Parish Staff
Rev. Dr. Anthony M. Barratt, Pastor
Helmut Neurohr, Permanent Deacon
Frank Garceau, Permanent Deacon
Ann McCauley, Business Manager
Erin Muir, P.A. for Liturgy & Pastoral Life
Tom Acemoglu, P.A. for Evangelization & Catechesis
Justina Treventi, Faith Formation Admin. Asst.
Mark Trudeau, Life Teen for High School and Jr. High
Tracey Penk-Masucci, Youth Ministry Asst.
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

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
THE POOR WIDOW AND HER OFFERING: GIFTS AND GIVING

In our Gospel this weekend, we find Jesus in the Temple area observing all that is going on in that holy place. The Temple in Jerusalem was actually a large campus with various buildings and it was the religious heart of Israel: an impressive and very visible sign of God’s presence among His people. The Treasury was located in one of the inner courts of the Temple and it was the place where people made their offerings for the financial support of the Temple and the various ministries associated with it. As we hear in the Gospel, a poor widow comes in and then gives all that she has as an offering; literally “her whole life” and Jesus praises her giving and her generosity.

As always, such incidents and encounters are as fresh for us today as they were 2000 years ago and 6000 miles away in Jerusalem. It is great, for example to see in the news how generous people can be, especially in the face of great need and so often despite their own difficult situations. We have certainly witnessed this in the various recent and sad natural disasters both here in the USA and elsewhere. Folks who may have lost everything themselves still come forward and help those around them in need. A few weeks ago, I watched as a TV interviewer talked to a man standing outside the ruins of his own home, but who had spent the last few days helping others. Speaking not so much about himself, but rather about the neighborhood, he simply said “it is what we do, it is who we are.”

Every week I have the truly wonderful and great privilege and joy of witnessing the generosity of others in our own local community, whether it is someone caring for a sick or dying friend or relative; or all those who do so much to support the Food Pantry or the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul. We can think of the message of Pope Francis again and again, not least when he recently visited the United States, about our Christian vocation of helping and caring for all those who are in need. In doing this, we are imitating Jesus himself in His love and care for the poor and the needy. This message is also very timely as the Thanksgiving Holiday comes close. What better way to show our thanks: not just in words, but also in deeds of kindness and generosity to others…?

In a church setting, we often speak about giving and sharing, especially what are often called the three “T’s”: gifts of time, treasure and talent. In the next few weeks, especially after our reflections in the recent financial report to the parish, we are going to focus on the gift of treasure. So much financial support is given already to our parish and school so that we can do so many things and be, as the report concluded “the food that nourishes and sustains us as we travel on our faith journey.” In the same way, we can also think of the great success of the Parking Lot project or of the generosity of so many with the Food Pantry or the Thanksgiving Dinner.

However, just like any household, although we do our best to keep expenses in check, costs always seem to rise. Our weekly offertory, which is by far the major source of our income to meet these expenses, has declined in the last ten years (and, of course, with inflation, is therefore also worth less). Again, like any household, we need to address this so that we can not only maintain the life of the parish and school, but also to continue to grow. Whatever is already given is greatly, greatly appreciated and is put to good use in so many ways, but please do consider, as we launch our increased offertory campaign next week, whether it might be possible for you to increase the amount that is given. Whatever you do already and whatever you can do for the future are greatly valued: a true treasure!

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.

Thanksgiving Bag Project

We will be giving supplies for Thanksgiving dinner again this year. Beginning this weekend, there will be bags displayed on the altar. In the bag you will find a food list and instructions as to what you are to do. Please consider taking part in this Thanksgiving endeavor as we remember those who are less fortunate than us. **PRICE Chopper & Hannaford Gift Cards in amounts of $5, $10 & $20 for purchase of a Turkey would be most appreciated.**

Thank You and God Bless You!!

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.

Ushers Needed

We are in need of Ushers for 7:30 AM Mass. This is a great opportunity to serve St. Ambrose and help people at the same time. Please call John Estep at 783-9266 or talk to an Usher at Church.

We Need Volunteers

Thanksgiving Dinner for Those in Need
Volunteers Needed to help with our Thanksgiving Dinner for Those in Need on Nov. 21st at 12:30PM. We still need people to bake turkeys, bake pies and desserts, greet our guests and serve at the tables, drive our guests to and from the dinner, and clean up after the dinner. **Please call Rose Anne 469-5367 or Fran 785-8763 if you would like to help.**

We are gratefully accepting donations for our dinner. Envelopes for donations are available at the entrances of the church and may be placed in the collection basket or dropped off at the parish office. **Checks may be made payable to St. Ambrose Ministry for the Needy.** We appreciate your generosity in serving the people of our community who are in need.

If you know of someone who lives alone, or a single parent having a difficult time making ends meet for their family, or families that are struggling financially to provide the necessities, please invite them to come to the Thanksgiving dinner as our guest. Guests need to sign up at the parish office by Monday, November 16th.

**There will be NO TAKE-OUT dinners**

Parishes of Our Local Catholic Communities

**Colonie**
St. Clare’s 456-3112
Sat: 4:00pm/Sun: 8:30 / 10:30am

**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
November 10th
Memorial of St. Leo the Great

The above image depicts Pope St. Leo the Great (400 CE—461 CE) meeting Attila the Hun. Leo worked in convincing Attila to leave Italy and to come to terms with the Emperor. Attila was a formidable man who devastated the lands he conquered and someone who saw Attila would likely be entering into the last moments of their life. Attila’s warriors were so fearsome that upon Attila’s death they slaughtered the funeral party so no one would know where he was buried. And yet Pope Leo met him with courage and humility and convinced Attila to back down.

Leo is one of only two popes remembered with the words “the Great” (the other being Pope St. Gregory the Great). Yet this episode was but one reason that he is remembered for his greatness.

Pope Leo was crucial to settling the debates leading into the Council of Chalcedon (451 CE). Church Councils are rare (there have only been 21 of them in the Church’s 2,000 year history—22 if you count the Council of Jerusalem that was attended by the Apostles Peter and Paul) and the Council of Chalcedon worked to understand the true nature of Jesus Christ in light of Scripture and Tradition. It was one of the most pivotal moments in the Church’s history and we owe a great debt to those Council Fathers for helping us understand how Jesus is both truly God and truly Man. In his “Tome” he wrote: “For we could not have overcome the author of sin and of death, unless he who could neither be contaminated by sin, nor detained by death, had taken upon himself our nature, and made it his own.”

In short, Christ saving us from our sins is only possible if God actually became a human being and redeemed our humanity through His humanity.

When the Tome of Leo was read to the Council, the Council Fathers acclaimed “Peter has spoken through Leo!”

Leo is also quoted in our Catechism and his words can be a great reminder to us of our own dignity in light of what God has done for us in His Son: “Christian, recognize your dignity and, now that you share in God’s own nature, do not return to your former base condition by sinning. Remember who is your head and of whose body you are a member. Never forget that you have been rescued from the power of darkness and brought into the light of the Kingdom of God.”
Support the St. Ambrose Family, Lifeteen Mission Trip to the Dominican Republic.

**Adult Raffle**

**Tickets are $100.00 ea.**

Each ticket has 1/12 chance of winning. There will be only 200 tickets sold.
- First Prize $5,000—one winner
- Second Prize $1,000—two winners
- Third Prize $500—four winners
- Forth Prize $100—ten winners

No raffle has better odds of winning than this raffle, EVER! Your generosity can bring back big paybacks if you are one of the winners and remember every winner drawn goes back into the hopper to have another chance to win. It doesn’t get better than this.

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**Middle School Youth and your families!**

You’re invited to join us on a trip to the **Shrine of Our Lady of Martyrs**

in Auriesville NY on **Saturday Nov. 14th**.

We will gather in the parking lot at St. Ambrose, 9:30am. Organize our car pooling and then drive out to the shrine at 10am. We will tour the grounds that include outdoor Stations of the Cross and many other Statues, Chapels and Memorials, spend some time praying in the Colliseum, have lunch, play some games and visit the ravine where there is Holy ground. Please join us and feel free to bring the family. There is no cost. We will all bring a brown bag lunch and share in transportation. It is the only Shrine like it in the entire country. Only 50 minutes away. Please contact the Lifeteen Office for more information and to let us know you would like to attend.

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**They’re coming back! Save the Date!!**

The Premier Irish band in the Capital District

Jan. 8th

**Tickets $29 per person**

Pub style food will be available for purchase. Wings, Pub Fries, Onion Rings, Sliders, Flat Breads, Chilli, Turkey wraps and much more. Come and enjoy a night of raffle drawing. Silent Auction, Great fun and friends to share; all while supporting the Mission trip to the Dominican Republic. Support our teens to be our hands and feet, serving the poor.

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**INSTRUMENTS IN THE ATTIC**

Do you have instruments in your attic that might be looking for new life? Lifeteen is looking for donations of instruments that could be used by musicians and “wanna be” musicians. Please take a look and let us know. We are looking specifically for Celllos, violins, Bass Guitars or anything you might want to donate. Please notify the Lifeteen office and we will arrange to come and pick it up from you. Thank you so much and may God bless our musical teens and their want to give back in song what God has put on their hearts.
At St. Ambrose School, we are “Learning to be all God wants us to be.”

What a week we have had! First and foremost, a very special thank you to Fr. Anthony and all who made our Wine Tasting event a great success! We sold out on Friday with over 130 tickets sold. Everyone had a lovely time enjoying the various wines, good food and great conversation. The decorative pumpkin raffle was a big hit. God bless the kind parents and parishioners who paid anywhere from $10-$75 for their favorite class pumpkins. I wish to extend my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who donated items for the silent auction.

*******Many thanks to one and all!*******

On Thursday the mystery number of candy corn in the jar was revealed: 347. Can you believe Fr. Anthony had the closest guess with 340? He kindly gifted the jar of candy corn to the runner up, Alexus, who guessed 339.

Friday morning we had a punkin’ chuckin’ good time! 60 students of all ages tested their ingenuity and skill in launching candy corn pumpkins using their own catapult designs.

Some pumpkins flew the full length of the gym. In the end, the winning team of 5th graders got the grand prize of a Flight indoor trampoline gift card for 4 friends to enjoy. The true winners were those who learned something in this fun experiment.

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, 11/8/15, 11/15/15 and 11/22/15 from 10:15 - 11:15 AM for training. You will need to 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.
This Retreat invites us to develop a closer relationship with God during this season of preparation and anticipation that is accessible, engaging and meaningful in daily life.

**Sacred Space**

An Advent Retreat in Everyday Life

Wednesdays - December 2nd, 9th, and 16th @ 7pm
St. Ambrose Parish Center

Prepare for the Birth of Christ by Entering a Sacred Space. Throughout Advent, each day includes a Scripture reading and points of reflection, as well as a weekly topic enhanced by six steps of prayer and reflection. Our three gatherings will discuss the weekly scriptures and the weekly topic. Each daily prayer requires 20-30 minutes.

If you would like to participate, please call the St. Ambrose parish office (785-1351) and leave your name, email and phone number. The cost of the guide book is $2.00. If you reserve a spot by Wednesday, November 18th, we will order a book for you. You can pick up and pay for your book on Tuesday, November 24th at St. Ambrose.

**Albany NY Chapter of Magnificat** (a Ministry to Catholic Women) is hosting a Women’s Breakfast on Saturday, November 14 from 9 AM – 12 PM at The Vista Restaurant at Van Patten Golf Club, 924 Main Street, Clifton Park, NY. Tickets: $20.00; Clergy & Religious - Free. Guest Speaker is Dona Fragnoli. Register by November 4 - send a check for $20 payable to Albany NY Chapter of Magnificat, PO Box 340, Clifton Park, NY, 12065. Please include your name, address and phone # and email address. Questions, call Heather @ 877-8034. ALL WOMEN ARE INVITED!

**Food Pantry Stats**

The Food Pantry served 117 families in October. This included 261 adults and 212 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.

Join us for a fun evening showcasing an exciting new pro-life initiative in the Albany diocese that combines crisis pregnancy care, education about fertility, and restorative reproductive health care for women all in one innovative center. Help us to care for women while honoring their dignity and the sanctity of human life. Please take this opportunity to learn more at our wine and cheese fundraiser November 13th at 7pm at St. Ambrose Church in Latham. Tickets are $20. Register by email via perpetualifecare@gmail.com or visit our website, www.perpetualifecare.org to purchase tickets, make a donation or send donation to PO Box 459, Ballston Spa, NY 12020

We joyfully announce the following that were brought to the Baptismal Font during October and are now members of the Church. The newly baptized are: Nora Marie Agner, Alexa Mary Carson, Piper McKinley Lawrence, Grayson Peter Buckley, Ryan Joseph Kennedy, Alexis Marie Falconio and Dannika Raye Sharp.

Congratulations, best wishes and prayers from the St. Ambrose Parish Community to Phillip Ferriere and Laura Tarullo who were recently joined in the Sacrament of Matrimony.
32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Around the Parish

The Family Life Ministry is designating NOVEMBER as the MONTH of SERVICE

What is the key aspect when you think of a family? **Love...and...Service.** Service to one another, helping each other, sacrificing our love, our conveniences, and our comforts so that someone else may be more comfortable, so that they are happy and live a better life. This can be in our immediate families, but also our “Parish Family”. It all comes down to service. We should treat everyone as family. We should serve them as if they were our own family.

**For next month our ministry is asking two questions—**

**First**—Do you know someone in our Parish Family that needs assistance in fall cleanup—either inside or outside? Do you know someone who needs assistance in a small project, like cleaning out the garage, or painting a room, etc.? **PLEASE contact Justina our Faith Formation Secretary at 785-1351 (307) or faithformationaa@stambroselatham.com with the info.**

**Second**—Would your family like to give back to our Parish Family by sharing your time/talents/comforts. Also PLEASE contact our Faith Formation Secretary Justina at 785-1351 x307 or faithformationaa@stambroselatham.com with the info.

**Thank you and God Bless**

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

**November 1, 2015** $20,514.79
**November 2, 2014** $15,699.80

“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.

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**ALTERNATIVE ROSARY SOCIETY**

Ladies, it’s that time again. On **Tuesday, November 10 @ 7PM** we will gather in the Chapel to pray the rosary for those that have gone before us. We will hold a business meeting (please remember your $10 dues) and service project in the Meeting Rooms. We’ll be cutting out angels for the parish “Giving Tree” so bring along your favorite scissors. As always, we’d welcome you to join us for prayer and service.

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**Stewardship UPDATE**

**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.

Next weekend, November 14/15, we will have a speaker from Bethlehem to brief us on the situation of the Christians in the Holy Land. The Christian character of our Holy Land is made up of two components; namely the wonderful parishes commemorating Jesus' entire earthly ministry and the Catholic/Christian faithful praying and offering Mass at these churches. The Christian situation in the Holy Land is dire. What used to be a strong 30% of the population 70 years ago is down to less than 2%. There are several factors involved, not the least of which is economics. Traditionally, the Christian community relied on the services offered for pilgrims as a main source of income for the community, who in turn conduct commerce with each other. Olive wood items/carvings represent the only tangible product they produce and can export. These special olive wood carvings, range in price from $5 to a few hundred and include Nativities, Last Supper, Crosses, Rosaries, Icons and various figures. Proceeds of the sales generate much needed employment and cash flow for the Christian community; at the same time, it's a wonderful opportunity for you to own a piece of our Holy Land to celebrate our faith! Checks, cash and credit cards will be accepted. May these items serve as a visual trigger for your much needed prayers! Merry Christmas.

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**Calendars & Schedules**

**Sunday – November 8**
- After ALL Masses: **Bake Sale-Parish Ctr/Lounge**
- 10:15-11:15AM: Altar Server Training-Church
- 10:15AM: NO Faith Formation
- After 5:30PM Mass: Life Teen-Parish Ctr

**Monday – November 9**
- 1:30PM: Nursing Home Mass
- 7:00PM: Core-Chapel

**Tuesday – November 10**
- 6:45PM: Edge-Parish Ctr
- 7:00PM: Altar Rosary-Chapel/Meeting Rm 1

**Wednesday – November 11** — Veterans Day
- Church & School offices closed
- Introduction to the Bible-Lounge
- 6:00PM

**Thursday – November 12**
- 10-12 Noon: Young At Heart-Parish Ctr
- 6-8:30PM: Virtus Training-Parish Ctr
- 6:30-8:30PM: AA, AL-Anon, ALateen-Mtg Rms
- 7:00PM: Prayer Group-Chapel

**Friday – November 13**
- 7AM-Midnight: Eucharistic Adoration-Chapel

**Saturday – November 14**
- After 4:30PM Mass: Olive wood sale for the Holy Land

**Sunday – November 15**
- After ALL Masses: Olive wood sale for the Holy Land
- 10:15AM: Faith Formation
- After 5:30PM Mass: Life Teen-Parish Ctr

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**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.

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**Liturgical Roles for Week Ending November 15, 2015**

**Money Counters, Sunday, November 15th**

**Team #7 — Tom Thouin, John Beaumont & Paul Tessier**

**Money Counters, Monday, November 16th**

**Team #2 — Jan & Mike Rayball**

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<th>Time</th>
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<td>Bill Murray</td>
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<td>#1-Michael Lupian</td>
<td>#1-Kenneth Fusci</td>
<td>#2-John Bodnar</td>
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<td><strong>ALTAR SERVERS</strong></td>
<td>Celeste &amp; Ruth Hessinger</td>
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<td>Jacob &amp; Noah Smith</td>
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<td><strong>Eucharistic Ministers</strong></td>
<td>S. Burgess, JA Conroy, M. Trudeau, J. Hogan, N. Hooks, J &amp; G Leonbruno</td>
<td>J. Bodnar, C. Chabot, D. Dub, V. Gyrko, P. Lincoln, E. Mahoney, J. Rys</td>
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<td><strong>USHERS</strong></td>
<td>G. Spenard, J. Minnick, E. Potyrala, Volunteer</td>
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<td>Jon B.</td>
<td>Kathy G.</td>
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<td><strong>LECTORS</strong></td>
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<td>#2-David Piusienski</td>
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<td><strong>Eucharistic Ministers</strong></td>
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<td><strong>MEDIA MINISTRY</strong></td>
<td>Nancy R.</td>
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### Parish Ministries & Contacts

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<th>Ministry</th>
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<td><strong>ADULT MISSION</strong> ..................................................</td>
<td>Mike Blair .........................................................</td>
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<td>Cathy Boudreau ...................................................</td>
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<td>Walter Ewing ......................................................</td>
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<td>Helmut &amp; Vicky Neurohr ..........................................</td>
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<td><strong>BISHOP’S APPEAL (DDP)</strong> ..........................................</td>
<td>Renee Hallock .....................................................</td>
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<td><strong>BUILDING AND GROUNDS</strong> ...........................................</td>
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<td>Nancy Acemoglu ....................................................</td>
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<td><strong>FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION</strong> .......................................</td>
<td>Connie Strassburg ..................................................</td>
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<td>John Estep ............................................................</td>
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<td><strong>WEDDING MINISTRY</strong> ..................................................</td>
<td>Carolyn Chabot ......................................................</td>
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**Readings for the Week of November 8, 2015**

- **Sunday**: 1 Kgs 17:10-16/Heb 9:24-28/Mk 12:38-44 or 12:41-44
  - Monday: Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12/1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17/ Jn 2:13-22
  - Tuesday: Wis 2:23–3:9/Lk 17:7-10
  - Wednesday: Wis 6:1-11/Lk 17:11-19
  - Thursday: Wis 7:22b–8:1/Lk 17:20-25
  - Friday: Wis 13:1-9/Lk 17:26-37
  - Saturday: Wis 18:14-16; 19:6-9/Lk 18:1-8
  - Next Sunday: Dn 12:1-3/Heb 10:11-14, 18/Mk 13:24-32

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