




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
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
Baptism: Claire Nolan, cbnolou@gmail.com. English or
Confesora Franco, cflovejesus@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 ~ December
Mass Intentions: Tammy Crasto (518) 229-7345 or Confesora Franco (518) 542-4192

Fourth Sunday in Advent – December 20, 2020

♪ ♪ *For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.* ♪ ♪

<p>December 20 9:30 am English Mass ✠ Catherine Murphy ✠ Anthony Joseph Dolan ✠ Charles DeSouza by Catherine DeSouza ✠ Edward Nolan by Claire Nolan 12:00 pm Spanish Mass Anniversary of Confesora and Faustino Franco December 24 – Christmas Vigil – 5:00 pm <i>For the people of the parish</i></p>	<p>Mass Intentions</p> <p>December 25 – Christmas Day 9:30 am (English) and 12:00 pm (Spanish) <i>For the people of the parish</i></p> <p>December 27 9:30 am English Mass 12:00 pm Spanish Mass</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 13
Regular: \$ 3266.71
Immaculate Conception: \$21.00
Christmas Flowers: \$29.00
Miscellaneous: \$24.00

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

Thursday, December 24 – Bilingual Christmas Vigil
5:00 pm
Friday, December 25 – Christmas Day Masses
9:30 am (English) and 12:00 pm (Spanish)

Sunday, December 27
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

To View Masses Online:
Go to the Live Mass on Facebook
for All Masses Held at the Shrine Church
<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 for the 9:30 Mass, and *Fausto Franco* at 518-330-8120 or 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 27
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

First Reading: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14
Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 128:1-5
Second Reading: Colossians 3:12-21
Gospel: St. Luke: 2:22-40



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.***

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.

All Masses will be live-streamed on Facebook.

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 518-248-5565

Thank You!

The Christ Child Society is very grateful to everyone who donated items for the "comfort bags" which are being given to victims of domestic violence. We are also very grateful to the Christ Child Society for all they do for our community!



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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

Over Please