

December 27, 2020

# 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  
Suzanne Ekstrom  
Parish Media Manager  
Edmund Savo  
Organist  
Fred Hazlett  
Maintenance/Groundskeeper  
Tina Silvestri  
Housekeeper  
Brendan Heaney

Office Hours:  
Monday — Thursday:  
7:30 am to 4:30 pm  
Friday: Closed

Parish Office Phone: 722-4388  
Faith Formation Office Phone:  
722-4177

E-mail:  
[stfrancisbing@syrдио.org](mailto:stfrancisbing@syrдио.org)

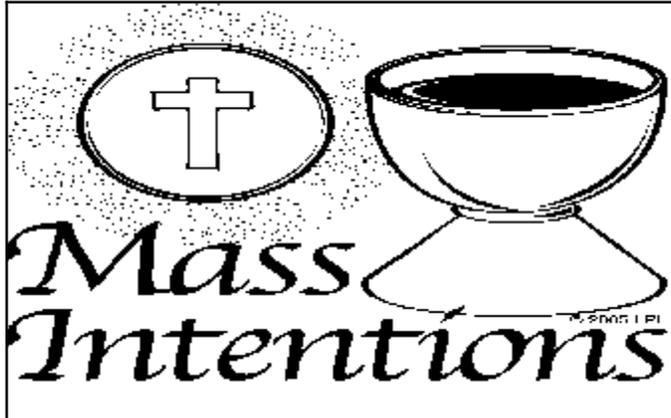
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Please go online to [stfrancisbing.org](http://stfrancisbing.org) to view our latest Sunday mass. We will be posting new videos of our weekend liturgies by 4:00PM on Saturdays **even after our reopening.**

Also find the videos on our Facebook (search “@stfrancisbing”) Twitter (search “@stfrancisbing”) YouTube (St. Francis of Assisi Binghamton)

**You can still attend**



**Saturday, December 26, Vigil of Sunday**  
 4:00 p.m. Salvatore Sabato by Dot Davies

**Sunday, December 27, 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 28**  
**NO MASS**

**Tuesday, December 29**  
**NO MASS**

**Wednesday, December 30**  
**NO MASS**

**Thursday, December 31, New Year's Eve**  
 5:00 p.m. Charles Gilroy by Hugh & Maureen Reynolds

**Friday, January 1, New Year's Day**  
 12:00 p.m. Robert Quinlivan by Marge Mangan

**Saturday, January 2, Vigil of Sunday**  
 4:00 p.m. William Murray by William & Sharon Mooney

**Sunday, January 3, The Epiphany of the Lord**  
 8:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People  
 11:00 a.m. Louise Evans by Lilly Kinback

**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

**Weekend's Offering (12-06-20)**

Regular/Holy Day Envelopes.....\$9,082.00  
 Loose Collection.....\$42.00  
 Electronic Collection.....\$3,413.00  
 Total Collection.....\$12,537.00

*Thank You for your generous contributions!*

**FAITH FORMATION**

**No Faith Formation this week, December 27th!  
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!**

**Faith Formation grades K-Confirmation resumes  
January 3rd.**

First Reconciliation will be celebrated in January 2021.

**No Confirmation Retreat in January.** Confirmation candidates will have class **January 3rd** in the parish hall. The retreat has been rescheduled for spring 2021.

**Feast of the Holy Family: Justice Challenge**

Justice Challenge: One of the most beautiful messages of Christmas is that peace. The prophets of the Old Testament put their hope in a Messiah who would bring peace to a war-torn world. That is what Jesus did. In the Incarnation, we experience God's desire for all human persons, for all families and communities, and for all of creation (even lions and lambs) to live in harmony with each other. The angels proclaimed "peace on earth, goodwill to all" at Jesus' birth. Your challenge during this Christmas season is to be people of peace in your actions, words, and thoughts. Can you make it through the week without starting any fights or arguing with your family or co-workers? Can you share quiet moments of conversation instead of frantically running here and there? Can you rest peacefully in God's arms in your prayer time? What are ways you can be peacemakers instead of peace-breakers in your relationships during this special time of year.

**When Receiving Holy Communion:**

- †Masks will be worn by ALL
- †Direction will be provided for those receiving
- †The Precious Blood will NOT be offered
- †Reception will involve: receiving the Body of Christ in the hand **ONLY**, stepping aside, lifting the mask, consuming the Eucharist, returning the mask..
- †Please maintain social distancing of 6 feet!

**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.



**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 the New Year of 2021 become a year of greater  
peace!**

**Happy New Year!**

**Pope Francis**

**World Day of Peace Message 2021**

January 1st is the annual World Day of Prayer for Peace. At a time when our world is in such turbulence, we need to pray and work for peace. Pope Francis has issued the 54th World Day of Peace message. This document is very challenging, especially as we realize the ways of the past have not sustained a just and lasting peace. I encourage you to read the entire document online. The document's theme is "A Culture of Care as a Path to Peace." The Holy Father proposes that world leaders could use Catholic teaching on the common good, solidarity and care for creation as a "compass" in addressing long-standing social inequalities. At the beginning of the message, Pope Francis says that he is thinking and praying for those who have lost loved ones to the pandemic and prays for healthcare workers who "have made and are continuing to make great sacrifices to be present to the sick, to alleviate their sufferings and to save their lives."

**St. Francis of Assisi Parish:  
Looking Forward in Faith  
Capital Campaign  
WE DID IT! THANK YOU!**

With grateful hearts we are excited to report that our *Looking Forward in Faith Capital Campaign* has reached an important milestone and surpassed its \$500,000 goal. Earlier this week, the campaign office reported that our pledge total now stands at \$517,920 and this has been generated through the sacrificial generosity of approximately 173 parishioners. We all know this has been an especially challenging time and it is wonderful to be able to close out the year on such a positive note. **Let us *Look Forward in Faith* to a promising future for our parish.**

Parishioners continue to pledge new gifts and we are humbled by their sacrificial giving. This achievement truly speaks to the generosity and commitment of our parish community. Thank you also to all those who have taken the lead in this campaign and pledged their support, and to the many volunteers that have worked diligently in the background to help achieve this milestone. If you have not done so, please consider supporting our parish effort! **Every contribution, from the smallest to the largest, is necessary** since we are *doing this together as a parish family*. For the convenience of those who may need a pledge form there are extra confidential forms in the church.

**The Importance of Participation**

As St. Paul teaches "gifts are given for the common good." Gratitude to God is displayed by a generous heart especially when it becomes part and parcel of the fabric of daily life when the gifts we have been given are redistributed for the sake of the common good, we come to understand how the Church— or any community— grows and prospers. If no one gives, of course the community will struggle and may fail. If a few give, then some things will get done and others will fall by the side, in the few will tire quickly. If everybody gives something, then the community is strong and vibrant and the possibilities for the future are great. The cost— though real— is not an unbearable burden to just a few.

This is such a wonderful way to end a very challenging year, and a fantastic way to enter the New Year!

**Congratulations!** Let us continue to Move Forward and Look Forward in Faith as a Parish Community!

## **Catherine's Cupboard Volunteer Schedule**

### **Transportation**

NO TRANSPORTATION

### **Shelving (Mondays)**

NO SHELIVING

### **Distribution**

January 5th— Bea Grace, Meg Peters, Martha Lyons

## **THE GIVING TREE 2020: THANK YOU!**

"Ask and you shall receive" has been proven again from our parish family here are St Francis. With low in-person attendance we were unsure if we could do the Giving Tree this year but we not only did it, we surpassed what we committed to. The Children's Home now has over 70 gift card to share with their families when we committed to at least 50. Elizabeth Church campus hoped we could do 50 gifts, well, we did, in fact, we doubled that plus some. Thanks to the Church of Nazarene ladies group who join in with us donating blankets, candy and cookies. Your generosity is overwhelming and speaks volumes of your caring concern of others... **Thank You, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!**

## **Instructions for Celebration of Sacraments**

### **In order to permit Mass each parishioner must:**

- † Seek information for registration for Mass, and procedures
- † Remain home if sick, symptomatic, or at risk
- † Wear a face mask in church (required) and, if possible, bring personal hand sanitizer
- † Observe the commands on the posted signage and follow the directives of ushers

### **Prepare for the reception of Holy Communion:**

- † Masks will be worn by ALL
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- † The Precious Blood will NOT be offered
- † Reception will involve: receiving the Body of Christ in the hand **ONLY**, stepping aside, lifting the mask, consuming the Eucharist, returning the mask..
- † Please maintain social distancing of 6 feet!

## **Online Giving**

Would you like to save paper and time when giving monetary donations to us? We have the option of online giving for your convenience. Visit our website [stfrancisbing.org](http://stfrancisbing.org) and click "**online giving**" in the menu. It's easy to set up using your checking account, credit, or debit card for automatic or one-time donation options and you can choose where the money goes. Check it out!

## **Zoom Book Club**

The book club has been missing due to the need to social distance during the Pandemic. We are going to attempt a book club using Zoom. Many of you are already familiar with Zoom but you will need a device that connects you to the Internet. We are planning on two sessions, starting on the first Tuesday of January 2021 at 2PM & 7PM. We're aiming for 10 attendees (a household counts as an attendee). I think 10 is a reasonable number to start with. We will be reading and talking about Pope Francis' new encyclical called Fratelli Tutti which means All Brothers (and Sisters too I might add). Please contact the Delores in the Parish Office or call Deacon Steve at 607-648-2155 or [steveblabac@yahoo.com](mailto:steveblabac@yahoo.com) to register. The encyclical is available at many sources but we will wait to see if anyone is interested before putting an order in.

## **Why Volunteer?**

### **There are so many reasons to volunteer:**

- † Lets you share your knowledge and talents.
- † Provides opportunities for making many new friends.
- † Brings the special fulfillment that comes only from helping others.
- † Helps you "get outside" yourself and put your own problems — even grief — in perspective.
- † Allows you to polish old skills and learn new ones.
- † Lets you "repay" an organization that has helped you or someone you love.

**So, go out and give volunteering a try!**

## **PARISH REGISTRATION**

Our warmest welcome to all! We extend our hands and hearts in Christian fellowship to you, celebrating with us, whether you're a long-time resident or newly arrived in the Parish. Please check the appropriate box and place in the collection basket or return to the Parish Center. *We thank God that you're with us.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

- New Parishioner, send registration form
- Change of address or phone number
- Temporarily away. Stop envelopes
- Moving, please remove from Parish Roster

**St. Francis of Assisi Lectors,  
Eucharistic Ministers & Altar Servers**  
January 2nd & 3rd, 2020

**4:00 P.M. Mass**

Designation ONLY

**8:00 A.M. Mass**

Designation ONLY

**11:00 A.M. Mass**

Designation ONLY

Please go online to  
**stfrancisbing.org**  
to view our latest Sunday mass.

We will continue to post new videos of our weekend liturgies by 4:00PM on Saturdays, for those who wish to stay home for health and safety concerns.

Also find the videos on our  
Facebook (search “@stfrancisbing”)  
Twitter (search “@stfrancisbing”)  
YouTube (St. Francis of Assisi Binghamton)

**You can still attend weekend mass  
virtually!**

**Children’s Liturgy of The Word will be  
posted by Noon on Saturdays!**

**Question of the Week**

**Question for Children:** Why is it important for you to obey your parents or guardians?

**Question for Youth:** God chose to be among us in the person of Jesus. How does having a God who knows what it means to be human affect the way you pray or think about God?

**Question for Adults:** Whether single, married, or divorced, how does Paul’s advice ring true in your own life? Choose one of his suggestions and share how it touches your life.

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AVAILABLE**

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for her

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Office Hours By Appointment

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