OCTOBER: RESPECT LIFE MONTH 2016

It is hard to believe, but the month of October is nearly here, once again, with all the beauty of the Fall colors. October is a significant month in our church’s calendar in the USA, for it has been designated as “respect life” month for a number of years now. It is a time for us to reflect on life: its value, its meaning and also its defense. In particular, we, as Catholic Christians, are asked to reflect on our faith and our belief about the gift of life. This touches on many areas such as euthanasia, medical research practices and experimentation, abortion, the death penalty, protecting religious freedom, care for those who quality of life is poor or threatened, those who lives are vulnerable for so many reasons etc. etc. In fact, Pope Saint John Paul II prophetically spoke many times about the need to promote a “culture of life” in the face of a growing “culture of death.”

We can also recall all the many times that Pope Francis spoke about the beauty and dignity of life (human life and what we might call life in creation) on so many occasions, not least in his encyclical letter about creation called “Laudato si”. He also recently spoke about the need for a proper and genuine understanding of the human person and human dignity, especially in the face of many ideas and currents that reduce being human to something simply physical or mechanical. For example: “The crisis in the family has produced an ecological crisis, for social environments, like natural environments, need protection. And although the human race has come to understand the need to address conditions that menace our natural environments, we have been slower to recognize that our fragile social environments are under threat as well, slower in our culture, and also in our Catholic Church. It is therefore essential that we foster a new human ecology.”

Putting things briefly, a culture of life 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). In this sense, 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. All this is very close to home. We can think, for example, of the release last year of those “horrendous videos” (to quote Bishop Scharfenberger) from Planned Parenthood, or the ongoing discussion about what is termed “assisted suicide” and the strong attempts to add some provisions for this to the statute book.

At all times, but especially in this month of October, we are asked to promote a culture of life: to be active and pro-active in this great calling. In fact Bishop Scharfenberger, has asked that we make an extra effort this year to promote this culture of life. We can do this through prayer, of course, but also through lobbying those who make laws and by informing ourselves about these issues. We can also make sure that our own attitudes, values and choices are pro-life. Our Lord tells us that He “came that all might have life and have it abundantly” (John 10: 10). This “life” is the life to come, but that life also begins here and now. Let us pray and work for a full respect for and defense of life; or, as Saint John Paul II put it: to “respect, protect, love and serve life, every human life.”

To learn more about October as Respect Life Month, do visit the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) website, where there is a great deal of helpful information available. The theme for this year, “moved by mercy”, is a simple but vital one, reflecting our ongoing Year of Mercy”. As usual, there are many extra events taking place locally, as well as at those organized by the Diocese to mark this important month. Check the parish bulletin, the parish website and the Diocesan website (www.rcda.org) for more details…

Fr. Anthony
Do you love Christian music?
We are blessed to have the following concerts taking place in our area over the next couple of months:

**October 13**
Upstate Concert Hall, Clifton Park
Switchfoot and Relient K

**November 14**
Lake George Forum
Big Daddy Weave, Plumb and We Are Messengers

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**Faithful Citizenship Is Only Approved Catholic Voter Guide**

It has come to our attention that several organizations are sending out “Catholic” voter surveys that are confusing because they appear to be Church-approved. This is not the case. The only official Catholic voter guide, approved by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, is *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*. In addition, Catholics in New York can also rely on the New York State Catholic Conference’s Guidelines for Political Activity.

Any other surveys, guides or voter mailings should be considered partisan and/or promotional and not reflective of the fullness of the Church’s teaching on various social issues.

For more information, visit: [www.usccb.org/faithfulcitizenship](http://www.usccb.org/faithfulcitizenship) and [www.nyscatholic.org](http://www.nyscatholic.org).

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**33Days to Merciful Love**

Bishop Edward Scharfenberger is inviting the entire Diocese of Albany to pray together and experience mercy like never before as we prepare our hearts for the **Consecration to Divine Mercy**.

During this Jubilee Year of Mercy, Bishop Ed is inviting everyone in the Diocese to join him in a 33-day preparation period, beginning **Tuesday, October 11**, the Feast of Pope St. John XXIII, and culminating with Consecration to Divine Mercy at the **Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception** on **Sunday, November 13, 2016 at 5 pm**.

To aid us in preparing for the Consecration, Bishop Ed has chosen to use the book *33Days to Merciful Love* by Fr. Michael E. Gaitley, MIC, which includes the help of St. Thérèse of Lisieux, Doctor of the Church. The daily reading takes only 3-5 minutes and then is pondered during the rest of one’s day. The 33-day preparation can be done alone or in a group. The book is available at a variety of locations.

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**ALTAR SERVERS**

There will be two Training Sessions explaining in detail the upcoming changes in your duties during the Mass. They are scheduled after the 11:30 Mass on **October 9th and 16th**. Please plan on attending. Thank you.

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**We are excited to participate in the Movie presentation of WORSHIP NIGHT IN AMERICA:**

**An Evening of Unity and Prayer for our Country**

Join Chris Tomlin, authors/pastors Max Lucado and Louie Giglio and many more national faith leaders and musical guests for WORSHIP NIGHT IN AMERICA: An Evening of Unity and Prayer For Our Country. Playing exclusively and one night only in theaters and select churches nationwide **Tuesday, October 25**. Experience the sold-out event filmed at Madison Square Garden, plus exclusive back-stage footage and interviews that will inspire, challenge and encourage your family, church, and community.

To purchase tickets visit chistomlin.com, click on NY and select Church of St. Ambrose. Ticket price is $8.00 ($7.00 plus $1.00 fee) and you have the option of purchasing Chris Tomlin’s new album “Never Lose Sight” in either CD or digital download format for only $3.99. Movie begins in the Parish Center at 7:00 pm and ends at 9:10 pm – all are welcome!
Thank you to our sponsors!

Thank you also to Raphel Peralta for bringing her gifts as a DJ and vocalist to the festival!

(raphelperalta@yahoo.com)
We’re serving Breakfast this Sunday morning. Come enjoy an awesome meal with friends.

And now for something new and exciting.

We’re building a Cook Book. Do you have a favorite recipe you would like to share? Perhaps one that uses honey? St. Ambrose is the patron saint of Bee Keepers so it’s only appropriate for us Ambrosians. Please send it into the Lifeteen Office and we’ll try to include it. It can be for Breakfast, Lunch or Dinner and of course dessert recipes are the best! So please send us your favorite. Include a photo of the dish if you have it as well as some information on where it came from originally. We only have a few weeks to complete the book so send in your recipes today! You can mail it in, drop it off or email it to youthministry@stambroselatham.com. Thank you so much!!

St. Theresa of Calcutta said “if you can’t feed one thousand people then start with just one.”
At St. Ambrose School, we are “Learning to be all God wants us to be.”

Things are falling nicely into place at school.

This year we welcome 60 new families and 75 new students to the St. Ambrose Community. What joy each student brings to our school!

**Important Dates:**

October 4 – AdvancED Accreditation External Review Team visits St. Ambrose School.

October 12 – Grandparents and Special Persons’ Day 9am – 12 pm.

October 15 – Harvest Fest benefitting the 7/8th grade class trip to Washington D.C.

October 21 - “Saints Cup” St. Ambrose vs St. Pius X Soccer under the lights at Siena College 7pm

October 22 – Wine Tasting 6:30-8:30 pm

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**Nurses’ Notes...**

Nancy Acemoglu, RN

**Prayers of a Peaceful Coexistence**

As we approach each day with war and violence, death, fear and hopelessness, let us fly unto you oh Holy Spirit to protect us all and particularly our most vulnerable little ones who are just beginning in this turbulent, imperfect world.

May we love one another, and seek your help.

Oh come Holy Spirit come!

Embrace our difference to live in peace and harmony abiding always in your will.

O come Holy Spirit come!
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: ________________________________
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.

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.

Advertiser Of The Week

Advance Glass Inc.
926—19th Street
Watervliet, NY 12189

Storm ♦ Screen Repair
Table Top ♦ Mirror

Phone: 518-272-6800
Fax: 518-272-7354

We appreciate our advertisers who make this bulletin possible for our parish.
"We Are A Tithing Parish
Following “God’s Plan for Giving”

September 25, 2016 $17,519.06
September 27, 2015 $14,509.77

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

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

I have recently begun volunteering in the Parish Office and would like to share a little bit about it with you. Helping out in the office has been very rewarding for me but it was also a little bit of a shock. Most of us are very fortunate to never have to worry where our next meal is coming from. However, that is not the case for many others. I had no idea that our Food Pantry supplies food to so many people from our area including our own parishioners. That is why I am asking you to think about picking up a few extra items when you are doing your own grocery shopping and leaving them in the box in the back of the church. Many of us are very good about filling the bags from the Altar around the various holidays but unfortunately, the need for food is year round. This is especially true when the children are off from school on weekends, holidays, spring breaks and summer vacation. I realize that everyone’s budget is being stretched to the max, but perhaps you could take advantage of the many sales, coupons and can specials our local stores generally have on a weekly basis. A chunky soup over noodles can make a hearty meal. All donations will be put to good use and your efforts will be so appreciated! Thank you… Kathy Forbes, Your Fellow Parishioner

Bishop Edward Scharfenberger will celebrate the White Mass for members of the St. Luke’s Guild, other Catholic physicians and their families on October 29 at 4:30 PM at Our Lady of the Assumption in Latham. A reception with the Bishop will follow the Mass. Further details will follow at which time we would ask you to indicate if you will participate. Should you have any questions, please contact Deacon Frank Thomas, M.D. at my email: (fjtnok@verizon.net) or the Office at StLukes.Guild@rcda.org.

Fall is here, so why not FALL IN LOVE ALL OVER AGAIN on the next MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND November 4-6. For more information contact Ed & Rhonda Staats 279-3243 or www.albanyme.org.

DIVORCE SUPPORT
Divorced? Join with others in prayer and shared experience at Detours on the journey, a support ministry for Catholic men and women who have experienced or are experiencing divorce. The program runs for ten weeks beginning on Tuesday September 27th from 7pm to 9pm at the Diocesan Pastoral Center at 40 North Main Ave. in Albany. This ministry is sponsored by the Office of Lay Ministry Formation. For more information and registration please contact mary.fay@rcda.org or call 453-6644.

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.
CALENDARS & SCHEDULES

Sunday – October 2
8-12 Noon PARISH FAMILY BREAKFAST-PARISH CTR
1:00 PM BLESSING OF ANIMALS-GYM OR OUTSIDE
10:15-11:15 AM Faith Formation
After 5:30 Mass Life Teen XLT/Adoration/Reconciliation-Parish Ctr

Monday – October 3
6-8PM CYO Sign-Up—Gym
7:00 PM Core-Chapel

Tuesday – October 4

Wednesday – October 5

Thursday – October 6
6:00-8:30 PM AA, ALANON, ALATEEN-Meeting Rms
7:00-9:00 PM Prayer Group-Chapel

Friday – October 7
6 AM-Midnight NO Eucharistic Adoration-Chapel

Saturday – October 8
1:00 PM Confirmation Ropes Course-Gym & Meeting Rms
3:00-4:00 PM Confessions-Chapel

Sunday – October 9
10:15-11:15 AM NO Faith Formation
After 5:30 Mass NO Life Teen Meeting-Parish Ctr

LITURGICAL ROLES FOR WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 9, 2016

MONEY COUNTERS, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9TH
TEAM #3 — BARBARA STAMPFLI, RICHARD LASKY & GEORGE PARKER

SACRISTAN: Sharon Burgess
LECTORS: #1-Michael Lupian
#2-Frank Carlino

ALTERN SERVERS:
J. O'Brien, D. Cushing.
L. Francesconi, J. Paradis

Eucharistic Ministers:
J. Hogan, I & B Murray, G. Leombruno, M. Riley, T. Muscatiello, M. O'Brien

USHERS:
J. Couch, M. Commerford, D. Mason, Volunteer

MEDIA MINISTRY:
Chris C.

MONEY COUNTERS, MONDAY, OCTOBER 10TH
TEAM #1—TINA ZANDRI & MARIAN DAVIS

SAINTS:
Monday – October 3—Weekday
6:30 AM Kenneth Dagostino by Joe & Caroline Gomaz
9:00 AM Mass at Our Lady of the Assumption

Tuesday – October 4—St. Francis of Assisi
6:30 AM Mass at Our Lady of the Assumption
9:00 AM Bea Vinciguerria by Barbara & Armand Guerin
Jozef Chilinski by Maria Chilinski
Antonio Pestano by Maria Chilinski

Wednesday – October 5—Weekday
6:30 AM Rose Olejowrty by Lou
9:00 AM Mass at Our Lady of the Assumption

Thursday – October 6—Weekday
6:30 AM Communion Svc at Our Lady of the Assumption
9:00 AM Sue Laverne by Bob & Nancy Styczynski
Martin Ryan by Georgianne Skype

Friday – October 7—Our Lady of the Rosary
6:30 AM Communion Service
9:00 AM Mass at Our Lady of the Assumption

Saturday – October 8—Weekday
4:30 PM Anthony Crala by Wife, Jeanette
Francis Craven by Erin Craven
Barry N. Rein by Gina Gentile
Judy McKeown by Susan Richardson

Sunday – October 9—28th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
7:30 AM Florence & Joseph Aliberti by Grandchildren
James Pender by Son
9:00 AM Marianne Shillard by Marilyn & Steve Dombroski
Gladys Theobald by the Nolles Family
11:30 AM Margaret Colarelli by the Book Club friends
Raymond Dugan by Kathy Patrizio & Margaret Dugan
5:30 PM Life Teen – People of St. Ambrose
Earl V. Skiff by Susan Cervantes
Like altar serving, being a Sacristan is a very beneficial way to help out your church community, and an active way to participate in Mass. Sacristans perform the following duties:

- Setting up the church before Mass. Typically, sacristans arrive at church half hour before anyone else. They light the candles, arrange the books, ready the linens and basically perform a little simple organizing before Mass begins.
- Prepare the Holy Eucharist for the celebration of the Mass. This includes readying the wine, water and bread and putting them in place for the start of Mass.
- Coordinate all Mass participants, make sure Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers and Altar Servers are ready.
- Cleaning the holy materials after Mass in the sacristy.
- Before the sacristan leaves the church everything is set back in its place and secured.

Let’s Consecrate Ourselves to Divine Mercy!
Bishop Scharfenberger invites you and the entire Diocese to experience mercy like never before, by our Diocese’s Consecration to Divine Mercy. To complete the Jubilee Year of Mercy, we can join him in a 33-day preparation period, beginning October 11, and culminating with Consecration to Divine Mercy at the Cathedral, Sunday, November 13, at 5 p.m. or on your own.

We will use the book 33 Days to Merciful Love by Fr. Michael E. Gaitley, MIC. The daily reading takes 3-5 minutes and is pondered during the day. The 33-day preparation can be done alone or in a group. You can order the book via the website: www.shopmercy.org/albany.

Please consider joining our preparation group in the lounge Tues. Oct. 18, 25, 30 and Nov. 8 from 6:30-8pm

| Volunteer |

| Sacristan Ministry |

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- Coordinate all Mass participants, make sure Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers and Altar Servers are ready.
- Cleaning the holy materials after Mass in the sacristy.
- Before the sacristan leaves the church everything is set back in its place and secured.

| Volunteer |

**Decide if this is something you think you can do.** Setting the table of the Lord is a ministry that is essential for the Mass. We are in need of sacristans for all Masses. Our schedules are flexible so after training you can let us know what Mass works for you. Our schedule is posted ahead several months at a time for your convenience. **Please contact the Sacristan Coordinator Pat Rayball 708-9615 for more information.**