“The Parish Community of St. Ambrose Church”

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–4:00 pm
Saturday & Sunday CLOSED
IN AUGURATIONS…PRESIDENTIAL AND EVANGELICAL!

Jesus and the Beatitudes

Just over a week ago, we witnessed the inauguration of the 45th president of the United States of America, President Donald Trump. Whatever our political views and opinions, there was certainly a sense of something significant, even fundamental, taking place. With any inauguration or beginning, there is also that feeling of something new and of a fresh start. For example, in speeches and in commentaries, an analysis of the present situation is given, but also a vision for the future is laid out: who we are and where we hope to be.

We might call our Gospel today a new beginning or an inauguration. Jesus gives what is often called his “sermon on the mount” that commences with the Beatitudes. The Beatitudes is a series of precepts or instructions that lays out what it is to be a disciple of Jesus and so how we are to work for the Kingdom. They are like a map, or blueprint, or even manifesto for the Christian life: both in terms of basic attitudes and values, as well as in what we should do practically speaking. It is hardly surprising then, that the Beatitudes must be one of the most read Gospel passages we use in Church, or perhaps even the most read! We can also note that the Beatitudes begin the Sermon on the Mount: Jesus then goes on to say a great deal more about what the life of a disciple of his looks like and what the Kingdom is like, as we shall hear over the next few weeks.

The Beatitudes have a structure which can help us to begin to grasp their life-giving, if not always easy to understand, message and invitation. Each one begins with “Blessed are…” A brief class in Biblical language is needed here so that we can understand what this word “blessed” means (it is also sometimes translated instead as “happy”). The original word (makarios in Greek, or ashre in Hebrew) is a word of congratulations or thanksgiving and so really means “well done”, or “congratulations”, or “bravo for you.”

Another language element is that the original text does not have any verb: the “are” of “Blessed are you…” is not there in the written text. This is very important because this linguistic device means that the “well done” is not for the future, but for the present: right now. When we think about it, this changes the whole dynamic and meaning of the Beatitudes. They are not some hope for the future, or even like goals and objectives in a project to be worked on. No, they are to be lived right now. It is rather like the command Jesus gives at the end of the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10: 25-37): “go and do likewise” (that means now!).

The next part of the Beatitudes then leads us to see why we should have this present happiness or sense of something “well done.” They do this by a small and very everyday word that actually says a huge and extraordinary thing: “for…” If we follow these Beatitudes now, we are blessed, or happy, or can give thanks because we are living the Kingdom right now. We are, in fact, following something that comes up later on in the Sermon on the Mount: the Our Father (Matthew 6: 9-13) and the prayer “thy will be done.” We also have a foretaste right now of the blessings of God’s Kingdom. We can notice in the Beatitudes that some of these blessings happen right now and some of them will come in the future (“they will be satisfied…they will be consoled…they will inherit the earth”). The little word “for” also means that these blessings are not really so much a reward for living the Beatitudes, but rather are a consequence of living them: there is a big difference between reward and consequence! The Beatitudes then will give purpose, meaning and depth to our life, not as a reward for good living as such, but as a way of having life and having it to the full.

We also know that living these Beatitudes is not easy. In fact, we cannot do it without God’s help and His gifts. That is why we have God’s Word, the sacraments, prayer etc. to help us live these Beatitudes. Finally, of course, we have Jesus himself as the model and the guide for living the Beatitudes. We might say that Jesus did not only preach and proclaim the Beatitudes, but rather that he is the Beatitudes. In the Beatitudes then, he calls us to follow him…to go and do (and be) the same…to be blessed and to be happy!

If you want to read and reflect further, there are many books on the Beatitudes. Here are a few recommendations: John Stott The Beatitudes: Developing Spiritual Character; Raniero Cantalamessa Beatitudes: Eight Steps to Happiness; and Darrell Johnson The Beatitudes.

Fr. Anthony
"We Are A Tithing Parish
Following “God’s Plan for Giving”

January 22, 2017 $14,855.97
January 24, 2016 $15,742.79

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

Save the date...

On Saturday February 25th after 4:30 PM Mass we will gather to celebrate Fr. Anthony and the time he has shared with us. Come and wish him well!

First Saturday Devotion will be on Saturday, February 4. Please join us at 10 am in the Chapel for this devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Please remember in the charity of your prayers the repose of the souls of Jean Patalino, John Pucci, Catherine King and all those who will be remembered in Masses this week.

Charismatic Healing Mass
Wednesday, February 8th
Praise and Prayer 7:00 pm, Mass 7:30 pm
Healing service to follow.
Christ Our Light Church, 1 Maria Dr., Loudonville, NY.
All are welcome. Reach out and bring a friend.
Information: Call Jack E., 518-334-6503

Thank you for your generous response to the 2016 Bishop’s Appeal.
The amount raised thus far is $155,126 with a total of 429 parish donations and 53 online donations. 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
A new way to connect!

Coffee, Books & Conversation is a way to meet new people, hang out, and have good conversation with other people like you. We’d like to offer multiple meeting times!

Visit www.StAmbroseLatham.com/CBC and let us know a time that would be good for you. You can also sign up at the back of the Church.

Enjoy the book and we hope it will spark some good conversation in the coming weeks!

How can we bring Catholics back to the church? Let’s chat about this!

Thursday, February 16 @ 9:45 a.m. in the lounge
or
Thursday, February 16 @ 7:00 p.m. in the lounge

Questions? Call Laureen @ 518-389-6898

DRAWING CATHOLICS BACK TO THE CHURCH

Has anyone you love and care about drifted from the Catholic faith?

“The most significant challenge facing the Catholic Church today is the attrition of our own people.”

–Bishop Robert Barron
Mission Trip Raffle is on sale!
Adult Raffle Tickets are $25.00 ea.
Each ticket has 1 in 17 chance of winning.
First Prize $5,000—one winner;
Second Prize $1,000—two winners;
Third Prize $500—four winners
Fourth Prize $100—Five winners
Fifth Prize $25—Twenty winners
No raffle has better odds of winning than this raffle, EVER!
Your generosity can bring back big paybacks 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.

Save the Date
March 18th at 5:30pm
Dinner and Silent Auction to support the Mission Trip. Don’t these look YUMMY? Take your pick of Prime Rib
Chicken Cordon Bleu
Baked Salmon
or for those St. Patrick’s Day lovers how about some Corn Beef and Cabbage
There will be live entertainment, the famous Silent Auction, a Wine Pull and of course Fine Dining and we will have the drawing of our Adult Raffle.
At St. Ambrose School, we are “Learning to be all God wants us to be.”

G is for

Gingerbread In Pre K 3!

Congratulations to Andrew Bulalo grade 6 Our school spelling bee champion!

Nurses’ notes…
Nancy Acemoglu, RN

Special Event

Hearing Screening
February 15, 2017
St. Ambrose Parish
NO CHARGE
Painless and Quick

RESULTS CAN CHANGE THE QUALITY OF YOUR LIFE

Appointment necessary
Please call me at 785-1351 x 304 to schedule an appointment.

Board Certified Specialist on hand to Screen as well as answer questions.
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.

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: ______________________________ 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.

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.

PARISHES OF OUR LOCAL CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parishes</th>
<th>Addresses/Phone Numbers</th>
<th>Mass Times</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COLONIE</td>
<td>St. Clare’s 456-3112</td>
<td>Sat: 4:00pm/Sun: 8:30 / 10:30am</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| LATHAM            | Our Lady of the Assumption 785-0234       | Sat: 4:30pm
Sun: 7:30am, 9:00am St. Joseph Prov. House 10:30am |
| LOUDONVILLE       | Christ Our Light 459-6635                 | Sat: 4:00pm/Sun: 9:00 / 11:15am |
|                   | St. Pius X 462-1336                      | Sat: 5pm/Sun: 8, 10 & 12 noon   |

When it comes to those you love: DON’T compromise the quality of services!

Kevin Cavanaugh
149 Old Loudon Rd, Latham, NY 518-785-8161 www.dufresneandcavanaugh.com

We appreciate our advertisers who make this bulletin possible for our parish.
Feast of the Presentation or Candlemas – Thursday, February 2nd

At the time of Jesus’ birth, it was the custom for the mother of a male child to present him at the temple, forty days after his birth along with a sacrifice. It was at the presentation of Jesus that the prophet Simeon held the infant in his arms and knew that the savior he had been waiting for had arrived. This feast marks the end of the Christmas season. It is the close of the celebration of the arrival of the Light of the World! As part of the celebration of this day, the candles for the coming year are blessed.

Groundhog Day—Thursday, February 2nd

Did you know that Groundhog Day is based on a Catholic custom? Many cultures have a weather lore that sprang up in relation to Candlemas.

The English rhyme:
“*If Candlemas Day be fair and bright  
Winter will have another fight.  
If Candlemas Day brings cold and rain.  
Winter won’t come again.*”

Or the German:
“The badger peeps out of his hole on 
Candlemas Day, and if he finds snow, 
wakes abroad; but if he sees the sun 
shining he draws back in his hole.”

The American custom of Punxsutawney Phil was brought to Pennsylvania by German immigrants.

Feast of St. Blaise—Friday, February 3rd

St. Blaise was a 3rd century physician who became Bishop of Sebastea, Armenia. It is said that St. Blaise was renowned as a wonderworker, effecting many miraculous cures.

One story tells of a boy who was choking on a fish bone. St. Blaise blessed him and restored him to health. The practice of blessing throats on his feast day is a commemoration of this miracle.

Because he refused to worship pagan gods, he was arrested, tortured and killed.

Next weekend after each Mass there will be an opportunity to have our throats blessed. This blessing is a sign of our faith in God’s protection and love for us and for the sick. Let us pray for all those who need our prayers.

St. Blaise, pray for us!

In celebration of the Feast of St. Blaise the *Blessing of Throats* will be offered at the following times:
- Friday, February 3rd after 6:30 AM Prayer Service **AND** after 9:00 AM Mass (has been added to the schedule)
- Weekend of February 3rd-4th after all Masses

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 – January 29**  
**Catholic Schools Week 1/29 to 2/4**  
- **9:00 AM** Children’s Liturgy (5th Grade)-Church  
- **10:15-11:15 AM** Faith Formation  
- **After 5:30 Mass** Life Teen-Parish Ctr  

**Monday – January 30**  
- **7:00 PM** Core-Chapel  

**Tuesday – January 31**  
- **7:00 PM** Coffee, Books & Conversation-Lounge  

**Wednesday – February 1**  
- **9:00 AM** School Reconciliation-Parish Ctr  

**Thursday – February 2**  
- **6:00-8:30 PM** AA, ALANON, ALATEEN-Meeting Rms  
- **7:00-9:00 PM** Prayer Group-Chapel  

**Friday – February 3**  
- **6 AM-Midnight** Eucharistic Adoration-Chapel  

**Saturday – February 4**  
- **6-9 PM** School Family Gala @ Colonia Elks  
- **3:00-4:00 PM** Confessions-Chapel  

**Sunday – February 5**  
- **8 AM-12 Noon** Parish Family Breakfast-Parish Ctr  
- **10:15-11:15 AM** Faith Formation  
- **After 5:30 Mass** Life Teen-Parish Ctr  

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## Liturgical Roles for Week Ending February 5, 2017

**SACRISTAN:**  
Sharon Burgess

**LECTORS:**  
#1-John Bruno  
#2-Dee Ellinger

**ALTER SERVERS:**  
Celeste & Mary Hessinger

**Eucharistic Ministers:**  

**USHERS:**  
L. Commerford, J. Minnick, E. Potyrala, G. Spenard

**Media Ministry:**  
Chris C.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>SACRISTAN</th>
<th>LECTORS</th>
<th>ALTER SERVERS</th>
<th>Eucharistic Ministers</th>
<th>USHERS</th>
<th>Media Ministry</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4:30PM</td>
<td>Renee Hallock</td>
<td>#1-Anne Marie Medici #2-Carol Blanchard</td>
<td>Madeline Stallmer, Abby Hallock, Alexa Tahoe</td>
<td>A. Langevin, D. Sabatino, N. Styczynski, R &amp; P Ostigu, MK Frederick, K. Matheson</td>
<td>T. Keish, D. Waltersdorf, D. Esposito, Volunteer</td>
<td>Nancy W.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30AM</td>
<td>Bob Lamiano</td>
<td>#1-Ken Fusci #2-Valarie Gryuko</td>
<td>Mr. Vincent Cook</td>
<td>P. Lincoln, E. Mahoney, RA &amp; P Szvedo, G. Gentile, J. Bodnar, C. Chabot</td>
<td>J. Bodnar, R. Haggerty, C. Cameron, Volunteer</td>
<td>Julie/Julie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00AM</td>
<td>Bob Lamiano</td>
<td>#1-Ken Fusci #2-Valarie Gryuko</td>
<td>Mr. Vincent Cook</td>
<td>P. Lincoln, E. Mahoney, RA &amp; P Szvedo, G. Gentile, J. Bodnar, C. Chabot</td>
<td>J. Bodnar, R. Haggerty, C. Cameron, Volunteer</td>
<td>Julie/Julie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30AM</td>
<td>Fran Fiegler</td>
<td>#1-Anne Schwenzfeier #2-Nancy White</td>
<td>Nicole Piusienski, Akhil &amp; Sara Jacob</td>
<td>M. King, MG Renda, D. Piusienski, N. Agner, N. Fisk, J &amp; L Natale</td>
<td>R. Mullen, J. Martin, S. DeSess, D. Fuda</td>
<td>Nancy W.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**SACRISTAN:**  
Mark Trudeau

**LECTORS:**  
Volunteers

**ALTER SERVERS:**  
Volunteers

**Eucharistic Ministers:**  
C. DuBois, MJ Foglia, M & K Trudeau, J & M Searles, N. Agner

**USHERS:**  
Volunteers

**Media Ministry:**  
Terin V.
## Parish Ministries & Contacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ministry</th>
<th>Leader(s)</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALTAR ROSARY SOCIETY</td>
<td>Cathy Boudreau</td>
<td>785-3460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALTAR SERVERS</td>
<td>Walter Ewing / Deacon Frank Garceau</td>
<td>785-1351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATHLETIC PROGRAM</td>
<td>Jim LaBombard</td>
<td>371-1996</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAPTISMAL PREPARATION</td>
<td>Helmut &amp; Vicky Neurohr</td>
<td>785-4630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BISHOP'S APPEAL (DDP)</td>
<td>Renee Hallock</td>
<td>785-3180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUILDING AND GROUNDS</td>
<td>Rich Zmijewski</td>
<td>785-3142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP</td>
<td>Mary Beth Pallack</td>
<td>221-1357</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONFIRMATION</td>
<td>Tom Acemoglu</td>
<td>785-1351 x307</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eucharistic Adoration</td>
<td>Nancy Hooley</td>
<td>785-3411</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eucharistic Ministers</td>
<td>Helmut Neurohr</td>
<td>785-4630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Training)</td>
<td>Mary Stewart</td>
<td>785-6727</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Scheduling)</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAITH, HOPE AND SHARE</td>
<td>Nancy Acemoglu</td>
<td>785-1351 x304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION</td>
<td>Connie Strassburg</td>
<td>783-3342</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOOD PANTRY</td>
<td>Pauline Kubizne</td>
<td>785-7816</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GARDEN CLUB</td>
<td>Patricia Ostiguy</td>
<td>783-5175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRIEF LOSS GROUP</td>
<td>Nancy Acemoglu</td>
<td>469-1329</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LECTORS</td>
<td>Joe Lombruno</td>
<td>518-729-0895</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIFE TEEN &amp; JR. HIGH LIFE</td>
<td>Mark Trudeau</td>
<td>785-1351 x309</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARRIAGE PREPARATION MINISTRY</td>
<td>Erin Muir</td>
<td>785-1351 x302</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARTHA MINISTRY</td>
<td>Donna Sabatino</td>
<td>782-1470</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Frances Fiegler</td>
<td>785-8763</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARY’S CIRCLE OF LOVE MINISTRY</td>
<td>Mary Kay Frederick</td>
<td>783-5186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDIA MINISTRY</td>
<td>Mary Alice Hunt</td>
<td>859-6743</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSIC GROUPS</td>
<td>Thomas Green</td>
<td>785-1351 x306</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARISH SECRETARY</td>
<td>Parish Office</td>
<td>785-1351 x321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P. A. EVANGELIZATION &amp; CATECHESIS</td>
<td>Tom Acemoglu</td>
<td>785-1351 x307</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PASTORAL CARE</td>
<td>Nancy Acemoglu</td>
<td>785-1351 x304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRAYER &amp; WORSHIP</td>
<td>Richard Ostiguy</td>
<td>783-5175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REPECT LIFE</td>
<td>Erin Muir</td>
<td>785-1351 x302</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)</td>
<td>Tom Acemoglu</td>
<td>785-1351 x307</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SACRISTANS</td>
<td>Pat Rayball</td>
<td>708-9615</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ST. AMBROSE SCHOOL</td>
<td>Terri McGraw</td>
<td>785-6453</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRINCIPAL</td>
<td>Kelly Sano</td>
<td>785-6453 x320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SECRETARY</td>
<td>Cary Lombardo</td>
<td>785-6453 x320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOME SCHOOL ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>William Miller</td>
<td>785-6453 x320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCHOOL BOARD</td>
<td>Paul Wilkes</td>
<td>785-1351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ST. VINCENT DEPAUL SOCIETY</td>
<td>Mary Stewart / Stephen Green</td>
<td>785-1351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRUSTEES</td>
<td>John Estep</td>
<td>783-9266</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USHERS</td>
<td>Tom Acemoglu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:EvangelizationAndCatechesis@stambroselatham.com">EvangelizationAndCatechesis@stambroselatham.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL</td>
<td>Carolyn Chabot</td>
<td>785-6315</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Sacristan Ministry

**Volunteer**

**Sacristan Ministry**

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.

**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.