518-785-1351 • 347 Old Loudon Road, | Latham, New York 12110 • www.stambroselatham.com

How Should We Approach Our Suffering? - Week 5

We all have experienced suffering in one form or another, be it physical, psychological, and/or financial. Father Stan Fortuna (a Franciscan Friar of the Renewal) writes about in his rap, "You think that you the only one that got to suffer? You think that you the only one with pain to suffer? Everybody got a thing they gotta suffer. Rich or poor don't matter gotta suffer." (Everyone Got to Suffer – search for the lyrics online if you don't like rap)

This past year we all have experienced way too much suffering. The lives that we once knew are gone. We have lost love ones, jobs, financial security and/or the things that give us joy and contentment.

But why do we need to suffer? I have questioned Jesus often asking "Why is there suffering? Why does God allow suffering?" If Jesus was born to this earth so we could have victory over sin and death, then why didn't Jesus take away our suffering? Jesus even asked His Father to let His suffering pass by. When Jesus was in the garden of Gethsemane he fell to the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me." (Matthew 26:39) Also, in today's gospel as Jesus predicts His death on the cross, he says, "Now My soul is troubled, and what shall I say? Father, save Me from this hour?" (John 12:27)

If Jesus suffered while on this earth, then He is well acquainted with our pain. He can be with us in our pain. We can look to him for assistance and understanding. I don't know about you, but the only thing that helps in times of struggles is having someone there beside you, someone who understands. Jesus can be that person, He understands, He has been through pain himself. If we bring our suffering to Him, He KNOWS and CARES. He GETS it because He has been there.

We can ask the questions multiple times to God - Why is there suffering? I know I will continue to ask the question to God, especially during times of great suffering or watching my loved ones in pain. I don't think I will fully understand God's plan until we meet in Heaven. But I take comfort in prayer knowing Jesus is beside me each step. If I reach out to Him, learn more about Him, spend time with Him now, the days in Heaven will be glorious.

Father Kelly's challenge for this week is to list times in your life that cause suffering. Then use the following items in prayer – Ask – Offer – and Accept. Ask God to be attentive to you during this time, offer the pain or sorrow as a sacrifice to God and accept the outcome of God's plan.

The philosophical debate on why the world contains suffering will continue for years to come. Not something I am qualified to answer for you all today. But I do know that suffering can only be endured with the help of God through prayer. Remember – "If God brings you to it – He will bring your through it!!

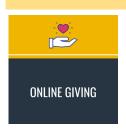
-Suzi Trzcinski

MARCH 21, 2021 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT



ENROLLMENT OPEN NOW!

Camp Veritas is a one-week play-and-pray sleep away summer camp for teens going into 7th to 12th grades. Early bird rates (before 5/1/21) are \$400 and \$450 after that. More details can be found at www.campveritas.com.



Always forgetting your envelopes? Switch to online giving: stambroselatham.com/egiving

LENTEN FISH FRY-DAY DINNERS

AT THE LATHAM COLONIE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 328 TROY - SCHENECTADY RD. LATHAM, NY

BEGINNING

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 19, 2021

4:30 TO 6:30

AND EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT

"TAKE OUT ONLY" COST



\$10.00 – Fish Fry Dinner \$10.00 - Clam Roll Dinner



MENU

FISH FRY OR CLAM ROLL <u>DINNER</u> SERVED WITH FRENCH FRIES OR ONION RINGS & COLESLAW AND DESSERT

FOR RESERVATIONS CALL

518 - 892 - 3750

Please indicate the pickup time and whether you want French fries or onion rings.

Please wear a mask when you pick up your dinner



See insert for details on how this year's liturgies will be celebrated.

KEEP IN TOUCH

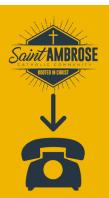
Website: www.stambroselatham.com

Facebook: @stambrosechurch Email: salatham@rcda.org Are you receiving text and email

notifications from St. Ambrose? Text the

word ambrose to 84576 to opt in.

IF YOU WANT TO STAY UPDATED, BUT DON'T HAVE A COMPUTER OR INTERNET ACCESS, GIVE US A CALL AND WE CAN GET YOU ON OUR PHONE TREE



518-785-1351

OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Thursday 9:00 am—4:00 pm Sunday Before & After 9:00 am Mass

SCHOOL UPDATE



News from Mr. Riley's 5th Grade.

5th Grade was sad to see the snow disappear this past week. They have enjoyed their fresh air this winter, especially on their sleds! While it was sad to see the snow disappear, hopefully "green" grass is in our near future. Students have been working hard to sell their March Madness tickets to hopefully put a little "green" in their pockets!

We have been grateful for our good health and have been lucky enough to have students rejoin us in the classroom. While technology and a little creativity has made this year possible, it is great to have students getting back to some hands-on activities. Students have been learning about ecosystems, food webs and where some organisms fall on the food chain. They had never been so happy to be wearing masks when we did a little dissecting of owl pellets. They quickly realized where mice fell on the food chain!

While Lent is a solemn time in the Church, we have plenty to be happy about. We have already celebrated our 100th day of school and it is hard to believe we are more than halfway through the school year.



FOLLOW OUR SCHOOL ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook: @stambroseschoollatham Instagram: @st.ambrose.latham

518-785-6453

Website: www.stambroselatham.org Lily Spera, Principal Kelly Sano, Secretary

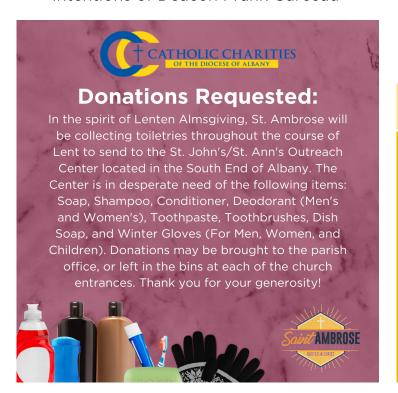




MASS INTENTIONS

Please remember these people (living and deceased) in prayer this week:

Wilfred Grignon
Ella Grignon
Janet Grignon
Jenny Granthon Benvenuto
Pat Foti
Marcelle Kosersky
Richard Meher
Edwin Guerin, Jr.
Julie Amedio
Yvonne Poirier Rice
Paul W. Austin
John Michael Crowther
Intentions of Deacon Frank Garceau





Reconciliation Wednesdays 5-6 PM Saturdays 2:30-3:30 PM

OFFERTORY

Current Year

Previous Year

<u>3/7/2021</u>:

3/9/2020:

\$16,378.50

\$15,269.16

HAILEY'S CORNER



Consider this...

Our suffering reminds us how much we need God's grace.

So what should we do when we're suffering?

PRAY.