



### *Come to us Lord of Glory!!*

**Over and again this Advent, we will sing and invite the Lord to come into our lives, our hearts, our homes and our world.** Come to us Lord of Glory. Come, come Emmanuel. We are inviting Christ to come into our life and show us the way...the way of peace...the way of hope...the way of mercy...the way of the Lord.



**As we look at the complexities and challenges of our times, we need the Lord to Come to us. We need the Lord to show us the way.** We need the Lord to be our hope, our strength and our peace. Jesus comes as our Saviour. He is the one who can satisfy every longing of our hearts. He can heal broken relationships. He can help strengthen our marriages and our families. Over and again, Come to us Lord of Glory!!! Come to be with us and show us the way.

For many years, my own family has done a 'Kris Kringle' exchange among family members. **For over 20 years, it has involved thoughtful remembrances throughout the Advent Season leading to a homemade gift at Christmas. It's been a wonderful blessing for my family.** The lamp next to my bed was made by my brother-in-law, Dave. My nephew made me a memory box which is on my dresser. It's been wonderful... wonderful until the pandemic made it very hard for us to do it that year. After a two-year pause, there was a moment when some in my family said, "let's not return to this family tradition. It's a lot of work. It takes a lot of time". And I responded, "This year - more than ever - we need to 'pour ourselves' into our family. After two very long and difficult years, we need to use this Christmas to strengthen our family, resume (or find) new traditions to make family, and family bonds, as our priority."

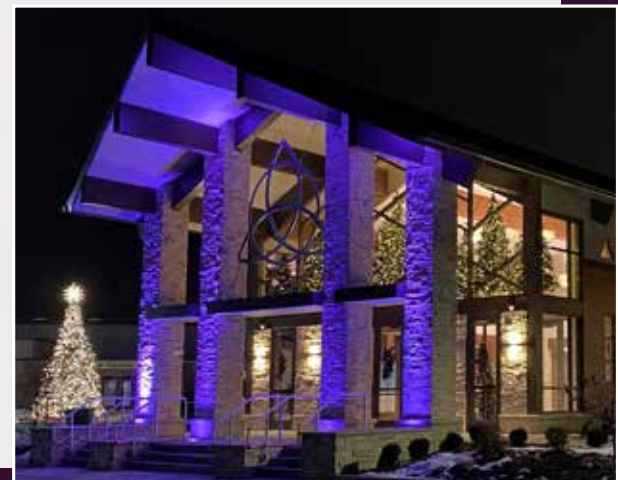
**I share this because all of us need to use this Christmas to seek the Lord – Come to Us.** All of us need to use this Christmas to strengthen the bonds of our families...we need each other...we need strong families. And... we need to use this Christmas to 'pour ourselves into' our families and the family of God. **How will you, and your family, use this Advent and Christmas to come to the Lord and strengthen the bonds of your family?**

Our Advent/Christmas newsletter is filled with wonderful opportunities to invite the Lord more abundantly into your heart and home. There are many opportunities for you, your family and our parish family to come together. Over and again, let's sing and pray, "Come to us Lord of Glory and show us the way...to peace...to hope...to strong families...to a community of faith alive in Christ.

God bless you.

Father Bob Stec

**P.S. By the time you read this, we will be well on our way to feeding and providing for 9,000 people this Thanksgiving.** God bless you - over and again - for your goodness. Together we are building a kinder, more loving and compassionate community for all of God's people. What you do for the least, you do for the Lord. May these Thanksgiving Days be blessed.



## 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

**Wednesday, December 7** 4:30 - 6:00 pm

**Tuesday, December 13** 7:00 - 8:00 pm

**Friday, December 16** 1:00 - 2:00 pm

### ADVENT COMMUNAL PENANCE:

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

### Rorate Caeli Mass

**December 16 at 7:00 pm**

A traditional candlelit Advent Mass.

### Bambinelli Blessing

**December 17/18**

Every family is invited to bring their "Baby Jesus" from their Nativity scene to all weekend Masses and receive a blessing.

### Children's Christmas Pageant

**December 24**

3:15 pm Church

### Christmas Mass Schedule

**Christmas Eve - Saturday, December 24**

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

Masses held in Church and Hilkert Hall.

8:00 pm and Midnight Mass in Church only

**Christmas Day - Sunday, December 25**

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

All Masses held in Church

### New Year's Mass Schedule

**Saturday, December 31**

8:15 am Prayer Service

4:30 pm Holy Day Vigil Mass

**Sunday, January 1**

**New Year's Day, World Day of Peace**

**Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God**

**Regular Mass Schedule**

7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am 12:00 pm 5:00 pm

**Sunday, January 8**

**Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord**

**Regular Mass Schedule**



**SAINT AMBROSE**  
**BREAKFAST**  
*with*  
**Santa**

**Sunday, December 4**  
**8:00 AM - 11:30 AM**

Come for a great breakfast,  
fun crafts & photos with  
Santa & Mrs. Claus!

Snap some great pics with your phone!

**Saint Ambrose Parish**

**Get tickets online at**  
**StAmbrose.us/Christmas**

**\$8 tickets**  
Children under 2 are free.

**Pancakes & Sausage!**  
Fruit Drink, Coffee & Water

**fiat**  **ANGELS**

## Advent Tea

GUEST SPEAKER

**Sister Donna Marie, OSU**

We welcome our guest speaker - Sister Donna Marie, OSU - as she offers a beautiful reflection and inspiration for the Advent season.

We will also enjoy Christmas music from our Music Ministry.

*Saturday*  
**DECEMBER 3, 2022**

**11:00 am - 2:00 pm in Hilkert Hall**

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.

*Tickets* **\$25 / PERSON**



**Tickets & Info at StAmbrose.us/Advent-Tea**





SAINT AMBROSE CATHOLIC PARISH

# 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

**Share a little extra of God's love, care and kindness this season.**

We need volunteers to "adopt a family" and deliver random acts of kindness during the 12 days leading up to Christmas.

We provide the gifts, the address, everything you need, you simply deliver a daily gift to the family.

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

**It's a wonderful opportunity to give back and be reminded of the TRUE reason for this Christmas season.**

Interested in helping? Know of anyone that could use a little extra joy and hope this Christmas season? Please email Lisa at [LHomady@StAmbrose.us](mailto:LHomady@StAmbrose.us).

Funded by generous #WeGiveCatholic donations on November 29!

## Advent Kindness Pines

**Share in the spirit of Christmas...**

It's that time of year again...when giving is the reason for the season. During the Advent season, please look for a Kindness Pine situated at the doors of the church. These trees are filled with tags that indicate a small need that will make a great difference to someone. **TAKE A TAG or TWO!** 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 11.**



## Bus Trip

**Columbus Day Trip!**

Celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception at St. Mary's Church in Columbus; Shopping at Macy's Easton Town Center, Buffet at Schmidt's Sausage Haus in German Village; Christmas Light Display at Franklin Park Conservatory. \$60 per person. **Sign up [StAmbrose.us/event/holiday-bus-trip/](http://StAmbrose.us/event/holiday-bus-trip/)**



## Music Ministry

**ADVENT CONCERT**

**Friday, December 9, 7:00 pm**

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!**

## Upcoming Events

**November 27**

First Sunday of Advent

**November 29**

We Give Catholic #GivingTuesday

**December 2**

Friday BINGO

**December 3**

Advent Tea 11:00 am

**December 4**

Breakfast with Santa

**December 6**

Feast of Saint Nicholas

**December 7**

Feast of Saint Ambrose

Monthly Reconciliation

**December 8**

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Masses at 8:15 am, 12:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 7:00 pm (Vigil 7:00 pm)

Columbus Holiday Bus Trip

**December 9**

Music Ministry Advent Concert 7:00 pm

**December 10**

Advent Mini VBS

Hope for the Holidays, Part 2

The FEST Christmas Concert with Rhett Walker 7:00 pm

**December 11**

FIAT & YA XLT 7:00 pm

**December 13**

Advent Communal Penance

**December 15**

SAS Christmas Concert 6:30 pm

**December 16**

Friday BINGO

Rorate Caeli Mass 7:00 pm

**December 17**

Singing Angels Concert & Living Nativity 6:00 pm

**December 24**

Children's Christmas Pageant 3:15 pm

*"For a child will be born for us, a son will be given to us, and the government will be on his shoulders. He will be named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace."*  
- ISAIAH 9:6



# Advent MINI VBS

**Saturday, December 10**

**9:00 - 11:00 am**

## Journey to the Manger

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!](https://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!

**All events are from 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm!**

**.Advent Retreat December 4**

**12 Days of Christmas Service Night December 11**

**Youth Ministry Christmas Party December 18**

**Epiphany Party January 8**

**Winter Sports Day January 22**

**Celebrate Life! January 29**

**Tobogganing February 2**

*Fun on the slopes followed by 5:00 pm Mass*

Contact Maria Grama at [MGrama@StAmbrose.us](mailto:MGrama@StAmbrose.us).



## Children's Christmas Pageant "12 Days of Christmas"

**Friday, December 24  
at 3:15 pm**

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  
[HLanzarotta@StAmbrose.us](mailto:HLanzarotta@StAmbrose.us)  
information!



## Rorate Caeli Mass

**December 16 at 7:00 pm in the Church**

The Rorate Caeli Mass is a traditional Advent Mass in Mary's honor, celebrated by candlelight as we prepare for the coming of the Light of the world.



[StAmbrose.us/We-Give-Catholic](https://StAmbrose.us/We-Give-Catholic) on Tuesday, November 29

**#weGIVECATHOLIC**  
with the Catholic Community Foundation on **#GIVINGTUESDAY**

**GIVE A GIFT THAT CAN'T BE BOUGHT...**

**LET'S GIVE HOPE!**

**SUPPORTING OUR 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**



[StAmbrose.us/We-Give-Catholic](https://StAmbrose.us/We-Give-Catholic) on Tuesday, November 29



# Saint Ambrose School News

## SAINTS AND SCHOLARS!

### Saint Ambrose School Awarded 2022 Conservation Educators of the Year.

Saint Ambrose students participated in Medina County Soil and Water Conservation District's program this past spring. Students shared conservation projects and coloring contests showing conservation methods. Students researched data and developed a plan to reduce waste at lunch that will be adopted by the school!

## ANGELS ON THE MOVE!

### All School Day of Service - what a day!

Saint Ambrose School joined our parish's Community Day of Service to help others on November 4th. Our Angels joined together to serve our community first responders, to complete fall cleanup on our parish grounds, at Heritage Farm and our local community, make cards and gift care packages for the homeless and our Thanksgiving meal projects. Students had the opportunity to learn more about our community, being good citizens and the important role we all play in serving others. Our K-8 students also participated in a drill and training exercise with local Brunswick, Brunswick Hills and Medina County first responders. What a fabulous experience we shared as a school family of faith! How blessed we are to teach our children about the importance of putting God first, others second and ourselves third!

*We Serve  
One Another  
with the  
Compassion  
of Christ*



**At Saint Ambrose School, Students Have MANY Opportunities to Grow in Their Faith and Serve In Our Church!** Congratulations to our 112 newly-commissioned 5th-8th Grade liturgical ministers! Thank you for answering the call to serve!

## ALUMNI CORNER

**Ryan O'Donnell - National Merit Scholar at Saint Ignatius High School!**



To stay connected and receive updates about alumni events, contact Michelle Dietrich at MDietrich@StASchool.us. We love hearing about and sharing the great things our alumni are doing!

# Upcoming Events



## Preschool

### Parent Information Night

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1**

6:30 pm - 7:30 pm (VIRTUAL)

Meet our teachers and learn about our 5-STAR preschool.



## High School Preparatory (Grades 6-8)

### Parent Information Night

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1**

6:30 pm - 7:30 pm (VIRTUAL)

Meet our 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade teachers! Learn more about our thriving middle school program centered on Jesus Christ through rigorous academics, authentic relationships and Next Generation skills for deeper learning and success.



## Give to support our Angels!

**November 29, 2022 - December 31, 2022**

**[SaintAmbroseSchool.us/Donate](https://SaintAmbroseSchool.us/Donate)**



## Angel Scholarship Fund

### Turn your tax dollars into tuition!

Your participation in the Angel Scholarship Fund strengthens our school – and our future – in countless ways; and best of all, your thoughtful generosity makes a big difference.

**[SaintAmbroseSchool.us/Angel-Fund](https://SaintAmbroseSchool.us/Angel-Fund)**



**Enrollment for the 2023-2024 School Year begins Tuesday, January 10, 2022 for Preschool - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
Saint Ambrose Parish and Littlest Angels Preschool families receive priority consideration for kindergarten, but early application is highly encouraged as enrollment is not guaranteed.

## Metanoia IX Retreat

**All high school teens are invited to join us for our ninth annual Metanoia retreat this January 20-22!**

This weekend is one you do not want to miss – bring your friends and join us for a chance to get away from the chaos and stress, make new friends, talk about meaningful topics, grow in your relationship with God, and so much more. Our high school retreat team has been hard at work planning the weekend and has a lot of great things in store!

**Spots are limited – sign up today at [StAmbrose.us/fiat](https://StAmbrose.us/fiat)!**



**fiat**  
SAINT AMBROSE PARISH  
• HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY •

**All high school teens are welcome!**

Join us for fiat nights on Sunday evenings starting with 5:00 pm Mass followed by fiat from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm in Hilkert Hall. Join us for meaningful conversation, great food, friendship, and time to grow in faith.

**More info at [StAmbrose.us/fiat](https://StAmbrose.us/fiat) or call the Youth Ministry Office at 330.460.7387.**

*Advent*  
**XLT**  
December 11 | 7pm | Church



## Advent Faith & Fellowship Groups Four-Week Series Begins November 27

Advent is a great time to connect with other women, men, and couples in your faith and form strong bonds and friendships that can last years. 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 this Advent as we await the Christ Child.

**Advent Selections to choose from include:**

- Rejoice: Advent Meditations with Joseph
- Advent Meditations with the Holy Family
- The True Meaning of Christmas

**To register, go to [StAmbrose.us/AFF](https://StAmbrose.us/AFF) or contact Gayle Oboy at [GOboy@StAmbrose.us](mailto:GOboy@StAmbrose.us).**

## Young Adults

**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.

## 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.

**Visit [sote.life](https://sote.life) or visit the app to create an account.**



## Couples' Night Out

### "A Cozy Night with My Spouse"

**January 14, 2023 in Hilkert Hall at 6:00 pm**

You and your spouse are invited to join us for a newlywed game, light dinner, and dessert. Plus, Father Andrew will be brewing his specialty beer!

**RSVP for the January Couples' Night Out at [StAmbrose.us/marriage](https://StAmbrose.us/marriage).**

**On-site babysitting while you and your spouse are at these events will be available.** There is no charge for this service but donations are welcome.

For more information, please reach out to Kim Nemet by email or at 330.460.3316.



# Hope & Healing during the Season

## Hope for the Holidays

**Saturday, December 10, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm**

For those who have lost a loved one, find comfort and peace during the holiday season.

## Hearts of Hope Widows Support Group

**Tuesday, January 10, 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm**

All widows are invited to come and find good conversation, healing, and hope. Email Lisa Cinadr to RSVP at [LCinadr@StASchool.us](mailto:LCinadr@StASchool.us).

## Healing Hearts

**Winter 2023 Session begins January 18**

Here to help children who have lost a loved one. We will focus on bringing hope, healing, and joy to your child. Our new **6-week session will begin on Wednesday, January 18**, and will meet weekly from 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm in Lehner Center, Luke. Contact Jennie Porco at 330.460.7317 or [JPorco@StAmbrose.us](mailto:JPorco@StAmbrose.us) to RSVP.



*"Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign: See, the virgin will conceive, have a son, and name him Emmanuel."*

- ISAIAH 7:14

## Mental Health Ministry

**There are still too many people and families 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 head in a hopeful direction. Support to help individuals and families struggling with mental illness and depression exists here at Saint Ambrose Parish through our Mental Health Ministry and a NAMI Support Group.

NAMI support groups are peer-led and offer participants an opportunity to share their experiences and gain support from other attendees.

If you would like to become involved in helping others who struggle with mental illness or depression, please consider joining our Mental Health Ministry.

For questions or more information on either of those ministries, please contact Jennie Porco at [JPorco@StAmbrose.us](mailto:JPorco@StAmbrose.us) or at 330.460.7317.

## Stephen Ministry

**Stephen Ministers Are Care-Givers, God Is the Cure-Giver**

Our Stephen Ministers are here for you to listen, empathize, encourage, pray, and provide



emotional and spiritual support confidentially on a weekly basis to those who are hurting for as long as the need persists. God works in and through Stephen Ministers to bring hope and healing.

**If you are feeling lonely, experiencing a crisis, struggling through a difficult time, or simply stressed by everyday life**, talk with one of our Stephen Leaders: Lisa Homady at [LHomady@StAmbrose.us](mailto:LHomady@StAmbrose.us) or 330.460.7315, or Carol Maline at [CMaline@StAmbrose.us](mailto:CMaline@StAmbrose.us) or 330.460.7336 to learn more about Stephen Ministry.

*Our Stephen Ministers are ready to care for you!*







NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2022

# ADVENT NEWSLETTER

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

NONPROFIT ORG  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
BRUNSWICK, OH  
PERMIT #67

*"The true light that gives  
light to everyone, was  
coming into the world."*

- JOHN 1:9



## JOIN US THIS SEASON!

*There is something for everyone!*

- Advent Tea • Breakfast with Santa
- Rhett Walker Christmas Concert
- Hope for the Holidays • Men's Breakfast
- Music Ministry Advent Concert
- Living Nativity & Singing Angels Concert

Find details at [StAmbrose.us/Christmas](http://StAmbrose.us/Christmas).  
Invite your family from near and far to join you!



## Singing Angels Concert & LIVING NATIVITY!

**Saturday, December 17, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm**

Join us inside our Church at 6:00 pm as  
**The Singing Angels** will begin with a moving concert!

Following their performance we will process outside and  
**Journey to Bethlehem for our Living Nativity** with our  
students as they reenact the night of Christ's birth!

The evening will continue in Hilkert Hall with cookies and  
hot cocoa and your special moment with santa!

**RSVP in advance: [StAmbrose.us/Christmas](http://StAmbrose.us/Christmas)**



All December long our parish campus will be decorated in Christmas lights and decorations to help us appreciate the beauty of the season. Please feel free to walk around with your family to look at the lights and take pictures. *You are always welcome at Saint Ambrose!*