

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 – cbnolou@gmail.com – Jan.

December 30

9:30 am Mass in English

For the families of our parish community

12:00 Mass in Spanish

For the families of our parish community

January 1 – 11:00 am Mass

10th anniversary of the departure of *Jairo Tobias*
Soler Soler to the house of the eternal father

Mass Intentions



January 6

9:30 am Mass in English

✠ *Frank McGinty* by the McGinty Family

12:00 Mass in Spanish

Open for Intentions

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.

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph ~ December 30, 2018

♪ *Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.* ♪

This Week's Liturgical Ministers

9:30 am Mass in English: Sacristan: *Josie McPherson*; Leader: *Ed Falterman*; Readers: *Diana Conroy* and *Ellen McPherson*; Eucharistic Ministers: *Mack McPherson*, *Herb Barber*, *Ronny Williams*, and *Mary Giordano*

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*, *Luís Zarza*, and *Ana Castillo*

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 16: \$3,358.78

Christmas Flowers: \$185.00

Immaculate Conception: \$73.00

Collection for December 23: \$2,469.69

Christmas: \$2,305.17

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

Calendar of Events

Sunday, December 30

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
 9:30 am English Mass & 12:00 pm Misa en Español

Monday, December 31

New Year's Eve

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

Tuesday, January 1

Solemnity of Mary

New Year's Day

11:00 am – Bilingual Mass

Wednesday, January 2

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

Friday, January 4

Centering Prayer – any time between 7:45 am-8:45 am
 Adoration & Circulo de Oración - 7:00-9:00 pm

Sunday, January 6

Feast of the Epiphany

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

✠ Weekly Reflection ✠



This week, let us reflect on **Pope Francis' Prayer to the Holy Family** that was shared with the Synod of Bishops in his Angelus address on the Feast of the Holy Family in December 2013.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, in you we contemplate the splendor of true love, to you we turn with trust.

Holy Family of Nazareth, grant that our families too may be places of communion and prayer, authentic schools of the Gospel and small domestic Churches.

Holy Family of Nazareth, may families never again experience violence, rejection and division: may all who have been hurt or scandalized find ready comfort and healing.

Holy Family of Nazareth, make us once more mindful of the sacredness and inviolability of the family and its beauty in God's plan.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, graciously hear our prayer. Amen.



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.

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!



A *Special Thank You* for all those who hosted a **Posada** in their home this year. Your kindness and generosity provided wonderful evenings of prayer and reflection!

Peek at January 6

First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

Psalm: Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13

Second Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3A, 5-6

Gospel: St. Matthew 2:1-12

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: *to be announced later*

**New Year's Mass Schedule
Feast of the Solemnity of Mary**



New Year's Day

Bilingual Mass at 11:00 am

A New Year's Prayer



*Lord, You make all things new
You bring hope alive in our hearts
And cause our Spirits to be born again.*

*Thank you for this new year
For all the potential it holds.
Come and kindle in us
A mighty flame
So that in our time, many will see the wonders of God
And live forever to praise Your glorious name.*

Amen.

Entrance Antiphon



"The shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger."

Luke 2:16



The Sister Maureen Joyce Center

SOUP KITCHEN: A hot meal at noon

Mondays, Thursdays & at 1:00 pm on SUNDAYS

All are welcome! Call **518-462-9885** to learn more.

FOOD PANTRY: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays

Call **465-8262** to learn more.



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