SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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

MASS SCHEDULE
Saturday Vigil: 4:30pm
Sunday: 7:30, 9:00, 11:30am & 5:30pm-Life Teen
Daily: Monday & Wednesday 6:30am
Tuesday & Thursday 9:00am
Communion Service: Friday 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
FAITH FORMATION THANKS

As our various faith formation programs draw to a close for the 2014-2015 year, it is a good time to renew our thanks to all those who have worked so hard to help and to encourage our young people and children to deepen their faith and grow in their relationship with God. The celebrations for Confirmation and First Holy Communion were indeed wonderful and special, but so have been all the sessions, projects and discussions that every grade has experienced over the year through the Faith Formation program, Middle-School catechesis and Life Teen as well as special projects such as our Vacation Bible School last summer (also to take place this summer!). We should also give thanks for our RCIA team who helped our newly confirmed and received as they took that next step in their faith journey after the moving events and life-giving and life-changing sacraments received at the Easter Vigil. Let us not forget all those who also prepare families for the baptism of their children and for our newly formed wedding coordinating team, now helping in their second year of work.

Another great development this year has been the use of the website to post all sorts of information and news. A particular joy has been our ability to put various videos on the website such as from the Advent and Lent speaker series as well as some general videos about the season of lent. Please do check out the website and let us know of any ideas that you may have (www.stambroselatham.com).

So, our thanks and prayers must go to our parish staff members Tom Acemoglu, Mark Trudeau, Erin Muir, Debbie McKown and Deacon Helmut Neurohr who have coordinated the programs and to all our catechists, sponsors and helpers. As you can see from the list below, a huge number of people are involved in the various programs and courses and their dedication and generous giving of time and talent are truly wonderful and inspirational. So thank you:


Let us continue to keep all our children and young people and those who have received a particular sacrament recently or will do so soon in our thoughts and prayers, so that all the good work, teaching, reflections and encouragement that they have experienced during the last months will continue to grow and to bear fruit over the summer break and for the future. Finally, let all of us use some of those quieter moments (that hopefully we will have!) during the coming summer, to pause, reflect, pray and perhaps read a spiritual book or two, so as to deepen our faith and our relationship with the Lord.

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.

PARISHES OF OUR LOCAL CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES

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MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND CLOSINGS
- **Friday, May 22nd** there will be **NO** Eucharistic Adoration
- **Monday, May 25th**
  - There will be **NO** 6:30AM Mass
  - There will be a **9:00AM Mass**
  - Church & School offices will be closed.

MEMORIAL ROSE GARDEN
If you would like to remember a loved one with a rose bush in our garden, please complete the form below and return it to the Parish Office by Saturday, May 30th for our spring planting.

Name: ________________________________

Phone #: ________________________________

I wish to remember: ________________________________ Name

with a rose bush in our memorial garden. Enclosed is $25 cash or check payable to St. Ambrose Altar Rosary.

Thank you for your generous response to the 2015 Bishop’s Appeal. Amount raised so far is $90,690 and there are 249 pledges and gifts. The vital ministries supported by this appeal depend upon you. Your gift directly helps St. Ambrose Parish to pay its share of the important work of the Diocese, which is assessed this year at $174,360. Pledge cards are available and you can also donate online at www.thebishopsappeal.org

Many thanks for your support!

Fr. Anthony

The Bishop’s Appeal
Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany, NY

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Many thanks for your support!

Fr. Anthony
WITNESSES IN A WORLD LOSING FAITH

In today’s first reading, the apostles have to deal with the absence created by Judas Iscariot. Judas was a traitor, but he occupied an important role within the early Church. He was one of the Twelve, and the Twelve were important for the Kingdom Jesus proclaimed. They were to be a new kind of a leader: the servant leader who guided the people in example and who would take Jesus’ saving message to the whole world, all because they actually witnessed Jesus.

Likely, no one reading this is a bishop but believe it or not, we have the same responsibilities that the apostles had. We are all, in our own ways, being sent out into a world losing faith. We have a message that we need to get out there and each of us must do it. But to do it we need to have done one major thing: we need to have met Jesus like the apostles did. We need to have been moved by everything He has done for us. We need to be convicted that it’s true and that the truth makes a difference in our world today. We need to be committed to bringing the Gospel to every possible life situation we encounter. A man named Matthias was chosen to take Judas’ place. Matthias was also a witness to Jesus. Judas was too. Matthias met Jesus and it transformed his life forever. Judas met Jesus but did not let the message take to heart. Deep down, I know we don’t want to be Judases but we really need to let everything about Jesus sink into our heart, enough to motivate every thought and action. There’s too much at stake.

What’s at stake? Last Tuesday, the Pew Research Center released some new statistics on the religious makeup of our country. The number of total Christians went from 78% to 71% in 7 short years. The greatest exodus has come from those known as “millennials”, those aged from around the mid-teens to their mid-30’s. Together, the religiously unaffiliated make up 23% of the population, more than Catholics and more than mainline Protestants. They are our family and friends and they are leaving. They prefer no religious affiliation to the traditions they may have grown up in. Their loss only matters if the Gospel is real and if that “hope does not disappoint” (Romans 5:5). This exodus doesn’t make this important generation bad or evil. They simply have a hard time seeing how faith relates to their lives. They don’t see the benefit, even if they seek authenticity and integrity in an increasingly fragmented society.

How does this make you feel? What would you like to do about it? Let us know!

-Tom Acemoglu
St. Isaac Jogues Youth Conference
This is the premier event of the summer for all high school teens and you don’t want to miss this!

July 10-12
Go to www.joguesyouthconference.com to register. We’re only taking the first 100 teens to sign up. Think you’re ready for PEER DISCIPLES—join the group who will help make this conference happen. Register for an application online and see if you’re up to the challenge. Anyone enter high school in the fall or just graduating can come.

Canoes and Kayak day trips
Movie Madness Lock-ins

Guys and Girls weekend away
Separate of course...
We’ll be spending some time around a camp fire sure but we’ll also be fishing and boating and hiking and anything else we can think of! Keep an eye open for more info coming soon.

Mini Course on knowing your faith and how to answer questions about it called “How to Prove that God Exists”
This is a must see for all those who want to be more secure in their ability to witness a loving God to friends and others who do not know how much He loves them.

Edge Service and Fun Week
August 18-21
Spend the week with us helping others with their needs and learning how service is love and then we’ll go and have some fun ourselves with lunch and games all provided. Contact the Lifeteen Office for more info, registration and availability.
At St. Ambrose School, we are “Learning to be all God wants us to be.”

Educating the Whole Child

St. Ambrose School focuses on educating the whole child, whoever he or she may be. To enrich the academic and social lives of our students, we have added many new extracurricular activities to engage the students in fun-filled learning activities that exercise their bodies and brains.

Many thanks to the teachers and parents who have volunteered their time to share their gifts and talents.

Here is a full list of fun activities for students of all ages:

- Art club
- Book club
- Dance Party
- K-Kids
- STEM club
- Tae Kwon Do
- JAVA Camp
- Soccer
- CYO basketball
- Drama Club
- Odyssey of the Mind
- Fit Kids
- Chorus
- Math club
- Newspaper club
- Flag Football
- Drama Kids Int’l

Please Support our RACE for EDUCATION on 5/21/15

http://raceforeducation.mydagsite.com/

Parish Nurse
Nancy Acemoglu, RN

Nurses notes...

Trusting God in times of trouble

It always amazes me how certain kinds of weather can trigger the intricate part of the brain that makes up our memory. Often, one may not recall the date, but then the senses somehow remind us that something significant occurred. This happened this week, as I realized it was the time my nephew received his kidney transplant. It reminded me of all the stress, and uncertainty, attending the classes pre op, and at one point I thought I should donate my kidney.

God heard our prayers and he was saved by the unselfish donation of a young man’s kidney, which matched perfectly. His parents made the extreme selfless decision of love and compassion. We never stop trying to promote this.

This Mothers Day, Billy was rushed to the Hospital with fear he may lose his Kidney. If I may ask for prayers for him, it is most appreciated.

If you may want to inquire for others awaiting a transplant:

Center for Donation and Transplant
218 Great Oaks Blvd.
Albany, New York 12203
(518) 262-5606

Thank you all who gave donations to the poor boxes. Mothers Day flowers were given to the Infirmed Sisters of St. Joseph, and were most appreciated, thanks to your kindness and love.

A special thanks to Erin Quirk’s little Pre K class for the Mothers Day cards that were made for the Atria Assisted Living Center with something special, “Love”
ST ISAAC JOGUES YOUTH CONFERENCE ABLAZE

“I have come to the earth to set it ablaze. How I wish it were already ignited” (Luke 12:49)

July 10-12, 2015 on the grounds of St. Ambrose, Latham

This weekend event provides teens with a chance to make new friends, explore their faith and connect more deeply in a personal relationship with God. The conference includes dynamic music, inspiring speakers, awesome praise and worship, great food and lots of fun. Contact your parish’s youth minister or pastor for more information or visit our website @… www.joguesyouthconference.com

What a great way for teens to spend a summer weekend becoming a “Soul on Fire”

REVISED 2/2/15

ST. AMBROSE STAFF EMAIL ADDRESSES

pastor@stambroselatham.com
parishsecretary@stambroselatham.com
liturgyandpastorallife@stambroselatham.com
evangelizationandcatechesis@stambroselatham.com
faithformationsecretary@stambroselatham.com
youthministry@stambroselatham.com
outreach@stambroselatham.com
music@stambroselatham.com
businessmanager@stambroselatham.com

FR. ANTHONY BARRATT
JOAN WELCH
ERIN MUIR
TOM ACEMOGLU
DEBBIE MCKOWN
MARK TRUDEAU
NANCY ACEMOGLU
TOM GREEN
ANN MCCAULEY

BETHLEHEM WOOD CARVING

Bethlehem Wood Carving will be visiting our parish on behalf of the Catholic Christian family of the holy land on May 23rd & 24th. For centuries, the Christians of Bethlehem district have earned a living by carving olive wood religious art to sell to visiting pilgrims. Fewer pilgrims are journeying to the holy land today, making it difficult for Christian artisans to support their families through the dignified work of their hands in the land of Christ’s birth.

Because of the lack of work, there has been a dramatic rise in Christian emigration from the holy land, leaving only 2% of the population in the holy land as Christian. Since the start of its mission, Bethlehem Wood Carving has helped hundreds of struggling families.

Louie, through his own experience as founder, has made it possible for the Catholic Christian in the holy land to maintain both their livelihood and their ancestral homes in the land of Christ. Your purchase will make a difference in the lives of many Christians. We gladly accept all major credit cards.

ROSARY WALK FOR LIFE

Please come and join Bishop Edward Scharfenberger on Thursday, May 28th at 6:00 PM to pray for a growth in the culture of life. We will gather at historic St. Mary’s on Lodge & Pine Sts., in Albany at 6:00 PM followed by recitation of the Mysteries of the Rosary and a procession on the public sidewalks around the Capitol. We will pray for an end to abortion and for all people relegated to the margins of society.

In the words of Pope Francis, “Let us say ‘Yes’ to life and not death. Let us say ‘Yes’ to freedom and not enslavement to the many idols of our time. In a word, let us say ‘Yes’ to the God who is love, life and freedom, and who never disappoints. … Let us ask Mary, Mother of Life, to help us receive and bear constant witness to the Gospel of Life. Come join us and pray for life!”
**FOOD PANTRY STATS**

The Food Pantry served **101** families in April. This included **227** adults and **201** children.

As always the generosity of St. Ambrose parishioners is deeply appreciated and helpful. The ongoing need is great and all food and monetary contributions are deeply appreciated as we strive to feed the hungry in our community.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 17, 2015**

**Sunday:** Acts 1:15-17, 20a, 20c-26/1 Jn 4:11-16/
Jn 17:11b-19
**Monday:** Acts 19:1-8/Jn 16:29-33
**Tuesday:** Acts 20:17-27/Jn 17:1-11a
**Wednesday:** Acts 20:28-38/Jn 17:11b-19
**Thursday:** Acts 22:30; 23:6-11/Jn 17:20-26
**Friday:** Acts 25:13b-21/Jn 21:15-19
**Saturday: Morning:** Acts 28:16-20, 30-31/Jn 21:20-25
**Next Sunday: Vigil:** Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or
**Ext. Vigil:** Gn 11:1-9/Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b/Ez 37:1-14/
**Day:** Acts 2:1-11/Gal 5:16-25 or 1 Cor 12:3b-7,
12-13/Jn 15:26-27; 16:12-15 or Jn 20:19-23

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**Knights of Columbus Scholarship**

The Latham-Colonie Knights of Columbus is offering a $300 scholarship to an 8th grade student from our parish planning to attend a Catholic High School. Applicants must be members of our parish and may be attending any school. Additional detail about this scholarship is available at [www.lathamcoloniekofc.com](http://www.lathamcoloniekofc.com) and then clicking "What We Do". Applications are also available at the School office. Parent membership in the Knights of Columbus is not required to apply.

**DIOCESE SPECIAL COLLECTION**

Weekending **May 24th** a special collection will be taken up in every church in the Diocese for the **Church in Central & Eastern Europe**. This collection supports Catholic organizations that provide affordable shelter & train Seminarians in a region that still struggles from the effects of Soviet rule. By providing pastoral care, catechesis & funding for the building renovations, your donations help to restore the Church & build the future in the region. Visit [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org) (search “Church in Central & Eastern Europe”) to learn more.

As we are a tithing parish, a portion of our regular collection will be tithed toward this Special Collection.

**We Are A Tithing Parish**

Following “God’s Plan for Giving”

| May 10, 2015 | $14,536.47 |
| May 11, 2014 | $14,573.16 |

“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.*
**CALENDARS & SCHEDULES**

### Sunday – May 17
- After 5:30 PM Mass: Life Teen-Parish Ctr

### Monday – May 18

### Tuesday – May 19

### Wednesday – May 20

### Thursday – May 21
- 9:30 AM: Mary’s Circle of Love-Lounge
- 6:30–8:30 PM: AA, AL-ANON, ALATEEN-Mtg Rms
- 7:00 PM: Prayer Group-Chapel

### Friday – May 22
- 7 AM–Midnight: **NO** Eucharistic Adoration-Chapel

### Saturday – May 23
- Bethlehem Wood Carvings Sales for Holy Land
  - after Mass

### Sunday – May 24
- Bethlehem Wood Carvings Sales for Holy Land
  - after All Masses
- After 5:30 PM Mass: Life Teen-Meeting Rms

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**LITURGICAL ROLES FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 24, 2015**

**MONEY COUNTERS, SUNDAY, MAY 24**

**TEAM #8 — L. GIRARD, S. O’BRIEN, S. TRZCINSKI & D. PIUSIENSKI**

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<td><strong>Eucharistic Ministers:</strong></td>
<td>E. Bullis, M. Searles, D &amp; MA Frament, S. Kolcow, R. LeClair, B. Masterson</td>
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<td><strong>USHERS:</strong></td>
<td>Volunteers</td>
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<td><strong>MEDIA MINISTRY:</strong></td>
<td>Theresa P.</td>
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</table>
ADULT MISSION ................................................................. Mike Blair ................................................................. 376-0082
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ALTAR SERVERS (Scheduling) ........................................ Walter Ewing .......................................................... 458-7540
(Training) .................................................................... Lynn Wozniak ...................................................... 456-5990
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Eucharistic Ministers ..................................................... Helmut Neurohr .........................................................
(Scheduling) ................................................................ Sue Laverne ............................................................ 280-2387
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MEDIA MINISTRY ............................................................. Mary Alice Hunt ...................................................... 859-6743
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PRAYER & WORSHIP ..................................................... Richard Ostiguy ...................................................... 783-5175
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RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) .. Tom Acemoglu ..................................................... 785-1351 x307
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SCHOOL BOARD ........................................................... William Miller .......................................................... 785-6453 x320
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