

**PARISH MINISTRY UPDATES**

**\*Homebound/Nursing Home Ministry.** Thank you to all who helped deliver plants and cards to our homebound and nursing home residents at Christmas time. We were able to visit 40 individuals and spread some holiday cheer! I am so appreciative of all the volunteers who helped to make this happen. - Susan Ivie Mahar

**\*The HNS January raffle prize winners:** \$200 1<sup>st</sup> — Nancy Coleman; \$50 2<sup>nd</sup> — Flo Borter; \$25 3<sup>rd</sup> — Stephan Drobroucky; \$25 4<sup>th</sup> — David Kearsing; and \$25 5<sup>th</sup> — Bridget Mineau. Our next drawing is Wednesday, February 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. All parish men are invited. Total 2024 prizes = \$3,888; HNS also donated \$500 to June’s Monsignor Forman 8<sup>th</sup> grade recipient. Thank you for your raffle support and extra donations! Note: the \$1 raffle tickets are at the rectory and with HNS officers (besides mailings).

**\*Blessed Sacrament’s St. Francis Prayer Group** meets every third weekend of the month. Their next gathering will be Sunday, January 19<sup>th</sup> after our 9 a.m. Mass.

**FOOD PANTRY**

**\*For the month of December,** our food pantry proudly served 272 households (294 children, 459 adults, and 76 seniors). We have also been selected again as a partner in the **Hannaford Bloomin’ 4 Good Program!** We will receive \$1 for each specially marked Bloomin’ 4 Good bouquet sold during January 2025 at the Hannaford store located at 900 Central Ave. (Century II Mall), Albany. Why not surprise someone with a beautiful flower bouquet and help support local families at the same time?

**\*Our pantry currently needs the following items:** cooking oil, coffee, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, shampoo, and feminine hygiene products.

**THE BOUTIQUE**

**\*We currently need men’s winter coats.** Gentle reminder, we cannot accept books, some electronics, fabric scraps, or clothing in need of repair or dirty. Please understand that unwanted items are a hardship and an expense to the church to dispose of. Thank you for your donations that serve many people and help support the many ministries of Blessed Sacrament. Donations can only be accepted at the Boutique on Tuesday & Friday, 9 am to 12 pm.

**COLONIE CENTER SCHOOL BUCKS PROGRAM**

**January 2025:**

*If you have any receipts dated 11/1/24 through 12/31/24, they need to be submitted by 1/15/2025 to the Colonie Management Office or to our Blessed Sacrament parish office by 1/14/25 so that they can be registered. Thank you!*

*The printing of our parish bulletin is generously provided by:*



208 N. Allen St., Albany, NY, 12206; (518) 489-0188  
Visit their website: [www.mcveighfuneralhome.com](http://www.mcveighfuneralhome.com)

**NEWS FROM OUR DIOCESE**

**\*2025 is a Year of Jubilee** — and our Albany Diocese has a webpage with lots of information about this special year and how to celebrate it: [www.rcda.org/jubilee-2025](http://www.rcda.org/jubilee-2025).

**\*Kindness matters** — and our diocese is offering many ways in which you can promote God’s love and **kindness** everywhere: <https://www.rcda.org/kind>.

**HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITIES**

**\*Birthright of Schenectady,** a pregnancy resource center located on Jay Street, is looking for volunteers to meet with clients. A kind heart, listening ear, and once-a-week commitment from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. is needed. Training will be provided. For more details, call Simone McGuinness at (518) 370-1532.

**\*All are welcome at St. Thomas the Apostle Church** in Delmar to discuss **“The Power of One Hour,”** a video “series produced by our diocese and Sheehan Productions. The aim of the series is to enrich our understanding of the Eucharist. Light refreshments will be served! Sign up today: <https://shorturl.at/VvLQH>. Much of “The Power of One Hour” was filmed right here at Blessed Sacrament Church and features Fr. Dan Quinn and Fr. Stephen Yusko. Also, Lisanne Jensen (Faith Formation and religion teacher at BSS) wrote and designed the accompanying study guide.



**MARCH FOR LIFE BUS**  
HOSTED BY ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE PARISH  
SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK  
FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 2025

COST PER PERSON: \$100 CHECK OR CASH, \$105 DEBIT OR CREDIT CARD.  
PLEASE MAIL CHECKS TO  
ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE PARISH, 2777 ALBANY ST. SCHENECTADY, NY 12304

DEPARTURE TIMES AND LOCATIONS:  
WADE TOURS 1:00AM  
CROSSGATES MALL COMMONS (PET SMART) 1:20AM  
CATSKILL PARK AND RIDE EXIT 21 2:10AM  
DEPARTING WASHINGTON DC 5:00PM TO RETURN HOME

IF THE BUS IS NOT FILLED BY WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2025, THE TRIP WILL BE CANCELLED. CHECKS WILL BE HELD UNTIL THAT TIME.

IF YOU CANNOT MAKE THE TRIP BUT WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A DONATION TO SPONSOR SOMEONE YOU CAN SEND CHECKS TO ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE PARISH.

*“THIS SAYS THE LORD WHO MADE YOU, WHO FORMED YOU FROM THE WOMB AND WILL HELP YOU: FEAR NOT, FOR I HAVE REDEEMED YOU; I HAVE CALLED YOU BY NAME, YOU ARE MINE.”*  
Is 44:2

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER CONTACT KATIE GROGAN  
GROGAN.K@TULCATHOLIC.ORG  
(518) 377-8886

**OFFERTORY REPORT**

Here are the totals for the past two weekends plus Christmas and the Solemnity of Mary: 12/28 and 12/29, regular **\$5,230**; Christmas **\$16,382**; Solemnity of Mary **\$4,159**; 1/4 and 1/5, regular **\$5,660**; additional Christmas **\$815**; fuel **\$245**. *Next weekend’s second collection will go toward school support.*

**BLESSED SACRAMENT CHURCH**

607 CENTRAL AVE., ALBANY, NY 12206



**12 JANUARY 2025**

**THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

<p><b>BAPTISMS</b></p> <p><b>FUNERALS</b></p> <p><b>WEDDINGS</b></p>	<p><b>SATURDAY, 1/11/25 — 4 PM</b></p> <p>✠ Eleanor Rafferty ✠ Eleanor Weingarden ✠ Margaret Sullivan Hart</p>	<p><b>SUNDAY, 1/12/25 — 9 AM</b></p> <p>For the People Pro Populo</p> <p><b>6 PM — URDU</b></p> <p><i>The Baptism of the Lord</i></p>
	<p><b>MONDAY, 1/13/25 — 7 AM</b></p> <p>✠ Msgr. James Hart ✠ Edwin C Kunkel ✠ Robert Koshgarian ✠ Melba Antonetti</p>	<p><b>TUESDAY, 1/14/25 — 12 PM</b></p> <p>✠ Katie Lynch Farrell ✠ Casey Ryan Lynch ✠ John &amp; Mary Lynch ✠ Donald Partyka ✠ Robert Mittler (9<sup>th</sup> Ann)</p>
	<p><b>WEDNESDAY, 1/15/25 — 8:15 AM (SCHOOL MASS)</b></p> <p>✠ Joseph &amp; Francis Bologna ✠ Eleanore Loehr</p>	<p><b>THURSDAY, 1/16/25 — 12 PM</b> <i>(No Confession or Adoration today)</i></p> <p>✠ Veronica Kavanaugh ✠ Franz Nicotina ✠ Nikola Audino</p>
	<p><b>FRIDAY, 1/17/25</b></p> <p><b>NO MASS</b></p> <p><i>Memorial, St. Anthony</i></p>	<p><i>Please note: Mass intentions with a ✠ indicate that the person is deceased; ♥ indicates that the person is alive.</i></p> <p><i>If you are having a Mass offered and would like to bring up the gifts, please see an usher before the liturgy begins.</i></p>
<p><b>CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST</b> Weekend Masses: Saturdays, 4 p.m.; Sundays, 9 a.m. (English) and 6 p.m. (Urdu) Weekday Masses: As scheduled in the bulletin Reconciliation: Tuesdays &amp; Thursdays, 12:30-1:30 p.m.; Saturdays, 3-3:40 p.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Tuesdays &amp; Thursdays, 12:30-1:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>CONTACT US</b> 607 Central Ave., Albany, NY 12206 Website: <a href="http://www.blessedsacramentalbany.org">www.blessedsacramentalbany.org</a> Office Phone: (518) 482-3375 Office E-mail: <a href="mailto:blessedsacramentalb@gmail.com">blessedsacramentalb@gmail.com</a> Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. For submitting bulletin items: <a href="mailto:bulletin.blessedsacrament@gmail.com">bulletin.blessedsacrament@gmail.com</a></p> <p><b>STAY CONNECTED</b> Parish Website: <a href="http://blessedsacramentalbany.org">blessedsacramentalbany.org</a> “Like” us on Facebook: <a href="http://www.facebook.com/blessedsacramentcatholicchurch">www.facebook.com/blessedsacramentcatholicchurch</a> (Sunday Masses are livestreamed here) Subscribe to our YouTube channel: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/@BSCAlbany">https://www.youtube.com/@BSCAlbany</a> Download myParishApp: Text app to 55321</p> <p><i>In case of an emergency requiring the ministry of a priest, outside parish office hours (and especially in danger of death), please contact the priests at (518) 482-3375. If no one answers, please leave a message.</i></p>	<p><b>SATURDAY, 1/18/25 — 4 PM</b></p> <p>✠ Kevin Foley ✠ Priscilla Baxter ✠ Marjorie Hughes ♥ Michael Anthony Sparks ♥ Bill C.</p>	<p><b>SUNDAY, 1/19/25 — 9 AM</b></p> <p>✠ Francesco &amp; Mafalda Benincasa ✠ Elisa Benincasa ✠ Carmine Benincasa ✠ Mary Kay Murnane ✠ David Truax</p> <p><b>6 PM — URDU</b> <i>Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</i></p>

## FROM OUR PAROCHIAL VICAR

Today, we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord. A feast that brings the Christmas season to a close. It is fitting that we conclude Christmastide with this wonderful feast, for the Baptism of the Lord reveals in a profound manner the great mystery that was first given to us on Christmas Day when Jesus Christ, the incarnate Word of God, was born.

When Jesus allows himself to be plunged into the dark, cold waters of the Jordan, he does so on behalf of all humanity. And when he emerges from this water, humanity, redeemed and recreated, rises with him. Thus, in Jesus's baptism we see the obscurity of the Old Testament account of the flood becoming clear. An event that would only be truly fulfilled when Jesus undergoes his "baptism," when he is plunged into the waters of death and rises on the third day.

Today's feast, therefore, reveals to us that Jesus – and with Jesus, His Mystical Body the Church – is the true ark by which we are saved from the waters of sin and death. It is Jesus who brings us safely to the shores of the new heavens and the new earth. It is Jesus who is our peace.

Today, therefore, remember your own baptism. Remember that when the water was poured upon your head and the priest or deacon baptized you "in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit," you were truly born anew by water and the Holy Spirit. You became a son or daughter in the only begotten Son; a temple of the Holy Spirit; a new creation through the precious blood of Jesus. At your baptism, you were made free. Let's not abuse this freedom, using it, as St. Peter says, as a cloak to commit evil. Rather, let us use this freedom to become truly free by conforming our minds to Christ's, carrying out the work of love that has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, and so become worthy of the name "Christian"; child of God. ~Fr. Yusko



### THIS WEEKEND'S READINGS (1/11-1/12)

FIRST READING: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7  
RESPONSORIAL: Psalm 29  
SECOND READING: Acts of the Apostles 10:34-38  
GOSPEL: Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

### NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS (1/18-1/19)

FIRST READING: Isaiah 62:1-5  
RESPONSORIAL: Psalm 96  
SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 12:4-11  
GOSPEL: John 2:1-11

*Here are some meaningful ways that you can remember and celebrate the anniversary of your baptism:*

- ~Light your baptismal candle, even for just five minutes
- ~Pray the Litany of the Saints (include your favorite saints)
- ~If you're a godparent, send a baptism anniversary card
- ~Look back at pictures and mementos from your baptism
- ~Reach out to your godparent(s) to say hello and thank you

### BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH STAFF

Rev. Daniel Quinn, Pastor  
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### FAITH FORMATION & YOUTH MINISTRY

Lisanne V. Jensen, Pastoral Associate  
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### WORKS OF MERCY

Sr. Patricia Lynch, Food Pantry Coordinator  
Jean Huber, Heidi Stack, Michelle Syrotynski,  
and MaryEllen Walsh, The Boutique

Sr. Maureen Joyce Outreach Center  
369 Livingston Ave., Albany, NY 12206  
(518) 462-9885

## FAITH FORMATION & YOUTH MINISTRY



\*We enjoyed a great **First Reconciliation Retreat** this past Sunday, January 5<sup>th</sup>! After Mass, activities included a wonderful talk from Fr. Dan about Reconciliation from a priest's point-of-view; creating Ten Commandments key rings (with each bead corresponding to one of the commandments and a colorful cross to add at the end); and children drawing self-portraits with parents writing down how God made their child special. Thank you so much to BSC catechists Beenish Maria and Sean Hart for helping!

\*The sacrament of **First Reconciliation** will take place on Saturday, February 1<sup>st</sup> at 2:30 p.m. in the church. We will have cards with the Act of Contrition for each child to take with them into Reconciliation as well as special treat bags as congratulations gifts.

\*This Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, is our next **family Faith Formation gathering**. We'll discuss the next Beatitude: "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall be shown mercy" (Matthew 5:7).

\*If you have any questions or need to get a hold of our **Faith Formation office**, e-mail [faithformationbsc@gmail.com](mailto:faithformationbsc@gmail.com) or call (518) 438-5854, ext. 119. You can also visit our website at [www.bsc-ffym.org](http://www.bsc-ffym.org) and give us a "like" on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/bsc-ffym](http://www.facebook.com/bsc-ffym).

~Looking for a saint to guide you through the year 2025? Check out Jen Fulwiler's "**Saint Name Generator**" just for fun: [www.saintnamegenerator.com](http://www.saintnamegenerator.com). You will be given a saint's name randomly and can do some research to learn more about this Catholic saint! There is also a "Word of the Year Generator" that gives you an inspirational word for the new year: [www.wordoftheyear.me](http://www.wordoftheyear.me).

~"**The Chosen**" is a popular new TV series that explores the life and ministry of Jesus as well as the people in Jesus's life. Learn more about the series and discover ways to watch by visiting online: <https://watch.thechosen.tv>. Season 5 will be debuting in early April!

~Each month, the website Real Life at Home offers a **saints and feast days word search**. Here is the worksheet for January: [www.reallifeathome.com/january-catholic-saints-word-search-printable/](http://www.reallifeathome.com/january-catholic-saints-word-search-printable/).

~Each month, Pope Francis asks us to join him in praying for specific **monthly intentions**. For the complete list for 2025, visit [www.usccb.org/prayers/popes-monthly-intentions-2025](http://www.usccb.org/prayers/popes-monthly-intentions-2025).



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Centered in Faith,  
Focused on the Future.



**BLESSED SACRAMENT SCHOOL**  
Your Neighborhood School

We are currently accepting new students for the 2025 academic year. Blessed Sacrament School is a premier Catholic Elementary School serving 3-year-olds through 8th grade. Bussing from surrounding districts available. Extended school hours available.


**ENROLL TODAY**

[www.blessedsacramentschool.net](http://www.blessedsacramentschool.net)  
(518) 438-5854  
605 Central Ave Albany, NY 12206

\*Our school is currently searching for a **part-time music teacher**. If you are interested in learning more about this position and/or applying, please contact our school office!

\*Our **school Masses** take place on Wednesdays at 8:15 a.m. All are welcome! Religion students in Grades 3-8 take on ministry roles for these Masses on a rotating basis (lectors, gift bearers, altar servers, etc.). Our young people also write the Prayer of the Faithful and study each week's Gospel ahead of time. There is so much enthusiasm about preparing for and participating in these Masses, and we are extremely grateful to our students for making our school liturgies incredibly beautiful and meaningful! Our next school Mass (Wednesday, January 15<sup>th</sup>) will be led by Grade 8 students.

\*The sacrament of **First Reconciliation** for BSS students will take place on Wednesday, February 5<sup>th</sup> immediately after the scheduled school Mass. (Young people who are part of the church's Faith Formation program are welcome to come on the 5<sup>th</sup> if they cannot attend on Saturday, February 1<sup>st</sup>.)



**FROM OUR URDU COMMUNITY**

Happy New Year! We proudly offer Mass in Urdu every Sunday evening at 6 p.m. at Blessed Sacrament! Please join us!



**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, NY, 12206; (518) 465-3685  
[www.ourladyoftheamericas.org](http://www.ourladyoftheamericas.org)

**Mass Schedule:** Sundays, 9 a.m. (English) and 11 a.m. (Spanish); *please note that there will be no Masses on Tuesdays or Fridays until Fr. O'Connor returns.*