationship with all creation. Through praying the Psalms, we enter the most human expression of humility and in vulnerable and humble posture, hands raised in praise or head bowed in anguish, we open ourselves to receive grace and mercy. The Psalms assure us that God, in God's merciful goodness and compassion, is approachable and that the pleas of our hearts are music to God's ears."

All of us are spiritually afflicted in some way. We are called to give solace to one another in times of sorrow and affliction.

Who in my life is afflicted right now? How can I comfort them?

God of the sorrowful, our hearts ache at times. As much as we need you to lift our burdens, give us the grace to bear one another's burdens and so offer them comfort. Amen

Knights of Columbus Breakfast

Knights of Columbus Breakfast Buffet is this Sunday, February 28th from 8:30a.m.—11:00a.m. in the Parish Hall

Birthright Organization

Birthright is a volunteer organization dedicated to the mission that it is the right of every pregnant woman to give birth and the right of every child to be born.

For more information, call Diane at 724-3186.

Items most needed:

- Receiving blankets, crib blankets, baby afghans
- Onesies
 - Sizes: 0-3 and 3-6 months
- Stretch suits / sleepers / kimonos
 - Sizes: 0-3 and 3-6 months
- Newborn sweater sets
- Maternity jeans or casual maternity pants
 - Sizes: Large and XL
- Casual maternity tops
 - Sizes: Large and XL
- Diapers
 - Sizes: 1 and 2

This will be taking place the entire month of March.

Birthright is most grateful for any and all donations.

Stewardship of the Earth

Presented by Stephen Binz; listen anew to the Biblical texts which helps us understand our privilege and responsibility in caring for the earth and humbly recognize our place within it. Participate on Thursday, March 10th from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church Hall. Please **register by March 4th** by contacting Phyllis at 786-9649 or pgonzales@syradio.org

Altar Rosary Society

The Altar Rosary Society of the Church of the Holy Trinity, 346 Prospect Street, Binghamton, is sponsoring a sale of butter lambs, an Easter tradition. Each lamb is hand-crafted and costs only \$3.50. Orders can be placed by calling the church office, Mon.-Thurs., at 797-1856. Pick-up will be the weekend of March 19/20; you will be contacted with details. The deadline for ordering lambs is March 4th. Thanks for your support!

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, especially Eleanor Gunter

DeBella Scholarship

St. Francis of Assisi Finance Committee, in conjunction with the DeBella Oversight Committee, has set aside a sum of money to establish the John M. DeBella College Scholarships. Four \$500 scholarships will be awarded to four seniors from the parish who plan to attend college in the fall. Applications for these scholarships are available on the tables at the rear of the church. The application is also available on the website. Applications are due by noon on Friday, April 29th. In order to be eligible for a scholarship, applicants must be a REGISTERED member of the parish.

Hungering For A Healthy Start

The next stop on our CRS Rice Bowl journey is the African nation of Rwanda, where we're reminded to care for the unborn. This week we pray for pregnant mothers, that they may have the medical and nutritional support they need to raise healthy, thriving children. Visit crsricebowl.org

Lenten Services

Fridays, 3:00 p.m. - Stations of the Cross

Sunday, March 13th, 4:00 p.m.—Lenten Penance

There is a Humanitarian Crisis!

Help feed starving refugees fleeing violence. The Children of Abraham of the Southern Tier (COA) is sponsoring an interfaith event to help feed refugees living in camps in Jordan and Greece. They are working with Kids Against Hunger. It is a national organization whose mission includes feeding starving children and their families throughout the world. Millions of refugees are escaping conflicts in Syria, Iraq, and other countries in the Middle East. Many are living in huge refugee camps, and there is not enough food reaching them to meet their basic nutritional needs.

1. Help raise money! \$1.00 can provide 4 meals; \$10, 40 meals; \$25, 100 meals. If you wish to make a donation make a check out to the Children of Abraham or put cash in an envelope marked as such. As a parish we will be making a contribution for this endeavor.
2. Help package meals! Kids Against Hunger will set up meal packing stations for us to pack meals assembly line style. If you are interested in assisting please call the parish office (722-4388) — it would be wonderful to have a group represent the parish. Do so as a family or with friends.

The goal is 20,000 meals and thus \$5,000. This could be met with your help.

Visit our new website



www.stfrancisbing.org



Catherine's Cupboard Volunteer Schedule

Transportation

Week of Feb 28th — Karen Dotson

Week of Mar. 6th — Marie Giordano

Shelving (Mondays)

Feb 29th — K. Mohney

Mar. 7th — A. Short & S. Vinci

Distribution

March 1st — K Benowski, L. Gildea, A. Smilnak,

C. Danoski, R. Rounds, M. Quinn

March 15th — Kellet Team #2

Last Weekend's Offering (02-21-16)

204 Regular Envelopes.....\$6,335.00

Loose Collection.....\$365.00

Electronic Donation.....\$717.20

Total Collection.....\$7,417.20

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

Help Mom's House

There will be volunteers for Mom's House at the church entrances next weekend, taking donations for the Rocker-thon. Mom's House offers free childcare to single moms or dads pursuing further education. Your generosity is truly appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact Rose O'Neil at 722-0820.

St. Francis of Assisi Winter Carnival

St. Francis of Assisi's Winter Carnival will be taking place on Sunday, March 13th during Faith Formation. Money raised will be donated to Volunteers of America Homeless Shelters. More information will be coming soon...

Living the Final Chapter: A Symposium for Compassionate Care for Persons at the End of Life

Thursday, March 10, 2016 7:15 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at LeMoyn College. Registration is open for the symposium and dinner event. The full Schedule and Registration as well as Dinner Reservation Form are available at www.francishouseny.org. Questions? Contact: info@francishouseny.org or (315) 475-5422.

Don't Miss This!

"Way of The Cross" presented by The Franciscan Mystery Players of St. Mary's, Clayton, NY.

When and Where:

- Friday, March 11, 7:00pm at St. Joseph's Church in Endicott

Like us on Facebook!

If you have not already, take this opportunity to like us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/sfbinghamton/>



Knights of Columbus **Hooley News**

Thanking all of the loyal Hooley Supporters...

After 23 years, we are taking a breather...

Watch for the return of this very special event...

*****March 2017*****

Thank You!

The Word and Mission: Preparing a People of the Word for the Church's Mission

Scripture forms the foundation for the Church's mission. This is exemplified through various historical eras and saints of the Church. We will learn how people today can read the Bible in a way that is transforming. Presented by Stephen Binz; participate Saturday, March 12th from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church Hall. Registration and refreshments go from 9:00-9:30. It costs **\$15** per person.

Donations for The Binghamton Rescue Mission

The Binghamton Rescue Mission provides 32 beds to men who have previously experienced homelessness or were referred to the facility through a community agency. These men are working to restart their lives and could use your help providing some simple but necessary items.

- Tissues
- Shower shoes (L, XL) Black, White, Blue
- Bath towels
- Small mesh pop-up laundry baskets
- Men's pajama pants (L to XXXL)
- Bed pillows

Consideration for these items is very much appreciated.

You may drop off items in our food barrel in the church foyer or leave them at the Parish Center.

Sponsor of the Week

This week, St. Francis of Assisi would like to thank:

Reasons—Home of Open Hearts

15 William Rd, Binghamton, NY 13901

for sponsoring an ad in our bulletin

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

March 5th & 6th, 2016

4:00p.m. Mass

Lector William Bennett
EM Host Dc. Steve
EM Host Judy Murphy
EM Host Bea Grace
EM Cup Bob Grace
EM Cup Mary Frances Charsky
EM Cup John Artman
EM Cup Brenda Artman
Altar Server Mikayla Bucci
Altar Server Tyler Norton
Altar Server Elizabeth Wrighter

8:00a.m. Mass

Lector Tom Phalen
EM Host Dc. Steve
EM Host Denise Baxter
EM Host Steve Baxter
EM Cup Ede Blabac
EM Cup Mary Ellen Vaverchak
EM Cup Tim Vaverchak
EM Cup Lou Angelo
Altar Server Peyton Broderick
Altar Server Brigid Birtch
Altar Server Braedan Krisko

11:00a.m. Mass

Lector Tom Giblin
EM Host Dc. Steve
EM Host Jim Lewis
EM Host Maria Lord
EM Cup Rose O'Neil
EM Cup David Gill
EM Cup Chris Gill
EM Cup Kerri Hamilton
Altar Server Brendan Heaney
Altar Server Anthony Frissora
Altar Server Zachary Carr

Question of the Week

Question for Children: Name or draw a picture of a time you knew that Jesus was with you.

Question for Youth: The disciples had a very intense experience of Jesus on the mountain. Have you ever had a "mountain top" experience? What was it like for you?

Question for Adults: In what ways does Jesus speak today, ways in which you can truly "listen to him?"

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 **February 28, 2016**

Deliver 600 copies to St. Francis of Assisi.