

***We are a Catholic community of faith centered on Jesus Christ, who is everything for us.***  
Parish Mission Statement

### Our Core Values

Catechesis & Conversion ♦ Care & Compassion ♦ Community Life ♦ Collaboration ♦ Celebration

## St. Ambrose

929 Pearl Road  
Brunswick, OH 44212  
Parish Office: 330-225-3116  
Parish Fax: 330-220-1748  
School: 330-225-2116  
School Fax: 330-225-5425  
Website: www.StAmbrose.us

### Liturgy Schedule

Daily Mass: 8:15 am and 5:30 pm  
Saturday: 8:15 am, Vigil Mass 4:30 pm  
Sunday: 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am, 12:00 pm & 5:00 pm  
Holy Day Schedule: Vigil Mass 7:00 pm  
Holy Day: 8:15 am, 12:00 pm & 7:00 pm  
Confessions: Saturday 3:30 pm - 4:00 pm or by appointment

### Parish Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 9:00 am - 9:00 pm (until 8:00 pm in the summer)  
Friday 9:00 am - 6:00 pm  
Saturday 9:00 am - 6:00 pm (until 4:00 pm in the summer)  
Sunday 9:00 am - 1:30 pm

### Pastoral Staff

To reach staff personnel during non-office hours, dial the extension number (listed on the right), when you hear the automated attendant.

Fr. Bob Stec .....Pastor ..... 222  
Fr. Greg Olszewski .....Parochial Vicar ..... 224  
Deacon Clem Belter ..... Deacon ..... 330-225-3116  
Deacon Gary Tomazic ..... Deacon ..... 330-225-3116  
Deacon Thomas Sheridan ..... Deacon ..... 230  
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Lucy McFarland ..... Director of Development ..... 278  
Christine Bopp ..... School Principal ..... 330-225-2116

### Support Staff

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Bob Howski ..... Maintenance ..... 330-225-3116

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# A Note from our Pastor

Dear St. Ambrose Parish Community,

Welcome to our St. Ambrose Guide Book and Directory. I hope and pray that our parish community will continue to grow closer to our Lord Jesus Christ as we share our time, talent and treasure in building up the Kingdom of God. As you look through the Guide Book, you will see the many opportunities to grow closer to Jesus through our ministries. We offer something for everyone in our parish and I pray that you will consider taking part in at least one of the ministries offered here to help you grow in your faith and love for our God, church and community.

Know that you are always welcome here at St. Ambrose. You and your families are in my prayers. I praise God for you and our parish community.

God Bless,

Father Bob Stec

## Community Life Parish Life

*Live in Harmony with one another*  
Romans 12:16

### **Athletic Boosters/CYO**

Contacts: DeeDee Koenig..... 330-483-1018  
ddkoenig@zoominternet.net  
Mary Beth Halloran..... 330-273-0639  
mhal14@aol.com

The purpose of the St. Ambrose Athletic Boosters is to provide an opportunity for parish children to participate in sports programs in a Christian atmosphere. The Boosters finance to the best of our ability, and expand all sports programs, when and where feasible. Financing is done through membership fees, participation fees, fundraisers, donations, grants and other available sources.

Booster meetings are held the 1st Monday of each month at 7:00 pm. There are many opportunities to help with coaching, fundraising and administrative work. Anyone looking to promote athletic endeavors, in a Christian atmosphere, with the best interest of our children, is invited. All coaches must be CYO and VIRTUS trained, as well as fingerprinted.

The Boosters sponsor CYO Football, Volleyball, Cheerleading, Basketball, Baseball and Fast pitch Softball for students in grades 4-8. We also sponsor high school CYO volleyball and basketball. The athletic seasons are as follows: Fall sports run August - November; Winter sports run November - March; and Spring sports run March - May.

Our annual fundraiser, Night at the Races, will be held on November 7, 2009.

### **Bingo**

Contact: Michele Sumner ..... 330-225-3116 x235  
msumner@stambrose.us

St. Ambrose Bingo takes place every Friday night in Hilkert Hall. Doors open at 5:00 pm and Bingo starts at 7:00 pm. There are many volunteer opportunities available with flexible hours. Some volunteers help early in the evening; others arrive later. Most volunteer one Friday a month. Bingo is a vital part in supporting the parish. We welcome all friendly, outgoing individuals who want to meet new people and get a little exercise! St. Ambrose Bingo — the friendliest game in town!

### **Busy Bees**

Contact: Kathy Ford..... 330-273-2486  
songtosing2002@yahoo.com

The Busy Bees are a group of on-call and dedicated parishioners who support the parish, school, front office, and any ministry who needs extra help.

### **Donut/Social Sunday**

Contacts: Norm & Harriet Cerny..... 330-225-9489  
Kathy Ford..... 330-273-2486  
songtosing2002@yahoo.com

Our group brings our parish family and friends together once a month on designated Sundays. It's a wonderful time for socializing, welcoming our community, sponsoring events and introducing various ministries. We serve refreshments and welcome bakery donations.

Time commitment is flexible for volunteers. We are looking for friendly people to join our team to help out monthly at our Donut Sundays!

**Health and Wellness Committee**

Contacts: Drs. Nick and Janét Husser ..... 330-460-5151  
optimumhealthchiro@yahoo.com

The mission of the Parish Health and Wellness Committee is to bring community health resources to St. Ambrose. We serve parishioners by organizing informational health talks, hosting health conscious events, and by encouraging everyone to live a healthy and holy life to their fullest God-given potential.

Monthly meetings are held at Lehner Center. Please refer to the bulletin, in the **“Wellness Corner”** section for the dates and times of our meetings. We ask that you email us if you are interested in attending an upcoming meeting, that way we can contact you to remind you about the meetings.

The group’s leader spends about 5-hours a week in this ministry, while volunteers commit an hour or two per week. We are looking for individuals with some type of healthcare training, although this is not a requirement. If health is a priority to you and your family, then this is a great committee to be involved with.

Our biggest event is the Health & Wellness Fair. Duties involve securing vendors, offering health screenings, and marketing of the event to the parishioners and community. Our Walking Club is in its second year and is held from May through October for parishioners and their families and friends to participate in. These dates and times are always posted in the bulletin with our **“Wellness Corner”** section.

**Pro-Life Group**

Contact: Kris Koch ..... 330-225-0258  
kris@numnum.net

Are you passionate about pro-life issues? Be part of our group. We promote awareness of the sanctity and value of human life from conception until natural death. For example, we gave baby bottles to the Day School families. The money-filled bottles helped the Oaks Family Care Center located in Brunswick to assist newborns and mothers in need. We meet monthly as posted in the bulletin.

**Relay for Life**

Contact: Shari Whisler ..... 330-225-6962  
swhisler@roadrunner.com

Our group represents the Saint Ambrose Parish at the Brunswick Relay for Life, held at Brunswick High School in early June. We help to raise awareness for the American Cancer Society in our community, as well as raise funds in support of ACS.

We meet several times a year to organize various fundraisers, such as bake sales, car washes, salad days and supply kits for the day school, and Daffodil Days sales. We are always looking for compassionate, creative people who, in one way or another, have had their lives affected by cancer.

**SAS+**

Contacts: Helen Sheridan ..... 330-225-3116 x230  
hsheridan@stambrose.us  
Pixie Blake  
faba1228@yahoo.com

St. Ambrose Adults 50 & older gather and provide monthly coffee socials on the first Wednesday of each month from 9:00 am - 11:00 am in Hilkert Hall, Rooms 1 through 3. Opportunity to have lots of fun, meet new people and participate in the various events and activities provided.

A variety of educational, spiritual, social and service projects are offered throughout the year. We accommodate off-site trips and dances. We are always in need of those who would like to volunteer and help out when needed.

**Stewardship Committee**

Contact: Lucy McFarland ..... 330-225-3116 x278  
lmcfarland@stambrose.us

The Stewardship Committee develops a yearly plan to educate parishioners about the meaning and spirituality of stewardship. We are forming a long-range plan for parishioners to have the opportunity to share their time, talent and treasure with the parish community, the communities where we live, and the charities that are dear to our hearts. Specifically, the Stewardship Committee plans the Ministry Fair and coordinates the efforts of Stewardship Assembly Day that will be held yearly in September. Stewardship calls to action for all to reflect on how you spend your time, how you use and share your talents and how and what you do with your treasures to help build up the Kingdom of God.

**Website**

Contact: Jim Maslach ..... 440-785-9838  
maslachj@verizon.net, webmaster@stambrose.us

The purpose of the website is to help people find a church home, to assist the existing parishioners on the different ministries and activities, and to help all of us to grow spiritually by providing additional resources that complement our faith and love for Jesus Christ.

The time commitment is minimal. There are the occasional daily updates for different ministry groups. About once a week information is uploaded, eBlasts are developed and distributed. This takes approximately 3-manhours. During the week, it is possible to spend approximately 1-2 man-hours with minor updates and changes.

To work with the Website, you should be: creative; familiar with Website development (HTML, PHP, etc); have a love of Christ and a willingness to share the Good News.



**Welcoming Committee**

Contact: Lucy McFarland ..... 330-225-3116 x278  
lmcfarland@stambrose.us

This committee provides a warm and hospitable welcome into our Parish community for new parishioners. Committee members extend a personal welcome and are available to answer any questions new parishioners may have at a Welcome Gathering reception.

Welcome Gatherings are generally held six times during the year to welcome all new parishioners to St. Ambrose! A Mass for new members is held at the 4:30 pm Mass on a designated Saturday. Following Mass, there is a Welcome Gathering dinner reception for the new parishioners. If you love meeting and talking to new people, we'd love for you to join us to help welcome new parishioners to St. Ambrose!

**Women's Guild**

Contact: Joanne Lynch ..... 440-268-0603

Women's Guild is a service and fellowship organization of the ladies of the parish. We offer assistance to the pastor in parish activities. Our group promotes friendly relations among all members of our parish, by furthering the cause of religion, education and social service in our community. Our members have a willingness to work with others.

Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm in Lehner Center, and last 1½ to 2 hours. We do not meet in January, February or July. We offer timely speakers and our activities are designed to be educational and social while fostering fellowship within our parish community. Prayer and refreshments are always included.

**Care and Compassion  
Social Concerns**

*In everything, do to others as you would have them do to you.*  
Matthew 7:12

**Annulments**

Contact: Sister Donna Marie Bradesca ... 330-225-3116 x238  
srdonnamarie@stambrose.us

Persons who have married in the Catholic Church and are now divorced are welcome to have their circumstances heard and evaluated in a totally confidential manner in order to ascertain whether or not an annulment of the marriage is possible.

Individuals are welcome to make an appointment for this interview.

**Catholic Works of Mercy**

Contact: Jeff Trush ..... 440-554-6277  
jtrush@us.ibm.com

Our ministry helps the people in need within our parish community boundaries, regardless of age, race or creed.

We meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month, from 6:30 pm-8:30 pm in the upstairs library in Lehner Center. The time commitment for this ministry is about 12 hours a month. Special events that our ministry helps with on an annual basis are Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas food distribution, as well as the Kindness Pine Tree at Christmas time.

We are looking for people who have a positive attitude about helping others in need, and the ability to do it confidentially.

**Catholic Works of Mercy Prison Ministry**

Contact: Jeff Trush ..... 440-554-6277  
jtrush@us.ibm.com

Our ministry helps the incarcerated with needs varying from spiritual material, reading material and clothing. We also assist the incarcerated person's family with food, medical, and other household bills. At Christmastime, we also supply gifts for the incarcerated and their families.

We hold quarterly meetings which are held in the Lehner Center. Volunteers can expect to spend about 4 hours a month helping with this ministry. Members of our group must have a heart for forgiveness and compassion, as well as an attitude of helping others in need, and the ability to do it confidentially.

**Funeral Luncheons**

Contact: Marian Swansinger ..... 330-225-3987

When our parishioners experience the death of a family member, we like to offer families the option of having a luncheon here at St. Ambrose, for a minimal charge, after the funeral service. Volunteers are needed to serve, cleanup and to provide the side dishes. Many hands make for light work. This is another compassionate way of expressing support to parishioners in their time of need.

**Good Samaritan**

Contact: Gladys Kemski ..... 330-225-4783  
pakemski@aol.com

We are Eucharistic Ministers who bring Holy Communion to the homebound. We visit those who cannot get to Church due to illness, age or recouping after surgery. We pray and visit with them.

We meet the first Wednesday of each month. Our meetings last 1 to 1½ hours. Volunteers should expect to spend 20 to 45 minutes for each visit, excluding travel time. We host the parish's All Soul's Day Memorial Mass each year on November 2nd.

Good Samaritans are compassionate, good listeners who are committed to the parish community. We know that what we hear is confidential and not to be repeated, except to a priest upon occasion when necessary.

**Living with Cancer Prayer Group**

Contact: Aimee Sullivan ..... 440-552-5777  
livingwithcancer2009@yahoo.com

Our ministry brings together people who are touched by cancer, whether they are the caregiver, survivor, family member, or friend and together we share prayer, support, and hope. Refreshments are served too.

The Living with Cancer Prayer Group meets on the first Saturday of each month at 9:30 am and usually lasts for an hour or an hour and a half.

**Ministry of Consolation**

Contacts: Monica Kortan..... 330-225-7843  
monicak1@roadrunner.com

**Funeral Liturgy Planning**

Contact: Marion Kovacs..... 330-721-1826  
tmkovacs@zoominternet.net

The Ministry of Consolation provides compassion, help, understanding, and spiritual support to families who have suffered the loss of a loved one. We offer to assist the family with funeral liturgy, and continued support through our bereavement programs. Our Ministry meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month in Lehner Center from 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm.

The bereavement program helps to provide comfort and support to those grieving through the use of prayer, music, coping measures, and understanding the pain associated with the loss of a loved one. The series is presented several times throughout the year. In addition, a Holiday Grief program is offered in November. Following the series we continue with ongoing support with monthly meetings of our "Companions on the Journey" group as we travel along the road to healing. These meetings are on the last Tuesday of the month from 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm.

**Mission Outreach**

Contacts: Father Bob Stec ..... 330-225-3116 x222  
frbob@stambrose.us  
Jake Bihari ..... 330-225-3116  
jbihari@stambrose.us

In December 2006, St. Ambrose pioneered a mission trip to Higüey, Dominican Republic. We partnered with a poor community devastated by hurricanes and began helping them rebuild. Since then, over 150 people have traveled to Higüey every June and December to build a community center, a school, a chicken coop, establish a water system, hook up electricity, and bring much-needed food and supplies to our brothers and sisters in Christ. This lasting relationship has made a difference in the lives of people both in Higüey and right here in Brunswick.

St. Ambrose parishioners have generously supported our mission outreach through prayers, financial donations, and the donations of clothing, toys and building supplies. Thank you for your generosity!

**Prayer List**

Contact: Connie Smalley ..... 330-225-9236  
diccon73@verizon.net

This ministry allows parishioners to reach out and ask for prayers for those whom they feel are in need of them. We are looking for compassionate people willing to help us.

There are no meetings to attend, as everything is done by phone or email. Time commitment on a weekly basis can be one hour to 3 or 4 hours, depending on length of phone calls.

**Prayer Shawl Ministry**

Contact: Maureen Calvillo ..... 330-273-3120

We knit or crochet prayer shawls and lap throws for those that are ill. We also make white afghans for babies or others being baptized.

Throughout the year, our pieces are brought to church where they are blessed. An example of the blessing that is included with a shawl is: "Compassionate God, bless the person for whom this shawl has been so lovingly created. May this shawl be a reminder of your presence in their life. May this shawl bring love and light, hope and joy."

We meet on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month, from 10:30 am - 12:30 pm. If you know how to knit or crochet, and are looking for a meaningful way to put your skills to use, please join us!

**Social Justice Commission**

Contact: Scott Hodan ..... 330-220-1262  
hodanassoc@aol.com

The Ministry of our Social Justice Commission applies Catholic social teachings to everyday life. We attempt to make a difference in the lives of our neighbors by sharing our unique talents and abilities. All are welcome, especially those with a strong desire to transform our world with kindness, compassion, justice and mercy.

This ministry is action-oriented with meetings only as necessary. Some of our current active projects include the Community Meal, Employment Networking and Habitat for Humanity. Monthly community meals are designed to provide fellowship and support for those in need. Employment networking helps job seekers make connections and build relationships. Habitat for Humanity builds affordable housing in partnership with people in need.



# Celebrating Music

*Worship the Lord with gladness; Come into His presence with singing.*  
Psalm 100:2

### Music

Contact: Julie Brown ..... 330-225-3116 x239  
jbrown@stambrose.us

**Music Ministry Cantors:** The cantor leads the congregation in song. Cantors rehearse on the first Monday of the month. Cantors are assigned to sing 2 - 3 Sundays a month. Based upon availability, cantors are also assigned to sing for all extra holy days, including: Christmas, Easter, All Saints' Day, etc.

**Music Ministry Choir:** The choir sings weekly at the 10:30 am Sunday Mass from September through June. (We are looking to expand a group to the Noon Mass and 4:30 pm Vigil Mass too.) The choir also sings for holidays, including: Christmas, Easter, All Saints' Day, etc. Rehearsals are on Wednesdays from 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm September through June.

**Music Ministry Instrumentalists:** The instrumentalists rehearse with the choir on Wednesdays from 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm and play at the 9:00 am, 10:30 am or 12:00 pm Masses on Sundays from September through June. Instrumentalists also play for holidays, including: Christmas, Easter, All Saints' Day, etc. Instrumentalists include: flute, guitar, bass drum, trumpet, trombone, violin, oboe, etc.

**Cherub Choir:** This choir is for any PSR, day school or home-schooled child in grades 1 - 3. The choir practices twice a month on Wednesdays from 5:15 pm - 6:00 pm and sings once a month at the Sunday 9:00 am Mass from October through May. This choir also sings on Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve and Easter.

**Praise, Believe & Jam Choir (PB&J)  
PSR & Home Schooled Children, grades 4-8**  
Contact: Julie Brown ..... 330-225-3116 x239  
jbrown@stambrose.us

This group of children rehearses twice a month and sings once a month at the 9:00 am Sunday Mass from September through May, including Children's Masses on Christmas Eve and Easter.

**Praise, Believe & Jam Choir (PB&J)  
Day School children, grades 4-8**  
Contact: Julie Brown ..... 330-225-3116 x239  
jbrown@stambrose.us

This group of children sings at all Day School Masses and prayer services. The children sing at a Sunday 9:00 am Mass once a month from September through May including Christmas Eve and Easter. PB&J choir rehearses twice a month after school.

### FIAT Band

Contacts: Brad Ruff ..... 440-238-7839  
brad@harveyboy.com  
Julie Brown ..... 330-225-3116 x239  
jbrown@stambrose.us

The FIAT Band plays every Sunday at the 5:00 pm Mass. Rehearsal times vary.

### Hand Bell Choir

Contact: Charlotte Ginter ..... 440-238-2136

We ring hand bells joyfully, prayerfully and for the glory of God! We play a prelude before communion and at other times during Mass.

We have two hand bell choirs, each with eleven men and women volunteers. Each hand bell choir plays at approximately two Masses a month. We also play for special services during the year.

Practices are held on Wednesday evenings for 1 ½ hours with separate practice times for each choir. We will try to meet several times during the summer.

If you have some background in music, it is helpful, but not necessary. We are looking for dedicated people who will attend practices each week and to play at Masses. Feel free to stop by after Mass to speak to any of the members or contact Charlotte!

### New Life Choir

Contact: Mike Zahn ..... 330-225-4639  
mjzahn@verizon.net

The New Life Choir is a group that sings at funeral Masses, using their voices to console the family and friends of the deceased. We also sing at some holy day Masses and special services, including the All Soul's Remembrance Necrology Service on All Soul's Day.

Rehearsals are held in the church on Tuesday mornings from 11:00 am - 12:00 noon, from September through mid-May. We sing whenever there is a funeral held in the church. The leader and volunteers will spend approximately one hour per week rehearsing plus sing at any funeral Masses that are scheduled.

While the New Life Choir members are not required to be able to read music, they must have a love of singing!



## Celebrating Worship Commission/ Liturgical Planning Teams

*While we, for our part, will devote ourselves to prayer and to serving the Word. Acts 6:4*

### **Acolytes**

Contact: Len Kemper ..... 330-225-6543  
eljaykemper@aol.com

Acolytes act as altar servers for funeral Masses. There are no regular meetings, and participation is on an “as needed” basis. We could use anyone who is available during the day, especially mornings.

### **Altar Servers**

Contact: Shannon Pacek ..... 330-225-4370  
skp613domeng@roadrunner.com

Our ministry gives students in grades 5 - 12 the opportunity to assist the priest during weekend and weekday Masses. We are also a part of special events, such as weddings, Confirmation, and First Holy Communion, as well as Holy Week Masses and services, Easter Vigil Mass, Easter Masses and Christmas Masses.

There are no regular meeting dates for the older, experienced servers; however, there are training sessions for students that are interested in becoming an altar server. Training sessions are in June and November, and are about 1 ½ hours in length.

Servers are usually scheduled about once a month for the weekend Masses, and every three months for weekday Masses.

The special talents required for being an altar server is to have an open heart, and to be flexible. Each server needs to expect change because there may be something different with the Mass, depending on the celebrant.

### **Art & Environment**

Contact: Kathy Ralofsky ..... 330-273-2320  
kralofsky@roadrunner.com

Art & Environment is responsible for the worship environment of our church. This includes decorating the church, narthex (entrance), and outside of the building for various seasons of the church year. Special attention and planning are given to major seasons of Lent/Easter and Advent/Christmas.

Art & Environment is for individuals who like to decorate, meet other people, and work with their hands. The committee includes painters, carpenters, decorators, floral arrangers, seamstresses, and many other talented members. More practical elements of the ministry include: washing and ironing, watering and maintaining plants, and just being a helper wherever help is needed.

Committee members meet twice a month during regular time. During major seasons, we meet on an as needed basis.

### **Avilas**

Contacts: Father Greg Olszewski..... 330-225-3116 x224  
frgreg@stambrose.us  
Pixie Blake  
faba1228@yahoo.com

*“God grants these favours, then, not because those who receive them are holier than those who do not, but in order that His greatness may be made known, as we see in the case of Saint Paul and the Magdalen, and in order that we may praise Him in His creatures.” -From Interior Castle by Saint Teresa of Avila*

Named after St. Teresa of Avila, members of the Avilas join together in praying for new and existing vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life.

Our Saint Ambrose Avilas will again be praying in the Chapel from 9:00 am - 10:00 am and 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm. Prayer books for use during those times are available. The Blessed Sacrament is exposed as well. If you wish to join the Avilas, just show up on Monday or call the rectory at any time for information. No dues, no meetings — the power of prayer together! We come together the 2nd Monday of each month. Our group continues to grow much like the mustard tree!

The Avilas are a group unique to the Cleveland Diocese, now numbering more than a thousand. For more than 30 years, the Avilas have promoted vocations in our diocese. These are people who pledge to pray for vocations, and for continued and sustained work of ordained ministers and vowed religious.

### **Baptism Ministry Team**

Contacts: Deacon Tom & Helen Sheridan, Adam and Jennifer Henneman..... 330-225-3116 x230  
hsheridan@stambrose.us

We help parents plan and prepare for the baptism in the best possible way. The signs and symbolism of baptism are explained, as well as what to expect on the day of baptism, which can take place as part of a Sunday Mass, or at the customary time outside of Mass.

Baptism classes are provided on the 2nd Sunday at 1:00 pm or Monday evening at 7:00 pm every other month. Your baby’s baptism is a time for celebration and joy. And, naturally, you want the best for your baby. We want to help you plan and prepare for the baptism in the best possible way.

### **Eucharistic Adoration**

Contacts: Deacon Gary & Shari Tomazic..... 330-273-2321  
hnybngrbr@sbcglobal.net

Our group sponsors Eucharistic adoration every Monday from 9:00 am - 8:00 pm in the Chapel. Join us to spend 30-60 minutes in devotion to our Lord, who is present in the Eucharist.

**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (Eucharistic Ministers)**

Contacts: Deacon Gary & Shari Tomazic..... 330-273-2321  
hnybngrbr@sbcglobal.net

Ministers assist priest and deacons distribute Holy Communion during Masses, and take Holy Communion to area nursing homes.

Time involved with this ministry includes attendance at weekend Mass, as ministers are scheduled about 3 times per month for Communion distribution. Ministers who visit nursing homes attend 9:00 am Mass, then conduct a Communion Service at the nursing home, as well as make room visits. This takes approximately 2 hours, once a month.

Ministers should possess a devotion to our Lord, present in the Eucharist. For those visiting nursing homes, ministers should be friendly and compassionate, and comfortable leading the Communion Service. Diocesan and local training is required for all Eucharistic Ministers.

**Greeters**

Contact: Lynn Tobon ..... 330-241-4254  
ltobon96@yahoo.com

Being a greeter is for EVERYONE! This is a simple but meaningful ministry. Arrive 20-minutes before the start of the Mass of your choosing, stand by the entrance of the church, put a smile on and welcome everyone to St. Ambrose as we pass out Missals. You can greet every week or once a month. Anyone of any age can be a greeter or be done as a family!

**Lectors**

Contact: Mike Mascio ..... 330-225-7402  
mmascpdm668@roadrunner.com

*We are a faith-based ministry rooted in the proclamation of God's Word. Just as the priest feeds the souls of God's elect through the Liturgy of the Eucharist, lectors minister to God's faithful through the Liturgy of the Word, which Scriptures define as with God from the beginning, and who is Christ made flesh.* (John 1:1-14)

First and foremost, a lector must have a fervent love for God's Word. They also must have strong reading and presentation skills, with the ability to directly touch the hearts of God's faithful through the proclamation of the Word.

We normally meet as part of quarterly reflection services. Meetings last between one and two hours. Leaders are involved 10 to 15 hours per month, while Volunteers are involved 3 to 5 hours per month. Every attempt is made to schedule lectors according to their personal Mass preferences and availability each month. There are quarterly training sessions for new lectors and those who wish to enhance their skills.

**Liturgy Planning Team**

Contact: Lynn Tobon ..... 330-241-4254  
ltobon96@yahoo.com

The Liturgy Planning Team meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. This group enlivens our worship experience by helping to plan special events in the church year including: Christmas, Lent, Easter, Mother's Day, Baptism of the Lord, etc.

**Sacristy**

Contact: Grace Bouman..... 330-225-5148

These parishioners prepare the sacred vessels, wine, hosts and other liturgical items before and after weekend Masses, funerals and weddings.

**Ushers**

Contact: Len Kemper ..... 330-225-6543  
eljaykemper@aol.com

Our group welcomes both men and women to be responsible for coordinating seating, offertory collections, and traffic flow of communicants during Masses. Our ushers usually select the Mass that is most convenient for them and their families, and they continue to serve at the same weekly Mass. We welcome anyone from teens to seniors.



**Catechesis and Conversion  
Children/Youth Formation**

*The wise among the people shall give understanding to the many.* Daniel 11:33

**Children's Liturgy of the Word**

Contact: Sharon Pacek ..... 330-225-3116  
spacek@stambrose.us

Children's Liturgy of the Word invites the children of the parish to experience Mass in a way that has a deeper meaning to them. We leave the general Mass with a blessing from the priest after the opening prayer and return during the offertory. In the chapel, during our Children's Liturgy, we, as ministers, give the weekly reading and gospel from the children's lectionary, a mini-homily and the prayers. It's a wonderful experience to interact with the children and hear their reaction and response to God's word.

We offer Children's Liturgy of the Word at the 4:30 pm Saturday Vigil Mass and on Sunday at the 9:00 am and 10:30 am Mass. For each Mass, there is an Adult Leader that does the readings, the homily and the prayers; an Adult Helper that aids the leader with the children; and a special volunteer to lend a helping hand wherever needed.

The Children's Liturgy Ministers use a leader's guide publication to give us a background on the readings and to help us gear a homily toward the children. There is no formal training needed.

We have a special place for everyone who loves interacting with children and we'd love to have you join us...from as simple as supporting and guiding our children during the liturgy to the excitement of putting together the homily and interacting with the children. The more wonderful people we have, the more we can offer this priceless gift to our parish.

**Children’s Liturgy (Christmas)**

Contact: Shari Whisler ..... 330-225-6962  
 swhisler@roadrunner.com

We organize the older children as readers and participants for the Christmas liturgies at the children’s Mass(es). We also invite the parish children of all ages to partake on a large scale in the liturgy.

We are currently looking for someone to organize the Christmas Children’s Liturgy.

**Children’s Liturgy (Easter) & Lenten Journey Program**

Contact: Beth Wish..... 330-225-4768  
 dannbeth@aol.com

Our program provides a yearly Lenten theme of classes each Thursday, progressing to the teaching about Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday. Each week, the children have prayer time, snack time, a lesson, review time, and an activity or craft. We meet from 4:00 pm - 5:30pm each week throughout Lent.

Volunteers help during class aiding the children, and helping with snack. The leader plans the lessons and then coordinates and teaches the classes, sometimes with help from the aides. The leader needs to prepare 6 - 7 lessons for the Lenten theme that year; aides must be willing to help with the children, and will earn service hours as a result (student aides).

Our children, if available, participate in the Easter Sunday Children’s Mass(es) by reading petitions, doing the offertory procession, passing out eggs, and wherever else possible.

**Confirmation Catechists**

Contact: Matthew Lofy ..... 330-225-3116 X  
 mlofy@stambrose.us

Saint Ambrose offers Confirmation for students in grade 9, as well as for older students and adults. Each year we confirm approximately 160 candidates, and the preparation program runs September through April. An integral part of the Confirmation program is the Confirmation catechists who serve as small group leaders. We are looking for adults who can commit to one Sunday afternoon per month and who want to help our young people grow in faith. All materials are provided. Nothing is more rewarding than helping a teen set their life on fire with Christ!

If you would consider serving as a Confirmation catechist or would like more information about the program, please contact Pattie Batchman at 330-225-3116.

**Faith In Action Teens/FIAT**

Contact: Matthew Lofy ..... 330-225-3116 x237

FIAT is alive! It is our Saint Ambrose Youth Ministry, open to anyone in grades 9-12 who wants to grow, lead, serve and have fun! We meet most Sunday nights (except for holidays and retreat weekends) for an upbeat 5:00 pm Mass, then afterwards for dinner and a FIAT night. We also have two retreats a year, lots of fun social events (laser tag, dodge ball, Kalahari, and paintball, just to name a few), service opportunities, and more! There is something for everyone! All teens are invited to find their niche and be a part of our *Alive* youth ministry.

We have a Teen Leadership Core for juniors and seniors who are ready to take the lead.

Be a part of FIAT - make it yours!

**FIAT Core Team**

Contact: Matthew Lofy ..... 330-225-3116 x237  
 mlofy@stambrose.us

Our youth ministry is always in need of young adults and adults who have a heart for working with teens. Our goal is to lead teens closer to Christ! Serving on the Core Team is a year-long commitment to attend Sunday FIAT nights, other FIAT activities, and meetings at least twice a month. Each Core Team member is called upon to use his or her strengths to do what they do best in service to the teens of St. Ambrose. This often includes inviting new teens, planning events, leading small groups, giving witness talks, or mentoring teens, always having fun while helping the teens grow in faith.

**FIAT Tutoring Club (Success in Learning)**

Contact: Greg Kurtz..... 330-225-9082 x270

**Success in Learning** is a volunteer tutoring program. Our mission is to help change the lives of students who struggle academically. By offering our time and talents through faithful actions, we are able to help students overcome their challenges.

Our volunteer tutors consist of high school students who excel in their studies. These dedicated individuals rank in the top of their class. Many are National Honor Society members, class representatives and are very active in their community who believe in giving back.

**Junior High Ministry**

Contacts: Helen Sheridan ..... 330-225-9678  
 hsheridan@stambrose.us  
 Katie Anderson..... 330-225-3116 x230

Junior High Ministry is open to all 7th & 8th graders registered in the parish and attending Day School or PSR. We provide opportunities for personal growth, leadership, service projects, social events, and spiritual growth.

Adults & high school students are encouraged to get involved and volunteer where needed on the last Monday of each month, and especially during our summer camp activities. We are in need of honest, creative, and energetic people to support our youth.



**Parish School of Religion (PSR) & RCIC**

Contact: Pattie Batchman ..... 330-225-3116 X231  
pbatchman@stambrose.us

The Parish School of Religion (PSR) is an extension of the educational mission of St. Ambrose Catholic Church, which actively assists parents in the spiritual development and faith formation of their children. As persons involved in religious formation, we minister so that others may grow in Christian faith and experience a living and loving relationship with God. We strive to teach, model, and promote the Gospel values so as to nurture a desire for all to achieve the fullness of life.

Our Catechists and Aides are volunteers who give of themselves freely and devote their time to our PSR program because of their love of children and desire to pass on their faith. All Catechists are fingerprinted, and have taken a VIRTUS training course on Protecting God's Children. They have also read the Diocesan Policies for the Safety of Children and the Code of Conduct in Ministry.

Elementary PSR: Meets on Saturday from 9:00 am - 10:30 am or Monday from 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm. Students in grades 1 through 6 are expected to participate in classes at their grade level.

Jr. High PSR: Meets on Monday evenings from 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm. Students in grades 7 and 8 gather in a large group setting, and participate in a variety of learning experiences, including small group discussion.

RCIC: There is a special program for those students who are entering the PSR program for the first time and are in the 3rd-7th grade, called RCIC (Rite of Christian Initiation of Children). If the student would like to receive their First Eucharist, they would attend these classes for two years and receive their First Eucharist after completion of both sessions, Introduction to Catholic Faith Year I and II.

**Preschool Parish School of Religion (PSR)**

Contact: Sharon Pacek..... 330-225-3116 x265  
spacek@stambrose.us

Our program assists children, ages 3, 4 & 5, in knowing Jesus. The mission of our program is to experience God's unconditional love in an accepting and fun community setting. Our program is geared to the social, physical, intellectual, emotional and spiritual development of the individual angel.

The emphasis of the 3-year-old program is belonging. Basic concepts of self-awareness and appreciation are incorporated. The emphasis of the 4-year-old program is exploring. Basic concepts of interacting with nature and discovery are covered. The emphasis of the 5 year-old program is caring. Basic concepts of people in the world along with celebrations and holidays are explored.

Our program meets on Sundays, September through April. We meet from 8:50 am -10:00 am. For volunteers and leaders, the time commitment consists of two hours per week. Please join us if you love children, have patience and have a desire to teach our little children about a loving and caring Father!

On a yearly basis, our program celebrates Parents' Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Special Day and Community Day.

**Special Education**

Contact: Chris Monczewski ..... 330-225-0025  
cpmonczewski@yahoo.com

Our program provides religious instruction for both children and adults with mental and/or physical disabilities. Students celebrate the sacraments and learn how to participate in the Mass.

We meet on Saturday mornings, September through April, from 8:30 am - 10:00 am in the Lehner Center. We have a Special Education Mass in December and April. The students participate in whatever way possible.

Volunteers to work with these special children and adults need to be organized, compassionate and flexible.

If you prefer your student to participate in our inclusion program, please call Pattie Batchman, Director of Religious Education, at 330-225-2116 x231, to discuss your specific needs.

**Vacation Bible School**

Contact: Sharon Pacek..... 330-225-3116 x265  
spacek@stambrose.us

Our ministry sets children, ages 5 - 10, on fire about their faith! We energize them and get them excited to learn about Jesus!

Vacation Bible School is held the last week in June each summer. It lasts for five days, three hours per day.

For volunteers, there will be three additional meetings prior to VBS for organizational purposes. A love of children is a must! Strong, faith-filled leaders are also a must!

**Young Adult Ministry**

Contact: Matt Lofy.....330.225.3116 x237  
mlofy@stambrose.us

Saint Ambrose Parish would like to develop a vibrant young adult ministry (ages 18-30) in conjunction with other regional parishes. We welcome suggestions and input from the young adults of our parish about what you want, what you need, and how we can best serve you. Come and share your input - Thursday August 20, 2009 and/or September 17, from 7:00 pm — 8:30 pm in Lehner Center Upper Small. Help us create a life-giving ministry to young adults, a valued and essential part of our community!



# Catechesis and Conversion

## Adult Faith Formation

### Adult Education & Formation

Contact: Sister Donna Marie Bradesca ... 330-225-3116 x238  
 srdonnamarie@stambrose.us

Adult Faith Formation is a group of committed Catholic adults who value educational and seek to offer creative and meaningful ways to explore processes and programs that will assist others in their faith journey.

Meetings are as needed, depending on time needed for preparation and implementation of various programs and processes. Throughout the year, we host different events, such as evenings of spiritual enrichment, retreats, etc.

We seek adult men and women who see a need and have a desire to help others grow in their Catholic faith.

### Catholic Belief Series

Contact: Father Greg Olszewski..... 330-225-3116 x224  
 frgreg@stambrose.us

This is not really a ministry, but rather a class taught by qualified staff members. It provides Adult Faith Formation on topics of essential Catholic beliefs. Sessions are held once a month during the months of January, February, April, May, September, October and November.

Individuals seeking a leadership role would need to know Power Point and have the ability to teach adults.

### Christ Renews His Parish (CRHP)

#### Men's

Contact: Frank Pacek..... 330-225-4370  
 skp613domeng@roadrunner.com

Our group is an effective spiritual renewal process which calls together the members of the parish. A team of parishioners is properly formed in prayer and love, and instructed in the total process of becoming committed to spiritual growth and ministerial formation. There are no requirements — prayerfulness, loving concern, and simple service are all that's needed. Jesus is the medium. As the Way and Truth, attention is called to Him.

Come and enjoy a weekend that leads you to friendship and growth in your personal relationship with Jesus. After the Renewal weekend, you will be asked to continue to meet in prayer, song, and formation to put on a Renewal weekend for the next group of men or women who are called to personal growth in being an active member in Christian community.

### Couple-to-Couple Ministry

Contacts: Mike and Kim Nemet ..... 330-220-0720  
 knemet@msn.com

Couple-To-Couple Ministry is a unique way to touch other people's lives through your marriage. Our ministers work with engaged couples on their journey to a Catholic marriage. We help prepare engaged couples for the sacrament of marriage. We meet with the engaged couples 3-4 times, in our own homes, before their wedding to share our experiences with key aspects of a marriage. Our conversations generally last up to 1 ½ hours.

Topics that are touched upon include Communication; Finance; Expectations of Each Other, Marriage and Family Relationships; Resolving Conflict; Catholic Family Life.

This ministry is wonderful in the fact that it requires a good husband and wife team with a strong passion for this sacred sacrament. What a great way to bring this community together on such a personal level. Training is provided as a one day session at St. Ambrose, on a Saturday, several times throughout the year. This initial training is for one day and lasts about 6-hours. We meet as a group quarterly.

### Jerusalem Lecture Series

Contact: Sister Donna Marie Bradesca ... 330-225-3116 x238  
 srdonnamarie@stambrose.us

Basic Catholic teachings are presented in groups of three-week sessions throughout the year. Topics are advertised through the parish bulletin. All adults are welcome. The gatherings will take place on Tuesdays in the Chapel at 7:00 pm, lasting 90-minutes each, including presentation and a question/discussion period.

### Legion of Mary, "Our Lady of Joy"

Contact: Mary Vadini..... 330-273-1113  
 marylu964@aol.com

The Legion of Mary is a group of Christians who promote a deeper love of God through their devotion to Mary, especially through the rosary, and through the apostolic works they perform. We seek a balanced program of prayer and service, thereby advancing the growth of faith, understanding, and true devotion to Christ and His Blessed Mother.

Membership is open to all Catholics ages 18 and over, willing to serve others. Active members meet weekly on Thursdays at 7:00 pm (except holidays and Holy Days) for an hour of prayer; plus commit time to individual acts of service. Auxiliary members, who commit to 20-30 minutes to daily prayer, are not required to attend meetings.

We are very involved with the parish and our community, as we help with: May Crowning with the Special Education PSR; "Bowling Ceremony" for the Feast of the Assumption; October's "Month of the Rosary" promotion; support Pro-Life activities; assist with Mass once a month at Willowood Nursing Home; recite Rosary at Pearlview Nursing home twice a month; visit families with the Blessed Virgin Mary statue and other activities as needed.

**Marriage Course**

Contacts: Deacon Tom & Helen Sheridan .. 330-225-3116 x230  
hsheridan@stambrose.us

“**How to Build A Lasting Relationship**” is a seven-week course open to any married couple twice a year. The program is designed to strengthen and enhance the marriage. The course covers the following topics: Building Strong Foundations; The Art of Communication; Love in Action; Resolving Conflict; The Power of Forgiveness; and Parents and In-laws.

The course is held for a seven-week period, lasting 1 ½ hours each week. The next course will be held September 9, 2009-October 28, 2009.

The Team is comprised of couples who work well with each other and have solid and valid input to offer couples. The course is confidential.

**Men’s Fellowship**

Contacts: Deacon Tom Sheridan ..... 330-225-3116 x230  
tsheridan@stambrose.us  
Keith Walcutt  
kawalcutt@thornhillcpa.com

A series of small group discussions are from the book, *Signposts: How to Be a Catholic Man in the World Today*. This course is not a scholarly Bible study, but a series of lessons that are focused on issues of concern to men in the ordinariness of their everyday lives. The series are firmly rooted in Sacred Scripture and the Catechism of the Catholic Church. The sessions for the men in attendance cultivate fun and friendships within the community, and they learn from one another how to be a better husband, father, son, employee and Catholic parishioner. This is a great group, and men have grown by this experience, and helped to form stronger and happier families and to cope better with stress.

Meetings are held on the first and third Thursday of each month, from 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm in Hilkert Hall, Room 4. The group is open to men 18 and older from St. Ambrose and surrounding parishes.

**Ministry of Mothers Sharing (MOMS)**

Contact: Shannon Gerbershagen ..... 330.460.3504  
shannonmdickey@yahoo.com

The mission of St. Ambrose Ministry of Mothers Sharing (MOMS) is to assist moms of all stages and ages as they fulfill the holy vocation of motherhood. With Mary as our Patroness, we will meet this mission by creating a supportive, positive, Christ-centered environment filled with prayer, thoughtful meeting topics, and scripture readings.

Meeting dates and times are posted in the Sunday bulletin.

**Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)**

Contact: Sister Donna Marie Bradesca ... 330-225-3116 x238  
srdonnamarie@stambrose.us

The RCIA is the Catholic church’s process for welcoming and instructing adults on the Catholic faith. It is an inquiry process for those who may be interested in becoming Catholic and who have never been baptized or who seek, as baptized Christians, to become a member of the Catholic faith community.

Meetings are held on Wednesdays from 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm in the lower level of the Lehner Center. They will begin September 16, 2009 and conclude April 14, 2010.

**Sarah’s Circle**

Contact: Sister Donna Marie Bradesca ... 330-225-3116 x238  
srdonnamarie@stambrose.us

This weekly one hour prayer group is open to adult women of all ages who desire to deepen their spiritual life. Scripture, private prayer and group discussion comprises the one hour gathering. A short guidebook guides the process. This gathering meets on Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am.

**Scripture Study**

Contact: Sister Donna Marie Bradesca ... 330-225-3116 x238  
srdonnamarie@stambrose.us

Scripture Study offers adult participants an opportunity to have a verse-by-verse interpretation and understanding of a biblical book. Notes are provided. Participants are welcome to attend all sessions or any of those that fit their individual schedules.

There are two Monday sessions offered for the convenience of participants: Mornings, 9:30 am - 11:00 am; and evenings, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm. Sessions begin on September 15 and conclude May 4, 2010.

**Collaboration  
Advisory**

**Building & Grounds Committee**

Contact: John Dogger ..... 330.225.1031  
simonjan1946@yahoo.com

The Building & Grounds Committee (B&G) is comprised of parishioners who meet every other week in the morning. The committee has a documented Preventative Maintenance Program that it follows in order to maintain the building and grounds of the parish.

We are always looking for anyone interested in helping with the committee. Construction experience would be helpful, but is not required. Anyone with carpentry, flooring, concrete, masonry, electrical, plumbing or painting experience would be greatly appreciated.

**Endowment and Investments**

Contact: Bob Downs..... 330.273.3108  
 bobdowns@westfieldgrp.com

The Saint Ambrose Endowment Fund receives and administers gifts and contributions for charitable, religious, educational and social service purposes. The organization operates consistent with the principles, teachings and philosophy of the Roman Catholic Church.

Gifts are received through many avenues including, but not limited to: cash, real estate, securities, retirement funds, life insurance policies and tangible personal property.

**Finance Council**

Contact: Alex Bajusz..... alex@dccix.com  
 216.233.6533

The Parish Finance Council provides expertise and consultation in financial analysis, planning, and policy development in order to aid the Pastor in the administration of parish goods, while maintaining due regard for The Code of Canon Law and The Diocese of Cleveland Parish Finance Council Policy Norms.

There are seven permanent committees within the Finance Council that provide support in the following areas:

- ❖ Parish budget and operations
- ❖ School budget and operations
- ❖ Investments and endowments
- ❖ Building, grounds and maintenance
- ❖ Communications
- ❖ Technology
- ❖ Policies and Practice

Members of the Finance Council serve on one or more of the above committees.

The full Finance Council meets the last Wednesday of every month, usually from 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm. In addition to the full Finance Council meetings, Council members attend committee meetings as required.

Members of the Finance Council are appointed by the Pastor for a two year term commencing on July 31st. Councilors make be elected to consecutive terms. Finance Council members are expected to attend all Finance Council and committee meetings and may be asked to work on special projects.

Talents and skills that are helpful as a member of the Finance Council include finance, education, administration, human resources and law, to name a few. Let Fr. Bob or one of the Finance Council members know if you are interested in serving on the Council.

**Finance Council**

- |               |                 |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Alex Bajusz   | Al Becka        |
| Al Karla      | Bob Downs       |
| Brian Kennedy | Joelle LoFaso   |
| John Dogger   | Kathy Plavecski |
| Mark Abood    | Mark Oldfield   |
| Marty Shaw    | Mike Barth      |
| Steve Muller  |                 |

Bob Drum - Consultant

**Parish Pastoral Council**

Contacts: John Klee ..... 330.273.6551  
 jpklnk@aol.com  
 Andrea Ham..... 330.220.5256  
 hamfam495@verizon.net

The mission of the Pastoral Council, as a consultative body to the Pastor, is to promote the spiritual and physical growth of Saint Ambrose Parish.

We meet on the first Wednesday of each month, except July and December, for approximately two hours. The leader and members of the Council commit to providing leadership for the other ministries by facilitation and consultation. Time commitments vary based upon needs.

Those involved with Parish Council need to be at least 18 years old, and active members of the parish. They should be willing to participate in the consensus process; able to work on a team; able to discuss matters, weigh options and recommend practical conclusions and be a prayerful individual.

**Pastoral Parish Council**

- |                 |                          |
|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Andrea Ham      | Carol Lepi Mark Oldfield |
| Dan Magalski    | David Jeanclerc          |
| David Yarmesch  | Dennis Koeth             |
| Jim Lepi        | Joan Thesling            |
| John Klee       | Maureen Meidenbauer      |
| Mike Ruffing    | Rich Nowak               |
| Tim Krulikowski | Zenon Zorij              |

**School Advisory Board (SAB)**

Contacts: Dave Minnich ..... 330-558-0144  
 minnichdh@gmail.com  
 Brent Monnin ..... 440-378-0779  
 monnin@roadrunner.com

The SAB serves as an advisory group to the pastor and principal regarding St. Ambrose School. Comprised of parents and other interested parishioners, the group researches and discusses various issues and proposals and offers counsel to the pastor and principal, all with the goal of making St. Ambrose School an exceptional 21st century Catholic learning environment.

Meetings are generally held once per month, although additional special meetings are occasionally called. Currently, meetings are conducted the second Tuesday of the month. Meetings routinely run two to three hours. This varies greatly depending on the issues before the Board at any particular time, and the time demands of SAB committees, several of which are chaired by SAB members. The minimum time commitment per month probably runs five to ten hours. Generally there is at minimum one evening meeting for all parents held per school year.

An understanding of K-8 education in general and Catholic education in particular is helpful. But the only true requirement is a desire and dedication to the children of St. Ambrose School and to the goal of continually improving the education our students receive.

**School Advisory Board**

- |                   |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Brent Monnin      | Dan Minnich     |
| Danielle Koch     | David Rickman   |
| Geza Balassy      | Jill Cooke      |
| John Ham          | Larry Jenko     |
| Rachel St-Laurent | Sheri Ricciardi |
| Teri Zorij        |                 |

**Vibrant Parish Life**

Contacts: Jim & Carol Lepi 330-273-1801

Over the past several years, Bishop Lennon has engaged all the parishes in the Diocese of Cleveland in a meaningful and important discussion about our future. The Vibrant Parish Life process is an attempt to celebrate what is good and strong in our Church and address areas that need growth and development. Parishes have been ‘clustered’ with those in their region to draw strength and cooperation in pastoral planning.

We are very blessed at Saint Ambrose to be clustered with Saint Colette Parish. We have a unique opportunity to explore ways that we can work together to respond to the growing Catholic population in our region.

**Parent-Teacher Union (PTU)**

Contact: Chris Monczewski ..... 330-225-0025  
 cpmonczewski@yahoo.com

The Parent-Teacher Union is responsible for providing events, goods, and services for the day school students. We raise money for our school and students. The parents and teachers work together to make our school great!

There are so many activities that we host throughout the year for our teachers and students! Some include: Market Day, Catholic Schools Week, High School information night, Donuts for Dad, and Muffins for Mom. Our yearly events include Santa Shop, a Valentine’s Day Dance, Malley’s Easter candy sales, the Reverse Raffle/Silent Auction, and Special Person Day.

There are 25+ PTU committees and over 200 volunteers. Time commitment is dependent upon the number of committees signed up for. We can always use more help, especially from people who possess leadership skills, dedication, and a positive attitude.

We are here to fully support St. Ambrose Day School.

Our special events, held throughout the year, include: Salad luncheon (September); Christmas Craft Boutique (November); Mother-Daughter Banquet (May); and Parish Rummage Sale (July).

**Others**

**Faith in Action**

Contact: Ivi Latronica ..... 330-273-9500  
 Ivi3@juno.com

If you enjoy helping people, particularly the elderly, and if you are looking for a way to live your faith, you would enjoy being part of this group. Faith in Action (FIA) provides assistance to seniors with low incomes or those who are frail, health-impaired or isolated. Our volunteers are caring friends who provide rides, visit or assist with housekeeping or outdoor tasks. Volunteers choose what activity and what day or time works best for their schedule. An hour or two once or twice a month, or more if you’re able, goes a long way to assisting someone in need.

Faith in Action is a non-profit organization and is a coalition of area churches working together with local social service agencies. FIA is an outreach ministry to meet the simple needs of our seniors so they may stay in their homes longer or simply feel loved. St. Ambrose has been a member of FIA since 2002, and we’ve served thousands of hours in caring for our area seniors.

**Scouts**

**Boy Scout Troop 513**

Contacts: Frank Gati ..... 330-273-4366  
 Charter Organization Representative  
 John C. Frohlich ..... 330-273-6839  
 Committee Chairman

Boy Scout Troop 513, chartered by St. Ambrose Church is a youth organization targeted to young boys between the ages 10-18. Under the guidance of over 25 adult leaders, the scouts develop various skills including strong character, timeless values, and leadership. The Scouting program maximizes these aims through the use of weekly meetings on Thursday from 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm and on campouts scheduled once a month all year round; trips include a week long resident camp, winter campouts, caving, and historical sites.

Scouts advance in rank based on skills and the earning of merit badges, activities that feature skill sets, hobbies such as wood carving, rocketry, and citizenship. The merit badge program is orchestrated to give the scout exposure to numerous trades and skills that otherwise may not be present in a youth’s growth. This also includes service to the church and our community through the sponsorship of American Red Cross Blood Drives, Adopt-a-Roadway, Adopting 2 or 3 families at Christmas through Catholic Works of Mercy, service to our Military Veterans, and other special fundraisers — such as the Scout Sunday Pancake Breakfast on the first Sunday of February in Hilkert Hall.

Scouting is youth run organization, where the boys develop leadership skills by planning their weekly meetings and camp outs, execute those plans, and then evaluate those plans.

The Scout Troop is always looking for new participants, youth or adult alike, who can contribute their life skills and experiences to help train our boys to become young adults.

**Cub Scouts of America Pack 3513**

Contacts: Connie Faur ..... 330-225-1862  
 Cudadad440@yahoo.com  
 Tanya Koehn ..... 440-781-5499  
 KTMkoehn@aol.com

Cub scouts, a part of Boy Scouts of America, is an organization serving boys in grades 1 through 5. The goals of the Cub Scouting program are to build character, foster citizenship and develop physical, mental, emotional and moral fitness through the completion of activities that are fun and challenging.

Dens, groups of boys organized by grade level, typically meet twice per month throughout the school year. The pack, all dens together, meets once per month throughout the school year.

Volunteers are the family and friends of the boys involved in the scouting program. The pack needs new leaders, assistant leaders and Pack Committee members each year. All leaders must be VIRTUS trained. Volunteers who will be working directly with the children will also be required to take some basic training that is paid for by the pack. Time commitment varies depending upon the role for which you volunteer.

Each year, the pack hosts a Halloween Party, Christmas Party, Pinewood Derby, Blue and Gold Banquet and Summer Boat Race for the scouts and their families. The pack is also involved in several community service activities such as Scouting for Food, Good Will/Good Turn Day, Christmas in July and a USO Drive.

**Girl Scouts of America**

Contact: Amy Jankovsky ..... 330-225-2401  
rob@jankovsky.info

We are a small group of girls, grades 6 and 7, led by adult volunteers, who meet every other week to work on crafts, educational projects, music, drama, and other skills toward the achievement of Girl Scout badges, as part of their Juniors Program. About once a month, we go on special outings, which can include camping, visiting special places, or just going out to have fun.

We meet every other Friday, from 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm at the Leader's house.

We have leaders and volunteers that dedicate between 4-5 hours per week, plus some extra time for training and weekend outings.

We are a girl-centered group, with young preteens, and would be interested in guest volunteers who are involved in anything that might be of interest to the girls, or who might be an excellent role model. Alternately, if someone had a need that would service as a good service project for our group, please contact the leader.

**Knights of Columbus**

Contact: John Brown..... 330-460-5721  
trouter0523@yahoo.com

**Isabella Guild**

Carol Belter ..... 330-225-1278

The Knights of Columbus is a fraternal Catholic Men's Organization founded by Father Michael J. McGivney in 1882 to care for the families of deceased members. Our watchwords are Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism.

The Brunswick Council of the Knights of Columbus meets the first and third Tuesday of each month at 7:30 in Lehner Center, with a social hour after regular meetings.

The officers attend three meetings a month and are involved in most of the programs that the Knights are involved with, which translates to a minimum of six hours per month.

Our annual events include:

- ❖ Horse show at Medina County Fairgrounds (August)
- ❖ Measure-up campaign to aid the mentally retarded (April/May)
- ❖ Mother's Day Pancake Breakfast to benefit our seminarians (May)
- ❖ Roast Beef Dinner (September)
- ❖ Right To Life Dinner and Speaker (October)
- ❖ Help with parking at Summer Festival (June)
- ❖ In charge of parking at the FEST (August)
- ❖ Family Christmas Party (December)
- ❖ Family Picnic (June/July)
- ❖ Parmadale Summer and Christmas Outings (August and December)
- ❖ Keep Christ in Christmas Program (November/December)
- ❖ Chili "Cook-Off" (Winter)

There is also an organization, called the Isabella Guild, for our wives.

To join the Knights of Columbus, one must be: over the age of 18; male; and a practicing Catholic as defined by the Church.

**Programs**

**Living Your Strengths**

**WHAT IS MY PASSION IN LIFE?  
What do you want for yourself?**

Have you ever asked yourself "**What does God want me to do with my life?**"

If you have, the Living Your Strengths program may help you answer that question. It is a faith based journey, based on scientific research to identify and strengthen your God given talents and to develop the potential hidden deep within you.

**What will you learn?**

- ❖ To identify your five key strengths
- ❖ To recognize the value of your strengths
- ❖ To use your talents for growth and service to others
- ❖ Understand and appreciate other people's strengths
- ❖ Improve your relationship with others

**ARE YOU CURIOUS?**

Check the bulletin when the next **Living Your Strengths Program** will begin this fall here at St. Ambrose.

**7 Steps to Becoming Financially Free**

This course can change the lives of participants and transform entire parish communities. The program offers a combination of faith formation and sound financial teaching, all designed to help the faithful become more effective stewards of the gifts the Lord has entrusted to them! Information will be available in the bulletin when this course will be offered again here at St. Ambrose.



## Sacraments

### **Baptism**

To have a child baptized at St. Ambrose, at least one parent must be a practicing Catholic, and regularly attend Mass and participate in the life of the parish. Please contact Helen Sheridan at 330-225-3116 to register for the Pre-Baptism class.

### **Sacrament of Penance**

The sacrament of Penance is the means and the sign that Christ gave us to show His willingness to heal us when, through our own human frailty, we turn in on ourselves and away from God. Second graders are prepared to receive this sacrament by their family in a program outside of PSR or the Day School. Information is mailed to the homes of all second graders early in the school year. Confessions are heard every Saturday afternoon from 3:30 pm - 4:00 pm, periodically in public Penance services and anytime by appointment.

### **Eucharist**

Just as we need food to sustain us through the long hard climb that we know as life, so in the climb to our spiritual goal we need sustenance. This is the Eucharist, the Bread of Life, and the Cup of Eternal Salvation. Second graders are prepared to receive this sacrament by their family in a program outside of PSR or the Day School. Information is mailed to the homes of all second graders early in the school year. The sacrament is celebrated in early spring as a group or individually with the families at a scheduled weekend Mass.

### **Confirmation**

The Sacrament of Confirmation is an important ritual in the faith development of our children and in the larger community of the parish family of St. Ambrose. Students in 9th grade participate in this sacramental program and meet on a variety of days to expand on their understanding of this sacrament. The program includes service hours, retreats, interviews and participation in any ministry at St. Ambrose. All St. Ambrose students in the PSR or Day School will receive information regarding Confirmation near the end of their 8th grade year.

### **Marriage**

Couples wishing to be married at St. Ambrose will need to meet with a priest or deacon at least six months prior to the desired wedding date.

### **Anointing of the Sick**

Whenever people are seriously ill, preparing for surgery, suffering with a long-term illness or seriously affected by the aging process, the Church encourages them to receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick. This can take place at church, at home, at the hospital/hospice/nursing home or assisted living facility. St. Ambrose offers a group communal anointing at Mass twice a year. This sacrament helps to strengthen both the body and spirit of those who are suffering. Please request the Anointing of the Sick by calling the parish office.

### **Holy Orders**

The Sacrament of Holy Order is a vocation choice for leadership and service in the Catholic community as an ordained minister. St. Ambrose encourages men of the parish to study for the priesthood and permanent diaconate. Preparation for ordination is done on the diocesan level over several years of discernment and study. Parishioners are encouraged to pray for vocations and promote vocations in their family and neighborhood.



## Stewardship Church

My church is composed of people like me, ***I help make it what it is.***

It will be friendly, ***if I am friendly.***

It will be holy, ***if I am holy.***

Its pews will be filled, ***if I help fill them,***

It will do great work, ***if I work.***

It will be prayerful, ***if I pray.***

It will make generous gifts to many causes, ***if I am a generous giver.***

It will bring others into its worship, ***if I invite and bring them.***

It will be a Church of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith,  
of compassion, charity and mercy, ***if I, who make it what it is,  
am filled with these same things.***

Therefore, with the help of God,  
***I now dedicate myself to the task of being all the  
things I want my Church to be.***



## Prayer of St. Ambrose

Lord Jesus Christ,  
I approach your banquet table.  
I dare not rely on my own worth  
but only rely on your goodness and mercy.  
Gracious god of majesty and awe,  
I see your protection,  
I look for your healing.  
I appeal to you, the fountain of all mercy.  
I trust in your mercies,  
for they cannot be numbered.  
Lord Jesus Christ, eternal King, God and man,  
crucified for mankind,  
Look upon me with mercy and hear my prayer,  
For I trust in you.  
Have mercy on me, for the depth of your  
compassion never ends.  
Praise to you, saving sacrifice,  
offered on the wood of the cross  
for me and for all mankind.  
Remember, Lord, your creature,  
whom you have redeemed with your blood.  
May it incite me to do the works  
pleasing to you and profitable to  
my health in body and soul.  
Amen.