

Church of the Blessed Sacrament

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

Shrine Church of Our Lady of the Americas

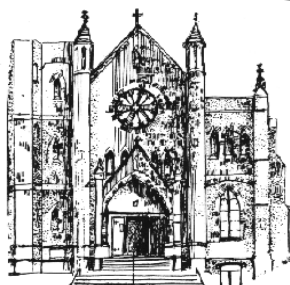
273 Central Avenue Albany, New York 12206 - Phone 465-3685

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
Food Pantry Coordinator: Sr. Patricia Lynch
Parish Secretary: Rebecca Hanson
In Residence (Retired) Rev. George St. John
In Residence Rev. Francis A. O'Connor
Deacon: Raymond Sullivan
Deacon: Gerald Ladouceur
Parish: www.blessedsacramentalbany.org
Email: blessedsacramentalb@gmail.com
Faith Formation: kellyhessionbsc@yahoo.com

Faith Formation: Mrs. Kelly Hession
Mrs. Shannon Crisafulli
School Principal: Ms. Maureen Daurio
School Secretary: Mrs. Nancy Kelly
Shrine Church Pastoral Associate: Sr. Grace R. Diaz, S.N.J.M.

School: www.blessedsacramentschool.net
Email: info@blessedsacramentschool.net
Blessed Sacrament School: 518- 438-5854

3rd Sunday in Lent

March 24, 2019

Processional: **Amazing Grace** – Gather #612
Penitential Rite: Kyrie: Gather #196
Responsorial Psalm: **If Today You Hear God's Voice** - Gather #89
Gospel Acclamation: **Praise To You Lord Jesus Christ** - Gather #160A
Offertory: **I Heard The Voice of Jesus**
Say - Gather #646



Third
SUNDAY
IN
LENT

Holy, Holy: **Music Card #4**
Mystery of Faith: **Save Us – Music Card #6**
Great Amen: Gather #182
Lamb of God: Gather #312
Communion Music: **Look Beyond**
- Gather #843
Recessional: **Jerusalem My Destiny**
- Gather #390

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:

The early weeks of Lent call you to reflect on how you can give up *who you've been* for *who you can become*. An additional theme is introduced in these next three Sunday Gospels for your consideration: our longing for God seen through our longing for New Life through the Sacraments. In these next three weeks, we'll hear John's Gospel with the story of the Samaritan woman at the well (John 4), the man born blind (John 9) and the raising of Lazarus from the dead (John 11).

At Blessed Sacrament and in Catholic parishes all around the world, candidates and catechumens are preparing to celebrate the Easter Vigil with reception of Easter Sacraments (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist). They thirst for the Lord and our parish community accompanies them in prayer. Just as Jesus emerges from a desert fast of 40 days, our fast for the waters of Baptism, waters of New Life is broken at the Vigil. Easter Baptisms are celebrated!

We have something to offer each other during the remainder of Lent. The journey of our candidates and catechumens reminds us how important the life and grace of the sacraments are to us. And we have our prayers and experiences of living the Christian life to share with those who will receive sacraments at the Easter Vigil. Let's make this holy exchange come alive in our lives!

Peace, Fr. Joe

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS: Exodus 17:3-7; Romans 5:1-2,5-8; John 4:5-42

COLLECTION NEWS: Our offertory collection for March 17, 2019 was **\$7,406**. The collection for the St. Patrick's Day was **\$1,424**. With your generous contributions we were able to meet our goal for the Diocesan Bishops Appeal! Thank you for your generous stewardship to Blessed Sacrament. *Your continued stewardship makes all things possible.*

LENTEN NEWS & NOTES:


STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Will take place on all **Fridays during Lent at 12:30 PM**, right after the noon Mass. Please consider coming to Mass, the stations, and making this a special Lenten Friday Hour of Prayer.

OPERATION RICE BOWL: As we begin our Lenten Journey, you are invited to participate in Catholic Relief Services, Operation Rice Bowl. Throughout Lent we will pray, fast, learn and give as a way to reach out in solidarity with our brothers and sisters around the world. Please take home a Rice Bowl packet and follow this simple yet powerful Lenten practice. Visit orb.crs.org for additional resources. Rice Bowls will be available at all the exits.

LENTEN SERIES: Holiness in Today's World, by popular demand, will meet every Tuesday in Lent after the 12 noon Mass and at 7:15 pm in the church in the St Joseph Chapel.

PENANCE SERVICE: Our Lenten Reconciliation Service (Confession) will be Tuesday, April 2 at 7:00 p.m.; visiting priests will join us. We also have confession every Saturday from 3:00 pm. – 3:30 p.m.

LENTEN REFLECTION: Our Journey Through the Cross to the Resurrection: An evening of reflection using music, story, scripture, poetry and silence to embrace the Lenten path toward resurrection. Monday, April 1, 2019, 7:30 p.m. Hubbard Interfaith Sanctuary, 959 Madison Ave. This program is free and open to the public. For more information, email Joan Horgan horganj@strose.edu

<p><u>Saturday 3/23/2019</u> 4:00 Segarra & Gonzalez Families Mary Nally Gerald Miller Veronica Sgroi (1st ann.) Joseph Montesani Rose Jeffers (12 yr. ann.)</p>	<p><u>Monday 3/25/2019</u> 7:00 Margaret Donovan 12:00 Barbara Connery-Lima James C. Campion In Honor of St. Anthony Of Padua</p>	<p><u>Wednesday 3/27/2019</u> 7:00 Health of Beverly Shogry 12:00 James Crisafulli Olivia Hanson (on her 11th birthday) Living & deceased members of the Mackey Family</p>	<p><u>Friday 3/29/2019</u> 7:00 <i>Intentions Available</i> 12:00 Mary D. Pearson Freedman Van Alstyne</p>
<p><u>Sunday 3/24/2019</u> 9:00 For the People 10:30 Stiven Loveland Susan A. Juron Mary O'Callaghan Grace Spagnolo 12:00 Angela Pochman</p>	<p><u>Tuesday 3/26/2019</u> 7:00 <i>James B. Ryan</i> 12:00 Robert Going Ed Colfer (living) Len Bourneuf (living)</p>	<p><u>Thursday 3/28/2019</u> 7:00 Fr. Francis Grogan 12:00 Katie Lynch Farrell</p>	

LENT
Pray + Fast + Give

4:30 p.m. Mass, Sundays, in Urdu for our Pakistani Parishioners.

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

HOLY WEEK MASS INTENTIONS: We will be accepting intentions for masses on Holy Thursday, April 18 at 5:30 p.m. and the Easter Vigil, Saturday April 20 at 7:30 p.m. If you are interested please contact the rectory.

FAITH FORMATION FOR YOUTH: The wonderful celebration of our Mothers is approaching. Our Faith Formation program will be putting together a Mother's Day Basket to raffle off and we are looking for donations to make this basket extra special. Please consider helping us create a beautiful and meaningful gift to give to a wonderful and well deserved mother. Ideas for but not limited too: Books, makeup, jewelry, gift cards, perfume, candles, plants, lotions, journals, water bottle, home decor, movie passes, fabric bags, art work, recipes, magazines etc. Raffle chances will take place on May 4th and 5th and May 11th and 12th. Winners will be drawn and announced on Mother's Day, May 12th. All proceeds of this raffle will go towards our Faith Formation and Youth Programs. If you have questions, please contact Kelly Hession at (518) 424-8812. Please check your emails for faith formation news, reminders and updates.

SCHOOL BUCKS PROGRAM: UPDATE! - Colonie Center is making a few changes to the School Bucks Program. There are now two new ways to redeem School Bucks Points! School Bucks completed forms & receipts can be turned in Monday-Friday 9:00am-4:30pm in the Management Office, located on the First Floor at the end of the hall between Sephora & Justice. School Bucks Drop Box is now located at the desk by the escalator between Menchie's & Five Guys. Please complete the itemized form. Place the form and receipts in the envelope and drop it in the box. ****when using the School Bucks drop box your receipts will not be returned**** **From now until the end of the program we are offering TRIPLE POINTS for purchases made at these stores: PF Changs, H&M, Bose, Cinnabon, Sephora, and American Eagle.**

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE classes are held on Friday mornings from 10 am - 12 noon in the Foreman Room. The sessions are open to all, please stop and see Linda Feldmann on Friday mornings for details.

ROSARY GUILD: We will hold our Baby Shower on Sunday, April 7th. The Christ Child Society makes layettes for new mothers in need. We would appreciate any donations of baby outfits, newborn to 9 mos., blankets, diapers etc. for both boys and girls.

OVER FIFTY CLUB: We will be meeting Monday, April 1st (no fooling!) at 12:30 p.m. downstairs in the church hall. Bring your lunch and a dessert to share. All are welcome! For more information contact Anne Snyder at (518) 869-5247.

RECITATION OF THE ROSARY: Come pray the Rosary on the first Tuesday of each month after the Noon Mass.

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET: Prayed the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Tues each month after noon Mass. Prayer cards will be available.

LEGION OF MARY: Meets every Tuesday at 6 p.m. in the Forman Room.

THRIFT SHOP: The Shop is open on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10 am-1 pm. Please bring your donations during hours of operation only.



EASTER NURSING HOME VISITS: If you would like to help visit our parishioners living in Nursing Homes, please sign the tab below and put it in the collection or call the Rectory this weekend. The residents enjoy and appreciate the visits. We will be visiting on **Saturday April 13 or Sunday April 14.**

I can visit Nursing Homes for Easter. Please pickup palms and an Easter card at the Rectory, Saturday between 10:00 a.m. and Noon.

Name _____ Phone number _____

Address _____ Email _____

NEW TO THE PARISH? Welcome! Please sign below and drop in the collection. You may also use the form to receive envelopes and/or "The Evangelist". Check the appropriate boxes.

Name: _____ () I am new to the parish

Address: _____ () Send me "The Evangelist"

Phone: _____ Email: _____ () Please send church envelopes