

March 13, 2016

St. Francis of Assisi Parish

1031 Chenango Street, Binghamton, New York 13901



**Saturday, March 12, Vigil of Sunday**

4:00p.m. Liturgy for the People

Sunday, March 13, Fifth Sunday of Lent

8:00a.m. Michael Keough by John & Carol Broderick

11:00a.m. Amanda Rose Ciccone Kosalek by Rita Bates

Monday, March 14

8:00a.m. Rozann McGill by Kathleen Brady

Tuesday, March 15

8:00a.m. Celia Bucher by Yvette Heath & Family

Wednesday, March 16

8:00a.m. Ella Paden by Dick & Pat Paden

Thursday, March 17

8:00a.m. Marion Cola by St. Francis Special Sunshine Committee

Friday, March 18**NO MASS****Saturday, March 19, Vigil of Sunday**

4:00p.m. Joseph & Rita Brozovic by Don & Barb Brozovic

Sunday, March 20, Palm Sunday of The Passion of The Lord

8:00a.m. Liturgy for the People

11:00a.m. John Turnbull by Patty Turnbull and Children

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**

Mar. 13th: Shirley McCray & Marie Iobst

Mar. 20th: Ed & Kay Corcoran

Visit our new website**www.stfrancisbing.org****Faith Formation**

- **Faith Formation classes meet today for grades K-9 in the school.**

St. Francis of Assisi Winter Carnival:

Sunday March 13th during Faith Formation. Money raised will be donated to Volunteers of America Homeless. Faith Formation classes will have time to attend the carnival. Please note we are not charging for individual games, but will have a donation fee to enter. You can also have your child bring toiletries as part of their entrance fee. (Suggested \$1 or \$2 to enter, and/or toothpaste, soap, or deodorant) The Carnival will be held from 9:30-11a.m., all parishioners and families are invited to attend.

Also:

Please remember to call the Faith Formation Office at 722-4177 and leave a message when your child will not be at Faith Formation. You can also text Maria Kirk at 607-222-1477.

We will have a closing Rice Bowl Prayer service on April 6th during Faith Formation. Rice Bowls can be returned then. You can return the rice bowls or you can place your donation in an envelope.

Works of Mercy

This week's **Spiritual Work of Mercy is Forgive Offenses Willingly**

"When you forgive, you love. And when you love, God's light shines upon you." -Jon Krakauer

"Forgiving Her Son's Killer: 'Not An Easy Thing,'" NPR StoryCorps, May 20, 2011

"It would be easy—expected, even — for Mary Johnson and Oshea Israel to be enemies. After all, he killed Johnson's only son in 1993. He went to prison for that— and toward the end of his sentence, he and Johnson made peace. As Johnson recalls, their first face-to-face conversation took place at Stillwater Prison, when Israel agreed to her repeated requests to see him. 'I wanted to know if you were in the same mindset of what I remembered from court, where I wanted to go over and hurt you', Johnson tells Israel. 'But you were not that 16-year-old. You were a grown man. I shared with you about my son. 'And he became human to me,' Israel says. 'I instantly knew that all that anger and the animosity, all the stuff I had in my heart 12 years for you—I knew it was over, that I had totally forgiven you.'"

They say forgiveness is more about the forgiver, that it has the power to lift the burden of grudges and hate. Is there someone I need to forgive?

The **Corporal Work of Mercy this week is Visit the Imprisoned**

"There is no force in the world better able to alter anything from its course than love." - Greg Boyle, SJ

Ronald Rolheiser, "On Not Being Stingy with God's Mercy," June 16, 2014: "Mercy needs always to be tempered by truth. But sometimes the motives driving our hesitancy are less noble, and our anxiety about handing out cheap grace arises more out of timidity, fear, legalism, and our desire, however unconscious, for power. But even when mercy is withheld for the nobler of those reasons, we're still misguided, bad shepherds, out of tune with God whom Jesus proclaimed. God's mercy, as Jesus revealed it, embraces indiscriminately, the bad and the good, the undeserving and the deserving, the uninitiated and the initiated. One of the truly startling insights that Jesus gave us is that the mercy of God, like light and warmth of the sun, can go out to everyone. Consequently, it's always free, undeserved, unconditional, universal in embrace, and has a reach beyond all religion, custom, rubric, political correctness, mandatory program, ideology, and even sin itself."

In the Spiritual Exercises, St. Ignatius proclaimed that no sin can quench God's mercy. Are there circumstances in which I choose to withhold my mercy? How can I change this?

God of the Imprisoned, St. Paul says that nothing can separate us from your love. Do not let anything separate us from our capacity to love even the most unloved of the world. Amen.

Knights of Columbus Breakfast

Knights of Columbus' "Breakfast with Bunny" Buffet is scheduled for Sunday, March 20th from 8:30-11:00 in the Church Hall. Join us for a great breakfast!

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 take place the entire month of March.

Birthright is most grateful for any and all donations.

Congratulations to Mary Ellen Vaverchak

Mary Ellen Vaverchak of Binghamton was named the recipient of the 2016 Mirabito Excellence in Teaching Award, sponsored by the Mirabito Foundation. The award was presented at the Catholic Education Foundation's 8th Annual Green Tie Dinner on March 4th at Traditions at the Glen. Her family, husband Tim, and sons Timothy, Gregory, and Matthew are long-time parishioners. She and Tim serve as Eucharistic Ministers.

Mary Ellen is a first grade teacher at St. John the Evangelist school. She has taught in the Catholic School system for 27 years and the public schools for three years. Prior to St. John's, she worked at St. Catherine's in Hillcrest and Blessed Sacrament School in Johnson City.

Mrs. Vaverchak commented, "I am very humbled and honored to receive the Mirabito Excellence in Teaching Award. It is a pleasure being part of the Catholic Schools of Broome County where Christ and Catholic Christian values are central to every lesson. I am blessed to work with and have the support of an excellent administration and truly outstanding, dedicated colleagues and staff."

Thank you, Mary Ellen for your faithful service to our Catholic Community. Congratulations on a job well done!

Hungering to Grow A New Tomorrow

This week's CRS Rice Bowl country is the island nation of Madagascar, where we're reminded of the important role farmers play in caring for God's creation. As we prepare our meals throughout the week, let us reflect on where our food comes from—and what role we can play in caring for our environment. Visit crsricebowl.org for more.

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.

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 on April 3 from 1:30-3:30 at St. Michael's on Clinton Street. 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.

Holy Week Schedule

3/24 Holy Thursday

7:00p.m. Mass of the Lord's supper

3/26 Holy Saturday

12:00p.m. at the Parish Center Chapel- Blessing of food and baskets

3/25 Good Friday

3:00p.m. Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

3/26 Easter Vigil

8:00p.m. Liturgy

3/27 Easter Sunday

*8:00a.m. Mass
11:00a.m. Mass*



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.

Catherine's Cupboard Volunteer Schedule

Transportation

Week of March 13th — George & Pat Clark

Week of March 20th — Michelle Warne

Shelving (Mondays)

Mar. 14th — D. & D. Talbut

Mar. 21st — C. & F. Woodruff & M. Ryder

Distribution

March 15th — Kellet Team #2

April 5th — R. & P. Scales, R. O'Neil, K. Dotson, M. Hayes, R. Serafini

Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers

Once again we are preparing the next schedule. The deadline for requests is **Monday, March 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

Nocturnal Adoration Society

Will meet at St. Patrick's Chapel from 7:00 to 9:00p.m. on Saturday, March 19th. St. Francis of Assisi Holy Hour begins 7:00 to 8:00p.m.

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.



St. Patrick's Day Celebration



The Annual Mass in honor of St. Patrick will be held Thursday March 17, at 3:00p.m. at St. Patrick's Church, 9 Leroy Street, Binghamton. An Irish party from 4:00-8:00p.m. will be held in St. Patrick's Gymnasium following Mass. Cost of party is: Adults \$3 and includes admission, entertainment and soda; Under 18— \$1; Children under 5 are free. Food will be available at a nominal cost. A Ham and Cabbage Dinner will also be available at a cost of \$6.00. Tickets are available at the door. Don't miss out!

Sponsor of the Week

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

Bryant: Heating and Cooling Systems

175 W Arterial Highway, Binghamton, NY 13901

for sponsoring an ad in our bulletin

Last Weekend's Offering (03-07-16)

208 Regular Envelopes.....	\$8,671.75
Loose Collection.....	\$359.00
Electronic Donation.....	\$1435.34
Total Collection.....	\$10,466.09

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

Congratulations, Sister Maureen!

Next Saturday, March 19th, Sister Maureen Rainone will be celebrating her 60th Anniversary as a Sister of St. Joseph at a special Jubilee Mass at St. Joseph's Provincial House in Latham. A faithful parishioner here at St. Francis of Assisi, Sister Maureen serves as a lector here at our 4:00 Vigil Mass and has been actively involved in other parish activities, including our Harvest Dinner.

Sister Maureen's ministry with us began many years ago when she was the Director of Religious Education at St. Catherine's. In addition, she has served in other Southern Tier parishes, including St. Anthony's in Endicott, Blessed Sacrament in Johnson City, St. Andrew's in Binghamton, as well as being Chaplain at Lourdes Hospital and St. Louise Manor. Currently, Sister Maureen is the Chaplain at Good Shepherd-Fairview Home, where she continues to share her loving compassion with the residents there.

Let us rejoice with Sister Maureen, in gratitude for her 60 years of loving fidelity to God and her self-giving service to God's people.

Annual Samaritan House Spring Sale

Saturday, April 2, 9:00a.m.—4:00p.m. & Sunday, April 3, 9:00a.m.—2:00p.m. St. Thomas Aquinas School Gym Highland Avenue, Binghamton. If you have any questions contact Dennis Gorman at 607-724-3969.

Lenten Services

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

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

(Several area clergy will be available for individual confessions at the Penance Service)

Like us on Facebook!

If you have not already, take this opportunity to "like" us on Facebook at

<https://www.facebook.com/sfabinghamton/>



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

March 19th & 20th, 2016

4:00 PM Mass

Lector	Marge Mangan
Lector	Sally Orband
EM Host	Dc. Steve
EM Host	Peggy Munson
EM Host	John Pierce
EM Cup	Mary Cooney
EM Cup	Jan Pandich
EM Cup	Teresa Creeden
EM Cup	Carol Danoski
Altar Server	Mary Katherine Doyle
Altar Server	Bryan Heller
Altar Server	Sarah Shafer

8:00 AM Mass

Lector	Joe Carpenter
Lector	Shirley McCray
EM Host	Dc. Steve
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 AM Mass

Lector	Charles Lanfear
Lector	Jim Lewis
EM Host	Dc. Steve
EM Host	Sue Jones
EM Host	David Hanzes
EM Cup	Maria Lord
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

Question for Children: Name one thing you can do or stop doing that will help you have a better friendship with Jesus.

Question for Youth: Sometimes one thing needs to die in order for something new to be born. When have you experienced this in your own life? What do you need to let go of now for something new to grow?

Question for Adults: Name one area in your life that you need to let go of, to die to, in order to rise with new life.

END OF BULLETIN

CHURCH NAME: St. Francis of Assisi
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Comments:
Bulletin copy for **March 13, 2016**

Deliver 600 copies to St. Francis of Assisi.