

Church of the Blessed Sacrament

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

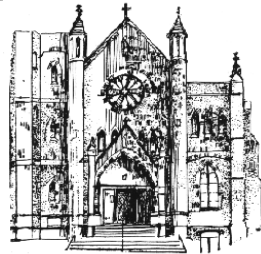
Shrine Church of Our Lady of the Americas

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

Rev. Joseph O'Brien, Pastor

Rev. Francis O'Connor - Shrine Church Chaplain

Over One Hundred Years of Faith and Tradition



Established 1902

Organist: Ed Savoy
Food Pantry Coordinator: Sr. Patricia Lynch
Parish Secretary: Barbara Collen
In Residence (Retired): Rev. George St. John
In Residence: Rev. Francis O'Connor
Deacon: Gerald Ladouceur
Parish: www.blessedsacramentalbany.org
Email: blessedsacramentalb@gmail.com
Faith Formation: faithformationbsc@gmail.com
Facebook: Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

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

PALM SUNDAY

APRIL 5, 2020



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK: I received word from the diocese that there will be no public Masses for Holy Week or Easter. It looks like our Mass schedule will be suspended for several more weeks. I will remember 2020 as the year of suffering brought about by the corona virus and the year of a very austere Lenten fast, one that resulted in no community celebrations of Palm Sunday, the Triduum and Easter.

Our week begins with the triumph of Palm Sunday followed by the suffering of Good Friday. I am always reminded that Jesus' Resurrection follows the experience of the Cross. It feels like we're carrying the cross now. While at home, you have time to reflect on how God is asking you to reach out to our families and neighbors. How is God asking you to listen to the anxieties of those around us and to express your own?

Be not afraid. Together and as individuals, we can offer peace and consolation. We can offer prayer. We can be present through phone calls and social media. Hearing a human voice is such a gift! We can pray and sing praise as families and with others in creative ways...with and without technology. Please watch for our Blessed Sacrament Masses, parish resources and my personal messages to our parishioners by following the Stay Connected suggestions listed below. (We're sharing a new online feature with you from our friends at St. Mary's in Oneonta: Home Prayer Services for Holy Week and Easter. Please join in our online Masses and pray in your living room or around your kitchen table.)

Peace and Blessings, Fr. Joe

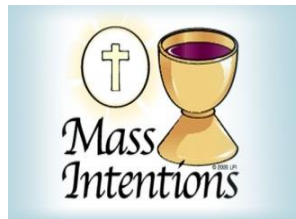
TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS: Matthew 21:1-11; Isaiah 50:4-7; Philippians 2:6-11; Matthew 26:14-27:66.

COLLECTION NEWS: Regular collection was \$5,459; additional Catholic Relief Services \$100 and advanced Easter \$1,535. Many thanks to everyone who mailed in or dropped off their offertory envelopes! We depend on your support for the church and the school. Your generous stewardship makes all things possible at Blessed Sacrament. If your means permit, let me humbly ask you to mail your offertory and Easter gifts to our parish office. Thank you. I deeply appreciate the sacrifices you make to support Blessed Sacrament.

STAY CONNECTED: Here are some ways we may stay connected:

- Visit and bookmark our website: blessedsacramentalbany.org
- "Like" our Facebook page: Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church
- Visit our YouTube Channel: Blessed Sacrament Church Albany, NY
- Our email address: blessedsacramentalb@gmail.com

Our website will have the most recent bulletins, links to current YouTube message/Mass and updates. Please help us stay connected by providing and/or updating your email address and phone number. Email your information to blessedsacramentalb@gmail.com or call the Parish Office at 518-482-3375.

Saturday 4/4/2020 Jean Calderone Ralph Rapello Joan Carll James J. Colonno Mary Marino	Monday 4/6/2020 John and Phyllis Schallaci Jack & Brian Cromie	Wednesday 4/8/2020 Kathie Lynch Farrell Casey Ryan Lynch John & Mary Lynch Lillian M Coleman Martha Glass (living)	Friday 4/10/2020 Good Friday
Sunday 4/5/2020 Barbara Ferri John Klob Genevieve Szczepkowski James Morrill Sara Tenney	Tuesday 4/7/2020 Beverly Shogry	Thursday 4/9/2020 Holy Thursday Josephine Dooley	

CONFESSIONS: Please call Fr. Joe at the Parish Office, 518-482-3375.

Church will be open for private prayer seven days a week from 7 am to 2 pm. Come spend time before the Blessed Sacrament. Bring along some spiritual reading. Enjoy our stained glass windows on a sunny day find a moment for prayer. Pray the Rosary, the Stations of the Cross or the Chaplet. We ask that social distancing be practiced. The church is disinfected daily but not between each person's visit.

BLESSED SACRAMENT SCHOOL NEWS: The faculty, staff and students of Blessed Sacrament School are keeping all members of Blessed Sacrament Parish close in prayer for their safety and health during this challenging time.



If you are doing your shopping from home using Amazon, Blessed Sacrament School participates in the AmazonSmile program. Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service. We are asking that you please consider joining AmazonSmile and make Blessed Sacrament Church, Albany, NY your charitable organization. Money earned will help Blessed Sacrament School. Simply go to [Smile.amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com/smile), Top left: Choose Blessed Sacrament Church, Albany, NY. It's that easy! We thank you, as always, for your support!!

ROSARY GUILD: The Baby Shower scheduled Sunday, April 19th has been **postponed**; it will be rescheduled for some time in September.

SCHOOL BUCKS: If you have shopped at Colonie Center or are picking up take out, please hold onto your receipts or send them into the Parish office as we wait for information from Colonie Center hopefully these will be acceptable once business returns to normal.



FAITH FORMATION NEWS: Thinking and praying for all of you. I encourage you to stay up to date and informed through our parish social media pages: Facebook: Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church and Instagram [blessedsacramentym](https://www.instagram.com/blessedsacramentym). Mass is being celebrated and recorded by Fr. Joe and is available on our parish YouTube channel as well. Please continue to check your emails and or call us if we can help you in any way.

OUR FOOD PANTRY: CHANGE IN SCHEDULE. The Pantry is open only on Monday 10-11:30 am. As of publication date, the Food Pantry is operating according to guidelines appropriate to keeping everyone safe. We are aware that folks may find themselves in need of food pantry services due to no work and/or reduced income. If you are in our Food Pantry service area, please bring proof of address and valid identification. We are in need of shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes and deodorant. **The Pantry is in need of a few people who would be available on Monday 9-11:30 am, once a month.** Call the Parish Office for more information at 518-482-3375.

THRIFT SHOP: The Thrift Shop is closed and is currently scheduled to re-open on Saturday, April 25 at 10 am. No donations will be accepted until that time. Please check back as this may change.

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