



**The Parish of Saint Francis of Assisi**

**The Cathedral Church of the Immaculate Conception**

*Welcome! Bienvenido! Mabuhay!*

*From wherever you have traveled or have been led on your spiritual journey, we, the Catholic communities of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception and Saint Francis of Assisi, welcome you to our parishes.*

*We are located on the land of the Mohawk People of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy and the Mohican People who were the first stewards of the land upon which our Churches were built in what we now call the City of Albany.*

*We invite you to make yourself at home in one of our parish communities and consider joining our Christian way of life, worship and service in Jesus Christ.*

*Welcome College Students!*

**Central Offices & Mailing Address:**

125 Eagle Street Albany, New York 12202

Offices Hours: Monday thru Thursday, 9:00am—3:00pm

Office Phone: 518.463.4447

**The Cathedral Saint Francis of Assisi**

125 Eagle Street, Albany, NY 12202

*Delaware Site:* 391 Delaware Avenue, Albany, NY 12209

*South End Site:* 88 Fourth Avenue, Albany, NY 12202



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## The Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time—11 August 2024

### A Shared Bulletin

Beginning today, the parishes of Saint Francis and Cathedral will share a bulletin as part of our efforts to centralize staff and resources.



### A HOLYDAY

#### *The Assumption of the Virgin Mary*

Thursday, 15 August 2024

#### Mass Schedule

12:00pm—Saint Francis

12:05pm—Saint Mary

12:15pm—Cathedral

The Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary was already being celebrated on 15 August in the 5th century. It was not until 1 November 1950, that Pope Pius XII proclaimed as dogma Mary's assumption body and soul into heaven. In the Apostles' Creed, we profess our faith in the "resurrection of the body" and in "life everlasting". This is the ultimate goal and meaning of our life's journey. This promise of faith is already accomplished in Mary, who is the "sign of sure hope and comfort" (Preface).

It is interesting to note that the liturgy – through the biblical texts taken from the Book of Revelation and the Gospel according to Luke (the Canticle of the Magnificat) – helps us to pray. The Gospel suggests that Mary's mystery be read in the light of her prayer, the Magnificat, that is, through the lens of gratuitous love that extends from generation to generation, and the predilection of the least and the poor. The Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, body and soul, is an eloquent sign of how not only the "soul" but also the "body" is included in the biblical observation that "God found it very good" (Gn 1:31), so much so that in the Virgin Mary, "our flesh" would be assumed into heaven. This does not exempt us from committing ourselves to life here on earth. We are driven to commit ourselves during our present life to reflect the Magnificat, to be attentive to all our brothers and sisters beginning with the weakest and most vulnerable.

### Charismatic Mass & Healing Service

Christ the Light Roman Catholic Church  
1 Maria Drive, Loudonville

**Wednesday, 14 August 2024**

7:00pm Prayer & Praise

7:30pm Eucharist & Healing Service

For more info: [www.AlbanyCCR.org](http://www.AlbanyCCR.org)

### John 6

#### *The Bread of Life Discourse—Introduction*

Chapter 6 of John is called the "Bread of Life Discourse". It encompasses the story of the multiplication of fishes and loaves, walking on the water, the teaching of Jesus as 'bread of life' and the response of various people to the shocking and difficult teaching of Jesus. Over the next five Sunday we will hear the entire chapter, excluding the walking on the water scene. It is a period to reflect on the Holy Eucharist in which we are offered by Jesus his very self in Word and Holy Communion.

Like the conversation with the Samaritan woman at the well moved from bodily thirst to spiritual thirst likewise, chapter 6 moves from the issue of bodily hunger to spiritual hunger and eternal life.

Important spiritual questions rise up throughout the chapter. In the face of human hunger we continue to ask, "*Where can we buy enough food for so many to eat?*" Where indeed? Hunger is an ever constant, even in our wealthy society. 35 million people go hungry every day in the USA. We can often feel overwhelmed by human need and ask of our meagre resources, "*There is a boy here who has five loaves and two fish; but what good are these for so many?*" We can descend into inaction because we often see situations from a limited viewpoint. Do we ever pray for imagination and the ability to see new possibilities? Have we forgotten how to dream? Like the woman at the well, Nicodemus who comes to Jesus in the night, and the hungry crowds, our sight can be limited and Jesus' teachings can overwhelm us.

In such a situation, what we are expecting from Jesus? The crowds will ask "*What sign can you do, that we may see and believe you?*" Does Jesus have to prove himself to us before we believe in him? What is the role of trust and faith in our relationship with Jesus?

What does Jesus mean when he teaches he is *the bread that came down from heaven*? What does it mean to eat the flesh and drink the blood of Jesus? These questions still confound and divide Christians. Jesus asks us, "*Does this [teaching] shock you?*" People have asked incredulously, "*How can this man give us his flesh to eat?*" Have you ever asked that question?

Many today, as then, have left following Jesus. His teachings can be very hard to understand and accept. Thus a pointed question of faith to each of us, "*Do you want to leave?*" Peter answers for many of us, "*Master, to whom shall we go?*"

During this month contemplate the questions posed by the Gospels. Read and mediate on the passages prior to Sunday worship. The schedule for the passages is as follows:



28 July John 6:1—15

4 August John 6:24—35

11 August John 6:41—52

18 August John 6:51—58

25 August John 6:60—69

*The Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time—11 August 2024*

**GOINGS ON AT SAINT FRANCIS**



**STAFF CHANGES/TRANSITION**

On behalf of the St. Francis of Assisi community, we are deeply grateful to **Lisa Bonomo** for her significant contributions and many years of service to the people of this parish and diocese. Lisa's career spans not only the last decade here at St. Francis but many years at Blessed Sacrament and the Cathedral as well. Lisa's last working day was on Wednesday, July 31<sup>st</sup>. Please join us in expressing our appreciation and wishing her the best in the future.

As we transition into a centralized staff, processes may change temporarily and there will be hiccups. We ask for your patience as this process unfolds and we will do our best to minimize any negative effects on the parish and communicate more openly and in advance.

**For Mass Intentions**, please email [SFAAlbany@rcda.org](mailto:SFAAlbany@rcda.org), using the subject line: **MASS INTENTION**. This inbox will be checked for Mass Intentions **once a week** on Mondays. Please follow the current schedule in anticipation of publication deadlines for the bulletin.

**For General Inquiries**, please email [SFAAlbany@rcda.org](mailto:SFAAlbany@rcda.org). Please specify your request in the subject line. This will help us sort and prioritize the incoming messages appropriately and in a timely manner.

As we move to one bulletin, deadlines for content to be published will remain the same. Please submit ALL bulletin entries with the subject line **BULLETIN ENTRY** to Father David at [David.Mickiewicz@rcda.org](mailto:David.Mickiewicz@rcda.org). He will be fielding those requests during the interim period.

The "Parish Secretary" email address will become defunct and will **not** be checked on a regular basis. Please remove it from your contact list and replace it with [SFAAlbany@rcda.org](mailto:SFAAlbany@rcda.org).

**By telephone**, please call 518.463.4447.

Thank you for your cooperation and patience.

**Jasper Stoller**

Pastoral Director of Operations



Coffee & Conversation Group

Saturday, 10 August 2024—2:30pm

EMACK and BOLIOS

366 Delaware Avenue

Grab your favorite ice cream or coffee and join the group for fellowship and conversation. Rain location: rectory basement.

This meeting's purchases will be your cost.

**St. Francis Financial Report**  
*For August 4, 2024*

|   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| Regular Offertory (inc. PayPal)                                     | \$3,382          |
| Maintenance & Utilities   | \$0              |
| Food Pantry   | \$400            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>\$3,782</b>   |
| Average Weekly Need   | \$10,500         |
| <b>SHORTFALL</b>  | <b>(\$6,718)</b> |
| <i>The average weekly need is based on Total Expenses (2023-24)</i> |                  |



**DIOCESAN MARRIAGE JUBILEE**

The *52nd Annual Diocesan Marriage Jubilee Celebration* will be held on **Sunday, September 29th, 2024, at 3:00 pm** at **Christ Our Light Catholic Church, 1 Maria Drive, in Loudonville.**

Couples celebrating their 25th, 40th, 50th or other special wedding anniversaries are invited to attend this celebration. Bishop Edward B. Scharfenberger will preside at the Eucharist and greet couples and their guests at a reception in the Parish Hall at Christ Our Light immediately following Mass.

*\*Please register* through your parish office or by email to [Marriage.Jubilee@rcda.org](mailto:Marriage.Jubilee@rcda.org).

**GOINGS ON AT THE CATHEDRAL**

**Cathedral Financial Report**  
*For August 4, 2024*

|   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| Regular Offertory   | \$2,527          |
| Maintenance & Utilities   | \$183            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>\$2,710</b>   |
| Average Weekly Need   | \$8,200          |
| <b>SHORTFALL</b>  | <b>(\$5,490)</b> |
| <i>The average weekly need is based on Total Expenses (2023-24)</i> |                  |

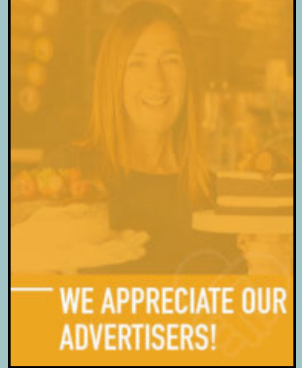


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