

Feast of the Holy Family – 29 December 2024

PILGRIMS OF HOPE: 2025 JUBILEE YEAR OPENING MASS



Join Pope Francis and Catholics around the world in celebrating the opening of the Jubilee Year in the Diocese of Albany with Bishop Scharfenberger on Sunday, January 5th, 3:00 pm, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

This significant event will commence with a pilgrimage from Historic Saint Mary's to the Cathedral. More details to follow.

Please note that the 5:00 pm Mass will be suspended this day. We warmly invite everyone to join us for this special 3:00 pm Mass.



We're on YouTube!

What can you expect on our channel? We will be introducing READS: Informing Faith and Conscience, discussing visual arts, architecture, the history of the Cathedral, and so much more! We hope that you will consider subscribing to our YouTube channel and be a part of our community.

www.youtube.com/@cathedralalbany

Help Us Walk with You

To minister to parishioners of Cathedral, Saint Mary and Saint Francis, we ask your assistance.



If a parishioner is hospitalized and would like a pastoral visit, the Sacraments of Anointing, Confession and/or Holy Communion, please call the parish offices. **If you are scheduled for surgery**, you can request and receive the Sacrament of the Sick before your admission to the hospital. This will help to avoid emergency calls for a priest when one may not be available.

Note: hospitals have Pastoral Care Offices through which you may request a chaplain or priest and they often have Eucharistic Ministers from area parishes making visits to distribute Holy Communion. Please inquire about the spiritual services afforded by a medical institution.

If parishioners are in nursing homes or homebound and would like a connection with the parish, please call the offices. Due to HIPPA Laws, we are unable to ask nursing homes directly about patients or their spiritual needs. Thank you for helping us serve our community.

The Saint James food pantry will be closed on December 24th for the holiday and reopen on January 6th We wish everyone a happy holiday and peace and happiness in the coming new year.



Fund-A-NEED



The Cathedral would like to purchase four (4) votive candle stands to enhance devotionals in the church.

Our Fund-A-Need Goal is \$1,800

To help us reach our goal, please consider donating:



Cash or Check Payable to
The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception



Scan the QR Code and Donate using PayPal



GIVE US THIS DAY NOW AVAILABLE!

Give Us This Day is a monthly publication centered on the Word of God. Drawing inspiration from a multitude of voices, it provides a relevant and trustworthy understanding of Scripture. Whether you have five minutes or a half hour, *Give Us This Day* supports your desire to pray. Look for copies in the back of the church.

COMUNIDAD HISPANA

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

AVISOS:

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|---------|
| Santa Misa de Año Nuevo | Miércoles 01 de Enero | 10:30AM |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|---------|

Financial and attendance numbers for December 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th, and January 5th will be printed as an insert.
Thank you.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Sunday, January 5

Feast of Epiphany

3 p.m.

The Cathedral

PLEASE NOTE: Due to the beginning of the Year of Jubilee, the usual 5 p.m. Mass at The Cathedral will be at 3 p.m.

Feast of the Holy Family – 29 December 2024



When Pope Francis speaks of the family he teaches that it *“humanizes people through the relationship of ‘we’ and at the same time promotes each person’s legitimate differences.”* What might reflection on the group of people we each call our family teach us? Consider taking some time to reflect and share on the questions below during this Christmas Season. Families have been resilient over the ages. We live in changing and difficult times for family life. What can we incorporate from our past experiences and how can we imaginatively move forward. Let us look at the experience of the family of Joseph, Mary and Jesus.

Who are the people who constitute your family? What lessons have you learned from each member? How are you a better more rounded person because of your family members?

Today people, for many reasons, are consciously creating their own families. For those who are alone and no longer have ‘blood’ family members alive or who have been rejected by their families, who walks with and supports you? Who do you walk with in life?

Though Christian art portrays Joseph as older, I expect Mary and Joseph were a young couple. Do you remember what it was like when you started out in your married life, and especially when the first child came along? What were the lessons you learned about yourself during these times?

Mary is pregnant and Joseph is not the father. Mary and Joseph’s relationship was possibly marred by the accusation of adultery. Have any of your relationships been marred by scandal or betrayal? How did you come through it? What part did God play in your life through such difficult times?

The ancients felt that dreams were one of the many languages for of God. Like Joseph and the magi, has God ever spoken to you in dreams?

The appearances of shepherds and strangers from the East must have brought a great amazement to Mary and Joseph about who Jesus was to be. What are the amazing events in your families life that pointed to God’s presence and wondrous works for you?

Joseph and Mary must pack up and move because of threats to the life of the child. Has your family ever had to quickly move? For what reason? Can we place ourselves in the position of many migrants and asylum seekers who must move because of threats to their families due to violence, human trafficking and drug lords?

Mary pondered many aspects surrounding Jesus’s birth in her heart. What stories and experiences do you most cherish and remember in your heart about your family?



We call the family of Joseph, Mary and Jesus, holy. Holiness is not about perfection. No family is perfect. Holiness rather is about moving forward through life with all its complexities trusting that God is present with us and leading us. This group of people we call family can be a great source of wounds as well as healing; of great delight and deep struggle. Yet it is here among these people we didn’t choose that God abides for each of us. As you remember and reflect, where have you noticed the footprints of God in your family life?



Saint James FOOD PANTRY

Corner of St. James Place & Summit Avenue, Albany, NY 12209

518.414.1929

Monday & Wednesday: 10:00am—12:30pm

Saint John's/Saint Ann's Center

88 Fourth Avenue, Albany, NY 12202

518.472.9091

CENTER

Monday, Wednesday & Thursday: 10:am—12pm; 1:pm 3pm

WELCOME TABLE

Tuesday and Saturday: 11:30am—1:00pm

In need of juice and hygiene products

Reminder: We cannot accept outdated, opened or used items.

Other Area Food Pantries include:

Saint Mary

10 Lodge Street, Albany, New York

518.462.4357

Trinity Alliance

15 Trinity Place, Albany, New York

518.364.1103

www.trinityalliancealbany.org/food-pantries

FOCUS Churches of Albany

275 State Street, Albany, New York

518.443.0460

www.focuschurches.net



Thank you for your generous support!

If you would like to make a financial contribution to your parish through your smartphone, please point your camera at the QR codes below and tap the link.



The Cathedral



St. Francis

Prayers for...

Jon Collins, Nathan Williams, Harold LaMountain, Rev. Frank O'Connor, Sue Moss, Cynthia Notaro, Honey Kausar, Mary VanSchiack Agnew, Maria Aricipa, Mary Dolan, Charles Duffy, Church Dyer, John Fanning, Joyce Flanagan, Gina Garrison, Katherine Gilligan, Chris Godfrey, Marge Hepp, Michael Horgan, Alison Horgan-Zepeda, Rev. David Jones, Alice LaChapelle, Betty McSweeney, Joe O'Clair, Jaxson Rivera, Sr. Natalie Runfola, Michele Sloman, Rev. Paul Smith.

The Cathedral & Saint Francis of Assisi Staff



The Most Rev'd Edward B. Scharfenberger, D.D.
Bishop of Albany

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Mr. Tim Balfe, Campus Maintenance

Cathedralmaintenance@rcda.org

Saint James Food Pantry

Linda Cruz, Director

518.414.1929

Central Parish Office Hours

Monday thru Thursday, 9:00am – 3:00pm

Cathedral Church Hours

The Cathedral is open daily.

Sunday: 9:00am – 6:00pm

Monday—Saturday: 9:00am – 3:00pm

The Cathedral Church and Parish Offices will be closed on National Holidays and other days throughout the year as noted in the bulletin.

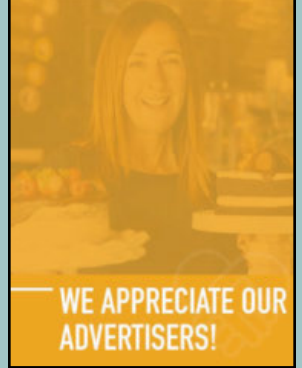


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