



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

Rectory and Cathedral Offices

125 Eagle Street
Albany, New York 12202-1718

Phone: 518-463-4447

Fax: 518-514-1441

Email: CICALban@rcda.org

www.cathedralic.com

Follow us on facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/albanycathedral>

Religious Education Office

Phone: 518-463-4447 ext. 4

Email: FFCICa@rcda.org

Church Music Office

Phone: 518-463-4447 ext. 5

Email: brian.gurley@rcda.org

Social Services—Food Pantry Office

93 Park Avenue (basement office)

Phone: 518-463-2279

Email: ciavardm@rcda.org

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.

Fourth Sunday of Lent

First Reading:

Crossing the Jordan River, the Israelites return to a home they have never seen. It has been generations since Jacob and his family left Canaan, during a famine, for the plenty of Egypt. It has been forty years since the Hebrew slaves fled the Egyptian army through the Red Sea. Their wilderness wanderings saw a new generation born not into slavery but into freedom. Now those born in nomadic freedom have passed through the waters of the Jordan into the land they shall reclaim as their own. The Passover at Gilgal was possibly the first Passover celebrated since the original Passover in Egypt, and it was the first Passover celebrated in Canaan. The covenant is renewed, this time with the second generation. God promises again to remove the disgrace of their slavery in Egypt. Just as in the wilderness, God provides a source of food. In place of manna, the people have the produce of their own land to eat. God, who cared for the wilderness generation, pledges to care for their children. At Gilgal the people themselves confirm and renew their relationship to God. They celebrate that relationship at the Passover, and they demonstrate it by changing their diet and their lifestyles.

Second Reading:

God's love in Christ is at the heart of Paul's message to the Corinthians. In love God seeks reconciliation, not punishment; therefore, God does not count our sins against us. God instead reconciles with humanity through Christ by making "him to be sin who did not know sin." Paul does not explain this but rather focuses on the result. We are new creations, reconciled with God and given a message and ministry of reconciliation. Using a political term, Paul calls Christians "ambassadors for Christ," entrusted with representing God's reconciling love to the world which they live.

Gospel:

For Luke, God's reconciling love is the core of Jesus' teaching. When the Pharisees and scribes criticize him for eating with sinners, Jesus tells a parable found only in Luke's account of the Gospel, a parable about love, reconciliation, and resentment. The father is the central figure in this parable. The father is the central figure in this parable. He gives his younger son part of his estate, even though the father still has legal rights to it and might need it in his old age. He lets the son take the money and run, with no assurance that he will ever see him again. When the son wastes the entire fortune, the father not only welcomes him back home, but he also throws the son an expensive party. We are clearly meant to identify this father with God. But why would God let his son squander his inheritance and then welcome the wastrel back home? Anyone else who acted like that would be through crazy, at best a soft touch and at worst an old fool. For years the older brother was the dutiful son, yet he never received a party. Instead, his no-good brother received the fatted calf. It does not seem fair. The older brother, the Pharisees, and the rest of us who live by the rules may not like it, but God is exactly like the prodigal father. When it comes to mercy and compassion, God is very extravagant. When it comes to relationships, God spares no expense. God wants to be friends with everyone, even wayward sons and tax collectors as well as dutiful grown children and Pharisees.

Theology & Arts Performance-Lecture

On Saturday, April 6, from 9:30am to 1:30pm, the Cathedral of All Saints (located at 62 South Swan St.) Mission in the Arts hosts a performance-lecture with Rev. Dr. Jeremy Begbie, founding director of Duke Divinity School Initiatives in Theology and the Arts, "Lamenting and Hoping: How Music Can Mediate the Healing Power of the Gospel".

This event is made possible in part by The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, and The Center for Healing and Spiritual Formation at Christ the King, Greenwich, NY.

The illuminated St. John's Bible (The Prophets) will be on display in the Cathedral during this event courtesy of St. Peter's Health Partners. (<http://www.saintjohnsbible.org/>)

Tickets that include a bag lunch must be purchased by March 25 so we can make the necessary arrangements. Questions, call (518) 465-1342. To purchase tickets for this, please visit <https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/4075143>

Fourth 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 Ciavaroni, Director.

Lenten Reconciliation Service

On Tuesday, April 2nd, beginning at 6:00pm in the Cathedral, Bishop Scharfenberger and several other priest will offer a communal reconciliation service with the opportunity for individual confessions. Please take this blessed opportunity to refresh your soul with God's mercy.

SAVE THE DATE

COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE-April 2nd,2019 at 6:00 pm

CHRISM MASS- April 11th, 2019 at 7:00 p m

HOLY THURSDAY April 18th,Liturgy at 5:30 with Bishop Scharfenberger, Night Prayer at 10:00 pm

GOOD FRIDAY April 19th, stations of the Cross 3:00 pm

GOOD FRIDAY Liturgy 5:30 PM WITH BISHOP SCHARFENBERGER

BLESSING OF EASTER FOODS: APRIL 20TH AT 3:00 PM.

EASTER VIGIL APRIL 20TH at 8:00 pm Solemn Vigil of Easter and the Resurrection of the Lord with Bishop Scharfenberger.

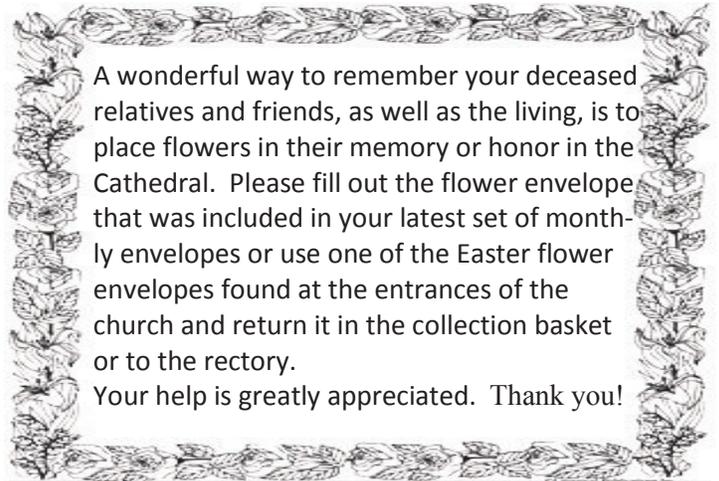
Hurting from an abortion? Experience the healing love of Jesus Christ on a **Rachel's Vineyard** weekend retreat, May 17-19, 2019 at the Carondelet Hospitality Center in Latham. The weekend will combine discussions, spiritual exercises, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a Memorial Service and a Mass of Entrustment. Participation is strictly confidential and offers a beautiful opportunity to experience God's love, forgiveness, and compassion. The cost is \$195. Some financial assistance is available. For more information or to register contact: Pat Mousaw, 518-222-1160, Kathy Kelly, 802-282-2028 or Denise Freeman, 607-353-0039 or e-mail: rachelvineyardalbany@yahoo.com. For a complete listing of retreat dates and locations contact: 1-877-HOPE-4 ME or visit the Rachel's Vineyard website: www.rachelvineyard.org.

Stewardship Treasure

The Collection for Sunday March 24th,2019 was \$4,160.25.

Thank you for all you have given to the Cathedral.

This week, we take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection to help **Jesus in disguise**. This collection helps six Catholic agencies provide relief and support to struggling communities and work for peace and reconciliation among our marginalized brothers and sisters here and around the world. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection. Learn more about the collection at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.



A wonderful way to remember your deceased relatives and friends, as well as the living, is to place flowers in their memory or honor in the Cathedral. Please fill out the flower envelope that was included in your latest set of monthly envelopes or use one of the Easter flower envelopes found at the entrances of the church and return it in the collection basket or to the rectory.

Your help is greatly appreciated. Thank you!

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 Conti, 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, Adam Ventura, Sebastian Vicencio, Richard Warner, Raphael Warner, Rosa Maria Santos

March 31,2019

Cathedral Liturgical Celebrations, Meetings and Mass Intentions for the week of March 30, 2019 – April 7, 2019

Saturday, March 30,

5:15PM Mass

Sunday, March 31,

9:00AM Mass

10:00AM Faith Formation

11:00AM Mass

Intention: Francis E. Scharfenberger

(Uncle of Bishop Scharfenberger)

Intention: John Francis Calabrese

5:00PM Mass

Monday, April 1,

12:15 PM Mass

Tuesday, April 2,

7:15 AM Mass

12:00 PM AA Meeting (Rectory)

Wednesday, April 3,

12:15 PM Mass

Thursday, April 4,

7:15AM Mass

Friday April 5,

12:15 PM Mass

Intention: Thomas John McGuinness Sr.

5:30 PM Stations of the Cross

Saturday, April 6

10:00 AM– Spring Cleaning

5:15PM Mass

Sunday, April 7,

9:00AM Mass

10:00AM Faith Formation

11:00AM Mass

Intention: Joseph and Ruth Petro

Intention: Anne Hannigan Fortune

Intention: Mary Ellen Stewart

5:00PM Mass

Clare Colamaria was with us this past week securing advertisers for our weekly bulletin. We would like to thank all the advertisers who have renewed their ads for the upcoming year and also thank all the new advertisers who have generously committed to the bulletin for this year. If you're interested in sponsoring an ad for your business or on behalf of your favorite charity/organization, there is still time. Please contact Clare at the phone number on the back of the bulletin.

As a reminder, we ask that all of our parishioners patronize these advertisers whenever possible. It is their generosity that provides the weekly bulletin at little or no cost to our parish. Please use the bulletin as a resource whenever you are in need of products or services. Let them know we truly appreciate their loyal support of our weekly bulletin.

RICE BOWL BOXES can be found on the tables near the doors of the Cathedral. Please take one home and return it on Palm Sunday. Visit crsricebowl.org for more information.

"Re-Igniting Our Faith Campaign" & Our Cathedral Parish

This weekend, we are hearing our parish's official kick-off remarks concerning the case we would like to make to benefit our Cathedral parish as we join with all other parishes in our diocese to re-ignite the gift of faith in our community. The overall purpose of this diocesan-wide campaign is to strengthen each of our parishes as we live life in Jesus and then share the truth of the gospel message with those around us. By this effort, we'll not only re-ignite the beauty of faith in one another, but we'll also grow that faith by being disciples of Jesus every day in our neighborhoods and in all our endeavors.

In the following few weeks' bulletins, look for some of the ways we will try to grow disciples in our neighborhoods, and thus spread the joy of the Gospel to a world which is hungering for Him! For more information on this diocesan-wide initiative, please visit re-ignitingourfaith.org.