

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 – tmcrasto@hotmail.com – Dec.

December 2

9:30 am Mass in English

For the health of Monica Sharpe

✠ *Michael C. Agnet* (21st anniv.) by his family

✠ *Joseph Gilroy* by his wife, Maggie Gilroy

12:00 Mass in Spanish

✠ *Mario Ruano* by Monica Sharpe

✠ *Adela Velarde*, sister of Delfina Santaski

✠ *Trinidad Arana de Argueta*

by her daughter, Maria Argueta

Mass Intentions



December 9

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

11:00 am Bilingual Mass

*For our Shrine community,
and that all be brought to Christ
through His Mother Mary*

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.

First Sunday of Advent ~ December 2, 2018



To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.



This Week's Liturgical Ministers

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: *Patricia Reyes*,
Lectores: *Claribel Sánchez* and *Carolina Fabian*;
Ministros Eucarísticos: *Nancy Pérez*, *Miriam Domínguez*,
and *Lourdes Fabian*; Hospitalidad: *Rosa Albarrán*, *Delfina Santaski*, and *Williams González*

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 November 25: \$3560.31

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

As the weather gets colder, please look for your "Fuel Collection" envelope. Thank you.

Calendar of Events

Sunday, December 2

First Sunday in Advent

9:30 am English Mass

10:40 am "Sunday School"

12:00 pm Misa en Español

Mustard Seed Collection for Family Promise

Monday, December 3

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

Tuesday, December 4

Youth Council 6:30 pm

Wednesday, December 5

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

Friday, December 7

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

Immaculate Conception Vigil Mass- **en Español** 7:00 pm

Saturday, December 8

Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary

Sunday, December 9

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Second Sunday in Advent

Bilingual Mass at 11:00 am

Reception to follow

at Blessed Sacrament School



♥The Giving Tree♥

is up and is helping to adorn St. Joseph's altar! There are tags with requests from **local seniors and children** asking for a special gift. Please help them out. We need the gifts back, wrapped and with tags attached, **by Sunday, Dec. 16.**

Thanks so much for your help!



It's time to plan for our Christmas flower delivery. **If you know of any parishioners who are homebound or in a nursing facility who has not received flowers in the past, please let Sister Grace know by Dec 5th so we can include them in this year's delivery.** Also if you cannot help deliver this season, please let Sister know so that we can find someone to take your place.



Did you know???

Last year our insurance cost was **\$14,767.**

THANK YOU for sharing your treasure to help cover this important cost.

We are collecting the **Toys For Tots applications for Christmas toys.** Please complete the applications before **December 2nd, 2018,** no later. Toys will be provided for all children who live in the household ages 0-12. Parishioners from the English Mass will be able to receive your toys before Christmas. We will not hold any toy requests after Christmas.

† **Prayer Reflection** †

For Adults:

*What have been the strengths of your prayer life?
What habit of prayer could you strengthen during this Advent season?*

For Children:

What prayers will you say each day and each week during Advent?

Feel free to pick up a reflection book for Advent in the back of Church after Mass.



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. Please feel free to add your intentions to this book before the start of Mass.

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



Our Patronal Feast

Our Lady of Guadalupe is our Shrine community Patroness!

Next Sunday, December 9, Bishop Scharfenberger will be the main celebrant at a bilingual Mass as our whole community celebrates our Patronal feast.

During the Mass for the 2nd Sunday of Advent, we will honor Our Lady of Guadalupe, Our Lady of the Americas. This has traditionally been a festive celebration, which we will continue at Blessed Sacrament School gym with a meal for our regular community members and the many guests from around the diocese who join us.

We look forward to this very special day of community!



Las Posadas: a traditional Mexican celebration between December 16 and 24. The Posada is a way of reliving Mary and Joseph's search for shelter. Posadas means "inn or lodging." At our Posadas, we sing, pray the rosary, read scripture, and share food and community. **Sign up today to host – a few dates open!**

Note: A list of the different Posada locations will be in next week's bulletin and on flyers in the back of Church.

Peek at the Second Sunday in Advent, Dec. 9

First Reading: Baruch 5:1-9
Psalm: Psalm 126:1-6
Second Reading: Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11
Gospel: St. Luke 3:1-6

Note: There will be special ministers assigned for our bilingual liturgy for the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.



*The voice of him that cries in the wilderness,
"Prepare you the way of the LORD,
make straight in the desert
a highway for our God."*

Isaiah 40:3

Advent Blessings to one and all!

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

Over Please