

Saint **AMBROSE**
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
ROOTED IN CHRIST

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

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

WAIT
IN HOPE



1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

We begin with anticipation. When a new year comes, when a new job or school is about to be begun, when a child is to be born, we feel a sort of nervous excitement at the start of a new journey. They are not one time events like a concert or a party. To enter into them we must give our time and dedication. They involve surrendering life as you presently know it and entering into something mysterious.

And so our Church year begins with anticipation because someone is “coming”, which is what the Latin word *adventus* means. Often, we approach this “coming” as the coming of a birthday party. To our thinking, Jesus, the one we celebrate, has already come and we are celebrating over 2,000 years since he was born. We should resist the temptation to prepare for Christmas like it’s just another birthday party. That is not what the Church is asking us to do as we enter into this season. We must see it through the lens of a people who are eagerly waiting and hoping for something that hasn’t happened yet. We wait like a young virgin in an unplanned pregnancy awaits the fulfillment of a promise made to her by an angel, unsure of how exactly her betrothed will take this news. We wait like an Israel desperately awaiting God’s intervention in a Messiah who will rule in place of the powers of the world. This is waiting mixed with anxiety, with minds trying to piece together a scenario where things might go right despite all evidence to the contrary. Think of a time in your life where you were anxious because you didn’t think things would be okay, because there wasn’t enough time, money, or resources to afford safety and security. Imagine hoping that God would intervene to sort it all out when others give up. To do this gives a sense of the anticipation that this season seeks to provoke in us.

Adventus also translates the Greek word *parousia*, which in Christian theology is used to describe the second coming of Christ. In the past few weeks, we referred to the collective anticipation that we should feel as Christians awaiting his second coming. We too look at the situation of our broken, fractured world and hope beyond hope that God will intervene. In our liturgical season of Advent, hope in these “comings” of Jesus converge. We eagerly await God’s intervention in the world while commemorating when he first came, receiving the gift of the infant Jesus as though he first arrived. In the Christian imagination, past, present, and future are often not linear. Christ *came* at the beginning of the 1st century CE. Christ is *coming* to us constantly in the sacraments and through the poor and marginalized. Christ *will come* again in glory. All of these things are true and they’re true at the same time.

Our readings call these modes of “coming” to mind. The tone of each of these readings involves the second coming of the Lord at the end of time as we

know it.. The first reading is from Isaiah; he envisions a future when all people, Jew and Gentile alike, will come to the LORD’s holy mountain, to Mt. Zion in Jerusalem to learn his ways and to be judged by him. Peace between the nations happens when they “*beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks*” (Isa 2:4). It speaks to the lasting peace that we hope for if all people behold God and listen to him.

In the second reading from Romans, Paul wants the Roman community of believers to know that “*salvation is nearer now than when we first believed*” (Rom 13:11). Because the Lord is coming again, according to Paul, we must put our lives in order and practice repentance. We do not want Jesus to find us drowsy and clinging to our former lives. We must understand that when he comes again, he comes as the final judge. He is a just, kind, and loving judge but he is also righteous. Paul asks us to be aware of how our lives must be aligned to his coming.

In the Gospel reading, Jesus talks about the end in terms of the Great Flood in the days of Noah. In Second Temple Judaism, the Great Flood was a central metaphor for God’s coming judgment on his people. Jesus’ point is that life went on like normal the day that the rains of the Flood began. Hardly anyone noticed the grander things happening in their midst. So it is with the coming of Jesus. We always run the risk of missing the signs around us that he is approaching. Before, I talked about the way he will come in glory but also that he is always coming to us in the sacraments and through those in need. At our worship and in our daily lives he is constantly coming to us but we miss it due to our own complacency. We have to be alert because something important is happening in our midst: “*For you do not know on which day your Lord will come....So too, you must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come*” (Mat 24:42-44).

I feel this expectation as a father expecting the birth of my 5th child in March. In one sense, I’ve been all through this before, just as we’ve been through Advent and Christmas year in and year out for our whole lives. But in reality, I really don’t know what’s coming my way when our baby girl is born. Her coming transforms everything about how my family and I live our lives and how we relate to one another. What is she going to be like, really? How will my life change? Am I assured that despite any changes that happen that my life will be exceedingly blessed and that I will be a better person for it? The coming of Jesus is the same way. He comes to make things better and to make you better too. He comes to bring a deeper peace than the world can give. So be eager and anticipate his coming with a fresh heart as not to miss the greater thing happening in our midst.

-Tom Acemoglu

NOVEMBER 27, 2022

**Endings & Beginnings:
Understanding Catholic
Teaching on Death,
Judgement, the Afterlife,
and the End of Time.**

**Sundays from 9:50a - 10:50a
in the Chapel
(11/20, 12/4 - 12/18)**

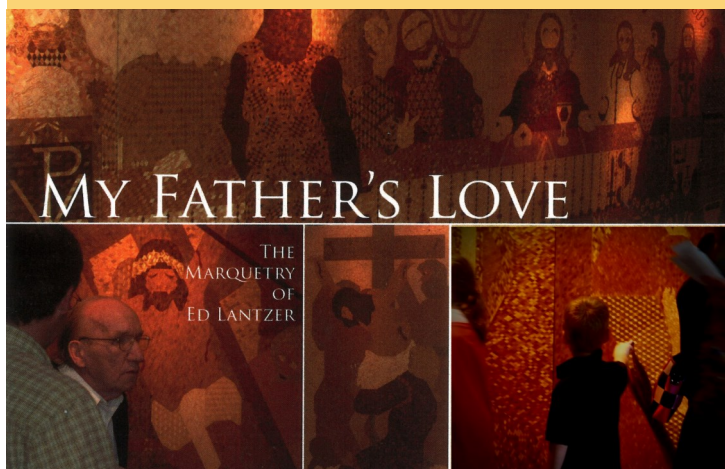
WANT TO STAY UP TO DATE ON ADULT LEARNING
OPPORTUNITIES? Contact Tom at
thomas.acemoglu@rcda.org or join at
<https://stambroselatham.flocknote.com/AdultFaithFormat/>

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.

ART EXHIBIT AT ST. EDWARD THE CONFESSOR



St Edward the Confessor in Clifton Park is now offering tours of the **My Father's Love** exhibit every Thursday! The exhibit consists of thirty, 4' x 8' wooden mosaic panels. Tours are held at 11:30 AM, 1:00, 2:30, 4:00, & 6:30 PM. Tours can also be scheduled at separate times for large groups or organizations by contacting Andrew Sutton at 518-371-7372 x229.

St. Ambrose, Latham, New York

**WE INVITE YOU TO CUT OUT THIS PRAYER & PUT IN A PLACE
OF PROMINENCE SO YOU CAN PRAY IT DAILY**

**Prayer for the Souls in
Purgatory**

*Oh gentle heart of Jesus,
ever present in the Blessed
Sacrament, ever consumed with
burning love for the poor, captive
souls in Purgatory, have mercy on
them. Be not severe in Your
judgments, but let some drops of
your Precious Blood fall upon the
devouring flames. And, Merciful
Savior, send Your angels to
conduct them to a place of
refreshment, light and peace.
Amen.*



Saturday, 12/10/22

Check-in and Continental Breakfast
at 8:30 AM; Event runs from 9 AM to
4 PM

**St. Pius X Church,
23 Crumitie Rd., Loudonville,
NY**

Keynote Speakers: Sisters of Life

There will be Presentations,
Reconciliation, Adoration, Rosary,
Mass with Bishop Scharfenberger,
box lunch, and beverages.

Register Here:

<https://www.rcda.org/UnleashingLove>

**Note: Credit / debit card users -- ignore PayPal and
use the black button bar to pay via credit / debit card.**

**Due to the high cost of postage,
starting in January, we'll be sending
large receipt donations via email.
Please call the office to make sure our
records are up to date. If there is no
email on file you will receive your
receipt in the mail as always.**

NOVEMBER 27, 2022



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**

ADVENT BRUNCH & BASKET RAFFLE

Join Holy Trinity on Sunday, December 4 for an Advent Communion Brunch, with a guest speaker, immediately after the 10:30 mass, in their parish center. Brunch will include scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, bagels, pastries, breads, coffee and juices. Following the speaker, they'll have a holiday basket raffle. The baskets will be on display and tickets available for purchase that morning as well as on Saturday, December 3, both before and after the 4 pm Mass. Sign up sheets for attendance at the brunch will be at both church entrances; you may also call their office at 518-237-2373. They need attendance numbers for food control.

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!**



1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



10am in the Chapel on 12/3/22

Please bring your rosary.

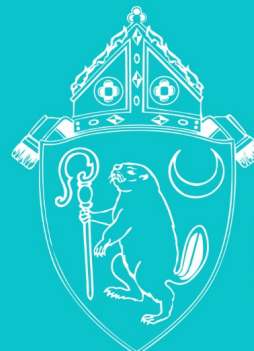
Mom's Group



**Join us the first Sunday of each
month from 9:50AM -10:50AM**

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

**Go to our
website to
stay up to date
with the issues
our diocese is
currently
facing.**



*"Come to me, all you that are weary and
are carrying heavy burdens, and I will
give you rest."*

Matthew 11:28

**ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE of ALBANY**



KIERAN'S LIGHT

CATHOLIC LGBTQIA+ MINISTRY

CONTACT FOR DETAILS:
robyn.spateholts@rcda.org

Kieran's Light is a ministry rooted in love, welcome, and respect for the LGBTQIA+ community, their family, friends, and loved ones. Jesus calls us to love our neighbor as ourselves and it is in that spirit that this ministry is founded.

Meetings every other Sunday @ Noon

MUSIC IN THE CHURCH BY BILL HAYES

Advent Lyrics Set to Christmas Melodies

The question comes up every year. On one extreme, only Advent hymns, are included in the church prior to Christmas Eve; and all the traditional and beloved carols are saved until Christmas Eve, and Christmas Day, as the Advent season is a totally distinct season from Christmas. On the other extreme, the rest of the world is observing Christmas with lights, parties, and decorations. Everything seems out of sync when the church seeks to preserve the integrity and message of Advent by putting off its Christmas celebration until Christmas Eve. It seems a compromise is needed. The compromise I've come up with is to set Advent lyrics to Christmas melodies. The first hymn in this series is the Advent lyrics of Come Thou Long Expected Jesus set to the Polish Christmas hymn Infant Holy, Infant Lowly. The free piano sheet music and mp3 recording may be downloaded from www.HayesMusicPublishing.com until Dec. 3rd. Merry Advent.

Giving Tree 2022

This year, Holy Trinity, St. Ambrose, and St. Michael's are working together to better serve our community for Christmas. Starting November 26, there will be tags on the tree for people in need, with new tags added each week until December 10. Please take a tag or two! Gifts should be wrapped and returned with the tag attached no later than December 14.

We are looking for volunteers to help with intake calls, tag making, sorting, and transporting gifts from each parish to Holy Trinity, where they will be for families to pick up. If you'd like to volunteer to help with any part of the process, contact Robyn at 518-785-1351 or robyn.spateholts@rcda.org.

NOVEMBER 27, 2022

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, November 26th — 4pm

Fr. Kelly

Dianne Mahoney
Marie T. Tribley
Jonas Bruno
Paul VanAlstyne Sr.
Judy Abdelnour Frank

Sunday, November 27th — 9am

Fr. Kelly

Sam Alberti
Intentions of Nate Bigelow
John Anthus
Katherine Von Stetina Irwin
Mary Ann Hilton
John J. Doyle

Sunday, November 27th — 11am

Fr. Deimeke

Vittorio Renda
The Deceased Members of the King Family
John Anthus
Biagio Mascolo
Jennifer Brooks-Martin

Monday, November 28th — 12:10pm

Fr. Kelly

David Nichols
Alice Artini

Tuesday, November 29th — 12:10pm

Fr. Kelly

Barbara Cipriano
Ann Dinardo

Wednesday, November 30th — 12:10pm

Fr. Kelly

The People of St. Ambrose

Thursday, December 1st — 12:10pm

Fr. Kelly

The People of St. Ambrose

WHO'S PRESIDING NEXT WEEKEND?

Saturday, December 3rd — 4pm — Fr. Deimeke

Sunday, December 4th — 9am — Fr. Bellafiore

Sunday, December 4th — 11am — Fr. Kelly

FR. BRIAN KELLY, PASTOR

OFFERTORY

Current Year

Previous Year

11/13/2022:

11/14/2021:

\$15,850.51

\$17,377.51



ONLINE GIVING

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



Latham-Colonie Columbiette Breakfast Buffet
Sunday, December 11th, 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 - \$12 Children (5-10) - \$6 Under 5 - Free!

HAILEY'S CORNER



We ask that
our Heavenly
Father opens
our eyes to see
the tangible
reminders He
offers, which
show us that
HOPE is an
unbreakable
spiritual lifeline.