

Church of the Blessed Sacrament

607 Central Avenue Albany, New York 12206 - Phone 482-3375

Shrine Church of Our Lady of the Americas

273 Central Avenue Albany, New York 12206 - Phone 465-3685

Rev. Joseph O'Brien, Pastor

Rev. Francis A. O'Connor - Shrine Church Chaplain

Rev. Juanito Asprec-Parochial Vicar

Over One Hundred Years of Faith and Tradition



Established 1902

Organist: Ed Savoy
Pastoral Associate: Sr. Judith Kapp, RSM
Parish Secretary: Rebecca Hanson
In Residence (Retired) Rev. George St. John
In Residence Rev. Francis A. O'Connor
Deacon: Raymond Sullivan
Parish: <http://www.blessedsacramentalbany.org/>
Email: blessedsacramentalbany@aol.com
Religious Education Office: 446-0997
BlessedSacramentChurchAlbany.FF@rcda.org

Religion Education: Mrs. Kelly Hession
Mrs. Christina Wiley
School Principal: Sr. Patricia Lynch, RSM
School Secretary: Mrs. Nancy Kelly
Shrine Church Pastoral Associate: Sr. Grace R. Diaz, S.N.J.M.
School: <http://www.blessedsacramentschool.net/>
Email: bss@nycap.rr.com
Blessed Sacrament School: 438-5854

The Nativity of The Lord December 25, 2018



Processional: **O Come All Ye Faithful**- Gather #341

Responsorial Psalm: **All The Ends of the Earth**
- Gather #95

Gospel Acclamation: **Celtic Alleluia** – Gather #258

Offertory: **Hark The Herald Angels Sing** – Gather #348

Holy Holy: **“Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of Hosts...”**

Recessional: **Joy to the World** – Gather #343



Mystery of Faith: **“When we eat this**

Bread and drink this Cup

We proclaim your Death, O Lord

until you come again”

Great Amen: Gather #168

Lamb of God: #171

Communion: **Silent Night** – Gather # 352

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:

Advent is a season of great longing! *The people in darkness have seen a great light.* So much longing and anticipation! *God so loved the world that he sent his only begotten Son.* Whether this is your first time at Blessed Sacrament or you are here a few times a week, many blessings and Merry Christmas to you and your families!

Shepherds and Kings and everyone in between seek closeness with Jesus Christ. *Do you seek him, too?* Together, let us seek the Lord. *Know that you are always welcome here.* Our world hungers and thirsts for everything Jesus has to offer. *Everyone has hungers to be fed and gifts to share with others.*

Let Blessed Sacrament be your spiritual home where we are fed and we share what the Lord has given us.

Emmanuel! God is with us! May you and your family enjoy the warmest Christmas Blessings!

Peace,

Fr. Joe O'Brien

STEWARDSHIP: We will have a report on our December 23rd/24th offertory collection in this week's bulletin.

As you plan your Christmas giving please consider your gift to your parish, your spiritual family. Your Christmas gift helps us continue all of our ministries that continue the work of Jesus in our parish community. Thank you for your generous stewardship of Blessed Sacrament. We appreciate and need your ongoing support. *Your stewardship makes all things possible. Thank you for all you do for Blessed Sacrament!*

FAITH FORMATION AND SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION: If your child, or someone in your family, is in need of the sacrament of Reconciliation, First Communion, or Confirmation in 2019, please contact Kelly Hession at (518) 482-3375 as soon as possible. Dates for sacramental preparation are as follows: **Reconciliation- March 2nd at Noon** and **First Eucharist May 12th at Noon.** Our 2019 sessions begin January 6th at 9 AM followed by 10:30 Mass. We offer a weekly Faith Formation program on Sunday mornings for students in grades K-11. This is a wonderful opportunity for your family to grow in your faith! Our program also includes volunteer opportunities and various service projects

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING: There will be a meeting for young people who currently are, or would like to become, altar servers on Thursday December 27th from 1 – 2 PM in the church. Parents are welcome and encouraged to attend as well

HOMEBOUND PARISHONERS: Do you care for a homebound person? Would they like to receive a visit and communion in their home? Please contact our parish office at 518-428-3375

HOSPITAL VISITS: Is a member of your family in the hospital? Many hospitals are unable to share full patient information because of privacy concerns. Please share information about your loved ones with our parish office at 518-482-3375

COLLEGE STUDENT DROP IN: Calling all college students- Fr. Joe invites you to Professor Java's at 217 Wolf Rd, Colonie for coffee and conversation on Wednesday January 2nd at 7 PM. Bring a friend, all are welcome.

<p>Saturday 12/22/2018 4:00 Rose & Nicholas Saldevere Charles & Irene Forlani Margaret Judge Bob Maguire Jr. Kathy Maguire Marcia McCullough Georgette Beaver</p>	<p>Monday 12/24/2018 4:00 <i>For the People</i></p> <p>6:00 <i>For Peace on Earth</i></p> 	<p>Wednesday, 12/26/2018 7:00 Helen & Stephen Ackens James Ryan</p> <p>12:00 Charles Miller, Jr.</p>	<p>Friday, 12/28/2018 7:00 (Intentions available)</p> <p>12:00 Mary Wygert Mindy Sutin David Crotty</p>
<p>Sunday 12/23/2018 9:00 For the People</p> <p>10:30 Adriano Trussel Stiven Loveland Casimo, Maria, Joann & John Ricupero Pamela Attura Gayle Mineau Doherty Constance O'Connor Mineau</p> <p>12:00 Rosario Balarin (birthday) Agatina Pinto</p>	<p>Tuesday 12/25/2018 9:00 <i>For the People</i></p> <p>11:00 <i>For Peace on Earth</i></p> 	<p>Thursday, 12/27/2018 7:00 (Intentions available)</p> <p>12:00 Bob Carruthers</p>	

CONFESSIONS EVERY SATURDAY FROM 3:00 - 3:30 PM



RECEPTION FOR SR. JUDE: Please remember that we will have a reception for Sr. Jude, as we will her fair well, Sunday December 30th after the noon Mass

SCHOOL NEWS: At this Christmas season, the Blessed Sacrament School community would like to thank our parish for its tremendous support of our mission throughout the year!! Our students, families, faculty, and staff could not be more appreciative.

Come experience a Learning Environment Centered in Faith and Focused on the Future!

Nursery & Pre-K Our Parish school offers a quality program for our youngest learners. Both programs offer full-time and part-time options. Call the school today for more information and to set up a tour, **518-438-5854** or email at info@blessedsacramentschool.net Learn more about us at www.blessedsacramentschool.net. **We are currently accepting enrollment for the 2019-2020 school year.**

On **Sunday, January 27, from 10 AM to 12 PM** we will be holding an **Open House** for anyone interested in enrolling a student for September 2019, and for all parishioners that would like to see the school. We do offer a **Full-Day** Kindergarten program, as well as an **After School Program**. Families may register students for Nursery through Grade 8 at this event. Please spread the word of this Open House to families who have school age children. As always, we thank you for your ongoing support.

SCHOOL BUCKS AT COLONIE CENTER: Shop. Show. Win! After shopping and dining, your school's family and friends can fill out the form and either place it in the drop box at the Security Desk (located near the Regal entrance) along with your original receipts, or show your original receipts at the Management Office (located past the bathrooms near Sephora) to accumulate points. Shoppers must specify which participating school to allocate the points to. For every dollar spent at Colonie Center, our school will receive one point!

FABULOUS FEBRUARY: IS BACK! Tickets are \$10 for a drawing every day in February. On **Valentine's Day**, \$1,000 is given; on **weekends**, \$100 and **weekdays**, \$50. All winners are put back into the drum and could be pulled again. They make nice stocking stuffers for Christmas and can be sent in a card. Invite others to help with this fundraiser for the School by buying and helping to sell these popular tickets. Red flyers at the exits list prizes for each day and the bottom is the ticket. Cut it off and return with your \$10 donation. This is school's major fundraiser. Thank you for your support.

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE: English classes for adults held each Wednesday and Friday from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM in Forman Room. Please pass this information to anyone looking to learn English. If interested come on any Wednesday or Friday.

THRIFT SHOP: is open **Wednesday and Saturday, 10 AM - 1 PM**. Items that are *clean* and in *good working condition* can be dropped off when the store is open. Stop in and check us out.

FOOD PANTRY: is open Mondays and Thursdays from 10 AM – 11:15 AM.

****Please note the Thrift Store will be closed Wednesday December 26th and January 2nd; the Food Pantry will be closed Monday the 24th and Monday the 31st.****

NEW TO THE PARISH? Welcome! Please sign below and drop in the collection. So Many people seek Jesus Christ. Thank you for coming and joining our community. May we seek Jesus together.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please tell us a little about you and your family _____

I am new to the parish

Send me "The Evangelist"

Please send church envelopes