st. francis of assisi

South End
93 Fourth Avenue,Albany

391 Delaware Avenue, Albany

stfrancisalbany.org
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My God and My All: Francis and the Two Great Commandments

Dear Parish Family,

This Sunday a scholar of the law tries to test Jesus with a question the rabbis argued about endlessly: "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" (Matthew 22:34-40). Jesus answers by joining two verses that had never been placed side by side: "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind… The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments." Not two separate duties, one for church church and one for the street, but a single love with two faces.



"The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

The first reading shows us how concrete that second face is. In Exodus 22:20-26, God tells his people not to oppress the foreigner, the widow, or the orphan, and adds a strikingly practical detail: if you take your neighbor's cloak as a pledge for a loan, give it back before sunset, "for this cloak of his is the only covering he has for his body. What else has he to sleep in?" And then: "If he cries out to me, I will hear him; for I am compassionate." God, it seems, keeps track of who is cold at night.

Saint Francis lived both commandments so completely that it

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Mi Dios y Mi Todo: Francisco y los Dos Grandes Mandamientos

Querida familia parroquial:

Este domingo un doctor de la ley quiere poner a prueba a Jesús con una pregunta que los rabinos discutían sin cesar: «Maestro, ¿cuál es el mandamiento más grande de la ley?» (Mateo 22, 34-40). Jesús responde uniendo dos versículos que nunca se habían puesto lado a lado: «Amarás al Señor, tu Dios, con todo tu corazón, con toda tu alma y con toda tu mente… Y el segundo es semejante a éste: Amarás a tu prójimo como a ti mismo. En estos dos mandamientos se fundan toda la ley y los profetas». No son dos deberes separados, uno para la la iglesia y otro para la calle, sino un solo amor con dos rostros.

La primera lectura nos muestra lo concreto que es ese segundo rostro. En Éxodo 22, 20-26, Dios le dice a su pueblo que no oprima al extranjero, a la viuda ni al huérfano, y añade un detalle sorprendentemente práctico: si tomas en prenda el manto de tu prójimo, devuélveselo antes de que se ponga el sol, «porque no tiene otra cosa con qué cubrirse; ¿cómo va a dormir?». Y luego: «Cuando clame a mí, yo lo escucharé, porque soy misericordioso». Dios, por lo visto, lleva la cuenta de quién pasa frío por la noche.

San Francisco vivió ambos mandamientos tan plenamente

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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

ontinuación de la p. 1

que es difícil saber dónde termina uno y empieza el otro. Al comienzo de su conversión, un hombre rico de Asís llamado Bernardo de Quintavalle invitó a Francisco a pasar la noche en su casa. Bernardo fingió quedarse dormido para poder observar a su huésped. Francisco se levantó y oró la noche entera, repitiendo entre lágrimas solo unas pocas palabras: Deus meus et omnia — «Mi Dios y mi todo». Eso era amar a Dios «con todo tu corazón». A la mañana siguiente, Bernardo repartió su fortuna entre los pobres y se convirtió en el primer compañero de Francisco.

¿Y el manto? Los primeros biógrafos de Francisco cuentan que, regresando de Siena un invierno, se encontró con un pobre que tiritaba en el camino. Francisco llevaba un manto prestado, y le dijo a su compañero que debían dárselo a aquel hombre, porque en realidad era suyo: «Lo recibimos prestado hasta encontrar a alguien más pobre». Cuando su compañero protestó que Francisco mismo estaba enfermo y con frío, él respondió que no quería ser un ladrón — y quedarse con él, teniendo delante a alguien más pobre, sería un robo. Francisco leyó el Éxodo con toda su vida: el manto siempre le pertenece a quien no tiene otra cosa con qué dormir.

Fíjense que estas dos historias no son dos Franciscos distintos — un místico de noche y un trabajador social de día. El hombre que oraba «Mi Dios y mi todo» hasta el amanecer es el mismo que no podía quedarse con un manto mientras su hermano pasaba frío. Cuando Dios es de verdad tu todo, nada es de verdad tuyo, y entonces la necesidad del prójimo se convierte en el reclamo de Dios mismo. Por eso Jesús puede decir que el segundo mandamiento es «semejante» al primero.

San Pablo, en la segunda lectura de este domingo, alaba a los tesalonicenses porque «siguieron mi ejemplo y el del Señor» y así llegaron a ser «modelo para todos los creyentes» (1 Tesalonicenses 1, 6-7). Eso es lo que Francisco llegó a ser para toda la Iglesia: la prueba de que los dos grandes mandamientos se pueden vivir de verdad, en un cuerpo real, en un camino real, en un día de frío. Y eso es lo que nuestra parroquia está llamada a ser en Albany — un lugar donde la gente pueda ver, y no solo oír, cómo es el amor a Dios y al prójimo.

Con gratitud y 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

St. Vincent de Paul Society

In this Sunday's Gospel we find the truth that loving God isn't merely a matter of fervor in our hearts, but that it must be expressed in doing good for the sake of others.

Through your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul you are helping your neighbor who is hungry, hopeless and frightened to know that they belong to God.

Please help those in need through almsgiving. Place a check made out to "The St. Vincent de Paul Society" in the collection basket.

You can also help by joining us!
Call the Cathedral at 518-463-4447 to learn more.

Join Hallow today!

We have a network-wide subscription, so enjoy all the benefits of Hallow : set and maintain a prayer routine includes audio Bible stories, prayers, meditations, Lectio Divina, Christian music and much more!

Sea Parte de las Cenas de Cosecha de San Francisco 2026!

Si estás interesado en organizar una cena al estilo familiar en su hogar para celebrar las cenas de cosecha de San Franciscoo tienes alguna pregunta, comunícate con Amanda Torelli por correo electrónico (amanda.torelli3@gmail.com) o por teléfono/mensaje de texto (860-978-6703).

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it is hard to tell where one ends and the other begins. Early in his conversion, a wealthy man of Assisi named Bernard of Quintavalle invited Francis to spend the night in his home. Bernard pretended to fall asleep so he could watch his guest. Francis rose and prayed through the whole night, repeating only a few words through his tears: Deus meus et omnia — "My God and my all." That was love of God "with all your heart." The next morning Bernard gave away his fortune to the poor and became Francis's first companion.

And the cloak? Francis's early biographers tell how, returning from Siena one winter, he met a poor man shivering on the road. Francis was wearing a borrowed mantle, and he turned to his companion and said they must give it to the man, because it was really his: "We received it on loan until we found someone poorer." When his companion protested that Francis himself was sick and cold, he answered that he did not want to be a thief — and keeping it from someone poorer would be theft. Francis read Exodus with his whole life: the cloak always belongs to the one who has nothing else to sleep in.

Notice that these two stories are not two different Francises — a mystic at night and a social worker by day. The man who prayed "My God and my all" until dawn is the same man who could not keep a cloak while his brother was cold. When God is truly your all, nothing else is truly yours, and so the neighbor's need becomes the claim of God himself. That is why Jesus can say the second commandment is "like" the first.

Saint Paul, in this Sunday's second reading, praises the Thessalonians because they "became imitators of us and of the Lord" and so became "a model for all the believers" (1 Thessalonians 1:6-7). That is what Francis became for the whole Church: proof that the two great commandments can actually be lived, in a real body, on a real road, on a cold day. And it is what our parish is called to be in Albany — a place where people can see, not just hear, what love of God and neighbor looks like.

With gratitude and blessings,

Daniel Vallejo

Fr. Daniel Vallejo — St. Francis of Assisi Parish

Be a Part of St. Francis Harvest Dinners 2026!

If you are interested in hosting a family-style dinner in your home to celebrate in harvest dinners for St. Francis or have any questions, please reach out to Amanda Torelli either through email (amanda.torelli3@gmail.com) or phone/text (860-978-6703).

Mass Intentions

Del. Ave.		*Requested by:*
Sat., Oct. 24 4:00 pm	+ Gloria Johnson, +Francis R. Johnson, & +Francis J. Johnson	Gloria Moak
Sun., Oct. 25 9:00 am	Graziella Gertrude Carbone	Family
	Nora Nixon	Family
10:30 am	Pro Populo	
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	
South End		*Requested By:*
Sun., Oct. 25 10:30 am	+ Jack Bailey	Joe Keller
Sun., Nov. 1 10:30 am	For the Holy Souls	

Readings for the Week of Oct. 25, 2026

Sun: Ex 22:20-26/Ps 18:2-3a, 3b-4, 47 and 51/ 1 Thes 1:5c-10/Mt 22:34-40

Mon: Eph 4:32-5:8/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/ Lk 13:10-17

Tues: Eph 5:21-33/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5/Lk 13:18-21

Wed: Eph 2:19-22/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Lk 6:12-16

Thurs: Eph 6:10-20/Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10/Lk 13:31-35

Fri: Phil 1:1-11/Ps 111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 14:1-6

Sat: Phil 1:18b-26/Ps 42:2, 3, 5cdef/Lk 14:1, 7-11

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

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:
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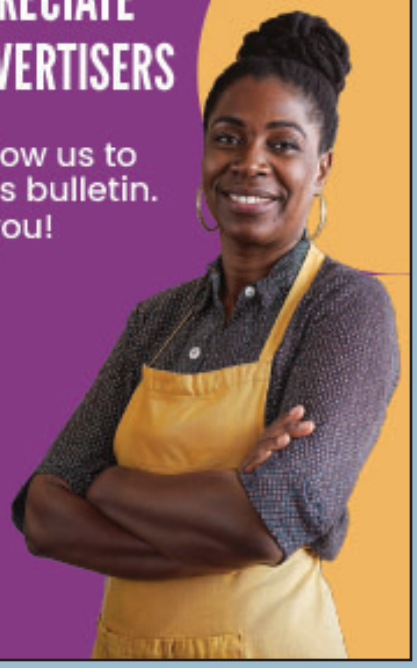
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