

*Saint* **AMBROSE**  
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY  
**ROOTED IN CHRIST**

518-785-1351 • 347 Old Loudon Road, | Latham, New York 12110 • [www.stambroselatham.com](http://www.stambroselatham.com)

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

# FEAST



“Come to the feast.”

MATTHEW 22:4BC

**28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

I keep a list in my head of parts of the Bible that I think every Christian should know and the first reading this Sunday from Isaiah is one of those readings. It's read only on this Sunday of our 3-year cycle but it's sometimes used for funerals. Let me explain why I think it's important.

Isaiah describes a scene where God serves a meal to his people. The location of the meal is his mountain, that is Jerusalem. The meal is the finest imaginable *"a feast of rich food and choice wines, juice, rich food and pure, choice wines"* (Isa 25:6).

He is not a waiter, he is "YHWH of hosts" or Yahweh of the heavenly armies. But he serves his people who have experienced death and devastation by war.

Who is at this meal? *"All peoples."* Does anything else happen at this meal? Yes. *"On this mountain he will destroy the veil that veils all peoples, that web that is woven over all nations"* (25:7). One commentator notes that this is likely a veil that would be worn while in mourning. Moreover, *"the LORD GOD will wipe away the tears from every face; the reproach of his people he will remove from the whole earth"*. Moreover, *"he will destroy death forever"* (25:8).

This imagery is taken up again in Revelation chapter 21 with the creation of the new heaven and new earth at the end of time. Our reading from Isaiah 25 is woven together with other Old Testament allusions that, together, describe God making his home among humanity so he may console them, destroying even death, mourning, crying, and pain.

For us, it's an image of heaven. What do we hope happens to us when we die? We hope that all of our pain and suffering is over and that on the other end of death is life eternal. Here, heaven is a great banquet that God has prepared for us. We sit and enjoy as God serves us, dwelling in peace and security. It's no wonder that this is used as a reading at funerals.

In our tradition, this imagery is also eucharistic. It's precisely this meal that we believe we celebrate when we are at Mass. We are fed a heavenly meal, prepared by God, and nourished by the very stuff of heaven. When we pray the Our Father, we are used to saying the line *"give us this day our daily bread"* (Mat 6:11). The word for "daily" is the Greek *epiousion* and that translation is debated. Another possible translation is this: *"give us today our bread for tomorrow"*. In this sense, "tomorrow" can mean the end of time. In other words, feed us with that heavenly meal today...something that we believe happens when we receive communion.

In this passage is our hope as Christians, as

people who have to face suffering and the reality of death. If we could all look forward to a time when God really does make everything okay, I think we can face our lives more bravely. Look forward to a day where the God who made you consoles you with a dinner he prepared himself.

Our Gospel reading adds a few wrinkles to this that I think are worth considering. Jesus' parable describes the coming Kingdom as being a meal, only where those who are initially invited reject the invitation. The messengers are ignored, harmed, or killed as the prophets who were sent to Israel were. I think this passage can be uncomfortable because it imagines who might not be at the great feast of heaven. Jesus describes three kinds of people in this regard, those who want no part of it, those who are hostile to the message, and those who are unprepared. As listeners, we can wonder at why anyone wouldn't want this banquet. But we are like this. Even if we were to throw an amazing party, there will always be people who don't want to go.

I'd like to consider why someone might not want to be a part of God's banquet. Maybe the party was explained to them poorly, that what was described to them did little justice to what would actually happen once they got there.

Maybe some of the people who were going to be there had been bad to them or had otherwise excluded them, even though the invited person has as much a right to be there as they have.

Maybe they don't like who else is included, the *"bad and good alike"* described by Matthew (22:10). Maybe they'd prefer if some people were left out.

Maybe no one had introduced them to the host, who relies on his messengers to get the word out. Maybe if someone introduced them, they would go.

Maybe they have anxiety because crowds aren't their thing but would perhaps feel more comfortable if they knew a friend was there.

That leaves the one person that the king ejected because he wasn't wearing a wedding garment, with the ominous warning *"many are invited, but few are chosen"* (22:11-14). It might seem arbitrary, but Pope St. Gregory the Great speculated that such a person is someone who tries to enter into the banquet without baptism, without faith, or without love. It's a stark reminder that merely showing up isn't enough, that actions aren't enough. To come to the banquet means coming with a transformed heart so that it might be a true Eucharist where all are bound together by love.

-Tom Acemoglu



OCTOBER 15, 2023

# Night of Praise October 26th 6 PM

**ST. MICHAEL'S MOVIE MATINEE  
SATURDAY OCTOBER 28, 2023 AT 1PM**

St. Michael's in Cohoes Movie Matinee selection is *St. Francis of Assisi: His Life and Miracles*. Beautifully filmed on location in Assisi and other Italian towns where Francis made an impact, this film tells the story of his whole life, from wealthy young Francis who dreamed of being a great knight, to becoming transformed by a mystical experience of the Lord who asked Francis to "rebuild my Church", leaving all his possessions and uniting himself with his "Lady Poverty". As usual, soups, sandwiches, chips, beverages, popcorn and desert will be served. This time we are having a brownie sundae bar for dessert!! This is a free event. Please bring a friend. All are welcome. Door prizes will be given. The movie runs one hour. There will be plenty of time to have lunch, socialize, see the movie and still get to 4pm Mass if you choose. Please contact Kathleen Burns with any questions: (518)-428-6353.

## Knowing God through Faith & Reason

Sundays from  
9:50a - 10:50a  
in the Chapel  
(October 8th -29th)

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

## FRIENDS

## IN FAITH

Join us on a journey of faith and transformation!  
Please join the Friends and Faith Book Club for our  
next book "No Turning Back" by Fr. Donald  
Calloway, MIC A powerful story of conversion and  
grace as we delve into Father Donald Calloway's  
remarkable transformation from a runaway teen to  
a Marian priest. Discover the inspiring role of God's  
grace and the love of the Blessed Mother in his life.

**Tuesday, October 17th @ 6:30 pm.**  
**Meeting in the Parish Center or over Zoom**

Whether you're already familiar with the book or curious  
to learn more, they'd love to have you join the Book  
Club. For further details or to express your interest in  
joining, feel free to reach out to Aaron or Jennifer  
Pfoltzer at 518-495-1891 or [aaron.pfoltzer@gmail.com](mailto:aaron.pfoltzer@gmail.com).

## Giving Tree 2023

Again, this year Holy Trinity, St. Ambrose,  
and St. Michael's are working together to  
better serve our community at Christmas.  
Volunteers are needed to help with tag  
making, transporting gifts from each parish  
to the Holy Trinity Parish Center, last  
minute shopping, sorting and preparing the  
gifts for the families to pick up. If you are  
interested in assisting with this endeavor,  
please email [robyn.spateholts@rcda.org](mailto:robyn.spateholts@rcda.org) or  
call Kathy Kingsley at 518-435-5949.

WEEKLY ROSARY WITH THE ALBANY DIOCESAN CURSILLO MOVEMENT

You are invited to call in and join in reciting  
the Holy Rosary every Monday at 7PM  
during the month of October. Directions  
follow: On Mondays at 6:50pm EST please  
call this telephone number (1+917-900-  
1022) at the prompt dial in the code: 841-  
5606#. (don't forget the #) This will allow  
you to join in, it's a free call, the rosary  
starts promptly at 7PM.



OCTOBER 15, 2023

28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

# TRUNK OR TREAT!



OCT 29 12PM-2PM  
SOUTH PARKING LOT

TO REGISTER YOUR TRUNK TO GIVE OUT CANDY,  
GO TO [STAMBROSELATHAM.COM](http://STAMBROSELATHAM.COM)

## FRIENDS

## IN FAITH

FRIENDS IN FAITH meetings are scheduled on the Tuesday of each month as follows:

October 3 at 6:30 PM

October 10, 17, 24, 31 following the 12:10 Mass.

All meetings are in held in the parish center.  
Call Mary Kay for more information  
(518-366-9741)

## DAY TRIP W/HOLY TRINITY PARISH

Join us as we travel to NYC on Monday, Dec 4th to see the Radio City Christmas Spectacular. The cost is \$146 for bus and show ticket. The bus will depart Holy Trinity Parish Center at 9:30 AM and leave NYC at 6:30 PM. Show time is 2 PM and there will be time for shopping, sight seeing and Christmas window browsing. Reservations close on October 29 or when seats are filled. Payment can be made to Journeys By Julie at 112 Masten Ave, Cohoes, or can also be dropped off at the Holy Trinity parish office in an envelope clearly marked "NYC Trip". Checks should be made payable to Journeys By Julie LLC. Payment is nonrefundable unless a replacement is found.

*Mary's Circle of Love*

We meet the 3rd Thursday of each month from 10:00am-11:30am at the Northern Pass Apartment and Condo Community, 62 Santanoni Dr, Cohoes. Our mission is to grow spiritually by sharing our faith stories. We pray, laugh, and share food as we journey with each other. Please reach out to Mary Kay Frederick (518-366-9741) for details. All are welcome.

## Mom's Group



Join us the first Sunday of each month from 9:50AM -10:50AM in room 307

**Next Meeting: November 5th**

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

Our dedicated Media Ministry Head, Chris Cooper, is leaving us, and we are looking for someone to fill his very big shoes! If you are technologically savvy and interested in getting more involved in liturgical ministry, reach out to the office for more information. We are looking for a new Media Ministry Head, as well as Media Ministers, and Live-Stream Ministers.

**MUSIC IN THE CHURCH BY BILL HAYES****Let There Be Peace On Earth**

This song was recorded by Vince Gill (among many others), and lyrics were written in 1955 by Jill Jackson-Miller (1913-1995), with the music written by her husband Sy Miller (1908-1971). She was apparently suicidal before she wrote the song, and before God's peace broke through to her.

"When I attempted suicide (in 1944) and I didn't succeed," she said, "I knew for the first-time unconditional love—which God is. You are totally loved, totally accepted, just the way you are. In that moment, I was not allowed to die, and something happened to me, which is very difficult to explain. I had an eternal moment of truth, in which I knew I was loved, and I knew I was here for a purpose."

*Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.*

*Let There Be Peace on Earth, the peace that was meant to be.*

*With God as our Father, brothers all are we.*

*Let me walk with my brother, in perfect harmony.*

*Let peace begin with me.*

*Let this be the moment now.*

*With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow: To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.*

*Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.*

**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.





OCTOBER 15, 2023

## MASS INTENTIONS

**Saturday, October 14th — 4pm**

**Fr. Deimeke**

Lillian Molnar  
Mary & Frank Micklas  
Frank C. Godfrey  
Cheri M. Murray  
Bill Gailey  
Mary Dougherty

**Sunday, October 15th — 9am**

**Fr. Deimeke**

Vincent & Teresa Popolizio  
Donald Lebentritt  
James Chiera, Sr.  
Norma Morin  
William Robert Hutchings

**Sunday, October 15th — 11am**

**Fr. Deimeke**

Pino Cavallo  
Pamela Bolen Sinko  
Thanksgiving for Favors Granted  
Maureen E. Geracitano  
Carol M. Dugan Hebert

**Monday, October 16th — 12:10pm**

**Dcn. Frank — Communion Service**

Roy Seipel  
Bishop Emeritus Howard Hubbard

**Tuesday, October 17th — 12:10pm**

**Dcn. Frank — Communion Service**

Gerald Yarter  
Maria T. Datri

**Wednesday, October 18th — 12:10pm**

**Dcn. Frank — Communion Service**

Intentions of Prudence LaRose  
Louis N. Paley

**Thursday, October 19th — 12:10pm**

**Dcn. Frank — Communion Service**

Eileen Zmijewski  
Joseph Piscitella

**St Ambrose, Pray for us!**

## WHO'S PRESIDING NEXT WEEKEND?

**Saturday October 21st — 4pm &**

**Sunday, October 22nd — 9am & 11am**

**Fr. Kelly**

FR. BRIAN KELLY, PASTOR

## OFFERTORY

Current Year

Previous Year

10/1/2023:

10/2/2022:

\$17,111.50

\$16,994.27



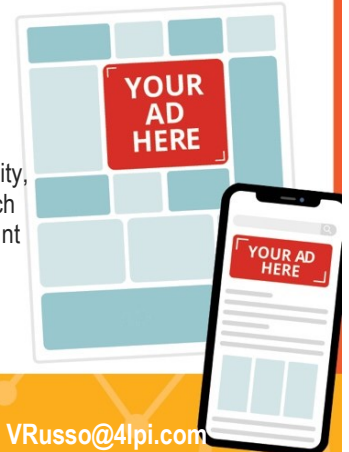
ONLINE GIVING

Always forgetting  
your envelopes?  
Switch to online giving:  
[stambroselatham.com/egiving](http://stambroselatham.com/egiving)

## AVAILABLE NOW! PRINT & DIGITAL AD SPACES

Build your business and help us grow a vibrant  
faith community!

Victoria Russo from LPi, our  
bulletin printer, will be securing  
new ads for our church in the  
coming weeks. As a valuable  
member of the business community,  
we invite you to expand your reach  
and grow your business with a print  
ad in our parish bulletin and/or a  
digital ad featured on  
[ParishesOnline.com](http://ParishesOnline.com).



Victoria Russo  
(216) 325-6825 x6283 [VRusso@4lpi.com](mailto:VRusso@4lpi.com)

## HAILEY'S CORNER



The Kingdom  
of Heaven was  
likened to a  
feast this week.  
Now THAT is a  
parable I can  
get behind!