"The Parish Community of St. Ambrose Church"

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the wedding. When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him, “They have no wine.” — Jn 2:1-3

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

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

MSS 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
This weekend we begin “ordinary time” once again in our church’s calendar and we hear of the first miracle or “sign” of Jesus as St. John calls it. Jesus turns ordinary water into extraordinary wine! This can give us a clue as to what we mean by “ordinary time” and why it is also extraordinary. Ordinary Time is a time when we do not focus on any particular aspect of Jesus’ life and mission and our faith (as we do during Advent, Christmas, Lent or Easter), but rather on Jesus ministry in general and our living response to this in our time and place. It may well be “ordinary time”, but it can be an extraordinary time for us if we listen to God’s calling and follow our Lord in the ordinary events of our daily routine. Jesus can indeed turn ordinary things, events or people into something or someone extraordinary.

Next week provides an example of the extraordinary in the ordinary. An annual event will be taking place that will probably attract little attention from the media, yet in Washington D.C. around 400,000 ordinary people will be gathered (over half of them are under the age of thirty) for something “extraordinary”: the annual “March for Life”.

The March for Life takes place on Friday, 22\textsuperscript{nd} January, although there are all sorts of other related events around the actual march. It was begun back in 1974 by Nellie Gray and a small group of helpers in response to the Roe v Wade decision of the Supreme Court to legalize abortion the previous year. The March for Life has developed into a major event and now includes a gathering at the National Mall, followed by a march to the Supreme Court, as well as youth rallies, prayer vigils and other activities. There are usually a number of special Masses celebrated too, including one at the beautiful Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception (it is usually televised). More details can be found at the website (www.marchforlife.org or the usccb website).

The principle behind the March for Life is the defense of life and the promotion of a culture of life (in opposition to the growing “culture of death”); that is to defend and promote life from the moment of conception to the natural end of life. The March for Life charter puts it this way: “the life of each human being shall be preserved and protected from that human being’s biological beginning…[and] at each stage of that life...regardless of state of health or condition of dependency…” For more details of the events you can visit the March for Life website: [www.MarchForLife.org](http://www.MarchForLife.org).

The Gospel or culture of life therefore celebrates human life and promotes a respect for life from the moment of conception to the moment of death. It reminds us of the value and dignity of every human life, for we have been created in the “image and likeness of God” (Genesis 2: 7). It also confronts certain values, attitudes or practices such as abortion, some types of medical research, genocide, the treating of people as objects to be used or exploited, and euthanasia.

Pope Francis has recently expressed his gratitude for the March for Life as well as for the essential need to promote a respect for life. Pope Emeritus Benedict also gave thanks for the March, thanking especially to the young people who take part in it, and he has called the March “an outstanding annual witness for the Gospel of Life.” Friday, 22\textsuperscript{nd} January is also a special day of prayer “for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children.” A reminder that our Day Chapel is open for adoration all day on Friday, so why not call in and spend some time in prayer for all those who are witnessing to the Gospel of Life and also for a renewal of our celebration of life and our resolve to do whatever we can to promote this Gospel of Life at home, at school, in our community and at work.

Fr. Anthony
Order in the New Year

"Happiness is not a matter of intensity but of balance, order, rhythm and harmony.” ... Thomas Merton

To have balance in life can be a challenge. What can work with some could never work with others. We were all made so different. Much has to do with what side of the brain is dominant, and so a dominant right-brain person may approach a situation entirely differently than a left-brain person.

When one begins to focus on life’s issues, becoming active rather than reactive, calm, grounded, clear-headed and motivated, one can plan down to the most minute detail, retirement plans, vacations, etc. However, when it comes down to it nothing is certain or predictable, life happens as it will. Things may be internal or external (work generated, relationships, activities, less heart-minded.) One may become self-reflective, missing out on life by overthinking the issue, oriented with goals, vs. seeing the bigger picture, enjoying life, social, satisfying vs. alone. Family as fulfilling vs. healthy boundaries. There is a fun time for enjoyment, making sure not to overdo. Both spectrums are positive but extremes can be detrimental.

What to do if you become pulled in one direction:
1. Acknowledge it. Be honest with yourself. Is some area being neglected? (sleep, duties, housework)
2. Re-examine your activities. Internal or External
3. Look at Goals. Make a list. Cross out as you go. It can be therapeutic.
4. Plan tasks.
5. Reflect. What was the most important task you did in the past? How did you focus? (fears, doubts, anxieties, worries or negative thoughts) How did it feel to accomplish this?
6. Prepare. What’s going on inside your thoughts, what’s keeping you from achieving your goals? (fears, worries, negativity) Can you identify what gets you off track?
8. Connect. Stay on track to achieve your goals, try for three months.

Life is filled with the constant flow of ups and downs, what separates you from the next person is your response to the external. You can allow it to bother you, chisel away at your well-being or accept the bad, look for the good and embrace God’s gift of life.
RCIA...THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION

Those who are entering our Catholic community have begun a long journey of many months of learning about our Catholic faith. They will experience this life with us and will reflect upon their own lives and the Gospels. The RCIA process allows them to take a leisurely journey, a process of learning by experiencing and sharing.

As long as we, the Catholic community of St. Ambrose are striving to draw closer to Christ and seeking to enable the reign of God to grow here in our lives, we are undergoing a conversion process. We are spiritually growing even when we are not conscious of it. As people who are proud of the gift we have to offer, we must allow ourselves to share in opportunities for growth, even while others are on their journey into our Catholic family. We are like family preparing the home for an important guest. Our home is not just the church building, but it is each one of us as we come together in faith and worship.

We must be careful never to forget our need to prepare for and welcome those coming into our faith. These extraordinary people are: Donald Harrison, Gregory Seeley, Guia Otero and Jennifer Mealey. We gather each Sunday for Mass and then enter the chapel for the sharing and reflecting of scripture. You are welcome to join us in the chapel any time after the 9:00 AM mass.

On Sunday, January 24, we will celebrate the Rite of Acceptance and Welcoming. The community makes a commitment to the candidates during this ceremony.

Following the 9:00 mass on this day, please come to the parish center for refreshments and to share in the joy of their commitment. Please take the opportunity congratulate them as special people who want to be part of our Catholic family.
The Eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had ordered them. When they saw Him, they worship, but they doubted. Then Jesus approached and said to them, “All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And the end of the age.”
Matthew 28:16-20

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

What is the point of doing Mission work? There are plenty of poor here in our hometown. Why put such a strain on our Parish family? Why not serve locally and save the expense of traveling great distances?

Mission work provides training and experience. Mission work exposes the missionary to realities and trials that otherwise would never have happened. Mission work exposes the missionary to foreign cultures, ways of life, behaviors and customs that help the missionary see the world as God sees it; One people, one love, one concern. And through these things the missionary forms a foundation of understanding that we are all in need and that need is Him. What God empowers us to do is participate in the world of miracles and impossible tasks. God’s world is always beyond us until we decide to accept Him into our heart. Once done we find ourselves enveloped by mercy, grace, love, power, drive, kindness, compassion, awareness, ability and so much more. Often defined as being changed by God or finding a new person because of our openness to God. The reality is we have not been changed but revealed. It is always God’s intention for us to be who He created us to be. “You are precious in my eyes and glorious, and I love you” Isaiah 43:5. Mission work helps us have the same attitude and outlook of all people and when we bring that homes with us we serve our neighbors with great kindness and a willingness to here their, story and participate in their needs.

The Adult Raffle has been drawn ...
And the Winners are:
4th Prize for $100—the Valenty family, the Dugan family, the Brochu family, the Lasky family, the Krause family, the Casale family, the Reilly family, and the Caruso family.
3rd Prize for $500—the Siple family, the Grady family, the Natale family and the Johnson family.
2nd Prize for $1000—the Fisk family and the Wheller family.
1st Prize for $5000—the Polsinelli family.
Congratulations to everyone and thank you so much for your support of this great effort.

To everyone who helped make this Mission Trip Possible and to all those who pray for us please continue to pray and lift up the supporters, the missionaries and the folks we will serve.
At St. Ambrose School, we are “Learning to be all God wants us to be.”

What is in the gift of A Catholic education?

- Friends
- Family
- Personal connection with teachers
- Pray every day
- Learn to be like Jesus
- Actively participate in the mass
- Grow daily in faith
- Serve others
- Safe place to take risks in learning
- Gain confidence

Mass for Peace - Wednesdays (Feb. 3, Mar. 2) - We’ll gather for Mass at 7 PM. Before Mass, please join us for a potluck supper at 5:45 PM at Emmaus House. Sponsored by the Albany Catholic Worker. All are welcome!

Items Needed - The Albany Catholic Worker distributes items to low-income families throughout the Capital Region. Please consider donating diapers (all sizes), baby wipes, toilet paper, laundry detergent, tissues, toothpaste, bars of soap, cereal, etc. Donations may be brought to Emmaus House. For more information please call (518) 482-4966 or send an email to: catholicworkeralbany@gmail.com.

New Sanctuary for Immigrants Drop-In - Every Wednesday starting January 13 - Are you an immigrant (or know one) who needs help? Please visit with members of our New Sanctuary Group. We assist with legal concerns, education, employment advocacy and access to healthcare.

Office location:
Our Lady of the Americas Shrine Church
274 Sherman Street, Albany, NY 12206
Phone: (518) 465-3685, extension 10
email: ns4immigrants@gmail.com

Introduction to Centering Prayer

Corpus Christi Church will offer Introduction to Centering Prayer on Saturday, January 30, 2015 in the Parish Hall. Bruce Gardiner will introduce Centering Prayer as a method of silent prayer. The focus of Centering Prayer is the deepening of our relationship with the living Christ. Everyone is invited to join the Albany Cursillo community for this afternoon of prayer. Brown bag lunch at 11:30 AM, followed by the workshop from 12:30 PM to 3:45 PM. There will be a free will offering.
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 about 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.

PARISHIONER REGISTRATION/UPDATE REQUEST

Name: ____________________________
Address: ____________________________
City: ____________________________ State: ______
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.

THE EVANGELIST SUBSCRIPTION
Name: ____________________________
Address: ____________________________
City: ____________________________ State: ______
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.

“There is no HUMAN LIFE that is more sacred than another.”
—Pope Francis, November 15, 2014

CNS photo/P.
“We Are A Tithing Parish
Following “God’s Plan for Giving”

January 10, 2016 $16,461.70
January 11, 2015 $16,206.76

Renewed thanks for your generosity and many thanks to everyone for the generous response to the Increased Offertory Campaign.

Monday – January 18—St. Weekday
9:00 AM Regina Salamander by Dutresne & Cavanaugh Funeral Home
9:00 AM Mass at Our Lady of the Assumption

Tuesday – January 19—Weekday
6:30 AM Mass at Our Lady of the Assumption
9:00 AM James J. Egan by Joe & Lucille Egan
Vincent J. Carmody by Linda

Wednesday – January 20—St. Fabian & St. Sebastian
6:30 AM The Richard Family by Madeleine
9:00 AM Class Mass
9:00 AM Mass at Our Lady of the Assumption

Thursday – January 21—St. Agnes
9:00 AM Robert Fredericks by St. Ambrose Staff
9:00 AM Mass at Our Lady of the Assumption

Friday – January 22—Weekday
6:30 AM Communion Service

Saturday – January 23—St. Vincent & St. Marianne Cope
4:30 PM Concetia Savino (22nd Anniversary) by Antoinette Muscatiello
Ann & Anthony Zubal by Jean & Pat McKeown
Mary Ann Cushing by The Family

Sunday – January 24—Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:30 AM Jane Heckman by Her Sister
Marion Kardas by Eve, Tina, Dale Robert, Kandi, Grant & Brayden
9:00 AM Philip Donegan (1st Anniversary) by Mary Donegan
Marilyn Rosney by Lynn & Susan
Mildred Krage by Bob & Leslie Beauregard
11:30 AM Chickie Sorrentino by Mary Kay Frederick
5:30 PM Parish Intention

Knights of Columbus
Free Throw Championship
Boys 9-14 and Girls 9-14

Hosted by: St Ambrose/ in School gym, 347 Old Loudon Rd, (park near gym)
Date: Sunday, January 24th, 1:30 to 5:30PM
Cost: Free! Food item donations are requested for St. Ambrose food pantry.
Arrival time for all participants: Please arrive by 1:30PM at the gym.
Registration: January 1st and will be accepted up to each age groups event.
Reg-Forms are available: Latham Knights of Columbus, St. Ambrose, and we will try to send them out through your local elementary school.
Event Schedule: 9-10 (2:00 to 3:00) 11-12 (3:00 to 4:00) 13- 14 (4:00 to 5:00)
*Event schedule may change depending on number of Participants.
Note: Each age group competes with their own gender.
Contact: Rene Mullen at MullenRWM@nycap.rr.com, with any questions.
All first place boys and girls will receive a trophy, 2nd and 3rd medals.
Copies of Birth Certificates are required as proof of age!
(First place winners go on to District Championship in February)
If you or a member of your family is a patient in any of the area hospitals, please call the Parish Office at 785-1351 so Father or Deacon can make a visit.

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.

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
## Parish Ministries & Contacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ministry</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ADULT MISSION</strong></td>
<td>Mike Blair</td>
<td>376-0082</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ALTAR ROSARY SOCIETY</strong></td>
<td>Cathy Boudreau</td>
<td>785-3460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ALTAR SERVERS</strong></td>
<td>Walter Ewing</td>
<td>320-0662</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ATHLETIC PROGRAM</strong></td>
<td>Lynn Wozniak</td>
<td>456-5990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BAPTISMAL PREPARATION</strong></td>
<td>Jim LaBombard</td>
<td>371-1996</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BISHOPS APPEAL (DDP)</strong></td>
<td>Helmut &amp; Vicky Neurohr</td>
<td>785-4630</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>BUILDING AND GROUNDS</strong></td>
<td>Renee Hallock</td>
<td>785-3180</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP</strong></td>
<td>Rich Zmiewski</td>
<td>785-3142</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CONFIRMATION</strong></td>
<td>Mary Beth Pallack</td>
<td>221-1357</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Eucharistic Adoration</strong></td>
<td>Tom Acemoglu</td>
<td>785-1351 x307</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Eucharistic Ministers</strong></td>
<td>Nancy Acemoglu</td>
<td>785-1351 x304</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Faith, Hope and Share</strong></td>
<td>Connie Strassburg</td>
<td>783-3342</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>First Saturday Devotion</strong></td>
<td>Pauline Kubizne</td>
<td>785-7816</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Food Pantry</strong></td>
<td>Patricia Ostiguy</td>
<td>783-5175</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>GARDEN CLUB</strong></td>
<td>Mary Sue Ray</td>
<td>469-1329</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Grief Loss Group</strong></td>
<td>Nancy Acemoglu</td>
<td>785-1351 x304</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Life Teen &amp; Jr. High Life</strong></td>
<td>Joe Leombruno</td>
<td>373-2353</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Magdalenia Ministry</strong></td>
<td>Mark Trudeau</td>
<td>785-1351 x309</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Marriage Preparation Ministry</strong></td>
<td>Paula Borkowski</td>
<td>797-6447</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Martha Ministry</strong></td>
<td>Erin Muir</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MARTHA MINISTRY</strong></td>
<td>Donna Sabatino</td>
<td>782-1470</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mary’s Circle of Love Ministry</strong></td>
<td>Rose Anne Szvedo</td>
<td>469-5367</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Media Ministry</strong></td>
<td>Mary Alice Hunt</td>
<td>859-6743</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Music Groups</strong></td>
<td>Thomas Green</td>
<td>785-1351 x306</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Parish Secretary</strong></td>
<td>Parish Office</td>
<td>785-1351 x321</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>P. A. Evangelization &amp; Catechesis</strong></td>
<td>Tom Acemoglu</td>
<td>785-1351 x307</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Pastoral Care</strong></td>
<td>Ruth Lapierre</td>
<td>785-0905</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Prayer &amp; Worship</strong></td>
<td>Richard Ostiguy</td>
<td>783-5175</td>
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<td><strong>Respect Life</strong></td>
<td>Erin Muir</td>
<td>785-1351 x302</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)</strong></td>
<td>Tom Acemoglu</td>
<td>785-1351 x307</td>
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<td><strong>Sacristans</strong></td>
<td>Pat Rayball</td>
<td>708-9615</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ST. AMBROSE SCHOOL</strong></td>
<td>Terri McGraw</td>
<td>785-6453</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Principal</strong></td>
<td>Kelly Sano</td>
<td>785-6453 x320</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Secretary</strong></td>
<td>Cary Lombardo</td>
<td>785-6453</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>HOME SCHOOL ASSOCIATION</strong></td>
<td>William Miller</td>
<td>785-6453 x320</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>School Board</strong></td>
<td>Paul Wilkes</td>
<td>785-1351</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Saint Vincent DePaul Society</strong></td>
<td>Catherine Halayko / Joseph Sinisgalli</td>
<td>785-1351</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Trustees</strong></td>
<td>John Estep</td>
<td>783-9266</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>USHERS</strong></td>
<td>Tom Acemoglu</td>
<td>785-6315</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Vacation Bible School</strong></td>
<td>Carolyn Chabol</td>
<td>785-6315</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Young at Heart</strong></td>
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### Readings for the Week of January 17, 2016

- **Sunday:** Is 62:1-5/Ps 96:1-3, 7-10/1 Cor 12:4-11/Jn 2:1-11
- **Monday:** 1 Sm 15:16-23/Ps 50:8-9, 16-17, 21, 23/Mk 2:18-22
- **Tuesday:** 1 Sm 16:1-13/Ps 89:20-22, 27-28/Mk 2:23-28
- **Wednesday:** 1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51/Ps 144:1-2, 9-10/Mk 3:1-6
- **Thursday:** 1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7/Ps 56:2-3, 9-13/Mk 3:7-12
- **Friday:** 1 Sm 24:3-21/Ps 57:2-4, 6, 11/Mk 3:13-19
- **Saturday:** 2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27/Ps 80:2-3, 5-7/Mk 3:20-21
- **Next Sunday:** Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10/Ps 19:8-10, 15/1 Cor 12:12-30 or 12:14-21, 27/Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21

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