

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 salatham@rcda.org

RECONCILIATION IN THE CHAPEL: WEDNESDAYS 5PM — 6PM & SATURDAYS 2:30PM — 3:30PM



THE ASSUMPTION OF THE
Blessed Virgin Mary

Before reflecting on the readings, I wanted to put out a plea for help:

We need people from our community to step forward to become catechists for our youth. A catechist is a teacher of the faith. They teach the Bible and doctrine and try to help kids apply them to their everyday lives. A catechist instructs kids how to pray and how to see the world in light of God's Kingdom.

In my experience, next to no one feels equipped or qualified to teach the faith to others. This isn't true! If you are reading this, you have come to Church on Saturday or Sunday and have a lived experience of the faith. You know something of prayer, praying along with our ancient rites and rituals which are full of sound teaching. You know far more than you realize.

Also, there is learning in the doing. We might think that we should have all the knowledge before we teach but this isn't so. The materials we use speaks first to us, then the kids. **You will learn so much about our faith by teaching it.** We will give you guidance, you won't have to do it alone.

Time is a factor. All of our volunteers need to go through background screenings before working with our kids and that would have to happen now before we start in September.

Our community of young families need you. So many of our beloved and busy young families do not usually make it to Mass but they *do* send their children to faith formation. If you've wanted to impact Catholics who are good but don't always go to Church, this is an unbelievably impactful way of doing it. **This is an investment into the future of our Church. If we do not build up our young families, what future does our Church have?**

Please don't wait for someone else to step up. If you feel even remotely open to this, contact me and we can talk about it. My work number is 518-785-1351 x307. My email is thomas.acemoglu@rcda.org.

"Faith is the realization of what is hoped for and evidence of things not seen." (Heb 11:1, New American Bible)

"Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." (Heb 11:1, New Revised Standard Version)

"Faith is the substance of things to be hoped for, the evidence of things that appear not." (Heb 11:1 Douay-Rheims Version).

What is faith? Is faith a catalog of beliefs that we hold to be true? Or is it something deeper?

Each of the versions of our second reading quoted above translate the Greek *hupostasis* differently: "realization", "assurance", "substance". At first glance, I don't think they quite clarify what "faith" is according to the Letter to the Hebrews.

If faith is a "realization", it either means that it's made real in our mind (which is subjective and personal) or it's made real in our lives (which is a little more objective and concrete or able to be observed by others).

If faith is an "assurance", then it's something that influences us and gives us confidence. It might be a proof that we see that convinces us or an argument that convinces us that it is so.

If we look at faith as "substance", it might seem even more vague to us. In the 1st century *hupostasis* could mean "objective reality" or "basis". By the 4th century, theologians would take it to mean an "individual reality", as in the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are each an *hupostasis* of the One God.

I don't think any of that helps much when trying to figure out what "faith" means for us in our daily lives so I would propose this:

Faith is living your life in such a way that you hold God's existence and his promises to be true. Our second reading uses Abraham as the example of this. From the moment God tells him to leave his home and go to the Promised Land and says that he and his barren and equally elderly wife would become parents, Abraham organizes his entire life presuming that God was there and would keep his promise. He stumbles along the way, but he ultimately believes that God is going to keep his end of the bargain.

Faith is walking with God even when things don't make sense. I'll take it a step further: faith can also be living like God is real, his promises are true, and his commandments are right even if you don't have it all sorted out in your head. In this way, I think someone who might have personal doubts about an article of faith can still live their lives as though they were true and still demonstrate faith. Imagine a martyr who dies in the name of Jesus who might not have all the theology sorted out in their head. At the end, the life that they offered becomes the supreme testimony to God and I would argue that this is faith.

If you don't understand everything in the Bible or every Church teaching, you can still live like it is true and demonstrate faith, allowing our unseen God to do his part while we try our best. -Tom Acemoglu



OUTDOOR MASS ASSISTANCE

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN!

OUR 9AM SUNDAY OUTDOOR MASS IS UPON US, AND THAT MEANS WE NEED A DEDICATED TEAM OF VOLUNTEERS TO HELP SET UP AND BREAKDOWN EACH WEEK.

PLEASE CONTACT TOM HEALY
(TH91769@GMAIL.COM) OR THE PARISH OFFICE FOR MORE INFO OR TO SIGN UP.

PARISH PICNIC DONATIONS REQUESTED

Harvest FESTIVAL

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14TH
FROM 12:00-2:00 PM

347 LOUDON ROAD, LATHAM

LIVE MUSIC * GAMES * FOOD

IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ST. AMBROSE HARVEST FESTIVAL ON SEPTEMBER 14TH, WE'LL BE ACCEPTING DONATIONS OF SOME RELIGIOUS ARTICLES. AS IN PAST YEARS, THERE WILL BE A DISPLAY OF RELIGIOUS ITEMS THAT WILL BE FREE FOR THE TAKING. WE ARE LIMITING DONATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING (GENTLY USED) ITEMS, ONLY: ROSARIES; STATUES; RELIGIOUS MEDALS; CRUCIFIXES/CROSSES & FRAMED RELIGIOUS PICTURES. WE HAVE MANY SCAPULARS, PRAYER CARDS & PAMPHLETS LEFT OVER FROM LAST YEAR SO KINDLY REFRAIN FROM DONATING THOSE ITEMS.

WE ARE UNABLE TO ACCEPT BIBLES, BOOKS, CD'S OR DVD'S.

DONATIONS MAY BE DROPPED OFF AT CHURCH FROM AUGUST 16TH THROUGH AUGUST 31ST. PLEASE PLACE DONATIONS IN THE COLLECTION BINS THAT WILL BE LOCATED BY ALL CHURCH ENTRANCES. ANY QUESTIONS MAY BE DIRECTED TO **NANCY HOOLEY AT 518-783-3411**. THANK YOU IN ADVANCE!



Pilgrims of Hope...Disciples on Mission

Diocesan Jubilee Gathering

Saturday, September 20, 2025—8:30 AM to 2PM
St. Matthew's Church
25 Mountainview Street, Voorheesville, NY 12186



As the Jubilee Year 2025 draws to a close, and as our diocese begins the "ReMade for Mission" initiative, it seems fitting to gather "to fan the flame of hope...and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and far-sighted vision." (Pope Francis, Letter for the Jubilee 2025)

All parishioners, pastors, associate pastors, parish life directors/coordinators, trustees, pastoral councils, finance councils, and leaders of parish ministries will benefit from this day of prayer and inspiration as we embark on this time of visionary discernment for our diocese. As Pope Benedict XVI said, we are all "co-responsible for the Church's being and action!"



Fr. Frank is a member of the Immaculate Conception Province of the Society of the Catholic Apostolate. He is Founding Director of the Catholic Apostolate Center and Executive Director of the Conference of Major Superiors of Men of the United States.

Fr. Frank works regularly with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Catholic organizations, religious communities, and dioceses on aspects of evangelization, co-responsibility and collaboration in ministry and apostolate, Church leadership and management, and pastoral planning.

Keynote: Pilgrims of Hope – Disciples on Mission
Being a disciple of Christ on mission today calls us to be pilgrims of hope in the Church and in the world. We are following Christ ourselves, but we are also sent by him to accompany people to a deeper life in him in the community of faith, the Church. This keynote address will focus on the aspects of what it means to be a pilgrim of hope and a disciple on mission, how we are called by our Baptism to go forth, spreading the Good News, and leading others to a fuller life of faith.

Session 2: Living as Missionary Disciples: Remade for Mission
Inspired by the teachings of the Second Vatican Council and the popes of the last sixty years, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has developed a guide for pastoral planning called *Living as Missionary Disciples: A Resource for Evangelization*. The Catholic Apostolate Center provided extensive consultation on this document. Fr. Frank will present on the theological and spiritual background of the document and offer ways in which the methods and principles from it can be implemented, especially as the Diocese of Albany embarks on the Remade for Mission process.

The Day Includes...

- Coffee - Check-in- Welcome
- Morning Prayer led by Bishop Ed
- Keynote
- Break
- Morning Session 2
- Lunch
- Synodal Listening Session & Sharing



~ There is no cost for the day ~

Coffee Service and Box Lunches provided.

See registration for details.

To register: <https://webapps.rcda.org/ParishFaithFormation/>
Or call the Office for Discipleship Formation: 518- 453-6670




OPEN HANDS MINISTRY

Open Hands Ministry



LUNCH & SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE!

When: Saturday, August 23, 2025

Time: 12:30 - 1:30 pm

Place: Stillman Park in Cohoes

To donate lunch items, please go to bit.ly/476fZpp or scan the QR code!



School supplies can be left in the bin in the Parish Center by August 23!

Items needed:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| composition notebooks | pink erasers |
| back packs | colored pencils |
| 1" - 3 ring binders | crayola markers |
| #2 pencils | 24 count crayola crayons |
| glue sticks | kleenex |
| small safety scissors | headphones/earbuds |
| expo black dry erase makers | |



MUSIC IN THE CHURCH BY BILL HAYES: HOW GREAT THOU ART

How Great Thou Art is a well-loved hymn, originally written as a Swedish hymn in 1885 by Carl Boberg (1859-1940) under the original German title "O Store Gud" (O Great God). It was later translated to Russian, when it was then first heard by Stuart K. Hind, a British Methodist minister who was on a missionary trip in the Ukraine in 1931. Hind translated the song to English from Russian and added a 3rd verse in 1949, inspired by the villager's repentance. ("And when I think that God, his son, not sparing, sent him to die, I scarce can take it in.") Hind later added the 4th verse which was inspired by displaced Russians who were longing to see their loved ones in heaven. ("When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation, and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart.")

The hymn was recorded by George Beverly Shea (of the Billy Graham Crusade), Elvis Presley (who received a Grammy award for his recording), and more recently by Carrie Underwood. Today, it remains as one of the more popular Catholic funeral hymns, as it celebrates in the beauty of nature and the power of God. I remember Fr. Frank DuBois telling me he held this hymn with a special significance.

(Verse 1) O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder, Consider all the worlds Thy Hands have made; I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, Thy power throughout the universe displayed. ***(Refrain)*** Then sings my soul. My Savior God to thee. How great thou art, how great thou art.

MOM'S GROUP

Mom's Group



Whether you're a new mom or have years of experience, this group offers a wonderful chance to connect with other Catholic moms in our parish.

On summer break - back in September

For more information, please contact Jennifer at 518-573-6673 (jennifer.pfoltzer@gmail.com).

CAREPORTAL UPDATE

In July, we responded to 14 requests, assisting 25 children and their families. The list of items was lengthy in July, with a big thank you to all of you who continue to respond to the CarePortal requests that are received. We provided the following items, multiple full and twin bed frames and mattresses, bedding (sheets, comforters, and pillows) kitchen items (dishes, silverware, cutlery, drinking glasses, mixing and serving bowls, toaster, microwave, pots and pans, canister set, knives), towels and wash clothes, hygiene and cleaning products, baby items (clothes, a safety door, double stroller), clothes and sneakers for adults and children, a mailbox, and a grocery gift card.

With school starting in September, we will probably be asked to provide more back to school clothes and supplies. Anyone who isn't enrolled in the CarePortal, and would like to help with this ministry, just reach out to the office or Renee Hallock, rhallock76@gmail.com.

SAINT VINCENT DEPAUL UPDATE

In July we provided assistance to help pay for a medical bill, a security and rent deposit, moving expenses, a grocery card and stays at motels. The total was \$5,200. Assistance is provided by the generosity of those who donate funds in the Saint Vincent DePaul boxes located in the church and chapel. Thanks to those who contribute so we can continue to help those in need.

OPEN HANDS SERVICE MINISTRY

In July, in collaboration with Holy Trinity and St. Michael's churches we prepared 150 sandwiches for children and families who attended the Lansing Park pool in Cohoes. While the total number of sandwiches provided was less than the 150, all remaining sandwiches were shared with families residing at the Monte Mario Motel here in Latham, the residents at Ashfield Apartments, and Schenectady City Mission. We were also able to provide them with small bags of hygiene products (toothbrush and paste, deodorant, soap, shampoo/conditioner) The weather provided us with a wonderful afternoon to start this ministry, and the families were so appreciative. We will be making sandwich lunches again this month on August 23, 2025, and anyone interested in helping with supplies are asked to use the QR code in the bulletin, or reach out to Renee Hallock, rhallock76@gmail.com. We will look to provide school supplies as well this month.

HELPING HANDS MINISTRY



If you need assistance go to:

stambroselatham.com/hh

Please contact us if you could use a ride to Mass:

- 12:10 Monday through Friday
- 4:30pm Saturday
- 9 & 11am Sunday
- Monday – The Rosary is said in the Chapel after Mass
- Wednesday – Adoration & Confession after Mass

“For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good work, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”

Ephesians 2:10

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY



WE NEED MORE MOWERS AND TRIMMERS TO HELP WITH MAINTAINING THE PROPERTY. IF YOU CAN HELP, CONTACT TOM HEALY AT 518-894-1237 OR TH91769@GMAIL.COM

FAMILY FUN

Sunday Funday

August 24th, 2025

Join the Latham Colonie Knights of Columbus at "The Joe"!

The Valley Cats will be playing the "Joliet Slammers"!

Gates open at 3:30 PM, Game begins at 5:00 PM.

Reserved Premium Box Seats for \$11 each!

*Seats are the 1st two rows behind the Valley Cats Dugout!

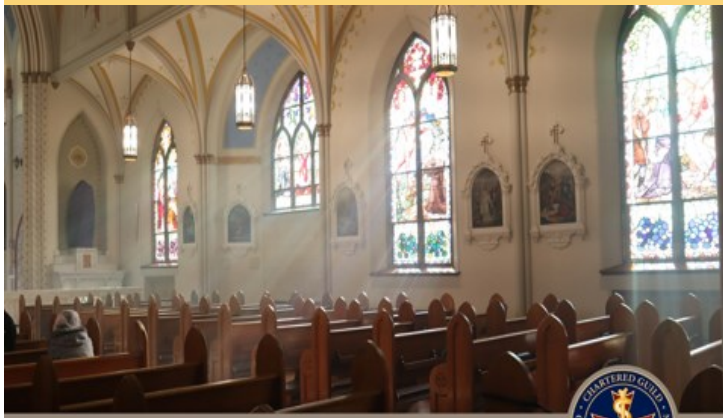
Tickets need to be prepaid and will be available for pickup one week before the game at the Social Parlor. 20 tickets available, get yours today!

//Latham-coloniekofc.com/dinners-events or

518 783 0572 for information.

www.latham-coloniekofc.com

CONFERENCE



Living by the Light:

Gender Dysphoria:

Justice and Compassionate Care

Please join us for our annual Catholic Professionals Conference and Mini-Retreat: Living by the Light at the National Shrine of the North American Martyrs in Auriesville, NY.

Our conference theme is: *Gender Dysphoria: Justice and Compassionate Care*

The morning professional program will explore the medical, legal, and theological dimensions of gender dysphoria, featuring expert presentations and Q&A sessions. The afternoon mini-retreat will include a pilgrimage walk, rosary, and reflection on Christian hope. The day will conclude with opportunities for Eucharistic Adoration, Confession, and Mass.

LEARN MORE & REGISTER:

STBERNARDS.BEGLFOX.COM/LIVING-BY-THE-LIGHT-2025

AUGUST 23RD, 8:30AM - 5:00PM

NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE NORTH AMERICAN MARTYRS IN AURIESVILLE, NY



PRAYER OPPORTUNITY



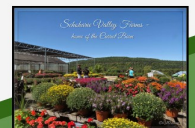
Parishioner Marie Hillicoss will be traveling to Fatima and Lourdes between September 13-22. She would be happy to bring prayer intentions to either and or both sites. If you are interested, seal the requests in an envelope with the location you would like them delivered to and mail them to M Hillicoss 28 Crisafulli Dr., Albany NY 12205 to arrive to her no later than September 11.

BUS TRIP



SENIOR LUNCH BUS

Wednesday, September 17th
11:00 am - 4:00 pm



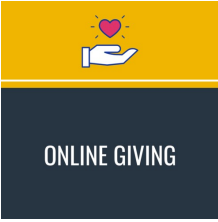
Join us for a delectable lunch at the Raindancer Restaurant in Amsterdam, NY followed by shopping and browsing at the Carrot Barn at Schoharie Farms.

FOR MEAL CHOICES, REGISTRATION & DETAILS

WWW.STPIUSXLOUDONVILLE.ORG/SENIOR-EVENTS

OFFERTORY

<i>Current Year</i>	<i>Previous Year</i>
<u>7/20/2025:</u>	<u>7/19/2024:</u>
\$13,996.05	\$12,669.80



Always forgetting
your envelopes?
Switch to online giving:

JOB OPPORTUNITY

WE'RE HIRING!

**Christ Our Light Church
Faith Formation & Youth Ministry
Part-Time Flex Position**

Do you have a heart for youth and a desire to help them grow in their faith?

We're looking for enthusiastic, faith-filled individuals to join our vibrant Faith Formation team! This hourly position offers the opportunity to make a lasting impact while working with a supportive ministry community.

Pay range: \$19-\$21/hour

For more information, contact Kari in the Faith Formation office: 518-459-6635 x105
kari.kurtz@rcda.org



We'd love to have you on our team!

MARRIAGE JUBILEE

**ANNUAL DIOCESAN
MARRIAGE JUBILEE MASS**

(For couples celebrating their 1st, 25th, 50th, or any special anniversary)

with Bishop Edward B. Scharfenberger
will be held

Sunday, September 14th, 2025
3 PM Liturgy with Reception

at

Christ Our Light Catholic Church
1 Maria Drive, Loudonville, New York



There will be opportunity for photos with Bishop during reception

Questions can be directed to:

518-453-6660

Marriage.Jubilee@rcda.org

Sponsored by the Office for Discipleship Formation

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, August 9— 4pm

Fr. Kelly

- † Timothy Butler
- † Donna Penk
- † Agnes T. Pero
- † Louis Lent
- † Martha Morris
- † Edward Skawinski

Sunday, August 10— 9am

Fr. Kelly

- † Annette Q. Davis
 - † Paul Trzcinski
 - † Ellen Daly
 - † Catherine Kolach
- For the intentions of Robert Styczynski*
- † Donna Green

Sunday, August 10— 11 am

Fr. Kelly

- † K.A Jose
- † Rich Ostiguy
- † Linda Judge Junco
- † Jack Spronz
- † Arturo & Yolenda Figliomeni

Monday, August 11 — 12:10 pm

Fr. Kelly

† Tony Cuccurullo

Tuesday, August 12 — 12:10 pm

Fr. Gorenski

Pray for Saint Ambrose

Wednesday, August 13— 12:10 pm

Fr. Gorenski

Pray for Saint Ambrose

Thursday, August 14— 12:10 pm

Fr. Gorenski

**For the intentions of
Joseph Reginald Godfrey**

WHO'S PRESIDING NEXT WEEKEND?

August 16th and 17th — All Masses — Fr. Kelly