



Saint **AMBROSE**

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

ROOTED IN CHRIST

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



2ND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Last week's bulletin was finished before Benedict XVI's death so I wanted to take a few moments to reflect on his life and legacy.

Joseph Ratzinger/Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI had a profound influence on my life. I started reading him in college and I devoured his work like I devoured comic books as a kid or albums in high school. I own more books by him than any one other person. He was my personal Stephen King or John Grisham.

Why? Because he presented the faith in a way that was intellectually credible while in dialogue with the best of those who disagreed with him. I think that's his biggest influence on me: know what you believe but refine what you believe by way of those who criticize it. Speak with them. Dialogue with them. Learn from them. Do not fear that your faith will be obliterated in the process. If that faith is worth anything, it will stand.

And in the dialogue do not be afraid to challenge the assumptions of those who disagree with you. He taught me that atheism does not have the intellectual high ground and that faith makes a positive contribution to the common good.

He was always fair to his critics and to the positions he criticized. He never let his arguments devolve into hyperbole or made a straw man out of his opponents. He presented others' arguments fairly, in a way that they would consider to be accurate. If you want someone who disagrees with you to listen, you must be charitable to them.

Benedict's life overlays the ebb and flow of modernity. His family struggled against the Nazis and the experience of the cult of nationalized fascism left a mark on him. As the world shifted in philosophies, social movements, and political upheavals he was priest, then university professor, then advisor during the Second Vatican Council, then archbishop, then prefect for Vatican's Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. Rooted in the Augustinian tradition, he never sensed a shift in his philosophical and theological outlook but saw the world around him change. In the 1960's he was considered a theological liberal. By the 1980's he was accused of being a staunch arch-conservative. None of these labels did any justice to his synthesis of faith and modernity.

He did not want to be Pope but his homily at Pope John Paul II's funeral sealed the deal in the minds of his electors. He spoke of feeling like a guillotine hung over his head as the votes kept being read in the conclave but he accepted. His goal in life up to that point was to retire and write. He toured the Vatican Library towards the end of John Paul II's

pontificate, hinting that he wanted to end up there. I feel for the scholar who desired the library but ended up being called to other things. His response to God as he realized that his election was immanent was "Lord, do not do this to me." Still, he took up his own cross and followed Jesus.

To read him is to love him. I whole-heartedly recommend the 5 books of his interviews, 4 of which were with Peter Seewald. His assessment of what was happening in the Church and the world helped clarify my own thinking. He was the first Pope to deal with the evil of clergy sexual abuse head on. He believed in the dialogue of cultures. He rightly assessed the crises that emerged from faith's encounter with modernity but presented an intellectually credible response. His Regensburg address should be required reading on the interplay between faith with reason. As a biblicist, I greatly appreciated how he understood modern critical methodologies in light of the truths of faith. Over the course of many books, addresses, and homilies, I learned so much from him.

He was my favorite theologian. Again, to read him was to love him. I can think of no greater influence on my own theological outlook and if we've ever talked religion in our time together, our discussion was completely informed by him.

A person can have a deep intellect and a deep faith. These categories aren't mutually exclusive. You can think and believe and live honestly and with integrity. I wrote a letter to him a few years ago and the response I got from the Vatican Secretariat of State assured me that he was praying for me. That meant a lot to me. When I read of his passing I immediately asked him for his prayers as I'm navigating my own life's craziness and I believe I've gained a powerful intercessor. These past 9 years he would speak of preparing to meet his Lord and I know I've learned as much from his life and death as I did from his thought.

He knew his pontificate would be short. What did he set out to do? "I must try above all else to show what faith means in the contemporary world, and further, to highlight the centrality of faith in God, and give people the courage to have faith, courage to live concretely in the world with faith. Faith, reason, these were all things as I recognized central to my mission, and for these things it was not important to have a long pontificate" (Last Testament: In His Own Words, 2016). I am forever in his debt and I encourage you to seek out his writings, where you will find depth with approachability, and wisdom with knowledge.

-Tom Acemoglu

JANUARY 15, 2023

Join Mary's Circle of Love in praying the Rosary!

**Mondays of
December & January
after 12:10p Daily
Mass in the Chapel.**

SISTER MAUREEN JOYCE CENTER IS REQUESTING BOOTS

The Sister Maureen Joyce Center Soup Kitchen has a great need for winter boots and new socks. All sizes are needed for men, women, and children. Boots may be new or used. New, warm winter socks are requested. The Sister Maureen Joyce center will be collecting boots throughout January. **Donations may be brought directly to the center, at 315 Sheridan Ave, Albany NY 12206.**

Praying Like There's No Tomorrow: New Perspectives on Our Ancient Prayers

**Sundays from 9:50a - 10:50a
in the Chapel
(1/8, 1/22 - 2/12, 2/26)**

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/>

St. Ambrose, Latham, New York

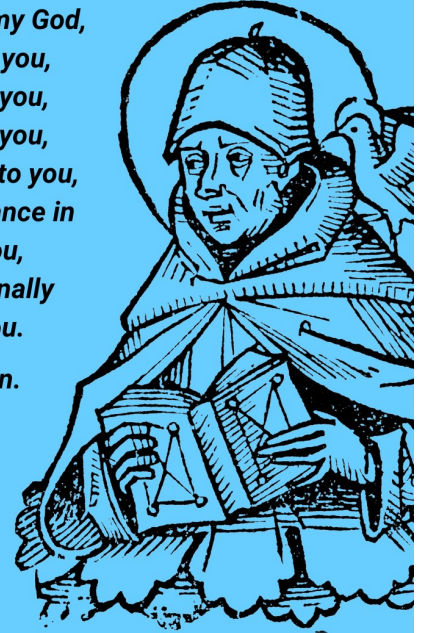
WE INVITE YOU TO CUT OUT THIS PRAYER & PUT IN A PLACE
OF PROMINENCE SO YOU CAN PRAY IT DAILY

*Grant me, O Lord my God,
a mind to know you,
a heart to seek you,
wisdom to find you,
conduct pleasing to you,
faithful perseverance in
waiting for you,
and a hope of finally
embracing you.*

Amen.

**St Thomas
Aquinas**

Feast Day Jan 28th



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.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday 9:00am-4:00pm

**Sunday Before & After the Masses
in the Parish Center Lobby.**

JANUARY 15, 2023

2ND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Memorial Mass for Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI



Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22, 2023 AT 3 PM

Bishop Scharfenberger will preside

KEEP IN TOUCH

Website: stambroselatham.com

Facebook: [@stambrosechurch](https://www.facebook.com/stambrosechurch)

Email: salatham@rcda.org

YouTube: [youtube.com/c/StAmbroseMedia](https://www.youtube.com/c/StAmbroseMedia)

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



STUDENTS AT CATHOLIC CENTRAL SCHOOL HAVE BEEN WORKING IN THE VITA PROGRAM FOR OVER 20 YEARS.

Mr. Hannah's Accounting Students work with an alumni to become IRS certified to complete tax returns for people at need in the community. Students in the past have been able to get clients up to \$18,000 in tax refunds. Each year students average around 300 tax returns that get sent to the IRS. This year for the 2022/2023 Tax season we will have about 30 Students participating. If you or someone you know is interested in having their taxes done for free by the VITA program, visit the VITA IRS website, or reach out to the local VITA operator to schedule an appointment: 800-906-9887.



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.

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!



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





**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

Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)

Pope St. Gregory (540-604) was elected unanimously to the papacy on Sept. 3, 590 (which is his feast day) and in 14 years instituted liturgical and musical reforms which has lasted to this day over 1,400 years later. What is now known as Gregorian chant, he instituted a new school of music in Rome which was slow, uniform and sung in unison. These reforms were carried out with exactness without exception. Congregational hymn singing virtually ceased because the new chants required trained choirs and clergy to sing them correctly. He did allow special hymn exceptions on special occasions such as "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" sung during evening prayer between Dec. 17th and Dec. 23rd.

An example of one chant-like melody sung to this day is "Agnus Dei"
The free piano sheet music and mp3 recording of "Agnus Dei" may be downloaded from www.HayesMusicPublishing.com until Jan. 21st.

Agnus Dei

Ancient melody in Public Domain, This arrangement copyright (C) 2011 Bill Hayes Published by www.HayesMusicPublishing.com, all rights reserved

Ag - nus De i, qui tol - lis pec - ca - ta mun - di.

Mis - se - re - re no bis. Ag - nus De i, qui tol - lis pec - ca - ta mun -

di. Mis - se - re - re no bis. Ag - nus De i, qui

tol - lis pec - ca - ta mun - di. Do - na no - bis pa - cem.

JANUARY 15, 2023

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 14th — 4pm
Fr. Deimeke

Catherine Butler
Betty Langevin
Roland Marsolais

Sunday, January 15th — 9am
Fr. Bellafiore

Nichola & Matilda Gallo
Roland J. Marsolais
Tonino Ferracane
Anna Mahoney

Sunday, January 15th — 11am
Fr. Bellafiore

Maria & Antonio Monardo
Phil Boyle
Vittorio Renda
Rose Vecchione

Monday, January 16th — 12:10pm
Fr. Kelly

James. A. Mulholland

Tuesday, January 17th — 12:10pm
Fr. Kelly

Intentions of Anne Brennan
Intentions of Jane LaMena

Wednesday, January 18th — 12:10pm
Fr. Kelly

The People of St. Ambrose

Thursday, January 19th — 12:10pm
Fr. Kelly

The People of St. Ambrose

St. Ambrose, Pray for Us!

WHO'S PRESIDING NEXT WEEKEND?

Saturday, January 21st — 4pm
Fr. Bellafiore

Sunday, January 22nd — 9am
Fr. Kelly

Sunday, January 22nd — 11am
Fr. Kelly

FR. BRIAN KELLY, PASTOR

OFFERTORY

Current Year

Previous Year

1/1/2023:

1/2/2022:

\$19,334.51

\$20,770.80



ONLINE GIVING

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



All are invited to this privately arranged tour, designed by Deacon Gerry Matthews with Journeys by Julie through Journeys Connect. If you're unable to attend this presentation but would like more information about the tour, please contact Journeys By Julie at journeysbyjulie@gmail.com or 518-326-2187. Reservations and deposits will be accepted after 1/28.

THERE WILL BE
AN HOUR
PRESENTATION
ON SATURDAY
1/28, AT
10:30AM IN THE
PARISH CENTER,
FOR AN
OCTOBER 2023,
10 NIGHT
IRELAND
GETAWAY.

HAILEY'S CORNER



Jesus dying for
our sins? I
believe it 100%.

Getting that
frisbee off the
roof? That's too
far-fetched!