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

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

OFFICE HOURS
Monday–Thursday 9:00am–6:00pm
Friday 9:00am–4:00pm
Saturday & Sunday CLOSED

“The Parish Community of St. Ambrose Church”
Pastor's Page

ADVENT IS HERE AND SO...
"WE WAIT IN JOYFUL HOPE FOR THE COMING OF OUR SAVIOR"

This weekend we begin our short season of Advent, as we prepare for the advent or the coming of our Lord. We prepare, of course, for Jesus’ coming to us at Christmas; what is usually called the first coming of Christ. We can also think of His final coming at the end of time or, as we say in the Creed at Mass, “He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead.” Many spiritual writers such as St. Bernard also reflect that in between this first coming at Christmas and last coming at the end of time, Jesus in fact comes to us in many ways: in prayer, in people and events, in the Sacred Scriptures and, of course, in the Eucharist. Advent then, is very much a time when we focus on Jesus’ coming to us in all these ways and, of course, His presence among us at every time and in every moment of our lives.

An image that may help us is to see Advent as very much like a journey. As with any good journey, we not only have a final destination in mind (the coming of Jesus), but also we use a map (or even a GPS!) to guide us on our way there. Advent does indeed follow a route or a plan and so it has a structure for each Sunday to help us to journey well. We will also be having a series of talks on Thursday evenings to help us to journey through the season and to prepare for Christmas and the usual “Word Among Us” booklets will be available to guide our prayer and reflection each day during this holy season.

So, what is the structure or theme for each of our Sundays during Advent? The theme or guide for the first Sunday of Advent is to watch and wait for the Lord. For many of us, it is a timely reminder that as Christians, we need to be like Mary as well as Martha in the Gospels (cf. Luke 10: 38-42). Martha was so busy with things that she did not have time to listen to Jesus, whereas Mary sat at the Lord’s feet and listened to him. We too often need to slow down and listen to the Lord, to sit at his feet for a while, even if it is just for five minutes a day! It is good to remember that we have a wonderful asset at St. Ambrose in the form of our Day Chapel. The chapel is open on weekdays from around 5.45 am until 8.00 pm. Why not come and spend a few minutes there, watching and waiting on the Lord?

In the second week of Advent we think again of John the Baptist and his mission to prepare a way for the Lord. John decreased as the Lord increased: we are called to do the same; that is to let the Lord grow in our life. Our third week places before us that great and important attitude of joy: we rejoice for the Lord is coming, he is near to us. We recall that this joy is not something superficial, or as Bernard Bassett called it “contingent” (on things going well or on others), but rather is a gift and an inner peace and strength that is there regardless of life and its ups and downs. In our fourth and final week, we celebrate the annunciation of the good news that God is indeed with us. This is true not just at Christmas, but for every moment of our life.

This time of year is so very busy at school, at home and at work and all those shopping days to Christmas are disappearing rapidly! The Church wisely gives us this special season of Advent to help us in all this busyness to prepare for the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. So, let us use this time well, let us journey through Advent well and let us prepare well so that as the Lord comes to us, we may have hearts and minds open and ready to welcome him. Let our prayer be the same one as the very first Christians: “Come, Lord Jesus!”

Fr. Anthony
STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN PROGRESS REPORT

This is just a brief report to give you an update on the progress of our parish Stewardship Campaign, now in its third week. First of all, it has been a wonderful time of giving thanks for all that our parish means to us. We have reflected together on how those who have gone before us sacrificed so much to build the church and also to ensure that the church is not just a beautiful building, but that it is also built of “living stones”. We also heard about what the parish and school mean to us in our own day and how gifts of time, talent and treasure continue to ensure that the parish helps us to live our faith in Jesus and to be of service to each other and to the wider community.

This is also a time to say a special “thank you” to our organizing committee, those who spoke so movingly at the Masses last weekend and also to the parish staff and to the many volunteers who have worked so hard to make sure that the campaign has run well. Thanks must also go to some generous donations that have kept the campaign costs to an absolute minimum. Finally, of course, deepest thanks must go to all those who have already responded so generously to the campaign and who have, where it has been possible, decided to increase their offertory contributions.

The two goals of the campaign were first, to increase a sense of stewardship, in general, and to give thanks for all that our parish means to us, and secondly to increase our weekly offertory contributions by 20-30%. We will be able to see the results of this second goal as we look at the weekly figures that are published in our parish bulletin. So far, the number of responses (written and verbal) have been very positive. Initial estimates look as though we are doing very well in reaching our goal.

The next and final stage of the campaign will be to contact households either with a letter of thanks if a response has been made, or a further request for a prayerful consideration of increasing the weekly offertory amounts if no response has yet been received. Thinking of this, if you have already responded, but decided not to use the pledge leaflet/flyer, please just put your name on the leaflet/flyer or drop a note into the Parish Office. This way we will know you have already responded and we will be able to send a thank you letter (and not bother you with a request for a response!).

Please do feel free to take the Stewardship Prayer card (that can be found in the benches or at the church exits) home with you to use as part of your family prayers together. Finally, many thanks again for all that you give to the life of our parish community and may God bless you and your family as we begin our preparations in Advent for the coming of our Saviour at Christmas,
Faith Formation News

- Sunday, November 29th — No Class (Thanksgiving Day Weekend Holiday)
- Sunday, December 6th — Pre-K/Kindergarten Parent/Child Workshop @ Faith Formation, 10:15 AM
- Sunday, December 20th — Grade 1 Parent/Child Workshop @ Faith Formation, 10:15 AM

Nativity Play
Our annual Nativity Play is happening during the 4:30pm Christmas Mass and we need YOUR help!

Open to all kids from Kindergarten to 6th Grade!

If you’re interested, please contact the faith formation office at 785-1351 x322!

Advent Speaker Series 2015

Thursday, December 3
The Journey of the Holy Family: A Biblical Reflection (Tom Acemoglu)

Thursday, December 10
Joyfully Complex: Parish Families and the Life of Our Community (people of St. Ambrose)

Thursday, December 17
The Church and the Modern Family: Reflections on the Synod of the Family (Fr. Barratt)

You can find last year’s Speaker Series @ www.stambroselatham.com/media
All High School teens are invited to this amazing weekend filled with fun, food and friendship. Let’s mix all of that up with the awesome opportunity to grow closer to our God and deeper in our faith as we become disciples, leaders, students and witnesses. The cost is $99. The place is Christ the King Spiritual Life Center, Greenwich. The time is the weekend of December 4th thru 6th. Contact the Lifeteen Office for more details 518-785-1351 or text 518-369-0213.

Jan. 8th
They’re coming back! Save the Date!!
The Premier Irish band in the Capital District

Tickets
$29 per person

Hair of the Dog
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.

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
Fourth Prize $100—ten winners

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

 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 cellos, 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.”

Oh give thanks to the LORD, call upon His name; Make known His deeds among the peoples.

1 Chronicles 16:8

Parish Nurse
Nancy Acemoglu, RN

The Angel Giving Tree
The Angel Giving Tree is in the Parish Center Lobby.
The symbolism of Angels represent the love, care and compassion of the Lord for others, especially those in need, the ill and Elderly who may be experiencing hardships.

The Project will begin:
Tuesday, November 24th
Please return all gifts by:
Monday, December 7th
To allow time to collate and deliver, please return all new items wrapped with the original angel back under the Christmas tree in the Parish Center.
We appreciate all you continue to do in this amazing Community.
Helpers are needed to sort and deliver. This can be done at your convenience.
Please stop by my office or call 785-1351 x304

Grief Loss Christmas Gathering
Wednesday, December 9th
At 6:30 PM in the Resource Room
Please bring something to share (appetizer or entrée) and join with others to remember Christ’s birthday! New people are always welcome.
Please stop by my office or call 785-1351 x304

Thank you for supporting our school!
SACRED SPACE
An Advent Retreat in Everyday Life

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.

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 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, conveniences, and 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 Administrative Assistant 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 Administrative Assistant Justina at 785-1351 x307 or faithformationaa@stambroselatham.com with the info.

Thank you and God Bless

The Altar Rosary Society will be preparing the Church for the Advent/Christmas season and we would like to invite the parish family to participate. We will be decorating the altars in the church, chapel and McCormick Center with beautiful live poinsettia plants. If you wish to help us with this endeavor, for a small donation, you may purchase a plant in memory of a loved one or in your family's name. Information on this project can be found on the red and green handouts located at the Church entrances. Thank you and God Bless.

The Evangelist Subscription

Name: ____________________________
Address: ____________________________  State: _______
City: ____________________________  Zip: _______
Phone No: ____________________________
Please check:

Continue my subscription to the Evangelist, here is my $18.00/yr.

Add my name to the subscription list, here is my $18.00/yr.

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

Keep the Legacy Alive
Please remember St. Ambrose Parish in your will
St. Ambrose Roman Catholic Church
347 Old Loudon Rd., Latham, NY 12110
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.

Church of the Immaculate Conception presents its Third Annual Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols. This beautiful service of scripture and song tells the story of Jesus’ birth, from the Annunciation of Mary through the glory of Christmas Day. This ecumenical service features area church choirs. Directed by Derek Stannard and accompanied by K. Bryan Kirk. Come get in the spirit of the holidays with this beautiful service! December 6, 3 PM at Church of the Immaculate Conception, 400 Saratoga Road, Glenville, NY. Handicapped accessible, Please call 518.399.9168 or view online at www.icglenville.com

Stewardship UPDATE
We Are A Tithing Parish
Following “God’s Plan for Giving”
Due to the early bulletin submission because of the Thanksgiving holiday, collection amounts were not yet available.
“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.

First Sunday in Advent

Mass Intentions

Monday – November 30—St. Andrew, Apostle
6:30 AM Holy Souls by Members of St. Ambrose Parish
Sarah Nash by Mom, Dad & Sister
9:00 AM Mass at Our Lady of the Assumption

Tuesday – December 1—Advent Weekday
6:30 AM Mass at Our Lady of the Assumption
9:00 AM Frank D’Amico by Pat Long
9:00 AM Dimma Fredericks by St. Ambrose Staff

Wednesday – December 2—Advent Weekday
6:30 AM For the Richard Family by Madeleine
9:00 AM Mass at Our Lady of the Assumption

Thursday – December 3—St. Francis Xavier
6:30 AM Communion Service at Our Lady of the Assumption
9:00 AM Marion Kardas by Bob & Leslie Beauregard

Friday – December 4—Advent Weekday
6:30 AM Communion Service
9:00 AM Mass at Our Lady of the Assumption

Saturday – December 5—Advent Weekday
4:30 PM Frances Schlosser by Rita Bookhop
H. Robert Van Wie by Carl & Marion Rosenthal
Eileen Bergin by Puzier Family
James Jukes by Thomas Kulzer

Sunday – December 6—Second Sunday of Advent
7:30 AM Teresa & Vincenzo Popolizio by Clara
Patricia Harrison-Stampfl by Barbara & Donald Lebentritt
Marion Kardas by Eva, Tina, Dale, Robert, Kandi, Grant & Brayden
9:00 AM Anthony V. Bayer by Keith, Kate & Christopher Bayer
Jim Danner by Family
Jerry Beyrodt by Joe & Caroline Gomez
11:30 AM Bill Connors by Wife
Constantine Doukas by Michele & Giuliana Famoso
Carol Sabatino by Mr. and Mrs. Vittorio Renda
5:30 PM People of St. Ambrose

Church of the Immaculate Conception presents its Third Annual Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols. This beautiful service of scripture and song tells the story of Jesus’ birth, from the Annunciation of Mary through the glory of Christmas Day. This ecumenical service features area church choirs. Directed by Derek Stannard and accompanied by K. Bryan Kirk. Come get in the spirit of the holidays with this beautiful service! December 6, 3 PM at Church of the Immaculate Conception, 400 Saratoga Road, Glenville, NY. Handicapped accessible, Please call 518.399.9168 or view online at www.icglenville.com

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good
— Psalm 107:1 NIV

Thank You, Lord!
November

**CALENDARS & SCHEDULES**

**Sunday – November 29**
- 10:15AM: NO Faith Formation
- After 5:30PM Mass: Life Teen-Parish Center

**Monday – November 30**
- 7:00PM: Core Team-Chapel

**Tuesday – December 1**
- 6:45PM: Edge-Parish Center
- 7:00PM: Mary’s Circle of Love-Lounge

**Wednesday – December 2**
- 7:00PM: Sacred Space Retreat-Parish Center
- 6:30-8:30PM: AA, AL-ANON, ALATEEN-Meeting Rms

**Thursday – December 3**
- 9:30AM: Commissioning of Lectors
- 7:00PM: Eucharistic Adoration-Chapel
- 6:30-8:30PM: AA, AL-ANON, ALATEEN-Meeting Rms
- 7:00PM: Media Ministry Meeting-Church
- 7:00-9:00PM: Advent Speaker Series-Parish Center

**Friday – December 4**
- 7AM-Midnight: Eucharistic Adoration-Chapel

**Saturday – December 5**
- 4:30PM Mass: Commissioning of Lectors

**Sunday – December 6**
- All Masses: Commissioning of Lectors
- After All Masses: Parish Breakfast
- 10:15AM: Faith Formation
- After 5:30PM Mass: Life Teen-Parish Center

**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.

**LITURGICAL ROLES FOR WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 6, 2015**

**MONEY COUNTERS, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6TH**
**TEAM #10 — RENE COMTOIS, RICH HAGGERTY, DANA RENDA, SUZANNE TRZCINSKI**

**MONEY COUNTERS, MONDAY, DECEMBER 7TH**
**TEAM #2—JAN AND MIKE RAYBALL**

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<td>Adult Mission</td>
<td>Mike Blair</td>
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<td>Altar Rosary Society</td>
<td>Cathy Boudreau</td>
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<td>Walter Ewing</td>
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<td>(Training)</td>
<td>Lynn Wozniak</td>
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<td>Renee Hallock</td>
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<td>Rich Zmijewski</td>
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<td>Mary Beth Pallack</td>
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<td>Sue Laverne</td>
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<td>Faith, Hope and Share</td>
<td>Nancy Acemoglu</td>
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<td>Connie Strassburg</td>
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<td>Pauline Kubiszne</td>
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<td>Patricia Pyndus</td>
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<td>Mary Sue Ray</td>
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<td>Joe Leombruno</td>
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<td>Mark Trudeau</td>
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<td>Paula Borkowski</td>
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<td>Erin Muir</td>
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<td>Rose Anne Szvedo</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:principal@stambroselatham.com">principal@stambroselatham.com</a></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:EvangelizationAndCatechesis@stambroselatham.com">EvangelizationAndCatechesis@stambroselatham.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Young At Heart</td>
<td>Carolyn Chabot</td>
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**READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 29, 2015**

- **Sunday:** Jer 33:14-16/Ps 25:4-5, 8-10, 14/1 Thes 3:12--4:2/Lk 21:25-28, 34-36
- **Monday:** Rom 10:9-18/Ps 19:8-11/Mt 4:18-22
- **Tuesday:** Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Lk 10:21-24
- **Wednesday:** Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-6/Mt 15:29-37
- **Thursday:** Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27/Mt 7:21, 24-27
- **Friday:** Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31
- **Saturday:** Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-6/Mt 9:35--10:1, 5a, 6-8

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