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 Sinisgalli

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

M A S S  S C H E D U L E
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.stambroselatham.com
E-MAIL: parishsecretary@stambroselatham.com

NEW OFFICE HOURS
Monday–Thursday 9:00am–6:00pm
Friday 9:00am–4:00pm
Saturday & Sunday CLOSED
This weekend we once again celebrate Palm Sunday, or, to give it the official title “Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord.” It is hard to believe that the season of Lent is coming to a close for another year. How has Lent been for you….? I do hope that you and your family or friends have experienced some spiritual renewal and refreshment. I hope and pray too that the journey of Lent has given you many opportunities to reflect on your relationship with the Lord, to seek healing and forgiveness from God where this is needed and to make that extra time and effort to let God’s grace and love work in you. Please do give feedback on the various parish events and activities such as the weekly challenge card, the Lent Talk series etc.

However Lent has been for us, we now change gear somewhat and focus our attention on “Holy Week.” Jesus invites us, once again, to journey with him as He enters Jerusalem to suffer, to die and to rise from the dead. It is an intense and moving week. In fact, many of our liturgies this week are unusual and very dramatic. This is quite deliberate and very important! I would like to make a warm and heartfelt invitation to you and your family and friends to come to as many of the events and liturgies during Holy Week as you can. Please do consider inviting family, friends or neighbors who perhaps have not been to church in some time to come with you.

The Church urges us to enter into all these events in our Lord’s life, death and resurrection and so to be part of the unfolding drama. That is why we participate in the Masses and liturgies of Holy Week in a special and more dramatic way than usual: carrying palms, being the “crowd” in the reading of the Gospel, venerating the cross or processing with candles. We are not passive onlookers or spectators on Palm Sunday, or at the Last Supper (Holy Thursday), or as we relive Jesus’ passion on Good Friday or as we rejoice at the empty tomb on Easter Sunday. We are to be drawn into these life-changing (and world-changing) events. The introduction at the beginning of Mass today puts it so well:

Dear brothers and sisters, since the beginning of Lent until now, we have prepared our hearts by penance and charitable works. Today we gather to herald with the whole Church, the beginning of the celebration of the Lord’s Paschal Mystery, that is to say, of His Passion and Resurrection. For it was to accomplish this mystery that He entered His own city of Jerusalem. Therefore, with all faith and devotion, let us commemorate the Lord’s entry into the city for our salvation, following in His footsteps, so that, being made by His grace partakers of the Cross, we may have a share also in His resurrection and in His life.

Finally, we can remember that we do all this as individuals, of course, but also very much as a community of faith. This is especially true as we celebrate with our candidates (John and Sharon) who are to be fully initiated into the Church at the Easter Vigil. As they receive the sacraments, it can be a great time for us to renew our appreciation of our Baptism, or of the Eucharist, or indeed of all the gifts that God gives to us. May you have a truly wonderful and holy Holy Week!

Fr. Anthony

**MASS/SERVICE TIMES MONDAYS AND FRIDAYS**

As mentioned at Masses last week, we are looking at swopping the days for the early Holy Communion Service and early Mass on Mondays and Fridays. We have made a few changes to the weekday Masses so far: adding a Mass at 9.00 am on Thursdays and also a 9.00 am Mass on public holidays. The additional service on Ash Wednesday at 12.15 pm seemed to be very popular, as is the earlier time of 5.30 pm for the Vigil Mass on holy days of obligation. The swopping of times Monday and Friday would mean that there would be a Mass at 6.30 am on Mondays (rather than a Holy Communion service) and a Holy Communion Service on Fridays (rather than a Mass).

After some very helpful and positive feedback, the times will indeed change from the week beginning **Monday, 13th April**. All the regular times of Mass will be the same, but there will now be a Mass on Mondays at 6.30 am and a Holy Communion Service on Fridays at 6.30 am.

Fr. Anthony
M I S S I O N   S T A T E M E N T

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.

S A C R A M E N T S

R E C O N C I L I A T I O N
Saturday 3:00 PM or any time by appointment.

M A R R I A G E
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.

B A P T I S M
Congratulations! If you wish to arrange preparation for baptism, please call the Parish Office. Parents should be registered members of St. Ambrose parish.

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

V O C A T I O N
If you are considering a vocation to the priesthood, diaconate or religious life, please contact Fr. Anthony.


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| 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  |

A note from Fr. Ophals
After almost five years, it is time for me to say “Goodbye”. Most of you have not seen me for many months, because I was not feeling good. Now I am back to my old self, but I have decided to move to the Beltrone Living Center which has many activities that appeal to senior citizens. I want to thank Father DuBois and Father Anthony and the caring Staff here at St. Ambrose for their kindnesses during this time.

I will carry with me many happy memories. I ask God’s blessings on all of them as well as all the parishioners at St. Ambrose, especially the people I’ve gotten to know personally.

H O L Y   W E E K   P A R I S H   C L O S I N G S
- Parish & School Offices will be closed on Holy Thursday & Good Friday.
- There will be NO Eucharistic Adoration on Good Friday, 4/3

G O O D   F R I D A Y   C O L L E C T I O N
At St. Ambrose we do not usually have extra collections, but on Good Friday we will have a special collection as you leave the services on that day for the Holy Places in Jerusalem and the Holy Land. If you would like to make a donation to this special collection that goes to the upkeep of these holy places, please place your offering in one of the collection baskets.

Easter Egg Hunt for children age 10 and younger will be held on Saturday, April 4th at 1:00 PM. Meet at the entrance to the school at the south parking lot. (If the weather is bad we’ll be in the gym). Please bring your Easter basket to collect the eggs in.
Our Confirmation retreat happened March 13th-15th in Silver Bay, NY. Many thanks to all of the teens, families, and volunteers who helped make the weekend as special as it was!

Lent and Life
A video series to help you make the most out of your Lent!

The series is live now and you can find it on our website, on Facebook, and on YouTube! Please share!

Please check out www.stambroselatham.com/media www.facebook.com/saintambrosechurch

Thank you to our presenters for making all of our Lent with the Mystics series such a wonderful time of enrichment and prayer!

Please look for video from the series on the parish website!
April 19th is the day! As our teens approach this amazing day in their lives I wanted us all to join them in prayer for DISCERNMENT. Have you spent time in prayer with the idea that the inspiration of the Holy Spirit is the primary factor in making your next decision? This is discernment and it is what we are asking the teens to do from this point forward as they grow in their faith, in their relationship with our Lord and in their responsibilities with their Parish Family, the Church. This is what becoming an adult in your faith is all about and their Confirmation will empower them to become the Virtuous men and women God calls us all to be. Of all the teachings we try to help the Confirmandi understand there are three that standout among the many lessons our Lord teaches us. They are: We have a God who loves us and calls us to love ourselves and each other. Are you patient with others (especially in your car) and are you patient with yourself? Are you kind to others (everyone!) and are you kind to yourself (not selfish but kind)? Want to know what true love is then read 1 Corinthians 13 and see how God treats you and see how He asks us to treat each other. The second is: We have a God who forgives us and in His great mercy calls us back to Him. Forgiveness is the only path to healing, reconciliation, re-union and love. Without it, instead of healing we have a band aid; instead of reconciliation we have intolerance; without re-union we have rejection and with out love we have indifference. Nothing in our lives is more important and we know this because of the debt Jesus paid for us on the cross and His request to our Father in His last breaths—“Father forgive them...”. The third is, Your Family needs you. The last command Jesus gave us all just before he rose to heaven was—“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, Baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Matthew 28:19. This charge He gave to all of us but we are not all called to be Priests, Deacons and Religious. Many of us are called to family and it is in that family that we build our Parish Family. Here we provide an environment where we can care for the poor, nurture the sick, feed the hungry and cloth the naked. Here is where we need everyone to use the gifts and talents given to you by our Father to further the kingdom of heaven here on earth. The Parish is a place of great need but it is also a place of great strength empowered by God’s grace to provide for their needs as well as the needs of others beyond our Parish. Do you recognize the gifts God has given you? He has made you in His image and likeness. Look closely and you will see the face of Christ in you. Do you use those gifts to love and to help others in their needs? Nothing God does is too much. He gave us all gifts and talents because they are all needed. Embrace the Parish Family and you will see how much you are needed. Be alert. Jesus is coming into town. Happy Palm Sunday!
At St. Ambrose School, we are “Learning to be all God wants us to be.”

PRE K Discover Dinosaurs!

WOW!

Young Archaeologists Digging for Dinosaur Bones

**Parish Nurse**
NANCY ACEMOGLU, RN

As we approach the weeks ahead, there is much contemplation and meditation on all the emotions and the days culminated with Christ’s impending death on the Cross.

Daily in Church work one witnesses joy as well as sorrow. This is a wonderful world yet there is much sadness.

We, as a Parish family, prepare for Easter, by so many various acts of kindness; collections of food for the poor, the work of those who continue greatly each day as volunteers in ministry, and assisting in our office, all those involved in the preparation of our facility for our High Holy days.

Those praying for the requests on the prayer wall, remind us of the love of God by caring for one another. May we continue to grow as servants, loving well and much through words and deeds.

Lord Jesus, remind us that the king who leads us does so with humility as well as majesty, and cause us to build Your kingdom by your Spirit, rather than by might or power—that we might be channels for more love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control in our world.

Amen
**Around the Parish**

**12TH ANNUAL**

**“Trash-To-Treasure” Sale**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 9—4 PM**

(Early Bird Special 8:00AM $3.00 entrance fee)

**SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 9—12 NOON**

Donations welcomed! They can be dropped off on the gym stage beginning Wednesday, April 22.

**WE CANNOT ACCEPT TV’S, COMPUTERS, BOOKS OR CLOTHES.**

ALL proceeds to benefit St. Ambrose School Music Department.

**ST. AMBROSE SCHOOL** will also be hosting a **RECYCLING DAY,**

**Saturday, April 25, 9—12 Noon,**

near the Soccer field.

Old TV’s, computers, lawn mowers, etc. will be accepted.

**Donations of $10 per car.**

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**Beginning Experience™ Weekend**

For all who are divorced, widowed, or separated - there is a special heartache in finding oneself alone again. **DIVORCED, SEPARATED AND WIDOWED MEN AND WOMEN** of all ages are encouraged to attend a **Beginning Experience** weekend designed for those who wish to resolve the pain and grief of losing the marriage relationship and create a more peace-filled future.

The next **Beginning Experience** weekend will be held **April 17 - 19 at the Montfort House in Litchfield, CT.**

The weekend begins Friday evening, April 17 and continues through Sunday afternoon, April 19, concluding with Mass. The weekend fee includes the program and materials, all meals on Saturday and Sunday and two nights' stay. For more information and an application for yourself or for a friend, please call Ray at 860-741-3050 or Karen at 860-985-8339. Visit our web page at [www.beginningexperience.org/connecticut](http://www.beginningexperience.org/connecticut)

The **Beginning Experience** program is endorsed by the Archdiocesan Family Life Office.

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**EASTER FLOWERS AND THE ST. VINCENT DEPAUL SOCIETY**

The **St. Vincent de Paul Society** will be purchasing flowers to decorate the altar for **Easter.** If you wish to help with this endeavor, your donation, in memory of a loved one or in your family’s name, will be used to purchase **Easter** plants. Surplus donations will be used to continue the work of the **St. Vincent de Paul Society** in assisting the underprivileged of our parish family. More information can be found on the lavender sheets found at the entrances of church. Thank you for your continued support.

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**CHURCH HEATING SYSTEM UPDATE AND APPEAL**

As mentioned at the Masses last weekend, we need to make some significant and overdue repairs and improvements to the church heating system (that is also the system for part of the school). Our heating system is certainly feeling its age, especially after the cold winter that we have had. We also have the issue that there are no thermostatic controls for the system: it is either on or off and we cannot zone areas for heating. Of course, all of this means that we are wasting energy and that we cannot control the heating in particular areas. We have also had a number of close calls over the winter when we nearly lost the whole system!

We are looking at estimates for the cost of this necessary and overdue work and we hope to carry it out once the spring arrives: if it ever does! Again, as mentioned at Mass, we do budget for repairs and general maintenance and this is usually covered by our tithing and weekly offertory (many thanks, as ever for your amazing generosity), but, as you can imagine, this project would be well beyond the usual amount. The total cost would be in the $45,000 range. It seems a good idea to have a mini capital project to help meet these costs and so special envelopes will be available in the church over the next few weeks. It must be stressed that this collection is entirely voluntary.

Many thanks again for your generosity and ongoing support.

Fr. Anthony

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**In Loving Memory**

Please remember in the charity of your prayers the repose of the souls of **Anthony F. Del Signore Jr., Irene Davis, Elsie D. Marchitello** and all those who will be remembered in Masses this week.
Parish Easter Egg Hunt: The Egg Hunt Committee would appreciate your help in donating small individually wrapped candy that will fit inside plastic Easter eggs. There will be a basket available for the candy at the main entrance of the Church through March 29th. THANK YOU!

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.

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.

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

March 22, 2015 $14,853.01
March 23, 2014 $15,685.58

“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.
**Palm Sunday**

**Calendars & Schedules**

**Sunday — March 29 — Palm Sunday**
- 10:15-11:45AM **NO Faith Formation**
- After 5:30PM Mass **Life Teen-Parish Ctr**

**Monday — March 30**
- 9:00AM **School Mass-Church**
- 7:00PM **Core-Chapel**

**Tuesday — March 31**
- 6:45PM **The Edge-Meeting Rms**
- 7:00PM **Magdalena Ministry-Lounge**

**Wednesday — April 1**
- 1:30PM **School Passion Play-Church**

**Thursday — April 2 — Holy Thursday**
- Parish & School Offices Closed
- 9—9:45AM **Sacrament of Reconciliation-Chapel**
- 7:00PM **Mass of the Lord’s Supper followed by watching until 10:30PM (ending with Night Prayer)**

**Please join us for Dessert Sharing after Mass in the Parish Ctr**

**Friday — April 3 — Good Friday**
- 7:00PM **Eucharistic Adoration-Chapel**
- 3:00PM **Solemn Liturgy of the Lord’s Passion followed by Soup Supper in the Parish Ctr**
- 5:30—6:30PM **Sacrament of Reconciliation-Chapel**
- 7:00PM **Life Teen PASSION PLAY in the Church**

**Saturday — April 4 — Holy Saturday**
- 9—9:45AM **Sacrament of Reconciliation-Chapel**
- 1:00PM **Easter Egg Hunt-Gym**
- 8:00PM **Easter Vigil Mass followed by a Reception in the Parish Ctr**

**Sunday — April 5 — Easter**
- 10:15-11:45AM **NO Faith Formation**
- After 5:30PM Mass **NO Life Teen**

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**Liturgical Roles for Week Ending April 5, 2015**

**Money Counters, Sunday, April 5th**

**Team #10 — Rene Comtois, Rich Haggerty, Dana Renda, Suzanne Trzcinski**

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<td>(Training)................................Lynn Wozniak..................................456-5990</td>
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<td><strong>BAPTISMAL PREPARATION</strong>.........Helmut &amp; Vicky Neurohr........................785-4630</td>
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<td><strong>BISHOP’S APPEAL (DDP)</strong>..........Renee Hallock..................................785-3180</td>
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<td><strong>BUILDING AND GROUNDS</strong>.........Rich Zmijewski..................................785-3142</td>
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<td><strong>CHURCH OFFICE ASSISTANCE</strong>......Parish Office..................................785-1351</td>
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<td><strong>FAITH, HOPE AND SHARE</strong>.........Nancy Acemoglu..................................785-1351 x304</td>
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<td><strong>FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION</strong>.......Lenora LeMay..................................664-4374</td>
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<td><strong>FOOD PANTRY</strong>.....................Pauline Kubizne..................................785-7816</td>
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<td><strong>LECTORS</strong>.............................Nancy Acemoglu <a href="mailto:outreach@stambroselatham.com">outreach@stambroselatham.com</a> 785-1351 x304</td>
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<td><strong>MAGDALENA MINISTRY</strong>.............Mark Trudeau <a href="mailto:youthministry@stambroselatham.com">youthministry@stambroselatham.com</a> 785-1351 x309</td>
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<td><strong>MEDIA MINISTRY</strong>..................Mary Alice Hunt <a href="mailto:AmbroseMediaMinistry@gmail.com">AmbroseMediaMinistry@gmail.com</a> 859-6743</td>
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<td><strong>MUSIC GROUPS</strong>....................Thomas Green <a href="mailto:music@stambroselatham.com">music@stambroselatham.com</a> 785-1351 x306</td>
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<td><strong>P.A. EVANGELIZATION &amp; CATECHESIS</strong>.Tom Acemoglu..................................785-1351 x307</td>
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<td><strong>RESPECT LIFE</strong>....................Erin Muir <a href="mailto:liturgyandpastorallife@stambroselatham.com">liturgyandpastorallife@stambroselatham.com</a> 785-1351 x302</td>
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<td><strong>ST. AMBROSE SCHOOL</strong>............Terri McGraw <a href="mailto:principal@stambroselatham.com">principal@stambroselatham.com</a> 785-6453</td>
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<td><strong>SECRETARY</strong>.........................Lori McCoy <a href="mailto:school@stambroselatham.com">school@stambroselatham.com</a> 785-6453 x320</td>
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<td><strong>YOUNG AT HEART</strong>..................Carolyn Chabo…………………………………785-6315</td>
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**Martha Ministry**

With Easter coming soon, Martha Ministry is in need of volunteers to help with the Holy Thursday Dessert.

**Volunteers Needed!**

Sharing, Good Friday Soup Supper and Holy Saturday RCA Reception.

We will also need help with **First Holy Communion** on Saturday, May 2 at 9 AM and 11 AM Masses and the **Confirmation** on Sunday, April 19th after 5:30 PM Mass. If you would like to help us please call Donna Sabatino at 782-1470. Please call Rose Ann Szwedo at 469-5367 to help with the Soup Supper.