



# *Saint* **AMBROSE**

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

**ROOTED IN CHRIST**

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



**32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Parents are teachers. I never really know how I'm doing as a parent, and often I feel like my parenting is "reactive" rather than "proactive"; that is to say that I feel like I'm reacting to the craziness happening around me rather than planning ahead. But as a parent I am a teacher and it's up to my wife and I to teach our five children the things that are going to make them good human beings.

Often we teach them skills that they need and that's important but I would argue that the biggest thing I want to teach them is wisdom.

What is wisdom? Think of it in this way...

We can teach them how to balance a checkbook but wisdom tells them whether or not they should spend their money in such and such a way.

I can teach them how they should relate to others but wisdom tells them if they should or should not pursue a relationship, if it's really best for them.

I can impose my own consequences if they do something wrong, but only wisdom will tell them if a choice really benefits their well-being or not.

In the Bible, there are whole books devoted to wisdom. These books include Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Job, Sirach, and Wisdom of Solomon. These books try to describe the truths of life. A book like Proverbs is written as advice a parent might give their children. For example, Proverbs 6:6-8 says *"Go to the ant, you lazybones; consider its ways, and be wise. Without having any chief or officer or ruler, it prepares its food in summer."* Life lessons can be gleaned from observing life. Proverbs reflects a worldview that seems to say "if you do the right thing, good things will happen to you."

But not all the books share that perspective. Job asks the question "well, what if bad things happen to people who do everything right?" Instead of offering a simple answer, the book of Job invites us to consider the reality of suffering in a great and large world that's governed by the mystery of God. It's good to read these books in light of each other and enter into the great dialogue of how we ought to live and think, how to relate to others, and how to relate to God.

Our first reading from Wisdom of Solomon imagines wisdom as a person that we ought to search for eagerly. The hope is that if we find the wise way to live we will live a better and happier life more in line with what God wants for us. Wisdom is seen as something greater than any earthly treasure because it gives us a way beyond a life fumbling around in uncertainty. When we find wisdom, we find peace.

Going back to my children, what am I preparing them for ultimately? On one level, I might be preparing them to be happy, productive adults. I hope also to prepare them to know and understand God's instructions and to live according to them. On another level (following our other Wisdom books), I should be preparing them to deal with life's unfairness or when life seems to reveal no purpose.

But is that it?

In our Gospel reading this Sunday, Jesus frames the wisdom debate differently. He sets the stakes even higher than the other authors of the wisdom books of the Old Testament. In this teaching, he forces us to think beyond our own flourishing or questions of fairness.

Jesus describes a scenario where ten virgins are out preparing to meet a groom. What's important for our understanding is that they eagerly want him to arrive. They might be attendants of his bride but it is to their benefit that he comes so they desire his coming. Only five of the virgins have brought oil for their lamps while the other five did not. The groom is delayed in his coming and the oil in their lamps is almost out. Only those virgins who were prepared with extra oil will be ready. Those who weren't will either miss him in going to buy more oil or otherwise be left in the dark. When they go off to buy more oil they have missed the groom and find themselves left out of the wedding feast.

In the parable, the groom is Jesus coming at the end of the world and the wedding feast is the great feast of heaven. The ten virgins are us and while some of us are awaiting him prepared, some of us are not. The mark of preparation is carrying oil, which St. Augustine thought symbolized charity, with good works. In other words, the parable is asking us if we are prepared for Jesus' coming. How is he going to find us? Will we be illuminated by good works? Will we be left in the dark? Will we rush for a last minute preparation like we would cram for an exam?

This is a different kind of wisdom. It forces us to consider living rightly not just in terms of human flourishing or even in light of life's unfairness. It asks us to consider our actions in light of Jesus who at the end will be our judge and who offers us heaven. The parable demands that we be prepared for this moment to happen at any time. If we live with this end in mind, we will not want to be shut out.

This perspective from our eternal end is the greatest thing I can give my children, to see things from the vantage point of heaven. Everything matters when seen from our final end.

-Tom Acemoglu

NOVEMBER 12, 2023

## Unveiling the Mystery of the Eucharist

Sundays from  
9:50a - 10:50a  
in the Chapel  
(Nov 5, 12, 19 and Dec 3)

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

### KEEP IN TOUCH

Website: [stambroselatham.com](http://stambroselatham.com)  
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*Are you receiving text and email notifications from St. Ambrose? Text the word **ambrose** to 84576 to opt in.*

## Mom's Group



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

**Next Meeting: December 3rd**

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

St. Ambrose, Latham, New York



**Friends in Faith  
Advent Supper Sharing  
Saturday, December 2, 2023  
(after 4 pm Mass)  
in the Parish Center**

**Do you have a favorite dish\* that you'd like to share, please bring it to the Parish Center before the 4 pm Mass.**

**Volunteers are needed to help set up the Parish Center, serve the food, and clean up after the event.**

**Sign-up sheets will be available at all the Masses in the pews. You can drop it in the collection basket after completion or drop it off at the Parish office.**

**If you have any questions, please contact Regina Brown, 518-785-1117, [southgatebrown61@gmail.com](mailto:southgatebrown61@gmail.com) or Kathy Roop, 518-598-2598, [rizzorizzo@aol.com](mailto:rizzorizzo@aol.com).**

**\*Please note-we do not have access to ovens. Please have your entrée preheated, and if possible, in disposable containers.**



**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.**

NOVEMBER 12, 2023

32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## 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](mailto:thomas.acemoglu@rcda.org) to join!

**Thursday November 30th, at Mater Christi Parish in Albany, Father Dan McHale will give a presentation on the Theology of Suffering from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm. The presentation will be followed by a Holy Hour with Adoration and Benediction, as well as Confessions from 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm.**

## 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.

FRIENDS IN FAITH meetings are scheduled every Tuesday, and are held in the parish center.

Call Mary Kay for more information  
(518-366-9741)



**Eucharistic  
Adoration**

**Wednesdays  
11:00 AM to 6:00 PM**

Eucharistic Revival  
2023

## PUBLICATION REQUEST



Do you have an event you want us to advertise, or an announcement you want us to share? We can help you get the word out through multiple platforms! Go to [stambroselatham.com](http://stambroselatham.com) and click on the button of the guy with the megaphone in the middle of the page. Then fill out a short form, and we do the rest.

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NOVEMBER 12, 2023

St. Ambrose, Latham, New York

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.



## MUSIC IN THE CHURCH BY BILL HAYES

### The Strife is O'er

"The Strife Is O'er" melody was written by Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525-1594) who was an Italian Renaissance composer most known for his sacred vocal works and innovations in polyphony (a musical setting with multiple voices performing independently,) Originally born as Giovanni Pierluigi, the composer acquired his full name through his village of birth, Palestrina, Italy. This village is located just outside of Rome, and the distinction was added to his name after working as a composer in Rome for a short time.

The Renaissance Era (A.D. 1400-1600) was a time of great experimentation, expansion, and formalization of Western classical music traditions. Composition masters of the era were responsible for serving as creative inspiration and codifying musical form and theory practices still utilized to this day. Composers in this period were Josquin des Prez (1450-1521), William Byrd (1543-1623), Orlando di Lasso (1532-1594) as well as Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina.

### The Strife is O'er Music by Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525-1594) Lyrics by Francis Pott (1832-1909)

Al - le - Al - le - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

1 The strife is o're, the bat - tle done. Now is the vic - tor's tri - umph  
2 On the Ris - en, morn Lord, he all rose praise to gain, thee, glo - rious from and our maj - es - ty set to us  
3 O the Ris - en, morn Lord, he all rose praise to gain, thee, glo - rious from and our maj - es - ty set to us

won. reign; free, O that let us song of praise be sung. Al - le - lu - ia!  
free, that we may live of the joy - ter - nal - ly!

NOVEMBER 12, 2023

## MASS INTENTIONS

**Saturday, November 11th — 4pm**

**Fr. Kelly**

Chester Roberts  
Frederick & Virginia Alston  
Paul Van Alstyne Sr.  
Connie Morrell  
Billy Whalen  
Intentions of Richard Irwin

**Sunday, November 12th — 9am**

**Fr. Kelly**

Carmen Gentile Sr.  
Ralph Pascasio  
Sal Sestito  
Donald Lebentritt  
Thanksgiving for Favors Granted

**Sunday, November 12th — 11am**

**Fr. Kelly**

Roland Marsolais  
Fred Hillicoss  
Maria & Antonio Monardo  
Comito Pugliese  
Jerry Allen  
Joseph and Loretta Hogan

**Monday, November 13th — 12:10pm**

**Fr. Kelly**

Intentions of John Carl  
Mary Deasy

**Tuesday, November 14th — 12:10pm**

**Fr. Kelly**

Roy Seipel  
John & Adele Mizwa

**Wednesday, November 15th — 12:10pm**

**Fr. Kelly**

Martin Henry Connolly  
Julie Amedio

**Thursday, November 16th — 12:10pm**

**Fr. Kelly**

Robert & Katherine Langdon  
Frederick & Virginia Alston  
Gregory Sorrentino  
Judy Hart

## WHO'S PRESIDING NEXT WEEKEND?

**All Masses on November 18th & 19th**

**Fr. Kelly**

FR. BRIAN KELLY, PASTOR

## OFFERTORY

Current Year

Previous Year

10/29/2023:

10/30/2022:

**\$14,577.60**

**\$13,947.50**



ONLINE GIVING

Always forgetting  
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## HAILEY'S CORNER



God gives us all  
different gifts  
and blessings.  
Be thankful for  
what you have,  
instead of  
letting the  
"comparison  
game" rob you  
of your joy.