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

WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

PENTECOST

June 5, 2022 Pentecost

This Sunday our parish is celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation, appropriately on the Solemnity of Pentecost. Over the years, I've usually found that the two topics that are the hardest to teach on are the Holy Spirit and the Sacrament of Confirmation. Take a moment and try to define them for yourselves. What is the Sacrament of Confirmation? Most of us are aware that it confers on us the gift of the Holy Spirit. That's all well and good, but what does that even do to us? And who or what is the Holy Spirit? What can we say about the Holy Spirit other than the Spirit is the third person of the Trinity?

If you think about it from a certain perspective, it can all sound very intangible and Pentecost brings these things into sharp relief because we celebrate when the followers of Jesus were given the gift of the Holy Spirit. We know the story: they're hiding fearfully in a home, a great wind blows through the house, and tongues of flame rest on their heads. I think that often we stop our reflection there, that this was a remarkable occurrence and how wonderful it was that the apostles experienced this miracle.

But Pentecost is much more than this. It is the central turning point for the first community of Jesus-followers. Whatever we might say about the event of Pentecost itself, there is a marked difference between who the disciples were before Pentecost and who they were after. Before Pentecost they could do nothing. They had failed their Lord. Two of them betrayed Him, they were always missing the point, and at his arrest they all fled. If this was all that the disciples were, the movement wouldn't have a future and we wouldn't be here.

But we are here, and we're here because something happened to them. After the account of Pentecost, Acts of the Apostles recounts the mission of the early Church. The apostles left their homes, some never to return, and preached Jesus fearlessly in the face of mockery and rejection. Some of their listeners would be captivated by a Jesus that they never met but now felt powerfully present in their lives. They gathered in communities that loved and supported each other, proposing a different way of life modeled on the Kingdom that Jesus preached and experiencing for themselves the tangibility of this Kingdom through amazing things that happened in their midst. New communities would form and the flame burning in the midst of one community would pass over

to these new communities. We are but one of these communities scattered over the centuries and all over the world.

I want to stop and think about this for a second because if we think of it from this perspective, the Holy Spirit is anything but intangible. If you've been hanging around the community and encountered love or support or charity or welcome or perhaps you've had meaningful spiritual experiences at Mass or in prayer with the community, then you know the Holy Spirit for yourself. The Holy Spirit is that which is most experienced either directly in our souls or through the lives of those around us. The Holy Spirit is God's Spirit alive and active in the lives of believers in and for the community of faith.

Even reading I wrote, it still sounds a bit intangible. But here's what I know: when I was baptized, God began to give me some of His own life within me through an indwelling of the Holy Spirit. That Spirit has guided me throughout my whole life, teaching and reminding me when I would stray off the path. The Spirit has helped me in my good decisions and gnawed at me when I would make bad ones. The Spirit has consoled me when things have been dark and energized me to be a part of something greater than myself. The Spirit has been a true teacher and a friend. At my Confirmation, I believe that this same Spirit dared me to move beyond myself and sent me on a mission to others, giving or revealing gifts that I didn't realize I had at the service of the community that gathers in the name of the Son.

With all of my heart, I believe that the movement of the Spirit that guided me to and through Confirmation changed my life and revealed to me my purpose in the grand scheme of things. If you're reading this, you have this Spirit in you too and that Spirit of God is working within you to transform you and to transform the world around you. Some of those gifts might seem mundane, others are remarkable and others still are miraculous. But you have gifts and those gifts come from the Spirit. The key is to identify those gifts and even more importantly use them at the service of this community that gathers in Jesus' name. This community needs what God has entrusted to you. If you need help realizing where your gifts are needed, please talk to us!



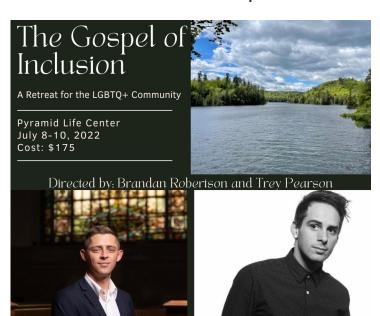
Monday—Thursday 9:00 am—4:00 pm Sunday Before & After Masses

KEEP IN TOUCH

Website: stambroselatham.com Facebook: @stambrosechurch Email: salatham@rcda.org

YouTube: youtube.com/c/StAmbroseMedia

Are you receiving text and email notifications from St. Ambrose? Text the word ambrose to 84576 to opt in.





Register online at sagegators.com

Contact Brian Barnes at 518-292-1969

or by email barneb@sage.edu for

more information.



JUNE 5, 2022 PENTECOST

BAPTISMAL PREP MINISTRY

Are you interested in sharing your faith and meeting other Catholic parents? Consider a ministry with our Baptismal Preparation Program! Baptismal Prep families meet with Baptismal parents to help prepare them for the Sacrament, and then keep up with them throughout their child's first year after Baptism. This creates closeness between the families and encourages Christian community! We will train you. All that's required is a heart for service! Reach out to Darlene for more details: 518-496-1886.

Kieran's Light

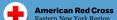
Catholic LGBTQIA+ Ministry at Saint Ambrose

Meetings Sunday at 12pm in the Parish Office

For questions, or to be added to the flocknote list, email Robyn: robyn.spateholts@rcda.org

Help Can't Wait





American Red Cross
Eastern New York Region Contact: joineny@redcross.org

Volunteer With Vs!

The Red Cross needs:

- -Caseworkers
- -Mental Health Professionals
- -Greeters at Blood Drives
- -Drivers for Regional Deliveries
- -Disaster Action Team Members

Ouestions?

(518) 387-9441



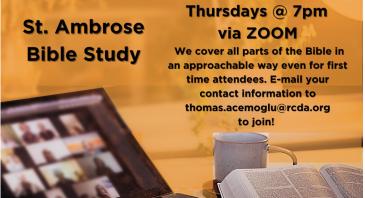


American Red Cross









SCHOOL UPDATE

UNDER THE SEA

In PreK 4-1, we are having fun learning about all God's creatures and using our fine motor skills to make art projects of them. We also have been able to tie in Bible stories about Noah's Ark and Jonah and the Whale. We learned that God always stays with us even when we do not listen, and He will always give us second chances.





It's hard to believe there are only a few short weeks left of school for us and this class will be starting KINDERGARTEN in the fall. We all had an amazing year! We're happy to report that we will be holding an in-person graduation celebration this year for our PreK students and families, which hasn't been able to happen in the past few years. Wishing everyone a safe and healthy summer!







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



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, June 4th — 4pm

Deceased Members of the Palumbo Family Deceased Members of the Tangorra Family Avery Jackson-Dunphy Aleck Sally

Sunday, June 5th — 9am

Peter Hallock Vittorio Renda Aleck Sally Dominic Curro

Sunday, June 5th — 11am

Mary F. Harding Vittorio Renda Andrew Treventi Martin J. Killian

Monday, June 6th — 12:10pm

The People of St. Ambrose

Tuesday, June 7th — 12:10pm

Catherine Basabe William Mullins

Wednesday, June 8th — 12:10pm

Fr. J. Gallagher

Thursday, June 9th — 12:10pm

Keith Kinnicutt Ron Connolly

St Ambrose, pray for us.

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.

OFFERTORY

Current Year Previous Year

<u>5/22/2022</u>: <u>5/23/2021</u>:

\$14,497.56 \$11,879.75



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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.



HAILEY'S CORNER



May the Holy
Spirit come
down upon YOU
today, bringing
you all the
blessings and
gifts you need
to help bring
about the
Kingdom.