April 04, 2021

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
Nicholas Norton
Sacristans

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@syrdio.org

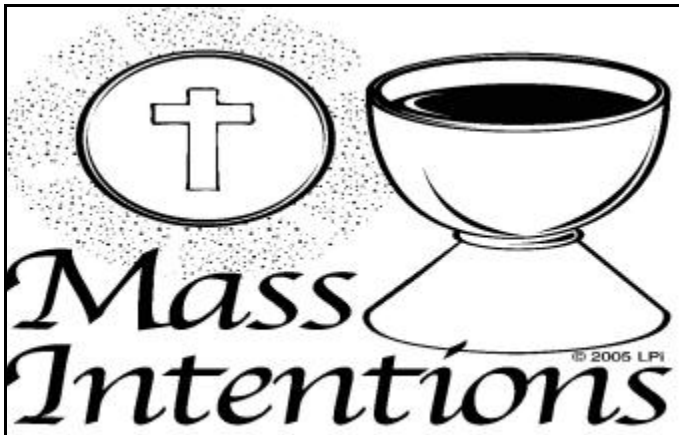
Website:
www.stfrancisbing.org

Follow us on FB & Twitter:
@stfrancisbing

Please go online to **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 weekend mass virtually!



Saturday, April 3, Holy Saturday
8:00 p.m. Liturgy for the People
Sunday, April 4, Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord
8:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People
11:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People
Monday, April 5
NO MASS
Tuesday, April 6
8:00 a.m. Vita Mannino by Daughter Fina & Family
Wednesday, April 7
12:00 p.m. David Feheley by Family
Thursday, April 8
8:00 a.m. David Feheley by Family
Friday, April 9
NO MASS
Saturday, April 10, Vigil of Sunday
4:00 p.m. Jim Foran by Jim & Rose O'Neil
Sunday, April 11, Second Sunday of Easter
8:00 a.m. Liturgy for the People
11:00 a.m. Bob Shields by Mary & Tim Foy

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.

Weekend's Offering (03-28-21)

Regular/Holy Day Envelopes……..……..……..$4,152.00
Loose Collection……..……..…….$70.00
Electronic Collection……$1,972.00
Total Collection.....……..…….……$6,194.00

FAITH FORMATION

No FF this weekend. Happy Easter! Faith Formation WILL MEET next week, April 11th, for K-Confirmation
Rice Bowls can be returned to Faith formation any time in the next few weeks, or placed in the collection box at Mass.

Looking Ahead:
~Faith Formation for Grades K-Confirmation meets April 11th. An online link for remote Confirmation Candidates will be sent. Candidates will present their Personal Beliefs Statements to the other candidates. This assignment was handed out and emailed last month. If you have questions please contact Mr. Santa Croce or Maria Kirk.

~First Eucharist class, Banner Making and Sharing Meal will take place April 18th. Please bring personal items for the Pew Banners. Class will meet as usual, followed by Pew Banner project and lunch in the Hall beginning at 10:45 AM. Please attend a Mass other than 11 AM on Sunday.

~Our final in-person Faith Formation Class for this session will be April 24th.

~First Eucharist will be celebrated Sunday, May 9th at the 11 AM Mass. Mass will be a little longer than usual, and **reservations will be required**.

DeBella Scholarship Information

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 (4), $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 or on our parish website. **Applications are due by 4PM on Thursday, April 29th**. Please note, the parish office is closed on Friday. In order to be eligible for a scholarship, applicants must be a **REGISTERED** member of the parish.

Laimons and Sylvia Drupa Scholarship

The Binghamton Garden Club is offering this scholarship in the amount of $10,000 to a graduating senior in a Broome County high school. The selected senior must major in a university undergraduate program in horticulture, environmental studies, botany, landscape architecture, biology (not pre-med) or other directly related fields. The award is not just a one-year award, but has the potential of multiple years if all the requirements are met. Interested applicants should contact their school guidance counselor. **Submissions must be received by May 17, 2021**. Contact M. Rankin at 773-8959 for more information.

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, especially
Judy Doll.

Easter: Living in Hope

Easter is the promise of hope, and for us to bring this message into our lives and world. Still living in a COVID time can be despairing, but with the celebration of Easter we can live in hope. We dream of a solution to the problems challenging society— but living in hope is to volunteer, to study the issues, to actually be part of the solution. We imagine a more unified, less divisive world— but living in hope is to act with kindness and understanding, to be the means of reconciliation and peace within our own families, communities, and churches. We wish to be spared the virus— but living in hope is to wear a facemask, keep our distance, offer our help to the sick and suffering, trusting that our sacrifice will bring health and healing. Yes, we can wish and dream and imagine— and remain stuck in our Good Friday crypts. So this Easter let us begin to dare to live in hope— hope that frees us from our graves pf fear and anxiety, that pulls us out of our graves of denial and cynicism. Let us live our lives in the hope and grace: that, in the Christ who "goes before" us, we can transform our Galilees into the Kingdom of God's justice and mercy.

— Fr. Tim

Easter Sunday: Justice Challenge

Justice Challenge: The Good News of the resurrection is proclaimed this week in our Scripture reading. This good news is meant for everyone. Jesus was and is a universal savior. One of the insights we receive on Easter Sunday comes from Acts 10. Peter, struggling to be faithful to the teachings of Jesus, announces that he has learned that "God shows no partiality." This helped to shape many decisions made by the early Church leaders—and it should form our decisions as well. Your challenge this week is to examine how well you live by God's example. Do you personally and/or as a household how partiality to particular groups of people based on their race, religion, economic level, or occupation? Do you exclude any groups on the same basis? If your reflection reveals partiality to some and exclusion of others, make a commitment to change. Identify three steps you can take so that in the future you can say that you, like God, show no partiality.

Thank You From Sr. Karen

Thank you so much for the beautiful flower arrangement that you sent as we celebrated the Feast of St. Joseph and the Jubilee Anniversaries of many of our Sisters. Your beautiful flowers has a central place in front of the large statue of St. Joseph in our Chapel. Your cards and prayers also meant so much to me, and be assured that you continue to be in my daily prayers. Gratefully, —Sr. Karen

Welcome to Fr. Olszewski (April 17/18)

Father Bernard Olszewski will be visiting our parish April 17/18th weekend to speak at all Masses on behalf of Cross Catholic Outreach which was founded to create a meaningful link between parishes in America and the priests and nuns working in the Church overseas in the Caribbean, Africa, Asia, Central and South America.

Vatican Statement on Same Sex Unions

A few weeks ago on March 16, the Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith issued a statement regarding the blessing of same-sex unions, while the basic statement was a reiteration of the church's stance, the tone was quite strong, harsh, outright hurtful as well as confusing, particularly to sisters and brothers of the LGBTQ+ community. Members of this community have been made to feel unwelcome in the church by such statements, and also by the actions of some clergy. It was like a whiplash moment when the communication from Pope Francis seemed more pastoral, and then this quick, harsh statement made it a gut blow to so many people. Four years ago Fr. James Martin S.J. wrote a book entitled, Building a Bridge. In this book Fr. Martin writes an effort by all parties to find a way to bridge the gap between the institutional church and the gay community. "The essay urges the church to treat the LGBT community with respect, compassion, and sensitivity" (a phrase from the Catechism of the Catholic Church) and the LGBT community to reciprocate reflecting those virtues in its own relationship with the institutional church. The statement of March 16th sounds more like a wall than an effort to build a bridge of respect, compassion, and sensitivity. I particularly liked Fr. Martin's statement on Twitter "Jesus blessed Zacchaeus by visiting his house (Lk 19), a Roman centurion by healing his servant (Mt 8) and the woman with a hemorrhage by healing her (Mk 5). Thus Jesus blesses a public sinner, a non-Jew and an "unclean" woman. He doesn't say, "God does not and cannot bless sin." The whole ministry of Jesus was building bridges, and not creating walls or fences to keep people out. In the Gospels we find Jesus with the marginalized, the victimized, and those who had no voice in his day, and for us as a church we are called to be with them in our world today. We can be bridge builders today by listening with sensitivity to the pain of those who are gay, show respect to their God-given dignity, and be a compassionate family member or friend to those in the LGBTQ community. Here at St. Francis of Assisi know you are ALWAYS welcome, cared for, and loved as sisters and brothers in Christ! May all of us as the faith community of St. Francis of Assisi be bridge-builders through respect, compassion, and sensitivity.

A Prayer for When I Feel Rejected

Loving God, you made me who I am. I praise you and I love you, for I am wonderfully made, in your own image. But when people make fun of me, I feel hurt and embarrassed and even ashamed. So please, God, help me remember my own goodness, which lies in you. Help me remember my dignity, which you gave me when I was conceived. Help me remember that I can live a life of love, because you created my heart. Be with me when people make me feel "less than," and help me to respond the way you would want me to, with a love that respects the other, but also respects me. Help me find friends who love me for who I am. Help me, most of all, to be a loving person. And, God, help me remember that Jesus loves me. For he too was seen as an outcast. He too was misunderstood. He too was beaten and spat upon. Jesus understands me and loves me with a special love, because of the way you made me. And when I am feeling lonely, help me remember that Jesus welcomed everyone as a friend. Jesus reminded everyone that God loved them. Jesus encouraged everyone to embrace their dignity, even when others were blind to that dignity. Jesus loved everyone with the love that you gave him. And he loves me too. One more thing, God: Help me remember that nothing is impossible with you, that you have a way of making things better, that you can find a way of love for me, even if I can't see it right now. Help me remember all these things in the heart you created, loving God. Amen.

Catherine's Cupboard Volunteer Schedule

Transportation
NO TRANSPORTATION
Shelving (Mondays)
NO SHELVING
Distribution
April 6th— K. & T. Barnhart, N. Oliver

National Child Abuse Prevention Month

Every April, the Diocese of Syracuse, parishes, and Catholic schools, recognize the National Child Abuse Prevention Month. The Diocese embraces this opportunity to deepen our awareness of the need to be vigilant about providing a safe environment in our parishes, schools, agencies, and our communities. For information on how the Diocese of Syracuse implements safeguards to protect our children, young people, and vulnerable adults from abuse, contact the Office of Safe Environment at 315.470.1421 or visit www.syrdio.org.

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Syracuse, New York
Case No. 20-30663

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT on June 19, 2020, The Roman Catholic Diocese of Syracuse, New York ("Diocese") filed for protection under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code").
The Bankruptcy Court has established April 15, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. (prevailing Eastern time) as the deadline to file proofs of claim against the Diocese (the "Bar Date").

If you have a claim against the Diocese including, without limitation, a claim related to sexual abuse committed by any person connected with the Diocese, you must file a claim on or before the Bar Date with Stretto, the appointed Claims Agent.
Please visit https://case.stretto.com/dioceseofsyracuse or call (855) 329-4244 for more information on how to file your proof of claim.

IF YOU DO NOT TIMELY FILE A PROOF OF CLAIM, YOU MAY FORFEIT YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE ON ANY PLAN OF REORGANIZATION AND TO SHARE IN ANY FUTURE DISTRIBUTIONS TO CREDITORS IN CONNECTION WITH THE DIOCESE'S CHAPTER 11 CASE.

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Cruise Itinerary
Valid U.S Passports Required

Day	Port	Arrive	Depart
Sat	Overnight flight to Amsterdam, Netherlands		
Sun	Depart Amsterdam		5:00PM
Mon	Sea Day		
Tue	Scenic cruising Oslofjord		
Tue	Oslo, Norway	8:00AM	4:00PM
Wed	Kristiansand, Norway	8:00AM	5:00PM
Thu	Stavanger, Norway	8:00AM	3:00PM
Fri	Scenic cruising Sognefjord		
Fri	Flam, Norway	7:00AM	7:00PM
Sat	Sea Day		
Sun	Amsterdam, Netherlands		
Mon	Sea Day		
Tue	Eidfjord, Norway	7:00AM	3:00PM
Tue	Scenic cruising Hardangerfjord		
Wed	Alesund, Norway	8:00AM	5:00PM
Thu	Geiranger, Norway	7:00AM	5:00PM
Thu	Cruising Geirangerfjord		
Fri	Bergen, Norway	8:00AM	5:00PM
Sat	Sea Day		
Sun	Debark Amsterdam	7:00AM	

Berkshire Travel Group Rates
(Per person/double Occupancy)

Category	Stateroom Description	Berkshire Rate
J	Inside Stateroom	$2,855.00
E	Outside Stateroom	$3,454.00
VD	Verandah Stateroom	$3,805.00

Rate includes: Cruise accommodations as desired, port taxes and government fees, meals and entertainment on board ship, cocktail party for group

Not included: personal items, gratuities on board ship, airfare and transfers

Cancellation insurance is available and recommended

Deposit: $600 per person is required to secure a room.

Contact Kathy Coll **(610)372-4652** for more information!

St. Francis of Assisi Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers & Altar Servers
April 10th & 11th, 2021

4:00 P.M. Mass

Designation ONLY

8:00 A.M. Mass

Designation ONLY

11:00 A.M. Mass

Designation ONLY

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stfrancisbing.org
to view our latest Sunday mass.

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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: What sacrifices do you make for those whom you love?
Question for Youth: Even the disciples had a hard time understanding Jesus' Resurrection – it is that surprising. What does Resurrection mean to you? What does Easter mean to you?
Question for Adults: In what ways has God called you to die in Christ? How is this expressed in your own life?

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Binghampton, NY 13901
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