

FROM OUR PARISH MINISTRIES

\*BSC needs volunteers to visit **nursing facility parishioners and the homebound!** We could use about 4 more people. We would also like those who have volunteered in the past to contact our church office to confirm they are still willing and available to help.

\*Our parish currently needs drivers for our **Transportation Ministry.** If you can help, please contact our parish office!

\*The **Over 50 Club** will meet on Monday, April 7<sup>th</sup> in the church hall. Bring your lunch, beverage, and something to share. For more information, call (518) 869-5247.

\*2024 **tax statements** are available! If you would like a copy of yours, please contact our parish office.

\*The **Holy Name Society (HNS)’s April winners** are: \$200 1<sup>st</sup> winner = Linda Loparco; \$50 2<sup>nd</sup> = Mike Strycharz; and three \$25 winners = Nancy Hourigan, Josie Morfe, and Elmo Kearsing. Next meeting and drawing is May 7<sup>th</sup>; all parish men are invited. \$1 raffle tickets are mailed, or you may get them at the rectory or from any HNS officer.

\*From the **Rosary Guild:** Thank you to everyone who brought newborn baby items to our baby shower. The Christ Child Society is grateful for these gifts for mothers in need.

FOOD PANTRY

\***Our food pantry currently needs** canned fruit, elbow macaroni, peanut butter, jelly, laundry detergent and personal hygiene items. Thank you for your generosity.

THE BOUTIQUE

\***Shopping hours** are 9 a.m. to noon on Saturdays, with donations accepted Tuesdays and Fridays, 9 a.m. to noon. We cannot accept books, some electronics, fabric scraps, or clothing in need of repair or dirty. **Please note: The Boutique is closed Good Friday and Holy Saturday.**

COLONIE CENTER SCHOOL BUCKS PROGRAM

*Here’s a reminder of how you can support our school with purchases made at Colonie Center Mall!* 2 points per \$1 spent; a minimum of 8,000 shopping points is required to qualify to win. School Bucks is based on actual dollars spent by personal visits of family members, friends, and supporters of each participating school. This program is not a receipt drive. Bills made from non-in-store purchases will not be accepted (cell phone bills, cable bills, credit card bills, etc). Store employees may not be used to collect receipts for participating schools. All receipts must be redeemed within 60 days of purchase date. Receipts will be collected from January 1, 2025 until January 15, 2026. Receipts dated prior to 1/1/25 will not be accepted. Receipts for returned merchandise is also not accepted.

April 2025 Opportunities:

**3x:** Carter’s, Famous Footwear, Claire’s, Foot Locker  
**4x:** Torrid, Express, Sephora, Auntie Anne’s

**1,000 bonus points for every Easter photo receipt!**

Visit the School Bucks website:  
<https://shopatcoloniecenter.com/School-Bucks/>

HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITIES

*With the recent changes at Blessed Sacrament, All Saints, and Mater Christi parishes regarding their schools, part of our new governance model is to assemble a single new school board to oversee the parish schools in the city of Albany. We are seeking candidates to be proposed who would serve on the new Albany City Catholic School Board. Good candidates for the school board exhibit:*

- *The ability to advocate supportively in areas of importance to the educational program and school culture*
  - *A willingness to give the time to serve conscientiously*
  - *The ability to act without bias in the best interest of the students and of the school*
  - *A life lived in consistency with the teachings of Jesus and his Church to serve others in response to their baptismal call*
  - *Expertise in human development, education, finance, law, or financial development*
  - *Active membership at one of the parishes in Albany*
- Candidates’ names, along with their contact information and a brief description from the person/people proposing them as to why they would make a good candidate, may be sent to Fr. Quinn at [daniel.quinn@rcda.org](mailto:daniel.quinn@rcda.org).*

\*Come join us at the monthly **charismatic healing liturgy** on Wednesday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at Christ Our Light Church, Loudonville. There will be prayer/praise music at 7 p.m. with Mass at 7:30 p.m.; healing prayer will follow. Fr. Kyle Gorenski will be our celebrant.

\*On Good Friday, we remember all victims of abortion — children lost, mothers wounded, communities blighted — in a solemn, ecumenical prayer service. **“Way of the Cross for Victims of Abortion”** will take place on Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. at Planned Parenthood, 1040 State St., Schenectady. For more information, call (518) 847-1630.

*For whatever reason, some people have stopped actively participating in the Church and attending Mass. We miss those Catholics who may have left the Church or who have stopped participating in its sacramental life. Perhaps you or someone you know are in this situation and don’t know how to come back or how to become active again. The purpose of Catholics Come Home is to invite inactive Catholics and others searching for a faith home to the Catholic faith. Visit their website for answers about Church teachings and an overview of the Catholic faith: [CatholicsComeHome.org](http://CatholicsComeHome.org).*

OFFERTORY: SHARING OUR TREASURE

**Regular:** \$5,943; **CRS:** \$1,182

*We need at least \$9,000 each week in our collections to break even — not counting unexpected maintenance costs. Thank you so much for your prayerful giving!*

*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)

BLESSED SACRAMENT CHURCH

607 CENTRAL AVE., ALBANY, NY 12206



APRIL 6, 2025

FIFTH SUNDAY  
OF LENT

<div>BAPTISMS</div> <div>Alisa Marion O’Keefe</div> <div>FUNERALS</div> <div>James Miller</div> <div>WEDDINGS</div>	<div>SATURDAY, 4/5/25 — 9 AM</div> <div>4 PM</div> <div>✠ Rev. Emmanuel Akram</div> <div>✠ Krisann Crouchley</div> <div>✠ David Vink</div> <div>✠ Margaret Judge</div>	<div>SUNDAY, 4/6/25 — 9 AM</div> <div>✠ Brian Welch</div> <div>✠ Sharon Brown</div> <div>✠ Oliver Preville</div> <div>✠ Thomas J Lydon (25<sup>th</sup> Ann)</div> <div>✠ Lawrence Gallo</div> <div>6 PM — URDU</div> <div>Fifth Sunday of Lent</div>
	<div>MONDAY, 4/7/25 — 7 AM</div> <div>♥ Michael Anthony Sparks</div> <div>✠ Simeon Bas</div>	<div>TUESDAY, 4/8/25 — 12 PM</div> <div>Confession and Adoration: 12:30-1:30 p.m.</div> <div>✠ John &amp; Mary Lynch</div> <div>✠ Donald Partyka</div> <div>✠ Katie Lynch Farrell</div> <div>✠ Casey Ryan Lynch</div>
	<div>WEDNESDAY, 4/9/25 — 8:15 AM</div> <div>FRIDAY, 4/11/25 — 12 PM</div> <div>✠ Wilfred &amp; Myra Godin</div> <div>✠ David Tenney</div> <div>✠ Lillian Coleman</div> <div>✠ Trinidal Del Rosario</div> <div>✠ Simeon Del Rosario</div> <div>Stations of the Cross: 9 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 6 p.m.</div>	<div>THURSDAY, 4/10/25</div> <div>No Mass, Confession or Adoration.</div> <div>CHRISM MASS</div> <div>AT THE CATHEDRAL</div> <div>@ 7:00 PM</div> <div>Please note: Mass intentions with a ✠ indicate that the person is deceased; ♥ indicates that the person is alive.</div> <div>If you are having a Mass offered and would like to bring up the gifts, please see an usher before the liturgy begins.</div>
	<div>SATURDAY, 4/12/25 — 4 PM</div> <div>♥ Kaitlyn Wilson Thompson</div> <div>✠ Krisann Crouchley</div> <div>✠ Regina Syrotynski</div>	<div>SUNDAY, 4/13/25 — 9 AM</div> <div>♥ Tammy Forster</div> <div>✠ Alice Keane</div> <div>6 PM — URDU</div> <div>Palm Sunday</div>

CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Weekend Masses: Saturdays, 4 p.m.; Sundays, 9 a.m. (English) and 6 p.m. (Urdu)

Weekday Masses: As scheduled in the bulletin

Reconciliation (Confession): Tuesdays & Thursdays, 12:30-1:30 p.m.; Saturdays, 3-3:40 p.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 12:30-1:30 p.m.

CONTACT US

607 Central Ave., Albany, NY 12206

Website: [www.blessedsacramentalbany.org](http://www.blessedsacramentalbany.org)

Office Phone: (518) 482-3375

Office E-mail: [blessedsacramentalb@gmail.com](mailto:blessedsacramentalb@gmail.com)

Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

For submitting bulletin items: [bulletin.blessedsacrament@gmail.com](mailto:bulletin.blessedsacrament@gmail.com)

STAY CONNECTED

Parish Website: [blessedsacramentalbany.org](http://blessedsacramentalbany.org)

“Like” us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/blessedsacramentcatholicchurch](http://www.facebook.com/blessedsacramentcatholicchurch)

(Sunday Masses are livestreamed here)

Subscribe to our YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@BSCAlbany>

Download myParishApp: Text app to 55321

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.



**Pretzels: A Lenten Tradition**  
by Lisanne Jensen

This past week, I taught a fun lesson about pretzels to my BSS religion students. I thought that I would share it with all of you as well!

Around 610 AD, a monk living in either northern Italy or southern France (the exact location is unknown) twisted some leftover bread dough and baked it to create a children’s snack. He called treat *pretiola*, which means “little rewards” in Latin. Pretzels were often given to children as a prize for learning their prayers.’

A pretzel’s shape looks like arms folded in prayer, and the three holes or spaces in a pretzel represent the Holy Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. People who were fasting for Lent often snacked on pretzels because of their simple ingredients. They quickly became a symbol of faith as well as good luck and prosperity. Pretzels were also often given to the poor because they were inexpensive and a way of providing sustenance and spiritual comfort.

German immigrants brought pretzels to the United States (specifically, Pennsylvania). The very first pretzel factory was in Lititz, PA. At first, when pretzels were invented, there were only soft pretzels — not the hard pretzels that are so commonplace these days. Today, about 80 percent of pretzels in the United States come from Pennsylvania!

Do you have a favorite prayer that perhaps you learned as a child? Do you have a favorite Lenten prayer?

**THIS WEEKEND’S MASS READINGS (4/5-4/6)**

**FIRST READING:** Isaiah 43:16-21  
**RESPONSORIAL:** Psalm 126  
**SECOND READING:** Philippians 3:8-14  
**GOSPEL:** John 8:1-11

**NEXT WEEKEND’S MASS READINGS (4/12-4/13)**

**GOSPEL (PROCESSION WITH PALMS):** Luke 19:28-40  
**FIRST READING:** Isaiah 50:4-7  
**RESPONSORIAL:** Psalm 22  
**SECOND READING:** Philippians 2:6-11  
**GOSPEL (JESUS’S PASSION):** Luke 22:14 through 23:56



**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.*



**Palm Sunday (April 13<sup>th</sup>)**  
Saturday at 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday at 9:00 a.m.

**Holy Thursday (April 17<sup>th</sup>)**  
Mass at 5:30 p.m.  
Adoration until night prayer at 10:00 p.m.

**Good Friday (April 18<sup>th</sup>)**  
Morning Prayer – 9:00 a.m.  
Stations of the Cross – 3:00 p.m.  
Good Friday Service – 5:30 p.m.

**Holy Saturday (April 19<sup>th</sup>)**  
Morning Prayer at 9:00 a.m.  
Blessing of the Easter Food – 11:00 a.m.  
Easter Vigil – 7:45 p.m.

**Easter Sunday (April 20<sup>th</sup>)**  
Mass at 9:00 am – English  
Mass at 6:00 pm in Urdu

**BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH STAFF**

**Rev. Daniel Quinn, Pastor**  
[blessedsacramentalb@gmail.com](mailto:blessedsacramentalb@gmail.com)

**Rev. Stephen Yusko, Parochial Vicar**  
[stephen.yusko@rcda.org](mailto:stephen.yusko@rcda.org)

**Rev. Francis O’Connor, Shrine Chaplain**  
**Rev. Dr. Gerald Ladouceur, Deacon**  
[ladouceurg@aol.com](mailto:ladouceurg@aol.com)

**Ed Savoy, Music Director**  
[blessedsacramentalbanymusic@gmail.com](mailto:blessedsacramentalbanymusic@gmail.com)

**Barbara Collen, Administrative Director**  
[blessedsacramentalb@gmail.com](mailto:blessedsacramentalb@gmail.com)

**FAITH FORMATION & YOUTH MINISTRY**

**Lisanne V. Jensen, Pastoral Associate**  
**Shannon Crisafulli, Coordinator**  
E-mail: [faithformationbsc@gmail.com](mailto:faithformationbsc@gmail.com)

**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**

**\*DATE CHANGE: Please note that our final family Faith Formation gathering will be held on Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup> instead and will be a shortened session.** We will attend BSC’s 9 a.m. Mass together, then move to the school *and go directly to our small-group locations.* (Ms. Jensen will bring breakfast treats for everyone in their individual classrooms!) *Faith Formation will end around 11/11:15 a.m.*

**\*Service opportunity:** If any Faith Formation families are interested in visiting our parish’s homebound and nursing facility residents to bring them an Easter gift this year, please contact our parish office by phone, (518) 482-3375, or send an e-mail: [blessedsacramentalb@gmail.com](mailto:blessedsacramentalb@gmail.com).

**\*Our First Communion Rehearsal** will be Tuesday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, 6 to 7 p.m. in the church. Attendance is important so that our young people will be completely prepared for their First Communion day! **First Communion** will take place at our 9 a.m. Mass on Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup>.

\*Registration is open for **Camp Breakaway** at Pyramid Life Center, June 29<sup>th</sup> through July 3<sup>rd</sup>. Spaces are available for two age groups: Grades 6-8 and Grades 9-12. Visit online at [pyramidlife.org](http://pyramidlife.org) to find more details about Camp Breakaway and to register.

\*Below: catechists, RCIA team members, ministry members, and anyone who wishes to further their faith is invited to participate in **this special event** on April 30<sup>th</sup>!

*Continuing to be  
Blessed by You*


*Moving Forward with Joy & Hope*

**Wednesday, April 30th 6-8:30pm**  
**at Our Lady of the Assumption Church -**  
**498 Watervliet Shaker Rd. Latham, NY**

*Sponsored by the  
Beverwyck Catechetical Association & Parishes*

**We welcome you to an Evening of Appreciation**  
Presentation by Meredith Gaucher  
to help us Rest and Refresh  
and Dinner  
(Buffet Style with choices of Zucchini Lyonnaise,  
Bruschetta Chicken, Poached Salmon)

**RSVP by April 12th**  
at <https://tinyurl.com/2xkr7cbt>  
or scan the QR Code





**Alexandra Faith Morazán,**  
*Principal*

**Andrea Roberts,**  
*Office Administrator*

**Kristine Ruddy,**  
*Advancement Director*  
Phone: (518) 438-5854  
[info@blessedsacramentschool.net](mailto:info@blessedsacramentschool.net)  
[www.blessedsacramentschool.net](http://www.blessedsacramentschool.net)

**\*We have wonderful news!** Fr. Dan announced that BSS will continue to offer **Grade 6** for the 2025-2026 school year and moving forward! We are so grateful for your support! Stay tuned ... we have lots of great things coming up in the next couple of months!

**\*Please save the date for our Albany Catholic Schools Reunion,** which will be held on Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup> from 5-9 p.m. right here at Blessed Sacrament’s gym!

**\*This spring, BSS is kicking off a “Marvelous May”** spring raffle with a \$1,500 grand prize and two runner-up prizes of \$500 each. Raffle proceeds will go toward tuition costs. We’re also planning our annual **Chicken Parmesan Dinner** on Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> from 5-7 p.m. in the school gym. For \$15, the dinner will include chicken Parmesan, chicken pastene soup, penne pasta, Italian bread, and a bottle of water. The event will be catered by 2SHEA. Dinner tickets are available before and after Masses at the church annex or in our parish and school offices. Raffle tickets also will be mailed out; they are \$5 each or five tickets for \$20. The raffle winner will be drawn on May 3<sup>rd</sup> at the dinner. For more information, please e-mail Kristine Ruddy: [kruddy@blessedsacramentschool.net](mailto:kruddy@blessedsacramentschool.net).

*Altar server team for Mass on 4/2/25*



*Jesus on the cross (drawing by a Grade 3 student)*



*Drawing of the Blessed Virgin Mary by a Grade 6 student*

