

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

South End
93 Fourth Avenue, Albany

St. Francis of Assisi
391 Delaware Avenue, Albany

stfrancisalbany.org
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LOVE IN ACTION

Dear Parish Family,

As we begin a new week together, Tuesday's Gospel sets before us one of Jesus' sharpest warnings. Speaking to the scribes and Pharisees, he says: *"You pay tithes of mint and dill and cumin, and have neglected the weightier things of the law: judgment and mercy and fidelity. But these you should have done, without neglecting the others."* — Matthew 23:23

It is easy for any of us to grow careful about the "mint and dill" of our religious life — showing up on time, saying the right prayers, keeping the rules — while quietly neglecting the weightier matter underneath it all: mercy toward the people around us. Jesus is not dismissing devotion or discipline; both matter. He is reminding us that none of it means anything if it does not translate into how we actually treat one another. A faith that stays only on the surface, however careful and correct, is not yet love.

continued on p. 3

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BISHOP O'CONNELL TO CELEBRATE THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS ORDINATION AS BISHOP

Monday, August 24th, 2026, marks the 10th anniversary of Bishop Mark's ordination as auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Boston. He will celebrate Mass at the Cathedral at 7 pm on that day, and invites us to join him.

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



AMOR EN ACCIÓN

Querida familia parroquial:

Al comenzar una nueva semana juntos, el Evangelio del martes nos presenta una de las advertencias más agudas de Jesús. Hablando a los escribas y fariseos, dice: *"Pagáis el diezmo de la menta, del eneldo y del comino, y descuidáis lo más importante de la ley: la justicia, la misericordia y la fidelidad. Esto es lo que había que practicar, sin descuidar lo otro."* — Mateo 23, 23

A cualquiera de nosotros nos resulta fácil ser cuidadosos con "la menta y el eneldo" de nuestra vida religiosa —llegar puntuales, rezar las oraciones correctas, cumplir las normas— mientras descuidamos en silencio lo más importante que hay debajo de todo eso: la misericordia hacia quienes nos rodean. Jesús no está descartando la devoción ni la disciplina; ambas importan. Nos está recordando que nada de eso significa algo si no se traduce en cómo tratamos realmente al prójimo. Una fe que se queda solo en la superficie, por cuidadosa y correcta que sea, todavía no es amor.

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FR. EMMANUEL UDOH TO BECOME SACRAMENTAL MINISTER AT COBLESKILL

On September 9th, Fr. Emmanuel will take up his new duties at St. Vincent De Paul Church, Cobleskill, and St. Joseph's Church, Worcester. We thank him for his dedication and kindness, and will pray for his success in his new positions.

INSIDE THE BULLETIN:

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TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—AUGUST 23, 2026



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SIGN UP FOR OUR PARISH PICNIC

The Annual Parish Picnic will be held on Saturday, September 12th at the Elm Ave. Park in the Town of Bethlehem from 11:30 'til 3:30.

We'll have games, a 50/50 drawing, raffles, 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!

Sign-up sheets are at the entrances of the Churches. Just put your name, how many will be attending, and what dish or dessert you will bring to share. We hope everyone decides to attend. Please remember to sign up. Thank you.



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.

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El patrono de nuestra parroquia comprendió bien este peligro. A San Francisco de Asís se le recuerda por una frase que ha guiado a generaciones de creyentes: *“Predica el Evangelio en todo momento. Si es necesario, usa palabras.”* — atribuida a San Francisco de Asís

Francisco sabía que el Evangelio se proclama menos por lo que decimos sobre Dios y más por cómo tratamos a la persona que tenemos delante: el vecino que pone a prueba nuestra paciencia, el extraño que llega por primera vez, el familiar al que hemos estado evitando por demasiado tiempo. La misericordia, más que cualquier homilía, es el sermón que no necesita púlpito.

Esta semana los invito a sostener juntas estas dos voces: la advertencia de Jesús contra la observancia vacía, y el llamado de Francisco a predicar con obras y no solo con palabras. Pregúntense sencillamente: ¿dónde en mi vida esta semana hay espacio para ser más misericordioso, y un poco menos preocupado por tener siempre la razón? Un compañero de trabajo que pone a prueba su paciencia, un familiar al que hay que perdonar, un vecino que necesita que lo escuchen, alguien al margen de nuestra comunidad que está esperando sentirse bienvenido: estas son las “cosas más importantes” que Jesús nos pide no descuidar.

Quiero también renovar mi invitación a permanecer cerca de nuestra familia parroquial en los días que vienen. Ya sea que oren con nosotros en Delaware Avenue o en el South End, su presencia en la Misa, en nuestros ministerios, en la adoración y en nuestras actividades es en sí misma una forma silenciosa de misericordia: misericordia hacia una comunidad que se fortalece cada vez que ustedes se presentan. Si ha pasado tiempo desde la última vez que nos acompañaron, sepan que aquí hay un lugar esperándolos, sin necesidad de explicación alguna. Y si ya nos acompañan semana tras semana, gracias — les pido que traigan a alguien más con ustedes.

Que el Evangelio de esta semana eche raíces en su corazón y dé fruto en actos concretos de misericordia hacia todos los que Dios ponga en su camino. Sepan de mi oración constante por ustedes y sus familias.

Les deseo una semana bendecida,

P. Daniel Vallejo

Párroco, Parroquia San Francisco de Asís

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Our parish's patron understood this danger well. Saint Francis of Assisi is remembered for a saying that has guided generations of believers ever since: *"Preach the Gospel at all times. When necessary, use words."* — attributed to St. Francis of Assisi

Francis knew that the Gospel is proclaimed less by what we say about God than by how we treat the person standing in front of us — the neighbor who tests our patience, the stranger who is new among us, the family member we have been avoiding for too long. Mercy, more than any homily, is the sermon that needs no pulpit.

This week, I invite you to hold these two voices together: Jesus' warning against hollow observance, and Francis' call to preach through action rather than words alone. Ask yourself simply — where in my life this week is there room to be more merciful, and a little less concerned with merely being correct? A coworker who tests your patience, a relative who needs to be forgiven, a neighbor who could use a listening ear, someone at the edge of our community who is waiting to feel

welcome: these are the "weightier matters" Jesus is asking none of us to neglect.

I also want to renew my invitation to stay close to our parish family in the days ahead. Whether you worship with us at Delaware Avenue or in the South End, your presence at Mass, in our ministries, in adoration, and at parish gatherings is itself a quiet form of mercy — mercy toward a community that becomes stronger every time you show up for it. If it has been a while since you last joined us, please know there is a place waiting for you, no explanation required. And if you are already here week after week, thank you — I ask you to bring someone else along with you.

May this week's Gospel take root in your heart and bear fruit in real acts of mercy toward everyone God places in your path. Please know of my continued prayers for you and your families.

Wishing you a blessed week,

Fr. Daniel Vallejo

Pastor, St. Francis of Assisi Parish

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!

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<https://StFrancisofAssisibany.flocknote.com>

Sunday Mass Intentions

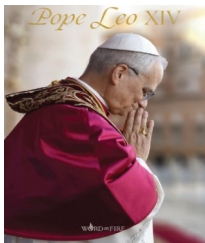
As of August 18, 2026

Saint Francis (Delaware)		Requested by:
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	
Sat, August 29 4:00 PM	† Gloria Johnson, † Francis R. Johnson † Francis J. Johnson	Gloria Moak
Sun, August 30 9:00 AM	Pro Populo	
Sun, August 30 10:30 AM	Pro Populo	
Saint Francis (South End)		Requested by:
Sun, August 23 10:30 AM	Pro Populo	
Sun, August 30 10:30 AM	† Lucy & Paul Tudico	Daughters

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. 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

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

“Ceferino Malla was beatified in 1997, and is a wonderful example for all Vincentians... He exemplifies charity to the poor and devotion to the Blessed Mother.” (*Vincentian Reflections, 3rd Quarter*) We can follow this example of holiness by helping 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.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 23, 2026

Sunday:	Is 22:19-23/Ps 138:1-2a, 2b-3, 6 and 8/ Rom 11:33-36/Mt 16:13-20
Monday:	Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18/ Jn 1:45-51
Tuesday:	2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13/ Mt 23:23-26
Wednesday:	2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18/Ps 128:1-2, 4-5/Mt 23:27-32
Thursday:	1 Cor 1:1-9/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mt 24:42-51
Friday:	1 Cor 1:17-25/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11/Mt 25:1-13
Saturday:	1 Cor 1:26-31/Ps 33:12-13, 18-19, 20-21/ Mk 6:17-29
Next Sunday:	Jer 20:7-9/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Rom 12:1-2/ Mt 16:21-27

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