

Bear the
CROSS
Wear the
CROWN

SAINT AMBROSE PARISH
LENT 2021

ONLY THIS I WANT:
BUT TO KNOW THE LORD
AND TO **BEAR HIS CROSS,**
SO TO **WEAR THE CROWN**
HE WORE.



Bear the Cross. Wear the Crown.

As we enter into these holy days of Lent, it always gives us a time to reflect on the Mystery of the Cross and the Paschal Mystery. As Jesus embraced the Cross, He claimed for us the promise of Heaven. **In His dying, He opened for us the way to Heaven.** In the pattern of the Cross in death, we find new life and a fullness of life in Christ.

Since last Lent, all of us have had many opportunities to embrace the Cross and bear our crosses. We bear the cross so we can wear the crown of glory that Christ promises to us. In dying we rise. Our fervent prayer, as we walk into the Easter Season in early April, is that all of us will find and experience new life, greater joy, and abundant blessings in Christ. We bear the Cross so we can wear and embrace the crown of Christ's glory now and forever.

Our parish is working hard to make sure you have many opportunities for prayer and spiritual growth during this Lenten Season. We need the grace to bear our crosses. We need the hope and promise that in Christ we will find new life. As a parish community, we have embraced many new ways to do some timeless things so we can grow closer to the Lord this Lent. We are offering many retreats and opportunities, both virtually and in person, so that everyone has an opportunity this Lent at Saint Ambrose.

You will find inspiring music...beautiful songs to stir your soul. In the programs, you will hear God's Word and find meaningful discussions and conversations on how to live that Word in your life. **In our Lent offerings there**

really is a way for all of us to grow spiritually and strengthen the bonds of faith, family and community. Please take some time to review this newsletter and see all that is available.

May God bless you as you bear your cross. May we walk forward into a future full of hope mindful of Christ's promise to find the crown of glory with God forever in Heaven.

Please let me know if I/we can be of any help, as well as if you have any suggestions and/or ideas that can help us respond to your spiritual and pastoral needs.

Blessed Lent.

Father Bob Stec

P.S. As always, we will be encouraging all of our members to use the Lent Rice Bowls. This year the first 'share' of your offerings will be used towards a house being built in Brunswick by Habitat for Humanity.

Our parish community is blessed to sponsor the Wall Build Day on Saturday, April 17, 2021. Our front parking lot will be a construction zone as we build the walls for a new home and together Build up the Body of Christ in our community. Small change will make a big difference. Thank you for your support.

Drive-Thru Anointing & Communion

Feb 16, March 2, March 16, and April 6

Please join us every Tuesday during Lent at 11:00 am and 4:00 pm for a special opportunity to receive the Holy Eucharist as well as Anointing from one of our priests. Drive through the Saint Ambrose parking lot to the Catholic Works of Mercy Outreach Center where you can drive through the overhang and remain safely in your car.

Drive-Thru Lent Kit!

**February 16 from 4:00-6:00pm
Drive-Thru Lent Kit and
Mardi Gras Paczki Pick-up**

Your kit includes a Lent Little Black Book, activities for the kids and family, coloring pages, prayer activities, sacrifice beans, Lent activities calendar and more!

Lent Small Faith Groups

Make it the BEST Lent ever!

LENT 3.3
SAINT AMBROSE PARISH LENT 2021

Think of how the world has changed – and all we have been through – since last February!!! Simply amazing. Even more amazing is God's grace and goodness. Through good times, and difficult ones, Christ is the Light so much stronger than the darkness. Christ is the one who can sustain us and be our strength for the journey.

We are inviting you, and all our members, to commit to three one-hour sessions. Each will start with a short video presenting a scripture reading, song and questions for discussion. These will help us understand and unpack our parish Lent theme: Bear the Cross. Wear the Crown.

This year we are offering three different options to make sure you are safe and comfortable:

- You can participate in Lent 3.3 virtually via Zoom
- Meet with your 'circle' of friends (your bubble).
- Meet in person spaced out in a meeting room on our parish campus.

If you have any questions, or need additional information, please feel free to call or email Fr. Bob Stec (frbob@StAmbrose.us).

LEARN MORE OR SIGN UP: stambrose.us/lent-faith-groups

Lenten Soup Suppers

Thursday, March 18 and Thursday, March 25

6:00-8:00 pm | Hilkert Hall Gym

Join us to warm your stomach and your soul with good food, fellowship, and some spiritual reflection this Lenten season. We will welcome wonderful speakers who will share with us how we can "Bear the Cross - Wear the Crown".

Thursday, March 18: Dr. Iezzi joins us to speak on "The Paradox of the Cross"
Thursday, March 25: Ms. Cindy Zalek, Pastoral Associate at St. Charles Borromeo

Invite your family and friends to join you for an inspiring evening at Saint Ambrose. Due to Covid and for the safety of all, this year we will be taking RSVP's so we have enough seats for everyone. Please make a reservation with Gail at geichman@stambrose.us or call 330-460-7300

Lent Mission with Fr. Rob Ramser

The Seven Last Words of Christ

Inspiring reflections that will help you reflect and pray throughout the Season of Lent.

Every week in Lent, Father Rob Ramser and our music ministry will share a ten minute video reflecting on the journey of the Cross.

We bear our cross with the help of God's grace so we can ultimately share in the fullness of life and salvation with Christ forever in Heaven.



Watch at stambrose.us/lent

Lent Events

Every Friday during Lent
Fish Fry TO GO 4:30-7:00pm
Stations of the Cross 7:00pm

Every Tuesday and Thursday
Legion of Mary 20 Minute
Challenge at 7:00pm

February 16: Mardi Gras
Drive-Thru Lent Kit and Mardi
Gras Paczki Pick-up
4:00-6:00pm

February 17: Ash Wednesday
Prayer Service
6:30am, 10:00am
Mass 8:15am, 12:00pm,
5:00pm, 7:00pm
Drive-Thru Ashes
11:00am, 4:00pm
Parish Fish Fry 4:30-7:00pm

February 21 Donut Sunday

March 1 Mercy Monday

March 3
Sacrament of Reconciliation
4:30pm-6:00pm

March 18 and March 25
Lenten Soup Suppers
6:00-8:00pm

March 21 Donut Sunday

March 24
Living Stations
by Saint Ambrose School
7:00pm (Church grounds)

March 26
Sacrament of Reconciliation
1:00-2:00pm

Tenebrae Service 7:00pm

March 28: Palm Sunday
Palm Sunday Mass
(in-person or virtually)
4:30pm (Vigil); 7:30am, 9am,
10:30am, 12:00pm and 5:00pm
(4:30pm, 9:00am, 10:30am
Masses also held in Hilkert Hall)
Communal Penance 6:30-7:30pm

Drive-Thru to pick up Palms
and your Holy Week Kit
Saturday (March 27) 2:30-3:30 or
Sunday (March 28) 1:00-2:00pm

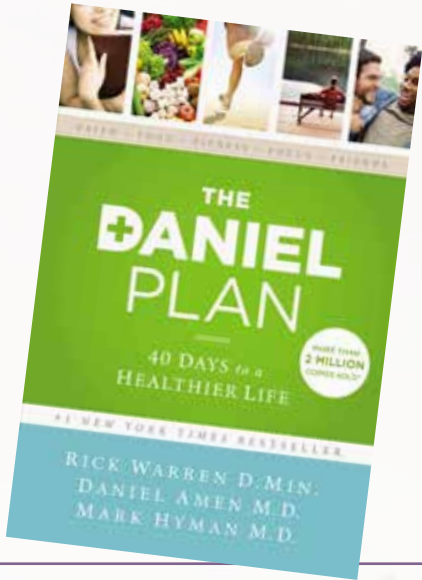
Daniel Plan, 7-Week Lent Series

Classes begin on February 23, 2021
Held virtually via Zoom on Tuesdays, 7:00-8:30pm

As we walk into the Lenten Season we look to be holier and healthier. We are offering a 7-week series called the "Daniel Plan" to help you live a healthier, holier lifestyle by studying the five essentials of faith, food, fitness, focus, and friends.

In order to ensure that participants receive their books prior to the first meeting, please RSVP before February 16. Sign up at StAmbrose.us/lent.

Our parish is happy to help support you as you grow in health and holiness. The provided resources cost \$30. **If you can, please consider a donation to cover the expense of these program materials.** God bless.



Divorce Care for Kids (DC4K)

New series starting Tuesday, March 2, 6:00 – 8:00 pm

A scripture-based program designed to help children (ages 6-13) of families experiencing divorce and separation. Each session is full of games, activities, arts and crafts, stories, exercise, videos and music that is centered around a weekly theme.

If you think your child(ren) would benefit from Divorce Care for Kids and would like more information, or would like to register your child, contact Jennie Porco at 330.460.7317 or JPorco@stambrose.us

**We will be practicing social distancing, wearing masks and washing/sanitizing hands to ensure everyone's safety.*

Lenten Service Project

At-Home Craft Kits!

This Lent we want to remind the elderly and homebound they are not alone and in our thoughts and prayers.

Starting on Sunday, February 28th, stop by the church office and pick a small craft to make at home and **return back to the office by Monday, March 22nd.** Email Gail at geichman@stambrose.us with any questions.

Virtual Resources & Events

Join online from home, work...anywhere!

During Lent you'll be able to find plenty of opportunities to grow in faith and stay connected, from wherever you are! Visit our website for more information on everything listed below. StAmbrose.us/Lent

- **All Masses**, stream live at StAmbrose.us/WatchMass.
- **Lent 3.3 Small Faith Sharing Groups**, join a group!
- **Mission Rice Bowl**, making daily sacrifice.
- **Lent Mission with Father Rob Ramser**, weekly video reflections.
- **Peter's Shadow Healing Prayer**, virtual sessions are on Wednesday evenings in February and March
- **Book Club**, Thursdays at 1:00 pm via Zoom
- **KofC Series, Into the Breach**, every Saturday in February.
- **Daniel Plan, 7-Week Lent Series**, Tuesdays starting February 23.
- **Teach Us to Pray with Fr. Andrew**, join March 7th, 8th, and 9th
- **Hearts of Hope Widows Support Group**, March 9
- **Passiontide Concert**, March 28th
- **FAF's Virtual Happy Hours and Recipe & Restaurant Reviews**, Friday evenings in March.
- **Fr. Bob's Weekly Video**, shared every Tuesday.
- **Fr. Andrew's Sitting with Scripture**, Thursday 6pm.
- **Family and Kid-Friendly Activities**, visit our website!
- **FORMED.org**, weekly suggestions of movies, children's programs, ebooks, audio and more.
- **SOTE.life**, Inspiring messages of faith.
- **SA Social Media**, Find the latest news, videos and inspiration on our Facebook, Twitter, Instagram.



SAINT AMBROSE PARISH Lenten Fish Fry

Every Friday during Lent
4:30 - 7:00pm

CARRY OUT ONLY.

Pre-order in advance.

Limited walk-up orders.

More details on the back cover!
Also visit stambrose.us/fish-fry

Who wants to go fishing?

Or better said, who can help
with the Fish Fry??

Our Fish Fry team needs some help this year. If you are interested in learning more, or signing up to help on Friday nights, go to: stambrose.us/fish-fry.

God bless you for all your help and support for our parish community.



Mission Rice Bowl

BUILDING A BETTER WORLD

Small change makes a big difference here in Brunswick and in our Mission. All the money collected will be used this year towards building a Habitat for Humanity Home in Brunswick AND towards a house in our mission community in the Dominican Republic. **Together we can build a better world!**

GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR LENTEN SACRIFICE.



Easter Egg Hunt

Bring the kids and grandkids on Saturday, April 3, 2021!

Get ready to hunt for tons of eggs spread out across our Parish grounds! Come for fun, music, the Easter Bunny and more. A safe way for the family to have fun as we get ready to celebrate the joy of Easter.

Help us plan by submitting a quick RSVP at StAmbrose.us/Easter-Egg! Don't forget your Easter bucket or bag to gather up eggs!



Mission Rice Bowl

Small change makes a big difference here in Brunswick and in our Mission.



BUILDING A BETTER WORLD – TOGETHER in Brunswick and the Dominican Republic

Proceeds from this year's rice bowl collection will also go towards our Brunswick Habitat for Humanity project.



It costs \$10,000 to build a home that is 22'x24'

Each home consists of 1 bathroom, 2 bedrooms, a cooking area (not a full kitchen), a living room and a porch. The average family in our community is 6 people. Imagine sharing 2 bedrooms and 1 bathroom with everyone!



WATER! Especially in NE Ohio, with Lake Erie, we take clean, running water for granted.

We work to provide our communities with clean running water. This takes ongoing maintenance and upkeep to the wells and systems we've installed over the years.



Angels in our Community

Meet Connie Smalley

Every week as you page through the bulletin there's always an updated list of prayer requests and intentions from our parish community. That list has been faithfully compiled by our member, Connie Smalley. **It's been her mission and her ministry to help us all be 'prayer warriors' for our members in need for over 24 years.**

Connie began the prayer list in 1997 with just 12 names. To date, Connie has received over 5,000 names, all of them prayed for by the Saint Ambrose prayer group that Connie is a part of currently.

We send our prayers of great thanks and gratitude to Connie for helping all of us be mindful of our members who need special prayers. It's a blessing to our parish and a beautiful ministry. Please join me as we offer a special prayer to God for an angel in our community – Connie Smalley. There's nothing small about the good she does and the impact she makes in our parish community.

Faithful After Fifty

February

Virtual Happy Hour & Restaurant Review - February 19

7:00 pm, *Virtual*
Get the inside scoop on a local restaurant! We will continue through March and will be geared towards our Lenten theme.

Indoor Lawn Game Social – February 20

2:00 pm, *Parish Life Center*
Shake the winter doldrums and thaw out. Play fun games of varying (or no!) skill level all in a safe and socially distanced manner. Enjoy some safely-served snacks before heading home or join for Mass.

Into the Future with Fr. Bob - February 26

7:00 pm, *Virtual and in-person*
Don't miss the chance to hear from Fr. Bob on the BIG plans he has for our parish and how we can all be a great part of them!

March

FAF and Route 66 Combo Event! Hike & Picnic - Sunday, March 14

Join from 1:00 to 3:00 pm for a short hike and picnic shelter campfire experience at Richfield Nature Preserve. Contact Jim Rauschenbach to RSVP or for more details jrauschenbach@stambrose.us 850-443-2207.

FAF and Route 66 Combo Event! Cleveland Car-a-Van - Friday, March 26

Watch for a date! Get together, but stay safely separate in your own vehicle as we all follow a tour of classic Cleveland destinations. Photos at a Cleveland sign, stop at the Westside Market, walk along the East Bank of the Flats and lunch on your own.

April

Spring Formal - April 4

When was the last time you got dressed up...I mean really dressed up? Our Spring formal is the perfect excuse. Enjoy dinner, dancing, and the company of others in an evening set apart from the everyday. As an optional bonus, we plan to include a 1 hr. refresher (or crash!) course on ballroom dancing prior to the main event.

Find Faithful After Fifty on Facebook!
Search for "Saint Ambrose Faithful After Fifty"



St. Patrick's Day CORNED BEEF SANDWICH SALE!

Thanks to our friends at the Hooley House, you can get your FRESH Corned Beef Sandwiches on the weekend of March 13 and 14, 2021 at Saint Ambrose.

Get a great sandwich and pickle for \$11!

All proceeds will support our Catholic Works of Mercy Easter Food Distribution efforts.

PLEASE PLACE YOUR ORDERS IN ADVANCE BY GOING TO:

stambrose.us/corned-beef

PICK UP your tasty sandwich after the weekend Masses (March 13 and 14).



God bless the Hooley House who is so generous in their support for our parishes efforts to care for those in need. Glory be to God!!!

Sandwich & Pickle \$11 ea.



HEARTS of Hope

WIDOWS SUPPORT GROUP

Our hope is always in the Lord.

Tuesday, March 9, 2021
7:00-8:00pm

Via Google Meet
RSVP to LCinadr@StASchool.us
All are invited to come and find good conversation, healing and hope.

Please join us.

It's Christ who stands with us always, and especially when you commend your spouse to the Lord. Hearts of Hope is a group of widows who come together to share conversation, prayer, and community.

Journey To Emmaus - We're Almost There!

It has been an increasingly exciting Journey to Emmaus with our adults preparing for the Easter Sacraments.

More and more people have realized over this past year that what they have really desired throughout their lives is the peace, joy, light, and truth of living with God as part of his family, the church. We have explored deep questions of faith, the Bible, and Eucharist. We have overcome obstacles to faith that seemed to prevent us from completing the journey. As we continue together, we have begun to see that part of what draws us together as we grow in faith is that we can all say with clarity, "This is my time." My time to know Jesus, my time to know my place in the church, my time to know that God chose me, and my destiny is something great; to come alive in Christ and to live in the freedom, the truth, and the light of Jesus Christ and to bear that light in the world. Thank you for your continued prayers. We can't wait to join you for the rest of Mass, and join you in the Eucharist!



Meet Ken Ribich, a finance manager with a well-known local health insurance company. He has a diverse professional background including experience in brokerage, quality assurance, corporate banking, and health insurance. Ken holds an advanced degree from Baldwin Wallace College, is a Certified Public Accountant and a veteran of the US Army 82nd Airborne. Ken says, "My wife and I were inspired by Saint Ambrose parish and its involvement in the community and we want to raise our daughter with guidance from the good book and the teachings of the Catholic faith. My wife completed the RCIA program last year and I will finish up this April." Ken lives in Brunswick with his wife of ten years, Heather, and their four year old daughter and Littlest Angel, Hannah.

Hello, my name is Rachael Marie Lemons. I have a career in environmental safety, and am a photographer of nature, love and all of God's glory. I have a Bachelor's Degree in Business from Franklin University. I am a proud dog/cat mom, and blessed with an amazing boyfriend, friends and family. The year 2020 has pushed me into the arms of the Lord, opened my eyes, and inspired me to become a member of the Saint Ambrose community. During my journey to the Sacraments, I have learned that my life has more meaning than I ever thought was possible.



My name is Matthew Rairdon I am from Idaho Falls, Idaho. I moved out to Ohio in 2019 to be with my wonderful girlfriend Alana. Alana has shown me through her strong relationship with her faith that being confirmed in the Catholic Church is the one and only way. Going through RCIA with Father Andrew and Caitlin has been a true blessing in helping me to get stronger with my faith. I look forward to completing my Sacraments and living a positive life within the church.

Hi, my name is Keith Everhart. I grew up Lutheran. My faith was important to me, and I didn't necessarily see myself ending up Catholic, but God called me to these Sacraments to be closer with my family. I recently became a father to identical twins with my incredible wife Hannah. I am looking forward to the twins being baptized and sharing this journey with me.



My name is Craig Quarry. I am originally from Shawnee, Oklahoma and have only been in Ohio for about two years. I have one adult daughter and one young granddaughter. I work as an engineer in the aerospace industry. I currently live in Middleburg Heights, and spend much of my time with my fiancé, Joy, whom I plan to marry in 2021. I have been learning quite a bit about the Catholic faith. The Eucharist and the Mass have been particularly new to me, but I have been delighted to embrace God and his teachings along the way.

My name is Brandon Shipley. I was born and raised in Cleveland, and am currently pursuing a PhD in Physics from Case Western Reserve University. I am engaged to be married later this year to my fiancé, Kristen. What has really caught my attention along this journey has been the love and acceptance that I have experienced from the Saint Ambrose Parish Community. You have welcomed me with open arms, giving me a place where I can not only encounter the Lord and this community, but also be comfortable enough to pursue answers to difficult questions about the faith that satisfy the mind, and know that if I haven't found every answer yet, to have the confidence there is an answer out there.

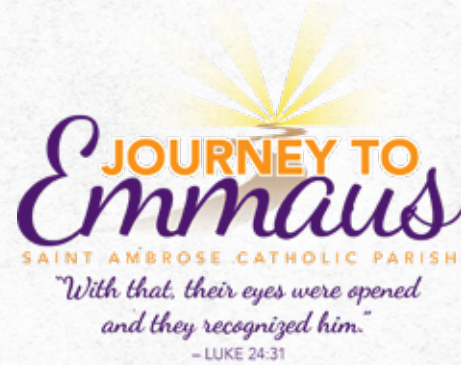
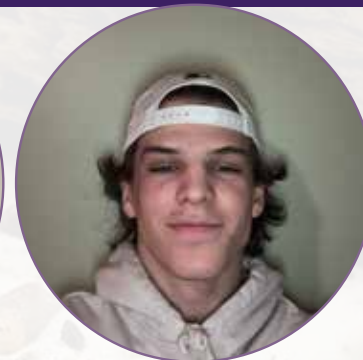


Blessed....and blessed.

It's a great blessing for our community to have 17 adults preparing for the Easter Sacraments (Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist). They also are a great blessing for our parish community. Throughout the Lenten Season, they will witness to us the power of saying 'yes' to the Lord over and over again. They should remind us of how blessed we are to be children of God!!!

Please pray for our 17 candidates. May this time of preparation be a great blessing for them.

If you, or someone you know, would like to become a member of the Catholic Church and/or would like to learn more about 'the journey', please contact Father Andrew (ahover@StAmbrose.us).



Keep sending your prayers!

On Easter Vigil, the following individuals will join us at the Table of the Lord!

**Margaret Andorf
Shane Bianchi
Geneva Chrysanthus
Keith Everhart
Hannah Forrester
Kasey Hatmaker
Macon Hoover
Rachael Lemons
Rosemary Lovatt
Craig Quarry
Matthew Rairdon
Ken Ribich
James Ryder
Vicki Sack
Chaz Sanfillipo
Dakota Sawyer
Brandon Shipley**



PSR News

Our children and teenagers are thriving as we begin the New Year!

Lent is an amazing time to deepen your faith together and strengthen bonds of family! We are excited to begin our "Family of Faith" Lent Sessions for our 5-8th graders, as well as PSR Family Reconciliation. Parents, keep an eye out for schedules.

Our teens in 6th, 7th and 8th grade continue to build the bonds of friendship through service and reflection. Our Embark Service Sessions offer activities that support our community, whether it is preparing gift bags for First Eucharist candidates or making PB&J sandwiches for the needy.

Our Junior High Lent Small Faith Sharing Groups offer teens a way to stay connected to their faith community through discussions with their peers and honest life reflections.

For more information about any of our PSR Programs at Saint Ambrose Parish, contact Janet Majka at JMajka@stambrose.us 330-460-7321.



Route 66

Senior Ministry has a New Name!

It's a new year and the senior ministry has switched up its name a little. Inspired by this classic, iconic piece of America, we are going to incorporate the flavor and fun of Route 66 into our senior ministry. Route 66 captures our life journey, our faith journey, the things we've seen and those who have traveled that road with us. For more information, please reach out to Joyce Osowski at JOsowski@StAmbrose.us and Jim Rauschenbach at JRauschenbach@StAmbrose.us.



Find Route 66 on Facebook!
Search for "Saint Ambrose Parish Seniors"

COMING IN MARCH! Fitness Lesson (In-Person or Virtual)

Once a month we will hold a hybrid in-person or virtual fitness lesson at The Ark at Ambrose Crossing teaching in-home strength training.

Creative Courage

As we walk into a future full of hope, Pope Francis has called us to embrace and pray for the grace of "creative courage."

As a parish community, our **Parish Pastoral Council is leading an effort to stir our creativity and imagination to reflect on how best our parish can walk into a future full of hope.** What are the areas of ministry that we need to explore? How can we best serve you, our members, and our local community? What are the next steps on our journey that the Spirit of God is calling us to discern and embrace?

Over the next few months, members of the PPC will be inviting you to answer some reflection questions, along with an online survey. The hope is to use this project to 'listen' and 'hear' what is important to you...what is important for our parish community.

Watch for more information in the weekly bulletins and eblasts.

May God give us creative courage – the ability to discern the working of the Spirit, and the grace and courage to follow where the Lord leads.

**A FUTURE
full of
HOPE**



Seniors Events

Every Wednesday

Yoga, 9:00 am
(Mother Teresa Room)

Every Saturday

Walking Club, 9:00 am

February 2 and March 2

Coffee & Donuts, 9:00am
(Mother Teresa)

February 11

Fr. Ramser Vestments
Presentation (Virtual)

February 11

Lunch & Learn, 11:30
(Mother Teresa)

February 20

Chinese New Year Social,
6:00 – 8:00pm (Hilkert Hall Gym)

February 23

Senior Fitness, 7:00 – 8:00pm
(Hilkert Hall Gym)

March 4

Sam Boyer Brunswick History
Presentation (Virtual)

March 26

Cleveland Car-a-Van (Offsite)

March 30

Senior Fitness, 7:00pm – 8:00pm
(Hilkert Hall Gym)

Music Ministry

As we journey to the cross during Lent, we reflect upon the crosses that Jesus calls us to bear each day. Perhaps it's a physical, mental, or emotional ailment. Maybe it's separation from your loved ones. Or, you might be experiencing persecution for your belief in Christ. Whatever it is, Jesus calls us to bear our cross so we can wear the crown. Our Lenten theme song's lyrics are:

ONLY THIS I WANT:
BUT TO KNOW THE LORD
AND TO **BEAR HIS CROSS,**
SO TO **WEAR THE CROWN**
HE WORE.

Sometimes we ask the Lord to remove difficulties from our lives and his answer is "My grace is sufficient for you." We can choose to view our crosses as a blessing - even a privilege to share in Christ's suffering, knowing that what we experience is only a fraction of the suffering He bore for us in His perfect love.

Another song you'll hear before Communion is *"Create in Me, A Clean Heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me."* With God's cleansing grace, we can have new hearts that find the creative courage we need to bear our crosses with joy, knowing that this gives glory to our holy Father.

The Music Ministry will produce a pre-recorded concert that will be posted online on Palm Sunday. Also, keep an eye out for a weekly Lenten Series with **Fr. Rob Ramser** and songs sung by **Amy Folger** with violinist **Mary Beth Ion**. Our prayer is that this music will stir your souls and give you the strength to bear your cross each day. May God bless you on your Lenten journey!

Travis Jürgens
Director of Music Ministry



Passiontide Music Ministry Concert

Sunday, March 28 at 7:00pm

Music stirs the soul. It brings comfort and hope. It has a powerful way of communicating the message of Gospel. Passiontide will help you remember and recount the saving deeds of Jesus Christ in music, song, and Word. Join us virtually from wherever you are to hear music that will inspire you and bring you the hope and peace of Jesus Christ.

Travis Jürgens and Helen Lanzarotta have been working with our cantors and music ministers to select some wonderful songs that will touch your soul this Holy Week.

**Watch for the release of
Passiontide on Palm Sunday.
Go to StAmbrose.us/lent**

Young Adults

Join us for our Lent 3.3 group!

Sign up by February 22, 2021.

Just three hours of your time can make all the difference – dive deeper into your faith, build strong relationships with like-minded people, and make this Lent the best yet! Spots are limited – please email Caitlin by February 22nd to register (CARbogast@StAmbrose.us).

Young Adult Spotlight

Brodie Gagne



Hello! My name is Brodie Gagne, I am 22 years old and I have been a parishioner here at Saint Ambrose since March of 2018 when I was confirmed into our faith.

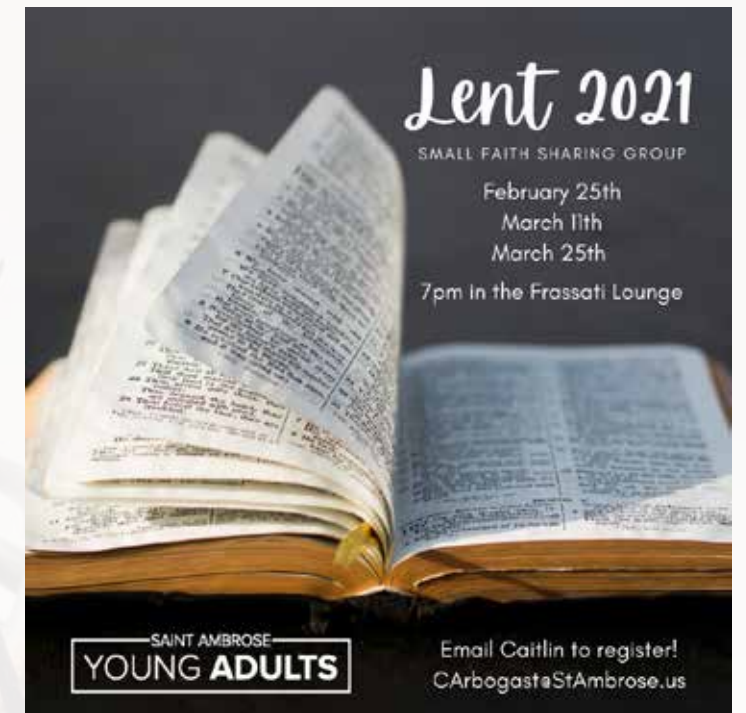
I wasn't always a Catholic though. When I was 4 years old, I was baptized in a Lutheran church and then at the age of 5 was about the last time I was in a church. Growing up, I didn't really have any teachings or background in

faith besides that I was baptized, and I knew that there was a God. The journey growing up was very hard for me. I didn't quite have the best environment growing up and ultimately it caused me to form my own opinion of life and God. A little side fact - when I was in high school, I used to be against the Catholic faith because I fell into all the lies about our faith. Fast forward to when I was 19 years old, I had a very powerful encounter with the Holy Spirit in September 2017 and within that month I fully came to recognize Jesus as Lord of all and on

September 24th, 2017 I accepted him into my life. The number of gifts and

the grace I have received since that day have been extraordinary. He radically changed my life and has shown me love in such a high caliber that I never knew was possible. **I have been shown so much truth through his guidance that I could never imagine being outside of the Catholic and Apostolic faith and have been eternally grateful for all I have come to know.**

I am currently working towards becoming a firefighter/EMT. On my free time in the warm seasons I enjoy mountain biking, and all other free time I have I spend it in reading, learning more about our faith, and spending time with good friends. **I am truly blessed to be part of this parish and it has been such a welcoming church.** I have met some of the most wonderful people here as well! For any young adults that read this, I hope that you could join the Young Adult group and if you have any questions about it feel free to grab me aside whenever you see me or talk to Fr. Andrew!



School News

Our 2020-2021 theme continually reminds us to "See the Good and Be the Good."

In a year when so many things are different than we planned, I am continually awe-struck and inspired by the continued goodness of God and how He is working in each of our Littlest Angels Preschool through 8th Grade students and members of our school family this year.

Our faculty, staff, students and families continue to REACH above and beyond themselves. A good example of this is the incredible growth we are seeing in this season where we are being stretched and truly blessed too. This is definitely a season of stretching and blessings like no other! I am so proud of our faculty and staff who continue to find innovative and thoughtful, caring ways to meet our students where they are, and challenge them to grow as they provide the highest quality education and support during this time.



The very privilege to be together in school this year is one we never take for granted. While we have been in-person, we have also had the ability to provide live connection and learning to families at home. The Lenten theme of "Bear the Cross, Wear the Crown" is a powerful affirmation and challenge for us to continue to rise up, take courage, and give God our very best each and every day. Our YES! to Him, especially during this school year, is resulting in abounding blessings. God is so good and faithful to us!

This Lent, our K-8 school family will be creating a visual reminder of offering our sacrifices, prayer and almsgiving to the Lord. Our journey to the cross and on to the glory of Easter will include daily prayer and reflection, prayer crowns, Stations of the Cross led by grade levels and collecting for Rice Bowls via our "Mano en Mano" penny collection.

We work hard to see the good and value of each person as we also share the Light of Christ and God's goodness through our thoughts, words and actions. Please pray with us and be our companions on our Lent journey. We lift you and your families in our prayers and ask God to shower you with His peace and abundant blessings.

If you are looking for an EXEMPLAR education and a special place to call HOME in Jesus Christ for your Preschool-Grade 8 child(ren), please contact us. We have a place for you! www.SaintAmbroseSchool.us
Phone: 330-460-7318 Admissions@StASchool.us

In Jesus Christ Who is Everything,

Lisa Cinadr
Principal

www.SaintAmbroseSchool.us
Admissions@StASchool.us
330-460-7318



Preschool News

We are so blessed to have the opportunity to share our faith with our preschool students at Littlest Angels Preschool. Faith and family values are pillars of the foundation at Littlest Angels Preschool. These core concepts are reinforced through academics and the relationships we have with our Littlest Angels students. **Our students grow from a strong foundation in Christ that sets the compass for their future.** Our premier, 5 STAR Step Up to Quality academic program is centered on Jesus Christ, who is EVERYTHING for us!

Young children love counting down the days to a special season, holiday or event. We need to observe Lent before we celebrate Easter. Just one example of our Lenten journey together includes Lenten paper chains will help the children "see" how many days are left until Easter and observe the season of Lent in a meaningful, respectful, engaging way. We will be making a big paper chain of 40 links that include 40 activities that we will complete as a preschool family during Lent. We will display leading to the cross.

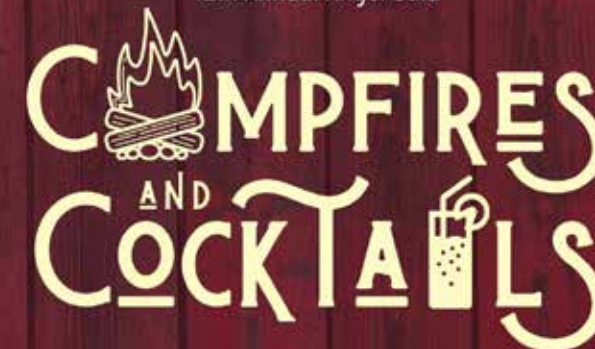
Jesus reminds us to "Let the little children come unto Me." **We are so blessed to be a part of their journey in the Light of Christ full of hope for tomorrow.**

Catherine Mitchell,
Preschool Director



YOU ARE INVITED

With Your Family and Friends to
Join Us for a Family-Friendly **Virtual Celebration** of Our
12th Annual Angel Gala



to benefit
SAINT AMBROSE SCHOOL & LITTLEST ANGELS PRESCHOOL
MARCH 13, 2021

Silent Online Auction

Opens Friday, March 12 @ 9 am
Closes Saturday, March 13 @ 9 pm

Dinner, Drinks, Swag Bag & Accessories

Saturday, March 13 2-4 pm
Pick-up @ Saint Ambrose Hilbert Hall

Live ZOOM Auction

Saturday, March 13 7 pm
with auctioneer

TICKET OPTIONS

VIP ALL-ACCESS PASS: \$40

- Live Auction ZOOM Invite
- Silent Online Auction bidding access
- FREE Swag Bag (**first 200 tickets sold only*)
- Raffle ticket for door prize

SILENT ONLINE AUCTION ONLY: \$25

- Silent Online Auction bidding access

OPTIONAL UPGRADES:

- Heat & Serve Dinner & Dessert
 - Adult Meal: \$24
 - Child Meal: \$12
- Signature Drink: \$6
- Raffle tickets for a chance to win a Family Dress Down Monthly Pass for the 2021-2022 school year (\$10 each)
- Accessorize with Saint Ambrose blankets, scarves and hats

The first 200 Live Auction tickets purchased will receive a
FREE SWAG BAG

TO PURCHASE EVENT TICKETS, MEALS, OR FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Visit saintambroseschool.us/angelgala or take a photo of the QR code with your smartphone.



Eagle Scouts Achievements

According to the Boy Scouts of America, the achievement of making Eagle Scout rank is “not just an award; it is a state of being.”

For some, that can be a pretty intimidating statement which is why we turned to **John Stracensky**, Scout leader and father of three Boy Scouts. Stracensky breaks down that big statement by explaining that a scout's service project should be considered as a “culmination of his whole scouting career: achievements, merit badges, etc. But most importantly, it allows for the boys to take the years of being taught how to lead and put those lessons into practice to plan and execute a project of real, lasting value.”

Stracensky shares that it is expected that the boys manage their projects while adults like him are present to facilitate the process. Boys working on their Eagle Scout service projects must mostly assume a more project manager type role in the planning and execution of their project as this is an opportunity really test their leadership abilities rather than measure physical strength.

Here are examples of Eagle Scout service projects that have brought lasting value to our parish and community.



BOY SCOUTS
OF AMERICA

Stations of the Cross (2019)

MATTHEW STRACENSKY



Saint Ambrose School alumni, Matthew Stracensky is responsible for the installation of the Outdoor Stations of the Cross displayed by the Grotto as a gift to the Saint Ambrose parish community. His project received donations made by organizations such as the Knights of Columbus and funds were also raised through the Music Ministry that he was heavily involved in at the time. Now a student at the University of Notre Dame, Matthew still serves for Masses and wedding celebrations. The Stations continue to enhance the beauty and the solace the Grotto provides to the many who visit it.



Baseball Dugout

TOMAS RIMAC

Our sports programs are growing at Saint Ambrose. This past fall, for every reason, all of our fields were full of student athletes. When Tomas Rimac was looking for an Eagle Scout project, he turned to his own passion – sports. In order to help student athletes for years to come, his Eagle Project was to create ‘dugouts’ for the baseball field. The dugouts are a great improvement and will help keep young athletes safe for generations to come. Tomas and his family are wonderful members of Saint Ambrose. This Eagle Project is a great addition for our community. Thank you Tomas!

“We are very blessed as a community to have such amazing Scouts (read these stories!) and honestly the best scout leaders around.

Scouting is a great way to help our young people develop strong character and build lasting friendships. These Eagle Scout projects are a glimpse of both the quality of our scouts and the fun...and the good...they do together.”

- Father Bob Stec



Drainage (2020)

JACOB KELLER

Last year, Jacob Keller led the Eagle Scout project that allows for the proper drainage of the area by the outdoor Stations of the Cross. This was an important undertaking in that it really set the foundation for a walking path around the Stations of the Cross.



From selling pulled pork sandwiches to recruiting people to help with the laborious hauling of gravel and installing pipes, it is because of Jacob's successful Eagle Scout service project that we are able to safely stroll through the Grotto today and for years to come.



Birdhouses for Seniors (2020 – current)

DANIEL ANTHONY

Daniel's service project is a great example of an Eagle Scout's ability to lead and “rally the troops.” The project has allowed for the inclusion of an array of collaborative efforts.



From spending time with members of the Route 66 Senior Ministry to build and decorate the birdfeeders to coming up with the idea of making birdfeeder kits available to sell to primary school age children so that they can have something fun to do with their grandparents, Daniel has organized the entire venture. His project has touched the lives of many and will continue to do so in the most positive and productive ways.



In Memoriam

Loving Contributions in November, December, and January

Many thanks to our members who remember their loved ones in a most loving way with a gift that will make a lasting difference. In Memoriam gifts can be designated for a specific cause/purpose or specified for our Endowment Fund. This effort will help support the ministry of our parish community for generations to come. For more information, please contact Jake Bihari at: jbihari@StAmbrose.us.

In Memory of Albert Oliver Jr. by Ginger Summers, Michael Gerba

In Memory of Aungalene Opich by Karen Vesely

In Memory of Mary Zavada by Michael & Evamarie Braymiller

In Memory of Lance Norris by Kai Silver Creek

In Memory of Deacon Gary Tomazic by Tony & Margie Gonzalez, Frank & Lynn Rogers, Eugene & Mary Merrill, John & Carol Muller, Patty Lewis, Ms. J. Boylan, William & Laurel Zarefoss, Preferred Roofing Services, LLC., Anthony & Elisabeth Lisy, Nicola & John Chesna

In Memory of Virginia Vistucis by Peter Eells, Genevieve Szuba

In Memory of Kenn Bartunek by Cynthia Bartunek



Wall Build Day

Our parish community is blessed to sponsor the Wall Build Day on Saturday, April 17, 2021

Working with Habitat for Humanity, our front parking lot will be a construction zone as we build the walls for a new home and together Build up the Body of Christ in our community. Small change will make a big difference. Thank you for your support.



Community Day of Service

APRIL 24, 2021

Last fall, we were all safely able to come together to do the work of the Lord for Fall Community Day. We are looking forward to doing it again for spring so save the date, Saturday, April 24, 2021 and visit our website for event announcements.

Health & Wellness Fair

SAVE THE DATE! Sunday, May 2, 2021

Join us for the HEALTH & WELLNESS FAIR and a delicious, healthy breakfast from our friends at Marc's!

We are looking forward to bringing you many different ways to help you be your best self – physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Bring your family and friends as we move forward with a season of hope and good health. We will have a variety of vendors at our Health Fair.

Interested health and wellness vendors can register by contacting Jennie Porco at JPorco@stambrose.us.



Celebrating Those Baptized in 2020

Our relationship with God begins in the waters of Baptism. It is the cornerstone of our Catholic faith. God's promise of Heaven is declared in Baptism. Baptism begins that faith-filled journey to Heaven.

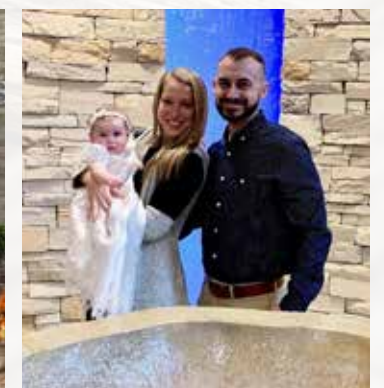
Giavanna Bella Spaziani
Brynnley Marie Gordyan
James Bradley Furcron
Violet James Connelly
Ivy Anne Connelly
Riley May Young
Olivia Jeanneen Patzkowsky
Isaac Francis Siegel
Palmer Marie York
Maxwell Joseph Swander
Kora-Joan Kratky
Kayson Nicholas Kopy
James Lee Fedor III
Bennett Alexander Smith
Wesley Richard Wypasek
Hunter Richard McClain
Nora Fae Leichter
Brinley Marie Roman
Kennedy Ann Kutz
Landon Timothy Ginley

Jayce Michael Zika
Jaxson Paul Graf
Olivia Elizabeth Doyle
Evalina Ann Moscarino
Amariya Domonique Jaight
Keegan Thomas Majoros
Joseph Angel Harris-Cruz
Myla Olivia Danielle Harris-Cruz
Granger Emmitt Brandt-Shank
Henry Robert Redmond
Carson Robert Voase
Bryce Harper Biven
Nola Joon Lovejoy
Nicholas David Ely
Penelope Kathleen Kalchoff
Grace Isabella DePompei
Josephine Joy Merold
Hannah Elise Ribich

Elias Alexander Romero
Noelle Autumn Johnson
Liam Victor Forrest
Caleb Aaron Osysko
Kylie Rose Thomas
Jolee Ann Gehrke
Kilbane Martin Olivio
Grayson Noah Smith
Degan Michael Comer
Lucca Luigi Armogida
Evan Patrick Joyce
Paisley Ray Palmer
Ruby Danielle Jakubczak
Gavin Gene Haag
Amelia Joan Hoover
Lukas Edward Kaminski
Brantley Dominic Shaft
Alexander Gregory Hedegore
Emma Gray Shultz

Reese Ashley Quinn
Finley James Carkido
Alanna Grace Zygadlo
Charlotte Rose Fabrick
Niko Leif Goray
Caiden Michael Wadsworth
Ella Irene Guzman
Naveah Elizabeth Miller
Alexander Thomas Jeresko
Brantley Daniel Kelbach
Callie Marie Rizk
Colton James Stanko
Brighton Bridget Takieddine
Locklen Daniel Beaty
Nora Ann Ritondaro
Beau Daniel Truchan
Ruth Kelley Billingsley
Christian James Wooten

Saint Ambrose offers Baptism classes every other month. For more information on having your child baptized, visit www.StAmbrose.us/Baptism





Saint Ambrose Parish
929 Pearl Rd
Brunswick, Ohio 44212
www.StAmbrose.us

SPRING 2021

LENT NEWSLETTER

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

NONPROFIT ORG

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SAINT AMBROSE PARISH

Lenten Fish Fry

Every Friday in Lent! 4:30-7:00pm

GREAT MEALS FOR \$11.50 *plus* FAMILY MEALS!

Hot, fresh food! Take Out Only.



Join us for our 15th Annual Community Fish Fry

PRE-ORDER IN ADVANCE. LIMITED WALK-UP ORDERS.

To ensure the health and safety of our volunteers, parishioners and attendees, we will be doing 'to-go orders' only, no dine-in. This will allow us to space out our volunteers safely as they fulfill orders.

We encourage everyone to place their order online in advance to help us prep food and cut down on wait times! Online orders can be placed any time during the week, but will be cut off by 1pm on the day of the Fish Fry...but don't worry!

You'll still be able to walk-in and place an order (on a limited basis).

To pick up your online order, or to place your walk-in order, please enter through the main gym doors on Pearl Rd., and follow the signs and directions of the volunteers. We are working hard to keep everyone safe and make sure the food is fresh, hot and tastes great!

DETAILS & ONLINE ORDERING:
www.StAmbrose.us/fish-fry

Fish Fry Dinners

Baked or Fried White Fish
Potato & Cheese Pierogies
(Boiled or Fried)
Cabbage & Noodles
Macaroni & Cheese

A la Carte Sides

New England Clam Chowder
French Fries • Cole Slaw
Steamed Vegetables
Applesauce

Weekly Specials

Lobster Mac & Cheese •
Fish Tacos



EASTER 2021 • SAINT AMBROSE PARISH

Easter Schedule

April 1: Holy Thursday

Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:30pm (Church)

Blessed Sacrament Adoration at the Grotto

8:30pm - 12:00 midnight

Join us from the comfort of your car as we spend time in prayer with the Lord.

12:00 midnight - 8:00am

Spend time and reflection in silence.

April 2: Good Friday

Morning Prayer 8:15am

Stations of the Cross 12:00pm (Church)

Good Friday Passion of the Lord 3:00pm

Held in the church and virtually.

Also, you may join us from your car.

Good Friday Living Station 7:00pm (Car)

April 3: Holy Saturday

Morning Prayer 8:15am

Easter Food Basket Blessing 1:00pm

Drive-Thru held in front of the school

Easter Egg Hunt 2:00pm (Parish Grounds)

RSVP at StAmbrose.us/Easter

Easter Vigil 8:30pm (Church)

April 4: Easter Sunday

Sunrise Service in the Church 6:15am

Easter Mass 7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am,
12:00pm in the Church and Hall, 5:00pm in the Church

We do require that you RSVP for Mass at StAmbrose.us/Easter so we can ensure proper social distancing. All Masses will also be live streamed.

Proceeds from this year's Parish Fish Fry will go towards:

The Rooted in Faith Memorial Wall for the Church, our Habitat for Humanity Project and to offset the installation cost of a washer & dryer for Hilkert Hall (we use many rags and towels while washing/drying dishes for our parish events, community meals and fish fry).