



Thank you!

Saint Ambrose Summer Festival Wrap Up Newsletter!

I KNEW I FOUND IT...

The summer festival has come and gone but the good that it has done...continues.

The other day I registered a new member into our community. She came to the Summer Festival and the following morning she completed the online registration form. When I met with her, she started the conversation by saying, **"I am so glad that I came to the festival."** I asked, **"what was your favorite part?"** With great enthusiasm she replied, **"EVERYTHING!** I just felt so good being here. Everyone was so friendly. There was such a sense of peace and joy." She went on to say, "I've wanted to find a Church, a place I would feel at home and when I was here, I knew that I found it."

I'm not sure if it was between the delicious funnel cake - or the joyful music - or the homemade foods - but somehow, when all of us work together and do what we do best, God takes our offering and makes it something so much more. That's the recipe for our parish. **That's the secret ingredient to our summer festival and, I believe, that was why this new member found a place where she could feel 'at home' at Saint Ambrose.**

I can't thank you enough for ALL you do for our parish community always, and most recently at our summer festival. **There are many 'successes' to be found over the four fun-filled days.** We get to share the goodness of our parish with the entire community. WE get to work together (over 700 of us). It gives new people and long time members a chance to come 'home' and come together at Saint Ambrose. God bless you over and again.

Special thanks to Bob Cebula and Jake Bihari for their leadership and coordination of our summer festival. God bless all our booth captains and amazing festival volunteers. We are so blessed!!!

Over the next few weeks we will have the financial results of the festival. **Thanks to you, your support, and the incredible festival raffle, we should raise around \$135,000** that will help us take care of our campus and replace some aging HVAC equipment.

God bless you for your goodness.

God bless all of our community partners and raffle sponsors. Together for the glory of God and good of our community.

Thank you so much.

Father Bob



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Many, many THANKS!



THE FESTIVAL CAPTAINS AND LEADERSHIP TEAM!

Each year there are 40+ festival captains and booth leaders along with our Buildings & Grounds Team who really make it what it is. They spend the entire week setting up, running the booths and really make the difference! Each and every year, these folks spend countless hours making the festival possible. Thank you!



OVER 700 VOLUNTEERS! Whether it was parking cars, making funnel cakes, wiping off tables, picking up trash or working a game - you made the difference and really set a welcoming and gracious tone for everyone who attended the festival. Thank you!



"Brunswick would just not be the same without the annual Saint Ambrose Summer Festival kicking off the summer." – Coral D.

"How do you guys get so many volunteers to make this festival happen!? **It really is an act of God...a truly wonderful occurrence.**" – Beth D.

"The new decorations in the Casino and all of the people working in **the Casino made our experience the best one yet** and we've been coming for years." – Paul H.

"Love Saint Ambrose and the huge fun Festival." – Mary L.

"The kid's games passport is such a great idea. And, all the workers at those games really take the time and tenderness, especially with my little one, to make sure every kid has a great time." – Jenn A.

"We took a few of our neighbors and made a night of it. It was fun and can't wait for the September event." Gerri A.

"The Summer Festival **planning team is just incredible**, well done!!!" Chrissy C.

"The blessing for me was when I found the nursing station for my wife. **We are new parents and haven't been out much since the baby was born.** Having that station set up in such a nice, clean, quiet place meant so much, thank you." – Zach M.

"The **fireworks were amazing** this year." – Julie D.

"Went Thursday AND Friday! **Good food, music, and fun!**" – Debbie S.

"We came from Lodi for the first time to this Festival because I kept seeing this pop up on my Facebook. It was totally worth the drive out on Thursday night that we decided to do it again on Sunday for the fireworks. **Plus, the people were so nice, we've even come to a Mass.**" – Sally M.

"I thought the Ferris Wheel was going to be too scary. **But, Jesus sat next to me and it was really fun.**" – Kilean W.

Save the Dates!
Our 15th Annual Festival!
June 22-25, 2023

Festival Raffle Raised \$102,615!

**before expenses. Estimated profit is \$90,000.*

☀️ **RAFFLE!** The raffle was an out of this world success and is a gamechanger for the festival and our parish! The proceeds from the raffle and festival will help us take care of our campus and replace some aging HVAC equipment. If you were one of the hundreds of people who purchased a ticket or helped sell them, thank you! **And of course, HUGE thanks to the sponsors who provided the amazing prizes for our raffle!**



By the NUMBERS

Volunteers	700+
Tents	51
Tables	210
Chairs	850+
Signs	150+
Potatoes	2,500 lbs.
Lemons	1,467 lbs.
Skill Games	4,800+ people played
Kids Games	1,000+ kids played

SPREADING THE GOOD NEWS! From June 23 – June 26, our Facebook and Instagram posts reached **73,980** people, **12,656** people visited the website...**9,473** were NEW users!

TOTAL SUPPORT FOR OUR PARISH...

Any way it adds up the Summer Festival was a great blessing for our Parish! We will receive remaining bills shortly, please watch for a final report.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS!

☀️ **RAFFLE SPONSORS!** Special thanks to the **Pantek Family** and our friends at **Brunswick AutoMart** for the amazing Grand Prize. We - as a community - are so blessed by their support. Please make sure to offer your own words of thanks to **Brunswick AutoMart, Bill Coyle** and **Encompass the World Travel, Mike Strmac** and **Universal Windows Direct, Eric Engelke** and **Engelke Construction**, and our good friends at **Marc's**.



☀️ **ABC FIRE!** Thanks to ABC Fire for providing the extra fire extinguishers for the festival – and for maintaining our fire system throughout our buildings! They keep us all safe.

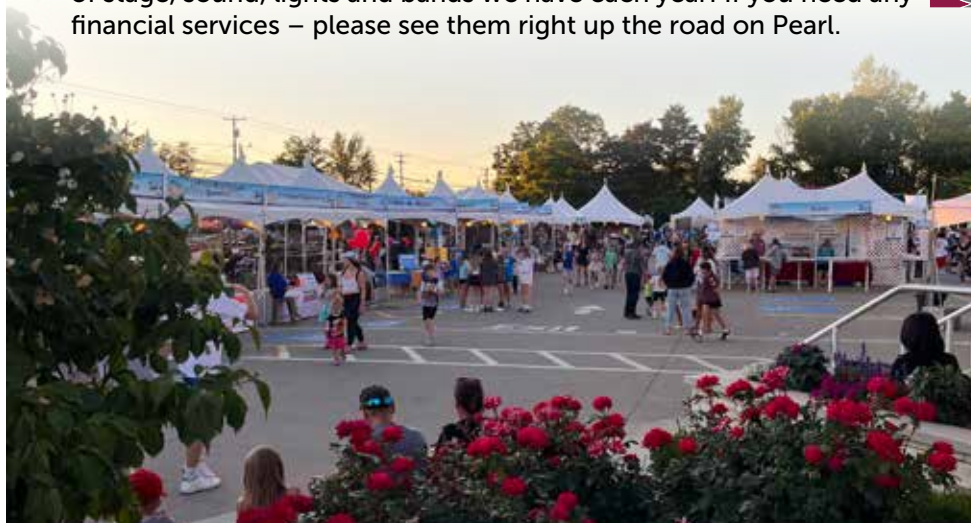


☀️ **MANY THANKS TO LOFASO REAL ESTATE SERVICES.** Sam's generosity has been a game changer for our parish these past several years! If you are buying or selling a home, please talk to Sam LoFaso – and ask him about his Give Back Program! It earns our parish thousands of dollars a year. Sold@samlofaso.com



☀️ **THANK YOU TO THE TEAM AT UNITY CATHOLIC FEDERAL CREDIT UNION!**

As a our mainstage sponsor, they make the difference in the quality of stage, sound, lights and bands we have each year! If you need any financial services – please see them right up the road on Pearl.



JOIN US!

Summer at Saint Ambrose!

JULY 17

Donut Sunday
CWM Community Meal
Grotto XLT, 7:00 pm

JULY 18

Cemetery Pre-Planning Seminar, 6:30 pm

JULY 19

Dance Fitnezz begins (every Tuesday),
6:00 pm (HH Gym)

JULY 20

Crafts & Cocktails, 6:30 pm (MT)

JULY 29

Wine Tasting & Music, 6:30 pm

JULY 30

Outdoor Grotto Mass, 6:00 pm

AUGUST 3

Monthly Reconciliation, 4:30 – 6:00 pm

AUGUST 5

Lifeline Screening, 8:00 am – 6:00 pm
Friday Night Bingo, 5:00 pm

AUGUST 7

The FEST

AUGUST 13

Men's Breakfast, 8:30 am (HH)
Outdoor Grotto Mass, 6:00 pm

AUGUST 19

Friday Night Bingo, 5:00 pm
Young Adult Sippin' with Saints, 7:00 pm

AUGUST 20

Donut Sunday
CWM Community Meal

AUGUST 26

Wine Tasting & Concert, 6:00 pm

AUGUST 27

PSR Tailgate Kick-Off, 4:30 pm
Outdoor Grotto Mass, 6:00 pm

SEPTEMBER 2

Friday Night Bingo, 5:00 pm

Invite a friend!

StAmbrose.us/Summer



Festival MVP's!

We appreciate ALL of our festival volunteers!

Our Summer Festival Captains nominated some individuals who truly went above and beyond! Find more great stories of appreciation at StAmbrose.us/festival.

The Conn Family

KITCHEN CREW – by Chrissy Balentine

"I do not know what I would have done without them. Grant went above and beyond as a food runner!"

The Conn Family (Bill, Susan, and Grant) reported for their volunteer assignments every day by 3:00 pm and did not leave until the last dish was washed around 2:00 am. The Conn Family answered every need that arose during the Festival. They helped with food tent set-ups and responded to any issues the Food Tent workers had.

Vince Lettieri

ITALIAN FOOD TENT – by Bernie Zavada

"Someone who embodies all five of the Saint Ambrose charisms: compassionate, engaging, such a joy to work with, and inspires all of us to exhibit that joyful hospitality."

Our MVP is Vince Lettieri who worked all four days and both shifts. Vince always wears a smile while serving those Italian sausages.

Betty Angeletti

INSTANT & GAMING MACHINES – Mike Mascio

"Bingo Betty was at it again!" Not only can she sell some instant games, but she's also able to answer questions that visitors have and help welcome people. Way to go Betty!

Tammy Sikon

CASINO – by Michael Wichmann and Rebecca Kaaikaula

"She is our best Hold 'Em dealer – not only does she know the game, she knows how to enhance the experience of our Casino."

Over 75% of the Texas Hold 'Em players from night 1 returned for nights 2 and 3 just to play in what we've coined, "Tammy's Texas Hold 'Em." Tammy answered Rebecca's desperate call to deal Texas Hold 'Em at Summer Festival 2021 and in the last year as a Saint Ambrose ACES member, has contributed ideas and efforts to create a truly awesome experience.

Rick Levandusky

BEER GARDEN – by Jim and Carol Lepi

Besides serving in the Beer Garden during his shifts, Rick jumped in when we needed help with the setup and teardown of the bar, helped us restock our beer coolers, and organized our recycling of cans/bottles. **We could not have had a more dedicated, energetic, and personable individual on our team.**