

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—AUGUST 16, 2026

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

South End
93 Fourth Avenue, Albany

St. Francis of Assisi
391 Delaware Avenue, Albany

stfrancisalbany.org
www.facebook.com/SaintFrancisAlbany

THE LOVE THAT UNITES US STRENGTHENS US

Dear brothers and sisters of St. Francis,

There's a question I like to ask myself each week as I prepare this column: what truly makes us a community of faith? The answer, again and again, leads me to the same place: love. St. Paul says it with a clarity that cuts through the centuries:

"If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal" (1 Corinthians 13:1).

We can have the best programs, the most solemn Masses, the best-organized ministries — but without love among us, all of it rings hollow.

Jesus himself left us a new commandment, not a suggestion:

"Love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:34-35).

Notice this carefully: the world will not recognize that we belong to Christ by our buildings or our speeches, but by how we treat one another.

In the first Christian community in Jerusalem, we read that the believers:

"Devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers... And all who believed were together and

continued on p. 3

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.



EL AMOR QUE NOS UNE, NOS FORTALECE

Queridos hermanos y hermanas de St. Francis:

Hay una pregunta que me gusta hacerme cada semana al preparar esta columna: ¿qué nos hace ser verdaderamente una comunidad de fe? La respuesta, una y otra vez, me lleva al mismo lugar: el amor.

San Pablo lo dice con una claridad que atraviesa los siglos:

"Si hablara todas las lenguas de los hombres y de los ángeles, pero no tengo amor, no soy más que un metal que resuena o un platillo que hace ruido" (1 Corintios 13:1).

Podemos tener los mejores programas, las misas más solemnes, los ministerios mejor organizados, pero sin amor entre nosotros, todo se queda vacío.

Jesús mismo nos dejó un mandamiento nuevo, no una sugerencia:

"Ámense los unos a los otros. Así como yo los he amado, ámense también ustedes los unos a los otros. En esto conocerán todos que ustedes son mis discípulos, si se aman los unos a los otros" (Juan 13:34-35).

Fíjense bien: el mundo no reconocerá que somos de Cristo por nuestros edificios ni por nuestros discursos, sino por cómo nos tratamos entre nosotros.

En la primera comunidad cristiana en Jerusalén, leemos que los creyentes:

"Perseveraban en la enseñanza de los apóstoles, en la comunión, en el partimiento del pan y en las oraciones... Todos los que habían creído estaban juntos y tenían todo en común" (Hechos 2:42-44).

Esa unidad no nació de la casualidad; nació del amor puesto en práctica, del compartir, del cuidarse mutuamente.

continuó en la página 2

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

INSIDE THE BULLETIN:

Let's Evangelize the World p. 2

Take it Easy — New Way to Send in Offerings! p. 3

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—AUGUST 16, 2026

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!!!!



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.

continuación de la p. 1

San Pablo usa una imagen hermosa para describirnos: somos un cuerpo.

“Todo el cuerpo, bien ajustado y unido por la cohesión que proviene de cada coyuntura, según la actividad propia de cada miembro, produce el crecimiento del cuerpo, para ir edificándose en amor” (Efesios 4:16).

Ninguno de nosotros sobra. Cada uno tiene un lugar, un don, una función. Cuando nos amamos y trabajamos unidos, la parroquia crece; cuando nos dividimos o nos ignoramos, todos nos debilitamos.

Y sobre todas las cosas, dice San Pablo a los colosenses:

“Revístanse de amor, que es el vínculo perfecto” (Colosenses 3:14).

El amor no es un adorno de la vida cristiana: es el vínculo que sostiene todo lo demás.

Hermanos, si de verdad queremos ser una comunidad fuerte y efectiva en la evangelización, el camino no empieza en programas nuevos ni en estrategias complicadas. Empieza en cómo nos saludamos el domingo, en cómo recibimos al que es nuevo, en cómo perdonamos al que nos hirió, en cómo servimos sin buscar reconocimiento. San Pedro nos lo recuerda:

“Sobre todo, tengan entre ustedes un ferviente amor, porque el amor cubre multitud de pecados” (1 Pedro 4:8).

Jesús oró antes de morir:

“Que todos sean uno... para que el mundo crea” (Juan 17:21).

Nuestra unidad, nacida del amor, es en sí misma un anuncio del Evangelio. No necesitamos ser perfectos; necesitamos amarnos de verdad.

Los invito esta semana a un examen sencillo: ¿cómo estoy amando a mi hermano y hermana de banca? Cuando cada uno de nosotros suma su amor, su tiempo y sus dones, St. Francis se vuelve más fuerte, y juntos llevamos a Cristo a quienes todavía no lo conocen.

Con cariño y bendición,
P. Daniel V.

LET'S HELP EVANGELIZE THE WORLD!

Pope Leo XIV has called us to be a church of missionaries. And there is no better way to do that than supporting the missionary who will be coming to your parish.

It makes a tremendous difference in the communities and the good work we support.

Last year, through the Mission Cooperative Program, our Diocese raised \$258,793.28.

Thank you for your generosity and let's continue to support the great work of the Church around the world!

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—AUGUST 16, 2026

continued from p. 1

had all things in common” (Acts 2:42-44).

That unity wasn't an accident — it was born from love put into action, from sharing, from caring for one another.

St. Paul offers us a beautiful image: we are one body.

“The whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love” (Ephesians 4:16).

None of us is extra. Each of us has a place, a gift, a role. When we love one another and work together, the parish grows; when we divide or ignore one another, we all grow weaker.

Above all, St. Paul tells the Colossians:

“Put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony” (Colossians 3:14).

Love isn't a decoration of Christian life — it's the bond that holds everything else together.

Brothers and sisters, if we truly want to be a strong community, effective in evangelizing our brothers and sisters, the path doesn't begin with new programs or complicated strategies. It begins in how we greet one another on Sunday, how we welcome the newcomer, how we forgive the one who hurt us, how we serve without seeking recognition. St. Peter reminds us:

“Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins” (1 Peter 4:8).

Jesus prayed before he died:

“That they may all be one... so that the world may believe” (John 17:21).

Our unity, born of love, is itself a proclamation of the Gospel. We don't need to be perfect; we need to truly love one another.

I invite you this week to a simple examination: how am I loving my brother or sister in the pew next to me? When each of us contributes our love, our time, and our gifts, St. Francis grows stronger, and together we bring Christ to those who don't yet know him.

With affection and blessing,

Fr. Daniel V.

THIS WEEKEND, WE CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY INTO HEAVEN



Automate your church giving!

Never again worry where your envelopes might be... where your checkbook is... whether you remembered to donate this week!



With a single sign-up, your contributions to the church will happen automatically and leave you free and relaxed.

Use the QR code or the url below to sign up for secure, consistent, and direct church donations.

StFrancisofAssisialbany.flocknote.com/give

In addition to automated payments, you can also sign up for the latest updates, event reminders, and parish news delivered straight to your phone or inbox!

<https://StFrancisofAssisialbany.flocknote.com>



Benefits of Formed!

Formed is an app which provides users access to a wide range of Catholic video-based study programs, movies, documentaries, audio talks, and audio books. Deepen your understanding, strengthen your faith, and share your Catholic beliefs. Join through our parish network subscription for improved access!

How to join:

1. Go to formed.org
2. Click on “Find Your Parish Subscription”
3. Enter your email address and click “Next”
4. On the sign in page, enter the code they will send to your email
5. Click “Next”
6. Enter your parish's zip code and click on your parish name
7. Click “Sign up” and you are in!

Sunday Mass Intentions

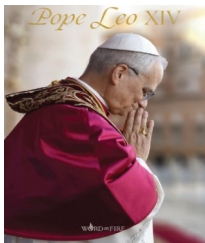
As of August 11 2026

Saint Francis (Delaware)		Requested by:
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	
Sat, August 22 4:00 PM	The Family of Tom & Carolyn Burns	Fr. Rendell Torres
Sun, August 23 9:00 AM	Pro Populo	
Sun, August 23 10:30 AM	Pro Populo	
Saint Francis (South End)		Requested by:
Sun, August 16 10:30 AM	† Janet Keller	Joe Keller & Family
Sun, August 23 10:30 AM	Pro Populo	

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

"The hungry he has given every good thing, while the rich he has sent empty away..." ("The Magnificat") As did His mother, Mary, whom we honor this weekend, we His disciples help Him "give every good thing" to the poor. 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 16, 2026

Sunday:	Is 56:1, 6-7/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8/ Rom 11:13-15, 29-32/Mt 15:21-28
Monday:	Ez 24:15-23/Dt 32:18-19, 20, 21/Mt 19:16-22
Tuesday:	Ez 28:1-10/Dt 32:26-27ab, 27cd-28, 30, 35cd-36ab/Mt 19:23-30
Wednesday:	Ez 34:1-11/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Mt 20:1-16
Thursday:	Ez 36:23-28/Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19/ Mt 22:1-14
Friday:	Ez 37:1-14/Ps 107:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 22:34-40
Saturday:	Ez 43:1-7ab/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/ Mt 23:1-12
Next Sunday:	Is 22:19-23/Ps 138:1-2a, 2b-3, 6 and 8/ Rom 11:33-36/Mt 16:13-20

DANIEL KEENAN
Funeral Home
 490 Delaware Ave., Albany, NY 12209
 (518) 463-1594
www.danielkeenanfuneralhome.com
Serving the parish families since 1955!

Since 1906
J D W
 Plumbing, Heating, Cooling
JAMES D. WARREN & SON, INC.
 Heating • Plumbing
 Air Conditioning • Refrigeration
 ALBANY
 518-434-6138 • 24 Hour Service

WE APPRECIATE OUR ADVERTISERS!

MOORE FIRE EQUIPMENT
 Sales & Service
 Professional Recharging & Service At Your Location
Randy Moore - President
 462 Orange Street • Albany
 518-438-1927

ADT-Monitored Home Security
 Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Fire Safety
- Flood Detection
- Carbon Monoxide

Authorized Provider | SafeStreets | 833-287-3502



DUCK DONUTS
Our Donuts — ARE — HOLEY!
 Order Online at duckdonuts.com | Open 7 days from 8am - 6pm
 VISIT US! Latham Farms near Dick's Sporting Goods

Place Your Ad Here and Support our Parish!
 Instantly create and purchase an ad with
AD CREATOR STUDIO

4lpi.com/adcreator

SUPPORT OUR PARISH

DUCK DONUTS **2 FREE DONUTS**
 WARM, DELICIOUS & MADE TO ORDER
 TO REWARD YOURSELF JUST BECAUSE YOU ATTENDED THIS SERVICE TODAY
 1 Coupon per family please.

DOES YOUR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION NEED A NEWSLETTER?

Engaging, ad-supported print and digital newsletters to reach your community.

Scan to contact us!

OUR COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER
 OCTOBER EDITION

 COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHT
 SECTION HEADINGS
 Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco laboris nisi ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Duis aute irure dolor in reprehenderit in voluptate velit esse cillum dolore eu fugiat nulla pariatur. Excepteur sint occaecat cupidatat non proident, sunt in culpa qui officia deserunt mollit anim id est laborum. Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco laboris nisi ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Duis aute irure dolor in reprehenderit in voluptate velit esse cillum dolore eu fugiat nulla pariatur. Excepteur sint occaecat cupidatat non proident, sunt in culpa qui officia deserunt mollit anim id est laborum. Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco laboris nisi ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Duis aute irure dolor in reprehenderit in voluptate velit esse cillum dolore eu fugiat nulla pariatur. Excepteur sint occaecat cupidatat non proident, sunt in culpa qui officia deserunt mollit anim id est laborum.

Visit lpicomunities.com

catholicmatch®
 New York

CatholicMatch.com/NY

LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS
 Place Your Ad Here and Support Our Parish!

CONTACT ME
Victoria Russo

vrusso@4LPi.com
 (800) 477-4574 x6283