

CATHEDRAL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Established 1848

Mission Statement

We, the worshipping community of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany, rooted in the Gospel and the celebration of the Eucharist, seek to make known God's love in the world through serving one another, sharing our faith and welcoming all.

Most Reverend Edward B. Scharfenberger, D.D.
Bishop of Albany

Very Reverend David R. LeFort, S.T.L., V.G. Rector
Reverend John Tallman, Parochial Vicar
Reverend Paul Mijas, Parochial Vicar
Mr. Timothy J. Kosto, II, Deacon

Schedule of Liturgical Celebrations

The Holy Eucharist (Mass)

The Lord's Day:

Sunday 11:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Weekdays:

Monday-Wednesday-Friday 12:15 p.m.

Tuesday-Thursday 7:15 a.m.

Holy Days:

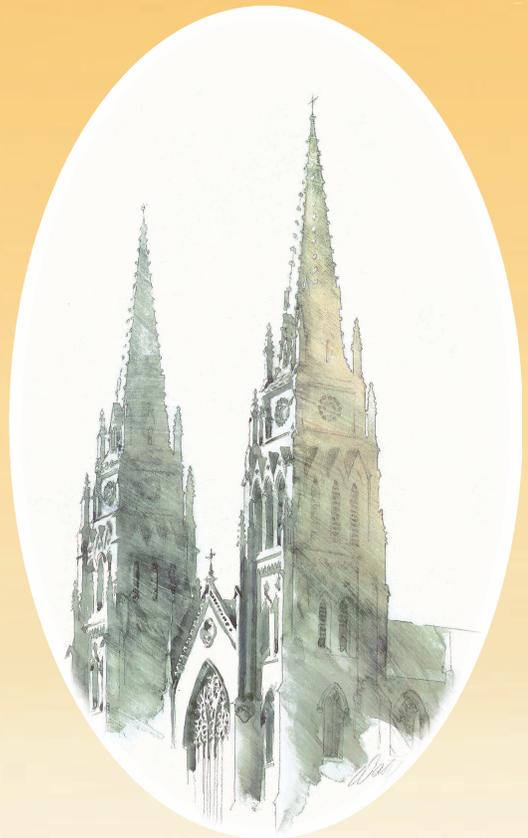
Please check the bulletin and website.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Monday-Wednesday-Friday 11:30 a.m.

Sunday 10:30 a.m., 4:00 p.m.

and other times by appointment



125 Eagle Street Albany, New York 12202-1718
Telephone: 518-463-4447 Email: CICALban@rcda.org Website: www.cathedralic.com

Fifth Sunday of Lent**Fifth Sunday of Lent**

The short passage from the letter to the Hebrews cast unusual light on Jesus. The Gospel accounts tell us that Jesus prayed and what he prayed about but here we read that Jesus prayed "with loud cries of tears." John's account tells us that Jesus was confident that God heard his prayers, perhaps because he was God's Son; here we read that Jesus "was heard because of his reverence." The gospel accounts tells us that Jesus remained in constant communion with the will of God; here we read that "he learned obedience from what he suffered." The Gospel accounts tells us that at Jesus' baptism he was already "my Son, the beloved" in whom God was "well pleased", but here we read that Jesus was "made perfect."

The letters frank statement that Jesus progressed toward perfection stands alongside a Christology equal in majesty to any in the New Testament: This same human Jesus is the "heir of all things and through whom God created the universe," "the refulgence of God's glory, the very imprint of God's being," the one who "sustains all things by his mighty word."

This writer grasped what many views of Jesus lack: a clear understanding of Jesus' humanity. Human beings develop over time, feel doubt and pain, do not know their fate, aspire to achieve. Hebrews makes explicit what the Gospel accounts imply: Jesus progressed toward God by suffering.

The Jeremiah passage speaks of the new covenant where rule-keeping cannot pass for true devotion and God will write God's law "on their hearts." Jesus' moment-by-moment practice of obedience fulfilled that prophecy by engraving God's covenant into the human heart forever. He wrote this inner law on our hearts with the stylus of his passion.

Chrism Mass

According to the ancient tradition of the Church, the Bishop gathers with his priests and people to celebrate the blessing of the holy oils that are used to administer the sacraments throughout the year. Three oils are blessed. The Oil of Sacred Chrism is used to anoint newly baptized persons, those who receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, and to dedicate new altars and churches. The Oil of Catechumens is used to anoint those preparing for Baptism. The Oil of the Sick is used to anoint those who are ill, facing surgery, and the elderly.

You are encouraged to participate in this liturgy. It is a joyful experience. It is also an expression of the unity of the diocese as most parishes have a representative present in the person of the pastor, administrator, parish life director or lay representatives. As the Cathedral Parish, we fulfill our privileged place in the diocese as the Mother Church. This mass will be live streamed at www.rcda.org/livestream.

Chrism Mass will enhance that symbolism and provide each of us with a wonderful way to enter into the mysteries we celebrate the following week, Holy Week. God's peace be yours.

The Mass of Chrism will be celebrated in the Cathedral on Thursday, March 30th at 7:00 p.m. Bishop Scharfenberger will preside. At this Mass the priests renew their vocational promises and are joined by the deacons and the whole people of God.

Fifth Sunday of Lent

THE SCRUTINIES

Over the third, fourth and fifth Sundays of Lent, those parishes with adults and older children preparing for initiation into the church at Easter will celebrate rituals called the "scrutinies" during Mass. They are part of a series of rites belonging to the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) that are celebrated during the season of Lent.

Some people feel quite uncomfortable with the term "scrutiny". The word "scrutinize" means to examine in minute detail, and we may feel that it is intrusive or hypocritical to pry into the lives and motives of those who wish to join the church. Because of those misgivings, the term "rites of healing and strengthening" is sometimes used instead. The ritual book says that the purpose of the scrutinies is to "heal all that is weak, defective, or sinful in the hearts of the elect" and "to give them strength in Christ, who is the way, the truth, and the life". The rite also describes the scrutinies as "rites for self-searching and repentance".

Every time we celebrate the sacrament of baptism, we ask the questions, "Do you renounce Satan... and all his works...and all his empty promises?" These are serious questions. We should consider them carefully before answering. And that is what the elect, those preparing to be baptized at the Easter Vigil, spend much of Lent doing. For those who are making their final preparation for baptism, Lent is a time of purification and enlightenment. In the light of God's word, they examine their lives and ask the entire Christian community to pray that whatever is weak and sinful within them may be eliminated and that whatever is good and holy may be affirmed.

(Continued)

After the homily, in a litany of intercession, the power of Jesus over all sin is proclaimed. A prayer is then said over the elect asking for their deliverance and strengthening. The presider, catechists, sponsors and other members of the community may also lay their hands on the heads of the elect in an ancient sign of forgiveness, healing and empowerment. Because the entire community will renew its baptismal promises at Easter, we all take this opportunity to examine our way of life and ask ourselves whether we are truly living as Christ's disciples, as people of the Gospel. When we and the elect are asked at Easter to renounce Satan, evil works and empty promises, our answer can be a thoughtful, strong and heartfelt "I do".



Please pray for our sick; Dave Worden, Mary Caluori, Seamus Gallagher, John Travis, Fr. Farano, James Frueh, Jack Krieger, Jean Rounds, Fr. William Pape, Fr. Frank O'Connor, Jeffrey Abraham, Robert Buell, Lucy Apisa, Stephen Beattie, Carol Bruce, Grace Isabelle Caruso, Mary Faith Colvin, Patricia Contti, Theresa Cooney, Marc Daniels, John Dare, Jr., Denise Degasparis, Michael Dolan, Ann Doherty, JoAnn DeLucia, Diane Fontanelli, Janette Fusco, Bernice Girma, Carol Greenshields, Jean Gutbrodt, Bryan Hanley, Jacqueline Heisler, Kelly Hemming, Kenneth Hockeson; Douglas Hoffeler, Alfred Iwanie, Dorothy Jordan, Reny Jose, Bill Keane, Amy Keegan, James Laung,, Gayle Leonard, Rebecca Leno, Therese Lenz, , Ted Murawski, Marie-Ann Melenfant, John McGrath, Mary Grace Meneses , Stephanie Merenda, Diane Mueller, James Murphy, Mary Murphy, Shane O'Donnell, Josephine Pitcherale, Marcia Pedone, Catherine Rappazzo, Mark Roman, Megan Ruthman, Elaine Spoor, Adam Ventura, Sebastian Vicencio, Richard Warner, Raphael Warner, Rosa Maria Santos, Mary Redmond

March 21, 2021

Cathedral Liturgical Celebrations, Meetings and Mass Intentions for the week of March 20, 2021 – March 28, 2021

Saturday, March 20,

Sunday, March 21,

11:00AM Mass

Intention: Beverly Dittmer

12:00PM Baptism

5:00PM Mass

Monday, March 22,

12:15PM Mass

Tuesday, March 23,

7:15 AM Mass

7:00PM Confirmation Event

Wednesday, March 24,

12:15 PM Mass

Intention: Deanna Mahar

Thursday, March 25,

7:15AM Mass

Friday March 26,

12:15PM Mass

3:00PM Wedding

5:30 PM Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 27,

Sunday, March 28,

11:00AM Mass

Intention: Beverly Dittmer

Intention: Shirley and Thomas riley

2:00PM Baptism

5:00 PM Mass

Holy Week Schedule

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord – March 28, 2021

Palms will be blessed at the beginning of every Eucharist.

11:00 a.m. Mass

5:00 p.m. Mass

Monday of Holy Week – March 29, 2021

11:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

12:15 p.m. Mass

Tuesday – of Holy Week – March 30, 2021

7:15 a.m. Mass

Wednesday of Holy Week – March 31, 2021

11:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

12:15 p.m. Mass

The Sacred Triduum

Holy Thursday – April 1, 2021

5:30 p.m. Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

Bishop Scharfenberger will preside at this Eucharist with the community. After this liturgy the Eucharist will be reserved for adoration and quiet prayer until 8:30 p.m.

Good Friday – April 2, 2021

3:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross

5:30 p.m. Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Bishop Scharfenberger will preside, with the singing of the Passion, prayerful intercessions for the world, veneration of the Cross. Holy Communion.

Holy Saturday – April 3, 2021

8:00 p.m. Solemn Vigil of Easter and the Resurrection of the Lord.

Bishop Scharfenberger will preside. We will keep watch in the darkness. The new fire will be kindled, the proclamation of the *Exsultet*, the Liturgy of the Word, reception of new members into the Church, and the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord – April 4, 2021

11:00 a.m. Easter Mass

5:00 p.m. Easter Mass



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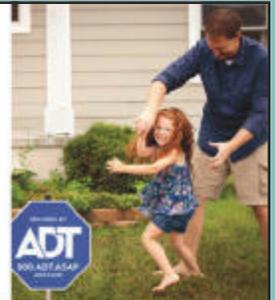
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