

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 Email: CICAlban@rcda.org SFAAlbany@rcda.org

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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A Shared Bulletin Beginning last Sunday, the parishes of Saint Francis and Cathedral will share a bulletin as part of our efforts to centralize staff and resources.

John The Bread of Life Discourse—Part 2

Christians have called the action by various title: Liturgy from the Greek meaning "work of the people," Qurbono from the Arabic meaning "offering," Eucharist from the Greek meaning "thanksgiving," Mass from the Latin meaning "dismissal," and Synaxis from the Greek meaning "assembly".

It is not that the Christian community does not know what this action is around the tables of Word and Sacrament but rather that there are multiple levels of meaning and no one word or understanding encompasses all that Jesus left us. *The Eucharist is a gathering, an assembly of the people of God under the presidency of a priest to do the work of God's people which is to offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving.* The one offering that is acceptable to God . This one offering includes the Passion, Death, Descent into the Realm of the Dead, Resurrection, Ascension, Descent of the Spirit and the Second Coming. We call this the **Paschal Mystery**. Paschal mean "*Passover*". The whole Christ made present in people and priest, head and body offer the Father through the Spirit the one sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross. Jesus is the spotless Lamb of sacrifice as was required by Jewish Law for Passover.

The Holy Eucharist is therefore not a remembrance of what Jesus did the night before he died but the presence and reality of that Passover Seder in which he changed the words of the Jewish ritual and thus gave an ever deeper meaning to the Passover Seder which become the heart of the Christian Eucharist. Freedom from slavery became freedom from the slavery of sin and death.

The Passover of God in Christ is made present to us. Time and space are broken; past, present and future come together at the same time.

In the Eucharist we offer in thanksgiving bread and wine. Gifts which God has provided for us. During the Eucharistic Prayer prayed by the priest in the name of the community and in the person of Christ, the Holy Spirit receives our gifts but transforms them into the acceptable gift to the Father, the Body and Blood, humanity and divinity of the Son which is offered to the Father by Christ in the Spirit. As the Body of Christ we all participate in this offering action...*the work of the people.*

You will notice in last weeks passage at the feeding of the thousands, Jesus takes the loaves, gives thanks and distributes them to the crowds.

Consider...Jesus takes...we take and present bread and wine at the part of the Eucharist called The Preparation of the Altar and Gifts. Jesus givers thanks...with the priest we give thanks in the lengthy prayer called the Eucharistic [Thanksgiving] Prayer. Jesus distributes the loaves and fishes...The Eucharist culminates in the reception of Holy Communion. Consider that every meal in the Gospel is about the Eucharist and offers us a deeper understanding in what Jesus every Sunday does for his people.

John

The Bread of Life Discourse—Part 3

The Holy Eucharist consists of two major parts or tables: the table of the WORD and the table of the EUCHARIST. Both have their roots in Judaism. The Table of the Word is based in the in the synagogue service in which passages from the Law, the Prophets and the Writings are read on the Sabbath and weekdays. We see Jesus in Luke's Gospel read from the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. The Table of the Eucharist is the Passover Seder. Pope Pius XII reminded us that we a spiritually Jews while Pope John XXIII called Judaism our elder brother.

The major and minor parts of the Eucharist are:

The Introductory Rites

The Liturgy of the WORD

The Preparation of the Altar and Gifts

The Liturgy of the EUCHARIST and The Communion Rite

The Dismissal Rite

The Introductory Rite consists of a gathering hymn of praise, the Sign of the Cross and greeting, the Penitential Act or Blessing of Water and Sprinkling of the People which has a baptismal character, the singing of the Gloria and the Collect. The most important parts are the Hymn and Collect.

The Liturgy of the WORD consists of four [4] passages from sacred scripture: a reading from the Hebrew Scriptures [or Old Testament] and a response to the passage with the singing of a Psalm. A reading from the Christians Letters, primarily Paul and a Gospel. The priest makes connections between the sacred passages and our lives through the Homily. This is followed by the Universal Prayers in which we pray for the Church, the needs of the world, down to local concerns.

The Preparation of the Altar and Gifts consists of the preparation of the altar with sacred vessels, cloths and missal. The most important part of this simple rite is the presentation by the people of the bread and wine. They are prepared and solemnly placed on the altar with a prayer that concludes the rite. This part is no longer called the Offertory because the true offering has always been at the conclusion of the Eucharistic Payer.

The Liturgy of the EUCHARIST and The Communion Rite This consists of the great Prayer of Thanksgiving in which we thank God for all that has been done for us including the night before Jesus died in which by changing the words of the Passover Seder changed the meaning of the sacred meal. Bread and wine are transformed by the Holy Spirit into the Body and Blood of the Son to be offered to the Father at the conclusion of the Eucharistic Prayer. This is followed by the Lord's Prayer, a Prayer for Peace and the Communion Rite which concludes the Liturgy of the Eucharist with a brief prayer.

The Dismissal Rite is brief: a greeting in the Lord, a blessing over the people and our dismissal into the world.

The Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time—18 August 2024



Singin the Liturgy, Renewing the Call Celebrate 30 years with the Albany Chapter of the **National Pastoral Musicians Assoc.** Every one is invited along with parish music directors, pianists, organists, and

choir members. You don't need to be a musician as we explore the sung liturgy.

Saint Edward the Confessor, Clifton park Thurs—Saturday, 26—28 September 2024 Keynote Speaker & Composer Rev. Ricky Manalo

12 breakout sessions with local and national presenter, 2 music reading sessions from OCP & GIA, Taize Prayer and a 30th Anniversary Concert

> For conference brochure and to register: www.albanynpm.com

2024 Joint Parish Picnic

St. Francis of Assisi, the Cathedral, and Historic St. Mary

Saturday, 7 September 2024 Elm Avenue Park—Town of Bethlehem 11:30am—3:00pm

Kid's games, a 50/50 drawing, a kid's raffle, raffle for door prizes, 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.

GOINGS ON AT SAINT FRANCIS

St. Francis Financial Report For August 11, 2024	
Regular Offertory (inc. PayPal)	\$4,546.76
Maintenance & Utilities	\$0
Food Pantry	\$0
TOTAL	\$\$4,546.76
Average Weekly Need	\$10,500
SHORTFALL	(\$5,953.24)
The average weekly need is based on Total Expenses (2023-24)	



STAFF CHANGES/TRANSITION

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 <u>SFAAlbany@rcda.org</u>, 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 <u>SFAAlbany@rcda.org</u>. 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 <u>David.Mickiewicz@rcda.org</u>. 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 <u>SFAAlbany@rcda.org</u>.

By telephone, please call 518.463.4447.

Thank you for your cooperation and patience. *Jasper Stoller* Pastoral Director of Operations

GOINGS ON AT THE CATHEDRAL

Cathedral Financial Report for August 11, 2024		
Regular Offertory (inc. PayPal)	\$1,573.35	
Maintenance & Utilities	\$20.00	
TOTAL	\$1,593.35	
Average Weekly Need	\$8,200	
SHORTFALL	(\$6,606,65)	
The average weekly need is based on Total Expenses (2023-24)		



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