



The Most Reverend Edward B. Scharfenberger, D.D. Bishop of Albany
The Very Reverend David R. LeFort, S.T.L., V.G., Rector
The Reverend John Tallman, Parochial Vicar
The Reverend Paul Mijas, Parochial Vicar
Timothy Kosto, II, Deacon

In residence

The Most Reverend Howard J. Hubbard, D.D.
Bishop Emeritus

Religious Education and Faith Formation
Dr. Thomas Fowler

Cathedral Social Services—Food Pantry
Mr. Mark Ciavardoni

Director of Music and Organist
Dr. Brian F. Gurley

Development, Public Relations & Events
Mr. Thomas M. Prindle

Parish Secretary
Ms. Pilar Dell

Liturgical Coordinator
Dr. Melissa Martínez

Parish Bookkeeper
Mrs. Kathy Zorian

Facilities Manager
Mr. David Ucci, M.B.A

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Social Services—Food Pantry Office

93 Park Avenue (basement office)

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CATHEDRAL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

In the City and Diocese of Albany

Established 1848 • Corner of Eagle Street and Madison Avenue (at the Empire State Plaza), Albany

Mission Statement

We, the worshipping community of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany, rooted in the Gospel and the celebration of the Eucharist, seek to make known God's love in the world through serving one another, sharing our faith and welcoming all.

Schedule of Liturgical Celebrations

The Holy Eucharist (Mass)

The Lord's Day:

(anticipated Mass) 5:15 p.m. on Saturday

9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on Sunday

Weekdays: Monday-Wednesday-Friday 12:15 p.m.
Tuesday-Thursday 7:15 a.m.

Holy Days: Please check the bulletin and website.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Saturday: 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

...and other times by appointment

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Call the church office to make arrangements for appointment and instructions.

The Sacrament of Holy Matrimony

Couples should contact the parish office six to eight months in advance of the proposed marriage.

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

If you are anticipating surgery, please contact the parish office.

Religious Education

To register, and for information, call: 518-463-4447, ext. 4

Parish Food Pantry

93 Park Avenue; Basement, Entrance at north side of building

Food and personal care items collected on the last Sunday of the month.

Food distributed Monday-Friday, 10:00a.m. - 12:00p.m.

Pastoral Visits

At home or in the hospital, please call the parish office.

Tours of the Cathedral are available by appointment; please contact the Rectory Office for information and/or to schedule a tour.

Second Sunday of Lent

First Reading:

In chapter 12 of Genesis, God came to Abram and promised to bless him with descendants. Through those descendants the world would also be blessed. God comes to Abram again and twice repeats the earlier promise, but Abram is skeptical at first. He had no children and a wife who was long past her childbearing years. How would God give him descendants? Abram's questions are really questions about God's reliability. Can God be trusted to do what he promised? God's dramatic response is to make a covenant with Abram. While Abram sleeps, God performs an ancient covenant ceremony. God passes through the pieces of a sacrifice, saying in effect, "May I end up like this sacrifice if I do not fulfill my promise to Abram." The relationship between Abram and God bind both of them. Abram is not the only one to greet God's messages of hope with skepticism. Many of us may find such messages hard to believe. Lent, however, is a time when we remember that hope does not depend on us. Our hope is in God's covenant faithfulness show to us in Jesus Christ.

Second Reading:

Paul wrote his letters to communities such as the Philippians after the early believers' experience of Jesus' Death and Resurrection. He preached the hope of salvation through the Cross and by belief in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Paul invited believers to imitate his own path to righteousness and reject the lure of evil. It is the profession of faith in Christ crucified and raised from the dead that separated those who awaited the Second coming. Paul saw all others as enemies of the Cross of Christ. Paul's final instructions say stand firm in the Lord. Listen to what you have been taught. Be faithful as others have been faithful before you.

Remain steadfast, for in doing so you will remain grounded in God who offers a citizenship not of this world but of heaven. Like the disciples in Today's Gospel who experience how different following Jesus will be from their expectations, if we listen to God through the words of Paul, we too will encounter God as our ancestor Abram did.

Gospel:

Luke's version of the Transfiguration emphasizes hope. While Mark connected the Transfiguration to Jesus' death, Luke deliberately tied it to the Resurrection. Hence, Luke refers to the "eighth day," to the Exodus, and to Jesus glory— all symbols of the Resurrection and Easter (reference to the eight days is omitted in the Lectionary text; see Luke 9:28). Through these symbols the readers of Peter, James, John and Luke receive a glimpse of the Resurrection, a taste of the glory that waits on the other side of the Cross. It is a beautiful vision, filled with light, white robes, Old Testament luminaries, and even a voice from heaven. No wonder Peter wanted to stay. Most of us would have too. The key, however, is not to hold on to the vision but to listen to Jesus, the crucified and now Risen Savior.

Thank you to the Pipers and Drummers of The Schenectady Pipe Band! Each year, in the midst of a busy schedule they always help us to celebrate St. Patrick's day with special festivity.

Happy Saint Patricks' Day!



Second Sunday of Lent

Volunteer Opportunities Now Available at the **Cathedral Food Pantry!**

Are you interested in volunteering to help those in need and in having a strong positive impact on the Immaculate Conception Cathedral neighborhood and community?

Volunteer opportunities available now! Experience required: good computer skills, good office administration skills, good interpersonal and customer service skills. Fast paced environment requiring flexibility and commitment to serving those in need. Background check required.

Applications available at the Food Pantry Tuesdays through Thursdays 10:00 am to 11:30 am. Ask for Mark Ciavardoni, Director.

Stations of the Cross

This Friday, March 22, beginning at 5:30pm we will walk the Stations of the Cross through the eyes and heart of our Blessed Mother. All are most welcome to this moving rendition.

A presentation **“Mental Health, Faith and Self Care”** will be offered by Grace Fay on Wednesday, March 27th, 6:30 pm at St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Delaware Ave. Appropriate for all grades 6 thru adults, it will be a wonderful opportunity to discuss our emotions and self-care. All are welcome.

A Few Dates to Save

Our annual Cathedral Brunch will take place on Sunday, April 28, again at Wolferts Roost Country Club.

Our annual Cathedral Golf Classic will be held on Monday, June 17, again at Wolferts Roost Country Club.

Our annual Joint Parish Picnic with St. Francis of Assisi Parish will take place on Sunday, September 22, at Bethlehem Town Park.

Take Action! Sign the Petition to Repeal the Abortion Law! Express your firm opposition to NY's new abortion expansion law –the so called "Reproductive Health Act" (RHA)– by signing the petition provided by the New York State Catholic Conference for your convenience! Go to www.nyscatholic.org and click **“Take Action!”** to sign the petition today and share it with your friends! Urge the governor and the legislature to repeal the radical new law in its entirety.

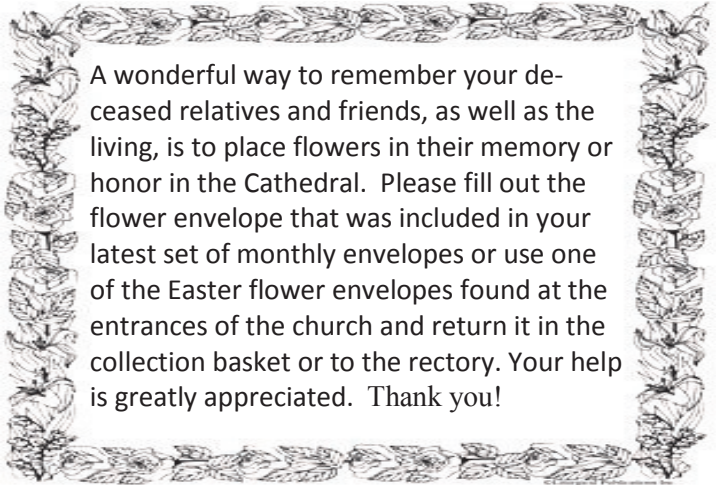
Stewardship Treasure

The Collection for Ash Wednesday was \$1,483.35

The Collection for Sunday March 10th, 2019 was \$2,670.43.

The Second Collection was \$920.69. **Thank you for all you have given to the Cathedral.**

This Weekend's Second Collection:
RESTORATION



Please pray for our sick; Jeffrey Abraham, Robert Buell, Shirley Anderson, Lucy Apisa, Stephen Beattie, Carol Bruce, Grace Isabelle Caruso, Carmella Cervera, Mary Faith Colvin, Patricia Contti, Theresa Cooney, Sr., Gertrude Cosenke, RSCJ, Marc Daniels, John Dare, Jr., Denise Degasparis, Michael Dolan, Ann Doherty, JoAnn DeLucia, Diane Fontanelli, Janette Fusco, Bernice Girma, Karen Goral, Carol Greenshields, Jean Gutbrodt, Bryan Hanley, Jacqueline Heisler, Kelly Hemming, Kenneth Hockeson; Douglas Hoffeler, Dorothy Jordan, Reny Jose, Bill Keane, Amy Keegan, James Laung, Donald Law, Gayle Leonard, Rebecca Leno, Therese Lenz, Diane Lo Prete, Maria Marchio, Marie-Ann Melenfant, John McGrath, Mary Grace Meneses Sr., Maria Mercurio, CSJ, Stephanie Merenda, Diane Mueller, James Murphy, Mary Murphy, Shane O'Donnell, Josephine Pitcherale, Marcia Pedone, Catherine Rappazzo, Mark Roman, Matthew Rosato, Megan Ruthman, Elaine Spoor, Jane Strodel, Adam Ventura, Sebastian Vicencio, Richard Warner, Raphael Warner, Rosa Maria Santos

March 17,2019

Cathedral Liturgical Celebrations, Meetings and Mass Intentions for the week of March 16, 2019 – March 24, 2019

Saturday, March 16,

5:15PM Mass

Sunday, March 17,

9:00AM Mass

Intention: Penny (Deanna) Leis

10:00AM Faith Formation

11:00AM Mass

Intention: Deceased members of the Garrity Family

Intention: Barbara Kirker requested by Shawn Kirker

Intention: Penny (Deanna) Leis

5:00PM Mass

Intention: Joseph and Ruth Petro

Monday, March 18,

12:15 PM Mass

Tuesday, March 19,

7:15 AM Mass

Intention: John "Chick" Pape

Requested by: Cathedral Staff

12:00 PM AA Meeting (Rectory)

Wednesday, March 20,

12:15 PM Mass

Intention: Thomas McDermott

Thursday, March 21,

7:15AM Mass

Intention: Joseph and Ruth Petro

Friday March 22,

12:15 PM Mass

5:30 PM Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 23,

5:15PM Mass

Sunday, March 24,

9:00AM Mass

10:00AM Faith Formation

11:00AM Mass

5:00PM Mass

Rice Bowls

The three main Lenten practices of the Catholic Church, namely prayer, fasting and almsgiving, are directed to support our renewal in the Life of Christ Jesus. By participating in Operation Rice Bowl, we are given the opportunity to pray for our neighbors in need each day, to fast from some desire or another and to offer alms for their benefit. People often find that if they leave their rice bowl collection container on the kitchen table, for example, it becomes a daily reminder to pray, to commit to a fast of some kind and to make a daily offering to support the less fortunate. Rice Bowls are then returned to the church during the Holy Triduum, so that such Lenten practices can bear fruit at Easter.

Ministry Recruitment

Throughout this Lenten season we invite you to reflect on becoming more involved here in the Parish.

Please join us on the weekend of March 23-24. After each Mass our Liturgical Coordinator Melissa Martinez will be available to provide you with more information on the many ways you can share your talents and gifts with the Cathedral.

Its time for spring cleaning.....!

Bring a bucket and join the Cathedral Staff for a morning of Cleaning and Stewardship!
Cleaning, Team Work, Lunch and Prayer!
Join us beginning at 10:00 am Saturday, March 30th.

