“THE PARISH COMMUNITY OF ST. AMBROSE CHURCH”

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

PARISH STAFF
Rev. Dr. Anthony M. Barratt, Pastor
Helmut Neurohr, Permanent Deacon
Ann McCauley, Business Manager
Erin Muir, P.A. for Liturgy & Pastoral Life
Tom Acemoglu, P.A. for Evangelization & Catechesis
Debbie McKown, Faith Formation Administrative Secretary
Mark Trudeau, Life Teen for High School and Jr. High
Joan Welch, Parish Secretary
Thomas Green, Parish Music Director
Nancy Acemoglu, RN, Parish Nurse
David Dobkowski, PhD-Counselor, 859-4015
Jim LaBombard, Athletic Director
371-1996 • email stambrosecyo@gmail.com

PARISH TRUSTEES
Catherine Halayko / Joseph Sinisgallii

ST. AMBROSE SCHOOL
518-785-6453
Website: www.stambreselatham.org
E-Mail: ambrose_347@outlook.com
Terri McGraw, Principal
Lori McCoy, Secretary

MASS SCHEDULE
Saturday Vigil: 4:30pm
Sunday: 7:30, 9:00, 11:30am & 5:30pm-Life Teen
Daily: Wednesday & Friday 6:30am
Tuesday & Thursday 9:00am
Communion Service: Monday 6:30am
Holydays and Holidays subject to change
(see bulletin)

CHURCH OF ST. AMBROSE
347 Old Loudon Road, Latham, NY 12110
518-785-1351
WEBSITE: www.stambreselatham.com
E-MAIL: parishsecretary@stambreselatham.com

NEW OFFICE HOURS
Monday–Thursday 9:00am–6:00pm
Friday 9:00am–4:00pm
Saturday & Sunday CLOSED
OUR LADY OF LOURDES AND
THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE SICK

Last week we reflected on the feast day of St. Blaise and on the Blessing of Throats. This coming week we have another special feast day in our church’s calendar: the feast day of Our Lady of Lourdes on 11th February. We remember the appearances of our Blessed Mother to Saint Bernadette in the little town of Lourdes located in the foothills of the Pyrenees Mountains in southern France. The first appearance took place in a remote grotto outside of the town on 11th February 1858. When asked her name by Bernadette, the Blessed Mother replied “I am the Immaculate Conception.” When she reported this and subsequent appearances, Bernadette was not believed at first; but eventually she was believed, not least when a spring bubbled up from the spot where the Blessed Mother had asked for a chapel to be built. Since these events, Lourdes has become a place of pilgrimage for the sick and there have been sixty-nine officially recognized cures as well of many more unofficial ones. For all these reasons, our feast day has also been designated as a World day of Prayer for the Sick.

Our feast day reminds us, of course, of many things. We know that care for the sick is a very important part of being a disciple of Jesus. After all, Jesus’ own ministry frequently involved both a care for and a healing of the sick. Someone has actually sat down and worked out that 35% of the verses in the Gospels involve Jesus healing those who are spiritually or physically sick! In Matthew chapter 25 Jesus talks of God’s judgment and how people ask “Lord, when did we see you sick and visit you...?” and of the reply “in as much as you did this to the least of my brethren, you did it to me.”

However, we can also think not only of what we might call a ministry to the sick, but also of a ministry of the sick. Those who are ill or incapacitated in some way are most certainly full and active members of our church community. They are not passive receivers, but active givers! Many spend a great deal of time in prayer for their family, or for the parish, or for the wider community: they are our prayer warriors. Some also give an amazing witness by the way their faith has helped them to cope with all the difficulties that they have to face. I remember an amazing lady who I met when I was first ordained: she was in the last stages of cancer. She simply said that her faith had made all the difference. It was so obvious that this was true, so I could not help but ask her “how so?” She replied that her faith helped her to remain a person and not to become the disease: “I am and always will be Alice” she said, “not cancer.”

We may not be able to get to Mass on Wednesday (11th), but we could make sure as a family that we pray together for the sick, especially family members and members of our wider family in the parish and school. The Day Chapel will be open as usual (from 5.45 am until 8.00 pm), so there is the opportunity to call in for a few moments of prayer if we are passing by close to the church. It is a great day to act on a plan that we may have had to visit someone we know who is sick, or who is a shut-in, or simply to make that phone call that we have been meaning to do for ages. Let us also give thanks for so many in our parish who visit the sick and take Holy Communion to them, or who visit the hospitals and nursing homes and those who are the main carers for sick family or friends. Finally, let us remember the hard work and dedication of so many in the medical profession as they work to alleviate the pain and suffering that can so often go with illness.

Fr. Anthony
MISSION STATEMENT

We, the members of St. Ambrose Parish, Latham, New York believe that, through our faith and baptism, we have been called to give witness to the values of Jesus as expressed in the gospel and teachings of our Church. As individuals and as a Parish Family we strive to:

Develop our spiritual life • Spread the Gospel message • Respect the human dignity and rights of all persons
Support family life: the role of married couples, singles, youth and children
Share our time, energy, talent and resources

Strengthened by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to make choices and decisions that will reflect and give evidence of what we say we believe and value as a Catholic Christian Faith Community.

Sacraments

RECONCILIATION
Saturday 3:00 PM or any time by appointment.

MARRIAGE
Congratulations! So that proper preparation may be made, please make an appointment with Fr. Anthony at least six months before the desired date. Either the bride or groom should be a registered parishioner of St. Ambrose parish.

BAPTISM
Congratulations! If you wish to arrange preparation for baptism, please call the Parish Office. Parents should be registered members of St. Ambrose parish.

RCIA
(Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)
For those inquiring into the Catholic Faith. Welcome!
Please contact the Parish Office for program details.

VOCATION
If you are considering a vocation to the priesthood, diaconate or religious life, please contact Fr. Anthony.

It is hard to believe that Ash Wednesday will be here soon (18th February). As mentioned at the Masses last weekend, your thoughts about making a few alterations and additions to the availability of receiving the ashes would be appreciated. The aim is to make this availability easier and more helpful to everyone, especially those at work during the day. The proposed timetable is as follows:

6.30 am Prayer Service with the giving of ashes
9.00 am Mass (including the giving of ashes)
12.15 pm Prayer Service with the giving of ashes
7.00 pm Mass (including the giving of ashes)

God bless,
Fr. Anthony

Parishes of Our Local Catholic Communities

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<th>Parishes</th>
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<tr>
<td>Colonie</td>
<td>St. Clare’s</td>
<td>456-3112</td>
<td>Sat: 4:00pm/Sun: 8:30 / 10:30am</td>
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| Latham       | Our Lady of the Assumption | 785-0234 | Sat: 4:30pm  
                                           Sun: 7:30, 9:00 & 11am       |
| Loudonville  | Christ Our Light | 459-6635 | Sat: 4:00pm/Sun: 9:00 / 11:15am      |
|              | St. Pius X    | 462-1336 | Sat: 5pm/Sun: 8, 10 & 12 noon        |

Monday, February 16th Presidents’ Day

✦ Church & School offices will be closed.
✦ There will be NO 6:30 AM Communion Service
✦ There will be a 9:00 AM Mass

Please remember in the charity of your prayers the repose of the souls of Margaret Gorke, Kenneth Harrington and all those who will be Remembered in Masses this week.

There will be NO Eucharistic Adoration on Friday, February 13th due to Presidents’ Day weekend. The chapel will, however, be open for prayer during the day. Adoration will resume on Friday, February 20th.

Eucharistic Adoration

Resident’s Day

Church & School offices will be closed.
NO 6:30 AM Communion Service
There will be a 9:00 AM Mass

Fr. Anthony
Hi friends!

A couple of quick things:

- The first large group date for Confirmation preparation is this Thursday, February 12th at 7pm!

Also:

Make sure to check our website at www.stambroselatham.com for info, ways to contact us, to register online, and for video of special events!

faithformationsecretary@stambroselatham.com

to register today!

We will also be hosting a special session of enrichment and prayer called “Lent with the Mystics”. It’ll include short presentations on some of our Church’s greatest mystics and a special time of prayer where we seek to draw closer to God in the same way that the mystics did. It will be something really special!

Wednesday, March 11th—Lent with the Mystics
(St. Teresa of Avila, led by Beth Lynch)

Wednesday, March 18th—Lent with the Mystics
(St. Francis De Salles, led by Fr. Barratt)

Wednesday, March 25th—Lent with the Mystics
(St. Therese of Lisieux, led by Bob Martino)

Lent is coming!
Ash Wednesday is only a week and a half away and the Church enters a special time of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving while we prepare to remember Jesus’ suffering, death, and Resurrection.

As a parish, we have a lot of great opportunities for you!

Thursday, February 26th—Women’s Dinner/Retreat (6-8:45pm, Sisters of St Joseph at Carondelet in Latham, $10)

Thursday, March 5th—Men’s Dinner/Retreat (6-8:45pm, Sisters of St Joseph at Carondelet in Latham, $10)

Please call the faith formation office at 785-1351 or email

First large group meeting date for Confirmation is this Thursday, February 12th, 7pm in the Parish Center!

Please contact Tom or Mark if there are any problems. We’re here to help!
"True holiness is not achieved by what we do, but what we allow God to do in us."
-Mark Hart, VP Lifeteen, Inc.

For months now your teens who are a part of the High School Youth group have been working on raising enough money to send a small group of them off to work for the brothers and sisters in Christ who need our help. Both adults and teens alike have united in this effort as they called out to our entire parish family to support this great calling in prayer. In contribution and in participation. As usual you all responded with enthusiasm and energy.

It is now just a few days away from sending out the “Field crew” – the folks who will take the support of our parish family and make it into a tangible expression of love and concern. There are 22 teenagers who have given up their winter vacation to work harder than they ever have and serve in the way Christ calls us all to serve. There are 8 adults who will lead these teens on their journey of love. We will go to Rosedale, West Virginia where we will build a house for a family of 6. A few weeks ago I had the privilege of meeting this family and spending a short time with our ministry partners to plan the trip. Next Step Ministries have set us up with accommodations; a community center with lots of space to roll out sleeping bags and air mattresses. We’ll work all day and then return at night to share about how God has worked with us and through us. The overarching message we all come to realize—God does not make us missionaries to do this work, rather he empowers us to do this work so our true selves can be revealed as created by a God who serves so we can serve.

Family Prayer and Dreaming from our beloved Pope Francis

It is important to dream in the family. All mothers and fathers dream of their sons and daughters in the womb for 9 months. They dream of how they will be. It isn’t possible to have a family without such dreams. When you lose this capacity to dream you lose the capacity to love, the capacity to love is lost. I recommend that at night when you examine your consciences, ask yourself if you dreamed of the future of your sons and daughters. Did you dream of your husband or wife? Did you dream today of your parents, your grandparents who carried forward the family to me? It is so important to dream and especially to dream in the family. Please don’t lose the ability to dream in this way. How many solutions are found to family problems if we take time to reflect, if we think of a husband or wife, and we dream about the good qualities they have. Don’t ever lose the memory of when you were boyfriend or girlfriend. That is very important.

Resting in prayer is especially important for families. It is in the family that we first learn how to pray. And don’t forget when the family prays together, it remains together. This is important. There we come to know God, to grow into men and women of faith, to see ourselves as members of God’s greater family, the Church. In the family we learn how to love, to forgive, to be generous and open, not closed and selfish. We learn to move beyond our own needs, to encounter others and share our lives with them. That is why it is so important to pray as a family! That is why families are so important in God’s plan for the Church!

There is no time like the present. If you have a child in middle school—6th, 7th or 8th grade—and want to get them involved in something that will help build their Catholic faith; will draw them closer into a relationship with our Lord; will help build confidence in their own person to be who God calls them to be; will teach them about the Love God has for them, the invitation He has for them to join His church and the strength He will give them to follow; then the EDGE Ministry is what you’re looking for. Tuesday nights at 6:45pm until 8:00pm all middle school youth are welcome to join the group and begin the journey of learning to claim this faith as their own and live a life full and abundant as Jesus Christ promised.

If you have any questions about the ministry and would like more information please do not hesitate to contact me, Mark Trudeau, your youth minister at the office (518) 785-1351 x309 or by cell (518) 369-0213 or by email at youthministry@stambroselatham.com

FEED YOUR FAITH

Middle School Ministry
**Catholic Schools Week**

has been filled with many opportunities to share the

great gifts of Catholic education:

community, faith-filled learning and lots of fun!

The week began with a liturgy celebrated by Bishop Scharfenberger on

Sunday afternoon. Some of the highlights included recognizing distin-

guished members of the Catholic school community:

**DISTINGUISHED PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR:**

Mr. Michael Piatek, Holy Spirit

**DISTINGUISHED TEACHERS OF THE YEAR:**

Crystal Roberts, Sacred Heart; Gwen Peterson, CCHS

**MILESTONE AWARDS:**

Sr. Monica Murphy, CCHS 50 years;  
John Stockton, CCHS 45 years

On **Monday**, we held our annual Spelling Bee. We are so proud of all

the students who participated.

**FIRST PLACE WINNERS INCLUDE:**

Declan Ashby, Elementary Division, Matthew Ryan, Intermediate Divi-

sion and Ramza Ryan, Junior Division

**Tuesday** afternoon our 8th grade students took on the faculty in a spir-

ited basketball game. The 8th grade rallied late in the 4th quarter but the

faculty were victorious! **Wednesday** our 3rd grade students (and their

parents) shared their aspirations and avocations at Career Day. In the

afternoon, the first grade students celebrated their varied ethnic back-

grounds with many tasty treats at their Family Food Festival. On **Thursday**

the middle school students (grades 5-8) traveled to Saratoga

Central Catholic High School to participate in the 3rd annual Trivia

Bowl. Students from 5 other Catholic schools joined the representative

students from St. Ambrose School in an academic competition. We

showed our school spirit while cheering for everyone to do their best.

Students in grades K-4 were treated to a virtual performance about Na-

tive Americans in New York State. **Thursday** afternoon was the show-

down on the volleyball court between grade 8 and grades 6/7. Each

team won one game. The 8th grade then dared to take on the faculty

only to fall to defeat again. Everyone had a great time and showed lots

of support for all of the teams. **Friday** the 5th grade tested their physics

skills by creating a vehicle that would protect an egg when dropped

from a certain height. All designs survived the first drop at 1m but not

the 2m drop. Keep trying grade 5!

Catholic Schools Week was capped off with our Family Winter Gala

filled with dancing, fun raffles and good times!

Visit our website to see pictures from all of the class and school events.

www.stambroselatham.org

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**Dealing with Grief—Seeking Assistance "Beginning Experience"**

There is a wonderful, amazing program that for

the most part has been a well kept secret. It is a

Diocesan Program which has been running for

several years. It was founded by a Catholic nun

and her divorced friend, serving all faiths. It

can help you deal with the natural Grief process

and offers an opportunity, through God, for

turning your pain of loss into an experience of

positive growth.

It is a weekend retreat that may be the begin-

ning of a transformation. It is peer Leadership

and Team, which means those that present,

serve and get it. They have experienced the

devastation of Loss through Death of a Spouse

or Divorce.

The next weekend Retreat is approaching.

There are only 2 per year (limited openings).

**The next retreat is March 20—22nd.**

If you are interested please call me at

785-1351 x304 or call 866-610-8877

or

WWW.BEGINNINGEXPERIENCE.ORG

It can make a difference. It is a gift for you or

someone you love or care about. Help them on

their difficult journey of pain and grief. It is

held in a beautiful Holy setting locally, a Cath-

olic Priest from NY is available to speak with

through reconciliation.
**Around the Parish**

**Around the Diocese**

**Annual Penny Social**
St. Michaels' Parish, in Cohoes (Page Ave.), will be hosting their Annual Penny Social on **Sunday, March 1st**. Doors will open at 11:30 AM with games starting at 2 PM. For more information call 237-7121 on Tuesdays after 1 pm.

**Emergency Winter Weather Closings**
With the winter months approaching, please remember that when the school closes due to inclement weather, the building will also be closed for all activities, **excluding Mass**. For information please check the TV stations or the internet. Remember—if the North Colonie School District is closed—so will St. Ambrose School. However, St. Ambrose School may close independently as well.

**The Evangelist Update**

**The next meeting of the Altar Rosary Society will be Tuesday, February 10 at 7 pm in the Day Chapel.** We will begin with recitation of the rosary as usual. This month we welcome our guest speaker **Verna Elgidely**. She will share her thoughts on "Our Lenten Journey with Mary." All are welcome to join us for this inspirational evening of faith & fellowship.

Hair of the Dog, the popular Celtic folk/rock band with local roots, is coming to LaSalle Institute (174 Williams Road, Troy, 12180) on Friday, March 6, 2015. Doors will open at 6:30pm, the band will start at 7:30pm. Tickets are $15 per person in advance, $20 per person if purchased at the door. Please call LaSalle Institute at 283-2500 to purchase tickets. All proceeds will benefit LaSalle Institute's Academic Scholarship Fund.

Hair of the Dog

**All Saints On the Hudson Antique Show**
All Saints on the Hudson Parish in Mechanicville will be hosting an “Antique Show” on **Saturday, March 7th from 9am—4pm** in their parish center on Grove Street. For more info. call Maria Amann (518) 664-6405 or email Anne Amann at Buffalo362@gmail.com.

**The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) is federal regulations concerning patient confidentiality.**
It is essential that when you or a member of your family is a patient in any of the area hospitals that you call the parish office to let us know.

Please also inform the hospital that you are a member of St. Ambrose Parish. Hospital visitation is done on a weekly basis and it is important to us that all our parishioners are visited.

**Are you struggling with your emotions, a loss, an addiction, a relationship or family issues? Counseling is available in the evenings at St. Ambrose.** A $25 donation is appreciated. Contact Dave Dobkowski, Ph.D. at 859-4015 to make an appointment.

**Please cut out, make check payable to St. Ambrose Church, drop it in the Collection Box or mail to the Parish Office.**

**The next meeting of the Altar Rosary Society will be Tuesday, February 10 at 7 pm in the Day Chapel.** We will begin with recitation of the rosary as usual. This month we welcome our guest speaker **Verna Elgidely**. She will share her thoughts on "Our Lenten Journey with Mary." All are welcome to join us for this inspirational evening of faith & fellowship.
Around the Parish

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

We Are A Tithing Parish
Following “God’s Plan for Giving”

February 1, 2015  $16,911.40
February 2, 2014  $20,171.52

“Thank you for being so generous!”
Thank you to all who are responding so generously to our financial need. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Also, thank you to those who signed-up for electronic withdrawal. If you decide to sign-up for this option in the future, forms are available at the entrances to the church, or just call the Parish Office.
Many Thanks.

Parishioner Registration/Update Request

Name: __________________________________________
Street: __________________________________________
City: ____________________________________________
Zip: _____________________________________________
Phone No: _______________________________________

Please Check

☐ New Registration  ☐ Change of Address
☐ Moving out of Parish  ☐ Want Envelopes
☐ Name Change (*Please contact Parish Secretary*)

Please cut out and drop it in the Collection Basket or mail to the Parish Office.

Calvary Methodist Church of Latham is looking for people interested in becoming a Literacy Volunteer. For more information please call Rita Pickett @ 786-1858.
**CALENDARS & SCHEDULES**

**Sunday — February 8**
- 1—2:30PM: SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE-PARISH CTR
  - 10:15-11:45AM: Faith Formation
  - After 5:30PM Mass: Life Teen-Parish Ctr

**Monday — February 9**
- 1:30PM: Nursing Home Communion Service
- 7:00PM: Core-Chapel

**Tuesday — February 10**
- 6:45PM: The Edge-Parish Ctr
- 7:00PM: Altar Rosary Meeting-Chapel

**Wednesday — February 11**
- 6:30PM: Media Ministry Meeting-Church

**Thursday — February 12**
- 9:30AM: Mary’s Circle of Love-Lounge
- 10—12 Noon: Young At Heart-Parish Ctr
- 7:00PM: Prayer Group-Chapel
- 6:30-8:30PM: AA, AL-ANON, ALATEEN-Mtg Rms

**Friday — February 13**
- 7AM-Midnight: Eucharistic Adoration-Chapel

**Saturday — February 14—Valentine’s Day**
- Sunday — February 15
  - 10:15-11:45AM: NO Faith Formation
  - After 5:30PM Mass: Life Teen-Parish Ctr

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**Liturgical Roles for Week Ending February 14 & 15**

**Money Counters, Sunday, February 15, 2015**

**Team #3 — Barbara Stampfl, Richard Lasky & George Parker**

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<td><strong>Eucharistic Ministers:</strong> S. Burgess, J.A. Conroy, M. Trudeau, J. Hogan, Gary &amp; Joe Leombruno, N. Hooks,</td>
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<td><strong>Eucharistic Ministers:</strong> J. Bodnar, C. Chabot, C. Pracher, V. Gyurko, P. Lincoln, P. Szwedo, J. Rys</td>
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<td><strong>ALTA SERVERS:</strong> M.E. Belkis, S. Biazon, Therese Biazon</td>
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**Monday — February 9—Weekday**
- 6:30 AM: Communion Service
- 9:00 AM: Mass at Our Lady of the Assumption

**Tuesday — February 10—St. Scholastica**
- 6:30 AM: Mass at Our Lady of the Assumption
- 9:00 AM: John Ferris by the Staff of Dufresne & Cavanaugh Funeral Home
- 1:30 PM: Nursing Home Communion Service

**Wednesday — February 11—Our Lady of Lourdes**
- 6:30 AM: Jack Holbien by Bill & Harriet Whalen
- 9:00 AM: Mass at Our Lady of the Assumption

**Thursday — February 12—Weekday**
- 6:30 AM: Communion Service at Our Lady of the Assumption
- 9:00 AM: Rita Allen by Suzi & Sandi Trzcinski
- Philip Donegan by Mary Donegan
- Frances Schlosser by Mary Donegan

**Friday — February 13—Weekday**
- 6:30 AM: Parish Intention
- 9:00 AM: Mass at Our Lady of the Assumption

**Saturday — February 14—Saints Cyril, Monk and Methodius**
- 4:30 PM: Rita & Aime Demers by Yonally Family
- Donald Gradoni by Jeanette Crala & Family
- Pauline DeVo by Richard & Debbie DeVoe

**Sunday — February 15—6th Sunday In Ordinary Time**
- 7:30 AM: For the intention of Carol Sweeney by Susan Gorski
- 9:00 AM: Daniel W. Grady by Judy Grady
- Rita Allen by Paul & Bert Trzcinski
- Jessie Benauisto by Rose & Tom Kelsh
- 11:30 AM: John J. Brown III by Nicole Welch / Russ Dauphinais
- 5:30 PM: Parish Intention
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**2014 CONTRIBUTIONS REQUEST**

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Phone No: 

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