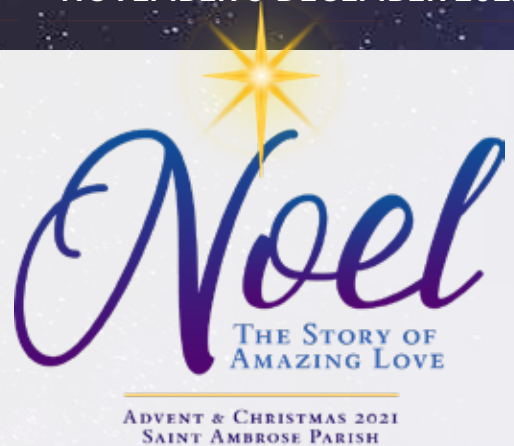


Noel... the story of amazing love!

As we enter into the season of Advent, and prepare for Christmas, over and over again, you will see the word NOEL. The word itself proclaims "the birth" and "new life" of Jesus Christ. We remember the 'first' Noel with the hope and promise that Christ desires to come again, this Christmas, to birth in each of us new life, greater joy, a more abundant peace, and the overwhelming love of God in Jesus Christ. It is 'the story' of God's amazing love.



Over the next few weeks, as you hear the songs and see the signs, pray that the love of God will be born again in your heart. He comes as Emmanuel – God with us. He comes as 'Wonder Counselor, God Hero, Father Forever, Prince of Peace. **Pray that you can have the hospitality of the innkeeper who opened his door (and his heart) to welcome Christ.** Come Lord Jesus into my life. Fill my heart with your love and your peace.

Take some time to review this Advent/Christmas Newsletter. **There are wonderful opportunities for you, your family and our parish family to come together to tell - again and again - the story of God's amazing love.** There is a way for all of us to come together in prayer, in community, in song (lots of concerts), in celebration of the hope and joy of Noel.

Give your family and friends the perfect gift – Jesus Christ. Invite them to join you for Christmas and/or one of the many gatherings over these holy days. **Your invitation, and encouragement, will make all the difference.** You will be giving them the love and joy of Jesus Christ.

Thank you so much for all you do for the Lord, our parish community and our sisters and brothers in need. Your goodness is soul-stirring. Your goodness and generosity is another story of your amazing love for God.

God bless you abundantly with the amazing love of God in Jesus Christ.

Father Bob Stec

P.S. Check out our parish website with all the up-to-date information on Advent/Christmas events. We will be celebrating Christmas Mass, both in the Church and Hilkert Hall, on Christmas Eve at 4:00, 6:00 and 8:00; on Christmas Day, at 12 noon. We want to make sure everyone has a comfortable place to pray. Christmas Masses will also be streamed online: www.StAmbrose.us/watchmass.



Invite your family & friends to come see our beautiful campus this season!

A THOUGHTFUL INVITATION

The Advent and Christmas seasons provide many opportunities to extend a sincere invitation for someone to join you. Many are alone this season or searching for hope. Invite them to join you for Mass, especially at Christmas. Reconnect with family, bond with friends, spread cheer with neighbors. It's as easy as saying "join me."

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

Advent & Christmas SCHEDULE

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Monthly Reconciliation:

Wednesday, December 1 4:00 - 5:30pm

Tuesday, December 14 7:00 - 8:30pm

Friday, December 17 1:00 - 3:30pm

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

Please join us for this healing Sacrament.

Bambinelli Blessing

December 18/19

A thirty year old tradition that 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. Experience God's true joy and love that comes to us from the infant Jesus.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve - Friday, December 24

4:00pm, 6:00pm, 8:00pm, 12:00 Midnight

Mass in Church and Hilbert Hall

Midnight Mass in Church only.

Christmas Day - Saturday, December 25

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

Mass in Church. Noon Mass will also be celebrated in Hilbert Hall.

New Year's Mass Schedule

December 31

8:15am Prayer Service

4:30pm Holy Day Vigil Mass

January 1

New Year's Day, World Day of Peace

Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God

9am Mass

4:30pm for the Vigil of Sunday

January 2

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

Normal Mass Schedule

Looking for something special to do this Advent?

Consider signing up for an:

- ...Online Book Discussion Group
- ...Online Faith Sharing Group
- ...In-person Book Discussion and Faith Sharing Groups

Interested? Contact Gayle Oboy at
GOboy@StAmbrose.us.

Advent Tea

with Brooke Taylor

Take some time for yourself, invite your family and friends, and spend an afternoon celebrating the true meaning of Christmas...the blessings of loved ones, our Parish Family, and the coming of Our Lord Jesus Christ.



Saturday

DECEMBER 4, 2021

11:00 am - 2:00 pm in Hilbert Hall

Tickets **\$22 / PERSON**

Includes a lovely lunch, dessert, & various teas. Limited tickets available!

Get tickets online at StAmbrose.us/Advent-Tea or at the Parish Life Center.

TICKET DEADLINE: November 29

Hostesses

Host your family & friends!

Reserve a table for up to 6-8 guests. Come early to put your own special decorations at your table, or we can decorate for you!

To reserve your table, please contact Helen at HLanzarotta@StAmbrose.us or 330.460.7343.

Get Tickets at StAmbrose.us/Advent-Tea

Singing Angels Concert

Saturday, December 4 at 7:00 pm

Held in our Church. Invite a friend to join you!

Join us for an evening of wonderful music and Christmas Cheer! The Singing Angels will be back to sing all of your favorite Christmas carols. It's a wonderful, fun and simple night out for our community!

Please RSVP at: www.StAmbrose.us/christmas



Hope for the Holidays

Monday, December 6, 7:00 pm

Parish Life Center, Mother Teresa Room

Have you lost a loved one? Please join us.

Find comfort and peace during this holiday season. Please join us for our second evening in the series "Hope for the Holidays." Please RSVP to Monica at 330-460-7304 or monicak1@roadrunner.com.



MUSIC MINISTRY Advent Concert

Friday, December 10, 7:00pm

Ring in the joy of this season with our Music Ministry! Join us in person in the Church or tune in on our website or Facebook.

Spread cheer...invite someone to join you!



SAINT AMBROSE CATHOLIC PARISH

12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

Our 12 Days of Christmas Ministry shares a little extra of God's love, care and kindness with individuals & families.

During the 12 days leading up to Christmas, 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 simply deliver a daily gift to the family. It's a wonderful opportunity to give back and be reminded of the TRUE reason for this Christmas season.

Interested in helping or know of anyone that could use a little extra joy and hope this Christmas season? Please email Lisa at LHoady@StAmbrose.us.

Funded by the generous #WeGiveCatholic donations on November 30!

Make a difference
by doing something
truly meaningful this
Advent Season!



Advent Kindness Pines

Share in the spirit of Christmas...

We are busy interviewing our local families in need to ready the Kindness Pines. We have never had anyone's needs not met due to your generosity. Please know in advance how grateful those recipients are; to know someone cares and is willing to share their time and treasure. If you have questions about the program – please call 330-241-8641.

TAKE A TAG or TWO! As in the past, we will have tags on trees at the entrances of the church. Please sign out your tag on the sign out sheets near the trees. Please attach the tag to the unwrapped gift so we can get it to the correct person. **All gift items are due by Sunday, December 12.**

BACK THIS YEAR! Online Kindness Pines! Buy your gift on our website. Quick and easy from the comfort of your home. StAmbrose.us/Christmas



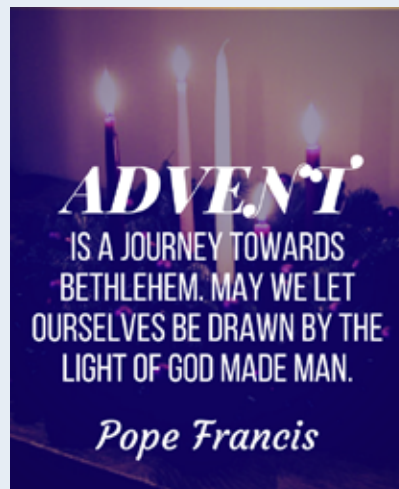
Advent Small Faith Groups

4 Week Series begins November 28!

Advent is a great time to join a Small Faith Group to connect with other women, men, couples in your faith and form strong bonds and friendships that can last years.

Saint Ambrose is offering an Advent 4-week series starting the week of November 28th. The best part is you can pick a time that fits your busy schedule. You can meet at the church, a restaurant, or your home. Don't miss this great opportunity to connect in faith this Advent as we await the Christ Child.

To register, go to StAmbrose.us/AFF



Upcoming Events

November 28

First Sunday of Advent
Drive-Thru Holy Communion
FIAT & YA XLT

November 30

We Give Catholic #GivingTuesday

December 3

BINGO 5pm
Rorate Caeli Mass 7pm

December 4

Advent Tea 11am
Singing Angels Concert 7pm

December 6

Feast of Saint Nicholas
Hope for the Holidays 7pm

December 7

Solemnity of the
Immaculate Conception
of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Mass at 8:15am, 12pm, 7pm

December 10

Music Ministry Advent Concert

December 11

Men's Breakfast 8:30am
Advent Mini VBS 9am
Living Nativity 5:45pm

December 13

Courageous Conversation 7pm
Hope for the Holidays 8pm

December 14

SAS Christmas Concert 6:30pm

December 16

SAS Christmas Play 6:30pm

December 17

BINGO

December 19

Donut Sunday
Community Meal

December 21

Hearts of Hope Widows Group

December 24

Christmas Eve

December 25

Christmas Day

December 26

Feast of the Holy Family

December 30

12 Ales of Christmas
Couples Event

Advent MINI VBS

Saturday, December 11

9:00am - 11:00am


Journey to Bethlehem!

Calling children ages 4-11 for a mini Advent VBS morning! Come for music, activities and fun as we prepare our hearts for the coming of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Sign up at StAmbrose.us/Advent!

Volunteers are needed if you can spare a couple of hours.

**FREE
EVENT!
Children
ages 4-11!**



JUNIOR HIGH 6-8 GRADE Advent & Christmas Events!

Junior High Advent/Christmas Party
Sunday, December 12 Sit with us at 5:00 pm Mass followed by a Christmas party with fun Advent & Christmas activities!

Junior High Christmas Movie
Sunday, December 19 Sit with us at 5:00 pm Mass, then join us for good food, friends, & a Christmas movie!

Thank you to all of the parents who have made our Junior High Celebrations a great success!
Students have had the opportunity to worship and come together for fun, faith, and fellowship. *If you would like to be a part of this amazing team, please contact Maria Crookston at MCrookston@StAmbrose.us*



Children's Christmas Pageant *"An Unexpected Christmas"*

**Friday, December 24
at 3:30pm**

Children in Grades 4-8 are welcome to be a part of our well-loved Christmas Pageant on Christmas Eve!

Please contact Helen for more information!



RORATE CAELI MASS

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3
7:00 PM IN THE CHURCH**

A traditional Advent Mass in Mary's honor lit only by candlelight. Light and darkness speak to the meaning of Advent and the coming of the Light of the world.

#weGIVECATHOLIC
with the Catholic Community Foundation November 30, 2021

GIVE A GIFT THAT CAN'T BE BOUGHT...
LET'S GIVE HOPE!
SUPPORTING OUR 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS PROGRAM



StAmbrose.us/We-Give-Catholic on Tuesday, November 30

ALL proceeds from this day of giving will be used to support this project and our community outreach efforts.



Discover Saint Ambrose School! OPEN HOUSE EVENTS



2022-2023 Preschool Parent Information Night

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2021

6:30-7:30pm

Join us to meet the teachers, learn about our 5-STAR preschool, and admissions process followed by a virtual building tour.

VIRTUAL



Grades 6-8th

Discover High School Prep

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2021

6:30-7:30pm

Join us to meet our 6th-8th grade teachers, learn more about our thriving middle school program centered around small classes, accountability and hands-on learning, and admissions process.

VIRTUAL

Join us over the next month to discover Saint Ambrose School! Please RSVP for all events to Admissions@StASchool.us

School News

Saint Ambrose Catholic School honor veterans and use their TinkerCAD Engineering Design skills to create pin templates for the Veterans Museum in Columbus, Ohio.

We give thanks for our veterans who served our great nation with bravery. In this month of thankfulness, our students in 4th-6th grade took their gratitude to a creative level in computer science class, offered K-8 at Saint Ambrose School as part of their curriculum.

Students were challenged to use the Engineering Design Process in TinkerCAD to create 3D designs to enter into the Future Engineers "We Love Veterans" contest. This contest was to create a 3D-designed pin that shows appreciation for veterans. The top 10 winners will have their pin printed and given out at the National Veterans Memorial Museum in Columbus, Ohio.

Our students used their creativity and talents to express great gratitude for our veterans. As our patron Saint reminds us that gratitude is of paramount importance. This culture is evident throughout Saint Ambrose School and the parish as they continue to give back to others through acts of service and hospitality. Saint Ambrose students were proud to showcase their love and appreciation for our great nation and veterans through this innovative project.

When asked what inspired their designs, Ava D remarked "I was really inspired because I truly love America and let my heart lead my design." Aubrey R shared that the American flag led the center of her design to express "her great honor and thanks for our veterans." Connor L's design showcased an angel as he explained "Angels are holy and watch over our veterans."



We Give
Thanks with
a Grateful
Heart



Give to support our Angels Annual Fund
on Tuesday, November 30, 2021!
SaintAmbroseSchool.us/Donate



Enrollment for the 2022-2023 School Year begins
Sunday, January 9th, 2022 for Preschool-8th Grade*

*Parish and preschool families receive priority consideration for kindergarten, but early application is highly encouraged as enrollment is not guaranteed.

Hello from the Youth Ministry Office!

Happy Advent! We've been having a great Fall Semester with all our high school teens...

...from our new Confirmation Small-Group sessions to service projects to FIAT nights and retreats, it's been a busy few months - and we look forward to even more fun, faith & fellowship throughout the Advent and Christmas seasons and beyond.

Please consider joining us for FIAT nights in 2022!

Sunday evenings starting with 5pm Mass followed by FIAT from 6-8pm in Hilkert Hall. Great food, friendship, discussion and growing in faith. More info at www.myFIAT.us or call the Youth Ministry Office at 330.460.7387.



"The Lord is coming, always coming. When you have ears to hear and eyes to see, you will recognize him at any moment of your life. Life is Advent; life is recognizing the coming of the Lord."

— Henri Nouwen

SOTE.life: Faith-based Social Media Platform



God has called you to be the Salt Of The Earth (SOTE). SOTE.life features Christ-centered content and community that will strengthen your faith, and connect you with others. Join our thriving, growing community and be inspired every day to live your best SOTE.life for Him. **Visit sote.life or visit the app to create an account.**



Young Adults

Shopping, Presents & Ohio Pie!

Save the Date for Thursday, December 9th!

Join us as we shop for kids in need and wrap gifts together. Enjoy friendship, good conversation and great pizza from Ohio Pie! If you're interested contact Fr. Andrew for all the details (AHoover@StAmbrose.us)



Calling all young adults in your 20's & 30's – come hang with us! Join the Saint Ambrose Young Adults Facebook group for additional updates and details.

How to invite your young adult children to go to Church? Find realistic ideas on the Young Adult web page at www.StAmbrose.us/young-adults.

Courageous Conversations

Family Life with Dr. Dobie Moser

**Monday, December 13, 2021 7:00 – 8:30 pm,
McGivney Room**

Our families can be beautiful, loving, maddening, messy and in all things... holy, even when we least sense that we are. Learn how to reflect on your family experience to embrace the treasures in your life. Figuring out how to set aside things that are not helping your emotional, physical and spiritual health is a critical and liberating life skill.

As we prepare our hearts and minds for the upcoming holidays with our families, we encourage you to join us. Please let us know you are coming by emailing Lisa at LHomady@StAmbrose.us.

12 Ales of Christmas

Thursday, December 30

Fr. Andrew will be hosting a wonderful couples gathering featuring food, craft beer and great conversation!
Save the date and watch for details!



Senior Ministry

**As the weather sets in,
we want to stay connected!**

As the winter weather sets in we know many of our seniors like to venture out less. If you find yourself mainly at home for any reason, we want to help you stay connected with us. **We will have a technology talk to help you make use of whatever technology YOU have available to you.** We can also work with you one on one. Keep an eye out in the bulletin or call and leave a message at 330.460.7341.



Mental Health Ministry Informational Night for our NEW Ministry

**Monday, November 29 from 7:00- 8:30
pm, Mother Teresa**

Mental health is a real struggle to so many...we probably all know someone, or several people, who struggle with and are impacted by mental illness. Recently, we met and discovered that too many people and families are struggling alone. They need a kind and helpful response to know where to turn and what resources can offer a life raft to keep afloat and heading in a hopeful direction. **Would you like to be part of a team that believes that our parish community can DO and BE more for individuals and families struggling with mental illness and depression?**

We would love for you to join us to just come and see, and then decide later if this might be a good fit for you and your own individual strengths. For questions or more information, and to RSVP, please contact Jennie at JPorco@StAmbrose.us or 330.460.7317

Stephen Ministry



**Are you being called to serve with faith, mercy,
compassion, and encouragement?**

Our Stephen Ministers meet one on one with individuals going through a difficult time and are provided all the essential training that is needed. They provide the caring presence, a listening ear, and comforting words; **they provide Christian Care to those hurting.**

We will be starting Team 4 training new ministers in January, and ask that you prayerfully consider joining us. We would love to sit down and talk with you more about becoming a Stephen Minister. Please contact Carol at CMaline@StAmbrose.us or at 330.460.7336 or Lisa at LHomady@StAmbrose.us or 330.460.7315 to arrange a meeting time.

Habitat for Humanity

**Come work on-site on Habitat for
Humanity houses in Brunswick!**

Starting December 1, we will have Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday dates available. **If you have any questions or would like to sign up for a day, please let contact Sheryl Boyer at volunteer@medinahabitat.org or 330.722.4494.**



Furniture Collection

Help us make a house a home!

If you have gently used furniture and household items, please consider donating it as we are setting up homes for the homeless and for refugees. Items may include a bed, mattress, couch, dresser, loveseat, tables/chairs, lamp, mirror, rugs, microwave or TV. Household equipment is also needed, such as cooking appliances, pots & pans, plates & bowls, a coffee pot or other items you may think of. **Please visit Onehopeneo.com/refugee to submit your items and we will schedule a dropoff or pickup time. THANK YOU!**

HEARTS
of Hope
WIDOWS SUPPORT GROUP

Our hope is always in the Lord.

**Tuesday, December 21, 2021
7:00-8:00pm**

RSVP to LCCinadr@StASchool.us

All are invited to come and find good conversation, healing and hope.

Please join us.

ADVENT CHALLENGE!

Ready to challenge yourself? Do something meaningful this Advent!

Shovel a driveway...donate canned goods...join a small faith group...
The Advent Challenge will allow you to do wonderful things for yourself,
your family and your community this season.

StAmbrose.us/Advent



NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2021

ADVENT NEWSLETTER

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

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PERMIT #67

JOIN US THIS SEASON! Celebrate the Story of Amazing Love!

- Advent Tea • Singing Angels Concert • Hope for the Holidays • Men's Breakfast
- Music Ministry Advent Concert • Living Nativity & Christmas Lights Walk-Thru • 12 Ales of Christmas

More details about events found inside and on the parish website at StAmbrose.us/Christmas.

Don't forget to have your family from afar join us online at StAmbrose.us/WatchMass

Living Nativity & **CHRISTMAS LIGHT WALK-THRU!** **Saturday, December 11, 5:45pm-8:00pm**

Our parish campus is turned into a Winter Wonderland, complete with lights, decorations and a 24 FT Christmas Tree!

Journey to Bethlehem with our PSR students as they reenact the Night of Christ's birth, complete with all the animals! **Listen to our choirs and carolers** – as their songs ring throughout the grounds to remind us of the true reason of Christmas. Finish your journey in Hilbert Hall with **cookies, hot cocoa** and **your moment with Santa!**

RSVP in advance: StAmbrose.us/Christmas



Noel
THE STORY OF
AMAZING LOVE

Pay it forward!
**Give hope to families
going through a loss.**

**Our Funeral Service Ministries
could use some more
volunteers and there are a
variety of roles to choose from:**

NEW LIFE CHOIR – the beautiful music from this choir comforts those suffering with the loss of their loved one.

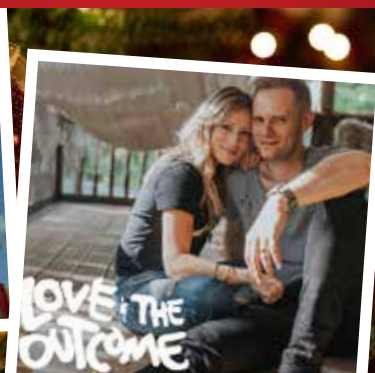
FUNERAL SERVERS – we will train you so that you can fill this role that honors the deceased and aids their loved ones in helping to say goodbye.

FUNERAL LUNCHEONS – there are many ways to help here. We need volunteers to set-up and clean up after the luncheons, as well as donate bakery.

Learn more about the opportunities to “pay it forward” and sign up to help at StAmbrose.us/FuneralHelp.

THE FEST *presents* **SANCTUS REAL and LOVE & THE OUTCOME** *Christmas Concert!*

DECEMBER 17, 2021 AT SAINT AMBROSE



**ONLY
\$10!**