**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**
Mary Stewart / Stephen Green

**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–12:00 Noon
Saturday & Sunday CLOSED
An absolutely essential thing for us as Christians is prayer or praying. In fact, we might say that prayer is also an essential part of being human: as important as other basic human things such as breathing or eating. After all, we are made in the image and likeness of God (Genesis 1: 26) and so we are spiritual beings, hard-wired as it were for prayer. If we do not pray then we will slowly wither and die in our very heart and soul, just as would happen to us physically speaking if we did not eat or hydrate properly.

And yet prayer can be difficult. No surprise then that even in the Gospels (as in our Gospel this weekend), the disciples ask Jesus: “Lord, teach us to pray” (Luke 11: 1). In response, Jesus gives them (and us!) the prayer: the “Our Father”. This prayer is a prayer in itself, of course; but it can also serve as the model or pattern of not only what we should pray, but how we should pray. (Remember the disciples asked Jesus not so much what to pray for, but rather how should they pray.) The prayer is really a series of statements and petitions. We begin by giving praise and honor to God, who is in heaven and whose name is hallowed (or holy) and ask that God’s will be done. After that, we then make various petitions for ourselves and our community. This then is our basic pattern or model of how to pray.

We can also see that the Our Father is not just a prayer for individuals but for the community: we do not say “my Father, but “our Father” and we constantly say “us”, not “me”: give us this day…forgive us our trespasses…. This is very significant for many reasons. When we pray, we never do so alone, but rather we always pray as members of a community, the body of Christ. Even if we are sitting alone somewhere, we are still praying as a member of a huge body of people that spans time and place. Incidentally this community idea is often seen in a more formal or special way when we pray the intercessions or “the prayer of the faithful” at the celebration of Mass.

This “us” aspect of prayer means that everyone, yes everyone, can pray. St. Francis de Sales remarked that there should be no person who writes themselves off as not able to pray. Why? Well because he says, “…so long as they are capable of grace, they are capable of prayer.” In fact, he goes on to say that “…it is only the devil who is incapable of prayer, because he alone is incapable of love.” No excuses then! It is true that sometimes prayer can seem very hard or even impossible because we are experiencing a spiritual dryness due to illness, or a crisis in our lives or just because…Perhaps even here we can pray simply by offering in prayer our inability at that time to pray (a suggestion borrowed from a small book of prayer for cancer patients called The Pink Book of Prayer.)

The Our Father also gives us a pattern or model of what we call prayers of intercession and petition. If you look closely, the prayer contains a number of different petitions: daily bread…forgive us…lead us not…deliver us…etc. Jesus Christ, of course, is the intercessor, but we too can pray in this way. But with prayers of intercession, the Our Father teaches us that we seek not so much to change God’s mind as it were with our intercessions, but rather to seek out His will (“thy will be done”). As Pope Francis says “we can say that God’s heart is touched by our intercession, yet in reality He is there first. What our intercession achieves is that His power, His love and His faithfulness are shown ever more clearly.” We pray this way at the prayer of the faithful during Mass, or when we pray the Our Father; or when we offer fervent prayers or light a candle for a special need or for a time of crisis or suffering. Many parishes also have intercessors or “prayer warriors” whose ministry it is to pray for others…what a wonderful ministry and one that we have recently renewed here at Saint Ambrose!

The introduction to the Our Father at Mass reminds us of the greatness and wonder of this prayer: “at the Savior’s command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say…” So, as we pray (not just “say”) the Our Father, let us savor its richness as our model and pattern of prayer. Let us dare to pray!

Fr. Anthony
~ You’re Invited ~

Rite of Candidacy and Sending
Sunday, August 7th at 4 PM - Church Reception to follow in the Parish Center

The Rite of Candidacy is where the Church formally recognizes the seminarians as a candidate for ordination to the priesthood.

Sending is the custom of gathering the seminarians of the Diocese, who have been home for the summer, to pray with the community as they head back to their seminaries for fall semester formation.

This year St. Ambrose will be hosting this important event!

Please come and share your love, your support and your prayers with Sam and 12 other seminarians as they continue on their journey to ordination.

Invite your family and friends... let’s fill the church!!

You Get More at

Beginning Friday, June 24th through September 2nd, the Church office will close at 12 noon on Fridays.

DIOCESE SPECIAL COLLECTION
BE A WITNESS OF CHARITY

Each year the Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany participates in the Peter’s Pence Collection, which provides the Holy Father with the funds he needs to carry out his charitable works around the world. The proceeds benefit the most disadvantaged: victims of war, oppression, and disasters. Please be generous in next week’s Collection supporting the Holy Father as a witness of charity to those who are suffering.

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

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.

Thank You to our Advertisers who make this bulletin possible for our parish.
Look closely at this photo to the left. It is of a Core Team member and a teen experiencing a moment that they will share forever. The President and CEO of Lifeteen International, Deacon Ralph Poya spoke about youth ministry and acknowledged that there are many programs and methods available to use for youth. But of all the things being done relational ministry has proven not to be another way but THE WAY to reach teens and bring them closer to Jesus Christ.

St. Isaac Jogues Youth Conference
“We Are A Tithing Parish
Following “God’s Plan for Giving”

July 17, 2016 $16,329.03
July 19, 2015 $14,056.10

Deepest thanks for your continued and generous support for our parish. Your gifts enable so much to be done in so many ways.

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.

Visit
www.stambroselatham.com/
VBS to register, and pay.
It’s NOT too late to sign up!

The Evangelist Subscription

Name: _____________________________
Address: ___________________________
City: __________ State: ________
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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.

Thank you for your generous response to the 2016 Bishop’s Appeal.
The amount raised thus far is $139,625 with a total of 402 pledges and gifts. The vital ministries supported by this annual appeal depend on you and your generosity. Your gift helps St. Ambrose Parish pay its diocesan assessment of $172,616.
Pledge envelopes are available in the church and donations can also be made online at:
www.thebishopsappeal.org
Many thanks for your support!
Fr. Anthony

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### Calendars & Schedules

**Sunday — July 24**
- After 5:30 Mass: Life Teen Meeting — Parish Ctr

**Monday — July 25**
- 8:45-12 Noon: Vacation Bible School Begins
- 7:00 PM: Core Team-Chapel

**Tuesday — July 26**
- 8:45-12 Noon: Vacation Bible School

**Wednesday — July 27**
- 8:45-12 Noon: Vacation Bible School

**Thursday — July 28**
- 8:45-12 Noon: Vacation Bible School
- 6:00-8:30 PM: AA, ALANON, ALATEEN-Meeting Rms
- 7:00-9:00 PM: Prayer Group-Chapel

**Friday — July 29**
- 7 AM-Midnight: Eucharistic Adoration-Chapel
- 8:45-12 Noon: Vacation Bible School

**Saturday — July 30**

**Sunday — July 31**
- After 5:30 Mass: Life Teen Meeting — Parish Ctr

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### Liturgical Roles for Week Ending July 31, 2016

**Money Counters, Sunday, July 31st**
- **Team #10 — Rene Comtois, Rich Haggerty, Dana Renda, Suzi Trzcinski**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Role</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4:30 PM</td>
<td><strong>SACRISTAN:</strong> Sharon Burgess</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>LECTORS:</strong> Mary Riley, Laureen Sharp</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>ALTERN SERVERS:</strong> Celeste, Ruth, Mary Hessinger</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Eucharistic Ministers:</strong> D. Ellinger, B. &amp; I. Murray, G. Leombruno, J. Proctor, T. Muscattello, M. O’Brien</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>USHERS:</strong> H. O’Brien, J. Minnick, L. Commerford, Volunteer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>MEDIA MINISTRY:</strong> Chris / Suzi</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Money Counters, Monday, August 1st**
- **Team #2 — Jan, Mike & Pat Rayball**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Role</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4:30 PM</td>
<td><strong>SACRISTAN:</strong> Fran Fiegler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>LECTORS:</strong> John Matheson, Ann Medici</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>ALTERN SERVERS:</strong> Anjali Tressa Kurian, Seth &amp; Hannah Dougherty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Eucharistic Ministers:</strong> K. LaBombard, J. Cricic, A. Robinson, R. Zmijewski, M. Stewart, R &amp; P Ostiguy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>USHERS:</strong> T. Keish, D. Waltersdorf, D. Esposito, Volunteer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>MEDIA MINISTRY:</strong> Volunteers Needed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Sunday — July 25**
- **St. James**
  - 6:30 AM: The Richard Family by Madeleine
  - 9:00 AM: Mass at Our Lady of the Assumption

**Tuesday — July 26**
- **Saints Joachim & Anne**
  - 6:30 AM: Mass at Our Lady of the Assumption
  - 9:00 AM: Greenchus Family by Mary Anne
    - Grace J. Kulzer by Husband, Tom

**Wednesday — July 27**
- **Weekday**
  - 6:30 AM: Fr. Anthony (Ordination Anniversary)
  - 9:00 AM: Mass at Our Lady of the Assumption

**Thursday — July 28**
- **Weekday**
  - 6:30 AM: Communion Svc at Our Lady of the Assumption
  - 9:00 AM: Ronald Ballard by Dufresne & Cavanaugh Funeral Home

**Friday — July 29**
- **St. Martha**
  - 6:30 AM: Communion Service
  - 9:00 AM: Mass at Our Lady of the Assumption

**Saturday — July 30**
- **St. Peter Chrysologus**
  - 4:30 PM: James Minnick by Jean Minnick
  - 7:30 AM: Brian Robert Schwenzfeier by Pantry Volunteers
    - Raymond Gamache by Nolles Family
  - 9:00 AM: Margaret M. Tremblay by St. Ambrose Staff
  - 11:30 AM: Theresa Kane by Pat Rayball
  - 5:30 PM: Raye Simonian by Sharon Burgess

**Sunday — July 31**
- **18th Sunday in Ordinary Time**
  - 7:00 AM: People of St. Ambrose
  - 9:00 AM: Brian Robert Schwenzfeier by Pantry Volunteers
    - Raymond Gamache by Nolles Family
  - 11:30 AM: Theresa Kane by Pat Rayball
  - 5:30 PM: Life Teen — People of St. Ambrose