

6th & 7 Sunday of Ordinary Time
February 16 & 23, 2025



Weekend	Bl. Sac.	St. Isaac
Feb. 2 nd	\$1,415	\$2,944
Feb. 9 th	Closed	4:00 pm only \$1,422

ASH WEDNESDAY

4:00 pm Service @ St. Isaac Jogues
5:30 pm Mass @ Blessed Sacrament

When School is delayed or cancelled, or a Weather Advisory, weekday morning Mass, the Rosary & Holy Hour are also CANCELLED!



St. Isaac Jogues

Intentions & Mass Cards: Please call Kathy DeBartolo at 518-494-7873
2/15 Mary Marble *Req. Lynn & John Hagman*
2/22 Mary & Buddy Attanasio *Req. Kathy DeBartolo*
Daily Mass this Wednesday, February 5th at 9:30 am in the Parish Center.

Intentions & Mass Cards: Please call Rita Whitney at 518-338-6858.

Blessed Sacrament

2/16 A Special Intentions for Marianne Roberts-Huck & Family *Req. Ellie & Tom Torebka*
2/16 Pat Galea *Req. Dawn Faller*
2/16 Ruthmary Woodworth
Req. Gery Taylor & Family
2/16 Jim & Rosemary O'Connor RIP
Req. Deborah Sands

Prayer Intentions: call Pat Nugent 518-668-2765

Rosary Tuesday's at 9:30 am.

Daily Mass: Thursday, February 20th at 9:30 am followed by Adoration.

Coffee Hour: This Sunday February 16th after the 10:30 am Mass.

Outreach Ministries

Food Pantries: There is a bin at the entrance of the churches. The need at the pantries has grown exponentially this year. Please consider giving weekly to those in need. This will be brought to the North Country Ministry. They are especially looking for items that have pull tabs (no can opener to use), shelf stable food, also, personal hygiene products, cleaning products & kid-friendly foods.

Lenten Evening of Song & Retreat with Dan Schutte: March 28th & 29th.

Composer Dan Schutte, whose music includes "Here I am, Lord" along with more than 150 other hymns, will lead a two-hour Lenten evening of song on March 28 beginning at 7 pm at Christ the King Church, 20 Sumter Ave., Albany. Hosted by the Ignatian Volunteer Corps Albany. Mr. Schutte will also lead a Lenten retreat from 9:30 am-12:30 pm on March 29th at Christ the King. Admission is \$15 for each day or \$25 admission for both days. Ticket and sponsorship information can be found at www.ivicusa.org/Schutte. For more information about this event, email AlbanyNY@ivicusa.org.

Practicing Catholic In the End does it Matter

Mini Reflection: Jesus was radical in his teaching that the "stuff" in life wasn't all that important. It was radical for him to say that the worldly signs of success did not amount to a whole lot in the grand scheme of things and that suffering could sanctify us. Are we ready to be radical, too?

In the End, Does it Matter?

When I was a teenager, the priest I would go to for confession used to tell me, over and over: "In the end, we all get the same dirty hole in the ground."

What he meant was, it doesn't matter how rich or smart or well-liked we are. We're all heading to the same place. This life comes to an end for every man. All the money he earns, all the *stuff*, all the worldly esteem, will at some point be of no further use. We all get the same dirty hole in the ground.

It was an important message for me to hear, because at the time, it all seemed so *important*: my after-school job and my FAFSA application and my grades. The admiration of my friends and teachers. I was so consumed with *what* I was going to become that I wasn't spending a lot of time thinking about *who* I was going to become. But the *who* is the only thing that lasts until the next life.

And to be honest, it's all still too important to me. Avoiding sadness and disappointment. Saving money and being liked. Focusing on "the five-year plan" when it comes to career, house plans, and a whole bunch of other things I can't take to my dirty hole in the ground.

Jesus was radical in his teaching that the "stuff" in life wasn't all that important. It was radical for him to say that the worldly signs of success — wealth, popularity, pleasure — did not amount to a whole lot in the grand scheme of things and that suffering could sanctify us. It was radical in the ancient world, and it's radical today.

Are we ready to be radical, too? By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman ©LPi



VITA - Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (Free Tax Return Preparation for Qualifying Taxpayers) will be at St. Cecilia's every Friday and Saturday in February and March, also selected Tuesday's. And they will be at St. Isaac Jogues, Thursday, February 27th from 8:30 am to 4 pm. This is free tax assistance for families and individuals whose household income is \$67,000 or less per year. Call 1-800-211-5128 to schedule an appointment

Sr. Fran Husselbeck

Cards may be sent to:
Convent of Mercy
634 New Scotland Ave.
Albany, NY 12208



Question:

Is Ash Wednesday a holy day of obligation?

Answer:

Despite the often-packed churches, you may be surprised to hear that the answer is no! Holy days of obligation commemorate a particular event (such as the birth of Christ at Christmas) or celebrate particular people (such as Mary's Immaculate Conception or the feast of All Saints). Ash Wednesday is a day of penance, fasting, and abstinence to begin the season of Lent. In a sense, it focuses on a *concept* rather than something particular and concrete.

Of course, repentance ought to be reflected in particular, concrete ways! That's one of the reasons that attending Mass on Ash Wednesday is a very good idea. It marks the beginning of a solemn season of penance. Despite all its comparisons to the desert, Lent can be very fruitful for our spiritual growth! Beginning this season with the celebration of Mass and the reception of ashes is a sign of our commitment to God and to spiritual growth. ©LPi

