solemnity of all saints – november 1, 2026

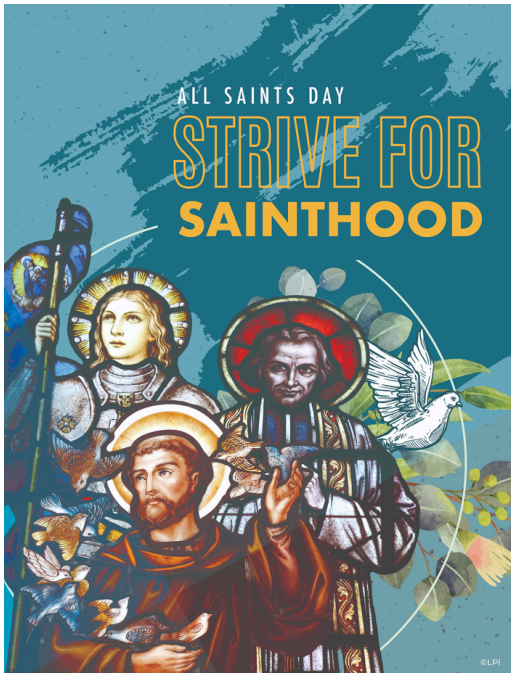
st. francis of assisi

South End
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391 Delaware Avenue, Albany

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Welcome, Sister Death: Francis, the Saints, and Those We Love



Dear Parish Family,

This year the Solemnity of All Saints falls on a Sunday, and so instead of the usual Ordinary Time readings, the Church places before us the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1-12a). Jesus goes up the mountain, sits down, and begins to describe a happiness the world does not recognize: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted… Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God." These are not rules for a few heroes. They are a portrait of Christ himself, and of everyone who has let him live in them.

The first reading pulls back the curtain on where that path leads. John sees "a great multitude, which no one could count, from every nation, race, people, and tongue," standing before the throne in white robes, palm branches in their hands (Revelation 7:9). That crowd is what we mean by "all saints." Not only the names on the calendar, but grandmothers who prayed the Rosary every night, fathers who worked double shifts without complaint, neighbors who quietly cared for the sick. Saint John tells us in the second reading what awaits them,

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Bienvenida, Hermana Muerte: Francisco, los Santos y Nuestros Seres Queridos

Querida familia parroquial:

Este año la Solemnidad de Todos los Santos cae en domingo, y por eso, en lugar de las lecturas habituales del Tiempo Ordinario, la Iglesia nos pone delante las Bienaventuranzas (Mateo 5, 1-12a). Jesús sube al monte, se sienta y comienza a describir una felicidad que el mundo no reconoce: «Dichosos los pobres de espíritu, porque de ellos es el Reino de los cielos. Dichosos los que lloran, porque serán consolados… Dichosos los limpios de corazón, porque verán a Dios». No son reglas para unos cuantos héroes. Son un retrato de Cristo mismo, y de todos los que lo han dejado vivir en ellos.

La primera lectura descorre el velo sobre el lugar a donde conduce ese camino. Juan ve «una muchedumbre tan grande, que nadie podía contarla», de todas las naciones y razas, de todos los pueblos y lenguas, de pie ante el trono, vestidos de blanco y con palmas en las manos (Apocalipsis 7, 9). Esa multitud es lo que queremos decir con «todos los santos». No solo los nombres del calendario, sino las abuelas que rezaban el Rosario cada noche, los padres que trabajaban doble turno sin quejarse, los vecinos que cuidaban en silencio a los enfermos.

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Food Pantry Needs:

Del. Ave: Canned vegetables, tuna, and beans (baked, kidney, chick peas, etc.), jelly, pancake mix, syrup, and toiletries

South End: canned tuna, cereal, peanut butter, and toiletries.

Times and locations on page 2

Necesidades del Banco de Alimentos:

Del. Ave: Enlatados: verduras, atún, frijoles, mermelada, mezcla para panqueques, jarabe y artículos de aseo personal.

South End: Atún enlatado, cereal, mantequilla de maní y artículos de aseo personal.

Horarios y ubicaciones en la página 2

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San Juan nos dice en la segunda lectura lo que les espera a ellos, y a nosotros: «Queridos hijos: ahora somos hijos de Dios, pero aún no se ha manifestado cómo seremos al fin. Y ya sabemos que, cuando él se manifieste, vamos a ser semejantes a él, porque lo veremos tal cual es» (1 Juan 3, 2).

Nuestro patrono llevaba esa esperanza en los huesos. Cerca del final de su vida, casi ciego y con grandes dolores, Francisco añadió una última estrofa a su Cántico de las Criaturas: «Alabado seas, mi Señor, por nuestra hermana la muerte corporal, de la cual ningún ser viviente puede escapar… Bienaventurados aquellos a quienes encuentre en tu santísima voluntad, porque la muerte segunda no les hará mal». Fíjense en esa palabra: bienaventurados. Francisco iba cantando las Bienaventuranzas hasta el final. Cuando el médico le dijo que su muerte estaba cerca, no se apartó con miedo. Sus primeros biógrafos cuentan que abrió los brazos y dijo: «Bienvenida, mi hermana muerte».

La tarde del 3 de octubre de 1226, en la pequeña Porciúncula, Francisco pidió a sus hermanos que lo pusieran sobre la tierra desnuda y que cantaran una vez más el Cántico. Mientras moría, cuenta la tradición, una bandada de alondras — aves que aman la luz — volaba en círculos sobre el techo, cantando. El pobrecillo de Asís, que no había poseído nada, salió al encuentro de Dios con las manos vacías y con un canto. Así se ven las Bienaventuranzas a la hora de la muerte: pobre de espíritu, y por eso heredero del Reino.

Y así, el lunes 2 de noviembre, la Iglesia pasa con naturalidad de Todos los Santos a la Conmemoración de Todos los Fieles Difuntos. Recordamos a nuestros padres y abuelos, a nuestros esposos y esposas, a nuestros amigos, a los miembros de esta parroquia que un día se sentaron en estas bancas. Y no solo los lloramos; celebramos. Celebramos porque confiamos en que ahora ellos están disfrutando de la presencia de Dios — en que el Padre que los llamó por su nombre en el Bautismo los ha recibido en casa, y en que ahora lo ven tal cual es. Nuestras lágrimas son reales, y Jesús mismo llama dichosos a los que lloran. Pero nuestra fe es más fuerte que nuestro dolor. Oramos por ellos, encomendándolos a la misericordia de Dios, y oramos con ellos, porque en Cristo el lazo del amor no se rompe con la muerte. Cada vez que nos reunimos ante el altar, el cielo y la tierra cantan el mismo «Santo, Santo, Santo», y nuestros seres queridos lo cantan con nosotros.

Bendiciones,

P. Daniel Vallejo

P. Daniel Vallejo — Parroquia San Francisco de Asís

First Friday Schedule

Thursday:

6:30 pm—7:30 pm with The Most Holy Rosary at St. Mary's

Friday:

8:00 am—12 pm at St. Mary's

11:30 am—3:30 pm at Cathedral

7:30 pm—8:30 pm at St. Francis--Delaware

Mass 12:05 At St. Mary's

Second Collection Sunday, November 1

Our next second collection will be November 1st, to fund maintenance needs at St. Francis.

Location and Hours of St. Francis Food Pantries
Horarios y Ubicaciones de los Bancos de Alimentos

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., Sat., 11:30 am —1:00 pm	

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Praying for the Holy Souls

The Masses next weekend will be dedicated to the Holy Souls in Purgatory. Please help your loved ones whose souls may be in Purgatory by adding their names to the envelopes and putting them in the collection basket.

Adoro Te Missionaries
First Saturday Retreat
Blessed Sacrament Church

in Albany on November 7th, 7:30am-2pm.

Included: Adoration, Confession, Mass, Lunch, and presentations on Mary's perfect adoration of the Eucharist, and on the Eucharistic Spritiuality of Fatima.

To register, please RSVP the number of attendees to adorotemissionaries@proton.me

40 DAYS FOR LIFE VIGIL

How to take part locally:

Staying always on the public right-of-way or sidewalks

Albany: Gather next to the bus shelter in front of 855 Central Avenue / Contact Mike at alb40days@gmail.com for times.

Troy: Gather in front of Hudson River Commons, 120 Hoosick Street / Contact Margaret at 518-698-9057 for times.

Learn more... get involved... and sign up at the sites listed below

https://www.40daysforlife.com/en/albany

https://www.40daysforlife.com/en/troy

St. Vincent de Paul Society

In the Gospel today, we hear that the poor and suffering are especially blessed. As Blessed Frédéric Ozanam said, "the blessing of the poor is the blessing of God.

As you place your gift in the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box, please pray for the blessing of the poor.

Place a check made out to "St. Vincent de Paul Society" in the collection basket.

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continued from p. 1

and us: "Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is" (1 John 3:2).

Our patron knew that hope in his bones. Near the end of his life, nearly blind and in great pain, Francis added a final verse to his Canticle of the Creatures: "Praised be you, my Lord, through our Sister Bodily Death, from whom no living person can escape… Blessed are those whom she finds in your most holy will, for the second death shall do them no harm." Notice that word: blessed. Francis was singing the Beatitudes all the way to the end. When the doctor told him his death was near, he did not turn away in fear. His early biographers say he opened his arms and said, "Welcome, my Sister Death."

On the evening of October 3, 1226, at the little Portiuncula, Francis asked his brothers to lay him on the bare ground and to sing the Canticle one more time. As he died, the story goes, a flock of larks — birds that love the light — circled low over the roof, singing. The poor man of Assisi, who had owned nothing, went to meet God with empty hands and a song. That is what the Beatitudes look like at the hour of death: poor in spirit, and therefore heir to the Kingdom.

And so, on Monday, November 2, the Church moves naturally from All Saints to All Souls, the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed. We remember our parents and grandparents, our spouses, our friends, the members of this parish who once sat in these pews. And we do not only mourn them; we celebrate. We celebrate because we trust that they are now enjoying the presence of God — that the Father who called them by name in Baptism has welcomed them home, and that they now see him as he is. Our tears are real, and Jesus himself blesses those who mourn. But our faith is stronger than our grief. We pray for them, entrusting them to God's mercy, and we pray with them, because in Christ the bond of love is not broken by death. Every time we gather at the altar, heaven and earth sing the same "Holy, Holy, Holy," and those we love sing it with us.

Blessings,
Daniel Vallejo

Fr. Daniel V — St. Francis of Assisi Parish

pray with pope leo



Let us pray for the proper use of wealth, that not succumbing to the temptation of selfishness, it may always be put at the service the common good and solidarity of those who have less.

Mass Intentions

Del. Ave.		*Requested by:*
Sat., Oct. 31 4:00 pm	William Evans	Family
	Zachary Wood	Family
Sun., Nov. 1 9:00 am	For the Holy Souls	
10:30 am	For the Holy Souls	
Sat., Nov. 7 4:00 pm	Pro Populo	
Sun., Nov. 8 9:00 am	Pro Populo	
10:30 am	Pro Populo	
South End		*Requested By:*
Sun., Nov. 1 10:30 am	For the Holy Souls	
Sun., Nov. 8 10:30 am	Pro Populo	

Readings for the Week of Nov. 1, 2026

Sun: Rv 7:2-4, 9-14/Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/ 1 Jn 3:1-3/Mt 5:1-12a

Mon: Wis 4:7-14/Ps 25:6, and 7b, 17-18, 20-21/ Rom 5:17-21/Mt 11:25-30

Tues: Phil 2:5-11/Ps 22:26b-27, 28-30ab, 30e, 31-32/ Lk 14:15-24

Wed: Phil 2:12-18/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14Lk 14:25-33

Thurs: Phil 3:3-8a/Ps 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7Lk 15:1-10

Fri: Phil 3:17-4:1/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/ Lk 16:1-8

Sat: Phil 4:10-19/Ps 112:1b-2, 5-6, 8a and 9/ Lk 16:9-15

Next Sunday:
Wis 6:12-16/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8/
1 Thes 4:13-18 or 4:13-14/Mt 25:1-13

St. Francis of Assisi Parish

Clergy
Father Daniel Vallejo, Pastor VallejoD@rcda.org

Assisting Clergy
Rev. Jacek Orzechowski, OFM Parish

Operations Manager
Mrs. Barbara Koerner-Fox
Barbara.Koernerfox@rcda.org

Liturgical Coordinator & Sacristan
Mr. Patrick Buonacore,
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 Historic Albany Parishes office

Mailing Address: 125 Eagle St., Albany, NY 12202
Phone Number: (518) 463-4447
Email: Cathedral: CICAlban@rcda.org

Office Hours: M—F: 9:00 am—4:00 pm (Closed for national holidays and as noted in the bulletin)

St. Francis of Assisi
Mass and Confessions Schedule

Confession and Mass Schedule

Sat.:	Confession:	3:15–3:50 pm	St. Francis (Del. Ave.)
	Mass	4:00 pm	St. Francis (Del. Ave.)
Sun.:	Mass	9:00 am	St. Francis (Del. Ave.)
	Mass	10:30 am	St. Francis (Del. Ave.)
	Mass	10:30 am	St. Francis (South End)

Comunidad Hispana
391 DELAWARE AVE. ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Santa Misa: Domingo 10:30 am
Confesiones: Domingo 10:00 am

Primer Domingo del mes: Benedicion a todos los ninos y jovenes al final de la Santa Misa.

Hora Santa:
Todos los primeros Sabados de cada mes a las 5:15 pm.

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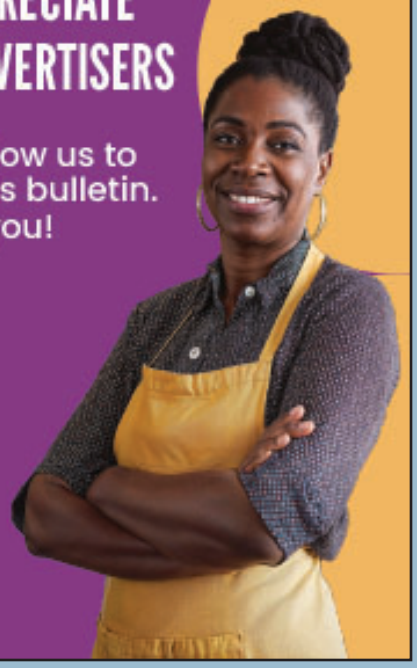
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