

CHURCH OF THE
BLESSED SACRAMENT

607 Central Avenue
Albany, New York 12206-1918



Established 1902



Thirty-Third Sunday
in Ordinary Time

November 19, 2023

Weekend Masses — 4 p.m. Saturdays; 9 a.m. Sundays
Sunday 6 p.m. Mass in Urdu

Weekday Masses — As scheduled below

Adoration — 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Tuesdays & Thursdays

Confession — 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Tuesdays & Thursdays; 3 to 3:40 p.m. Saturdays

www.BlessedSacramentAlbany.org
Office: 9-4 M-F (518) 482-3375

Rev. Daniel Quinn, *Pastor*
Rev. Kyle Gorenski, *Parochial Vicar*
Rev. Francis O'Connor, *Shrine Chaplain*
Rev. Dr. Gerald Ladouceur, *Deacon*
Ed Savoy, *Music Director*
Barbara Collen, *Parish Secretary*
Office: BlessedSacramentALB@gmail.com
Bulletin: bulletin.BlessedSacrament@gmail.com

Faith Formation

Meghan Pannone, *Director*
Shannon Crisafulli, *Coordinator*
FaithFormationBSC@gmail.com

Works of Mercy

Food Pantry Mon. & Thurs., 10-11:30
Sr. Patricia Lynch, *Coordinator*
The Boutique Sat., 9-12 (donations Tues. & Fri., 9-12)
Jean Huber, Heidi Stack, Michelle Syrotynski,
and MaryEllen Walsh
Sr. Maureen Joyce Outreach Center
369 Livingston Ave., Albany, NY; (518) 462-9885

Blessed Sacrament School

info@BlessedSacramentSchool.net (518) 438-5854
Alexandra Faith Morazan, *Principal*
Andrea Roberts, *School Office Administrator*
Kristine Ruddy, *Development Director*
www.BlessedSacramentSchool.net

Saturday 11/18/23 — 4:00 PM		Sunday 11/19/23 — 9:00 AM		Monday 11/20/23 — 7:00 AM	
† Mooney & Mittler Families † Frances & Ruth Zell † Loretta & Howard Miller † Anthony Schmitz (6th Ann)		† Josephine Foley † Aloysius J. Brown † Sara Ann Tenney Souls in Purgatory		† Frank A Pape, Jr.	
		Pro Populo “For the people of the parish” 6:00 PM (Urdu) <i>Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>			
Tuesday 11/21/23 — 12:00 PM		Wed. 11/22/23 — 7:00 AM		Thursday 11/23/23 — 9 AM	
† James J. Murphy † Elvira Cosentino † Catherine Dolan <i>Memorial of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i> 12:30-1:30 — Confession & Adoration		♥ Michael Anthony Sparks (bday) † Helen C Ingersoll <i>Memorial, St. Cecilia</i>		† Fernando Arias † Frank & Carmela Calderone † Guerrino Ritmo † Rocco Saponara † Mary Ellen Kalled <i>Thanksgiving Day</i>	
				Friday 11/24/23 — 12:00 PM	
				♥ Michael Anthony Sparks <i>Memorial, St. Andrew Dung-Lac and Companions</i>	

Please note: Mass intentions with a † indicate that the person is deceased; ♥ indicates that the person is alive.

Funerals

Baptisms Asher Alexander Ratigan

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In today's Gospel (Matthew 25:14-30), a master entrusts his servants with talents — each according to their abilities. The talents represent the various gifts and abilities that God has bestowed upon each one of us. The master expects the servants to use these talents wisely during his absence. This responsibility highlights the importance of faithful stewardship, using the gifts and abilities that God has given us to bring about a fruitful and abundant harvest. The first two servants use the abilities to do good and build God's kingdom. But the third servant failed to recognize the trust that the master had placed in him and, in fear, neglected the opportunity to use his talents for the master's benefit. This parable invites us to consider how we are using the talents and gifts that God has given us. Are we actively investing them for the benefit of God's kingdom, or are we burying them in fear or complacency? Each one of us is uniquely gifted by God, and our call is to discover, develop, and deploy these gifts for the glory of God and the service of others. Stewardship is not just about managing resources; it's about a disposition of the heart. It's about recognizing that everything we have, including our abilities, belongs to God — and we are called to manage these gifts with faithfulness and diligence. The parable challenges us to step out of our comfort zones, take risks, and invest in the work of God's kingdom.

From Faith Formation and Youth Ministry

*Thank you to all the families and catechists who've made this year a great success so far! Please keep them all in your prayers! This Sunday, November 19th at the 9 a.m. Mass, we will celebrate Confirmation followed by a brief reception with the bishop in the gym. **Our next regular Faith Formation session is Sunday, December 3rd** beginning with 9 a.m. Mass, then refreshments and breakout sessions until 11:30 a.m. **Registration is open all year** and can be found on the parish website ... or e-mail us for more information!

*We ask you to please continue to pray for our students, their sponsors, and their families who are celebrating their **Confirmation on Sunday, November 19th at the 9 a.m. Mass** here at Blessed Sacrament: **Juliana, Natalie, Christopher, J'Anni, Cadence, and Joseph!** May the Holy Spirit dwell in their hearts and keep them strong, faithful, and joyful.

*We have started planning for this year's **Christmas Pageant**, which will be held on Sunday, December 17th at noon. All children in the parish are welcome to take part; you do not need to be in the Faith Formation program.

*If you are interested in learning more about the pageant, registering for classes, volunteering in any way, or if you have any questions, please e-mail us at faithformationbsc@gmail.com.

Upcoming Dates

- **11/19** — Confirmation (9 a.m. Mass with Bishop Scharfenberger; reception afterward in the school)
- **11/23** — Thanksgiving Day (Mass at 9 a.m.; all parish offices will be closed Thursday and Friday)

A Thanksgiving Prayer

Loving God, we come to You with such gratitude for this beautiful day of thanksgiving and for the gift of life. Please watch over and bless those who are suffering and might not be able to experience this abundance right now. Thank You for always being with us and for never leaving us. We ask all this through Your Son, Jesus. Amen.

Diocesan Women's Conference “Unleashing Love: Awakening Our Hearts to Share God's Love” will take place at St. Pius X Church, Loudonville, on Saturday, December 9th. Check-in is at 8:30 a.m.; a continental breakfast will be offered. The event runs from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Keynote speakers will be Fr. Chris Alar, MIC; Mary DeTurris Poust; and Anne Costa. The event will include three presentations, Reconciliation, Adoration with worship music by the Sisters of Life, the Rosary, Mass with Bishop Scharfenberger, a boxed lunch, and beverages. For conference information and the registration link, visit online at <https://www.rcda.org/UnleashingLove>. Discounted early registration cost is \$40 (until November 30th); regular registration (December 1st through 8th) is \$45. Registering the day of is \$50.

First Reading: Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31

Responsorial: Psalm 128:1-5

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6

Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

Blessed Sacrament Parish Council Nomination Form

Please use this ballot to nominate a parishioner, even yourself, for a three-year term for Blessed Sacrament Parish Council.

Nominate someone who you believe would have the best interest of the parish at heart, be willing to pray for the parish,

and represent the parish's and parishioners' needs. All nominees are invited to a meeting on **Tuesday, November 21st** to hear more about the role of the council and the responsibilities of membership. Instead of an election, this will be a discernment to discover whether those nominated feel that it is the right time to serve our parish in this capacity.

Please tear off this form and place it inside an offertory basket or give it to our parish office.

I nominate _____ for Blessed Sacrament Parish Council.

BLESSED SACRAMENT SCHOOL NEWS

Phone: (518) 438-5854 | E-mail: info@blessedsacramentschool.net

***The last day is quickly approaching!** November 27th is the drawing for winning four tickets to the Giants vs. Packers game on December 11th. **Get your tickets ASAP!** Game kickoff is at 8:15 p.m. at MetLife Stadium. Seats are in Level 1, Section 103 (reserved parking included). Tickets are \$25 each (five for \$100), and sales benefit our school! Posters are available at all exits, and tickets are available in the sacristy, rectory, and school.

***Engineering the future:** On Wednesday, November 8th, our Future Cities Engineering team was treated to a special visit from East Coast Power! Our engineering team is working on a project about electricity, and students had lots of great questions for the owner and foreman. They were able to try on some items and watch the bucket truck go high into the air! What a great experience for our future engineers!

***Teacher development:** On Tuesday, November 7th, Elementary Education Evolved had the opportunity to deliver a full-day virtual professional development session for teachers in New York, including Blessed Sacrament School faculty! They discussed and practiced unpacking standards, curriculum mapping, and raising rigor.

***Annual Tuition Assistance Drive:** Letters have gone out to our regular donors and alumni, but we also appeal to new donors (and everyone!) to support Catholic education for our children. It costs about \$10,000 to educate each child in our school for a year. Due to your generosity over the years, we have been able to keep tuition relatively low. A child in Grades K-8 is \$5,000; a second child in the same family is \$2,100; and we ask \$500 for each additional child. Tuition for three- and four-year-olds in preschool is \$5,800. The biggest expense that tuition pays for is our teachers. Right now, our teachers' salaries average is only \$39,000, and we would like to be able to pay more reasonable and competitive salaries in the future. We have received a grant from the Mons Concept Foundation, which will match all donations received for the school between October 1st and December 31st up to \$125,000! Please consider helping us achieve this goal! Families and businesses might also consider being part of our Blessed Sacrament Angel Program, which supports a specific child or family for multiple years.



Food Pantry We are now collecting socks for men, women, and children. Our food pantry is open Mondays and Thursdays, 10-11:30 a.m. Thank you for your support!

The Boutique We will be accepting donations the Friday after Thanksgiving. We need **all sizes of infant and children's shoes & clothing!** We also need men's shoes and coats as well as men's pants in sizes 28-34 and men's shirts in sizes S and M. The Boutique is open Saturdays, 9 a.m.-noon, and accepts donations on Tuesdays and Fridays, 9 a.m.-noon. We cannot accept books, some electronics, fabric scraps, or clothing that needs repair or is dirty.

Holy Name Society Thank you, parishioners, for your ticket responses! Our December \$1 raffle drawing at NHS's next 7 p.m. meeting on Wednesday, December 6th will be **special** for Christmas! Prizes of \$300 (1st), \$200 (2nd), and five extra \$50 winners (\$750 total) will be awarded. Any questions, please contact Gene Loparco: (518) 265-0242 or loparco88888@yahoo.com.

RCIA/OCIA All sessions take place on Sunday mornings from 10-11 a.m. Here is our upcoming RCIA/OCIA schedule: **November:** No sessions on November 19th and 26th; **December:** No session 12/3; Saints/Holy Days, 12/10; 12/17-12/31 — No sessions.

Christmas Giving Program Signup for our Christmas Giving Program for our school and food pantry families began in October. Food pantry clients and eligible school families can sign up to receive one gift certificate for each child in the household who is 12 years old or younger, along with a gift certificate to a local supermarket. To support this program, we are asking for donations to purchase gift certificates. Your generous support in previous years has helped hundreds of families. As a reminder of the need, we will place gift tags for each child in need on Christmas trees in the vestibules beginning the weekend of November 18th/19th. For each \$20 donation, we will remove one tag from the trees. If you can help, please drop your donation in the collection basket, at the rectory, or in the mail to 607 Central Ave., Albany, NY, 12206. Clearly indicate that the donation is for the Christmas Program (monetary donations only, please). We are dealing with specific stores who have offered us discounts for their certificates.



We will host a special Christmas Music Event on Saturday, December 16th from 6-10 p.m. in the school gym. For more information, please send an e-mail to: shamas18@hotmail.com.



SHRINE CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF THE AMERICAS
A MISSION OF BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH

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

273 CENTRAL AVE., ALBANY, NEW YORK | (518) 465-3685 | WWW.OURLADYOFTHEAMERICAS.ORG
MASS: SUNDAY, 9:00 AM (ENGLISH) & 11:00 AM (SPANISH) FRIDAY, 6:30 PM — MASS & ADORATION

Collections and Financial Support



Parking Lot Paving & Painting 2021  \$7,555 (52% paid)

Refinishing our gymnasium floor during Thanksgiving break (cost to be determined)

Scan the code on the left to donate! Choose recurring gifts or just once!

BULLETIN PROVIDED COURTESY OF THE MCVEIGH FUNERAL HOME

Homebound Parishioners of Blessed Sacrament

Homebound parishioners (either at home or in nursing facilities) receive visits from our lay and clergy ministers who bring Communion and receive prayer books regularly as well as gifts at Christmas and Easter. They are regularly contacted by our Rosary Guild ministry and also receive holiday cards from our school children. Use this form to identify any homebound parishioners so that we can connect with them and keep them in our prayers! *Please tear off this form and place it inside an offertory basket or give it to our parish office.*

I/We, _____, would like to bring to your attention that _____ is a parishioner at Blessed Sacrament who would appreciate a pastoral visit and would like to receive all the benefits that our homebound parishioners enjoy. I/We can be contacted at (phone/e-mail): _____.

Stay Connected

- Please visit and bookmark our parish website: blessedsacramentalbany.org
- "Like" our Facebook page: [Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church](https://www.facebook.com/BlessedSacramentCatholicChurch) (Sunday Masses are livestreamed here)
- View our YouTube channel: [Blessed Sacrament Church](https://www.youtube.com/BlessedSacramentChurch), Albany, NY
- E-mail: blessedsacramentalb@gmail.com
- myParishApp — text app to 55321
- Parish bulletin: Lisanne Jensen, editor: bulletin.blessedsacrament@gmail.com

Rosary Guild Our Christmas brunch is Saturday, December 2nd at the Italian-American Club at noon. For reservations, call Jan Rourke at (518) 456-3693. The cost is \$25. All women of the parish are invited.

Gift Wrapping Opportunity We're seeking volunteers to wrap gifts at the Book House in Stuyvesant Plaza from **Friday, November 24th through Sunday, December 24th**. All donations made by Book House customers will benefit The Food Pantries for the Capital District. Wrapping volunteers will work in pairs for two-hour shifts, so this is a great opportunity to bring a friend or family member along or to meet other generous community members! Sign up here: <https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/9826477900120/false#/invitation>.

Holiday Craft Fair The 38th Annual St. Gabriel's Women's Club Holiday Craft Fair will be held on Saturday December 2nd. The St. Gabriel's Women's Club is made up of members of St. Gabriel's Parish in Rotterdam and its sister parish, St. Madeleine Sophie in Guiderland.

Camp Veritas Save the date! Camp Veritas registration opens on January 1st. Events in our area: August 10th-15th, Lake Champion, Glen Spey, NY and August 11th-17th, Camp Lakota, Wurtsboro, NY. Camp Veritas is a Catholic summer camp for ages 12-18. More information: www.campveritas.org/.

Blanket Ministry Our parish offers a "Blanket Ministry," where parishioners supply blankets for newly baptized children and for those who are homebound and in nursing facilities. Would you be willing to share your time and skills to create blankets for this ministry? Here is what we need:

- For **baptisms**, we would like solid white blankets that measure at least 30" by 30". They can be knitted, crocheted, finished fleece, or quilted. (Please note that many of our children being baptized here at Blessed Sacrament are often age one or older.)



'Tis the season for Christmas shopping ... and you can support our school at the same time!

We receive 2 points for every \$1 spent at Colonie Center Mall! Original receipts must be presented for credit within 60 days from the purchase date.

If you submit receipts to our parish office to register and would like to have them back, let us know and we'll mail them back to you. Dining out, including the food court and B.J.'s Brewhouse, are included. Receipts 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; we will register them for you).

November 2023

3X: Sephora, J.Crew, Foot Locker, Daily Thread
4X: H&M, Carter's/Osh Kosh, Five Below, and Cinnabon

Also, any receipts handed in from P.F. Chang's will be an additional 500 points!

Offertory Report

Regular: \$8,123; School: \$1,719

Second collection on 11/19: the Campaign for Human Development; second collection on 12/3: fuel. God bless you for your support!