

December 17, 2023



*Only*  
**JESUS**

SAINT AMBROSE PARISH: ADVENT 2023

STRENGTH

***“Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid  
or terrified because of them, for the Lord  
your God goes with you; he will never leave  
you nor forsake you.”***

(DEUTERONOMY 31:6)

*Only Jesus...* He is the perfect gift.

He is the promise of Wisdom, Hope, Strength, Peace.

Join us throughout the Advent & Christmas Season as we come  
together in faith and prayer. [www.StAmbrose.us/Advent](http://www.StAmbrose.us/Advent)

## FIRST LOOK • Parish Events this Week

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

#### BAMBINELLI BLESSING AT ALL MASSES

#### DONUT SUNDAY IN HILKERT GYM AFTER ALL MORNING AND NOON MASSES

- 12:30 pm Community Meal Carryout (Hilkert Hall)
- 5:00 pm Women's Welcome Meeting (LC John)
- 5:00 pm Metanoia Reunion (Hilkert Hall)
- 6:00 pm Ablaze Night (Lehner Center)
- 7:00 pm Advent XLT (Church)

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 18

- 9:00 am Eucharistic Adoration (Chapel)
- 1:00 pm Rosary for Priests & Seminarians (Chapel)
- 4:00 pm PB&J Brigade (Hilkert 4)
- 5:30 pm Women's AA Meeting (LC John)
- 7:00 pm Quilting & Sewing (PLC Work Room)
- 7:00 pm Gabriel Project Meeting (LC Fr. McGivney)
- 7:30 pm Benediction (Chapel)

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19

- 9:30 am CWM Food Distro (CWM Outreach Center)
- 2:00 pm Catholic Charities Counseling (LC Matthew)
- 4:00 pm OneHope NEO Food Sort (Hilkert Gym)
- 4:00 pm PB&J Brigade (Hilkert 4)
- 7:00 pm Living Word Ministry Meeting (Chapel)
- 7:30 pm Boy Scout Meeting (Hilkert Hall)
- 9:00 pm Men's Rec Basketball (Hilkert Gym)

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20

- 9:00 am Route 66 Strength & Stretch (Hilkert 4)
- 9:00 am Building & Grounds Mtg. (LC Fr. McGivney)
- 1:30 pm Rejoice Advent Series (LC Fr. McGivney)
- 4:00 pm PB&J Brigade (Hilkert 4)
- 5:30 pm Centering Prayer (John Paul II)
- 6:00 pm CWM Food Distro (CWM Outreach Center)
- 6:00 pm Dance Fitnezz (Mother Teresa)
- 6:30 pm Cub Scout Meeting (Hilkert Hall)

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21

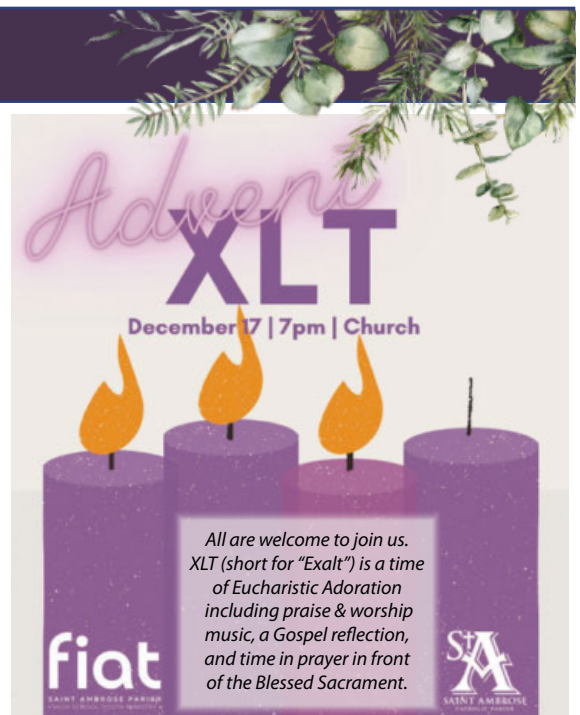
- 10:30 am Prayer Shawl Ministry (LC Matthew)
- 4:00 pm PB&J Brigade (Hilkert 4)
- 4:00 pm Route 66 Winter Solstice (Mother Teresa)
- 6:00 pm Weekly Reconciliation (Church)
- 6:00 pm K of C Meeting (LC Fr. McGivney)
- 6:00 pm Legion of Mary Rosary (Chapel)
- 6:15 pm Sitting with Scripture (Virtual)
- 6:30 pm NAMI Support Group (LC Luke)
- 7:00 pm YA Bibles & Brew Night (Ignite Brewing Co.)
- 7:30 pm Boy Scout Meeting (Hilkert 2-4)
- 9:00 pm Men's Rec Basketball (Hilkert Gym)

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

- 9:00 am Women's AA Meeting (LC Fr. McGivney)

*For more event details,  
visit [StAmbrose.us/Events](https://StAmbrose.us/Events).*



### Mini Concert

#### Our Singing Angels

All are welcome on Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24, 2023, at 3:30 pm in the church (right before the start of Christmas Eve Mass at 4:00 pm).

Join us to hear our Singing Angels' voices glorifying the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ!



### Be the Light in Someone's Life

#### Share the Invitation to Come to a Christmas Mass! Fourth Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 23 – 4:30 pm, 6:00 pm  
Sunday, December 24 – 8:00 am, 10:00 am  
*All Masses will be held in the Church.*

#### Christmas Eve – Sunday, December 24

3:30 pm: Children's Christmas Pageant  
4:00 pm: Masses in the Church and Hilkert Hall  
6:00 pm, 8:00 pm, midnight: Masses in the Church

#### Christmas Day – Monday, December 25

8:00 am, 10:00 am, noon: Masses in the Church

**All are welcome with Joyful Hospitality!!!**

## PARISH NEWS • Letter from Our Pastor

...*"The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor, to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, to announce a year of favor from the LORD and a day of vindication by our God."* The Prophet Isaiah powerfully proclaims the work we are called to do. **God has called us and sends us to boldly proclaim a different vision – the vision of God – for our world.** It is a vision of hope, compassion, healing, and peace. It is a vision that is good for each of us and for every child of God.

...The third Sunday of Advent is known as **Gaudete Sunday. It is the Sunday of joy and rejoicing for so near is the Lord our God.** The pink candle of the Advent wreath is lit. We pray that we are using these days to prepare our hearts and our homes for the Lord. Jesus is the Reason for the Season. **Only Jesus can satisfy the longings of our hearts. Only Jesus can bring the peace we need and the hope we seek.** Wrap your mind and heart around giving the perfect gift to your family and friends – the gift of Jesus Christ.

...**One way to give this gift of Jesus is to invite family and friends to join you in prayer on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day for Mass at Saint Ambrose.** It's always our hope and prayer that when we come together that God can best speak to our hearts and provide for us everything we need. A simple invitation can make all the difference and be the perfect Christmas gift.

...**We celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Advent next Saturday and Sunday. In order to make it more convenient for everyone to come together for Mass, we have added a second Saturday Vigil Mass (4:30 pm and 6 pm). On Sunday morning, Mass will be at 8 am and 10 am. Then later on Sunday afternoon we kick into Christmas Eve with Masses at 4 pm (both Church and Hall), 6 pm, 8 pm, and 12 midnight. Masses on Christmas day are at 8 am, 10 am and 12 noon. Join us for a warm welcome, inspiring music and prayer. O come let us adore Him.**

...God willing, we will be blessed with many guests and visitors for Christmas. Your warm welcome and active participation in prayer can make the difference to make our guests regular active members of our community of faith at Christmas and always.

...In the spirit of Isaiah, our first reading, God bless all who are participating in the Advent Giving Trees. **It's been humbling**

**and inspiring to see the greatest of care and thoughtfulness as hundreds and hundreds of gifts arrive at the doors of the Church.** Beautiful gifts reflecting great love and generosity. One of the gifts came with a beautiful card. "I know that this gift will only last you a little while. I am praying for you and hope that this gift will last you forever." God bless you over and again. **What we do for those in need, we do for the Lord.**

...It was also inspiring to see a legion of elves preparing for the **12 days of Christmas program** which has adopted 102 of our members. Over these days, we are dropping off little gifts of joy, prayer and cheer to lift the spirits of some who have gone through a difficult year. **May God bless all of our elves and may their efforts bring some joy and hope to others.**

...**This coming Tuesday** we will be sorting canned items and packing bags to take care of 425 families in Cleveland and provide food for Christmas. **Many hands make for fast sorting/packing. Please come up at 4 pm to help.** We'll be grateful for your help and you will be glad you spent the hour helping care for those most in need.

...Some trivia...**the week after Christmas we will be replacing the pew seats.** The manufacture is replacing them free of charge because they have not 'held up' as well as they should. This is great news for our parish. **We also need to do our part by making sure there are no dangling keys or sharp objects in our pockets which can damage the pews.** Watch for sparked up pews in the new year.

...Over the past few weeks, you've been hearing and receiving lots of information about the **Angel Scholarship Fund. Quite simply, if you pay taxes to the State of Ohio, you can use that money to support Saint Ambrose School.** It's not a tax deduction, it is a tax credit which means if you participate (up to \$750 per person and \$1500 per couple), you can direct those dollars to help our school families (and parish) instead of paying the taxes to the State of Ohio. It takes less than 3 minutes. It's easy and really that simple. Why should you do this??? It will help some of our families receive the support they need to send their children to Saint Ambrose School. It also helps our parish a lot!!! See the insert in today's bulletin. **Please, please consider participating in this amazing opportunity provided by the State of Ohio.**

...**Father Andrew has been a great gift and blessing to our parish community.**

He's touched our hearts and had a great impact on our entire parish community. He will conclude his ministry at Saint Ambrose on December 31 which will give him a break before he starts as Administrator of Saint Anthony of Padua Parish in Parma. **Join us for a fun-filled farewell party on Friday, December 29<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm. Please RSVP to help us plan for some great food (StAmbrose.us/FatherAndrew).**

...This weekend we are passing out the **2024 Parish Calendar. It's compliments of Waite and Son Funeral Home and our Community Partners.** It's filled with special dates, parish events and quotes to help us every day in the new year to reflect on "Only Jesus." He is the perfect gift and everything we need at Christmas and always. May each day of the new year be blessed and filled with God's grace and presence.

...**If you are reading this online,** don't forget that **this Friday** we are blessed to welcome Steve Angrisano and Sara Hart to Saint Ambrose for their Comfort and Joy concert at 7 pm. **On Saturday** join us for the Living Nativity and an amazing Singing Angels Concert starting at 5:30 pm.

...**This Sunday evening, please join us for Advent Evening Prayer at 7 pm.** Come and allow the Lord to fill your heart with Advent peace.

...In this busy week, **we can always use a few extra hands to decorate and/or help clean the Church.** If you can lend an hour or two, **please contact Helen Lanzarotta at hlanzarotta@StAmbrose.us.**

...A little Christmas cheer. ....**our Young Adults were out and about Christmas Caroling the other night.** One neighbor commented, "I didn't know that Christmas caroling was still a thing." And another, "It was such a joy to see the young adults spreading the joy of Christmas. I am simply blessed."

...We may not have much snow this Christmas (that's as good as it is bad) but the Lights around the campus still burn bright and proclaim the hopefulness and joy of Christmas. **Take some time one night to drive thru and observe the beauty and the blessing.**

...**And the big sign boldly proclaims that "Jesus is the Reason."** He is our hope and our strength. He is the wisdom we need and the peace we seek. **Only Jesus.** Have a blessed week.



# INTENTIONS • Remembrance & Gratitude

## Saint Ambrose Masses & Services

### Schedule & Intentions

**Monday, Wednesday, and Friday:** 8:15 am

**Thursday:** 5:30 pm

**Saturday:** 4:30 pm and 8:15 am (Mass on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month, Prayer Service in the Chapel on the other Saturdays)

**Sunday:** 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am, 12:00 pm, and 5:00 pm

#### Sunday, December 17 | 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

7:30 am † Patricia Boehnen (Family)  
 9:00 am † Robert Telenko (Wife)  
 10:30 am † Marian Knotek (Mary Straslicka)  
 12:00 pm † John & Annette Pojman (The Adams Family)  
 5:00 pm † Trevor James Pacek (Frank & Sharon Pacek)  
 7:00 pm *Advent Prayer Service in the Church*

#### Monday, December 18

8:15 am † Barbara Mary Harpster (John & Laurie Stolarczyk)  
 5:30 pm *Prayer Service in the Chapel*

#### Tuesday, December 19

8:15 am *Prayer Service in the Church*

#### Wednesday, December 20

8:15 am † Russ McKenzie (Wife)

#### Thursday, December 21 | St. Peter Canisius

8:15 am *Prayer Service in the Church*  
 5:30 pm † George Temethy (Family)

#### Friday, December 22

8:15 am † Joseph & Valeria Swec (Jeff & Diane Chapman)

#### Saturday, December 23 | St. John of Kanty

8:15 am † Schreiner, Toledo, & Angelle Family (Family)  
 4:30 pm † Paula Kuntz & Larry Lasker (Wife & Mother)  
 6:00 pm † Rosanna Buttazzoni (Saint Ambrose Parish Staff)

#### Sunday, December 24 | 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

8:00 am † Rey Apolinar (Marieta)  
 † James Sutter (Mary Straslicka)  
 10:00 am † Albert Noel (Family)  
 † Steve Dobransky (Parents)  
 4:00 pm † Ernestina Medina (Fred & Nilda Gonzalez)  
 4:00 pm † Phillip Schafer (Family)  
 6:00 pm † Carmen & Florence Ravo (Korper Family)  
 † Deceased Members of the Luna & Lanzarotta Families (Family)  
 8:00 pm † Charles Gazso (Family)  
 † Joseph Siragusa (Bob & Sally Palmer)  
 12:00 am The Adams Family (The Adams Family)

### Week of December 10, 2023

|                          | Dec. 10, 2023                      | Jul. 1, 2023 to Dec. 10, 2023 | Jul. 1, 2022 to Dec. 11, 2022 |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Sunday Collection        | \$ 43,091                          | \$ 956,654                    | \$ 900,745                    |
| Amount Needed            | \$ (39,000)                        | \$ (936,000)                  |                               |
| Over / (Under)           | \$ 4,091                           | \$ 16,563                     |                               |
| Building Fund            | \$ 815                             | \$ 20,654                     | \$ 39,190                     |
| ACH Collection           | \$ 4,246 (weekly)                  |                               |                               |
| Online Sunday Collection | \$ 582                             |                               |                               |
| Children's Offertory     | \$ 404 from 48 envelopes collected |                               |                               |

AH  
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### Generations of Faith | Campaign Update

**Total Pledged:** \$ 4,653,451.29  
**Total # of Gifts:** 819  
**Deposits (week of Dec. 3):** \$ 850.00  
**Total Collected to Date:** \$ 4,289,667.83

## Ways to Support Our Parish

- **Automatic giving** (for more information, contact Lynn Rogers at LRogers@StAmbrose.us).
- **Online** at StAmbrose.us/Donate.
- **By mail** (donations can be mailed to Saint Ambrose Parish, 929 Pearl Road, Brunswick, OH 44212).
- Drop your **collection envelope in the baskets** at the doors of the Church or at the Parish Office or in the secured mailbox.

RS

AH

## IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution

### Together for the Glory of God

If you are 70 ½ or older, you may be able to make a gift of a Qualified Charitable Distribution from your IRA that will help our parish and reduce your taxable income. **Talk to your advisors and IRA administrator for more information and to be sure that your IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution gift is made directly from an IRA to a qualified charity such as our parish.** Questions?

Contact Jake Bihari at 216.215.5015 or JBihari@StAmbrose.us or visit StAmbrose.us/Endowment.

# LIFTING ONE ANOTHER • Prayers & Support

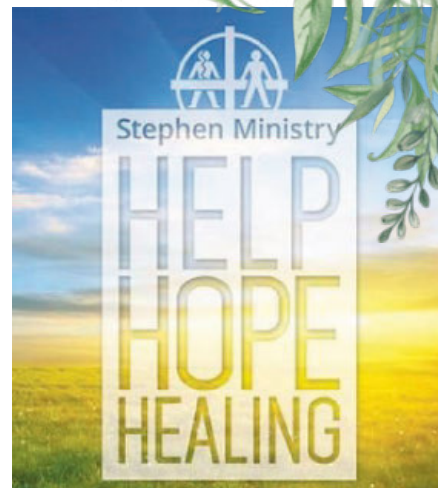
## *We Pray for Our Sick*

|                   |                   |                       |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Baby Beverlee     | Tom De Masse      | Agnes Knox            | Ed Plitt          |
| Gary              | Ron DeMichael     | Matt Koko             | Steve Plitt       |
| Greg              | Elmer Dubs        | John Kolesar          | Angela Polis      |
| Joanie            | Jennifer Dupont   | Dolores Kozlowski     | Luella Rakovec    |
| Josephine         | Peggy Elston      | Theresa Krakora       | Mike Rieger       |
| Josh              | Holdigard Fanslau | Jess Lahl             | Mary Ann Riess    |
| Karis             | Barb Ferris       | Knox Lette            | Jack Roznik       |
| Kim               | Micah Galuzny     | Sharon Livingston     | Dorothy Rumas     |
| Lindey            | Cheryl Gazso      | Beatrice Longo        | Andrew S.         |
| Madeline          | Joe Gezymalla     | Rose Machor           | Marge Sabados     |
| Mason             | Josie Gezymalla   | Margaret Napalo       | Gertrude Schmidt  |
| Russ              | Dan Ginley        | Michael Napalo        | Lorrie Sirocky    |
| Ruthie            | Jeff Golan        | Phyllis Marinelli     | Erica Stora       |
| Tony              | Richie Golan      | Rita Miczak           | Norma Sutter      |
| Judy Arena        | Nancy Grill       | Trudy Miller          | Marian Swansinger |
| Ted Beba          | Donna H.          | Lynn Moavero          | Linda Tackla      |
| Gaylene Bielawski | Denny Halenar     | Marty (Butch) Morisky | Nash Taylor       |
| Lisa Bielawski    | Linda Hammel      | Michael Mraz          | Gloria Tews       |
| Melissa Boey      | Priscilla Harris  | Dan Murphy            | Joyce Tomei       |
| Bossone Family    | Barbara Harrison  | John & Faith Nelson   | Simon Tucker      |
| Paula C.          | Carol Heinle      | Andrew Nemec          | Lori Uhler        |
| Marie Ceslewski   | Joan Howells      | Joe Neura             | Mark Vozar        |
| Jeffrey Conrad    | Sandra Kaaikaula  | Bob & Karen Pencek    | Debbie Wyatt      |
| Maureen Conway    | Bonnie Kaczynski  | Carol Perruchon       | Karen Zabrocki    |
| Christine Dabramo | Robert Keller     | Judy Peskura          | Pat Zdolshek      |
| Ken Daubert       | Rosemary Kemper   | Carolyn Pietrzak      |                   |
| Diane Davenport   | Pat Kilarsky      | Richard Pinkleton     |                   |

## *We Lift Up Those Battling Cancer*

|                       |                       |                      |                    |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Noah                  | Jack Egan             | Kathy Keglovich      | Lisa Ocacio        |
| Sue                   | Tim Esser             | Barbara Ann Kilarsky | Richard Pietolungo |
| Todd                  | Mary Ferritti         | Bob Klaehn           | Debra R.           |
| Tyler                 | Barbara Fiala         | David Klem, Jr.      | Jim Razzante       |
| Erin Alan             | Barbara Fischer       | Joy Kowalski         | Eric Reeder        |
| Jody Angelone         | Noah Forlini-Kotlarek | Joan Krall           | Allyson Reynes     |
| Kimberly Ball         | Joseph Fuizzotti      | Donna Kucera         | Cathy Ricciuto     |
| Mary Bauman           | Robert Gallik         | Kathy Kunkler        | Corinne Rickabaugh |
| Fred Beba             | Vince Gassi           | Joyce Lancaster      | Jack Roznik        |
| Paula Berghauser      | Edward Gaus           | J.D. Languth         | Donald Rundle      |
| Melissa Boring        | Beth Gerding          | Dolores Lauerhahs    | Karen Ryan         |
| Sue Burdick           | Mike Ginley           | Jennifer Lazar       | Toni S.            |
| Debbie Burrell        | Jeff Golan            | Terri Leitner        | Kim Saffle         |
| Gail Buttitta         | Michael Golden        | Carol Lersch         | Terry Sawyer       |
| Shawn Calvey          | Vaughan Guzik         | Jill Lesiw           | Andy Stamper       |
| Nora Carangio         | Robert Hirus          | Michael Luks         | Jen Stancato       |
| Charlotte Casselberry | Ron Hendrix           | Richard Malone       | Angelo Stavole     |
| Mary Cipollone        | David Hoffman         | Helen Mancuso        | Jackie Symons      |
| Vickie Coates         | Mark Hogan            | Lisa Mayfeld         | Barbara Tescar     |
| Wink Coleman          | Donna Hvizdos         | Stacy McFarland      | Dominic Trizio     |
| Rosie Colucci         | Melanie J.            | Mick McGinnis        | Jenny Vassel       |
| Megan Dauer           | Josh Johnston         | Sandy Metzger        | Joanne Walsh       |
| Marcial De Leon       | Bridgitte Jones       | Thomas Miller        | Mary Jo Weihrouch  |
| Mary De Santis        | Kathy K.              | Sonia Missal         | Debbie Wyatt       |
| Steven Dearth         | Clara Kalal           | Edward Morey         | Gary Zayas, Sr.    |
| Roger Droll           | Mike Kalka            | Tina Mounts          |                    |
| Kristen Eble          | Desh Kapur            | Barb Nofel           |                    |

To have your loved one's name added to a prayer list, or to change the status of your loved one, email [Bulletin@StAmbrose.us](mailto:Bulletin@StAmbrose.us). If a name has been removed from a list and should be re-added, please email us this request.



## *Stephen Ministry* **Our Stephen Ministers are Here to Care for You!**

The joy of Christmas can turn into a time of painful loneliness and emptiness for those who have suffered a loss or who are going through a difficult time. But, **help is available**. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to provide confidential, one-on-one Christian care. They will listen, care, encourage, pray with and for you, and support you through the holidays and as long as your need persists. If you or someone you know is hurting, find out more about Stephen Ministry at Saint Ambrose by talking with one of our Stephen Ministry Leaders:

- Carol Maline - 330.460.7336 or [Maline@StAmbrose.us](mailto:Maline@StAmbrose.us)
- Lisa Homady - 330.460.7315 or [LHomady@StAmbrose.us](mailto:LHomady@StAmbrose.us).

Or, visit us online at [StAmbrose.us/Stephen-Ministry](http://StAmbrose.us/Stephen-Ministry).



# A HOME FOR ALL • *We Welcome with Joyful Hospitality*

## Liturgy Corner Children's Envelopes

We know it can be challenging for families with young children to participate weekly in Mass. While young children cannot fully understand all that goes on at Mass, there are times within the Mass that they can participate in some ways. **They can learn to genuflect and bow; say the Our Father; offer the Sign of Peace; children grades K-3 can participate in the Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW) during the 4:30 pm; 9:00 am and 10:30 am.** At CLOW they will hear the scripture readings in an age-appropriate version.

In the next few weeks, all the children of the parish will receive their Offering envelopes; on the box of the envelopes will be suggestions and ideas of how we can teach our children ways to honor God, help take care of each other and place their envelope in the basket. Children can join **our Journey with Jesus program that is offered in the school for preschool children aged 3-5 years old during 9:00 am and 10:30 am Mass.** For those children who love to sing, our Angels and Cherub Choirs sings once a month at our 9:00am. When we bring our children to Mass, they hear the Word of God and prayers praising Him. Those prayers, songs and phrases expressing the foundations of our faith are repeated week after week, are seeds of faith that will stay with our children forever.

*"Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such as these belongs the kingdom of God" (Luke 18:16).*



### Simply Blessed Sangria

**TODAY!**

*Specially designed for our Saint Ambrose parish*

Simply Blessed Sangria is a perfect wine to bring or serve at the Christmas holiday season! The church and Trinity symbol are featured on the front with a special greeting and blessing by Fr. Bob on the back. Order your wine for the holidays or any time of the year.

**BOTTLES ARE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE ONLINE OR AT THE FRONT DESK.**

**Suggested Donation:**  
1 BOTTLE \$14  
2 FOR \$25

[www.StAmbrose.us/Sangria](http://www.StAmbrose.us/Sangria)

Pick up at the front desk during normal church office hours. Hurry and purchase for holiday gifts before we sell out.

- Available for a limited time only
- Please have ID with you when coming to the front desk.

**GREAT GIFT FOR FAMILY, FRIENDS AND CO-WORKERS!**

*Blessed by Father Bob!*

## A Farewell Party for Father Andrew...

**Brats, Beer, & Buhhh-bye**

**Friday, December 29**  
**6:30 pm in Hilkert Hall**

**Live music by the Yearbook Band!**  
**Come to enjoy good food and fabulous friendship.**

Let's fill Hilkert Hall for a wonderful night dedicated to thanking Father Andrew and celebrating the almost four years of inspiring ministry and great work he has done for the Lord and our parish.

**RSVP'S WILL BE MOST HELPFUL AND SHOULD BE SUBMITTED AT [STAMBROSE.US/FATHERANDREW](http://STAMBROSE.US/FATHERANDREW).**

# SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE • *We Engage and Empower Others*



## For Our Seniors

### Upcoming Events

**StAmbrose.us/Route66**

*Weekly Strength & Stretch is held in the Mother Teresa Room (unless otherwise specified) on Wednesdays at 9:00 am.*

## Solstice Social

**December 21 | 4:00 pm | Mother Teresa Room**

As we close in on the final days before Christmas, we'll celebrate the last rays of sun. We will keep you merry and bright! Find more event details at [StAmbrose.us/Route66](https://StAmbrose.us/Route66). Please use the online form in the Solstice event to RSVP by December 19 or email [JOsowski@StAmbrose.us](mailto:JOsowski@StAmbrose.us).

## Pickleball

**December 27 | 7:00 pm | Hilkert Hall Gym**

Bounce off the couch with some pickleball. Open to all experience levels our group is fun and friendly!

## Coffee & Donut Social

**January 3 | 8:45 am | Mother Teresa Room**

Morning Mass is a beautiful way to start your day, a great New Year's resolution. To sweeten the deal we have coffee and donuts. I was so happy to talk with Terry and Phyllis last month, I hope to see you this month!

*Save the Date*

**Chinese New Year Social**  
*Join us for Dinner!*  
**Friday, January 12, 2024**  
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm in Hilkert Hall  
Enjoy Chinese food, themed décor, music, and craft.

Cost is \$10 per person.  
Register online or at the front desk by Tuesday, January 9.

[StAmbrose.us/event/chinese-new-year](https://StAmbrose.us/event/chinese-new-year)

**LORD, REFOCUS  
OUR HEARTS ON  
YOU THIS  
CHRISTMAS.**



Women's  
Guild

Poppy Seed & Nut Rolls  
Annual Sale



**\$15**  
per roll

**Pre-order  
your rolls for  
Easter NOW!!!**

*Orders will be  
available for pick  
up at Donut Sunday  
(in the Hilkert Gym  
following morning  
and noon Masses)  
on January 21, 2024.*

Orders can only be placed online at  
[StAmbrose.us/Womens-Guild-Rolls](https://StAmbrose.us/Womens-Guild-Rolls).

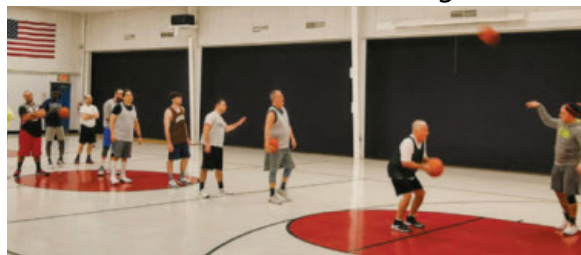
For questions, please call Laurie Zarefoss at 330.220.4596.

*Thank you for your support of our parish's Women's Guild.*

## Men's Rec Basketball

**Every Tuesday & Thursday, Year-Round**

All adult men, all skill levels are welcome to **Hilkert Gym every Tuesday and Thursday, at 9:00 pm**. For more details, contact Joe LaGuardia at 330.888.5587 or [Starsbball146@gmail.com](mailto:Starsbball146@gmail.com).



## Wrapped in Prayer & Warmth Love to Crochet or Knit?

The Prayer Shawl Ministry provides prayers, love, and warmth to our community members. Shawls are given to our newly baptized and to loved ones who are on our prayer list. The ministry meets at **10:30 on Thursday mornings in the Lehner Center**. Shawls can be made from comfort of your home, or in fellowship with the group on Thursday mornings. Send an email to [DMcCready@StAmbrose.us](mailto:DMcCready@StAmbrose.us) for more information or to sign up to help this ministry perform the Lord's work.



# SAINT AMBROSE SCHOOL • Follow God!

*"I am not capable of doing big things, but I want to do EVERYTHING, even the smallest things, for the greater glory of God."*

- SAINT DOMINIC SAVIO

## Dear Parish Family,

### ADVENT TRADITIONS

We are blessed to be a school deeply rooted in Advent traditions! We have so much to celebrate and are blessed to be able to do so. Saint Nicholas arrived this past week to fill shoes with the help of some very helpful elves!

We feasted on delicious Italian foods thanks to the help of our fantastic PTU, and Nutrition Services team. Santa and Mrs. Claus surprised our students from the North Pole to share the true meaning of Christmas.

Our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students shared in the tradition of our 8<sup>th</sup> grade play this week. From thespians, to behind the scenes our students shined on stage in this important rite of passage! We are grateful to be part of some of their fondest memories, and part of their firm foundation in faith and academic excellence.

We continue to prepare for the birth of our Lord, in prayer, in worship, and in reflection; we wait.

### ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

This week's school Christmas concert is a tradition that is near and dear to our school family's heart. I am very proud of our students and teachers for their Fine Arts Show, "Angels We Have Heard On High." Their care, creativity, and efforts were on display!

### SEE THE GOOD. BE THE GOOD

We are inspired by the goodness and unique gifts in our incredible faculty and staff. Their ability to recognize the giftedness of each student, develop those gifts and share them in glory to God is a great blessing for all of us.

### ANGEL SCHOLARSHIP FUND - GIVE THIS WEEKEND!

Thank you for your continued support of the Angel Scholarship Fund. This Ohio Tax credit program is a blessing to our school family, at no out-of-pocket expense to you. Thank you for giving from your heart to our Angels this Christmas. Please stop and meet with our Angel Ambassadors after all Masses this weekend to learn more.

### PRIORITY ENROLLMENT OPENS JANUARY 10TH ONLINE AT MIDNIGHT!

Parish members are invited and encouraged to apply for preschool-8<sup>th</sup> grade classes during our Priority Enrollment which takes place January 10-31, 2024. Please reach out to our Admissions team with any questions you may have or to schedule a personal tour at [SaintAmbroseSchool.us/Admissions](https://SaintAmbroseSchool.us/Admissions) or at 330.460.7318.

In Jesus, who is EVERYTHING for us!

Lisa Cinadr, Principal

**2024-2025**  
**Priority Registration**  
OPENS ONLINE  
**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2024**  
**Open Enrollment**  
OPENS ONLINE  
**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2024**  
[SaintAmbroseSchool.us/admissions](https://SaintAmbroseSchool.us/admissions)



**ANGEL**  
SCHOLARSHIP FUND  
*Turning taxes into tuition*

## Angel Scholarship Fund!

**Catholic Community Foundation**  
**Angel Foundation Scholarship offers a**  
**\$750 Tax Credit for 2023-2024**

*Turning Taxes into Tuition!*

Nineteen families were awarded \$52,000 among them in Angel Scholarship funds for 2023-2024, **THANK YOU!**

Learn more at [SaintAmbroseSchool.us/Angel-Fund](https://SaintAmbroseSchool.us/Angel-Fund)



### Parish School of Religion Journey to Emmaus Latest

The Rite of Acceptance and Welcome was celebrated with our Journey to Emmaus catechumens last Saturday evening at the 4:30 pm Mass. It was a pleasure to be able to sit down after Mass for dinner with our catechumens as well.

To witness how God is working in the hearts of our people has been amazing. We are truly blessed to walk this journey of faith with them and help in preparing them for the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil in March 2024.



**PSR Advent Prayer Service**  
**Monday, December 18th at 7:00pm**

We will have the opportunity to thank Father Andrew for his ministry and being an important part of our PSR program

**Join us for cookies & cocoa after the service.**



**Father/Son Retreat**  
**Saturday, Jan. 20**

**10am-2pm**

*Spend some time with  
your Dad doing something  
super-fun—tubing?*

*Tobogganing?*

*Details coming soon!*

**ABLAZE Christmas Party**  
**Sunday, Dec. 17**


Come celebrate Advent with your  
besties at ABLAZE! **Bring a wrapped  
present (something \$5 or less) of  
something YOU love and we'll play  
the Left/Right Game!** Our night will  
finish with attending XLT in the Church

Mass – 5pm

ABLAZE – 6pm (Mother Teresa Room)

[stambrose.us/ABLAZE](http://stambrose.us/ABLAZE)

[tmccombs@stambrose.us](mailto:tmccombs@stambrose.us)

 [stambrose\\_ablaze](https://www.instagram.com/stambrose_ablaze)



**WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 20, 2023**

**6:30PM - HILKERT HALL @ ST. AMBROSE**

**Free pizza & friendly games!**

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to play with new friends!

Family Game Night is presented by our St. Ambrose Cub Scout Pack 3513 (Pack3513Brunswick.com)

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## HERE FOR YOU • *We Serve with the Compassion of Christ*

### *We Want YOUR Home Project!*

#### **Community Outreach Team**

Our dedicated Outreach Team loves to offer their skilled hands and caring, compassionate hearts to help those who need it! We are looking for indoor tasks to fill our monthly projects for these upcoming winter months. If you or someone you know need help with a home project, please contact Gabby Moss at [GYatson@StAmbrose.us](mailto:GYatson@StAmbrose.us).

*Our Community*  
**CARES**  
**Concerned. Alert. Responsive. = Everyone. Safe.**

### *So No One Goes Hungry* **Ways YOU Can Help!**

Join us on **Tuesday, December 19, at 4:00 pm in the Hilkert Gym** to help pack 700 bags of perishable and non-perishable foods that will be given to our friends and families that live in the Clark Fulton area of Cleveland, Ohio the very next day - **Wednesday, December 20**. If you'd like to participate in one of these opportunities, email Brandi Hill at [Brandi@mejorviafoundation.com](mailto:Brandi@mejorviafoundation.com).

#### **CWM Food Distributions**

If you or someone you know needs groceries, we will have drive-through distros on **Tuesday, December 19 at 9:30 am - 11:00 am** or on **Wednesday, December 20 at 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm**. Both will be held at our **Catholic Works of Mercy Outreach Center**.



### *Career Coaching* **Available Here!**

The Saint Ambrose Employment Ministry **offers confidential one-on-one career coaching to persons looking for new employment opportunities**. To find out if our services might help you, visit [StAmbrose.us/Employment-Ministry](http://StAmbrose.us/Employment-Ministry).

### *Hope & Healing in the New Year* **GriefShare**

If your heart is heavy with the memory of someone you love and lost, we welcome you to this Christ-centered program with a friendly group of people. A new GriefShare series starts in January 9, 2024! The series offers two sessions - choose which one fits your schedule:

- **Tuesdays (January 9 – April 2, 2024), 9:00 am in the Lehner Center Father McGivney Room**
- **Wednesdays (January 10 – April 3, 2024), 7:00 pm in the Lehner Center Father McGivney Room**

For more details or to RSVP, contact Denise Golan at [Denise.GriefShare@gmail.com](mailto:Denise.GriefShare@gmail.com)

#### **Divorce Care**

Are you facing the struggles of divorce or separation? There is help in Christ, and Saint Ambrose offers a group through the Diocesan approved, non-denominational Divorce Care. Contact Mary Beth Garrity at 937.645.9436 for more information on this group that will begin meeting **weekly on January 10, 2024 in the**

**Lehner Center John Room,  
6:30 pm. - 8:30 pm**

#### **Divorce Care for Kids (DC4K)**

DC4K is a scripture-based program designed to help children (ages 6-13) of families experiencing divorce and separation. A new session is **starting on January 10, 2024**. The weekly meetings will take place in the **Lehner Center Luke Room at 6:30 pm every Wednesday**.

Contact Jennie Porco at [JPorco@StAmbrose.us](mailto:JPorco@StAmbrose.us) or 330.460.7317 to RSVP and for more details.

## IN OTHER NEWS • *Sharing is Caring!*

### Young Adult Retreat

#### ITE Project Apostolate

Join The ITE Project on **January 12, 2024, from 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm** for "When God Makes You Wait -- A Half Day Retreat for the Frustrated" at **Holy Family Parish in Stow, Ohio**. ITE's half-day retreats are intentionally designed for busy young adults searching for some self-care. It is the perfect balance of friendship with others and friendship with the Lord and the perfect opportunity to check in with yourself about your spiritual goals in 2024. **It's short, simple, and free -- yes, that's right, FREE.** ALL young adults are welcome! Registration closes on January 9! For more details, visit The ITE Project online at [www.theiteproject.com/events/waitwithgod](http://www.theiteproject.com/events/waitwithgod).


### Save the Date Couples' Night Out

Grab your sweetie and let's shake off the cold winter blues on the dance floor! Mark your calendar for **Saturday, January 20, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm** to learn how to dance from a professional. Then, enjoy food and company with other Saint Ambrose couples. For more details and to RSVP, visit [StAmbrose.us/Marriage](http://StAmbrose.us/Marriage).



## MYSTERY NIGHT

**JANUARY 26  
6:30PM**



Join Saint Ambrose Young Adults for an interactive evening of dinner & solving the case.

Limited spots available – sign up today online  
@ [www.StAmbrose.us/young-adults](http://www.StAmbrose.us/young-adults)

SAINT AMBROSE  
**YOUNG ADULTS**

**Come figure out "whodunnit!"**  
 Join Saint Ambrose Young Adults for this interactive night as we piece together the clues to solve the mystery. Spots are limited so sign up today at [StAmbrose.us/Young-Adults](http://StAmbrose.us/Young-Adults) registration closes January 10!

## Prayers & Gratitude to Our Members Serving in the Armed Forces

|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <b>CPT</b> Joseph Adams, <i>Marine Corps</i>      | <b>CPT</b> Keith Holcomb, <i>Air Force</i>         | <b>A1C</b> Jacob Priebe, <i>Air Force</i>        |
| <b>MN3</b> Garret Anderson, <i>Navy</i>           | <b>E2A</b> Kileo Huntington, <i>National Guard</i> | <b>SSGT</b> Matthew Pyzik, <i>Air Force</i>      |
| <b>SPCL</b> Andrew Bajusz, <i>National Guard</i>  | <b>1LT</b> Matthew Hupp, <i>Army</i>               | <b>LCPL</b> Lukas Robison, <i>Marine Corps</i>   |
| <b>SSGT</b> Kurt Becka, <i>Air Force</i>          | <b>IT3</b> Jeffrey Jones, <i>Navy</i>              | <b>SPC</b> Carsten Safran, <i>Army</i>           |
| <b>A1C</b> Tigan Braskie, <i>Air Force</i>        | <b>SSGT</b> Charles Kalemba, <i>Air Force</i>      | <b>AVCM</b> Christopher Schornik, <i>Navy</i>    |
| <b>LCPL</b> Morgan Butas, <i>Marine Corps</i>     | <b>LTCOL</b> Brad Klusmann, <i>Marine Corps</i>    | <b>LTG</b> Stephen Sklenka, <i>Marine Corps</i>  |
| <b>E1</b> Simon Claypool, <i>Marine Corps</i>     | <b>LT, O3</b> Shaun Krall, <i>Navy</i>             | <b>PVT</b> Alex Skoczen, <i>National Guard</i>   |
| <b>CPT</b> Michael Duniec, <i>Air Force</i>       | <b>SPC</b> Jacob LeRoy, <i>Army</i>                | <b>PVT</b> Xavier Skoczen, <i>National Guard</i> |
| <b>LT</b> Dr. Ryan Fashempour, <i>Navy</i>        | <b>WO1</b> Zachary Leuhsler, <i>Marine Corps</i>   | <b>CDR</b> Philip Starcovic, <i>Navy</i>         |
| <b>PFC</b> Tyler Faught, <i>Army</i>              | <b>CPL</b> Nicholas Levitsky, <i>Marine Corps</i>  | <b>MDN3/C</b> Mollie Stracensky, <i>Navy</i>     |
| <b>SPC</b> Matthew Fischer, <i>National Guard</i> | <b>LTCOL</b> Leonard Livingston, <i>Air Force</i>  | <b>SrA</b> Nathaniel Taylor, <i>Air Force</i>    |
| <b>A1C</b> Brandon Gazso, <i>Air Force</i>        | <b>LTCOL</b> Theresa Livingston, <i>Air Force</i>  | <b>CPT</b> Zachary Taylor, <i>Marine Corps</i>   |
| <b>LCDR</b> Serena Gerfy, <i>Navy</i>             | <b>PFC</b> Alex Lowry, <i>Army</i>                 | <b>CADET</b> Adam Wegas, <i>Army</i>             |
| <b>MDN1/C</b> John Ham, <i>Navy</i>               | <b>MAJ</b> James Maskovyak, <i>Army</i>            | <b>SrA</b> William Wiener, <i>Air Force</i>      |
| <b>PO</b> Rob Hartman, <i>Navy</i>                | <b>SPC</b> William Mortensen, <i>Army</i>          | <b>A1C</b> Paige Zoltowski, <i>Air Force</i>     |
| <b>ICE2</b> Walter Hicho, <i>Navy</i>             | <b>LCPL</b> Christian Nowak, <i>Marine Corps</i>   |  |

Put your loved one's **name, rank, and branch of service** at [StAmbrose.us/Military](http://StAmbrose.us/Military) so that they can be included on this prayer list.

### Military Messages Ministry

#### Small Deeds Done with the Greatest of Love

Our Military Messages Ministry invites you to become a Prayer Warrior, Military Messenger, or to give support for postage, stationery, yellow ribbons, and more. Visit [StAmbrose.us/Military](http://StAmbrose.us/Military) to learn more.

# MOMENTS OF FAITH • We are All God's Children

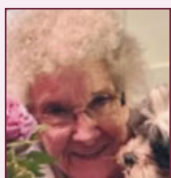
## In Loving Memory



**Joan Barbara Marinchek**  
Mother of Randy Marinchek  
July 9, 1936 - December 4, 2023



**Linda Jean Krupla**  
Wife of Samuel Krupla and mother of  
Catherine Herwerden  
June 9, 1942 - December 4, 2023



**Irene Helen Vojtush**  
Sister-in-law of Richard Vojtush  
April 28, 1935-December 5, 2023



**Jeffrey Allen Bar**  
Father of Jonathan Bar  
May 14, 1954 - December 6, 2023

To have your loved one's name appear in the "In Loving Memory" section, call the PLC Office at 330.460.7300.

## - SACRAMENTS -

### Newly Baptized



**John Remington**  
**Sophie Lee Benett**  
**Gail Renee Rawson**

We want to welcome your child to the Waters of Baptism! Visit us online at [StAmbrose.us/Baptism](http://StAmbrose.us/Baptism) to start planning your child's baptism at Saint Ambrose Parish.

### Marriage Banns

**II - Jacob Yurik and Erica Corley**

Are you recently engaged? Plan your wedding with us! Get started planning one of the most special moments of your life by checking out many great resources at [StAmbrose.us/Wedding](http://StAmbrose.us/Wedding).

### Milestone Moments

**Ramon and Olga Torres celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on December 18!**



Milestones are birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, an award or achievement...You name it, we are happy for you and want to pray for you! Submit your good news at [StAmbrose.us/Milestone-Moments](http://StAmbrose.us/Milestone-Moments).

## A Thoughtful Invitation

The Advent and Christmas seasons provide many chances to extend a sincere invitation for someone to join you for a Mass. It's as easy as saying, "Join me!"



## Stay Connected

**We're Always Here for You**

**Phone:** 330.460.7300

**Email:** [Info@StAmbrose.us](mailto:Info@StAmbrose.us)

**Website:** [StAmbrose.us](http://StAmbrose.us)

**Facebook:** [www.Facebook.com/StAmbrose.us](http://www.Facebook.com/StAmbrose.us)

**Instagram:** [@Saint\\_Ambrose\\_Brunswick](https://www.instagram.com/Saint_Ambrose_Brunswick)



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SAINT AMBROSE PARISH: ADVENT 2023

## SAINT AMBROSE PARISH ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

### - THIS WEEK'S FEATURED - Event - Service - Liturgy - Ministry

We've spotlighted these upcoming opportunities, just for you!

Find more details about these items in the bulletin or at [StAmbrose.us/Advent](http://StAmbrose.us/Advent)

#### - Event -

##### **Father Andrew's Farewell Party**

Friday, December 29, 6:30 pm

*Come to say goodbye to Father Andrew. Please*

*RSVP at [StAmbrose.us/FatherAndrew](http://StAmbrose.us/FatherAndrew)*

#### - Service -

##### **Monthly Food Sort**

Tuesday, December 19, 4:00 pm

*Help us pack 700 bags of food that will be distributed the very next day!*

#### - Liturgy -

##### **Christmas Mass Invitation**

December 24 or December 25

*Invite someone to attend a Christmas Mass with you. The schedule is on page 2 of this bulletin!*

#### - Ministry -

##### **Stephen Ministry**

*Always Here for Those Who Need It  
The holidays can be a difficult time. You are not alone! Contact Stephen Ministry for help.*

## Our Christmas Song

*Be sure to add our Christmas song, "Christ Our Light Has Come" by Steve Angrisano and Curtis Stephan to your Christmas music playlist! Share with your nearest and dearest this beautiful song that echoes the Word and Promise of the Prophet Isaiah. Both the video and the song lyrics can be found at [StAmbrose.us/Christmas](http://StAmbrose.us/Christmas).*



## The Perfect Christmas Gift

### A Gift that Will Inspire

We have two statues that will not only look beautiful in your home (or the home of a loved one), they will both also keep focus on our **2024 parish theme, "ONLY Jesus."** The limited edition statues that are available are:

1. A limited number of our Saint Ambrose Christmas Holy Family.
2. New this year, a replica of the beautiful crucifix in our Church.

Both have been prepared by Norbert Koehn, the sculptor who prepared these inspiring images of Jesus for our Church.

**Don't miss out. Purchase them both at the PLC Office or online at [StAmbrose.us/Crucifix-Holy-Family](http://StAmbrose.us/Crucifix-Holy-Family).**

## Alpha is Back at Saint Ambrose!

### Make Alpha One of Your New Year's Resolution

#### **The New Year is the PERFECT time**

**to give Alpha a try!** Alpha is a series of sessions exploring the Christian faith, typically run over eleven weeks. Each talk looks at different questions around faith and is designed to create conversation. Alpha is run all around the globe, and everyone is welcome!

#### **Alpha is about a fresh and renewed**

**start in your walk with the Lord.** Each session includes a free meal, a short film with big ideas about an element of faith and meaning, and a time for people to share their own questions and perspectives with the group.



**For more details and register for the January 2024 session of Alpha, visit [StAmbrose.us/Alpha](http://StAmbrose.us/Alpha).**