

## *Son of God, Love Divine, Come into Our Lives*

The other day I saw one of our twenty-somethings walking out of the chapel. It was about 8 pm. After a hello and good to see you, I asked, "is everything okay?" She responded, "I've started coming to the chapel a couple of times a week for quiet...to find peace." **As the conversation unfolded, we both concluded that in busy days and chaotic times, we all need some quiet....a place to reflect....to find God's presence and peace.**

I know that for myself, I often turn the radio OFF when I am driving. There are days I am tired of the news and exhausted from the noise. **The quiet feels so peaceful...calm....refreshing.**

As we enter into the days of Advent and prepare for Christmas, I would simply suggest that we take a little time to be refreshed and renewed in God's peace. Spend a few minutes in the chapel...drive quietly in the car...or take a cup of tea/coffee and sit and gaze at your Christmas tree.



*Son of God, Love Divine*  
**COME INTO OUR LIVES**  
SAINT AMBROSE PARISH  
ADVENT 2018

*Allow these wonderful days...hopeful days...busy days...  
to be filled with God's peace.*

This prayer is our Advent theme...Son of God, Love Divine, come into our lives. In the stillness and quiet, allow God's love to come to you...refresh and strengthen you...and grant you peace.

Thank you so much for all you do for the Lord and our parish community. Thousands were fed and helped by our parish over the Thanksgiving holiday. **Thanks to you, 110 families received a few weeks of food, in addition to their Thanksgiving meal as well. We will be caring for 135 families over the Christmas season.** Thank you for your care and compassion to our brothers and sisters in need. Your kindness and love puts a face on God's love and mercy for all of us.

**Christmas will be the last celebration in our Church until Easter.** As you can see, we are making great progress to repair and renew the House of God. You can see the update in this newsletter.

May the days ahead be filled with the gentle love, tender mercy and lasting peace of the Lord. Be assured of my prayers for you and your loved ones.

**Son of God, love divine, come into our lives!**

Father Bob Stec

P.S. As this newsletter was going to print we received word that Fr. Adam Zajac was appointed pastor at St. Mark Parish in Cleveland. Please join me in thanking Fr. Adam for 17 months of service at Saint Ambrose! Please keep him in your prayers.



*Thousands were fed and helped by our parish over the Thanksgiving holiday. Special thanks to our friends at MARC'S for their GREAT support in providing over 7,000 meals this holiday season.*

*We are a Catholic community of faith, centered on Jesus Christ who is everything for us!*



*Son of God, Love Divine*  
**COME INTO OUR LIVES**

### **SACRAMENT OF** *Reconciliation*

**Saturday, December 1, 8, 15**

3:00 – 4:00 pm

Every Saturday from 3:00 – 4:00 pm and always by appointment (330.460.7300). Please join us for this healing Sacrament.

### **ADVENT** *Communal Penance*

**Tuesday, December 11:** 7:00 - 8:00 pm

**Friday, December 14:** 1:00 - 2:00 pm

Many priests will be available for the celebration of the Sacrament of Penance to hear individual confessions.

### **BAMBINELLI** *Blessing*

**December 15/16**

A thirty year old tradition that was started in Rome at the Vatican. Every family is invited to bring their "Baby Jesus" from their Nativity Scene to all weekend Masses and receive a blessing. The Bambinelli Blessing will bring us to experience God's true joy and love that comes to us from the infant Jesus.



### **CHRISTMAS MASS** *Schedule*

**Christmas Eve - Monday, December 24**

4:00pm Church and Hilkert Hall

6:00pm, 8:00pm & 12:00 Midnight in Church

**Christmas Day - Tuesday, December 25**

8:00am, 10:00am, 12:00noon

### **NEW YEAR'S** *Schedule*

**New Year's Eve - December 31**

Vigil of Mary, Mother of God

4:30pm & 6:00pm

**New Year's Day - January 1**

Mary, Mother of God 9:00am & 10:30am

## *Advent Tea*

**Saturday, December 8**

**11:00am – 2:00pm**

*"Son of God, Come into Our Lives"*

Let the love of God strengthen and deepen our hearts and minds this Advent season. Join us for our 3rd annual Advent Tea with guest speaker Sara Carnes, co-host of the Fish, as Jesus comes into our life to be our Light. Take some time for yourself, invite your family and friends, and spend an afternoon celebrating the Son of God, our Love Divine.



**TICKETS:** Tickets are \$10.00 per person. Includes a light lunch with dessert, tea and drinks, a dynamic presentation by Sara Carnes, and a meaningful afternoon with close friends and family. You can be a hostess for a table of 8 (where you can decorate your own table), or just join us for a relaxing afternoon. Please stop by the Parish Life Center front office to purchase your tickets. The ticket deadline is December 1.

**RSVP:** For more info or to RSVP contact Lisa H. or Helen L. at 330.460.7300.



## *for KING & COUNTRY Christmas Concert*

*featuring Zach Williams*

**Thursday, December 6**

After the absolute viral response from their "Little Drummer Boy (LIVE)" music video last Christmas season, the GRAMMY award-winning duo for KING & COUNTRY will embark on their theatrical, dynamic, and moving Little Drummer Boy | The Christmas Tour featuring fellow GRAMMY-award winner, Zach Williams.

The tour will feature original hits from both artists, as well as brand new songs from for KING & COUNTRY's album 'burn the ships', previous holiday recordings and Christmas classics.

**TICKETS:** Visit [www.955TheFish.com](http://www.955TheFish.com) for pricing and ticket information.



*"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."*

*- 1 Thessalonians 5:18*



## Advent Kindness Pines

### Share in the spirit of Christmas...

Beginning the weekend of November 24 – December 11, there will be 3 Kindness Pines located at the entryways of the church filled with tags listing items for families in need in our community. **Please consider taking a tag or two sharing the spirit of Christmas – the spirit of giving from the heart.** The tags will give you all the directions and details. **No need to wrap your requested gift; the parents like to do this for their children.**



To give them time to do this, please return all gifts to the designated bins at church entrances (with tag from tree taped to bag) by Wednesday, December 12. If you have any questions, please call Catholic Works of Mercy 330.460.7303. Thank you.

## GRIEF SHARE

### Surviving the Holidays

December 13

If you have lost a loved one and you feel your grief is overwhelming, our GriefShare Program at Saint Ambrose is here to help. We meet every Wednesday from 7:00 to 9:00pm in the McGivney room in Lehner Center. On December 13 we will be presenting our GriefShare Surviving the Holidays program. All are welcome to experience the comfort and care of Jesus during this holiday season. **Please contact Terri Bartchak at 216-973-6784 or at [tbartchak86@gmail.com](mailto:tbartchak86@gmail.com) to register.**

*Please join us. All are welcome.*

*You can start at any one of the sessions.*

## Living Nativity

Sunday, December 16, 5:45 - 7:30pm

**Enter into the Advent season and remember where it all began.** All are invited to join the Saint Ambrose community as we re-enact that joyful night where Heaven and earth collided and God gave us His most precious gift.

After this wonderful presentation, come for fun in Hilkert Hall with family activities, crafts and a chili bar with all the toppings! Bring your favorite Christmas dessert to share.



**Live Animals • Food • Fun • Perfect Family Night**

## Music Ministry

### Share your gifts and talents!

Our Music Ministry here at Saint Ambrose is in full swing for the pastoral year. We've welcomed new members both young and old, and have been working hard to bring you continued inspiring music for everything we do at Saint Ambrose.

**Please join us for our event on Saturday, December 8!** What a great moment to come together as the Family of God to prepare in mind, heart, and soul for the coming of Jesus Christ. You'll experience an array of music that crosses many generations that will allow the Divine Love of Christ to come into our lives!

We'll all come together for a soul-stirring, special ending to the concert as a community of faith, hope and love, centered around Jesus Christ.

We hope to see you on Saturday December 8, 2018!

In the Peace of Christ,  
Matthew Fodor  
[MFodor@StAmbrose.us](mailto:MFodor@StAmbrose.us)



## SAINT AMBROSE MUSIC MINISTRY Christmas Concert & Potluck

Saturday, December 8th

*Join us as we begin the Advent Season! Prepare, through words and music, your heart for this time of faith and family.*

**Son of God, Love Divine, Come Into Our Lives...**

**4:30pm Mass**

**5:30pm Potluck Dinner in Hilkert Hall**

**7:00pm Christmas Concert in Church**

**POTLUCK INFO!** We'll provide the pizza! Last names A-I please bring a salad to share, last names J-R please bring a side dish to share, and last names S-Z please bring a dessert to share. For your convenience, all food can be dropped off prior to 4:30 Mass in Hilkert Hall. Please make sure your dish is clearly labeled with your last name.



## Ministry Spotlight: Stephen Ministry

**The responsibility for passing on God's love is for all Christians, not just for a chosen few.** God has given us all gifts for ministry and called us to put those gifts to use. Stephen Ministry is a way people can use those gifts to bring Christ's love to people in need.



**We have many needs for care in our parish and community:** people experiencing divorce, grief, a terminal illness, loss of a job, relocation, an empty nest, retirement, hospitalization, loneliness, and many other stresses or challenges. Often people with needs suffer silently or do not request or receive the level of care they really need. Stephen Ministry expands the care we can offer by equipping and organizing members to provide Christian care. We have wonderful people with the gifts, skills, and calling to bring Christ's love and care to those who most need it. **Please continue to lift up our ministers as they receive training.**

**If you would like more information about Stephen Ministry, please contact Jane Baldwin at [JBaldwin@StAmbrose.us](mailto:JBaldwin@StAmbrose.us) or Lisa Homady at [LHomady@StAmbrose.us](mailto:LHomady@StAmbrose.us).**

## Young Adult Advent Yoga

**Saturday, December 1**

**12:00 noon – 1:15pm**

**College students, 20s & 30s welcome!**

Enter the Advent season with a grateful & peaceful heart! Join St. Ambrose parishioner and yoga instructor Lisa Berardinelli for a discounted Young Adult Yoga Class!

The class will be held at her studio, The Barn Wellness Center in Hinckley, and modeled after her "Soulful Sunday" classes, which incorporate a mix of high energy and contemplative Christian worship music.

The last 15 minutes will be dedicated to a mindful meditation. Class is \$10 per person. Space is limited to 25.

**RSVP: Contact Catherine at [CRainey@StAmbrose.us](mailto:CRainey@StAmbrose.us) or 330.460.7338 by November 29th.**

## Small Faith Sharing Groups

The Tomazics have been doing small faith groups in their homes for years. It started when it was the "in" thing to do. They continued doing these groups when society didn't think it was cool anymore. And, now that there is a resurgence in the popularity of small faith groups; yes, you guessed it! They continue to do groups in their home year-round.

It is a way to come together in a small intimate setting with others who are interested in learning and growing in their walk with the Lord. They have developed great friendships with so many who they treasure as family. And just like any family they value, respect, and look forward to seeing each other whenever their paths cross.

*"...As they were walking up to the Tomazic's house they could hear laughter and they felt so special to belong to this family!!!"*

**They key to such groups is they are Christ centered; whether it is a study of scripture, the Catholic Church, Prayer, the Holy Spirit, or other aspects of the faith... small in-home faith sharing groups foster a unique opportunity for personal growth.**

Terri Bartchak has been participating in Deacon Gary and Shari's small faith groups for years and uses the group as a time of prayer and reflection, as well as a time of sharing with others her personal relationship and journey with God. She has grown so much closer to God with these groups.

Someone once said that as they were walking up to the Tomazic's house they could hear laughter and they felt so special to belong to this family!!! They love one another and hate to have a session end but they all know after the holidays they will be back together for a Lent study. **It's a great opportunity for YOU to be a part of it!**

**If you would like to lead a group this Lent or join a group, please contact Jane Baldwin at 330.460.7381 or [JBaldwin@StAmbrose.us](mailto:JBaldwin@StAmbrose.us).**





## PSR

### Rise up, take courage and do it!

We have been focusing on this theme all year! We made blankets for the St. Vincent de Paul Society's Blanket Sunday, celebrated All Saints Day with a day of learning about different Saints, and rallied the PSR students to donate coats for the Warmth Project. The students are always challenged to model the Fruits of the Holy Spirit this year with their Kindness, Patience, Generosity and Joy.

We are blessed with many new Catechists and volunteers that have joined the PSR program this year. They have graciously chosen to accept the "Rise up, take courage and do it" challenge! Let us continue to pray for both our students and our volunteers as they grow together in their love of Christ.

### Upcoming Events

#### Living Nativity

Sunday, December 16

#### 1st Grade Baptismal Workshop

Wednesday, January 6 at 4:30 pm

Saturday, January 12 at 9:00 am

Monday, January 14 at 6:30 pm

#### 3rd / 4th Grade Retreat

Saturday, January 12

#### 5th Grade Retreat

Saturday, January 12

Disciples of Service Retreat

## RCIC

The RCIC process for children begins on Wednesday, December 5. If you have a child or grandchild who needs to grow closer to the Lord and is in need to celebrate the Sacraments contact Janet Majka at JMajka@StAmbrose.us or 330-460-7321.

*"Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!"*

*- Psalm 100:4*

**What a wonderful opportunity to give back and be reminded of the TRUE reason for this Christmas season!**



## 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

### DO SOMETHING MEANINGFUL THIS ADVENT SEASON!

**We need volunteers to "adopt a family" and help deliver random acts of kindness.**

It's simple... it's fun... and most importantly, it's significant in the life of someone in need!

*We provide the gifts, the address, everything you need - you just deliver them to the families!*

**Email [LHomady@StAmbrose.us](mailto:LHomady@StAmbrose.us) by December 1 for more info or to volunteer!**

*"Thank you so much for the wonderful surprise of the 12 Days Ministry. Christmas was so rough this year with the loss of my husband, yet we found ourselves looking forward to each day's gifts. We felt so blessed to receive them all- they brought us tears of joy. God bless you for all your compassion and care at Saint Ambrose."*

**Funded by the generous #WeGiveCatholic donations on November 27!**

### Music Ministry Spotlight:

#### Jim Elshaw and John Rankin

On any given Sunday, you'll find Jim and John in the music area bright and early before the 9:00am mass, diligently putting their music, guitars, and equipment in order. Keep in mind Jim (Bass Guitar) and John (Electric Guitar) travel in with their instruments, cables, and even amplifiers! After unloading and setting up their instruments, stands, music and cables, they have to tune their instruments before they are ready to play BOTH the 9:00am and 10:30am Masses.

Jim and John have been dedicated to this for many years at Saint Ambrose, and these two morning masses would not be the same without their talents. They also play for special masses, sacraments, and Jim is even branching out into Junior High PSR Masses too!

Often times they will stay past choir rehearsal to work specifically with the instrumental music to make sure everyone is in sync for the weekend.

***We are blest to have Jim and John!***





## *The Hands & Hearts Behind the Warmth Project*

**For the past few years, bags of coats, hats, and gloves pile into Saint Ambrose for a few weeks in October and November, seeming to multiply overnight.**

A similar phenomenon, that can only be described as the goodness of God and our community, happens at collection sites across the Cleveland region. These hundreds and hundreds of winter coats, hats, gloves, scarves, and boots go to children and families in the Clark-Fulton area of Cleveland as part of the Alpha Village outreach. This year, a distribution will be held for the families of Clark Elementary School in Cleveland on November 27th. Another open distribution will also be held for the surrounding community in early December.

There is a whole team of individuals who work hard to put this collection together each year. From scouting out collection sites in the area to spending hours organizing coats by size and family, it's a large undertaking that points to their dedication and generosity. Each year, they have been able to revise and improve their system of sorting and distribution to meet the needs of the greatest number of individuals and families.

*"My favorite part of this event is two-fold," said team member Jen Kirkpatrick. "First, it is amazing to see the looks on a young child's face when they get a new coat or are able to pick out a color. The looks of gratitude from a parent or the amazing feeling seeing so many people get warmth."*

It takes a large number of volunteers to make this event possible. Many of the individuals on the team turn the coat distribution event into a service opportunity for the whole family.

*"The most rewarding part for me however is the drive home with my daughters and the understanding and appreciation they have for how blessed they truly are in life and that part of the responsibility of being blessed is to give back," Jen said.*

**Those involved with organizing the Warmth Project include:** Marlene Antonius, Vince Berardinelli, Jake Bihari, Tina Camiola, Chrissy Cooney, Diane Eichman, Kim Estep, Kim Harrington, Jen Kirkpatrick, Stacy Metheney, Christine and Chris Monczewski, Amy and Ken Morgan, Becky Nettles, Catherine Rainey, Angela Rebish, Kelly Reddy, Chelsea Rego, Denise Scolaro, Terri Wajda, and Marissa Welsh.

*"For when I was naked you gave me your coat."*  
- MATTHEW 25

*"And whatever you do,  
in word or deed,  
do everything in the name  
of the Lord Jesus,  
giving thanks to God the  
Father through him."*

*- Colossians 3:17*







# Christmas Cookie Baking

**Young and old, we all love cookies!**  
Bring all of your family generations to do something special together this Christmas season!

We have a fun afternoon planned to learn new recipes, share family traditions, and get new techniques. And of course...  
**BAKE CHRISTMAS COOKIES TOGETHER!**

**December 15, 2018**  
**1:00 pm in Hilkert Hall**

RSVP by December 10 to Jane Baldwin at  
[JBaldwin@StAmbrose.us](mailto:JBaldwin@StAmbrose.us) or 330.460.7381



**Fun for the whole family!**



## APPLEBEE'S

We are once again proud to partner with our local Applebee's restaurant in Brunswick Town Center! If you're looking for a place to eat in Brunswick, swing by Applebee's and thank them for their ongoing support of our parish!



## BRUNSWICK AUTO MART

God bless Brunswick Auto Mart for their ongoing support for our parish! Their annual donation of a vehicle for our Parish Raffle is truly a game changer for our community. If you need a car this winter, stop by Brunswick Auto Mart



## REAL ESTATE SERVICES

### LoFASO REAL ESTATE SERVICES

We had the opportunity to talk to Sam LoFaso a few weeks ago. During the conversation he was telling about a client who wasn't initially using a real estate agent when searching for a home, rather was using one of the many websites and apps out there. After weeks and not much progress, they reached out to Sam for his help and expertise. Within days, Sam was able to find them their dream house and negotiate a great price. The benefit with a real estate agent is their expertise and ability to guide you and represent you (the buyer) during negotiations. This experience is invaluable and can take the anxiety and hassle out of purchasing a home.

If you need real estate advice, contact Sam LoFaso at [sold@SamLoFaso.com](mailto:sold@SamLoFaso.com)

## Angels Make a Difference!

The theme for this year has been a rallying message for us - students and staff alike - to rise up, take courage and do what Jesus Who is Everything for us calls us to do. We have been working hard to support our students as they grow in heart, mind and the Holy Spirit so they truly are "Angels" who make a difference.



## SUPPORT IN AND OUT OF THE CLASSROOM

Thanks to the incredible support and partnership of our PTU, parents and partners we have been able to do incredible things! Thanks to their generosity ALL SAS classrooms now have state of the art Promethean technology boards. Watching students and teachers interact as a STEAM school in the ways our 21st Century learners need is quite amazing. From Flexible seating in our classrooms to flexible scheduling for our HSP junior high students. We continue to work hard to keep our Saint Ambrose Commitment to providing "Everything for Every Student, Every Day".

## CULTURE OF EXCELLENCE

The work we began last spring with our Angels Make a Difference program and the Be Kind, STICK TOGETHER program continue to strengthen our school culture and respect for every child and student. Our faculty and staff work to partner with parents and reinforce this positive message of respect in creative and consistent ways for each and every member of our school community.

## STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE

We are so proud of Mrs. Mitchell and our Littlest Angels Preschool Team for their work in receiving 5 Stars, the highest rating possible, from the Ohio Department of Education's Office of Early Learning and School Readiness. This means that our Preschool program demonstrates the highest level of quality available, and exceeds the state standards. This is a wonderful external validation of the great work they do every day, and also provides an even stronger transition to Kindergarten.

All of these are major steps forward in addition to the everyday business of the school year. **Special thanks to Mr. Dzedzicki, Mr. Mullen and Mrs. Mitchell for their never-ending commitment and efforts to lead and guide all of our faculty and staff members in our important ministry!**

On behalf of the Faculty and Staff of Saint Ambrose School, please accept our prayers and best wishes for a holy and happy Advent Season!

Blessings,  
Lisa Cinadr, Principal



## School Christmas Concert "Christmas Traditions"

Thursday, December 13, at 6:30 pm

All are welcome to the Saint Ambrose School K-8 Christmas Concert beginning in the church. Doors open at 6:00pm, concert begins at 6:30pm. Before the concert, at 5:30pm, will be an art gallery in Hilkert Hall with cookies and hot cocoa!

**We are celebrating our tenth anniversary and our 5 STAR Step Up To Quality Rating from the Ohio Department of Education's Office of Early Learning and School Readiness.**

This external validation of our program on our tenth anniversary gives us extra reason to celebrate! We have many things to celebrate, not only early learning excellence but most importantly our faith! We value relationships with our children, families and community and it is our blessing to share our faith with our littlest angels. Teaching the traditions of our church and celebrating the life and teachings of Jesus is our focus and privilege. Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas traditions give us a lot to look forward to!

**Advent is a time to wait... try telling that to a preschool child waiting for Christmas!**

We teach the children that during this waiting time, we can grow closer as a family of God by sharing what we have, spending time together and serving others through our actions and words.

As we enter into Advent, we ask that our preschool families participate in an Advent Challenge. **We are challenging each family to complete family faith activities.** Some activities may include, baking cookies for a neighbor, going for a drive to see the Christmas lights, and having an advent candlelight dinner.

Many exciting events and opportunities to grow closer as a family are available at our parish. **Take some time together, slow down and enjoy this upcoming season of Advent!**

Advent Blessings,  
Catherine Mitchell,  
Director of Littlest Angels Preschool





*Hello from the Youth Ministry Office!*

**Happy Advent! It seems like just yesterday we were having our Fall Kick-Off and getting ready for back to school, and before we know it we'll be bringing in a new year.**

As we celebrate the Advent season and look to the new year, we continue to unpack our theme for the year – Build Up. Over the past couple months, we've been talking about and reflecting on ways to build ourselves up, build each other up, and build up our Church.

Please keep an eye out – in the bulletin, on our website ([www.myFIAT.us](http://www.myFIAT.us)), our social media, and around the parish – for many events and programs coming up, and always feel free to stop by the Youth Ministry Office or call us at 330.460.7387!



## Metanoia VI Retreat January 4-6, 2019

### Cuyahoga Valley National Park

What better way to start the new year than joining your FIAT friends for our annual Metanoia Retreat? Our sixth Metanoia Retreat is coming up January 4-6 at Cuyahoga Valley National Park. This annual favorite is a great chance to de-stress, grow closer to your friends (and make some new ones), grow in faith & so much more! Be sure to join us for this unforgettable weekend – spots are limited and are filled on a first-come, first-serve basis. Start your new year off on the right foot – head to [www.myFIAT.us/forms](http://www.myFIAT.us/forms) to get your permission forms today!

## FIAT Nights

Join us on Sunday evenings for 5pm Mass followed by FIAT from 6-8pm. This is a one-of-a-kind opportunity to gather for great food & friendship to share in discussion and grow in faith.

Check out [www.myFIAT.us](http://www.myFIAT.us) for more details! Questions? Call Caitlin at 330.460.7387.



## Ablaze

Each year the 6th, 7th and 8th grade PSR classes here at Saint Ambrose are brimming over with **smiling student faces, joyful volunteers and the love that can only come from Jesus Christ.** We are beyond grateful for each volunteer dedicating their time and talent to our Junior High students in an effort to help them encounter Christ in a real way!

**ABLAZE**  
*set our Hearts on Fire!*

**This year, ABLAZE is continuing the EDGE programming on 7 Monday night PSR sessions.** These nights will offer a space for both PSR and Day School students for fellowship and will provide a unique opportunity for students to make new like-minded friends and set their sights on serving the surrounding community!

In addition to the 7 EDGE nights, there will be both **social events and service opportunities throughout the year to aide our young teens to grow closer to Christ and our parish family.** Please see the list below and spread the word to your young teen(s)!

## Ablaze Activities Open to all 6th, 7th and 8th Grade Students!

December 17	Edge Night #3 - "The Greatest Christmas Social of All Time"
January 21	MLK Day of Service 11am - 2pm
January 28	Edge Night #4
February 2-3	Souper Bowl of Caring During all weekend Masses

Please feel free to contact Janet Majka at 330.460.7321 or [JMajka@StAmbrose.us](mailto:JMajka@StAmbrose.us) for more information on any/all ABLAZE events or if you are able to help!





*A wide view of the front of the church. Note, these light fixtures have not been selected, but it provides some insight into what they'll look like. The carpet and tile colors are close to what they'll be and the image gives you a good perspective of the space.*



*A view of the back of the church with flex seating space in the back, the music ministry area to the left and family room to the right.*

## Vision 20/20

### Church Renovation Update

**We have been steady at it the past few months working on the church renovation!**

**Since we broke ground in August, we've made great progress:**

- The exterior walls were demolished
- The steeple was removed\*
- The concrete footers and slabs for 4 of the 5 smaller additions were poured
- The studs for the exterior walls are up
- About half of the stained glass windows which will be relocated, were removed for safekeeping during construction
- Rough in electric, drains and plumbing
- The dormers which will replace the skylights are being built
- Steel will be here within the next few days
- All the materials for the roof were delivered and are onsite

**\*The steeple removal turned out to be a wonderful gift from God.** In the early days when we were discerning whether to repair the issues or completely renovate, the steeple removal was not taken into consideration. It wasn't until after we determined we would renovate the church that Marous Brothers Construction (MBC) concluded it was best to remove the steeple so that it could be repaired and renovated. When the steeple was removed in October, it was revealed that although the plans and blue prints indicated there would (and should) be roofing beneath it, there was nothing there. Once we removed the steeple and simply covered the spot where the steeple was with a tarp, the water stopped!



*A view from the new South entry (entering from the water tower parking lot): You see the larger entrance with family restroom, holy water fonts and new finishes*



*A glimpse into our new chapel! The chapel renovation will start sometime after Thanksgiving and should be finished by Christmas. The chapel will get new flooring, paint, doors, front wall finish, some brick work and a new altar. The chapel will also get chairs that will gang together, have kneelers and be padded. There will also be niches in the corners for future statues.*



# GENERATIONS of Faith TOGETHER for the GLORY OF GOD

**Over the next several weeks Marous Brothers Construction will continue working on:**

- Finishing the dormers
- The Chapel renovation will begin

**We've also made great progress on the interior selections and liturgical items:**

- We picked carpet and tiles, paint colors and wood stains.
- The contract for the pews and chairs has been executed. It was a great process working with the committee to select the types of pews, chairs and finishes. We worked closely with the pew company to develop custom seating for our members with special considerations.
- We released the contract for the Stations of the Cross. They were ordered through a local company, Henningers, who works with a company out of Italy. They are 16"x24" cast bronze reliefs. We had the chance to see an exact replica prior to ordering it – and it was extraordinary!
- Norbert Koehn, our Liturgical Artist has been hard at work, working on the new altar, ambo, baptismal font, crucifix and holy water fonts. All the drawings we've seen have been exceptional and we're looking forward to the final result.



*The new front vestibule. This larger space with higher ceilings will create a bright and welcoming area for us to gather before and after mass. From here you can enter the church, cry room or restrooms, much like you can now.*



*What the baptismal font area may look like... We are still working on the final design of the font itself along with the glass feature behind it... This baptismal font will be more prominent and accommodating for our families.*



*The new Mary Grotto. We are working to finalize the exact statue design along with the kneelers for reflection. There will be denotational candles along the back wall for prayer intentions and a solar tube for natural light.*



*The new family room (cry room and brides room). It will be much larger, have more natural light and a family restroom inside it.*



NOVEMBER 2018

# ADVENT NEWSLETTER

WE ARE A CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF FAITH CENTERED ON JESUS CHRIST, WHO IS EVERYTHING FOR US

NONPROFIT ORG  
U.S. POSTAGE  
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PERMIT #67

Sunday, December 2

## Breakfast with St. Ambrose, St. Nick and Friends

8:00am - 11:45am

**TICKETS** \$6.50 General Admission (Under 2 Free!)

### TICKET INCLUDES:

Breakfast, Craft for each child, Picture with St. Ambrose,  
St. Nick and Santa in our Winter Wonderland!

### BREAKFAST INCLUDES:

Pancakes, Eggs, Sausage, Potatoes,  
fruit drink, coffee and water

BAKE  
SALE!



### BACK THIS YEAR: NORTH POLE!

The Parish Life Center and  
the Mother Teresa Room  
will be transformed into the  
North Pole for you to create  
wonderful family memories.

Proudly sponsored by our Knights of Columbus,  
FIAT and Littlest Angels Preschool!



Thanks to our Community Partners!



Join those who are doing great work  
supporting our Parish! Contact Jake  
at JBihari@StAmbrose.us



Our parish is blessed  
to have wonderful  
community partners that  
help support our great  
efforts to feed the hungry,  
care for those in need, and  
offer free family events for  
our community.