



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

**THE LORD
HAS REVEALED
HIS SAVING POWER
TO THE NATIONS.**

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

This Sunday, our readings ask us to consider Jesus as the Good Shepherd and we have to try and figure out what that means for us.

Jesus' culture is a bit removed from suburban Albany and often Jesus uses metaphors that are a bit out of our reach. Many of his parables are drawn from the experience of agriculture that was so common to his audience but are less so for most of us unless we have a garden and grow our own food (and, even then, it's at a much smaller scale than Jesus' audience would've experienced). The same goes with animal husbandry. For the most part, the animals of our own lives are pets. We don't consider them a natural resource that's necessary for food and provisions. We might see these kind of animals at a county fair and that might hint at the worldview Jesus was invoking.

We've also inherited negative attitudes relating to be identified as sheep. In this view, a sheep is the opposite of a free thinker who goes where and does what they want. A person who's considered a sheep is told what to think, what to do, and where to go and are usually unfairly compared to religious people.

To appreciate the depths of Jesus' metaphor, we have to consider his world and for Jesus the image of a herd of sheep representing the whole of his followers is in no way negative. For one, the shepherd was very attuned to the diversity of the sheep and respected what each sheep had to offer. They were grouped by gender, age, fertility, and coloring and the shepherd had to consider how important they were. So it is with us. When we are shepherded by Jesus, he thinks enough of us to consider us, to how we each fulfill a further purpose, and how his presence among us allows us to thrive. The shepherd guides the sheep, keeping them together, and rescuing them from harm when they stray...and so it is for us. The shepherd leads the sheep to pasture where they can be fed and grow...and so it is with us.

In the Old Testament, the shepherd also served as a metaphor for Israel's leaders. David begins his life as a shepherd, which is a metaphor for his relationship to the people he serves (Ps 78:70-72; Ezekiel 37:24), an image extended to the coming Messiah (Mic 5:4).

There was nothing worse than a leader who failed his people, being compared to a reckless shepherd (Jer 10:21, 12:10). Ezekiel chapter 24 is a scathing attack on the "shepherds" that had failed Israel and an exasperated God finally says that *"I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, for I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice"* (Ez 34:15-16). In 34:23-24, God tells us he will appoint a Messiah who stands in David's place to shepherd the people.

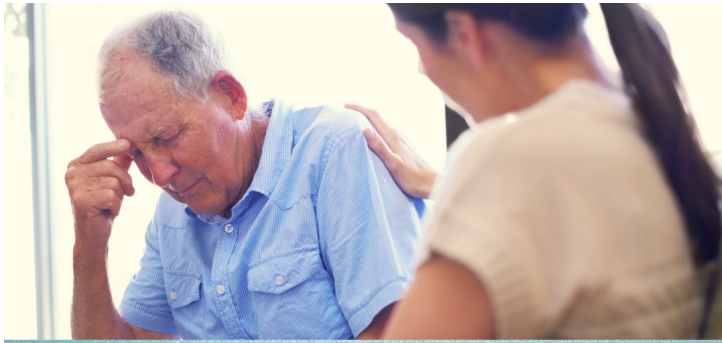
It is clear, then, that Jesus was not speaking vaguely about a general concern he had for his helpless followers. In light of the above, we are his flock and he is our shepherd which means that we are his people and he is our king. He will save us from waywardness, he will heal us, he will remove our enemies, and he will bring true justice. We must learn the sound of his voice because a wider culture of thieves and robbers seek to steal us away. In the midst of a world that can feel like a wilderness, we will only survive its vicissitudes if we are anchored in him. It's only with him that we will survive.

I think about this a lot when I think of the relationship my children have to the culture that surrounds them in mass media and in social factors beyond my control. I am concerned about the various voices that are calling them away. It's not just from me but most of all it's from God. Have I done a good enough job to help them recognize the voice of Jesus the shepherd? Do they know the ways that he has protected them and seeks to do so? Have they felt his protection? Do they trust in his ways? Are they aware of the "thief" and "robber" that prowls around the gate with evil intentions?

This "Good Shepherd Sunday", let's reflect on the voice and the presence of the shepherd who is still in our midst. At Mass we hear the truths of Scripture, the encouragement of our priests, and the words of faithfulness expressed in the liturgy. When we gather around him at the Lord's table, we can experience security and clarity. We are not lost, we are cared for.

-Tom Acemoglu

APRIL 30, 2023



Are you struggling with the loss of a loved one?
You aren't alone and don't need to go through it alone.
It doesn't matter if the loss was 10 days or 10 years ago,
all are welcome.

May 7th @ Noon in the Parish Center

For more information
contact Robyn at the
Parish Office or Kristine at kmax30@aol.com.

**Calling on Angels:
Grief and Loss Support Group**

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!



St. Ambrose, Latham, New York

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.

Days of Parish Past: Lessons from the Early Church

Sundays from
9:50a - 10:50a
in the Chapel
(4/16 - 5/7, 5/21)

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/>

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

*Father,
in meditating on the sufferings of
your Son and in serving your Church,
Saint Catherine was filled with the
fervour of your love. By her prayers,
may we share in the mystery of
Christ's death and rejoice in the
revelation of his glory,
for He lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God,
for ever and ever.
Amen.*

*Prayer for the Intercession of St
Catherine of Siena
Feast Day - April 29th*



APRIL 30, 2023

CRAFT FAIR

The Latham-Colonie Columbiettes are hosting their Spring Flea Market on Saturday May 20th, 2023 from 9 am to 3:30 pm at the Latham-Colonie Knights of Columbus Council, 328 Troy-Schenectady Road, Latham, N.Y. 12110! Rain or Shine!

Vendor Space available both Indoor and Outdoor, Undercover and Outdoor Areas for your own popup displays

For pricing information contact Kathleen at klmaje@outlook.com or www.lathamcoloniekofc.com/dinners&events.



10am in the Chapel on 5/6/23
Please bring your rosary.



Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesdays
11:00 AM to 6:00 PM

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER



Albany NY Chapter Breakfast
Saturday, May 20, 2023
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Wolferts Roost Country Club

120 Van Rensselaer Blvd., Albany, NY 12204
(Van Rensselaer Blvd.-between Rte. 378 & Northern Blvd.)

Cost: \$28.00 - Adult -- \$18.00 - Student

Postmarked by 5/10/23

After 5/10/23, call Kathleen Carroll at
518-930-8380 to check availability

Register using PayPal on our website:
<http://www.magnificat-ministry.org/ny-albany>

\$29.40 - Adult -- \$19.40 - Student

GUEST SPEAKER:
ANNE COSTA



Anne is a wife, mother, and best-selling author who uses her personal experience and professional knowledge as a social worker, along with the firm foundation of the Catholic faith, to tackle some of life's toughest issues.

The Red Cross needs:

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

Questions?

(518) 387-9441

joineny@redcross.org

Apply!! ➡



American Red Cross
Eastern New York Region



Latham-Colonie Columbiette Breakfast Buffet
Sunday, May 14th, 2023

8:30 am to 12:30 pm

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!

Free Gift for the Mom's, (while supply lasts)!

MUSIC IN THE CHURCH BY BILL HAYES

Psalm 23

This weekend's designated psalm for the 4th Sunday in Easter, Year A is Psalm 23 (verses 1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6), the well-known and loved *The Lord is my shepherd*, which is a psalm of trust. The Lord is the shepherd (23:1-4 and banquet host (23:5-6). A table is prepared as a thanksgiving offering representing our communion with God. I have set this psalm to music. The free piano sheet music and mp3 recording may be downloaded from www.HayesMusicPublishing.com.

The Lord Is My Shepherd (Psalm 23)

Leadsheet

Bill Hayes

♩ = 60

The musical notation is written on two staves in G major (one sharp). The tempo is marked as a quarter note equals 60. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the psalm: 'The Lord is my shepherd, there's no-thing I shall want. The Lord is my'. The second staff continues the melody: 'she-pherd, there's no-thing I shall want. The'. The lyrics are written below the notes. Chord symbols are placed above the notes: E m, E m/D#, E m/D, C#dim, A m6, A m/G, F#dim, B, E m/B, B, E m/B, B. A double bar line with first and second endings is shown. The first ending leads back to the beginning of the second staff, and the second ending leads to a final chord. The piece ends with a '1. Green' instruction.

HOLY WATER AVAILABLE

If you would like Holy Water, the basin in the vestibule at the front of the church has some. Please just bring your own vessel.

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

**Mondays after
12:10p Daily Mass
in the Chapel.**



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.

Upcoming Meetings:
Sunday 4/30, 5/21, 6/4



APRIL 30, 2023

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, April 29th — 4pm

Fr. Kelly

Frederick & Virginia Alston
Deceased members of the Ryan-Bak Family
Joan S. Bruno
Andy Gigliotti

Sunday, April 30th — 9am

Fr. Bellafiore

Teresa Popolizio
Michael Harrison
Tricia, Matt & Mike Harrison
Mary J. Anderson
Aleck & Gertrude Sally
Monica Kanischak
Bob Miller

Sunday, April 30th — 11am

Fr. Bellafiore

Vittorio Renda
Lorraine Beatrice Garceau
Margaret Jeanne Selkis
Dominica Brant

Monday, May 1st — 12:10pm

Fr. Kelly

James Sharp

Tuesday, May 2nd — 12:10pm

Fr. Kelly

Frederick & Virginia Alston

Wednesday, May 3rd — 12:10pm

Fr. Kelly

David Placido

Thursday, May 4th — 12:10pm

Fr. Kelly

Francis Craven
Helen Craven
Vincent Cook
Pricilla Hogan

St. Ambrose, Pray for Us!

WHO'S PRESIDING NEXT WEEKEND?

Saturday, May 6th — 4pm

TBD

Sunday, May 7th — 9am & 11am

TBD

FR. BRIAN KELLY, PASTOR

OFFERTORY

Current Year

Previous Year

4/16/2023:

4/17/2022:

\$19,058.67

\$23,229.01



ONLINE GIVING

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

FRIENDS

IN FAITH

Would you like an opportunity to become better acquainted with fellow parishioners? What about giving back to our parish family by planning future events for parishioners of all ages? Friends in Faith will meet to gather your ideas for future social and hospitality events.

We meet every Tuesday after the 12:10 mass in the Parish Center. You are more than welcome to bring your lunch. If you have ideas but are unable to attend, please contact Regina Brown:

southgatebrown61@gmail.com

HAILEY'S CORNER



Life's not
always easy,
but with God's
help we can:

E very
N ew
D ay
U phold
R ighteous
E thics