

"The Parish Community of St. Ambrose Church"



The Lord said to her in reply, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things. There is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part and it will not be taken from her." - Lk 10:41-42

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Anthony M. Barratt, *Pastor*
Helmut Neurohr, *Permanent Deacon*
Frank Garceau, *Permanent Deacon*
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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

Pastor's Page

MARTHA AND MARY: A SUMMER GOSPEL...

I have to admit that the story of Jesus going to visit the two sisters, Martha and Mary is one of my favorite passages of Scripture. There are many reasons for this. For example, I am sure that many of us, if not all of us, can readily identify with the encounter as it unfolds. It is such an ordinary, homey event: after all, what could be more natural or human than going to visit a friend or family member. Then there is that domestic tension that becomes something of a spat between the two sisters: Mary seems to sit around, while Martha is doing all the work. Martha even turns to Jesus and complains (or is it nags?)...“tell her to help me”. Incidentally, we are not told anything about their brother Lazarus: perhaps he wisely kept out of things! Whatever the case, Jesus uses this whole mini domestic drama (a familiar drama that must have been repeated in history billions of times) to teach and to encourage.



Martha, Mary, and Jesus (Johannes Vermeer)

Look at the dynamic again. Martha (remember, she is the one doing all the serving and the work) is not wrong: far from it! Today, if we had a visitor, especially an important one, who would not offer some refreshments and hospitality...? In fact, in the time and culture

of Jesus (as is still the case in the Middle East and many other parts of the world), not to offer such a welcome to a traveler or a visitor would be unthinkable: it would go against all social customs and would be considered a gross insult.

So, why does Jesus seem to chide Martha; at least just a little? (As Jesus speaks to her, I imagine him smiling lovingly at Martha and also shaking his head...again, just a little!). Martha seems to be a natural worrier: worried about so many things and now her latest worry is to make Jesus welcome. She also seems to have a bit of a short fuse as she complains about her sister: but then, worry does have a habit of shortening fuses very effectively. The same is true when we get overwhelmed with activity. Martha, we are told is “burdened” by all her work in being hospitable. In fact, the phrase in the Gospel literally says that she was “pulled about” by all her work. That certainly can sound familiar! Jesus gently tells Martha that, in the end, only one thing really matters. Perhaps our Lord is reminding her (and us, of course!) to keep things in perspective and balance. Again, worry or too much activity have a nasty habit of blowing so many things way out of proportion and numbing our ability to focus, or even of disabling our better judgment.

Perhaps too, Martha’s mistake is to think that she knows what Jesus wants: food and drink after his journey. However, Jesus really wants to visit with her and to be, we might say, spiritual food for her and to quench her spiritual thirst. Have you ever been in that situation when you have gone to visit someone just to see them; yet they have rushed off into the kitchen to fix some refreshments for you? Meanwhile, you are yelling from the family room trying to have a conversation with them. Your host is being kind and hospitable, but you have come to see them rather than to have something to eat or to drink. They think they know what you want, but this is not really the case.

Mary chose the better part (literally the “good” portion: *good* as in the sense of something intrinsically good or as a solid foundation) because she sits at Jesus’ feet and listens to him. Jesus can visit with her and she can visit with him. It is not right to say that Mary chose the only good thing and that Martha was wrong or chose a bad portion. No, Mary chose the *better* part because she listens and is still and focused *first*. Then, and only then, she is equipped and ready to spring into action: to be like her sister Martha. Prayer then action, or, better still, prayer leads us and guides us to action. This then might be the best lesson of all from our Gospel. It is also a timely one. Hopefully, the summer is a time when we can be a bit more like Mary and relearn the need to pause, to listen and to reflect in the Lord’s good company, before we act and get busy.

So, we need to be like Mary *as well as* Martha. Martha was so busy with things that she did not have time to listen to Jesus or to discover what he really wanted of her, whereas Mary sat at the Lord’s feet and listened to him. So often we too need to slow down and listen to the Lord, to sit at his feet for a while, even if it is just for five minutes a day! Well, we may feel that we are too busy to pray, but is worth remembering what Blessed Mother Theresa of Calcutta often said: “if I am really busy then I need to pray twice as hard and long.” And a final word about parish and church meetings: hopefully we have a real Mary moment or two before diving into the Martha mode. After all, we might have got it the wrong way around if we put aside Him, who is the Lord of all things for the sake of the things of the Lord...!

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!!*

 SAVE THIS DATE!



September 25th

More info to come!

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.

FOOD PANTRY STATS

The Food Pantry served **104** households in **June**. This included **208** adults and **193** children. As always the generosity of St. Ambrose parishioners is deeply appreciated and helpful. The ongoing need is great and all food and monetary contributions are much appreciated as we strive to feed the hungry in our community.



SUMMER
OFFICE HOURS

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

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

2016 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL July 25th to July 29th



Visit

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

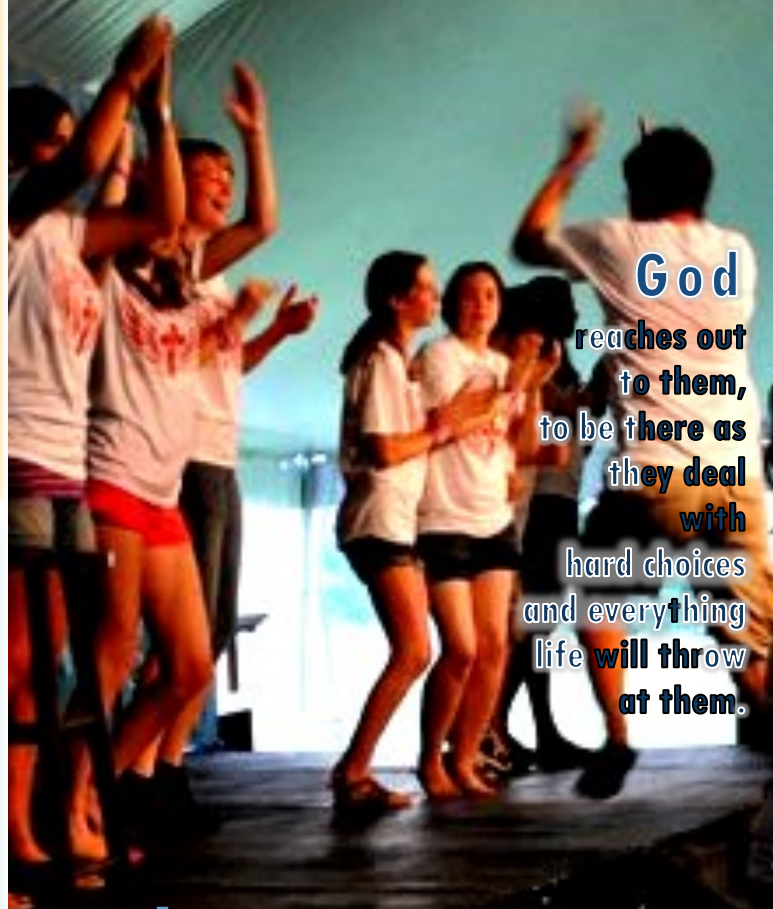
Formation will begin on
Sunday, September 11, 2016 at 10:15 am.
What does that mean for you?

- ◆ Because you participated in faith formation last year, you are already registered for class this year. However, if you would kindly let us know of any updates to your family information we would greatly appreciate it.
- ◆ You asked for it, we are providing it—The Edge is coming to Sunday mornings. This exciting program will be offered to students in 6th—8th grade. If you were in 5th or 6th grade last year you will automatically be placed in The Edge program.
- ◆ Please consider sharing your faith with our young parishioners. Call the Faith Formation Office to learn more about becoming a catechist.

Questions? Contact the Faith Formation Office at 785-1351
x307 or email:
faithformationaa@stambroselatham.com

Faith

moves
every parent
to pray for their
kids and their
future.



God
reaches out
to them,
to be there as
they deal
with
hard choices
and everything
life will throw
at them.

**God is
providing
opportunities
for them now,
in our
parishes and
in our diocese.**

Please pray for our
teens attending the
St. Isaac Jogues
Youth Conference,
hosted this year at
St. Ambrose



**"We Are A Tithing Parish
Following "God's Plan for Giving"**

July 3, 2016	\$18,319.76
July 5, 2015	\$17,078.01
July 10, 2016	\$17,056.43
July 12, 2015	\$16,219.55

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



Thank you for your generous response to the 2016 Bishop's Appeal.

The amount raised thus far is **\$137,125** with a total of **395** 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

ARE YOU REGISTERED IN THE PARISH?

People may consider themselves registered parishioners because they have been coming here for a while, were married here, received their sacraments here or attended St. Ambrose School. **If you have not filled out a REGISTRATION FORM you are not in our census.** REGISTRATION FORMS are available at the parish office (785-1351) or website www.stambroselatham.com. Thank you.

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.

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.

***Eucharistic Ministers
for the Sick & Homebound***

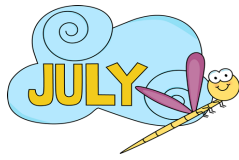
Are you currently bringing the Eucharist to someone who can't attend Mass? Our parish would like to send you to our absent



Sick and Shut-In

brothers & sisters with all our prayers & assurances. **This "new" ministry will begin on Tuesday, July 19th, and it will only take place during the 9 am Mass on Tuesdays & Thursdays.** We ask

that anyone bringing the sacrament to someone to place their pyx on the table provided at the FRONT (by the altar) before Mass. Before the final blessing you will be called forward, your pyx will be returned, & then sent forth with a special blessing. Thank you for being part of this beautiful ministry.



CALENDARS & SCHEDULES

Sunday – July 17

After 5:30 Mass Life Teen Meeting—Parish Ctr

Monday – July 18

7:00 PM Core Team-Chapel

Tuesday – July 19

Wednesday – July 20

Thursday – July 21

9:30 AM Mary's Circle of Love-Lounge
6:00-8:30 PM AA, ALANON, ALATEEN-Meeting Rms
7:00-9:00 PM Prayer Group-Chapel

Friday – July 22

7 AM-Midnight Eucharistic Adoration-Chapel

Saturday – July 23

Sunday – July 24

After 5:30 Mass Life Teen Meeting-Parish Ctr

MASST INTENTIONS

Monday – July 18—St. Camillus de Lellis

6:30 AM Joseph A. Rubino by Don & Susan O'Brien
Richard Family by Madeleine Richard

9:00 AM Mass at Our Lady of the Assumption

Tuesday – July 19—Weekday

6:30 AM Mass at Our Lady of the Assumption

9:00 AM Beatrice Dineen by Don & Susan O'Brien

Wednesday – July 20—Weekday

6:30 AM Carmen Medici by Wife

9:00 AM Mass at Our Lady of the Assumption

Thursday – July 21—St. Lawrence Brindisi

6:30 AM Communion Svc at Our Lady of the Assumption

9:00 AM Thanksgiving to Blessed Virgin Mary by Mary Anne

Friday – July 22—St. Mary Magdalene

6:30 AM Communion Service

9:00 AM Mass at Our Lady of the Assumption

Saturday – July 23—St. Bridget

4:30 PM Deceased Members of Godfrey & Kana Families
by Family

Priscilla Hogan by Theresa Soldani

Walter Deyoe by Bronson Family

Sunday – July 24—17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:30 AM Parish Intention

9:00 AM Ann Pascale by the Trzcinski Family

Brian Schwenzfeier by Peggy & Mark Austin

Alfonso Masi by Family

11:30 AM Chickie Sorrentino & the Sorrentino Family by

Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Serino

5:30 PM Life Teen – People of St. Ambrose

LITURGICAL ROLES FOR WEEK ENDING JULY 24, 2016

MONEY COUNTERS, SUNDAY, JULY 24TH

TEAM #9— JANNIE DAGGS, VALERIE GYURKO, BETTY MAHONEY, CAROLYN CHABOT, CLARA ALIBERTI

MONEY COUNTERS, MONDAY, JULY 25TH

TEAM #3—JOE HOGAN, RICHARD OSTIGUY, RENE COMTOIS

4:30PM	7:30AM	9:00AM	11:30AM	5:30PM
SACRISTAN: Bill Murray LECTORS: #1-Dee Ellinger #2-Mary Sue Ray ALTAR SERVERS: Rachel Dwyer, Michael & Michele Commerford EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS: S. Burgess, J. Conroy, K. Maxwell, J. Hogan, N. Hooks, M. Trudeau, B. Sage USHERS: G. Spenard, J. Minnick, E. Potyrala, Volunteer MEDIA MINISTRY: Kathy R. / Sandi T.	SACRISTAN: Bob Lamiano LECTORS: #1-Richard Zmijewski #2-Kathy Grill ALTAR SERVERS: Mr. Vincent Cook EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS: C. Chabot, V. Gyurko, P. Lincoln, R & P Szwedo, E. Mahoney, G. Gentile USHERS: J. Bodnar, N. Brock, R. Haggerty, C. Cameron MEDIA MINISTRY: Gail C.	SACRISTAN: Donna Sabatino LECTORS: #1-Kimberly LaBombard #2-Jason Larch ALTAR SERVERS: Theresa Kent, Jacob Frank, Evan Turcotte EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS: MK Frederick, S. Earl, K. Matheson, M. Girard, M & C Rosenthal, R. Hallock, USHERS: T. Maleski, J. Grady, F. Fraser, Volunteer MEDIA MINISTRY: Volunteers Needed	SACRISTAN: Moira King LECTORS: #1-David Piusienski #2-Ann Schwenzfeier ALTAR SERVERS: Michelle Quiachon, Volunteers EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS: J. Natale, D. Rootes, L. Sharp, J. Tengeler, S. Almonte, M. King, MG Renda USHERS: R. Mullen, J. Martin, S. DeSess, D. Fuda MEDIA MINISTRY: Premila / Mary Clare	SACRISTAN: Mark Trudeau LECTORS: Volunteers ALTAR SERVERS: Volunteers EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS: D & C Wagoner, J. Searles, N. Agner, K. Maxwell, J. Proctor, E. Bullis USHERS: Volunteers MEDIA MINISTRY: Nancy R.