

Blessed Sacrament Parish
Shrine of Our Lady of the Americas

Shrine Entrance: 273 Central Avenue

Mailing Address: 274 Sherman Street, Albany, New York 12206 (Rear Entrance of the Church)

Office Phone Number: (518) 465-3685, Ext. 12 (Bilingual) **Fax:** (518) 462-5487

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday: **by appointment.** Call 465-3685, Ext. 12; Closed on Fridays

Website: www.ourladyoftheamericas.org ~ **E-mail:** OLAmericaShrine@gmail.com

Staff: Pastor: *Rev. Joseph O'Brien*, (518) 482-3375

Shrine Chaplain: *Rev. Francis O'Connor*, (518) 588-2531(cell) (Bilingual)

Deacon: *Miguel Fabián*, (518) 229-2634 (cell) (Bilingual)

Pastoral Associate: *Sister Grace R. Díaz*, (518) 465-3685 ext.12 (Bilingual)

Faith Formation Team Coordinator: *Maria Aricapa*, (518) 465-3685 ext. 11

Music Minister: *Deborah Klose*, e-mail: dklose@nycap.rr.com or (518) 986-0269 (cell)



General Information

Reconciliation: SUNDAYS, before and after both Masses or by appointment, Fr. O'Connor Cell: (518) 588-2531

Healing Mass: Last Friday of every month 6:30 pm (Praise & Worship), 7:00 pm Mass (Not in Lent)

Baptism: Instruction required. **5 weeks in advance** contact Sister Grace **FIRST**, for needed documentation, then *Claire Nolan*, (518) 209-6477 or cbnolou@gmail.com in English & *Confesora Franco*, (518) 542-4192 in Spanish.

Marriage: Meet with Shrine Chaplain six months in advance. Instruction required. Call the Parish Office.

Quinceañera: Schedule 6 months in advance with **Father and Sister**; then with *Griselle Maldonado-Torres*

Hospital/Nursing Home Visitation (Bilingual): Fr. O'Connor: (518) 588-2531; Gladys Miranda, (518) 229-0695

Deadline for Bulletin Announcements & Attachments: TUESDAY @ *NOON – tmerasto@hotmail.com – Dec.

December 16

9:30 am Mass in English

✠ *McGinty* and ✠ *Sheeran Families*
by the McGinty Family

✠ *Martha George*, Debbie Klose's aunt and
Kay Olsiewski's sister

12:00 Mass in Spanish

✠ *Mercedes Cabrera*, and

✠ *Josefa* & ✠ *Josefina Sarda* by Patricia Reyes
In thanksgiving for the 40th wedding anniversary of
Faustino & Confesora Franco

✠ *Rev. Richard Broderick* (2nd Anniv.)
by Delfina Santaski

✠ *Jovita Guadalupe Vásquez* (1st aniv.)
by Estilita Zarza

Mass Intentions



December 23

9:30 am Mass in English

✠ *Petrina Hamm* by Sister Peg Keddell

12:00 Mass in Spanish

✠ *Fermin Fabian*
by his granddaughter, Confesora Franco

Weekly MASS Intentions: Request in 2 easy steps! *Step #1 is FIRST.*****

Step 1: Call the Church Office at 465-3685, ext. 12 or EMAIL OLAmericaShrine@gmail.com
with your name, phone number, the desired date, & intention.

Step 2: Put your offering envelope in the collection basket any Sunday with information regarding the Mass intention.

Third Sunday of Advent ~ December 16, 2018

♪ *Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.* ♪

This Week's Liturgical Ministers

9:30 am Mass in English: Sacristan: *Mack McPherson*;
Leader: *John Giordano*; Readers: *Carol Conroy* and
Tammy Crasto; Eucharistic Ministers: *Teresa Crasto-*
Donnelly, Kathryn Giordano, Allison Agneta, and Tom
Bink

12:00 Mass en Español: Sacristán: *Confesora Franco*,
Readers: *Dianelis Vásquez* and *Carolina Fabián*;
Eucharistic ministers: *Griselle Maldonado, Yohary*
Fabian, and *Patricia Reyes*; Hospitality: *Williams*
Gonzalez, Miriam Dominguez, and Briselys Vásquez;
Ushers: *Sofia Estrada, Diana Vazquez, and Maria Argueta*

Sharing our Treasure

~ *Giving as an act of Worship* ~

We need to have at least \$2,500.00 per week in the collections to
break even, not counting unexpected maintenance costs.

Collection for December 9: \$1,835.15
Immaculate Conception: \$119.00

Thank you, each and all, who share your
Time, Talent & Treasure with our community.

Calendar of Events

Sunday, December 16

Third Sunday in Advent ~ Gaudete Sunday!
"Gaudete" means Rejoice, so we light a pink candle.
9:30 am English Mass 10:40 am Faith Formation
12:00 pm Misa en Español

1st Posada at the Shrine 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Monday, December 17

Centering Prayer – any time between 7:45 am-8:45 am

Wednesday, December 19

Choir Practice: English at 5:30, Spanish at 6:30

Thursday, December 20

Flower Decorating for Christmas – 4:00 pm

Friday, December 21

Centering Prayer – any time between 7:45 am-8:45 am

Círculo de Oración - 7:00-9:00 pm

Sunday, December 23

Fourth Sunday in Advent

9:30 am English Mass & 12:00 pm Misa en Español

**See next page for locations of our parish Posadas
and schedule of the Christmas Masses.**

✠ Weekly Reflection ✠

For Adults:

How are we this Advent season preparing ourselves for Jesus? How can we avoid the distractions that take our focus off the glorious birth of Christ?

For Children:

How can we remember to keep Jesus in our hearts during Christmas time this year?

Thank You to the *Marty Bink* for cleaning the Altar linens for December.

Our January 6th Mustard Seed Collection will be for the **Interfaith Drop-in-Center** located in Sheridan Hollow. This place is open for the homeless and provides showers, washing machines, clean clothes, mailboxes, a hot dinner, and a warm place for the day. On days below freezing, they stay open for the whole night as a shelter. What they could use are **hats, gloves, scarves, laundry products, shower products such as shampoo, body wash, deodorant** etc. Thank you for your continued generosity to the poor!



The Intentions Book

Is located at the back of Church:
Add your special intentions.

The Intentions Book, *Hear Our Prayer*, will be brought up to the altar during the *Prayers of the Faithful*.

We will continue to share aloud our intentions, but we will not read aloud the intentions in the book.

♪ Entrance Antiphon for the 3rd Sunday of Advent ♪



*in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.
Indeed, the Lord is near.*

Philippians 4:4-5

A Special Thank You

to all who made our parish celebration of the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe so special!

Visit the Diocesan website: <https://www.rcda.org/>
To view a beautiful picture of our Church and a video from our celebration!

Christmas Tree Blessing

Lord Jesus, encircle this tree with your blessing. May its twinkling lights remind us of the hope and promise of your coming. May we find joy in the memories we share in its tinsels and its trimmings. May the presents we place beneath it give rise to an appreciation for the gift of your presence among us. We ask this in your holy name. Amen.

Shrine Church Parish Posadas Schedule

(7:00-8:30pm each night)



Sunday, December 16 ~ Prayer & Worship Committee

Shrine Church of Our Lady of the Americas

Monday, December 17 ~ Maria Lema Yunga

27 Yardboro Avenue, Albany, New York 12205

Tuesday, December 18 ~ Rose Tenezaca

15 Oakland Avenue, Albany, New York 12205

Wednesday, December 19 ~ tbd

Thursday, December 20 ~ Giordano Family

14 Witte Road, Albany, NY 12203

Friday, December 21 ~ Teresa & Peter Crasto-Donnelly

Capital View Apartments, 1 Oak Lane, Apt A,
Rensselaer, NY 12144

Saturday, December 22 ~ Marilenny Ignacio

3801 State Street, Schenectady, New York 12304

Sunday, December 23 ~ Benedicta Asante

8 Farnsworth Drive, Apt. # 10, Slingerlands, NY 12159

Note: A copy of the schedule with addresses and contact information can be found on the table in back of the Church and on the parish website.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Vigil

Carol Singing: 4:30 pm

Bilingual Mass: 5:00 pm

Christmas Day

English Mass: 9:30 am

Spanish Mass: 12:00 pm

New Year's Day

Bilingual Mass at 11:00 am



Peek at 4th Sunday in Advent, Dec. 23

First Reading: Micah 5:1-4A

Psalm: Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19

Second Reading: Hebrews 10:5-10

Gospel: St. Luke 1:39-45

9:30 am Mass in English: Sacristan: *Mack McPherson*; Leader: *Rick Eckhardt*; Readers: *Fred Boehrer* and *Colleen Cain*; Eucharistic Ministers: *Judy Houck*, *Grant Ford*, *Linda Dalton*, and *Barbara Crawford*

12:00 Mass en Español: Sacristán: *Maria Argueta*; Lectores: *Juan David Ochoa* and *Elena Alcantar*; Ministros eucarísticos: *Patricia Reyes*, *Fausto Franco*, and *Juana Barbosa*; Hospitalidad: *Miriam Dominguez*, *Maria Aricapa*, and *Briselys Vásquez*; Ujieres: *Abelardo Jiménez*, *Estilita Zarza*, *Luis Zarza*, and *Ana Castillo*.



Are you new to the Shrine Church? WELCOME! Or, did you recently move or get a new phone number?

Please fill in this form and drop it in the collection basket. **Thank you.**

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ () Send Envelopes