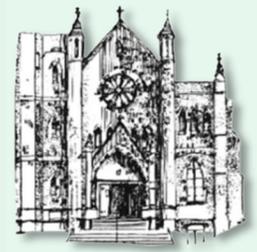


# BLESSED SACRAMENT CHURCH

607 Central Ave., Albany, NY 12206



February 22<sup>nd</sup>  
2026  
1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent

Be merciful  
**O LORD**  
For we have  
Sinned - PSALM 51

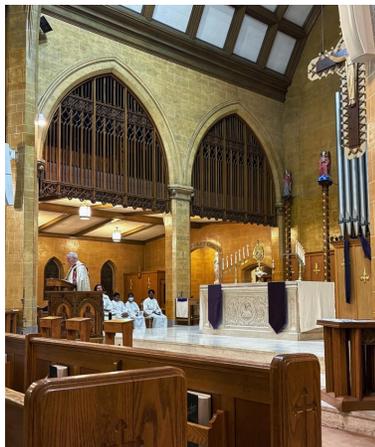


## From Lisanne V. Jensen

Part of the responsorial psalm that we heard on Ash Wednesday - and that we also sing this weekend (the first Sunday of Lent) - is, "Create in me a clean heart, o God ..." These words are from Psalm 51 and have deep meaning for this Lenten season. The word "create" translates to the Hebrew word "bara" (pronounced "bar-AH"). But in the Hebrew language, "bara" doesn't simply mean creating a painting or a Lego tower or a new cookie recipe or a song on the piano. Instead, it refers to "creating that only God can do." The Hebrews attached a divine sense to this word. We also see this term used in Genesis, the first book of the Bible, when God creates the world. So, the fact that "bara" is used in both instances (the creation of the world and Psalm 51) means that creating a clean heart in us is something that only God can do! What does that mean for our Lenten journey? We can pray, as Psalm 51 continues, that God will renew the steadfast spirit in us that we had in the Garden of Eden but was lost. In French, the word "lent" means "slow" - and Lent is a wonderful time to take a breath, step back, and reflect on how we can grow closer to God. It's truly my favorite time of year in the Church!

## THANK YOU BISHOP MARK

This past Thursday, February 19th at 7pm, Bishop Mark joined our community in praying for peace. We gathered together in faith and reflection, united in hope and gratitude for the opportunity to stand together in prayer.



## MASS SCHEDULE

### DAILY MASS

Monday | 7 am  
Tuesday, Thursday & Friday | 12 pm  
Wednesday | 8:15 am (with School)

### SATURDAY VIGIL

4 pm

### SUNDAY

9 am & 6 pm Urdu

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Tuesday & Thursday | 12:30 pm  
Saturday | 3 pm

### ADORATION

Tuesday & Thursday | 12:30 pm

### 1<sup>st</sup> SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH

Adoration & Reconciliation | 7:30 am  
Mass | 9 am

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS (During Lent)

Friday | 12:30 pm & 6 pm (Urdu)

### CONTACT US

Office Phone: (518) 482-3375

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

Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 9am-4pm

For submitting bulletin items:

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

*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.*

## MASS INTENTIONS

**Saturday (2/21/26)**

† Robert Foley  
† Florence, Joseph & Richard Zabinski  
† V. Joseph Zell

**Sunday (2/22/26)**

♥ Tammy Forster  
♥ The Matsui Cromie Family  
† Jan Mika Jr.  
† Joseph Palumbo

**Monday (2/23/26)**

† Rosario Balarin

**Tuesday (2/24/26)**

♥ Michael Anthony Sparks

**Wednesday (2/25/26)**

♥ Virginia Cromie  
♥ Libby McKeen  
† Joseph & Frances Bologna

**Thursday (2/26/26)**

**Friday (2/27/26)**

**Saturday (2/28/26)**

♥ Bill C.  
† Carol Young  
† Joseph Montimurro  
† William "Bill" Stevens

**Sunday (3/1/26)**

♥ Sarah Hollo H  
♥ Libby McKeen H  
† William Stevens D

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

*If you are having a Mass offered and  
would like to bring up the gifts, please  
see an usher before the liturgy begins.*

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## BAPTISMS

## WEDDINGS

## FUNERALS

Jack Horan  
Robert Reinhart

## 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**  
[gladouceur@blessedsacramentschool.net](mailto:gladouceur@blessedsacramentschool.net)  
**Ed Savoy, Music Director**  
[blessedsacramentalbanymusic@gmail.com](mailto:blessedsacramentalbanymusic@gmail.com)  
**Barbara Collen, Administrative Director**  
**Marcy Hill, Administrative Assistant**  
[blessedsacramentalb@gmail.com](mailto:blessedsacramentalb@gmail.com)  
**Carter Gooley, Communications Coordinator**  
[cc-blessedsacrament@rcda.org](mailto:cc-blessedsacrament@rcda.org)

## 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

## THE BOUTIQUE

\*"The Boutique" is Blessed Sacrament Church's thrift store! **Shopping hours** are 9 a.m. to noon on Saturdays. **Donation drop offs** are Tuesday & Friday, 9 a.m. to noon.

\*Due to space constraints, please hold summer clothing items until spring and Christmas items until Fall.

## FOOD PANTRY

\*Our food pantry is open on **Mondays and Thursdays**, 10 to 11:30 a.m.

\*Items currently needed at our food pantry are as noted previously: **Coffee, tea, juice (32 oz), bar soap, toothbrush & toothpaste, feminine hygiene products, and household cleaning products.**

Food Pantry numbers: Households - 145, Children - 104, Adults - 230, and Seniors - 53

## THIS WEEKEND'S MASS READINGS (2/21-2/22)

**FIRST READING:** Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** 51

**SECOND READING:** Romans 5:12-19

**GOSPEL:** Matthew 4:1-11

## NEXT WEEKEND'S MASS READINGS (2/28-3/1)

**FIRST READING:** Genesis 12:1-4a

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** 33

**SECOND READING:** 2 Timothy 1:8b-10

**GOSPEL:** Matthew 17:1-9

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

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

## FAITH FORMATION & YOUTH MINISTRY

Faith Formation continues to meet monthly with sessions for all ages and preparation for First Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation.

Our next large group session is this Sunday, February 22. Large group sessions begin with 9am mass, then gathering and breakfast in the gym, then smaller breakout sessions until 11:30am, including a session for parents. Please watch your email for additional sacramental preparation sessions.

New registrants are always welcome. To register, please visit the website [www.bsc-ffym.org/register](http://www.bsc-ffym.org/register) and complete the online form. Or, if you prefer, call or e-mail our office: (518) 438-5854; [faithformationbsc@gmail.com](mailto:faithformationbsc@gmail.com). We would love to have your family join us!



### FROM OUR URDU COMMUNITY

Every Sunday evening at 6 p.m. at Blessed Sacrament, we offer Mass in Urdu. All are welcome to 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  
Confesora Franco, Pastoral Associate/Faith Formation  
Debbie Klose, Organist

273 Central Ave., Albany, NY, 12206; (518) 465-3685  
[www.ourladyoftheamericas.org](http://www.ourladyoftheamericas.org)  
[OLAmericaShrine@gmail.com](mailto:OLAmericaShrine@gmail.com)

Mass Schedule: Sundays, 9a.m. (English) and 11 a.m. (Spanish); Mass & Adoration on the 1<sup>st</sup> Fridays of each month 6:30 p.m.

\*Mission statement: "We are a vibrant, welcoming, multicultural Catholic community in the heart of the City of Albany celebrating and ministering the presence of Jesus with our parishioners and neighbors."



Centered in Faith,  
Focused on the Future.

Mr. Michael T. O'Kane, Principal  
Mrs. Andrea Roberts, Administrative Assistant  
School office phone: (518) 438-5854  
School e-mail: [info@blessedsacramentschool.net](mailto:info@blessedsacramentschool.net)  
School website: [www.blessedsacramentschool.net](http://www.blessedsacramentschool.net)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/blessedsacrament\\_school/](http://www.facebook.com/blessedsacrament_school/)  
Instagram: [https://www.instagram.com/blessedsacrament\\_school/](https://www.instagram.com/blessedsacrament_school/)  
BlessedSacramentSchoolAlbany  
School Address: 605 Central Ave,  
Albany, NY 12206

-School starts back up this week!

-A **First Communion Retreat** for parents and students to participate in together will be held on Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup> after Blessed Sacrament Church's 9 a.m. Mass until noon in the school gym. This retreat is for students who will receive the sacrament of First Communion this year. The purpose is to deepen the understanding of the sacrament. *Both school families and Faith Formation families are invited to attend.*

-Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup> is a **half day** (noon dismissal).  
Aftercare will be available.

### HELP US SECURE EXTRA SCHOOL BUCKS POINTS!!

Schools will earn bonus points just for attending—200 points for every student and 400 points for each faculty or staff member present!

**Wednesday, March 4, 2026 @ 5:30 pm**  
**131 Colonie Center, Albany, New York 12205**



## SCHOOL BUCKS



*Hanging out at the mall? Maybe you're enjoying a sweet treat, or celebrating a big event with a delicious meal. Make sure to turn in your Colonie Center shopping receipts to help our school!*

### February Bonus Points

#### 3x Points

-Famous Footwear, Torrid, Carter's, JD Sports

#### 4x Points

-Verizon, Zales, Ulta, Upstate Thrift & Apparel

### MARCH MAGIC RAFFLE

Mater Christi School is having a Raffle!  
Each ticket is \$10 and has 31 chances to win!

Scan the QR Code or visit: <https://form.jotform.com/260376227647160>  
To Purchase Tickets!



## ROSE COLORED VESTMENTS

I believe that most people are aware that the third candle on the Advent wreath is "rose"-colored (or "pink" for those who don't subscribe to the fun names Crayola, Pantone, and Sherwin-Williams assign to every subtle shade). Some may not know that it's appropriate to also decorate with the same color, or for clergy to wear that same color on the Third Sunday of Advent, and also the Fourth Sunday of Lent! These are days when the dark purple of the penitential seasons are "lightened" a little bit for a break around the half-way points, and symbolically the dark purple is lightened to a light purple (this is why it's "rose" and not "pink", because pink is a lighter shade of red). It may not be well-known partly because, I've noticed, there are some priests who don't like wearing "pink". Well, I have no qualms about wearing the appropriate "rose" color on those two Sundays, Gaudete Sunday in Advent, and Lætare Sunday in Lent, and so I always have. Unfortunately, our parishes are not always equipped with the appropriate vestments, for priests or for deacons. So, I have found some relatively inexpensive and also beautiful and dignified rose-colored vestments for our churches, and also stoles that I would like to gift to our deacons. If anyone would like to contribute for this purpose, we're looking for \$100. I know there are more important things to support, including our food pantries and soup kitchens, our faith formation for youth and university students, the St. Clare's pensioners, and victims of abuse. But that doesn't mean we can't also have matching vestments. I thank you for your consideration of this, and all the important ministry that we accomplish as disciples of Jesus.

Fr. Quinn

### STAY CONNECTED

#### “Like” us on Facebook:

(Sunday Masses are live streamed here)

[https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/BlessedSacramentCatholicChurch)

[BlessedSacramentCatholicChurch](https://www.facebook.com/BlessedSacramentCatholicChurch)

#### Subscribe to our YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/@BSCAlbany>

#### Follow our Instagram:

[https://www.instagram.com/](https://www.instagram.com/blessed_sacrament_parish_ny/)

[blessed\\_sacrament\\_parish\\_ny/](https://www.instagram.com/blessed_sacrament_parish_ny/)

#### Parish Website:

<https://blessedsacramentalbany.org/>

### OFFERTORY: SHARING OUR TREASURE

**Regular:** \$6,959

**Evangelist:** \$194



Blessed Sacrament needs at least \$9,000 each week in our collections to break even — not counting unexpected maintenance costs that might arise.

**To donate online, scan the QR code above or visit [secure.myvanco.com/YHAN/home](https://secure.myvanco.com/YHAN/home).**

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:

### New Mass Schedule Starting After Easter

Last week, I discussed the difficulties with the current Mass schedule, and why it is being adjusted. This week, I want to share the process, and the difficulties, in designing a new schedule. It was important to take into consideration the data of current Sunday Mass attendance, demographics, and historical trends, and a few guiding principles: 1) No two Masses should begin at the same time. 2) There should be a variety of options of Mass times, considering not just our own but our neighboring parishes. 3) We should do our best not to disenfranchise groups of people who need specific times or locations. 4) We should allow the priests time to be able to be around before and after Mass for Faith Formation, OCIA, requests for an Anointing of the Sick or for Confession, or simply for conversations.

5) Another important consideration is that priests and the people ought to be familiar with one another; I want, for myself and for the other priests, to be able to be at each parish regularly, with time enough to get to know people. We, as priests, with fatherly hearts, want to be able to see and know our people, other than just at baptisms, weddings, and funerals. We want to be more than functionaries fulfilling the task of showing up for Mass. We want to fulfill our role in the community as spiritual fathers and evangelizers, not just our function in the liturgies at the altar, and as parish managers at a desk. The converse is therefore necessarily true: I want all of our parishioners to be familiar and comfortable with us. This goes for the hospital chaplains as well; when someone is in the hospital and meets one of the priests there, it's comforting when he is already a familiar face.

Familiarity requires a lot of time. Fr. Tallman, for one, has been a familiar face as a hospital chaplain and as the Albany Fire Department's chaplain for many years. That sort of familiarity and care of so many different people in so many situations (firefighters, hospital administrators, nurses, physicians, patients) takes years to grow. In much the same way, Fr. Sidoti, Fr. Lefebvre, Fr. O'Connor, Fr. Sweigart, Fr. Bradley, Fr. Pape, and Fr. Doyle grew along with the families of their parishes. It is my hope that we continue to grow, through good times and bad, sickness and health, with our parishes and parishioners, in much the same way. I have been in Albany now five years, but when I'm only present at a parish every third weekend, it takes three times as long to get to know people. Reducing Masses and adjusting start times is necessary, though painful, so that the priests we have can spend their time and attention most efficiently. The schedule we have devised allows for Fr. Yusko and I, with the help of just one hospital chaplain or retired priest, to make the rounds at our four churches comfortably. In an emergency situation in which only two priests are available, the Masses can be offered by two priests. There is still some more to be discussed next week! Thank you for your patience!