

Vincent Simeone

# Shiloh Shamas From Fr. Charles Onyenekę

Devotions are great ways to get closer to God. It is a quiet time that you spend praying and reflecting on your relationship with Him. Like how we have various family traditions, most Catholic families have their family devotion, which includes the praying of the Rosary, Stations of the Cross, the veneration of the Saintly image, and so on.

Ralph Simeone

Jessica Hunt

I was born into a Catholic family that is strongly devoted to Christ in the Blessed Sacrament and love of the Divine Mercy prayer. Growing up in our house, we had a big Divine Mercy portrait and my parents always stopped us from whatever we were doing immediately at 3pm to say the Divine Mercy prayer. The truth was that I learnt the prayer without knowing the meaning.

During my high school days in the Seminary, I was driven by the urge to know more about the prayer. Hence, I browsed through the internet and it was note worthy to know that it means "God's love reaching down to meet the needs and overcome the miseries of His creatures". The meaning was so amazing to me. I asked myself again, why do we pray the Divine Mercy at 3 pm? I found out that the Chaplet may be prayed at any time, but the hour of the Lord Jesus' death, 3 pm, is a privileged time. At that hour, in spirit, we stand beneath Christ's cross in order to entreat Mercy for us and the whole world for the sake of the merits of His passion (St. Faustina Diary, 1320).

As we approach the feast of Divine Mercy by April 24th, let us together entreat for Mercy for ourselves, the whole world, and pray for peace between Russia and Ukraine by joining us on our Divine Mercy Sunday program.  $\rightarrow$ 



### From the Pastor, Fr. Daniel Quinn

Victories are meaningless without the struggles that come before. This is why we love sports films: *Rocky*, *Chariots of Fire*, *A League of Their Own*, even *Mighty Ducks*. Easter isn't much of a feast without Holy Thursday and Good Friday, in the same way that the climax of any of these movies isn't meaningful without the conflict and struggle before. As we celebrate anew this season of Easter, let us be mindful of what it is we are being rescued from: death, nothingness, sin, Hell. It's a dangerous universe, with threats from things that are seen and unseen, and we celebrate that our God cares so much for us that he does not abandon us to it all.

4/24 - Noon - Rosary Guild Baby Shower: Donations accepted! 4/24 33 Days to Merciful Love at the Cathedral 4/28 - Capital District Columbiettes meeting, Knights of Columbus, Cohoes 4/30 & 5/7 - 10:00-1:00 - Drop-off for our Annual Garage Sale 5/1 - First Communion 5/1 - CROP Walk 5/2 - Synod Listening Session, Christ Our Light 5/3 - HOPE Meeting, for those grieving a loss or experiencing depression 5/5 - Good News & Cold Brews, Young Adults St. Luke's, Schenectady 5/10 - Real Talk Rosary, Young Adults -St. Mary's Crescent 5/13-14 - Garage Sale

- 5/15 AOH Vocations Fundraiser, 3:00-6:00
- 5/20-22 Rachael's Vineyard Retreat

# Divine Mercy Sunday ~ April 24

9:00 pm	Morning Mass
2:00 pm	Adoration
	Rosary
	Confession Available,
	with any of our seven (7!)
	visiting priests
3:00 pm	Divine Mercy Chaplet
3:30 pm	Mass

#### Pope Francis' Monthly Intention for April

Health Care Workers - We pray for health care workers who serve the sick and the elderly, especially in the poorest countries; may they be adequately supported by governments and local communities.

## **BLESSED SACRAMENT SCHOOL NEWS**

Are you or someone you know interested in attending our School? We offer instruction for 3-year-olds through Grade 8. We are doing in-person tours on Mondays and Fridays at 10:00 am, and prospective students are welcome to shadow ono of our students for a day. For more information call the office. Spots are filling up fast!

**Kitchen Garden** Our students will be breaking ground and growing a Kitchen Garden after Easter break. We would love to have experienced gardeners help the children grow and nurture their plants. We would also welcome supplies such as: vegetable grade compost, fruits & vegetables fertilizer, hand forks & trowels, shovels, watering cans, plastic plant pots/planters, seedling propagator, gardening gloves, pruners, stakes, twine, 2 rakes, 2 hoes, 2 forks, rubber boots (various sizes) spray bottles, and bag of stones.

**Garage Sale** Our annual Garage Sale to benefit the school is back, May 13 & 14! Friday night, May 13 is the pre-sale from 6-8 pm. Admission to the pre-sale is \$5. Admission is free to the sale on Saturday, May 14, 9 am-3 pm. We will accept donations for the sale on Saturdays April 30 and May 7 at the parking lot garages from 10am - 1 pm. Drop-off restrictions: no stuffed furniture, no infant furniture, no electronics or computers; flat screen TVs only. Other restrictions may apply and will be determined at drop-off. Pick up for larger pieces may be available. For pick up, call the parish office at 518-482-3375 with your name & phone number and someone will get back to you. We are in need of volunteers on Thursday all day & on Friday morning to set up and price, and on Friday evening & Saturday to act as salespersons and tally purchases. We could really use your help! Contact the parish office at 518-482-3375 to volunteer, even to hang posters around town.

*Catholic Connections* This week we offer the following podcast with games for children to help them understand the Easter Celebration: https://sundayprep.org/children-activities-for-easter-sunday-year-c/

**CRS Rice Bowls** Please return CRS Rice Bowls next weekend. Catholic Relief Services has been doing a lot for relief efforts in Ukraine. Bowls are still available at the entrances.

**Rosary Guild** Our Annual Baby Shower for the Christ Child Society will be held on Sunday, April 24 @ 12 o'clock in the school hall. Items needed are blankets, sweaters sets, hooded towels, outfits, onesies (0-9 months), and pampers. Come join us for the shower and lunch. All women of the parish and friends are invited. If you can't attend and would like to donate, please bring baby items to church April 23/24 or drop items off at parish office M-F, 9-4. Thank you for your help!

**Food Pantry** The Pantry is open Monday and Thursday, 10-11:30 am. We still need a Spanish speaking person to help translate Thursdays 10-11:30. If you are available, even one Thursday a month, please call the office. Thank you! We have been unable to obtain the following items and would welcome donations of tooth-brushes and coffee.

*Holy Names Society* Next meeting is Wednesday, May 4. All men of the parish are invited to attend. The \$1 Raffle Tickets are available at the Rectory & Office Annex or with any HNS Members.

**The Boutique** The Boutique is open for shopping on Saturday, 9 - Noon and accept donations Tuesday & Friday, 9 - Noon. We cannot accept books, some electronics, fabric scraps, or clothing that is need of repair or dirty. Please understand that unwanted items are a hardship and an expense to the church to dispose of. We will not accept winter items until August. Thank you for your donations that serve many people and help support the many ministries of Blessed Sacrament!



ACRAMEN

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REV. FRANCIS O'CONNOR CHAPLAIN REV. MR. MIGUEL FABIAN, DEACON ALEJANDRA SAUCEDO, PASTORAL ASSOCIATE DEBBIE KLOSE, ORGANIST CONFESORA FRANCO, FAITH FORMATION

273 CENTRAL AVENUE, ALBANY, NEW YORK 518-465-3685

MASS TIMES:

SUNDAY 9:30 AM (ENGLISH) & 12:00 PM (SPANISH) FRIDAYS AT 6:30 PM - MASS & ADORATION

April 30 - First Communion retreat, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.

### 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, Weekend Masses will be livestreamed on Facebook
- ♦ Our YouTube Channel:
  - Blessed Sacrament Church Albany, NY • Our email address:
  - blessedsacramentalb@gmail.com
- ♦ myParishApp text **app** to 88202

### Faith Formation

We hope you all experienced a very blessed Holy Week and wish you and your families the happiest of Easters. Please take advantage of the April resources and continue to join us this and every week at Mass. We are here to support you in any way we can. Please also continue to check your emails for information and updates. New things are coming! Our sacramental preparation will be working with parents closely, with preparation for children done not so much by grade level but by readiness. If you have any questions, or would like to learn more about our program, please email us at faithformationbsc@gmail.com.

### Bulletin

Announcements for the bulletin are due one week prior to publication. We have a *NEW* system! Mail all bulletin notices to: bulletin.blessedsacrament@gmail.com.

**Project St. Patrick** There will be a fundraiser for vocations at the OAH Hall on Ontario St. on May 15 from 3 - 6 pm. It is a cookout with meats for Rolf's Pork store and Prinzo's rolls. There will also be a 50/50 and live entertainment on the patio.



The School Bucks program runs Jan-Dec., and earns points (=\$) for our school. If you shop at Colonie Center, keep your receipts, which can be registered at the Management Office, in the school bucks box at the Security Desk next to Five Guys, or at our Parish office, and we will register them for you. The rules: we receive 2 points for every \$1 spent at Colonie Center, we need at least 4,000 points to be considered for a prize, and <u>original</u> receipts must be presented for credit within 60 days from purchase date. If you submit receipts to the parish office to register and want them back, let us know and we will mail them back to you.

Dining out, including food court and BJs Brewhouse, are included. So register or send us those receipts!

April Bonus Points 3x: 25Silver Boutique, Children's Place, L.L. Bean, Auntie Anne's 4x: Sbarro, Sephora, Claire's, Zales, Cinnabon

Any receipts for photos with the Easter Bunny are worth 200 points!

Collections & Financial Support							
	New Furnace 2020		\$52,000 1 <b>00% paid!</b>	Last Sunday			
	Parking Lot Paving & Painting 2021		\$2,450 of \$14,450 20% paid	Regular Flowers Easter	\$6,173 \$145 \$725		
	Sound System Upgrades 2019-2022		\$7,388 of \$16,071 50% paid	Next Sunday			
Scan the code to donate! Recurring gifts, or just once!	Organ Repair 2021		\$23,00 of \$45,000 52% paid	2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection: School Return CRS Rice Bowls			

BULLETIN PROVIDED COURTESY OF THE MCVEIGH FUNERAL HOME