

*"For a child is born to us, a son is given us;
upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name
him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-
Forever, Prince of Peace His dominion is vast
and forever peaceful, from David's throne,
and over his kingdom, which he confirms
and sustains by judgment and justice,
both now and forever. The zeal of the
Lord of hosts will do this!"*

- ISAIAH 9:5

Only 
JESUS

Wishing you a blessed Christmas!

A Letter from Father Bob Stec

...**Merry Christmas!!!** One of the Christmas scripture readings (featured on the cover) is from the Prophet Isaiah. He not only proclaims the birth of our Savior – Jesus Christ. He explains that blessings that Emmanuel – God with us – brings to our lives and to our world. He comes as Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace. He is everything we need now and forever. **Throughout Advent -and now the Christmas season - we are boldly professing that Only Jesus can satisfy all the needs and longings of our heart.** Only Jesus can bring us the peace, hope and healing we need. Only Jesus can save us from our sin. Only Jesus gives us the perfect vision for our world so we can live in peace and security. **Only Jesus is our everything – every day – and forever.**

...As we gather during these holy days to celebrate the birth of our Savior, we remember that He is the reason for the season. He is our hope and our salvation. **Your presence with us on the Fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas is testimony that you and your loved ones profess a deep faith and hope in Jesus Christ.** It's a blessing to be together this Christmas and always.

...**We are doing 'one' bulletin for both the Fourth Sunday of Advent (December 22/23) and for Christmas (December 24/25).** It is filled with wonderful information about our parish community and the wonderful opportunities coming our way in the New Year. Please take some time to read through it and find a 'something' that sparks your imagination – a way to learn, to pray, to serve. Make a resolution to deepen your faith and your connection to our parish community in 2024. (P.S. you can also find this and all of our weekly bulletins online at: StAmbrose.us/Bulletin).

...Our parish community is alive and full of life and spirit. We are 'simply blessed' by wonderful members. Together we are

doing great work in service to the Lord and the building up of God's Kingdom. **Together we are working to strengthen the bonds of faith and family while building a stronger community for all of us.** For example, by the time you read this bulletin, together we will have provided food, necessities and Christmas gifts for 190+ families in our local community. Over the past few weeks of Advent, over 3,500 people joined in one of our Advent/Christmas events and concerts. Every week, thousands join us in prayer at the Table of the Lord. Every week thousands join us from across the region and country as we live-stream our Masses and services thanks to our live-stream team!! And the examples of your goodness and the good we do 'together' go on and on. We are 'simply blessed.' **It's humbling and inspiring for me to witness and see so many centering their lives and their families on Jesus Christ – who is everything for us.**

...Last weekend we rolled out **the 2024 Parish Calendar** which is available at all the doors of the Church and the Parish Office. It's filled with beautiful images and quotes to help us each day and throughout the entire year – to focus on Only Jesus. He is our wisdom, hope, strength and peace. The calendar is also filled with the dates for key parish events and programs. **If you are reading this online, or joining us virtually, and would like a calendar, please let me know and we will send one your way (frbob@StAmbrose.us).** The Parish Calendar comes as a gift from Waite and Son Funeral Home and our Community Partners.

...**Another Christmas gift this Christmas is a great book and an inspiring read by Matthew Kelly called The Rocking Chair Prophet.** It's a wonderful reflection on "the difference between happiness and misery, wonderful memories and heartrending regrets." **It is a call to JOY and how to find it in your life.** And I'll give you

a clue to the path to finding it...only Jesus. Take one for yourself and for someone in your life who needs to move from misery to JOY. **Say a prayer for the wonderful family who provided this Christmas gift to our parish family.**

...**As we bring a close to the month of December, sadly we say goodbye and GREAT thanks to Father Andrew Hoover.** He's been such a blessing to our parish community. He will be taking on a new assignment as Administrator of Saint Anthony of Padua Parish in Parma. **Please join us next Friday for a celebration that 'fits' this generous and faithful servant of the Lord – Brats, Beer and Buhhh – Bye.** He loves grilling. One of his hobbies is brewing craft beer. And, it's a special moment to express our sincere thanks for his priestly ministry to our parish community. Join us on Friday, December 29 anytime from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm. There will actually be great food, plenty of wonderful people, Joe Salem is bringing his band – Yearbook - and mostly **it will be a fun night for our parish community.** To help us plan, please RSVP by going to: StAmbrose.us/FatherAndrew.

...We've combined the bulletin because the calendar this year bumps Christmas, weekends and New Years all together. This bulletin contains the complete Mass schedule for next weekend and January 1. **I would like to invite (and challenge) all of us to come to Mass on the first day of the year especially to pray for world peace and family unity.** We live in very challenging times. Our families are often stretched and stressed. Our world is marked by very fragile peace. We need God to be at the center of our lives. **We need to be one nation under God. We need to follow God's vision for a more peace-filled world for all.** We will gather on January 1 at the Table of the Lord for Mass at 8 am and 10 am. Let's make a profound gesture – a statement – that we start this new year by centering our lives on the Lord.

...If you are new to the community and/or visiting and joining us for Christmas – welcome. We are blessed to have you with us. You are always most welcome. If we can tell you more about Saint Ambrose Parish and/or help you register in the parish, please let me know (frbob@StAmbrose.us). **We are truly blessed to have you join us to celebrate the joy of Christmas.**

...**As we start the new year, we are blessed to host our New Member Welcome Dinner on Saturday, January 6.** Our new members will join us for the 4:30 pm Mass followed by a wonderful dinner, good friendship, an overview of our vibrant community and, weather permitting, a campus tour. **All are welcome.** If you would like to attend, please let us know (mhalemar@StAmbrose.us).

...**A special welcome home to all our college students.** We hope and pray that the Fall Semester went well for you. We would like to keep in touch with you in the new year (e.g. sending you some surprises and treats). All we need is your contact information, please send to (for yourself or your family member) frbob@StAmbrose.us.

...**All of our high school students are invited to join in the FIAT Winter Kickoff on Sunday, January 7.** See the bulletin for all the details. Bring your friends with you for a great night and a blessed start to the New Year. For more information please contact Caitlin at: carbogast@StAmbrose.us.

...God bless you and your loved ones this Christmas... and always. **Every day I pray for you and our parish family.** We are simply blessed to be together and to do the great work we do for the Lord and for so many. **I cannot thank you enough for your participation and support for our parish.** I pray that you will know the promise and the peace of Emmanuel – God with us – God with you – at Christmas and always. **Merry Christmas.**



Our Christmas Gifts to You!

The Rocking Chair Prophet by Matthew Kelly is a rich exploration of life and the human condition.

Kelly has masterfully woven into the story a piercing wisdom that is thought-provoking on a life-changing scale. It is stunning that one book can have something so meaningful to say on so many topics. Find more details at StAmbrose.us/Adult-Faith-Formation.



The second gift we have for you this year

is a bookmark. Use it while you are reading your Matthew Kelly book! When you are not using it to mark your spot in your reading, hang it on your refrigerator or keep it in your purse or wallet to help remind you that ONLY Jesus is the way to everything for everyone.

Alpha is Back!

A fresh and renewed start in your walk with the Lord - the New Year is the PERFECT time to give it a try! The series of weekly sessions explores the Christian faith and typically runs over eleven weeks. Each talk looks at different questions around faith and is designed to create conversation. A new series starts on January 11 and will meet weekly at 6:30 pm in the Lehner Center Mark Room. Every meeting 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.

Register for our winter 2024 Alpha series at StAmbrose.us/Alpha.

Resolutions!!!

We all make them. Imagine the impact of resolving to come to know Jesus more in your life!! Here are a few (or many opportunities) for you in the New Year.

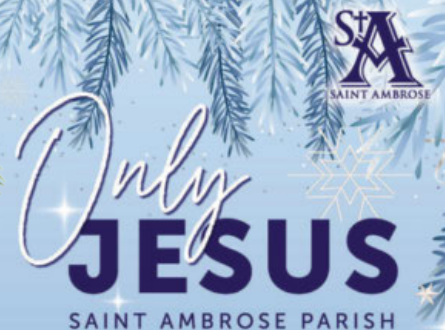
Baby Bible Time | Monday, January 8 at 10:00 am, Church Family Room
Plant the stories and songs of Jesus in the heart of your child and grandchild.

Bible in a Year Club | Tuesdays and Wednesday starting January 9/10, 1:00 pm
All your life you've wanted to read the whole Bible. Here's an easy and best way to do it – with some good friends.

If My People Pray | Second Wednesday of the month at 12 noon, Chapel
Come together in prayer for God's blessing and wisdom for our country.

Blessed are the Just | Monday, January 15 at 6:45 pm, Mother Teresa Room
Deacon Matt will help us learn about the Social Justice teachings of the Church – what they mean and why we have them

Good News – The Synoptic Gospels | Monday, January 29 at 6:45 pm, Mother Teresa Room
Father Bob will help us learn about the Gospels and how best to read and reflect on them in our daily prayer and life.



Please join us!

Here are a few opportunities taking place at Saint Ambrose to help center your life and your home on Jesus Christ in the New Year and always.

World Marriage Day Celebration

Mass – Dinner – GREAT Comedians!

Only Jesus can make you laugh and strengthen your marriage.

Saturday, February 3, 2024, 6 pm

God's Word ALIVE

Learn more about the Good News of the Gospel with Father Bob.

Father Bob Synoptics

Monday, January 29 at 6:45 pm

Only Jesus can bring about Justice

Join Deacon Maatt to learn more about Jesus' vision for our world.

Monday, January 15 at 6:45 pm

ALPHA | Starting on January 14, 2024

Only Jesus can give us new beginnings.

ALPHA is a special program to find new life in Jesus.

To learn more about these and all the New Year opportunities go to:

www.StAmbrose.us



Check out all the opportunities available to help you center your life on Jesus in the New Year by going to StAmbrose.us/AFF.



New Year's Eve Mass: 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am, noon, or 5:00 pm

New Year's Day Mass: 8:00 am and 10:00 am

Join us!

FOLLOW US | Facebook: [StAmbrose.us](https://www.facebook.com/StAmbrose.us) Instagram: [saint_ambrose_brunswick](https://www.instagram.com/saint_ambrose_brunswick)

Mini Pre-Cana Wedding Fair

Invitations are Out for January 20, 2024!

We welcome all our engaged couples to join us for a peaceful morning as we take time to be thankful for the Sacrament of Marriage, as we explore why we want God to be a part of our marriages. The Saint Ambrose Music Ministry will join us to give you examples of what to expect on your wedding day, as well as answer all your questions about the logistics of your special day. Please contact Kim Nemet at KNemet@StAmbrose.us for more information and to RSVP for the fair.

Couples' Night Out!

January 20 | 6:30 pm

Just for our couples! 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 Dance d'Elegance professionals. Then, enjoy food and company with other Saint Ambrose couples. For more information and to RSVP, visit StAmbrose.us/Marriage.



Engaged at Christmas?

Congratulations & God Bless You Abundantly!

We would love to help plan your wedding at Saint Ambrose. Start planning for your big day at StAmbrose.us/Wedding!



World Marriage Day

Saturday, February 3, 2024
7:00 pm in our Church

New this year - a comedian show by the Marriage Date Night Tour!

Join us for this special celebration of your covenant marriage. **World Marriage Day**, a celebration of Christian marriage that honors husband and wife as the foundation of the family. World Marriage Day salutes the faithfulness, sacrifice, and joy that are part of daily living for husbands and wives and their generous love that gives rise to new life.

We will begin with a Mass where our vows will be renewed, followed by a lovely meal and great entertainment.

Join us for this special evening.
Please RSVP at StAmbrose.us/Marriage

A Refreshing Start in the New Year!

All of us are constantly called to 'renewal' – to freshen up our lives, our relationship with God, our marriages. We are all called to renewal – to find new life and greater joy. For generations, men and women of our parish community have joined in a "Renewal" weekend. Anyone who has ever gone on a 'renewal' will tell you that you meet great people...eat good food...and find a deeper connection with God. It's refreshing...it's renewing...it's a blessing beyond words.

Commit to one weekend with the Lord to find greater joy, deeper peace, and surround yourself with really good people who also want to be alive and renewed in their life. For more information contact: Deacon Tom Sheridan (TSheridan@StAmbrose.us) | Nelly Quinones (Nellypto@yahoo.com)



MEN'S RENEWAL

February 23-25

WOMEN'S RENEWAL

April 12-14

Over the years thousands of people have had their lives changed at the Saint Ambrose Renewals!



A "Thank You" to Our 12 Days of Christmas Volunteers! We Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart

We had another year of almost 100 individuals and families that have been touched by the goodness and care of YOU! Thank you so much to all of our volunteers for delivering the daily gifts, but more importantly, for bringing the love and care of God into the life of another. You touched their lives, you made a difference, and you were a continuous reminder of the warmth and kindness of our parish community.

And a huge thank you to the many other Saint Ambrose ministries that were involved: PSR, Ablaze, Saint Ambrose Catholic School staff and students, Littlest Angels Preschool staff and students, the Saint Ambrose Catholic School National Junior Honor Society; and all the very generous donations made through #WeGiveCatholic. Together, you help make this ministry possible - THANK YOU!!

Until next year, our 12 Days of Christmas Ministry team wishes you all a very blessed Christmas and a peaceful, joyful, and hopeful New Year!

"We were the recipient of this program last year and I was very touched and humbled to see the generosity shown to our family by St Ambrose. I truly felt overwhelmed that an individual at St Ambrose would take the time to support our family by hand delivering joy and being the hands and feet of Christ. It placed it on my heart to support not just our Catholic faith and our parish, but also look in my community to Catholic Charities Medina County and those in need."

- BETH

"I was a recipient of the 12 Days of Christmas during my recovery from acute myeloid leukemia and bone marrow transplant. I had a very tough recovery with many complications. Some days the only reason I got off of the couch was to see what treat would be on my doorstep. The little cards and gifts always brought a smile to my face and gave me something to look forward to. Thank you to everyone who is involved in this. You definitely made my days brighter."

- LINDA

Hope & Healing in 2024

GriefShare - Navigating Life After Loss

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 on January 10. For more information or to RSVP email Denise.GriefShare@gmail.com.

Divorce Care - A Christ-Centered Support Group

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 to join the next session starting January 10.

Hearts of Hope

This ministry brings widows together in prayerful and casual ways. For more details, contact Lisa Cinadr at LCinadr@StASchool.us.

Community Outreach

We Serve with the Compassion of Christ

Our loving and selfless Community Outreach members, month after month, give so much of their time and talent to parishioners in need. Pat, one of the recipients of our Outreach efforts, could not say enough about the exceptional work they did! **She was filled with so much gratitude that a group such as this works so hard for so many people.** We are extremely blessed by the skilled hands and giving hearts of our Outreach members.

Our Outreach Team is currently looking for home projects to do over the next few months.

Contact Gabby Moss at 330.460.7300 or at GYatson@StAmbrose.us if you are interested in joining our team or know of someone who needs extra help!

From our preschool-8th grade family to yours, we wish you a very, Merry Christmas!

ONLY Jesus

Especially during this most wonderful time of the year, we cannot be thankful enough! As a school family of faith, we feel deeply how blessed we are to be learning and growing together in faith, hope, and charity in the greatest Gift of all, Jesus Christ Who is Everything for us!

We Serve the Lord Through Serving Others!

At Saint Ambrose School, we are grateful for the privilege of being the heart, feet, and hands of Jesus Christ! Our students are growing in perspective, gratitude and generosity as they continue to have opportunities to serve others through the **Warmth Project, Thanksgiving, Collecting food and helpful items for Catholic Works Of Mercy and Angel Giving Tree and making blankets for 12 Days of Christmas!**

Follow the Leader

As a STEAM-designated school, we continue to seek and provide real-world, innovative teaching and learning to help students learn and master National, State, and Diocesan content standards. **We have been busy:**

- **We have been celebrating the Saints!** Saint Nicholas, Saint Ambrose, and Las Posadas!
- Kindergarten students led their families in making **STEAM projects** to create something useful out of candy.
- Our second grade students have been celebrating **"Christmas Around the World,"** experiencing many cultural traditions!
- Fourth grade and fifth grade students used **TinkerCAD to create their 3D and laser-engraved ornaments!**
- Sixth grade students learned about **microcomputers and programmed LED Christmas lights** that are on display in front of the school on the Santa Workshop.
- Fifth and seventh grade students are preparing for Science Day in January using the **Engineering Design Process and the Scientific Method!**
- **Our Future City Team** comprised of HSP Students are busy working to prepare their city for this year's competition!

Fantastic Fine Arts

Here are just a few ways our students get to be creative:

- Students had their creative talents on display at the Medina County Brunswick Library for a **Christmas Art installation!**
- Additional artwork was showcased at our incredible **Christmas Fine Arts Concert and Art Exhibit.**
- Our **Littlest Angels Preschool students sang joyfully for the Lord** at our parish's Breakfast with Santa in early December. "Baby Jesus, we love you!"
- Students gathered together to present "Angels We Have Heard On High" to sing and share the good news of our Savior's birth showcasing our **Elementary Band Program.**
- Our eighth grade students performed their traditional **Christmas Play.**
- Our students are gearing up for their **Spring Musical!**

We are blessed with the opportunity to strengthen a diversity of talents among our students! **Special thanks to the talents of Mrs. Julia Kinley, Mr. Mark Russo, and Ms. Michelle Cha for leading the way!**

We keep you in our prayers and ask for yours. May the light and love of Jesus Christ be with you and radiate through you and your families today and in the new year!

With Christmas Joy,
Lisa Cinadr, Principal



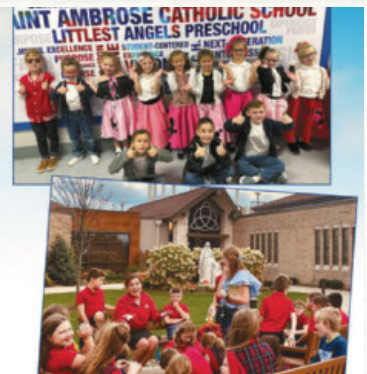
Angel Scholarship Fund!

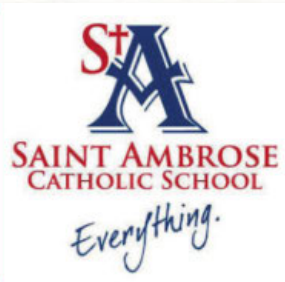
Catholic Community Foundation
Angel Foundation Scholarship offers a
\$750 Tax Credit for 2023-2024

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





SAVE THE DATE!

DiSCO

PRESENTED BY J&M BUSINESS SOLUTIONS, LLC

**MARCH 9
2024**

**TO BENEFIT SAINT AMBROSE SCHOOL AND
LITTLEST ANGELS PRESCHOOL**

Preschool-8th Grade

2024-2025

Priority Enrollment

Opens Soon!

ONLINE

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2024
12:00 am Midnight

**Priority Enrollment is for current
school and parish families.**

Open Enrollment will begin
February 14, 2024.

Enroll your children online at
SaintAmbroseSchool.us/Admissions



FOLLOW US | Facebook: StAmbrose.us Instagram: saint_ambrose_brunswick

Parish School of Religion

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Parish School of Religion staff. May the peace of Christ be abundant in your heart during this season. As we look to the start of a new year, many of us take the time to make resolutions to change or better ourselves in a variety of ways. This new year is a great opportunity for you and your family to make a resolution to make Jesus Christ the center of your lives. We have a variety of faith-formation programs to assist your child or grandchild in knowing Jesus and the Catholic faith.

First Grade Baptismal Workshop

We invite all first grade families, grandparents, and godparents to join us for this very special workshop on Wednesday, January 3, at 4:30 pm or on Monday, January 8, at 6:30 pm.

Family of Faith Program

Our next Family of Faith session will be held on Saturday, January 13 at 9:30 am in the Lehner Center. This program is designed to bring families together in faith formation once per month. It is not too late to register. Visit StAmbrose.us/PSR for more details and to register.

First Eucharist News

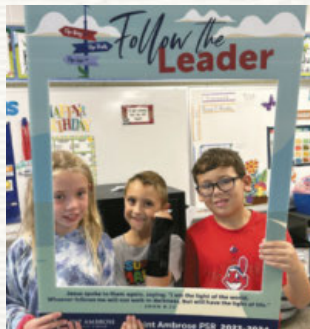
As we walk into the new year, our second grade students will be focusing on preparing for First Eucharist which will be celebrated in May. If your child has not yet made their First Eucharist, please let us know so we can help. Contact JMajka@StAmbrose.us.

Important Upcoming Dates

Mark your calendars for these very important dates:

- First Eucharist Parent Meeting will be held on Monday, January 15 at 6:30 pm in the church. Steve Angrisano will be joining us to share music and the importance of keeping the Eucharist in the center of our families.
- Rite of Enrollment for First Eucharist will be held on Sunday, January 28 at both the 9:00 am and 10:30 am Masses.

To stay up-to-date, follow us on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/SaintAmbrosePSR!



Journey with Jesus
Saint Ambrose Sunday Preschool Program

AGES 3-5

Sunday morning preschool held inside Saint Ambrose School during our 9:00 am and 10:30 am Masses.



REGISTER FOR PSR TODAY!
Programs begin in early September.
www.StAmbrose.us/PSR

Lent Mini VBS

February 17, 2024

Our Lent Mini VBS will be held on Saturday, February 17, 2024 in Hilkert Hall, from 9:30 am - 11:30 am.

We will create an atmosphere of preparation and sacrifice for Lent while also exalting Jesus.

This is a FREE opportunity for children ages 4 -11. Stay tuned for more details including when online registration will begin!

SAINT AMBROSE PARISH FRIDAY NIGHT BINGO 2024



January 5

Free Extra Coverall with the purchase of any Early Bird.
FREE Baked Potato Soup Bar

January 19

Free small Lightning with the purchase of a Marker Madness.
FREE Hot Cocoa Bar and Warm Cookie

5:00PM DOORS OPEN
7:00PM BINGO BEGINS



ablaze

SAINT AMBROSE PARISH • JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH MINISTRY

Father/Son Retreat
Saturday, Jan. 20
10am-2pm

*Spend some time with
your Dad doing something
super-fun—tubing?
Tobogganing?
Details coming soon!*

ABLAZE Night: Faith & Trust
Sunday, Jan. 21

Start the new year with ABLAZE! We will play games, eat food, and then learn more about what it really means to have FAITH and TRUST in Jesus!
Mass - 5pm
ABLAZE - 6pm (Mother Teresa Room)

stambrose.us/ABLAZE
tmccombs@stambrose.us
[stambrose_ablaze](https://www.instagram.com/stambrose_ablaze)



SAINT AMBROSE PARISH

WINTER CARNIVAL

FREE EVENT!

Shake off the winter blues!

Our Parish Winter Carnival is BACK!!!
Bring your kids and grandkids for another GREAT family night at Saint Ambrose!

Saturday, January 27, 2024
5:30 - 7:30 pm

- ◀ 25¢ Games & Kids Prizes ▶
- ◀ Activities for Everyone ▶
- ◀ Music & Fun with DJ Kris Koch ▶
- ◀ Food & Favorite Carnival Snacks for Sale! ▶



Merry Christmas from the fiat team!



We are blessed to walk with our teens!

fiat winter kick-off

life-size games | prizes | great food
all high school teens welcome!

SUNDAY JANUARY 7
6-8PM | HILKERT HALL

fiat

SAINT AMBROSE PARISH
• JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH MINISTRY •

Help us "Tackle Hunger" in 2024!

There are still a lot of people in our own community who need our help! The need is greater than ever, and we still need your help to "tackle hunger" and raise money for our monthly community meal program. Please mark your calendars for Super Bowl Weekend, February 10-11 and watch the bulletins and our social media for details on how to support our efforts this year.





Advent Tea

A Wonderful Time of Year!

The morning of December 9 was truly beautiful when close to 200 women gathered together for our annual Advent Tea! Thank you to all of our guests who continue to celebrate this wonderful tradition. We had absolutely gorgeous table décor (thank you to all the hostesses who took such delight in personalizing your tables), a delicious and filling breakfast (thank you to Maria and her catering team), and a faithful and inspiring speaker (Emily Jaminet) who reminded us to always invite Jesus into our homes. Plus, there were plenty of hands to make the work light - we were so grateful for all our volunteers and members of the Knights of Columbus who helped make our morning a classy and elegant affair! Thank you to all of our guests who joined us to celebrate God's love and peace during the busy Advent season! We are so truly blessed!



St. A Women's Guild Poppy Seed & Nut Rolls Annual Sale



**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.*

**\$15
per roll**

**Orders can only be placed online at
StAmbrose.us/Womens-Guild-Rolls.**

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MISSION

***Together, we're empowering Catholic men to
live their faith at home, in their parish, and in
their community.***

From hockey nights together to Steak Roasts, our Knights of Columbus Brunswick Council #4847 greatly contribute to the vibrancy of Saint Ambrose Parish. The Knights of Columbus' dedication toward keeping our nation's veterans and military members top of mind and close to our hearts is an exceptional blessing.



This past June, their annual Flag Retirement Ceremony, held at our parish was truly a moving occasion. The Knights also took part in this year's Mass held on Veterans' Day. Not only did they "Turn Out" for it, the Knights of Columbus honored veterans who were at the Mass and as well as our guest Seminarian, Nathan Frankart. Most recently, our Knights came together to hold a beautiful wreath laying ceremony at Westview Cemetery as part of the Wreaths Across America movement.



While the Knights of Columbus is a fraternal organization, Council #4847 often collaborates with our other ministries and groups. The Knights appreciate and welcome opportunities of teaming up with others, especially when it comes to continuing their duty of boosting awareness around veteran's initiatives. **If you'd like to learn more about helping the Brunswick Knights of Columbus, please visit StAmbrose.us/Knights-of-Columbus.**

**To join the Council, contact John O'Malley at
440.665.2752 or eagle7593@gmail.com.**



Monthly Men's Breakfasts

Every Second Saturday of the Month!

Join other men seeking and finding meaning and strength through faith in God and fraternity. Breakfast will be served promptly at 8:30 am, usually in the Mother Teresa Room or Hilkert Hall. A short teaching, discussion, and prayer will follow. We will end on time, every time, at 9:45 am so you can begin your weekend energized from delicious food and God's Word. RSVP at StAmbrose.us/Mens-Breakfast.

Route 66

Pickleball

Plan to bounce off that couch on December 27 to play some pickleball with us! Our session will take place in the Hilkert Hall Gym at 7:00 pm. All experience levels are welcome - our group is fun and friendly!



Ready to Roll into a New Year!

We had a great 2023 and we're ready to have an even better one in 2024.

Join us for these gatherings in January 2024:

- Chair Strength & Stretch: every Wednesday in the Mother Teresa Room at 9:00 am (on the first Wednesday of the month, we are in Hilkert 4).
- Coffee & Donuts: January 3, at 8:45 am (right after 8:15 am Mass) in the Mother Teresa Room.
- Annual Chinese New Year: find all the details below!
- Pickleball: January 10 and 15, 7:00 pm in the Hilkert Hall Gym.
- Lunch & Learn: January 16 in the Mother Teresa Room at 11:30 am.

Stay in touch with everything we do by visiting our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/groups/saintambroseseniors.

SAINT AMBROSE PARISH Bus Trip Rivers Casino in Pittsburgh Wednesday, February 7

\$45 per person

INCLUDES: Bus Ride • \$20 Free Slot Play • \$5 Food Credit!

8:00 am Depart from Saint Ambrose | **6:00 pm** Return to Saint Ambrose

Invite your friends! Space is LIMITED...register early!

Register online by January 30!
www.StAmbrose.us/bus-trip

Registration can also be completed at the Front Office by cash or check only.

Questions? Contact Vita Schmidt at vschmidt@stambrose.us or 330-460-7300 ext. 382



Living Your Strengths

What are YOUR God-Given Strengths?

Have you ever wondered any of the following:

- Why are you the way you are?
- Why do your family members act the way they do?
- Why are some people more disciplined or responsible than others?

This class can provide you with the answers to these questions along with helping you recognize and experience YOUR unique strengths to use in your everyday life. By taking the Clifton Strengths-Finder you will unravel your God-given strengths and by attending the 3-week course, you will learn to use them! **Our next series will meet on February 1, 8, and 15. It will take place in the Lehner Center Father McGivney Room from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm.** For more details and to register, contact Carol Maline at CMaline@StAmbrose.us or 330.460.7336.



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

Music Ministry

We are simply blessed to welcome James Litteral to Saint Ambrose Parish. He joins our music ministry team as Director of our Handbell Choir.

James Litteral earned his Bachelor of Arts in Music from Cleveland State University and his Master of Music Education from Boston University. He is a professional member of the Ohio Music Education Association and American Choral Directors Association. He has been in education for six years and this is his third at Holy Name where he serves as the Music Director. He enjoys spending time with his family, his cats, golfing, continuing his education and maintaining a performing career.



James brings a wealth of talent and musical experience to our parish community. You can ask any of the Handbell Choir, in a few short months, he has them ringing (and singing) in the most amazing ways.

James is eager to welcome to some handbell ringers to the ministry. No matter what your level of experience, if you are interested and willing, he/we will find a place for you. To learn more about the Handbell Choir, please contact James at: Jlitteral@StAmbrose.us or connect with Travis Jurgens (tjurgens@StAmbrose.us).



Join the Saint Ambrose Angels and Cherubs Choir!

The Saint Ambrose Angels Choir and Cherubs Choir are open to all children of the parish who love to sing! Our Angels Choir sings once a month at the 9:00 am Mass and for our PSR Masses and Prayer Services. Our Cherubs Choir are for beginners' in kindergarten through grade 3 and sings a communion reflection once a month.

In January our rehearsal days will move to Mondays, from 4:00 pm to 4:30 pm for Cherubs and 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm for Angels. If your child would like to join our choir, please reach out to Michelle Cha (MCha@StAmbrose.us) or Helen Lanzarotta (HLanzarotta@StAmbrose.us).

Year-End Charitable Giving

Thank you so much for your faithful and thoughtful support for our parish. Thanks to your goodness we are able to do so much good for those in need and support our active parish community. The Christmas bulletin is filled with examples of ways we are working to help all of our members find the grace, wisdom and peace of the Lord. God bless you. **As you reflect on your year-end giving (or planning for 2024), please consider some important information:**

- **Consider making a year-end gift to our parish in gratitude for all the blessings you have received in life.** As you plan to make the most of your charitable donations in 2023, know that we gratefully accept gifts of cash and appreciated assets such as stocks or bonds. This is done through our work with the Catholic Community Foundation.
- **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 us in our ministry 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. Many of our members are now taking advantage of this opportunity which is good for them and a great blessing for our parish community. Questions? Contact Jake Bihari (jbihari@StAmbrose.us or 216.215.5015) You are also welcome to contact Mary Lou Ozimek of the Catholic Community Foundation at 216-696-6525 x 4070 or visit www.catholiccommunity.org/ira.
- **Over the past few weeks you've been hearing about the State of Ohio Angel Scholarship Fund.** It's a great gift from the State of Ohio which can help us support our Catholic School. Long story short, if you pay State of Ohio taxes you can make a contribution to the Angel Scholarship Fund and have the complete amount credited against your State of Ohio taxes. And, it takes less than 3 minutes to do. You can either gift the money in support of our Saint Ambrose School or you can give the money to the State. It's really that simple. It's a great way to help our families and our school and parish with no addition expense to you. You can learn more about it by going to: StAmbrose.us/angel-scholarship.

We are blessed in the good we do together for the glory of God. **If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Jake Bihari (jbihari@StAmbrose.us) or Father Bob (frbob@StAmbrose.us).** God bless you abundantly.

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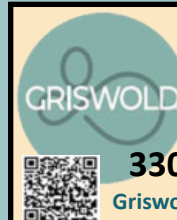
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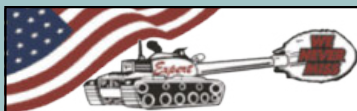
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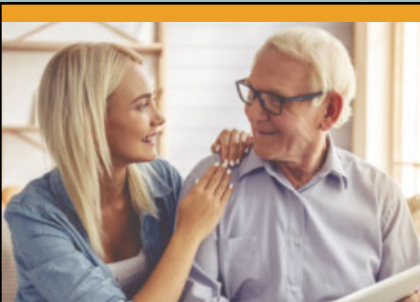
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— SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI



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To have your house blessed in the new year, please contact the Parish Office at 330.460.7300 OR go online to register at StAmbrose.us/HouseBlessing.

"As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

— JOSHUA 24:15