



Saint **AMBROSE**

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

ROOTED IN CHRIST

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MASS TIMES: SATURDAY 4PM, SUNDAY 9AM & 11AM, MONDAY-THURSDAY 12:10PM



7TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

As some point in your life, you've probably had an enemy. Maybe it's someone who worked to tarnish your reputation or who cheated you out of money. Maybe it's someone who harmed you with their words or actions. Whether or not you've used the word or not, I think it's helpful to clarify the role that person had (or maybe still has) in your life. An enemy can create a lot of chaos in our lives. They can be encountered in neighborhoods, parking lots, or even churches and families.

If we're honest with ourselves, we might feel any number of reactions to the presence of our enemies. We might be irritated or angry or even vengeful. At the time of Jesus, the word "enemy" could refer to any number of people. It could be the Samaritans or a rival religious faction or the Romans and their client rulers or even Caesar himself. When Jesus' audience thought of their enemies, they thought of people who oppressed, cheated, or did violence to them. They stood against their religious sensibilities. It was natural to hate these people just as it is perfectly natural to hate your enemies. Take a second and think of the people who could be classified as your enemies and see how the rest of this sounds.

Jesus' teaching in this week's Gospel reading is the direct continuation to last week's. There Jesus taught the beatitudes, the declaration that the most vulnerable, weakest, and persecuted would receive good things in this new reality that Jesus was inaugurating in what He called "the kingdom of God". Normal logic did not apply in this new reality, hence the presence of laughing mourners and people rejoicing at being insulted. God's ways are not what we would naturally do or see. His teaching is a reversal to the gut reaction we feel towards the bad things that happen to us. He invited us to leave the realm of our way of doing things and to enter into God's.

Jesus knew that his audience (and us today) carry around deep wounds from being wronged by others. I think that the teaching this Sunday can sting us in just the same way that it did His listeners. That person who rear-ended your car? Your most-hated political figure? The neighbor who dumps his leaves on your lawn? Or, even more seriously, someone who has gone out of their way to harm and abuse you...this is who

Jesus is talking about.

And what does Jesus say to do? "*Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.*" Read through that a few times while picturing your enemies. Picture going out of your way to show them goodness. The verb for "love" that is used in this reading is 3 of 9 times the word is used in Luke's Gospel. Luke uses it to refer to the love we ought to have for God (10:27), the love a sinful woman shows Jesus as she repents (7:47) and the love a centurion has for the Jewish people in providing them a synagogue (7:5). It's a love that casts the self aside and embraces the other. St. Thomas Aquinas sums this kind of love in this way: "*To love is to will the good of the other.*" Jesus takes it a step farther when he tells his audience to "*bless ("eulogeo") those who curse you.*" The word *eulogeo* literally means "to speak well of". It's the same word used by the angel Gabriel in addressing Mary at the annunciation ("*Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb*"). Imagine taking on that mentality: the people who have wronged me I am to speak well of, like an angel spoke to the Blessed Mother.

I commend you to re-read the first reading in this light because it illustrates just how topsy-turvy God's ways can seem to us. David has been unjustly hunted by King Saul. Saul's contempt for David was so deep that he would sit at his throne holding a spear, throwing it at David as he pleased in order to kill him (1 Sam 18:10-11). Saul was David's enemy and David, as God's chosen successor to Saul, was a threat to Saul. Twice in the narrative, Saul is delivered into David's hands and twice David refused to kill him. Why? David says so after sparing Saul's life: "*The LORD forbid that I should do this thing to my lord, the LORD's anointed, to raise my hand against him; for he is the LORD's anointed*" (1 Sam 24:6). Despite the threats of murder, he will only speak well of (or bless) Saul. David's response here is unfathomable but really it gets to the heart of what's supposed to make us different as Christians. We are to forgive even the unforgivable in another because, in Christ, God has done the same for us.

-Tom Acemoglu

FEBRUARY 20, 2022

Kieran's Light

Catholic LGBTQIA+ Ministry
at Saint Ambrose

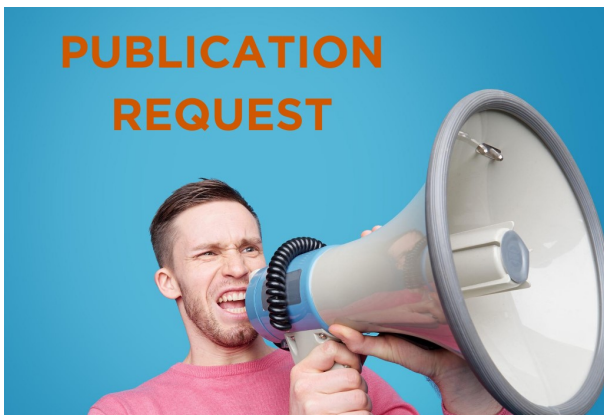
**Meetings Sunday at 12pm
in the Parish Office**

Join us February 27th for our next workshop, 12:00pm in the Parish Center. Our guest speaker, Lisa Puckey, will give a presentation on understanding LGBTQIA+ terminology. Come and have your questions answered!

Do you have an event you want us to advertise or announcement you want us to share? We can help you share that information through multiple platforms!

Go to stambroselatham.com and click on the button of this guy with the megaphone in the middle of the page.

PUBLICATION REQUEST



ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Did you know that you can request the Sacrament of the Sick for any illness?

It's a Sacrament for anyone who is in danger due to serious illness, mental or physical.

If you're suffering due to an illness, reach out to us at the parish office. We can set up a time for you to be anointed. If you are here in person, Father would be happy to anoint you after any of the masses.

Furthermore, if you have reason to believe that a loved one is approaching death, do not wait! It is their right, and our privilege to administer this Sacrament.

St. Ambrose, Latham, New York

LOOKING AHEAD TO LENT

Ash Wednesday

March 2nd @ 12:10pm & 5:30pm

Palm Sunday

April 10th @ 9:00am & 11:00am

Holy Thursday

April 14th @ 5:30pm

Good Friday

April 15th @ 3:00pm

Holy Saturday

April 16th @ 7:30pm

(No 4pm Vigil)

Easter Sunday

April 17th @ 9:00am & 11:00am

Lent 2022



SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL FUNDRAISER

Prizes
Daily - \$50
St. Patrick's Day - \$250
March 31st - \$500



To get your tickets:
1) Call the school office at
(518) 785-6453
or
2) Purchase online
www.stambroselatham.com/mm

MARCH MADNESS

\$10 donation
per ticket

BUY YOUR

TICKETS

NOW!



Eucharistic Adoration

**Wednesdays
11:00 AM to 6:00 PM
in Church**

WE ASK THAT YOU WEAR A MASK AT ALL TIMES.
THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS!

FEBRUARY 20, 2022

ARE YOU BEING CALLED?

Our Lady of Mercy Secular Order of Discalced Carmelites is a lay community of Catholic men and women, from all walks of life, pursuing a contemplative prayer life in the context of their daily personal, family and work activities in the world, under the protection of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, and inspired by the teachings of St. Teresa of Avila, St. John of the Cross and other Carmelite Saints. If you are between the ages of 18 and 65 and feel called to a contemplative prayer life, we invite you to visit our community at one of our first Sunday of the month meetings. To find out more, contact Laura Iwan 518-428-2084, or Linda Levine 518-399-6965.

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

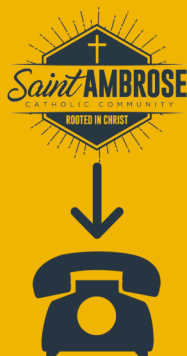
KEEP IN TOUCH

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 Masses

7TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

ADULT FORMATION

St Ambrose Mom's Ministry



"I love this group and appreciate the mix of Bible readings/prayers, reflections, support, fellowships, and now activities and retreats."

Join us the first Sunday of each month in Room 312 of the school from 9:50AM -10:50AM

AND

The second Wednesday of the month from 6PM-7PM in the lounge

"This group is a welcome breath of fresh air!"

"Feels good to have such loving/supportive women and mothers to turn to."

Contact Darlene at 518-496-1886 for more information.



Mass & Adult Formation Sessions

January & February's Topic:

The Church's Best Kept Secret: Catholic Social Teaching.

The Church's teaching offers a comprehensive vision of the value of human life, as individuals and in the society at large. Come and learn what service in the Church can be! See you on the 2nd, 3rd, & 4th Sundays of the month, 9:50am-10:50am in Room 312 of the school.

For more information, contact Tom Acemoglu: thomas.acemoglu@rcda.org

St. Ambrose Bible Study

**Thursdays @ 7pm
via ZOOM**

We cover all parts of the Bible in an approachable way even for first time attendees. E-mail your contact information to thomas.acemoglu@rcda.org to join!



SCHOOL UPDATE

Seeds of Hope

This time of year is always filled with a mix of emotions. On the one hand, we are in the dead of winter and there seems to be a bit of a seasonal slump, but on the other hand, we are filled with a sense of hope. Hope for the joy of warm, sunny days filled with life and new growth.

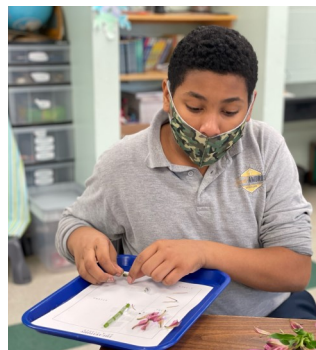
After what feels like an eternity, we are slowly coming to the season of new life: Spring. I look forward to the trees blossoming with flowers that will grow into bright, new foliage and the bulbs sending their new flowers up to make the world smile. I find joy in planting herbs, vegetables, fruits, and flowers. Seeing the transformation occur over a period of time always puts a smile on my face.

The 5th and 6th grade science classes recently began a unit on plants. We have been learning to identify flower parts, identify and explain plant needs, and what role they play in our lives. We have learned about how plants are able to make their own food and filter the carbon dioxide we exhale into the air to give back fresh oxygen safe for us to breathe.

The fact of the matter is, we would not survive without the clean air these natural air filters provide. We also depend on plants to feed animals as well as ourselves. To think that a plant naturally creates sweet, juicy and delicious fruits for us to eat is evidence of God's abilities as a miracle worker. Plants sustain us and give us the vitamins and minerals to support a healthy and active lifestyle.

This spring as you walk around your home, a park, or even the St. Ambrose gardens, spend a few extra minutes to appreciate God's miracles. With these small moments of hope, we are renewed for all the great things God has planned for us.

-Kristen Campito



FOLLOW OUR SCHOOL ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook: @stambroseschoollatham

Instagram: @st.ambrose.latham

518-785-6453

Website: www.stambroselatham.com

Lily Spera, Principal

Kelly Sano, Secretary



FEBRUARY 20, 2022

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 19th — 4pm

Jack Dougherty
Dianne Mahoney
Cecelia Craven

Sunday, February 20th — 9am

Blaise Agnew
Philip Sabatino
Roseanne Villano
Marie Bell
Thomas Vaughan

Sunday, February 20th — 11am

Virginia & Philip Mahar
Serapio Taccad

Monday, February 21st — 12:10pm

Frank Carlino Sr.

Tuesday, February 22nd — 12:10pm

Timothy Doser
Terin Varughese

Wednesday, February 23rd — 12:10pm

William C. Kuhn Sr. & Frances Kuhn

Thursday, February 24th — 12:10pm

Roy Seipel

FR. BRIAN KELLY, PASTOR

OFFERTORY

Current Year

2/6/2022:

\$20,053.75

Previous Year

2/7/2021:

\$19,093.50



ONLINE GIVING

Always forgetting
your envelopes?
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stambroselatham.com/egiving



SNOW REMOVAL ASSISTANCE

DO YOU ENJOY RUNNING A SNOWBLOWER
AND REMOVING SNOW?

JOIN OUR BUILDING AND GROUNDS MINISTRY
AND HELP US KEEP OUR CHURCH READY FOR
WORSHIP ON THE WEEKENDS!

PLEASE CONTACT TOM HEALY AT
THEALY969@NYCAP.RR.COM, OR CONTACT
THE PARISH OFFICE: 518-785-1351

HAILEY'S CORNER



Take it from the
DOG: Stop
HOUNDING
yourself about
the past!

If God has
forgiven you, you
should totally
forgive yourself.



The Latham-Colonie Columbiette Buffet Breakfast
Sunday, March, 13th, 2022
8:30 am to 11:30 am
328 Troy-Schenectady Road, Latham, N.Y. 12110

Menu includes: Scrambled Eggs, an Omelet Station, Home Fries, Corned Beef Hash, Bacon and Sausage, Pancakes and French Toast served w/Warm syrup, A Variety of Cereals and Juices, Bananas and Hot Tea, Coffee or Hot Chocolate.

Adults - \$10 Children (5-10) - \$5 Under 5 - Free!