

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

South End
93 Fourth Avenue, Albany

St. Francis of Assisi
391 Delaware Avenue, Albany

stfrancisalbany.org
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Dear Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ and through the intercession of His most holy Mother.

This summer, I had the immense privilege of serving as a volunteer at the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Lourdes in France. It was one of the most profound spiritual experiences of my life as a priest, and I want to share a little of it with you.

Lourdes is a place where heaven seems to touch the earth. Every day, thousands of pilgrims from every corner of the world arrive — the sick, the suffering, the searching — drawn by the same quiet hope: an encounter with Mary, the Mother of God. As a volunteer, I had the joy of accompanying many of those pilgrims: helping them make their way to the grotto where

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FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION VIGIL MASS

Bishop Mark O'Connell will celebrate a vigil Mass at the Cathedral for the Feast of the Assumption on Friday, August 14th, at 5:30 pm.

SECOND COLLECTION AUGUST 23RD

There will be a second collection on August 23rd for Catholic Home Missions Appeal whereby individual Catholics help support remote and rural parishes provide pastoral services such as the Mass and other sacraments, and religious education at all levels.

St. James Food Pantry (518) 414-1929
391 Delaware Ave., (rear) Mon. & Wed. 10:00 am—12:30 pm

St. John's/St. Anne's Center (518) 472-9091
88 Fourth Ave. Mon, Wed, Th: 10:00 am—12:00 pm
1:00 pm—3:00 pm
Welcome Table Tues. Th: 11:30 am—1:00 pm



Queridos Feligreses de San Francisco de Asís,

Gracia y paz a ustedes en el nombre de nuestro Señor Jesucristo y por intercesión de su Santísima Madre.

Este verano tuve el inmenso privilegio de servir como voluntario en el Santuario de Nuestra Señora de Lourdes, en Francia. Fue una de las experiencias espirituales más profundas de mi vida como sacerdote, y quiero compartir un poco de ella con ustedes.

Lourdes es un lugar donde el cielo parece tocar la tierra. Cada día, miles de peregrinos de todos los rincones del mundo llegan ahí — los enfermos, los sufrientes, los que buscan — atraídos por la misma esperanza silenciosa:

un encuentro con María, la Madre de Dios. Como voluntario, tuve la alegría de acompañar a muchos de esos peregrinos: ayudarlos a llegar a la gruta donde Nuestra Señora se apareció a Santa Bernadette en 1858, rezar con ellos en las procesiones de antorchas, y ser testigo de momentos de gracia que apenas pueden describirse con palabras. Lo que más me impactó no fue la grandeza del lugar, sino su sencillez. María siempre nos conduce a la sencillez — a la oración, al silencio, a la confianza en Dios.

Esta experiencia renovó en mí una convicción que quiero compartir con todos ustedes: la devoción mariana no es una devoción para unos pocos elegidos ni una reliquia de otra época. Es una parte viva y esencial de nuestra fe católica.

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NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—AUGUST 9, 2026

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Our Lady appeared to St. Bernadette in 1858, praying with them by the candlelight processions, and witnessing moments of grace that words can barely describe. What struck me most was not the grandeur of the place, but its simplicity. Mary always leads us to simplicity — to prayer, to silence, to trust in God.

This experience renewed in me a conviction I want to share with all of you: Marian devotion is not a devotion for a select few or a relic of another era. It is a living, essential part of our Catholic faith. Mary is not a detour on the way to Jesus — she is the surest path to Him. As St. Louis de Montfort wrote, to go to Jesus through Mary is to walk the same road He chose to come to us.

The Rosary, the Angelus, consecration to Mary, visits to her shrines — these are not mere pious traditions. They are powerful spiritual tools that countless saints, mystics, and ordinary faithful have used to deepen their relationship with Christ. When we pray the Rosary, we contemplate the life of Jesus alongside His Mother. When we entrust our lives to her, we place ourselves in the hands of the one who said yes to God without reservation.

I invite each of you to rediscover or deepen your devotion to Our Lady. Pray the Rosary as a family. Place a small image of Mary in your home. Ask her intercession in your struggles and sorrows. She is a mother who never turns away her children.

Our Lady of Lourdes, pray for us. Our Lady of Guadalupe, pray for us. Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us.

With affection in Christ and Mary,

Fr. Daniel Vallejo, Pastor

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María no es un desvío en el camino hacia Jesús — es el camino más seguro hacia Él. Como escribió San Luis María de Montfort, ir a Jesús por María es recorrer el mismo camino que Él eligió para venir a nosotros.

El Rosario, el Ángelus, la consagración a María, las visitas a sus santuarios — no son meras tradiciones piadosas. Son poderosas herramientas espirituales que innumerables santos, místicos y fieles ordinarios han utilizado para profundizar su relación con Cristo. Cuando rezamos el Rosario, contemplamos la vida de Jesús junto a su Madre. Cuando le confiamos nuestras vidas, nos ponemos en manos de aquella que dijo sí a Dios sin reservas.

Los invito a cada uno de ustedes a redescubrir o profundizar su devoción a Nuestra Señora. Recen el Rosario en familia. Coloquen una imagen de María en su hogar. Pídanle su intercesión en sus luchas y dolores. Ella es una madre que nunca abandona a sus hijos.

Nuestra Señora de Lourdes, ruega por nosotros. Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, ruega por nosotros. María, Madre de la Iglesia, ruega por nosotros.

Con afecto en Cristo y María,

P. Daniel Vallejo

CAR WASH FUNDRAISER

Thank you, Millie, for selling Hoffman Car Wash tickets! \$400 has been raised, many thanks to all those who have purchased tickets!

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI MASS AND CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Weekend Confession and Mass Schedule:

Saturday: Confession	3:15—3:50 pm	St. Francis (Del. Ave.)
Mass	4:00 pm	St. Francis (Del. Ave.)
Sunday: Mass	9:00 am	St. Francis (Del. Ave.)
Mass	10:30 am	St. Francis (Del. Ave.)
Mass	10:30 am	St. Francis (South)

COMUNIDAD HISPANA

391 DELAWARE AVE ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Santa Misa: Domingo 10:30 AM

Confesiones: Domingo 10:00 AM

Primer Domingo del mes: Bendición a todos los niños y jóvenes al final de la Santa Misa

- **Hora Santa:** Todos los primeros Sábados de cada mes a las 5:15pm.

Benefits of Formed!



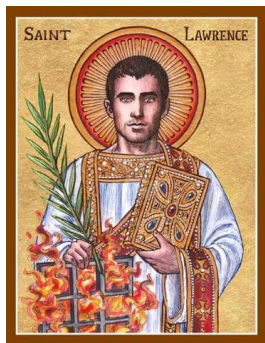
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7. Click “Sign up” and you are in!

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—AUGUST 9, 2026

ST. LAWRENCE, DEACON AND MARTYR



A martyr for Christ, St. Lawrence is the patron of deacons, chefs and firefighters. Around the time of his feast day, which is celebrated on August 10, the night sky is lit with bright lights related to the passing of a meteorite swarm left by a comet. For folk tradition these “falling stars” are tears St. Lawrence shed during his martyrdom.

Pope Sixtus II entrusted St. Lawrence with the care of the archdiocese. As the deacon responsible for charitable activities in the diocese of Rome, he administered goods and catered to the needs of orphans, widows, and the poor.

His journey was shaken in youth by the drama of persecution. In AD 258, Emperor Valerian issued an edict: all bishops, priests and deacons must be put to death. But he offered to spare Lawrence’s life, in exchange for his handing over of “the treasures of the Church.” Lawrence is said to have presented the emperor with the sick, the needy, and the marginalized. These, he said, are the treasures of the Church. Four days later, on August 10, Saint Lawrence would be martyred.

Saint Lawrence’s martyrdom is a supreme testament to love. Saint Leo the Great, in a homily, commented on the

condemnation of St. Lawrence, “The flames could not overcome the charity of Christ; and the fire burning him without was weaker than the one he had burning within him.” St. Leo adds, “The Lord has desired to exalt his glorious name in the world so much that from the East to the West, in the lively flaring of the light radiated by the greatest deacons, the same glory that came to Jerusalem from Stephen has also touched Rome thanks to Lawrence.”

— *Vatican News*

ZOOM TALK WITH THE SISTERS OF THE RESURRECTION

Aug. 10, 2026 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Discerning a vocation as a sister? Join a monthly Zoom call with Sister Teresa Grace Baillargeon of the Sisters of the Resurrections in Castleton.

Calls take place from 7 to 8 pm every second Monday of the month. Register and receive a Zoom invitation by emailing vocation@resurrectionsisters.org or call or text 812-618-8253.

SAVE THE DATE FOR PARISH PICNIC!!!

The Annual Parish Picnic of St. Francis of Assisi Parish and the Cathedral, including Historic St. Mary’s, will be held on Saturday, September 12th, 2026 at the Elm Avenue Town Park in Bethlehem between 11:30 and 3:00 PM.

We’ll have kid’s games, a 50/50 drawing, a kid’s raffle, raffle for door prizes, games for kids and adults, and great food, fun, and fellowship! Hamburgers, hot dogs, beverages and paper products will be provided by the Parishes. All we need is YOU and whatever tasty salads, side dishes, or desserts you decide to bring to share!

No sign-ups yet. Just go home and save this date on your calendar, or on your cell phone calendar, if you haven’t done so already for this great Parish Picnic!!!

We hope everyone decides to attend. We had great weather last year and a great time was had by all. Save the date!!!!



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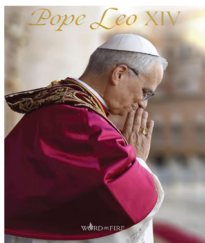
Sunday Mass Intentions
As of July 28, 2026

Saint Francis (Delaware)		Requested by:
Sat, August 8 4:00 PM	Pro Populo	
Sun, August 9 9:00 AM	† Jose Palaguachi	Tina Palaguachi
	† Jose Andy Palaguachi	Tina Palaguachi
Sun, August 9 10:30 AM	Pro Populo	
Sat, August 15 4:00 PM	† Mary Dolan	Heather & Mary Barrett
Sun, August 16 9:00 AM	Pro Populo	
Sun, August 16 10:30 AM	Pro Populo	
Saint Francis (South End)		Requested by:
Sun, August 9 10:30 AM	† Helen & William Shanno William Shanno, Jr.	Family
Sun, August 16 10:30 AM	† Janet Keller	Joe Keller & Family

Join Hallow today!

We have a network-wide subscription, so enjoy all the benefits of Hallow including joining with our entire community!

Helps set and maintain a prayer routine and includes audio Bible stories, prayers, meditations, Lectio Divina, Christian music and so much more!



BE A PRAYER PARTNER
WITH POPE LEO

For evangelization in the city

Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

“When the disciples were terrified, Jesus immediately responded to them: ‘Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid.’ Jesus is interested always in trying to lighten our fears.” (*Vincentian Reflections, Third Quarter, 2026*) As followers of Christ, we too can help lighten the fears of those around us. When we all work together, we are able to help bring God’s aid and hope to those in need.

When we all work together, we are able to help bring God’s aid and hope to those in need.

Please help those in need through almsgiving. Either place your gift in one of the poor boxes near the church entrance, or place a check made out to “The St. Vincent de Paul Society” in the collection basket.

You can also help by joining us.

Call the Cathedral at 518-463-4447 for more information.

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH

Clergy

Father Daniel Vallejo, Pastor
VallejoD@rcda.org

Assisting Clergy

Rev. Emmanuel Udoh
udohe@rcda.org
Rev. Jacek Orzechowski, OFM

Parish Operations Manager

Mrs. Barbara Koerner-Fox
Barbara.Koernerfox@rcda.org

Liturgy

Mr. Patrick Buonacore, Liturgical Coordinator & Sacristan
Patrick.Buonacore@rcda.org

Music

Ms. Kristen Witham

Buildings & Grounds

Mr. Kurt Schlachter, Facilities Manager
Cathedralfacilities@rcda.org

**ST. FRANCIS IS CURRENTLY BEING SERVED BY
THE ALBANY PARISHES OFFICE**

Mailing Address:

125 Eagle St.
Albany, NY 12202

Phone Number:

(518) 463-4447

Office Hours: M–F: 9:00 am–4:00 pm (Closed for national holidays and as noted in the bulletin)

Email:

Cathedral: *CICAlban@rcda.org*

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 9, 2026

- Sunday:** 1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Rom 9:1-5/Mt 14:22-33
- Monday:** 2 Cor 9:6-10/Ps 112:1-2, 5-6, 7-8, 9/Jn 12:24-26
- Tuesday:** Ez 2:8-3:4/Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131/Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14
- Wednesday:** Ez 9:1-7; 10:18-22/Ps 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 18:15-20
- Thursday:** Ez 12:1-12/Ps 78:56-57, 58-59, 61-62/Mt 18:21-19:1
- Friday:** Ez 16:1-15, 60, 63 or 16:59-63/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6/Mt 19:3-12
- Saturday:** Vigil: 1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2/Ps 132:6-7, 9-10, 13-14/1 Cor 15:54b-57/Lk 11:27-28 Day: Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Ps 45:10, 11, 12, 16/1 Cor 15:20-27/Lk 1:39-56
- Next Sunday:** Is 56:1, 6-7/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8/Rom 11:13-15, 29-32/Mt 15:21-28

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