

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 Anthony Ligato, Rector
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Patrick Buonocore & Don Riano— Sacristans
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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

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Telephone: 518-463-4447 Email: CICALban@rcda.org Website: www.cathedralic.com

If Jesus is for us, how can we be against one another?

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Several years back, I was asked by my cousin if I could co-officiate at her wedding which was going to be celebrated in the Armenian Apostolic Church. She was worried that a Catholic Priest could not participate in a wedding in the church of another Christian denomination. When I told her absolutely, I would be able to participate, and the marriage would be recognized by the Catholic Church, she was delighted. The situation that I just explained is not unusual. People so often do not know or understand ecumenism, the relationship between all the Christian denominations, Catholic, Orthodox, Protestant and Evangelical Churches; we all work together to further the mission of Jesus Christ. That was not always the way it was, you might remember a time when a Catholic or Protestant were not allowed to be the best man or maid of honor in one another's weddings. If a Catholic married a Protestant the wedding took place in the rectory outside of the sanctuary of the church. There was a time when you could not even be a guest at a non-Catholic wedding.

These are real life examples of the statement the Apostle John presents to Jesus in today's gospel (Mk 9:38-43,45,47-48) "Teacher, we saw someone driving out demons in your name, and we tried to prevent him because he does not follow us." Jesus responded by saying, "Do not prevent him." Jesus makes it clear that the work of God can't be accomplished by someone who does not believe. The challenge Jesus gives to the believer is that we can't shut out others because they may be different from us in the way they worship or in what they believe or how they live. For they too may be called by God to serve. Moses says as much in the first reading from the Book of Numbers (11:25-29), when two men receive the gift of prophesy; "Would that the Lord might bestow his spirit on them all." It is this understanding that guides the Church teaching on ecumenism. Vatican II brought a new spirit of cooperation among the various denominations of Christianity with the Decree on Ecumenism, "Unitatis redintegratio"; November 21, 1964. The decree speaks about the restoration of unity among Christians, "Christ the Lord founded one Church and one Church only. However, many Christian communities present themselves to men as the true inheritors of Jesus Christ; all indeed profess to be followers of the Lord but differ in mind and go their different ways, as if Christ himself were divided. Certainly, such division openly contradicts the will of Christ, scandalizes the world, and damages that most holy cause, the preaching of the Gospel to every creature." We as Christians have been the greatest obstacle to the Gospel being preached because we have allowed differences to overshadow that which we all share in common, Jesus Christ. God gives us his law as we hear in Psalm 19:8,10,12-13,14; "The precept of the Lord gives joy to the heart." The Psalm tells us that God's law is fair and just, never excluding people but inviting them into a relationship with God. The law of God is not restrictive but rather God's covenant brings us lasting freedom.

The second reading from the Letter of James (5:1-6), is speaking about the materially wealthy, and how their self-absorption will lead to their decay. When we are self-absorbed, we shut out others from our lives. sharing the wealth of the Gospel message. Because Christian denominations have been divided over the centuries our divisions have shut others out from hearing the Gospel proclaimed. We are called to witness to our love of Christ to one another, especially among Christians. We have missed many opportunities to truly establish the Kingdom of God here and now. Maybe we need the same kind of cooperation among Christian Churches as we have with the Sacrament of Marriage. That cooperation among people of faith can occur in all areas of Christian living.

You might ask is there some way we can help create that cooperation, and the answer is, yes. The Covenant the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception entered into with the Episcopal Cathedral of All Saints several years ago builds on this understanding of ecumenism and as Rector of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception I have recommitted us to strengthen our covenant relationship with All Saints Cathedral. We will be participating in and co-sponsoring upcoming Evensong Covenant Prayer service on October 17, 2021, and Bible symposium on November 6. We will have further information on these Ecumenical events in the coming weeks. By cooperation with one another we help strengthen understanding among all Christian people. "The one who gives the cup of water because they belong to Christ will not, I assure you go without his reward" Would we not give a cup of water to anyone who thirsts? Jesus asks us to cooperate with one another by letting go of anything that does not reflect the presence of Jesus. If Jesus is for us, how can we allow anything in our lives that is against Jesus and against one another as well.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Anthony Ligato

Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Blessing of Animals

In honor of the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals and the environment, the Cathedral Parish will hold the annual Blessing of the Animals October 4, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. on the steps of the Cathedral.

MARRIAGE JUBILEE

The 49th Annual Diocese
Marriage Jubilee Celebration
Saturday, October 30, 2021
2:00 p.m.
At the Cathedral

Couples celebrating their 25th, 40th, 50th or other special wedding anniversaries are invited to attend this celebration.

Please register through the Marriage and Family Life office at 518-453-6644 or by e-mail to Marriage.Jubilee@rcda.org.

Food Pantry Update

Dear parishioners and community members,

Thank you for your support as we continue to serve our community during the pandemic. We continue to operate with safety procedures in place. Fortunately we are able to obtain excellent supplies of high quality food from the Regional Food Bank. We appreciate you continuing to make your donations in the form of checks or gift cards. As we near Thanksgiving and the Christmas Season once again, please consider gift card donations of \$20 to \$25 for distribution to our guests during Thanksgiving and Christmas time. We greatly appreciate your generosity which remains strong from year to year.

In gratitude,

Mark Ciavardoni

Collection Report:

The total collection for September 19, 2021 was \$2,600.00 and the collection for Restoration was \$636.00
Thank you to all who have given to the Cathedral.

This weekends Second Collection is for Catholic University's of America, Next Weekends Second Collection is for Utilities.



Please join Bishop Edward B. Scharfenberger for the Diocese of Albany Mass to celebrate Respect Life Month on Respect Life Sunday, Oct. 3, 2021, at 11:00 AM at

the Cathedral.

Please share this joyful event of thanksgiving and celebration with those who would be interested! Guests and anyone interested in respect life are always most welcome!

Please pray for our sick; Frank Therio, Dave Worden, Mary Caluori, John Travis, 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, Douglas Hoffeler, 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

September 26, 2021

Cathedral Liturgical Celebrations, Meetings and Mass Intentions for the week of September 19, 2021 – September 26, 2021

Saturday, September 25,
2:00PM Wedding

Sunday, September 26,
11:00AM Mass
Intention: Evelyn Trojan
5:00 PM Mass

Monday, September 27,
12:15PM Mass

Tuesday, September 28,
7:15 AM Mass
Intention: Herminia Sy
10:00AM Albany Police Memorial Mass

Wednesday, September 29,
12:15 PM Mass
Intention: Maria Mahar and Family
Intention: Victoria and Deanna Mahar
Intention: Souls in Purgatory

Thursday, September 30,
7:15AM Mass

Friday October 1,
12:15PM Mass

Saturday, October 2
3:00PM Wedding

Sunday, October 3,
11:00AM Mass
Intention: Karen Scholl
Intention: Catherine Chichester
Intention: Deceased members of Catholic Daughters
5:00 PM Mass

September 26,2021

Help us wish farewell to Brian Gurley

After more than 8 years as Director of Music, Brian is moving back to his hometown of Pittsburgh, PA. Please Join us in thanking Brian for sharing his gifts with us at our Parish, this Sunday September 26th, after the 11:00 a.m. mass for a light reception.



May God watch over you and bless you on your new adventure!

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and Self Employed**

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