

THE **GOOD NEWS**

DIOCESE OF ALBANY
40 NORTH MAIN AVENUE
ALBANY, NY 12203

JANUARY 2026

“ **We are a group
of women filled with
positive energy
dedicated to making life
better for those less
fortunate.** ”

Ann D. Rose



TO SERVE RATHER THAN
BE SERVED WITH HUMILITY,
SIMPLICITY AND CHARITY.



President's Message

Sharon Giordano

Dear Ladies of Charity,
Happy New Year!

Thank you for your generous donations of time, treasures, talents and money this fall! We had a huge number of volunteers supporting our Coats for the Community drive before, during and after the event. There was a record number of coats to sort and distribute this year and, under the direction of Co Chairs Kathy Ryan and Shelby Blendell, you made it possible to get them to those who needed them most!

This November we used a new tool called SignUp Genius which allowed us to reach women beyond those able to attend our monthly board meetings and who were willing to donate items for seven Thanksgiving baskets for the neediest families at St. Colman's School. We assembled the baskets with several Sisters from St. Louise House during a Saturday with the Sisters event. Sister James was very pleased with the turkeys and overflowing baskets! They were sent home with the children on the Monday before Thanksgiving.

We are very thankful to the Sisters of the Presentation who allow us to use space in their building for our Mary's Corner Distribution Center. They also manage The St. Colman's School, with Autism residential and day school programs on their property. This year's pajama and toy drive supported each of the 33 children at the school. Kathy Maloney coordinated this endeavor.

Thank you to Mary Clinton for organizing tags for Giving Trees in parishes throughout the Capital District. She sent requests for donations for our Giving Room and Mary's Corner ministries. Several of our volunteers collected the donations and brought them back to our Distribution Center.

Sheila Morris Barnes, Theresa McMahon, Ann Rose and their friend Meghan Barrow hosted a fun, festive Christmas sing-along for the Sisters at St. Louise House in December. Nearly 30 Sisters were in attendance. We've heard feedback that it was one of the best activities ever!

Your many donations created three beautiful baskets to be raffled off at the Christmas Cafe, sponsored by the Sisters of St. Louise House. The money generated from the ticket sales will go towards a community project that the Sisters will vote on.

continued ...

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Rose Sherin and her committee have been busy moving forward in securing our 501(c)(3) status. All of the forms have been submitted to the state. Many thanks to Laurie and Tom Baldwin for helping us secure a CPA for this process.

Thank you to Kelly Murray for coordinating a beautiful December general membership pizza dinner meeting. The decor was outstanding and the food was delicious!

The New Year will bring many new volunteer opportunities for each of us. Please see how your time and talents could fit into supporting our ministries. In addition, one of our biggest tasks this year will be to recruit new members. Think about your friends, family and fellow parishioners and invite them to one of our spring events!

Thank you for your dedication and service to our mission.

Sharon Giordano

Spirituality

Sister Joanne Donovan, D.C., Vincentian Spiritual Moderator

Beginning Anew

Here it is January/February and a new year with HOPE and letting go of the old and welcoming the new. The beginning of a new year always merits some reflection. It's not so much a time of making resolutions, though that's not a bad idea, but rather a time to ponder life and review our personal growth. It's a good time and opportunity to reflect on what guides our thoughts and decisions, to look at the person we are and whom we'd like to become.

The new year provides us with the opportunity to look for what allows our life to receive meaning and what resists it. This year of 2025 and 2026 is a jubilee year of HOPE and it encourages us to ponder how and why hope has presented itself and recall what gives us strength and where enthusiasm ripened or died on the vine. If it died on the vine, what can we do to rejuvenate the enthusiasm? We need to look for the graced moments when God whispered (if we listened) in our ears, "Don't forget you are in my heart."

As we journey through life, we face both fears and joys, anxiety and anticipation. Life is unfolding, it is not stagnating; sometimes it is a painful search and sometimes a wonderful discovery. We can't allow ourselves to sink into painful regrets but to keep our minds and hearts open to the gifts that God sends each day. We need to leave behind what brings us down and reach for that which gives us HOPE. Expectation, anticipation, enthusiasm and courage rise in us when we are open to God's ways.

In our journey, we need a strong conviction about the goodness of life within all those we encounter whether it is our family, friends or the poor we serve. We need a vision of HOPE that endures pain and struggle and a thread of love that weaves through our dreams and actions.

St. Vincent wrote in his *Conference* of July 5, 1640:

"You must do what the Son of God did when on earth. After submitting His will...He labored for his neighbor, visiting and healing the sick and instructing the ignorant into their own salvation ... you have the happiness to be called to this holy work."



St. Louise and St. Vincent

And we pray with letters of St. Louise, L.217, *Spiritual Writings Of Louise*, pg.260:

"God our creator, fill us with holiness so that our work will be useful to you. May we realize that it is not enough to visit the poor and provide for their needs, but our heart must be free of all self-interest. May we have continually before us the model, Jesus Christ. As a member of the Church, we are called to be disciples; as a member of a Vincentian group, may we specially imitate Jesus whose constant attention was on those who were poor. I ask this through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen."

LCUSA National Update

Kathy Kavanaugh

The Ladies of Charity's National Office and Service Center has a new location in a Catholic Charities building! The new office at 8001 Longview Rd., Kansas City, Mo. 64134 is open from 9-1 EST. We are very happy to have a new administrative assistant, Gwendolyn Tolbert, so please welcome her if you are in contact with the office. The email is office@ladiesofcharity.us; phone 816-260-3853. As we know, Gwendolyn can send crosses, LOC booklets, stationery, etc. Please continue to contact our regional vice president with questions before contacting Gwendolyn.

Every three years there is an International Assembly of LOC (AIC) and this year ten of our national board members are going to attend in Mexico! The gathering will take place March 14-19. The board members attend at their own expense so we are most grateful. It is always so enriching to gather with LOC from around the world and learn from each other to join hearts and efforts in serving those in need in our various localities.

The national office has sent out solicitation letters to individuals with the hope of raising additional funding to run the office. National needs to pay AIC dues, the salaries of our part-time office employee and our technical designer, insurance, overhead, supplies, etc. Most of the work from the national team of LOC is donated. If you would like to give, please let Kathy Kavanaugh know: kkav@nycap.rr.com; 518-573-5082.

To Serve Rather Than To Be Served

Sharon Giordano

Thank you for your phone calls, texts and emails. We have more women to applaud for their years of service. Please join me in acknowledging:

More than 35 years

Marie Copeland	Karen Jones	Peg Mulroy
Dorothy Halloran	Bernice Leyden	Marilyn Newkirk

More than 40 years

Lou Ann Carlstrom	Michele O'Hare
Carol Criscione	

Thanks for Your Donation to the Daughters' Work

Sharon Giordano

Hopefully many of you were able to attend one of Sister Mary Felice's presentations on her work in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. She visited many churches and organizations while she was in the United States this summer. Sister shared a slide presentation, at our August board meeting, of the work she and 110 other Daughters of Charity do in the most underserved regions of the Congo. For the past 12 years Sister Mary Felice has been working in Lukoleia, a remote village on the Congo River which is accessible only by river because the roads are impassable. They have a 130-bed General Reference Hospital, the only hospital in their health district of 8,700 square miles, with nearly 200,000 residents. They often treat patients from outside the district as well. Some of their main diagnoses are malaria, typhoid fever, tuberculosis, malnutrition, HIV/AIDS, obstetric emergencies and bowel perforations from untreated typhoid.

This year they are constructing a new larger isolation building and contributing to the expansion of the chapel at their provincial house in Mbandaka which accommodates the growing number of Daughters. The Daughters also manage an intensive care building, a smaller building of private isolation rooms for tuberculosis, an emergency room building, a surgery department annex, an internal medicine building and an elementary and middle school for over 900 girls. Sister explained how the concrete was mixed by hand, how they formed the blocks and constructed the many buildings. She shared pictures of their modes of transportation on the river and by bicycle and she shared stories about some of the people of the Congo River.

Our Board unanimously voted to donate \$500 to support the Daughters' work. Sister Mary Felice sent us a nice thank-you note and shared a website address which includes some of the fascinating pictures that she shared with us. Check out congoriverjourney.org.

Public Policy/Legislation

Marie Copeland, Chair

Update, October 14, 2025

From the NYS Catholic Conference:

Medical Aid in Dying Bill A136 - The governor has not taken any action on this bill. The Catholic Conference is urging her to veto it. Make your voice heard at <https://bit.ly/veto-pas> or go to nyscatholic.org and then "Action Center." **Update: Gov. Hochul has indicated that she will sign this bill.**

N.Y. Legislation:

Gov. Hochul signed legislation ensuring benefits to 9/11 first responders:

- Expands the criteria that define first responders who participated in World Trade Center rescue.
- Allows for electronic submission of a notice that a member of a retirement system participated in WTC rescue.
- Defines a "first responder in communications" as an individual who is a public safety dispatcher, emergency responder, emergency operator, emergency complaint operator and emergency services dispatcher who meets minimum requirements by local government.

Proposed Legislation: Allow National Guard members to qualify as veterans under New York State law.

From CCUSA:

Re: **Appropriations:** Requests Congress to support vulnerable populations, including disaster-affected communities, individuals experiencing financial hardship, survivors of human trafficking and others who depend on assistance through the DHS programs. Also, for Congress to support DOJ grant programs that serve youth, families and communities affected by crime.

Agriculture appropriations: Urges Congress to increase funding for critical programs that address food insecurity. (At a minimum, that funding levels be maintained). That the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) be fully funded.

Introduced: Trafficking Survivors Relief Act of 2025: Urges swift passage as the bill provides support for survivors of human trafficking, allowing them to vacate certain convictions and arrests that are directly related to their victimization. This legislation would reduce barriers so that survivors could access resources critical for their recovery. **Update: In early December, the House of Representatives passed this legislation.**

Housing: Update on The ROAD to Housing Act of 2025:

The Senate passed the ROAD Act as an amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act. This action moves the country towards building more housing and bringing down housing costs. It helps military families, veterans and other Americans access affordable housing.

Recent Update: Unfortunately, the Senate language about housing was removed from the NDAA (National Defense Authorization Act).

Federal Updates:

Unaccompanied Children Program (UCP) - Appropriations to provide increased funding for legal services for unaccompanied children which would help ensure these children receive a fair process for seeking safety from danger, while substantially improving the efficiency for the nation's severely overburdened immigration court system.

Fair Day in Court for Kids Act - Would provide unaccompanied children with legal representation when they appear in proceedings before an immigration judge.

Pope Leo released his apostolic exhortation, *Dilexi te*, which reminds the Church and all people of good will that those who are poor do not lose the inherent dignity they have as human beings, nor is their dignity in any way diminished by lacking material goods, knowledge or physical and mental abilities.

Update, November 11, 2025

Update on N.Y. Legislation:

Jack Reid Law: Protect All Students Act - The governor signed this legislation into law. As you will recall, this legislation requires nonpublic schools, like their public-school counterparts, to adopt anti-bullying and harassment policies and requires school employees to enforce those policies.

From AARP:

Caregiving and Housing: The bill passed in July 2025 included an enhanced business credit for family leave. The new law extends and expands provisions of the 2017 measure that offers tax breaks to employers that provide paid family and medical leave. The credit is now permanent and, starting in 2026, employers can offer it to workers after 6 months employment.

The new law expands the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit, a federal incentive for developers to build and renovate affordable housing. The law extends an increase in federal allocations to the states for disbursing the credits and makes it easier for builders and investors to qualify.

Some Tax Law Changes:

2025-2028 - If you are 65 and older, you can claim a bonus deduction on your taxes of up to \$6,000 per eligible individual even if you don't itemize. Individuals with a modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) of up to \$75,000 and joint filers with income of up to \$150,000 can deduct the full \$6,000. It phases out at higher incomes and goes away if your MAGI exceeds \$175,000 (\$250,000 for a couple).

State and Local Taxes (SALT) - The new law temporarily increases the deduction limit to \$40,000 for taxpayers with a MAGI below \$500,000. The SALT deduction cap and income threshold will increase by 1% a year until 2030; then it reverts to \$10,000.

Earnings Free From Income Tax: 2025-2028 - Employees and self-employed people can deduct up to \$25,000 of tip income received in occupations the IRS deems to be "customarily and regularly" receiving tips, i.e., restaurant workers, dog walkers, tutors, companions for older people and taxi and ride share drivers.

Changes for Charitable Contributions: Starting in the 2026 tax year, people who do not itemize can deduct up to \$1,000 (\$2,000 if married filing jointly) for qualified charitable cash contributions. This does not extend the donation of physical goods, like clothing and housewares.

For taxpayers who do itemize, the bill allows a deduction for charitable contributions only if they exceed 0.5% of their AGI.

Child and Dependent Care Credit: This credit applies to up to \$3,000 in expenses for one qualifying individual (i.e., child under 13, spouse or disabled dependent who lives with you) and \$6,000 for two or more. In 2026, the credit rises to a maximum of 50% of qualified expenses if your AGI is \$15,000 or less. The rate of the credit

diminishes at higher incomes. With a Flexible Spending Account, you can contribute up to \$7,500 in 2026 for qualifying childcare and eldercare expenses.

From Catholic Charities USA:

Backpage Remission Process: The Department of Justice launched this process to compensate victims whose trafficking was facilitated through the backpage.com website. Victims whose sex trafficking was facilitated through advertisements posted on backpage.com between January 1, 2004 and April 6, 2018 and who incurred financial losses related to their trafficking, may be eligible for remission. (backpageremission.com) The deadline to file a petition is February 2, 2026.

Federal Legislation:

Campus Accountability and Safety Act - This would strengthen the support network for survivors and increase accountability for schools by creating a standardized process for investigating instances of sexual assault. (Reintroduced bi-partisan)

Federal Employees Civil Relief Act - To protect federal workers, contractors and their families from foreclosures, evictions and loan defaults during the shutdown. (Introduced)

The Social Security Emergency Inflation Relief Act - This legislation would add \$200 per month to Social Security checks until July 2026. It would provide short-term relief to seniors, veterans and Americans with disabilities who live on fixed incomes. (Introduced)

Boosting Benefits and COLAs for Seniors Act - This legislation would provide a longer-term fix, protecting and expanding Social Security benefits for older adults by changing the formula used to calculate yearly cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs) to better account for the unique expenses older adults face. (Introduced)

Thank you for your advocacy.

Gifts of Time, Talent & Treasure

BASKETS WE CREATED FOR THE SISTERS' CHRISTMAS CAFE



MARY'S CORNER

Mary Clinton and Alicia Smith, Co-Chairs

Mary's Corner finished out 2025 serving 1315 children. This would not be possible without the dedicated volunteers who continue to show up week after week. You don't just volunteer your time, you share your warmth, compassion and friendship. We are grateful to the many partners in the community who help us to fill this need. During this Christmas season we were blessed to receive donations from a multitude of parishes. Mary's Corner was very grateful to receive donations in memory of Judy Flannery which will be beneficial in helping many of the mothers and children we serve.

Looking back at the past year we were able to work with Siena University students at Mary's Corner through the Bonner Program. Elyssa and Maddie were instrumental in helping us open a pop-up Mary's Corner at the Watervliet Housing Authority in collaboration with the Authority and the Watervliet School District. We received a visit at Mary's Corner in Albany from Sr. Teresa George, visitrix for the Daughters of Charity. Sr. Teresa was quite impressed with our operation providing this much-needed service to families in need. Having known Sr. Teresa for many years, we know that her impression of Mary's Corner means a lot to all our dedicated volunteers. During Sr. Teresa's brief visit it was evident to her the language barrier faced at our Albany site which is something we will continue to work on in the coming year.

In March Rose Sherin will be stepping away from her site leadership role at Mary's Corner in Albany. We want to thank Rose for her dedication to Mary's Corner. Rose's commitment and support made a real difference at Mary's Corner.

We are currently looking for not one but two Ladies to work in Albany in leadership roles. While looking within our current membership we found it challenging to identify members who are not already volunteering in other capacities to assume leadership roles in Albany.

This made it quite clear to us that in the new year we need to actively engage in recruitment of new members. We hope and trust in the new year we will all work together to make this happen. Now is the time to have that conversation with a friend or family member about the rewarding work of volunteering at Mary's Corner.

If anyone would like more information regarding leadership roles in Albany, please reach out to me or Alicia for more information. The work isn't always easy but it's needed and rewarding.

Blessings,

Mary and Alicia

SISTERS' CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Mary Clinton

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Christmas Sisters program. Once again the Sisters were overwhelmed by your thoughtfulness and generosity.

Bobbie Amiri	Marie Copeland	Suzanne Krosky	Kathy Ryan
Nancy Applebee	Christina Costa	Jane Lin	Dorè Schmidt
Laurie Baldwin	Suzanne David	Kathy Maloney	Jeanne Schrempf
Susan Bandel	Jackie DeSanti	Barbara Maslowsky	Kim Seitz
Maggie Barnes	Mary Ann Dowd	Geraldine Mazza	Chris Sheridan
Shelia Morris Barnes	Alba Giordano	Jane Melville	Rose Sherin
Patricia Betjeman	Carol Giroux	Karen Tierney Murphy	Alicia Smith
Ronnie Blendell	Lois Keefrider	Mary Beth O'Brien	Millie Smith
Ellen Boyer	Joan Kehoe	Michele O'Hare	Jackie Stampalia
Margaret Capozzola	Maureen Kelly	Kathy Powers	Maureen Toohey
Mary Clinton	Kathy Kingsley	Judy Reimenschneider	Nora Vallon-Burgos
Mary Ann Conway	Carolyn Koval	Ann Rose	

SATURDAYS WITH THE SISTERS**Mary Clinton and Lois Keefrider**

There were fun events in November and December:

November 1 – CHRISTMAS CARDS TO THE SOLDIERS

Again this year, the Sisters sent messages to men and women serving in our military. Ann Rose crafted beautiful cards for the event.

**November 15 – ASSEMBLING THANKSGIVING BASKETS**

The Sisters filled baskets with mashed potatoes, stuffing, cranberry sauce, cornbread, canned vegetables and other delicious treats that we Ladies had donated to provide Thanksgiving meals for seven families whose children attend St. Colman's School. We also gave each family a turkey.



Sharon Giordano,
Lois Keefrider and
Sheila Morris Barnes with
some finished baskets



Ann Rose and Alba Giordano work with Sr. Rose Marie Rizzo,
Sr. Jeraldine, Sr. Margaret Mary and Sr. Ann Marie Graham

December 6 – CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS WITH THE SISTERS

We delighted the Sisters with a joyful Christmas sing-along that celebrated the spirit of the season through music and togetherness. Familiar carols filled the room, creating a warm and uplifting atmosphere rooted in faith and gratitude. Laughter, shared memories and moments of reflection made the event a reminder of the true meaning of Christmas. (Submitted by Ann Rose)



Our leaders in song: Meghan Barrow,
Ann Rose, Sheila Morris Barnes and
Theresa McMahon

Sr. Margaret Mary and Sr. Mary Irene

**And there's more to come this year for Saturdays with the Sisters...****Consider volunteering.** All events begin at 1:30 p.m. A list of dates can be found under **Save The Dates** on Page 10 of this edition of **The Good News**.

COATS FOR THE COMMUNITY

Kathy Ryan

COATS for the Community was held on Friday, October 24, from 1 to 6 p.m. and Saturday, October 25, from 9 to noon at the Cohoes Senior Center, 10 Cayuga Plaza, Cohoes, N.Y. We prepared for our guest shoppers from Saturday, October 18, through Thursday, October 23, before the event began. The racks were put up on Saturday afternoon and the sorting of the apparel started on Monday morning. This year we sorted Monday, Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9 to noon. We also sorted on Wednesday evening from 5 to 8 p.m. This provided an opportunity for members that work to volunteer for this event.

Again this year we had many great coats donated along with other winter items such as sweatshirts, heavy sweaters, fleece, hats, scarves, gloves/mittens and some boots. The donations covered infant through adult sizes.

We served 126 households on Friday and 63 on Saturday for a total of 189 households. This was for a total of 412 individuals receiving winter attire.

Saturday after 11 a.m. we had additional households and organizations receiving coats. There were two households from Albany, four households from Waterford and one from Latham. Coats also went to Cohoes and Waterford School districts. Remaining coats were distributed to our Mary's Corner and Giving Room ministries. Pastor Charlie of Victory Church in Albany took the remaining coats to distribute to the people that attend the Thanksgiving dinner he hosts for needy people.

We had volunteers from LOC, the Angels and Waterford Women's Club. Five students from Catholic Central School and two young men from CBA came to help the shoppers and the young children that came with them.

Again, lots of coats and accessories, many happy shoppers leaving with warm coats and other winter apparel and lots of wonderful volunteers that make this ministry so rewarding! Thank you to Holy Trinity for providing a place to store the racks, to all the volunteers and to my co-chair, Shelby Blendell. Also to Beth Slezak of the Cohoes Senior Center who makes this a warm and welcoming space for our shoppers.

We will be meeting with Beth soon to determine a date for next year's COATS.



◀ *Kathy Kingsley and Carolyn Koval at the welcome table*



◀ *Co-Chairs Kathy Ryan and Shelby Blendell model headwear*



A student volunteer helps young guests ▶



◀ *Wednesday evening sorters from left to right: Jane Wasserbach, Janet McCutchen, Joanne Churma, Suzanne David, Sharon Giordano, Debbie Murray, Shelby Blendell, Heather Rooney, Kathy Kingsley. Not pictured Margaret Capozzola, Tierney Murphy and Jen McCutchen*

THE GIVING ROOM**Chris Sheridan**

We were delighted this year to receive hoodies, sweatpants, thermals, jeans and underwear from generous parishioners of St. Thomas the Apostle and St. Pius X churches. Their gifts will be much appreciated by our soup kitchen guests.

If you would like to join us in this ministry at the Sister Maureen Joyce Center, we certainly can use your help. We are open for guests from 11:45 until 1 on Thursday and start getting things organized around 10:30. If you'd like to know more, there is information on the website (albanyloc.org/giving-room). You also can email csherida@nycap.rr.com.

PAJAMAS AND TOYS FOR ST. COLMAN'S CHILDREN**Kathy Maloney**

This Christmas season, pajamas and toys were provided to the students attending St. Colman's School during the 2025-2026 academic year. The school's 33 students, ages 5 through 22, enrolled in either the Autistic program or the Emotionally Distressed program, were each given a pair of pajamas and a toy specifically picked out by Ladies in our membership.

A gift bag containing the pajamas and toy was sent home with each child on the last day of school before the Christmas recess. Thank you to the following Ladies of Charity who helped make this Christmas season special for St. Colman's School and its students: Bobbie Amiri, Laurie Baldwin, Sheila Morris Barnes, Ronnie Blendell, Shelby Blendell, Julie Bonanni, Tina Bosco, Ellen Boyer, Margaret Capozzola, Mary Clinton, Mary Ann Conway, Marie Copeland, Sister Joanne Donovan, Alba Giordano, Sharon Giordano, Kathy Maloney, Theresa McMahon, Jane Melville, Kelly Murray, Mary Beth O'Brien, Michele Puleo O'Hare, Mary Prenderville, Laetitia Rhatigan, Heather Rooney, Ann Rose, Kathy Ryan, Chris Sheridan, Millie Smith, Jackie Stampalia and Karen Tierney.



Kathy Maloney collecting gifts for St. Colman's at our December general membership meeting

BRIDGES OUT OF POVERTY**Kathy Kavanagh**

We had a wonderful Christmas with graduates of our Getting Ahead in a Just-Gettin'-By World program. We gathered for a party in early December at the Church of Christ the King in Guilderland. Graduates could select from a beautiful assortment of donated Christmas decor while enjoying mostly homemade snacks, including items donated by the son of a LOC who sells high-end pastries! Children were invited and everyone seemed happy to touch base again.

All the graduates who chose to participate (almost everyone!), their families, some refugees and immigrants received about 90 really lovely presents through the generosity of Christ the King's Giving Tree contributors and other individuals. Delivering the gifts offered a wonderful chance to visit with our graduates and congratulate them on the fine changes they have made, and are continuing to make, in their lives in order to take impressive care of themselves and their families. What a pleasure it was to learn that another of our graduates is now taking classes at Hudson Valley Community College! They are such strong and good women and mothers. It was also fun to visit with our new friends from other countries and watch the joy and hear the very heartfelt gratitude they expressed. True to their cultures, they offered gracious invitations to share a snack with them as we learned more about their lives. It was truly a blessing to be a part of.



A couple young friends enjoying their new Lego set

Volunteer Opportunities

For a complete description of these ministries, check out our website at albanyloc.org.

Mary's Corner - **weekly**

Albany Tuesdays 10:30 - 12:30 369 Livingston Ave., Albany SMJC

*Cohoes Tuesdays 10:30 - 12:30 1 St. Marie's Ln., Cohoes

*Distribution Center Tuesdays 9 - 12 11 Haswell Rd., Watervliet

Watervliet Housing Wednesday once/month 2400 2nd Ave., Watervliet

*These sites are fully staffed right now. If you are interested in this ministry please contact Co-Chairs Mary Clinton or Alicia Smith

Soup Kitchen - **weekly**

Mondays 11:45 - 1 SMJC

Thursdays 11:45 - 1 SMJC

Giving Room - **weekly**

Thursdays 10:30 - 1 SMJC

Saturdays with the Sisters at St. Louise House - **monthly** All events begin at 1:30 p.m.

In Community Room in DePaul Provincial House or Seton Center in St. Louise House, 96 Menand Rd.

January 24 1:30 - 3 ...Ice Cream Social

May 16 1:30 - 3 ...Game Day

February 7 1:30 - 3 ...S'mores

June 13 1:30 - 3 ...Barbeque

March 7 1:30 - 3 ...St. Patrick's Day Concert

July 18 1:30 - 3 ...Mocktails on the Porch

April 18 1:30 - 3 ...Bingo

August 15 1:30 - 3 ...Ice Cream Social

Adopt-a-Sister - **flexible**

Visit with a Sister at St. Louise House on your schedule

Christmas Cafe Raffle Baskets -

yearly in November, December - flexible

Purchase donations for one of the themed baskets on your schedule

Giving Tree - **yearly - flexible**

Distribute tags to local parishes and pick up donations on your schedule

Pajama and Game Collection -

yearly in November, December - flexible

Purchase donations that the board designates for one of the children at St. Colman's school

Coats for the Community - **yearly in October - flexible**

Sign up for a shift to set up, shop with clients and/or take down the operation

Website - **flexible**

Thanksgiving Baskets -

yearly in October, November - flexible

Public Policy - **flexible**

Purchase donations for baskets on your schedule

Historian - **flexible**

Save The Dates

Board Meetings at DePaul House: All meetings start at 5 p.m.

January 13, 2026

April 14, 2026

July 14, 2026

October 13, 2026

February 10, 2026

May 12, 2026

August 11, 2026

November 10, 2026

March 10, 2026

June 9, 2026

September 8, 2026

December 8, 2026

Saturdays with the Sisters dates are listed above in the Volunteer Opportunities section.

Please consult our website, albanyloc.org, for the very latest news and schedule updates.

CHARITY ABOUNDS

Many of our Ladies serve in ministries other than those our Association sponsors or directly supports. We would like to highlight their work from time to time as space allows. If you have a ministry you'd like to see featured, please send a description to csherida@nycap.rr.com.

St. Pius X Meal Ministry

(submitted by Jackie DeSanti)



We provide a monthly meal for approximately 200 people at Interfaith Partnership in Albany. We choose a meal and then parishioners make a part of the meal and deliver it to the church on the last Wednesday of the month. Folks make any part they want. Sometimes we do a "chef's choice" by making anything we want to give the guests a buffet.

We provide meals for anyone who requests a helping hand. Many times this is a caregiver after a patient's hospital stay. We also provide food and bake treats for special occasions at church.



Doré Schmidt captured many smiles at the meeting

THE ALBANY ASSOCIATION OF**2025-2026 Executive Board****President**

Sharon Giordano
39 Stonewall Lane,
Delmar, NY 12054
C: 518-331-7271
E: sharongiordano813@gmail.com

1st Vice President - TBD**Recording Secretary**

Theresa McMahon
20 Heritage Way,
Selkirk, NY 12158
H: 518-505-4325
E: theresasmcmahon@gmail.com

Corresponding Secretary

Sheila Morris Barnes
26 Oakwood Place,
Delmar, NY 12054
H: 518-475-0941
E: rbarnes15@nycap.rr.com

Treasurer

Jacqueline Stampalia
55 New Salem South Road,
Voorheesville, NY 12186
H: 518-265-1878
E: istampalia@gmail.com

Immediate Past President

Michele O'Hare
8 Turnberry Drive,
Slingerlands, NY 12159
C: 518-817-6804
E: mapohare@gmail.com

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Albany, NY 12203



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