Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me... He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free. Lk 4:18

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

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

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

Last weekend we began “ordinary time” after all our preparations during Advent and then our celebrations of Christmas. Mind you, we will not be in ordinary time for very long because Ash Wednesday and the season of Lent is fast approaching (Ash Wednesday is on the 10th February this year). So, what do we mean by “ordinary time” in our church calendar? The *ordo* (the book that we use in the sacristy to make sure that we are celebrating the correct Mass for each day in the calendar) says this about ordinary time… “Besides the times of the year that have their own distinctive character, there remains in the yearly cycle thirty-three or thirty-four weeks in which no particular aspect of the mystery of Christ is celebrated, but rather the mystery of Christ itself is honored in its fullness. This period is known as ‘ordinary time.’”

In this sense, ordinary time is also, like any other time in our faith journey an extraordinary time as we celebrate and grow in God’s love and care for us, as we deepen our faith and above all as we receive God’s love and mercy through the sacraments, through prayer and in so many other ways. Unlike Advent, Christmas, Lent or Easter we do not focus on particular aspects or events in Jesus’ life, death and resurrection, but we do follow Jesus through His public ministry. Each year we do this guided by one of the three “synoptic” Gospels (Matthew, Mark or Luke) and this year, as we are in cycle C, Saint Luke is our guide.

Each of the Gospel writers presents us with his picture of Jesus. Of course, there are many similarities and common areas in each Gospel account and all the Gospels were written with the guidance and inspiration of the Holy Spirit; but there is also a rich diversity. Each gospel writer (or evangelist) writes for a particular church community and situation and each evangelist highlights particular aspects of who Jesus is and the nature of His mission. It is rather like knowing an incredible person and being asked to write an account of their life. We would all write many of the same things about them, but we would also stress different aspects and events. As St. Luke in our Gospel reading this weekend tell us: “I too have decided, after investigating everything accurately anew, to write it down in an orderly sequence for you…so that you may realize the certainty of the teachings you have received.”

St. Luke focuses on the universal nature of God’s love revealed in Jesus Christ and especially on God’s great mercy. In fact, St. Luke’s Gospel is often called *the Gospel of mercy* and so having St. Luke as our guide is particularly helpful as we continue our jubilee “Year of Mercy.” He also writes about Jesus’ special care and concern for the sick, the poor and the outsider. Only in his Gospel, for example, do we find parables such as the Good Samaritan, or the Prodigal Son and only St. Luke mentions the repentant thief, or the encounter between the risen Jesus and the two disciples on the road to Emmaus. He also gives us the most detail about the birth of Jesus at Christmas and he also tells us much about Mary, our blessed mother (with his accounts of the Annunciation or the Visitation).

A great project then for our “ordinary time” until we begin Lent would be to take some time to read a passage of his Gospel each day. Perhaps we could buy a book or commentary on St. Luke’s Gospel (or check online) to help our understanding of his account of Jesus’ life, death and resurrection. So, as we begin this period of “ordinary time” and continue our Year of Mercy, may it be for each of us at St. Ambrose also an extraordinary time of encountering and experiencing anew God’s love and mercy in our midst; guided and enriched as we are by our companion for the journey in the shape of Saint Luke and his Gospel of mercy.

Fr. Anthony
Please Join Us!
Tuesday, February 2nd, 2016
6:30 PM

On Tuesday, February 2nd, Fr. Anthony will celebrate Mass for all of us and our intentions at 6:30 PM in the church. Please plan to join us for Mass and for a pot-luck supper that will follow in the parish center.

Let’s come together in gratitude for one another and all God’s many gifts to us. Invite someone to join you...perhaps someone who has been away from the community for awhile.

You are invited to bring a dish to share which can be dropped off in the Parish Center before Mass.

St. Ambrose, pray for us!
January 24, 2016

Scenes from the Confirmation Retreat 2016
The Corporal Acts of Mercy

Feed the Hungry
Give drink to the thirsty
Clothe the naked
Shelter the homeless
Visit the imprisoned
Visit the sick
Bury the dead

Following Jesus Christ means to follow His lead and example in our everyday work. After He taught us the Beatitudes (Matthew Chapter 5) He then lived them out and they became the acts of Mercy. These are the things our Pope Francis is calling out to us all to live this year in an extraordinary way.

For our youth ministry and Confirmation Preparation we asked the teens to embrace these principles and begin to act them out in their lives. They made these blankets which will be donated to the homeless.

Thank you so much for all your prayers and support for our teens. This past weekend was the Confirmation Retreat and it was a tremendous success. It takes many hands to make an event like this happen and all those volunteers who work so hard for these teens are so very generous with their time, treasure and talent, it is extraordinary. Please join me in thanking those nameless adults who every day are doing something for our teens to help them grow closer to Jesus Christ and live their faith in the beauty and purity of our Catholic Church. They are the core team and they strive for their own growth in faith so they can lead by example and help our teens do the same. God has blessed this parish with so many awesome people and the Lifeteen Core team is one huge blessing to this ministry and to us all at St. Ambrose Catholic family. Pray for us as we pray for you.

Middle School Ministry—Winter Spring Schedule

We meet on Tuesday nights from 6:45pm to 8:00pm. All youth in grades 6 through 8 are invited to attend. No registration necessary. Just come and learn.

Jan 19th—The Creed (part 1)
Jan 26th—no class
Feb 2nd—The Creed (part 2)
Feb 9th—the Sacraments
Feb. 16th—no class
Feb. 23rd—What happened to Jesus?
Mar. 1st—Where is He now?
Mar 8th—no class
Mar. 15th—Reconciliation
Mar. 22nd—Passion week
Mar. 29th—no class
Apr. 5th—Parting Gifts
Apr. 12th—Homework
Apr. 19th—Prayer
Apr. 26th—no class
May 3rd—Covenant Promise (part 1)
May 10th—Covenant Promise (part 2)
May 17th—Social Justice
May 24th—Old Testament Prayer
May 31st—New Testament Prayer
June to be announced

Mission 2016 Dominican Republic

January 28th—Final Meeting for all Parents and teens. There will be information on travel and lodging and work schedules. Be sure to attend this meeting. 7pm in the Parish Center.

January 29th—Mission trip Lock in. This is a time to bond with all the missionaries going on the trip and your leaders. Bring a sleeping bag and snack and soda to share. We’ll spend the night learning about each other and sharing our hopes and dreams for the mission trip. We’ll have some team building events and some great laughs as well. Don’t miss this night. We’ll begin at 7pm and end the following morning at 9am. Bacon and pancakes for breakfast will conclude the event.
At St. Ambrose School, we are
“Learning to be all God
wants us to be.”

Congratulations!
2016 Spelling Bee
Winners!

Last Friday all students in
grades 1through 8 took the
challenge of participating in
our annual school spelling bee.
Students spelled over 300
words in all until the final winners were decided.

In the first to second grade division the First Place
winner was Joanna Kang in grade 2 who successfully
spelled the word “acre”. Ben Fondacaro and John
Elma, both in grade 2, were the 1st and 2nd runners up
respectively.

After ten rounds, the winner of the third to fourth
grade division was fourth grader Matthew Ryan.
Kelcey Bryce and Brian Warncke, fellow 4th graders,
were 1st and 2nd runners up. Matthew earned the
chance to compete in the middle school division. He
hung in there right up to the end but fell to overall
winner, Peter Biegun, a fifth grader, with the word
“tyranny”. Evita Elbayeh was the 2nd runner up. Peter
will go on to represent St. Ambrose School at the
Capital Region Spelling Bee at Proctor’s Theater on
February 2nd.

Congratulations to Peter and everyone who studied
hard and gave it their best shot!

Nurses notes....
Nancy A. Acemoglu, RN

Alzheimer's Disease

The Alzheimer Association has a 24-hour hotline to
address questions and concerns and to give
emotional support: 1-888-784-4317

Here are the 10 signs to look for:

- Early detection matters
- Memory loss that disrupts daily life
- Challenges in planning or solving problems
- Difficulty completing familiar tasks
- Confusion with time or place
- Trouble understanding visual images and spatial
  relationships
- New problems with words in speaking or writing
- Misplacing things and losing the ability to
  retrace steps
- Decreased or poor judgment
- Withdrawal from work or social activities
- Changes in mood and personality

Please keep in mind there is normal aging that
occurs, and that this list generated by the society
involves these particular symptoms.

When in doubt, call your doctor. If you are doubtful
about any of these please call the 24-hour hotline
at 1-888-784-4317.
**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.

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**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.

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**PARISHIONER REGISTRATION/UPDATE REQUEST**

Name: ________________________________________
Street: _________________________________________
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.*

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**KEEP THE LEGACY ALIVE**

Please remember St. Ambrose Parish in your will

St. Ambrose Roman Catholic Church
347 Old Loudon Rd., Latham, NY 12110

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**ADOPT-A-STUDENT**

Each year our school is approached by parents who strongly desire a Catholic education for their children but simply cannot afford one. You can make a difference in a child's life by sponsoring all or part of a child's tuition. Please consider helping a student in need of receiving a Catholic Education. Thank you.

Terri McGraw-School Principal 785-6453
“We Are A Tithing Parish
Following “God’s Plan for Giving”

January 17, 2016  $15,059.54
January 18, 2015  $14,554.89

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

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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.
Parish Ministries & Contacts

ADULT MISSION ................................................................. Mike Blair ................................................................. 376-0082
ALTAR ROSARY SOCIETY ................................................. Cathy Boudreau ................................................... 785-3460
ALTAR SERVERS (Scheduling) ........................................... Walter Ewing .......................................................... 320-0662
ALTAR SERVERS (Training) ................................................ Lynn Wozniak ....................................................... 456-5990
ATHLETIC PROGRAM ........................................................ Jim LaBombard ....................................................... 371-1996
BAPTISMAL PREPARATION .............................................. Helmut & Vicky Neurohr ........................................... 785-4630
BISHOPS APPEAL (DDP) ...................................................... Renee Halock ......................................................... 785-3180
BUILDING AND GROUNDS ............................................. Rich Zmijewski ....................................................... 785-3142
CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP ......................................... Mary Beth Pallack ................................................ 221-1357
CONFIRMATION ............................................................... Tom Acemoglu ...................................................... 785-3151 x307
EUCHARISTIC ADORATION ................................................. Nancy Hooley .......................................................... 783-3411
EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS (Training) .................................... Helmut Neurohr ..................................................... 785-4630
EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS (Scheduling) ............................... Mary Stewart ........................................................ 785-6727
FAITH, HOPE AND SHARE ................................................... Nancy Acemoglu ..................................................... 785-1351 x304
FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION ............................................. Connie Strassburg .................................................. 783-3342
FOOD PANTRY ................................................................. Pauline Kubizne ....................................................... 785-7816
GARDEN CLUB ................................................................ Patricia Ostiguy ....................................................... 783-5175
GRIEF LOSS GROUP .......................................................... Nancy Acemoglu ..................................................... 785-1351 x304
LECTORS ........................................................................... Joe Leombruno ....................................................... 373-2353
LIFE TEEN & JR. HIGH LIFE ................................................ Mark Trudeau .......................................................... 785-1351 x309
MAGDALENA MINISTRY ...................................................... Paula Borkowski ..................................................... 797-6447
MARRIAGE PREPARATION MINISTRY ................................. Erin Mui ................................................................. 785-1351 x302
MARTHA MINISTRY ............................................................ Donna Sabatino ....................................................... 782-1470
MARY’S CIRCLE OF LOVE MINISTRY ................................. Mary Kay Frederick ............................................... 783-5186
MEDIA MINISTRY ................................................................ Mary Alice Hunt ..................................................... 859-6743
MUSIC GROUPS ................................................................ Thomas Green .......................................................... 785-1351 x306
PARISH SECRETARY .......................................................... Parish Office ............................................................ 785-1351 x321
P. A. EVANGELIZATION & CATECHESIS ......................... Tom Acemoglu ...................................................... 785-1351 x307
PASTORAL CARE ............................................................... Ruth Lapiere ........................................................... 785-0905
PRAYER & WORSHIP ........................................................... Richard Ostiguy ..................................................... 783-5175
RESPECT LIFE .................................................................. Erin Mui ................................................................. 785-1351 x302
RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) ..... Tom Acemoglu ...................................................... 785-1351 x307
SACRISTANS ...................................................................... Pat Rayball ............................................................... 708-9615
ST. AMBROSE SCHOOL ....................................................... Terri McGraw .......................................................... 785-6453
PRINCIPAL ........................................................................ John Sasso ............................................................. 785-6453
SECRETARY ...................................................................... Cary Lombardo ....................................................... 785-6453
HOME SCHOOL ASSOCIATION .......................................... William Miller ........................................................ 785-6453
SCHOOL BOARD ..................................................................
ST. VINCENT DEPAUL SOCIETY .......................................... Paul Wilkes ............................................................. 785-1351
TRUSTEES ....................................................................... Catherine Halayko / Joseph Sinigallii ......................... 785-1351
USHERS ............................................................................ John Estep .................................................................. 783-9266
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL ................................................ Tom Acemoglu ...................................................... 785-1351 x307
YOUNG AT HEART .......................................................... Carolyn Chabot ....................................................... 785-6315

We appreciate our advertisers who make this bulletin possible for our parish.

From beginning to end, and everything in between. Many of the biggest events that happen in our family happen in a spiritual way. Like St. Ambrose, we’ll always be here for you when you need us most.

Readings for the Week of January 24, 2016

Sunday: Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10/Ps 19:8-10, 15/1 Cor 12:12-30 or 12:12-14, 27/Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21
Tuesday: 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5/Ps 96:1-3, 7-8, 10/Mk 3:31-35
Wednesday: 2 Sm 7:4-17/Ps 89:4-5, 27-30/Mk 4:1-20
Thursday: 2 Sm 7:18-19, 24-29/Ps 132:1-5, 11-14/Mk 4:21-25
Friday: 2 Sm 11:1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17/Ps 51:3-7, 10-11/Mk 4:26-34
Saturday: 2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17/Ps 51:12-17/Mk 4:35-41
Next Sunday: Jer 1:4-5, 17-19/Ps 71:1-6, 15-17/1 Cor 12:31--13:13 or 13:4-13/Lk 4:21-30

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