11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The kingdom of God is like a mustard seed

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)

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

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
SEEDS, SOWING AND GROWTH

After all our various feast days over recent Sundays such as the Trinity and the Body and Blood of Christ, we finally get back into the continuous reading of the Gospel of Saint Mark (our Gospel for “Year B” of our three-year cycle of Sunday readings at Mass). We begin with two parables from Jesus: the mystery of how things grow and the well-known image of the tiny mustard seed that grows into the biggest shrub of them all. Thinking of these images, have you noticed how one of the beautiful features of Jesus’ teaching is his use of parables? In the parables, Jesus takes events or experiences of everyday life and uses them as a way of teaching about deeper realities, especially about the Kingdom of God. We can think of the yeast making the dough rise, or of how a house is lit by a lamp, or how a patch is sewn onto clothing.

So, what about our two parables? They both seem to be about growth and the Kingdom of God. Perhaps the first one invites us to think about the actual process of growth. The farmer does indeed sow the seed, but then nature takes over as the seed sprouts and grows and yields fruit. It is only then that the farmer comes back in to the picture as he reaps the harvest. We could take this parable in a number of ways. Perhaps Jesus is reminding us that we do indeed cooperate with God’s great plan, but that we do just that: cooperate. We are not in charge in the end and we must resist the urge to micromanage everything in our lives, or in the lives of others. Ultimately, it is God who will grant the increase and the fruitfulness.

The parable might also be about being patient. The farmer sows the seed, but then he has to wait for the seed to sprout, to grow and for the harvest to mature. If he acts too quickly, then everything is ruined. We live in a very impatient culture where we want everything right now (with all those instant make over programs)...or we want things yesterday! Yet, is it not true that so many really worthwhile things take time, such as learning a new skill, or really getting to know somebody...? This is also true of the spiritual life and spiritual growth, as well as the working out of God’s plan for us. These things are not instant: we need time, dedication and patience. In these ways, our parable provides us with great reminders and lessons indeed!

We also have the parable of the mustard seed. Perhaps this is an easier one to understand. It seems to be not so much about the process of growth, but rather the great possibilities and results of growth. The mustard seed may be tiny, but it has the most tremendous potential. From that tiny seed comes one of the largest plants “where the birds of the sky can dwell in its shade.” So too with us. We may feel tiny, or at least we might feel that we really cannot make that much of a difference. Yet, with God’s power, an amazing potential can be released and so much good can come forth.

If you look at the history of the church, we can see countless instances of where this has happened. Think of the first apostles, for example. They were insignificant people with ordinary jobs (such as being fishermen) in an obscure corner of a huge empire. Yet, they became the great apostles and messengers of Jesus; so much so, that our faith today comes from what they said and did in spreading that message.

Our two parables give us much to think about, as well as encouraging us and challenging us. They teach us that we are very much part of God’s plan (especially if we let go of the controls a bit and are patient!) and that each of us has a great potential that can be released through the power of God...if we let God act in our lives.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Parish</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
<th>Mass Times</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COLONIE</td>
<td>St. Clare’s</td>
<td>456-3112</td>
<td>Sat: 4:00pm / Sun: 8:30 / 10:30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LATHAM</td>
<td>Our Lady of the Assumption</td>
<td>785-0234</td>
<td>Sat: 4:30pm / Sun: 7:30, 9:00 &amp; 11am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOUDONVILLE</td>
<td>Christ Our Light</td>
<td>459-6635</td>
<td>Sat: 4:00pm / Sun: 9:00 / 11:15am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>St. Pius X</td>
<td>462-1336</td>
<td>Sat: 5pm / Sun: 8, 10 &amp; 12 noon</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Father’s Day

Next Sunday is Father’s Day. As in past years, we have some special Spiritual Bouquet cards available at the church exits. These include a card (to send) and an envelope on which to write the name(s) you would like to be remembered and to place an offering inside (if you wish to do so). The intentions will be remembered during Masses on Father’s Day. Please remember to return the envelopes to the Parish Office or place them in the offertory basket as soon as possible so that the intentions can be included in the Masses. We will also have a special prayer and presentation for fathers at all Masses.

2016 MASS INTENTIONS REGISTER
IS NOW OPEN
Parish Office hours are
Monday—Thursday 9am—6pm
Friday 9am—4pm

Thank you for your generous response to the 2015 Bishop’s Appeal. Amount raised so far is $117,415 and there are 309 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
Remember our Youth!
We are looking for dedicated adults to serve the young people of our parish in:

- Pre-K to 6 Formation
- Family Life Ministries
- EDGE Middle School ministry
- LIFE TEEN High School ministry

Contact Tom Acemoglu or Mark Trudeau for more information!
There’s always a way to help, no matter how crazy your schedule is!

You CAN be the difference in the life of a kid!

June 20th is the Feast Day of the Irish Martyrs

Parents: Would you consider registering as a Parish Volunteer?

Go to: http://www.stambroselatham.com/documents
Select: “Volunteer Registration Packet”
Directions are in the document!

Benefits to registering as a volunteer:

- Creates a safer environment for kids
- Allows you more opportunities to help out (even on a short-term basis) and to help make amazing things happen for kids
- Gives parents who want to use their creativity for the greater good a chance to do so
- Gives parents an opportunity for meaningful experiences of faith with their kids
- Helps make our parish stronger and helps create a welcoming family environment
Do you have a child in high school? Perhaps a niece, nephew or grandchild in high school?

Would you like them to grow in their faith and have an experience of a life time? This youth conference is their chance. Invite them, encourage them, persuade them to attend and bring their friends. This weekend event has given the opportunity to thousands of teens to see what Jesus Christ has for them in their lives and how they can have a personal relationship with Him. It is all about Love because God is Love and He desires our friendship to get ever stronger.

“Nothing is more practical than finding God, that is, than falling in love in a quite absolute, final way. What you are in love with, what seizes your imagination, will affect everything. It will decide what will get you out of bed in the morning, what you do with your evenings, how you spend your weekends, what you read, who you know, what breaks your heart and what amazes you with joy and gratitude. Fall in love, stay in love, and it will decide everything.” Pedro Arrupe SJ

Jesus said “I have Come to set the earth on fire, and oh how I wish it was Already blazing!

Luke 12:49

Our Bishop is very excited about this awesome youth event and he'll be there Friday night and Saturday to hang out with the teens and share the Sacramental Graces of our great church. In a meeting with him recently he said— "I want to see the St. Isaac Jogues Youth Conference become the ‘World Youth Day’ of the Albany Diocese” Bishop Scharfenberger

St Isaac Jogues Youth Conference FOR THE GREATER GLORY OF GOD

Open to all teens going into High School from incoming freshman to graduating seniors. We’re looking for the first 100 teens to attend so register right away. You don’t want to miss out on this amazing summer event.

Subscribe to LIFETEEN Flocknote for all current event information.

Text: “TEEN” to 84576

Conference is July 10-12, 2015. Pick up a flyer in the back of Church.
**School News**

The 4th grade class at St. Ambrose has been very busy this year learning many new things. We have covered Math, NYS Social Studies, Science, Religion, and in ELA, read a lot of novels this year. The 4th grade was fortunate this year to visit the Farmers’ Museum, the Baseball Hall of Fame, and Howe Caverns. We are most proud of our projects. We have been known to be outside taking measurements of area and perimeters, performing various Science labs, and even projects with ELA. We have read *Bridge to Terabithia* and built our own Terabithia. We also have read and written our own Poetry, which is currently on display at the 4th grade bulletin board. Finally, after reading *The One and Only Ivan*, we were inspired by the stray dog character Bob, to collect money for the Mohawk-Hudson Humane Society.

The 4th grade also entered the Humane Society’s essay and poster contest “How are Humans and Pets perfect together”, which produced four winners. I’m proud to announce that Andrew Lee, Thomas Stallmer, Peter Biegun, and Spencer Smith are our winners and will be honored at a reception on June 15th.

A busy but wonderful year. We wish you all a great summer.

Mrs. Galough and the 4th Grade Class
Parish Picnic
Sunday, September 20th

More info on the way!!!

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.

DIOCESE SPECIAL COLLECTION
FAITH | WORSHIP | WITNESS

Next week, at the Masses of June 20/21, parishes in the Diocese of Albany will take up the Annual Collection for the Catholic Communication Campaign. This collection helps the Church communicate the Gospel through Catholic social media activities and enriches our faith through podcasts, television, radio, and print media. Half of all proceeds remain in our diocese and support local needs, so please be generous in this collection.

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

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING
If you are in 4th grade or higher and have made your First Communion, you can be an altar server. Please join us in the church on Sundays, 6/14/15, 6/21/15 and 6/28/15 (more if needed) from 10:15 - 11:15 A.M for training. You will need attend at least three sessions to learn everything you need to know to get started. If interested, please call Lynn Wozniak at 456-5990 or email: plwozniak@att.net to sign-up.

FOOD PANTRY STATS
The Food Pantry served 93 families in May. This included 188 adults and 184 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.

KEEP THE LEGACY ALIVE
Please remember St. Ambrose Parish in your will
St. Ambrose Roman Catholic Church
347 Old Loudon Rd., Latham, NY 12110

KATERI INSTITUTE FOR LAY MINISTRY FORMATION
We congratulate our parishioner, James Conlen, for recently completing the Kateri Institute for Lay Ministry Formation. During this three-year diocesan process, he has grown spiritually, deepened his knowledge of our Catholic faith, and acquired additional skills for ministry. We are grateful for his commitment to the Kateri Institute and thank God for the service that he will continue to offer our parish.

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.
**BISHOP MAGINN** is now accepting applications for the **2015-2016** at our new location, 75 Park Ave, Albany, NY. For more information please contact Tina Resciniti at **518.463.2247** or visit our website at **bishopmaginn.org**.

**THE EVANGELIST** is our weekly diocesan newspaper, an excellent way to keep up on news of our local, national and universal Church. The annual cost is $18 for 48 issues of informative news about our faith. The diocese and parish want you to receive our local award-winning publication, which you may receive at no cost. However, those wishing to donate the suggested amount, or any amount, may do so. If you would like a subscription, please complete the form below & drop it in the collection basket or mail it to the Parish Office.

**SAGE GATORS’ SUMMER BASKETBALL CAMP**
for boys ages 7-15: June 29—July 3 at Sage College of Albany. Register online at **Sagegators.com** or contact Brian Barnes at **518-292-1969** or by email **barneb@sage.edu** for more information.

Please remember in the charity of your prayers the repose of the souls of **Thomas Bessmer** and all those who will be remembered in Masses this week.

**Stewardship UPDATE**

We are a tithing parish following “God’s Plan for Giving”

- **June 7, 2015**: $16,217.93
- **June 8, 2014**: $15,872.70

“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 it to the Parish Office.
### Calendars & Schedules

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Events</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday – June 14</td>
<td>After 5:30PM Mass Life Teen-Parish Ctr</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday – June 15</td>
<td>9:00AM School Mass-Church</td>
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<td>7:00PM Core-Chapel</td>
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<td>Tuesday – June 16</td>
<td>No Meetings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday – June 17</td>
<td>No Meetings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday – June 18</td>
<td>6:30-8:30PM AA, AL-ANON, ALATEEN-Mtg Rms</td>
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<td>7:00PM Prayer Group-Chapel</td>
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<td>Friday – June 19</td>
<td>7AM-Midnight Eucharistic Adoration-Chapel</td>
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<td>Saturday – June 20</td>
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<td>Sunday – June 21—Father’s Day</td>
<td>After 5:30PM Mass Life Teen-Parish Ctr</td>
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<td>Ministry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adult Mission</td>
<td>Mike Blair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adult Rosary Society</td>
<td>Cathy Boudreau</td>
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<tr>
<td>Altar Servers (Scheduling)</td>
<td>Walter Ewing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Altar Servers (Training)</td>
<td>Lynn Wozniak</td>
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<td>Athletic Program</td>
<td>Jim LaBombard</td>
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<td>Baptismal Preparation</td>
<td>Helmut &amp; Vicky Neurohr</td>
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<td>Bishop’s Appeal (DDP)</td>
<td>Renee Hallock</td>
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<td>Building and Grounds</td>
<td>Rich Zmijewski</td>
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<td>Charismatic Prayer Group</td>
<td>Mary Beth Pallack</td>
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<td>Church Office Assistance</td>
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<td>Confirmation</td>
<td>Tom Acemoglu</td>
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<td>Eucharistic Adoration</td>
<td>Nancy Hooley</td>
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<td>Eucharistic Ministers (Training)</td>
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<td>Sue Laverne</td>
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<tr>
<td>Faith, Hope and Share</td>
<td>Nancy Acemoglu</td>
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<td>First Saturday Devotion</td>
<td>Lenora LeMay</td>
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<td>Food Pantry</td>
<td>Pauline Kubiszne</td>
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<td>Garden Club</td>
<td>Mary Sue Ray</td>
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<td>Grief Loss Group</td>
<td>Nancy Acemoglu <a href="mailto:outreach@stambroselatham.com">outreach@stambroselatham.com</a></td>
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<td>Lectors</td>
<td>Joe Leombruno</td>
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<td>Life Teen &amp; Jr. High Life</td>
<td>Mark Trudeau <a href="mailto:youthministry@stambroselatham.com">youthministry@stambroselatham.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Magdalen Ministry</td>
<td>Paula Borkowski</td>
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<td>Marriage Preparation Ministry</td>
<td>Erin Muir <a href="mailto:liturgyandpastorallife@stambroselatham.com">liturgyandpastorallife@stambroselatham.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Martha Ministry</td>
<td>Donna Sabatino</td>
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<td>Mary’s Circle of Love Ministry</td>
<td>Mary Kay Frederick</td>
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<tr>
<td>Media Ministry</td>
<td>Mary Alice Hunt <a href="mailto:AmbroseMediaMinistry@gmail.com">AmbroseMediaMinistry@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Music Groups</td>
<td>Thomas Green <a href="mailto:music@stambroselatham.com">music@stambroselatham.com</a></td>
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<td>P. A. Evangelization &amp; Catechesis</td>
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<td>Ruth Lapierre</td>
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<td>Prayer &amp; Worship</td>
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<td>Respect Life</td>
<td>Erin Muir <a href="mailto:liturgyandpastorallife@stambroselatham.com">liturgyandpastorallife@stambroselatham.com</a></td>
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<td>Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)</td>
<td>Tom Acemoglu</td>
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<td>Sacristans</td>
<td>Pat Rayball</td>
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<td>St. Ambrose School</td>
<td>Terri McGraw <a href="mailto:principal@stambroselatham.com">principal@stambroselatham.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>Lori McCoy <a href="mailto:school@stambroselatham.com">school@stambroselatham.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Cary Lombardo</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Board</td>
<td>William Miller</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Vincent DePaul Society</td>
<td>Paul Wilkes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trustees</td>
<td>Catherine Halayko / Joseph Sinigalli</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ushers</td>
<td>John Estep</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vacation Bible School</td>
<td>Suzi Trzebinski</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young at Heart</td>
<td>Carolyn Chabot</td>
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</table>

**Reading for the Week of June 14, 2015**

- **Sunday:** Ez 17:22-24/2 Cor 5:6-10/Mk 4:26-34
- **Monday:** 2 Cor 6:1-10/Mt 5:38-42
- **Tuesday:** 2 Cor 8:1-9/Mt 5:43-48
- **Wednesday:** 2 Cor 9:6-11/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
- **Thursday:** 2 Cor 11:1-11/Mt 6:7-15
- **Friday:** 2 Cor 11:18, 21-30/Mt 6:19-23
- **Saturday:** 2 Cor 12:1-10/Mt 6:24-34
- **Next Sunday:** Jb 38:1, 8-11/2 Cor 5:14-17/Mk 4:35-41

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