



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: 93 Fourth Avenue, Albany, NY 12202



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The Epiphany of the Lord – 5 January 2025



Pope Francis has declared 2025 a Jubilee Year of Hope.

What is a Jubilee Year in our Catholic tradition?

A Jubilee Year, known as a Holy Year, is a special year in the Catholic Church that is a time for forgiveness, reconciliation and hope.

The tradition of the Jubilee Year has its roots in the Jewish tradition, where it was celebrated every 50 years. The word "Jubilee" comes from the Hebrew word *yobel*, which refers to a ram's horn that was blown to announce the start of a Jubilee Year. The Catholic Church has celebrated Jubilee Years since 1300, when Pope Boniface VIII declared the first Jubilee. The Catholic Church usually celebrates Jubilee Years every 25 years. The Jubilee Year of 2025, has the theme "**Pilgrims of Hope**". The Jubilee Year will begin on December 24, 2024, and end on January 6, 2026.

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

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

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.
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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.



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

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



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.

Journey of the Magi

T. S. Eliot 1888 – 1965



'A cold coming we had of it,
Just the worst time of the year
For a journey, and such a long journey:
The ways deep and the weather sharp,
The very dead of winter.'
And the camels galled, sore-footed, refractory,
Lying down in the melting snow.
There were times we regretted
The summer palaces on slopes, the terraces,
And the silken girls bringing sherbet.
Then the camel men cursing and grumbling
And running away, and wanting their liquor and women,
And the night-fires going out, and the lack of shelters,
And the cities hostile and the towns unfriendly
And the villages dirty and charging high prices:
A hard time we had of it.
At the end we preferred to travel all night,
Sleeping in snatches,
With the voices singing in our ears, saying
That this was all folly.



Then at dawn we came down to a temperate valley,
Wet, below the snow line, smelling of vegetation;
With a running stream and a water-mill beating the darkness,
And three trees on the low sky,
And an old white horse galloped away in the meadow.
Then we came to a tavern with vine-leaves over the lintel,
Six hands at an open door dicing for pieces of silver,
And feet kicking the empty wine-skins,
But there was no information, and so we continued
And arrived at evening, not a moment too soon
Finding the place; it was (you may say) satisfactory.



All this was a long time ago, I remember,
And I would do it again, but set down
This set down
This: were we led all that way for
Birth or Death? There was a Birth, certainly,
We had evidence and no doubt. I had seen birth and death,
But had thought they were different; this Birth was
Hard and bitter agony for us, like Death, our death.
We returned to our places, these Kingdoms,
But no longer at ease here, in the old dispensation,
With an alien people clutching their gods.
I should be glad of another death.

Eliot offers us a very intriguing image of the journey of the magi. What are your thoughts about Eliot's poem? Are Birth and Death similar? How? How are they different? How are Birth and Death similar? Is Eliot inviting us to see the death of Christ already in his birth?



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

Cathedral Clergy

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Kristen Witham

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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.

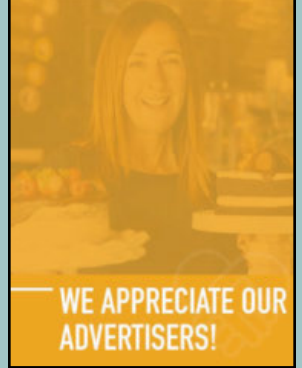


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