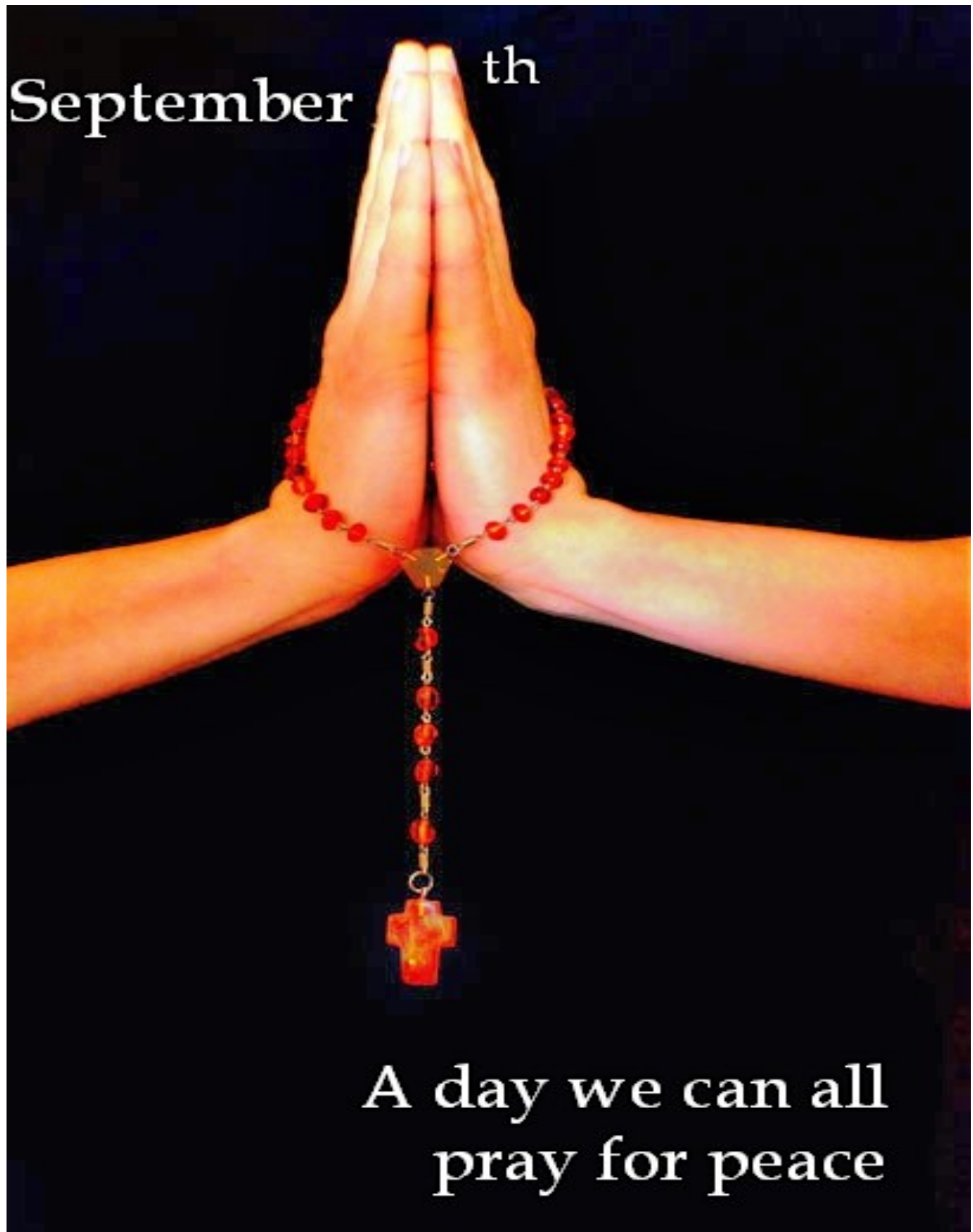


September 11, 2016

St. Francis of Assisi Parish

1031 Chenango Street, Binghamton, New York 13901



September 11th

A day we can all
pray for peace

**Saturday, September 10, Vigil of Sunday**

4:00 p.m. Dorie & Jimmy Rhoades by Family

Sunday, September 11, Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Rita Holtslander by Jan & Jim Kalivoda

11:00 a.m. Lorenzo Altadonna by Family

Monday, September 12

8:00 a.m. Joanne Kopyar by The Mother's Club

Tuesday, September 13

8:00 a.m. Deb Libous by Linda & Chuck Bucci & Joe & Marilyn Verrastro

Wednesday, September 14

8:00 a.m. Carl Zimmer by St. Francis Special Sunshine Committee

Thursday, September 15

8:00 a.m. Gary Murphy by Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Balch & Family

Friday, September 16**NO MASS****Saturday, September 17, Vigil of Sunday**

4:00 p.m. George Koons by Family

Sunday, September 18, Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People

11:00 a.m. Msgr. James Kane by Delores & Keith Zulko

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.

Not to be overlooked...

Appreciation for our weekend sacristan laborers, R.J. Santa Croce and Brian Heller. Their assistance every weekend is a great help with our Liturgies.

Last Weekend's Offering (09-04-16)

190 Regular Envelopes.....	\$7,959.00
Loose Collection.....	\$466.00
Electronic Donation.....	\$810.00
Total Collection.....	\$9,235.00

**Thank you, everyone for your donations.
They are greatly appreciated!**

Faith Formation

Faith Formation begins this **Sunday, September 11th at 9:30 A.M. in the Church.** We will begin with a Prayer Service, and classes will be dismissed with their catechist to the school for a brief session. Parents are asked to meet in the church for a short information meeting while the students are at class. **Classes will return to the church by 10:45 A.M.**

Confirmation Service Project Expo will be held in the Church Hall Sunday, September 25th. Please take the time to go downstairs and see the various service projects done by our candidates this year.

Confirmation Last session, Rehearsal and Lunch will be September 25th. Please be sure your sponsor or parent attends with you.

We will formally acknowledge the people in our parish who serve as catechists for our Faith Formation program and in our RCIA program at each of the Masses this weekend. Please take a minute to acknowledge and pray for them and their dedication to this ministry. Thank them for their service to our faith community.

Virtus Training

Re-certification training will be held Saturday, September 17th at 10 AM at St. Patrick's in the School Library. Please call Maria Kirk to register if you need re-certification.

Protecting God's Children, the initial Safe Environment training, will be held Saturday, September 17th at 12:30 PM in the Faith Formation Office, 1031 Chenango St. Please go online at syrdio.org to register, or call Maria Kirk at 607-222-1477.

Pre-Baptism Class

A Baptism Preparation Class will be held on **Tuesday, September 20th at 6:00 P.M.**, in the Faith Formation Office, 1031 Chenango St. If you are expecting or have recently given birth and wish to have your baby Baptized, please call Maria Kirk to make arrangements to attend.

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, Rita Walker.



9/11 What have we learned? **Where do we go from here?**

The terrorist attacks of 9/11 took place 15 years ago today. Airplanes were hijacked. Huge buildings were destroyed. Almost three thousand people were killed. A new feeling of fear and uncertainty entered into the United States. Life in some ways has not been the same since. A whole series of wars and more terrorism and more violence had unfolded. The pattern continues today.

In this context we hear the Scriptures today and are challenged to learn something new.

The first reading from Exodus is about the process of coming to find a God who is not vengeful, but who is willing to show mercy and forgiveness. It is about finding a God of healing and new life.

Jesus tells three stories to make his point about the mercy of God. He wants to teach us that God is concerned about redemption and forgiveness. God wants to “save sinners.” God wants to bring people to the fullness of life. God wants to reconcile individuals, groups, and nations.

Sometimes even religious people have trouble finding the merciful side of God. So many people fall into the trap of condemning others and showing no mercy.

We can be tempted to enter into the never ending pattern of violence and revenge in the face of evil. Nations and groups can be tempted to resort to war or terror rather than understanding, nonviolence, and reconciliation.

The challenge of today’s Scriptures is to apply the message of mercy to our image of God and especially to our own way of treating others. (“Be merciful as God is merciful.”)

We are invited to apply this vision of mercy and reconciliation to situations of violence and war in any part of the world, to our international relationships, especially toward those nations we have condemned and sanctioned, like Iran, North Korea, or Cuba, and also to groups that use violence like Al Qaeda, the Taliban, ISIS, or even our own nation. An even further challenge is to apply this vision of mercy and reconciliation to our criminal justice system, to our country’s use of the death penalty, to our ways of allotting educational resources to children in different neighborhoods, to our ways of dealing with those who are struggling with substance abuse, to our ways of dealing with family and neighbors.

In closing, during Pope Francis’ visit last year to the Ground Zero Memorial in New York City, he said that the flowing water “reminds us of yesterday’s tears, but also of all the tears still being shed today.”

Catholics Care. Catholics Vote. **Participation in political life.**

In their statement on *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*, the U.S. Catholic bishops remind Catholics about the call to participate in political life. “In the Catholic tradition,” they write, “responsible citizenship is a virtue, and participation in political life is a moral obligation” (no. 13). Visit www.faithfulcitizenship.org today to read the statement, watch videos, and access other great resources.

The Moral Responsibility of Voting

This seminar will be held on Wednesday, September 14th from 6:30—8:30 p.m. at Catholic Charities (232 Main St., Binghamton). An interfaith panel of faith leaders including:

□ Rev. Dr. Greg Johnson, Pastor of Cornerstone community Church of Endicott and Leader of the Ecumenical group “The Cornerstone Group”

□ Rabbi Barbara Goldman-Wattel — Temple Concord

□ Rev. Tim Taugher — Pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Church

□ Ehtisham Siddiqui — President of Islamic Center of the Southern Tier

will lead a discussion on what faith says about voting and civic participation, the common good and the consideration of moral issues in the voting process. **All are invited and welcome to attend!**

St. Francis of Assisi Parish Bereavement Support Program

A new Bereavement Support Program will begin here on Tuesday, September 20, from 1:30 p.m. — 3:00 p.m. in St. Francis of Assisi Parish Center, 1031 Chenango St. for anyone who has experienced the loss of a loved one. Such a loss is one of life’s most difficult experiences, but sharing one’s thoughts and feelings with others, who have had a similar loss, can be helpful on the journey from grief to healing. To register for this 10-week process and for more information, please call Sister Karen (daytimes) at the Parish Center at 722-4388 or Rose O’Neil (evenings) at 772-0820 by Monday, September 12 so that books can be ordered.

5th Annual Southern Tier Pastoral Care Conference

Sister Donald Corcoran, O.S.B., from Transfiguration Monastery in Windsor, will be the presenter for this conference on “The Acts of Mercy,” to be held at Our Lady of Sorrows Hall, 801 Main St., Vestal, on **Tuesday, October 11th**. The day will begin with Mass at 9:00 a.m., include lunch, and end at 2:00 p.m. All of our parishioners who visit our homebound and nursing home parishioners or work in funeral or bereavement ministries are cordially invited. For more information, to register, and/or to car pool, please call Sister Karen at 722-4388 by Monday, **September, 19th**.

Sponsor of the Week

St. Francis of Assisi would like to thank:

Bella Pizza

1116 Chenango Street, Hillcrest, NY
for sponsoring an ad in our bulletin

Catherine's Cupboard Volunteer Schedule **Transportation**

Week of September 11th — George & Pat Clark

Week of September 18th — Karen Dotson

Shelving (Mondays)

September 12th — K. Mohney

September 19th — C. Woodruff & M. Ryder

Distribution

September 20th — M. Walsh, M. Turna, M. Quinn, J. Wyatt, A. & S. Faughnan

Danielle House Volunteers Needed

Danielle House, our local healthcare hospitality home, is in need of volunteers. If you are looking to invest a few hours each week to serve families in a medical crisis, Danielle House may be the charity you would love to be a part of. To learn more, please visit www.daniellehouse.org, or call 724-1549.

September 25th Food Packing Event at St. Michaels

Help feed starving refugees fleeing violence

Join the Children of Abraham of the Southern Tier

Sunday, September 25th from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**St. Michaels Church, 296 Clinton St.
Binghamton, NY 13905**

Children of Abraham is joining with 'Kids Against Hunger' in making nutritional food packages (costing only \$0.25 per meal) to send to Syrian refugee camps in Greece.

Our first event in April 2016 was an amazing experience for all involved.

Attention! Altar Servers, Lectors, and Eucharistic Ministers

Once again we will be preparing the next servers and lay ministers schedule. The **deadline for requests is Tuesday, September 13th**. If you are a new server or lay minister and would like to be added to the schedule or for anyone who would like to make any changes or requests, please call Lynda Carpenter at 772-6732 (cell is 206-2798) or email at joseph.carpenter28@gmail.com. Also, please let Lynda Carpenter know if you would like your email address included in your contact information. THANK YOU!



Morning Retreat for Women

October 1, 2016

Hosted by
Church of the Immaculate Conception
Greene, NY

~8:30 am - 12:00 pm~

**8:30 am Registration
9:00 am - 12:00 pm Retreat**

**Sister Laura Bufano, CSJ
Presenter & Guide**

As pilgrims on our journey of faith, we will reflect on the ways we experience God's presence in the "landscapes" of our heart – the mountains and valleys, the deserts and oases, the ebb and flow of the tides. With prayer and poetry, scripture, song and story as companions, we will explore our spiritual geography. What has brought us to where we are? What have we learned on the way?

Bring a listening heart and a spirit of adventure. God's Spirit will lead the way!

*Please register by contacting our Parish Office
607-656-9546; immcongreene@syrdio.org*

Invite a friend or come and make a new one! This morning retreat is open to mothers, daughters, sisters, aunts, grandmothers and friends. Immaculate Conception is located at 1180 State Highway 206 in the charming Village of Greene, New York. All are welcome!

Community Baby Shower

Hosted By:



**Mothers & Babies
PERINATAL NETWORK**

Saturday, September 17th

From 10am – 1pm

Oakdale Mall, Johnson City

Store front across from Ruby Tuesday



Fun, Games and Door Prizes every 15 minutes!

This event is **FREE** and open to all pregnant women/families, and parents of children less than 3 months of age.

Agencies & vendors will be on hand to answer questions about pregnancy, birth, breastfeeding, baby safety and more! All families will get a ticket for a door prize for attending and have a chance to win extra door prize tickets by visiting information booths and education sessions.



**For more Information contact:
Mothers & Babies Perinatal
Network at:
(607) 772-0517**

**St. Francis of Assisi Lectors,
Eucharistic Ministers & Altar Servers**
September 17th & 18th, 2016

4:00 P.M. Mass

Lector	Marge Mangan
EM Host	Dc. Steve
EM Host	Catherine Shafer
EM Host	John Pierce
EM Cup	Bob Parke
EM Cup	Shirley Parke
EM Cup	Teresa Creeden
EM Cup	Peggy Munson
Altar Server	Elizabeth Wrighter
Altar Server	Dominic Lomonaco
Altar Server	Logan Lomonaco

8:00 A.M. Mass

Lector	Mike Stricek
EM Host	Dc. Steve
EM Host	Ede Blabac
EM Host	Joanne Horoschak
EM Cup	Lou Angelo
EM Cup	Nancy Oliver
EM Cup	Mary Ellen Vaverchak
EM Cup	Tim Vaverchak
Altar Server	Andrew Rice
Altar Server	Jonah Rice
Altar Server	Brigid Birtch

11:00 A.M. Mass

Lector	Mary Lou Ekstrom
EM Host	Dc. Steve
EM Host	Dave Bollinger
EM Host	Jim Lewis
EM Cup	Rose O'Neil
EM Cup	Maria Lord
EM Cup	Steve Guth
EM Cup	Jules Furrer
Altar Server	John Michael Frissora
Altar Server	Zachary Carr
Altar Server	Brendan Heaney

Question of the Week

Question for Children: The father in this story welcomed his son home, even after he ran away and did bad things. How do you know God welcomes you after you do that?

Question for Youth: The prodigal son was welcomed home even though he had sinned. How hard is it for you to ask for forgiveness? Is it hard for you to believe that you are still loved even when you have sinned?

Question for Adults: When you wander away from being true to your faith, how do you know God will take you back? What signs do you see?

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 **September 11th, 2016**

Deliver 600 copies to St. Francis of Assisi.