




**Important Contact Information**

**Mailing Address:** 274 Sherman Street, Albany, New York 12206  
(Rear Entrance of the Church)  
**Office Phone Number:** (518)465-3685, Ext. 12 English; Ext. 13 Spanish  
**Website:** <https://ourladyoftheamericas.org/>  
**E-mail:** [OLAmericaShrine@gmail.com](mailto:OLAmericaShrine@gmail.com)  
**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/shrinechurchofourladyoftheamericas>  
**Shrine Chaplain:** Rev. Francis O'Connor, (518) 482-3375 or (518) 588-2531  
**Faith Formation Team Coordinator:** Cynthia M. Ortiz Ramirez(518) 465-3685 ext. 11  
**Music Minister:** Deborah Klose, [dklose@nycap.rr.com](mailto:dklose@nycap.rr.com)  
**Baptism:** Claire Nolan, [cbnolou@gmail.com](mailto:cbnolou@gmail.com). English or  
Confesora Franco, [clovejesus@aol.com](mailto:clovejesus@aol.com), Spanish.  
**Marriage:** Rev. Francis O'Connor, (518) 482-3375 or (518) 588-2531  
**Quinceañera:** Rev. Francis O'Connor, (518) 482-3375 or (518) 588-2531  
**Deadline for Bulletin Announcement & Attachment:**  
Wednesdays@Noon ~ [tmcrasto@hotmail.com](mailto:tmcrasto@hotmail.com) ~ December  
**Mass Intentions:** Tammy Crasto (518) 229-7345 or Confesora Franco (518) 542-4192

**Third Sunday in Advent – December 13, 2020**

♪ ♪ *My soul rejoices in my God..* ♪ ♪

<p><b>December 13</b> <b>9:30 am English Mass</b> ✠ Jillian Walsh by her family ✠ William Toomey by Debbie Divoril <b>12:00 pm Spanish Mass in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe</b> <i>For all the people of our parish family</i></p>	<p><b>Mass Intentions</b></p> 	<p><b>December 20</b> <b>9:30 am English Mass</b> ✠ Catherine Murphy ✠ Anthony Joseph Dolan <b>12:00 pm Spanish Mass</b></p>
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**Sharing our Treasure**  
*~ Giving as an act of Worship ~*  
*We need at least \$2,500.00 per week in the collections to break even, not counting unexpected maintenance costs.*

**Collections As of December 6**

**Regular: \$2812.15**  
**Immaculate Conception: \$71.00 Christmas: \$5.00**  
**Solemnity of Mary: \$5.00 Christmas flowers: \$5.00**

If you are unable to attend Mass, please mail checks:  
274 Sherman Street, Albany, NY 12206. *Do not mail cash.*

*Thank you, each and all, who share your Time, Talent & Treasure with our community*  
**Fuel Collection – Winter is just around the corner!**

**Calendar of Events**

**Sunday, December 13**  
**Third Sunday of Advent**  
*My soul rejoices in my God.*  
**Celebration of the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe**  
*You are the highest honor of our race.*

**Sunday, December 20**  
**Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
*For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.*

**To View Masses Online:**  
Go to the Live Mass on Facebook  
on Sundays at 9:30 am (English) and 12:00 pm (Spanish)  
<https://www.facebook.com/shrinechurchofourladyoftheamericas/>

**Mass during Coronavirus pandemic:**

**Procedures:** Enter the Church using the Lake Avenue entrance; your name and phone number will be taken at the door. Face masks must be worn at all times. All will be escorted to a place to sit, directions will be given for receiving communion and at dismissal. Singing can cause the virus to travel longer distances listen, do not sing to the beautiful music. At all times, six feet social distancing must be observed. Do not gather in groups before or after Mass.

**Holy Communion:** to maintain appropriate “social distancing”, “ambassadors” will direct those going to Communion. **Persons sitting on the Blessed Mother’s side will go first; THEN, persons on the St. Joseph side of the church. Those in the front of the church will receive in the front of the center aisle. Those in the back will receive in the Gathering Area.** The advice from the health community and the Albany Diocese strongly encourages us to receive the Body of Christ in your hand. Then as you turn away from the minister of the Eucharist lower your mask, consume the Body of Christ, and then raise your mask again. This helps protect you and those who distribute the Holy Eucharist.

**Christmas Flowers in honor of:**

*Helen Martino  
Patrick J Dalton  
Mr. and Mrs. William H Mayer  
Mr. and Mrs. Albert Dalton  
Vanessa Dalton  
Russell Lockenwitz  
James Martino, Sr.  
Christopher Dalton  
Edward P. Nolan, MD  
Rita M. Nolan  
Rose H. Haley  
James Haley  
Nolan Hennessey Family  
Dannemiller and McGowan Family  
Margaret and Ed LaPointe  
Louis Mrak  
Francis Mrak  
John McGraw  
Veronica McGraw  
Margaret and Ed FitzGibbons  
Marion Ford  
Grant Ford Sr.  
Gwendolyn  
Ruth  
Luz  
Eulalio*

**Act of Spiritual Communion**

*My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.*

**Online Ministry Needs:** The Shrine Church is in great need of **volunteers** to run the livestream for the Sunday Masses. If you are interested in helping please contact *Peter* at 315-853-1517 or [pdonnellyk@gmail.com](mailto:pdonnellyk@gmail.com) for the 9:30 Mass, and *Fausto Franco* at 518-330-8120 or [fausto\\_franco@hotmail.com](mailto:fausto_franco@hotmail.com) for the 12:00 Mass. ***Our parishioners at home greatly appreciate this service.***

**The Shrine Church Pantry Box**, donated by *Open World Relief*, is located near the North Lake Avenue entrance of the Church. This is a wonderful opportunity to fulfill Jesus' command to feed the hungry. Please place non-perishable food items in the box when you arrive at Church to help feed our West Hill neighborhood.

**Lectio Divina**

**English:** <https://catholic.bible/category/lectio-divina/>  
**Spanish:** <https://catholic.bible/lectio-divina-en-espanol/>

**Readings for Sunday, December 20**  
*Fourth Sunday in Advent*

**First Reading:** 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8B-12, 14A, 16  
**Responsorial Psalm:** Psalms 85:2-5, 27, 29  
**Second Reading:** Romans 16:25-27  
**Gospel:** St. Luke: 1:26-38



**Christmas Season at the Shrine Church**



*Diocesan and health department Covid-19 safety protocols will affect some of our traditional Christmas celebrations. As with regular Sunday Masses, the **maximum number** of people who can attend **any Mass is set at 120.***

**Posadas** – This year we will not celebrate Posadas as we have in the past. There will be a virtual celebration of the Posadas on Facebook with videos, prayers, and scripture. More information is to come.

**Christmas Masses** – There will be one bilingual Christmas Eve Mass on December 24 at 5:00 pm. On Christmas Day, there will be the normal 9:30 am (English) and 12:00 pm (Spanish) Masses.

**New Year's Day Mass** – There will be one bilingual Mass held on January 1 at 11:00 am.

**Shrine Church Fundraiser**

Our very own parishioner and local artist **Milton "Mack" McPherson** has painted a beautiful image of **Our Lady of the Rosary**. Prints of this painting (20"x 16") are available for a donation of \$75 or more to the Shrine Church. If you would like one, please place \$75 or a check made payable to the Shrine Church of Our Lady of the Americas in an envelope. Write your name, phone number and the word "Painting" on the envelope and place it in the collection basket. Your print will be ready for pick up the following Sunday. **What a wonderful Christmas gift!** If you have any questions, please contact *Mary Giordano* at [mtgiordano20@gmail.com](mailto:mtgiordano20@gmail.com) 518-248-5565

The **Christ Child Society** is collecting donations to make comfort bags for victims of domestic violence. **Please consider donating personal care items such as body wash, shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrushes as well as crayons and coloring books.** Please leave the items near the side door when entering Church for Mass the next week. The Christ Child Society has annually provided generous support to many families whose children are celebrating their First Communion and this is a wonderful opportunity for us to support them.

**Our Lady of Guadalupe Prayer**

*O our Lady of Guadalupe, mystical rose,  
make intercession for Holy Church,  
protect the Sovereign Pontiff,  
help all those who invoke thee in their necessities,  
and since thou art the ever Virgin Mary  
and Mother of the true God,  
obtain for us from thy most holy Son  
the grace of keeping our faith,  
sweet hope in the midst of the bitterness of life,  
burning charity and the precious gift of final perseverance.*

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**NEW TO THE PARISH? Welcome! HAVE A CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR PHONE Number?**  
**Please fill in your information below and drop in the collection. Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) I am new to the parish  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Send me "The Evangelist"  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Please send church envelopes