



# VIRTUS®

at SAINT AMBROSE PARISH

*“Let us then pursue what leads to peace  
and to building up one another.”*

- Romans 14:19

## Dear Members of our Saint Ambrose Parish Family:

Several years ago, our parish launched an effort called, our parish CARES (Concerned + Alert + Responsive = Everyone Safe). It's a way to make sure that every member, each child of God, is cared for and has the help and hope they need.

Our Crisis Committee continues to meet on a regular basis. Here is their Quarterly Update for Spring 2019. We have been also working to review all the practices of our parish to make sure that our parish community and our campus is a safe, welcoming and a caring place for everyone. **I, along with our parish leaders, are deeply committed to working both to protect all of our children and heal the hurt that has been caused by the Church and its ministers.**

**Please take some time to review this information.** If you have yet to participate in a VIRTUS class, which provides education about abuse (in every form), please consider joining us. Working together, we can make sure every child of God is cared for and respected with the dignity they deserve. Let us continue to CARE for one another as Christ has taught us.

On this insert is a special prayer for victims of abuse. **Please join me in praying that all may find God's healing peace and mercy.**

If you have any questions, or suggestions, please let me know (FrBob@StAmbrose.us).

May God bless you, your family and our parish family.



Father Bob Stec

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## What is Called To Protect™?

**Called to Protect™ is the most up-to-date, comprehensive safe environments program available today, exclusively for Catholic ministries, parents, youth, and young children and is used at Saint Ambrose Day School and PSR.**

This four-part multi-media series builds on the latest abuse prevention research and Praesidium's two decades of experience working with dioceses, religious, schools, YMCAs, camps, childcare, youth sports, and social service programs.

The Called to Protect™ program also has a program designed exclusively for parents. It recognizes that parents are the first and foremost protectors of their children and it gives them the skills and information they need to fulfill this important mission.

## What is Virtus®?

**Virtus® is a best practices program designed to help prevent wrongdoing and promote “right doing” within religious organizations.** The program empowers organizations and people to better control risk and improve the lives of those who interact with the Church. Virtus® deals with child abuse and other inappropriate behavior. Saint Ambrose holds these Virtus® classes at least once a month here at the parish.

**Total Number of Users for  
Saint Ambrose in Virtus:**

**1,886**

**Currently Active Saint  
Ambrose Users in Virtus:**

**1,034**

**Number of Day School  
Volunteers:**

**268**

**Virtus Classes Held at  
Saint Ambrose:**

**209**

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## Virtus Class Schedule at Saint Ambrose

June 12, 2019

July 15, 2019

August 15, 2019

September 10, 2019

September 21, 2019

October 10, 2019

November 13, 2019

December 10, 2019

*Register for any classes in the  
Diocese at [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org)*

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**To become a volunteer at  
Saint Ambrose:**

Go to the Parish website at  
[StAmbrose.us/VolunteerForms](http://StAmbrose.us/VolunteerForms)

**To schedule a background  
check at Saint Ambrose:**

Go to the Parish website at  
[StAmbrose.us/BackgroundCheck](http://StAmbrose.us/BackgroundCheck)



# VIRTUS<sup>®</sup>

at SAINT AMBROSE PARISH

*“I, then, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to live in a manner worthy of the call you have received, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another through love, striving to preserve the unity of the spirit through the bond of peace”*

*- Ephesians 4: 1-3*

## Prayer for Healing

*God of endless love,  
ever caring, ever strong,  
always present, always just:  
You gave your only Son  
to save us by the blood of his cross.*

*Gentle Jesus, shepherd of peace,  
join to your own suffering  
the pain of all who have been hurt  
in body, mind, and spirit  
by those who betrayed the trust placed in  
them.*

*Hear our cries as we agonize  
over the harm done to our brothers and  
sisters.*

*Breathe wisdom into our prayers,  
soothe restless hearts with hope,  
steady shaken spirits with faith:  
Show us the way to justice and  
wholeness,  
enlightened by truth and enfolded in  
your mercy.*

*Holy Spirit, comforter of hearts,  
heal your people's wounds  
and transform our brokenness.  
Grant us courage and wisdom, humility  
and grace,  
so that we may act with justice  
and find peace in you.  
We ask this through Christ, our Lord.  
Amen.*

*From the USCCB website*

## Ongoing Efforts at Saint Ambrose

Our committee has been working to review and update policies and procedures specifically on Saint Ambrose campus. The committee includes representatives from Pastoral Staff, Day School, School Advisory Board, Pastoral Council, PSR, FIAT, and our Maintenance Department.

We have conducted our quarterly evaluation of all rooms, procedures, volunteers and staff to insure the safety of all individuals while on Saint Ambrose campus.

## As We Go Forward at Saint Ambrose

- Ongoing quarterly evaluation of all areas, rooms, procedures, staff, and volunteers
- Additional cameras have been added to provide expanded views of the campus
- 8 security cameras added to campus with Church renovation
- Always on lights added across campus
- Glass panels added to Church doors in renovation
- Updated Virtus section on Saint Ambrose's website
- Continuous and ongoing update of Social Media Policy to all Parish Staff and volunteers
- Regular communication and implementation of Diocesan policies and practices
- Continuous update on volunteer website

### To Report Abuse:

**If you suspect child abuse, you MUST call civic authorities:**

**Medina County, call Medina County Job and Family Services:** 1.800.783.5070.

**After business hours:** 330.725.6631

**If you suspect child abuse within the Diocese of Cleveland,** call the 24 hour response line *AFTER* you call civic authorities: 216.334.2999

**Victim Assistance** 216.334.2999

