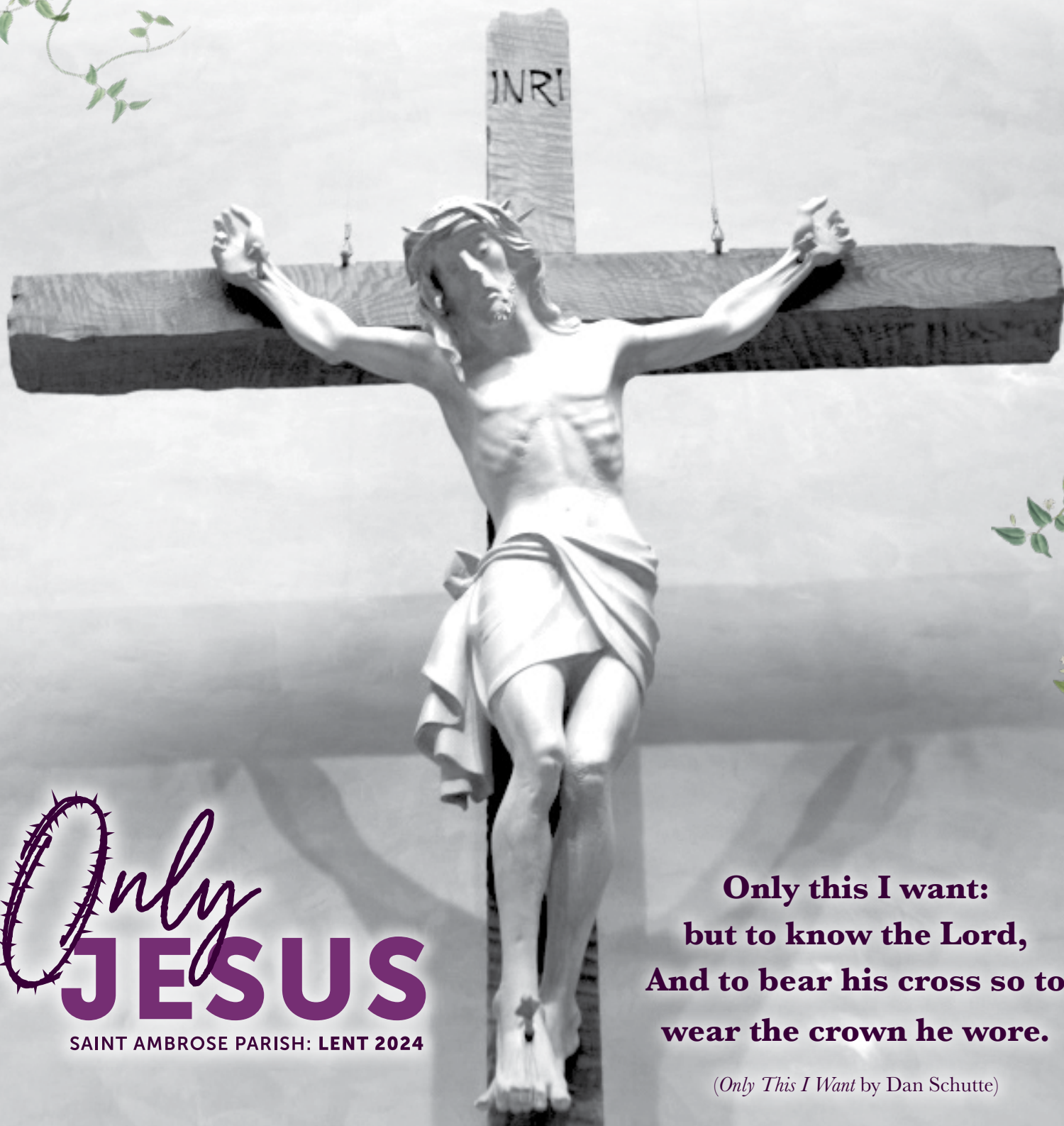


THE ANGELUS

SAINT AMBROSE PARISH



Only
JESUS

SAINT AMBROSE PARISH: LENT 2024

**Only this I want:
but to know the Lord,
And to bear his cross so to
wear the crown he wore.**

(Only This I Want by Dan Schutte)

**We are a Catholic Community of faith,
centered on Jesus Christ, who is EVERYTHING for us!**



Take These Ashes

Take these ashes as a sign

That from the dust you have been raised.

And to dust you shall return.

Return to me with all your heart.

Let go the world and come to me.

Rend your heart and not your clothes.

For I am kind, my name is Mercy. R

Slow to anger is my way.

My cup is filled with love for you.

I will not send you to the foe,

nor scorn the ones I come to rescue. R.

"Gather, my people," says the Lord

Oh, let them come to healing peace,

elders and children, lost and found,

into this place of love's revealing. R.

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Only this I want, but to know the Lord.

Can you imagine if your deepest prayer and desire every day was simply, sincerely to "know the Lord."

Only Jesus can save us. **Only Jesus** can give us the wisdom and grace we need. **Only Jesus** can forgive us of our sin. **Only Jesus** can change everything in our lives. **Only Jesus!!!**

Use this season of Lent to deepen your relationship with the Lord. This newsletter is filled with wonderful opportunities to help you strengthen your faith and deepen your personal relationships with Jesus Christ. Only Jesus is everything you need.

You can find great information about the season of Lent at Saint Ambrose by going online to: StAmbrose.us/Lent

We all know family members and friends who need the hope, healing and mercy of Christ in their lives. Invite them to join you this Lent and Easter at Saint Ambrose.

"Only this I want, but to know the Lord." Make this your Lent prayer and commitment.

God bless you and your family. Thanks for all you do for our parish community.

Father Bob Stec

P.S. On Saturday, February 24, we are blessed to host a very special concert to mark the second anniversary of the war in Ukraine. Let's come together in prayer and solidarity with inspiring music. Details below.

P.S.S. One of the couples of our parish has offered a Lent Challenge for us. They will match our Lent Rice Bowl efforts. If we hit \$14,500 (the cost of a house in our mission community), they will match those funds so this summer we can create a home in our mission for some of the poorest of the poor in our mission community.

Lenten Parish Mission with Friar Johnpaul

The Spiritual Journey – Reflections on the Wizard of Oz

Sunday, February 25

Mass - 5:00 pm | Reception - 6:00 pm
Mission - 7:00-8:30 pm

Monday & Tuesday, February 26-27 7:00-8:30 pm in the Church

Friar Johnpaul will be back to lead in reflections of our spiritual journeys, by examining the classic characters in one of the world's most beloved tales.

See how Dorothy's journey can give us an insight into the true spiritual journey home to God. What message do the wicked witch, flying monkeys, and Toto have to tell us? Click your heels and enjoy this journey down the yellow brick road of life.

**For more details and to RSVP,
visit StAmbrose.us/Lent.**



Lent Events

Every Friday during Lent
Fish Fry: 4:30 pm - 7:00 pm
Stations of the Cross: 7:00 pm

Every Tuesday and Thursday during Lent
20-Minute Rosary Challenge: 6:00 pm

Every Wednesday during Lent
Into the Breach - Mission of the Family: 7:00 pm

Every Thursday during Lent
Reconciliation: 6:00 pm - 6:30 pm

February 14
Ashes: 6:30 am, 6:50 am (off-site), 8:15 am, 12:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 7:00 pm

February 17
Lent Mini VBS: 9:00 am - 11:00 am

February 21, March 7, and 20
Lenten Soup Suppers: 6:00 pm

February 24
Alpha Holy Spirit Retreat: 9:00 am
Peace Concert: 7:00 pm

February 25-27
Parish Mission: 7:00 pm

March 2
Saint Patrick's Celebration: 5:45 pm

March 3
XLT Night Adoration: 7:00 pm

March 7
Parish Bus Trip

March 8
PSR Living Stations: 7:00 pm

March 10
Bunny Brunch: 9:00 am - 11:30 am

March 16
Couples' Night Out: 6:00 - 9:00 pm

March 22
Communal Penance: 1:00 - 2:30 pm
Tenebrae: 7:00 pm

March 24 - Palm Sunday
Vigil Mass (Saturday): 4:30 pm
Sunday Masses: 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am, 12:00 pm, and 5:00 pm
Communal Penance: 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Scan QR code for details on all events! See the back cover of this newsletter for the full Holy Week schedule.



Get your "Lent - Little Black Book."
All are welcome to take a copy from the bookshelf in the Narthex.



Ash Wednesday

February 14, 2024

Morning Prayer Service:

6:30 am in the Church

Ashes on the Asphalt:

6:50 am at the Brunswick Recreation Center Parking Lot

Masses:

8:15 am, 12:00 pm, 5:00 pm, and 7:00 pm in the Church

Fish Fry:

4:30 pm - 7:00 pm
in Hilkert Hall

Mission Rice Bowl

BUILDING A BETTER WORLD

Small change makes a big difference!

Money collected will be used towards building houses in our mission community in the Dominican Republic.

This year, a couple in our parish has offered to 'match' your sacrifice so we can raise enough funds to build at least two houses in the mission.



GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR LENTEN SACRIFICE.

Member Spotlight

Who Doesn't Know Ben D.?

Ben, now in his senior year at Saint Ignatius High School, **has grown up at Saint Ambrose**. In so many ways, it's always been a special 'home' for him. Over the years, and to this day, you can find Ben faithfully serving the Lord, his parish community, the poor, and working to bring the Good News of Christ to his peers and everyone in need. The best way to characterize Ben is in one word, "Yes". Over and again, he says "yes" to helping, "yes" to serving, "yes" to leading retreats at Ignatius, "yes" to being a good friend to so many, "yes" in helping Helen Lanzarotta in Church needs. Over and again - and again - and again, Ben says "yes" and in so doing, as a senior in high school, his life is blessed and he is doing the most amazing things. He has a great heart, an amazing spirit and a joyful smile.



Lenten Soup Suppers

February 21, March 7 & March 20
in the Mother Teresa Room

Join us as we gather for a delicious soup dinner, great fellowship, and spiritual reflections and discussions which will focus on our Lenten themes. We are so blessed and fortunate to have a wonderful line-up of speakers joining us, and we look forward to welcoming them with joyful hospitality.

For any questions or further information, please contact Gabby Moss at GYatson@StAmbrose.us.



StAmbrose.us/Lent



Topics & Speakers

Wednesday, February 21st
6:00-8:00 pm

"What It Means to Practice Almsgiving"
Ed Plaspohl, Social Concern Advocate
and Nathan Frankart,
Parish Seminarian Intern

Thursday, March 7th
6:00-8:00 pm

*"What Exactly Happened to Jesus? -
The Anatomy of the Crucifixion"*
Dr. Matt McDaniel

Wednesday, March 20th
6:00-8:00 pm

*"How to Pray & Fast, Especially
During Holy Week"*
Fr. Dan Samide

Tenebrae

Friday, March 22 at 7:00 pm

Tenebrae, literally meaning "Darkness", was the prayer offered by the Church by candlelight overnight on Holy Thursday and Good Friday, collectively, prior to the 1960's. Join us in our church at 7:00 pm on March 22, for a symbolic traditional service to prepare your heart to see the light of Christ that persists as a beacon of hope wherever you encounter darkness.

Tenebrae is for all...please join us and invite someone you know! It will also be live streamed if you would like to join from home.



Bunny Breakfast

Sunday, March 10 from 9:00 am - 11:30 am

Family fun open to the whole community!

Get your picture taken with the Easter Bunny in front of a beautiful spring display! Enjoy a wonderful Easter craft for your kids and a hot pancake breakfast!

Tickets are \$8 per person. Ages 2 and under are FREE!



Get tickets for your family at StAmbrose.us/Easter

Solemn Blessing of the Easter Food

Saturday, March 30 at 1:00 pm

Bring a basket containing some of your favorite Easter foods to be blessed. This wonderful family tradition celebrates the new life in Christ fostering health of body and soul. **All are welcome to participate.**

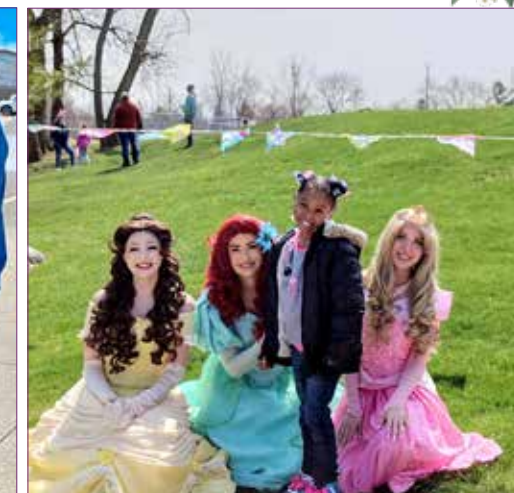
Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 30 at 1:30 pm

Bring the kids and grandkids and get ready to hunt for thousands of eggs spread out across our parish grounds! Come for fun, music, the Easter Bunny and more.

Don't forget your Easter bucket or bag to gather up eggs!

Register online at StAmbrose.us/Easter.



Saint Patrick's Day Celebration!

Saturday, March 2, 2024

5:45 pm Doors Open • 6:45 pm Dinner

HELD IN HILKERT HALL

Traditional Corned Beef Dinner
OR Irish Stew Dinner
by the Hooley House, plus
draft beer, wine, and soft drinks.

Food, fun, and friendship!

GET TICKETS ONLINE!
StAmbrose.us/St-Patricks-Day

Each ticket purchase comes with a \$5 Hooley House gift card and a \$5 Fire45 Restaurant gift card.

TICKETS: \$30

THANK YOU!
All the proceeds from this event will go toward the expansion of the Catholic Works of Mercy Outreach Building.

Sponsored by our friends at the

The HOOLEY PUB & KITCHEN
EST. 2008

FIRE45
grille + social

LIVE MUSIC by Cleveland's Funkology Band

IRISH DANCING by The Academy of Irish Dance Co.

LENT FAITH & FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

Make it the **BEST** Lent ever by participating in a Faith Enrichment Group!



Saint Ambrose is offering Faith & Fellowship Groups for Lent with a variety of session offerings. Connect with other women, men, or couples and form strong bonds and friendships that can last for years.

Join us this Lent on a healing journey toward Jesus as we explore *Restore: Lent with Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT.*

Pick a time that fits your busy schedule.

Sign up today at StAmbrose.us/AFF



Take a healing journey with Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT, as she helps you turn away from what wounds you and toward God who heals you and makes you whole. Each week, Sr. Miriam will lead you to meet the tenderness of God's mercy, the power of his love, and the restoration of your heart and life as you practice prayer, fasting, almsgiving, and sacrifice.



Couple Time Lenten Event

Saturday, March 16, 2024

6:00-9:00 pm | Hilbert Hall: Gym & Mother Teresa Room

Spend some time together as a couple during this Lenten Season.

6:00-7:00 pm: Couples will gather for food, drinks and socializing

7:00-8:00 pm: Axe throwing and more fun games for the men and painting for the women

8:00-9:00 pm: Lenten Reflection from Dr. Ted W. Raddell – speaker, consultant, health psychologist, personal coach and relationship expert. With over 25 years of experience in behavioral health and wellness, his mission is to make organizations, marriages and families stronger, more successful and satisfying.



\$20 PER COUPLE

Please RSVP at StAmbrose.us/Marriage

Living Your Strengths for Couples

February 22 and 29, at 6:30 pm

Lehner Center, Father McGivney Room

Be at your **BEST** when you do what you naturally do **BEST**!

Have you ever wondered why you are the way you are? Would you like to be able to understand your significant other better? Do you wonder why some people are more disciplined than others?

Your relationship will be better when you understand more clearly what is **BEST** in each other. Come to our two-week series to better understand your husband, wife, boyfriend, or girlfriend. **Register by February 13 at by emailing CMaline@StAmbrose.us.**

If you or your partner have already taken Living Your Strengths and want to return for more insight, we welcome you back! *Space is limited for both sessions and an online assessment needs to be completed prior to the first class meeting.*



Ohio 529 Savings Plan

presented by
THE SAINT AMBROSE
Endowment Fund Committee

Thursday, February 15, 2024
7:00 pm | Mother Teresa Room

Learn more about education savings vehicles, including 529 plans and the new 529 to Roth roll over.

RSVP

Please RSVP to Mary Jo Halenar at mhalenar@stambrose.us or by visiting StAmbrose.us/endowment



Get away from the busyness of everyday life.
Come bond with each other and God.

All current and past participants of Alpha are invited to to the Alpha Winter Retreat 2024.

Lite breakfast and a lunch will be served.

Sign up today at StAmbrose.us/AFF
Or contact Kim Kocuba at kkocuba@stambrose.us
or Gayle Oboy at goboy@stambrose.us

Ladies First

Every Last Tuesday of the Month

Join us, now through April, in the **Mother Teresa Room** at **6:45 pm** to connect over coffee and dessert. Our meeting includes inspirational messages, applying Scripture to our daily life, and roundtable discussions in a coffeehouse fashion.

For more information and to RSVP for an upcoming Ladies First session, contact Denise Daugherty by emailing mathdenmom@aol.com.



Stand Firm: Men's Renewal

February 24-25, 2024

Our renewal weekend is given for parishioners, by parishioners. A group of men have grown together in Christ over the past year, formed to share with you an environment of faith, fellowship and fun.

For more details and to sign up, scan the QR code or contact any of the following retreat leaders: Deacon Tom: 440.552.7437, John Ballash: 330.419.0574, Scott Hodan: 440.336.2199



Dan Vavrek Perry Starcovic Brian Travalik John Ballash Joe Neff



Stan Savich Russ Wolanin John Stracensky Joey Falconi John Frohlich



Scott Hodan Deacon Tom Sheridan

Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong.

1 corinthians 16:13

Please accept the gift of the Holy Spirit with this invitation to attend the men's renewal weekend. It will change your life!

StAmbrose.us/event/mens-welcome-weekend

Men's Fellowship

A Catholic Man in the World Today

Join our Men's Fellowship group! During our meetings, **on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Lehner Center, Father McGivney Room**, the group discusses a series of concerns and issues facing men in their everyday lives. For more information, contact Deacon Tom Sheridan at TSheridan@StAmbrose.us.



COR

FOR ALL MEN OF THE PARISH

EVERY OTHER MONDAY | 6:45 PM – 7:45 PM
FR. MCGIVNEY ROOM OF THE LEHNER CENTER

A program for ALL men of our parish, Knight or not! "Cor" exists to form and strengthen Catholic men in faith and virtue. Participants become missionary disciples by developing deeper relationships with Jesus Christ through prayer, formation, and fraternity.
Join us every other Monday.

Register at StAmbrose.us/AFF



Calling All Young Adults!

Take some time out of the chaos and the crazy schedules ...

to focus on your relationship with God, time in prayer, and friendship with others. Scan the QR code or send an email to CARbogast@StAmbrose.us for more details about our Young Adult Ministry.



Bibles & Brews - every Thursday night!

Come dive into the Book of Galatians with us! Find us at the Ignite Brewing Company in Brunswick, Ohio every Thursday at 7:00 pm.



Come to our Lent Retreat Day!

It's time for our annual Young Adult Lent Retreat Day! Join us on March 2 as we take a day away to make new friends, grow in faith, and spend time in prayer during this Lenten season. Details and registration can be found at StAmbrose.us/Young-Adults.

All are welcome to our Lenten XLT!

Come on March 3, at 7:00 pm for our Lenten Exalt in the church. Spend time in Eucharistic Adoration while reading and reflecting upon a Gospel reading and singing our praise for the Lord.

Lent with Our Junior High Friends



Faith + Fun + Friends = Fulfillment

We've got many great events planned throughout the Lenten season. Check out the following and bring a friend:

- February 18, 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm - ABLAZE Night: Called to Serve
- February 16, 7:00 pm - Game Night complete with board games, snacks, and even a Mario Kart Tournament!
- March 8, 7:00 pm - Lenten Movie Night. Bring your favorite snack to share and come watch a movie about Jesus with your besties.
- March 10 - Bunny Brunch Service Opportunity
- March 17, 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm - ABLAZE Night: Come to the Cross

Visit StAmbrose.us/Ablaze to learn more about our Ablaze program just for middle school/junior high students.



Ashes on the Asphalt

Start your Lent off with fiat at our annual Ashes on the Asphalt on Wednesday, February 14, from 6:50 am - 7:10 am! Stop by the Brunswick Recreation Center parking lot with your friends and classmates on your way into school for a prayer service with distribution of ashes. All are welcome!

Share Your Talents!

All high school teens are invited to join us on Sunday, February 25 for our annual fiat's Got Talent Evening! Come from 6:00 - 8:00 pm to participate and share your talent for a chance to win great prizes! Sign up at StAmbrose.us/fiat.

Spring Retreat Weekend - April 12-14, 2024

Spring is just around the corner and that means one thing - it's time for spring retreat! This retreat is open to all high school teens so bring a friend and join us for an incredible weekend together. Sign up today at StAmbrose.us/fiat.

Alive 7 Confirmation Retreat

This is especially for our Confirmation candidates who are looking for an engaging retreat experience. This retreat will help you grow in your understanding of the Holy Spirit, learn more about what Confirmation really is, and have a lot of fun along the way! Sign up today for our Alive 7 Retreat on Saturday, March 9. Details and registration can be found at StAmbrose.us/fiat



FEBRUARY 2024// HIGH SCHOOL Youth Ministry

fiat nights	
February 18 6-8pm	Lehner Center
February 25 6-8pm	Hilkert Hall
small groups	
February 19-22	Confirmation Groups
February 21 fiat 1:38, 8-9pm	lounge
other events	
February 10-11	Souper Bowl of Caring
February 14	Ashes on the Asphalt

high school youth ministry

DATE	WHEN/WHERE	EVENT
3.3	6-8pm, Lehner	fiat night
3.4-3.7	see schedule	Confirmation Small Groups
3.6	8-9pm, lounge	fiat 1:38
3.9	9am-9pm, SA	Alive 7 Retreat
3.10	6-8pm, Hilkert	fiat night
3.17	6-8pm, Hilkert	fiat night
3.18-3.21	see schedule	Confirmation Small Groups
3.20	8-9pm, lounge	fiat 1:38
3.24	6-8pm, Hilkert	fiat night
3.28	9pm-12am, TBA	Holy Thursday Mini-Pilgrimage
3.29	8pm, Church	living stations of the cross

fiat Details and Sign Up Links www.StAmbrose.us/fiat



TACKLE HUNGER! SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

FEBRUARY 10TH & 11TH

Each year, our junior high and high school teens come together to help "tackle hunger" in our community to Super Bowl Weekend. Our teens will be at the Church entrances collecting donations and selling Super Bowl snack items.

All money raised goes to our Monthly Community Meal Program to help feed hundreds in need in our own backyard. Our goal is to raise over \$18,000 - please help us help the hungry!

WAYS YOU CAN HELP!

- Pray for our efforts
- Donate on Super Bowl Weekend
- Donate on our website - scan the QR code!



fiat Member Spotlight

Amanda T. is a senior at Brunswick High School. As a member of fiat, our parish's ministry for high school teens, Amanda tells us how much she appreciates the Saint Ambrose Parish community and how they have been there for her as she walks with Christ.

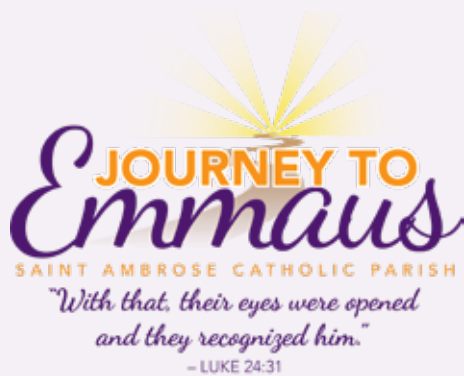
Amanda shares that her time in fiat has enriched her faith while keeping her aware of how important God is in one's life. While the teenage years in high school can be challenging, Amanda explains that "belonging to fiat has shown me that I'm not alone and that I have people who love me."

Amanda's favorite part of fiat is XLT Night, also known as Exalt Night. "It's where you get to spend time with Jesus and tell Him about your day or what's in your heart and on your mind," shares Amanda. She also says that doing fun activities and bonding over the Catholic faith with other teens at fiat Nights proves "just how much Jesus' love is present."

After Amanda graduates this coming spring, she plans to attend Cuyahoga Community College to earn an associate's degree. We wish her all the best as she begins a new chapter. And, just as much as she has come to value her parish community, we hope she knows that her parish community loves her and will always be here for her.



All are welcome to join us on Good Friday at 8:00 pm in the church for Living Stations preformed by our fiat Ministry. Visit StAmbrose.us/Lent for more details.



The Path to the Easter Sacraments for our catechumens is different for each individual as they respond to the call of God in faith. Faith is both a gift of God and an authentically human response that they recognize God's call in their life and have a free decision to follow by accepting and living the truth of the Gospel.

As we enter into Lent, may we continue to pray for the deeper conversion of the hearts of the 18 adults and 11 children who have chosen to receive the Sacraments of Initiation at Easter.

Please pray for...

At the Easter Vigil, the following will join us at the Table of the Lord:

Todd Bucy	Jennifer Lopez
Emilia B.	Molly Mason
Beatrice Eberl	Cheryl Michaels
Jennifer Eich	Samantha M.
Danica F.	William M.
Dylan F.	Rebecca Milkovich
Jamie Germuska	Ariana N.
Lisa Gregg	Elaina O.
Shaun Hahner	Giovanni O.
Kolton H.	Brittany Philbin
Leah H.	Julianna R.
Mike Hofer	Timothy Smith
Natasha Hofer	Buddy Tharp
Aaron Hopkins	Art Wallruth
Aaron Howard	

May this time of preparation be a great blessing for them and their loved ones.

If you, or someone you know, would like to become a member of the Catholic Church and/or would like to learn more about 'the journey', please contact Janet Majka at JMajka@StAmbrose.us or at 330.460.7321.

Welcome, New Members

Welcoming with Joyful Hospitality

(List from December 18, 2023 - current)

A warm welcome to the families and individuals who have recently joined our parish community.

Jim Andolek
Oswin & Parul Anthony
Ron & Jeanne Borchert
Mike & Lisa Colant
Becky DeMarco
Ryan & Stephanie Doherty
Tim & Nichole Dreamer
Jerry Franklin
Miguel DeJesus & Jessica Gallagher
Amy Gardner
Paul & Jenna Gazzillo
Mike & Stacy Gilbert
Mike & Nancy Heard
Joan Hovan
Roman & Alina Hray
Britt Jurgens
Nancy Kroffke

Tom & Janet Labus
Lissa Levy
Cory McKinley & Cait McMichaux
Joseph Pawlowski
Don & Anita Perrott
Jim & Lauren Roba
Andy & Nicole Rodenhauser
Larry & Alina Russell
Mikey & Ashley Samijlenko
Nancy Sandlin
Ross & Allison Schreiber
Dan & Tracy Schwab
Ramon & Heather Torres
Chris & Courtney Tritt
Aaron & Jess Woloszyn
Betty Zavada



"Apart from the cross, there is no other ladder by which we may go to heaven."

-SAINT ROSE OF LIMA



Share a Life-Giving Invitation with Someone

Inspiring with Prayer and Worship

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

Just reading our Parish Mission Statement makes one feel good. As active and engaged members, we know how amazing it feels to belong to Saint Ambrose Parish - a community that is alive and filled with God's Spirit. So, why wouldn't you want to share this blessed sense of belonging and purpose with your nearest and dearest?

There is something for everyone at Saint Ambrose. Our members form wonderful bonds of friendship, reinforce family values, and do great service work in the name of the Lord for our community and beyond.

Here's a great Lent challenge: invite someone to come to Mass with you or bring them to the next event that you attend. Or, if you know someone who needs some extra support, let them know that at Saint Ambrose Parish, we do not want anyone to struggle alone.



Just for Our Seniors

Route 66 Ministry

We are the road to faith and fun!

Joyce Osowski and Jim Rauschenbach are our Route 66 leaders and they work hard to keep our Route 66 members actively engaged members at our parish. All seniors of the parish are encouraged to check out our Route 66 Ministry.

Not quite a senior yet? No worries! If we've got something that interests you and you're available, come join us, all are welcome in this place! The Route 66 webpage is a great place to find details on our events and register - find it at StAmbrose.us/Route66. Our Facebook page is also a great place to see photos of all the fun we have. We hope you'll join us in the new year!

If you would like more information on Route 66, email JOsowski@StAmbrose.us or leave a message at 330.460.7341.

Route 66 Events

Weekly Chair Strength & Stretch

Wednesdays, 9:00 am, Mother Teresa Room

First Wednesday of the month is in Hilkert Hall 4

Pickleball

February 6 & 19 - 7:00 pm in Hilkert Gym

Themed Socials in the Mother Teresa Room

February 13 - Celebrate Mardi Gras!

March 19 - Feast of Saint Joseph

Monthly Rec/Fit/Fun

February 29 - Belly Dancing

March 5 - Beginner Line Dancing

Monthly Lunch & Learn

11:00 am, Mother Teresa Room

February 29 - Avoid Medicaid Assisted Living Pitfalls

March 14 - Medical Topics with Tom Strong



Find Route 66 on Facebook!

Search for "Saint Ambrose Parish Seniors"

Service with Smiles

By Rebecca Kaaikaula

If you're a member, you know that the third Sunday of the month is Donut Sunday!

Did you know, though, that there's a whole ministry that makes Donut Sunday possible? That's right! They are **Tom and Mary Anne Valko, Lorraine and Dennis Evans, Sharon Scislo, Deborah Szeleny, Nina Vito-Jones, and Jamie Comella.**

Every Donut Sunday, they faithfully and enthusiastically show up to Hilkert Hall (well before Father Bob is even up and at 'em, hehe). These six individuals come together for the Glory of God to set up Hilkert Gym in anticipation of hundreds of members stopping in after the morning and the noon Masses for delicious donuts, a cup of joe, and the opportunity for fellowship. They spend the better part of their day serving about 700 donuts, all with smiles on their faces and the Holy Spirit in their hearts. That's a lot of donuts for many people, which is why, on behalf of the entire parish community, I would like to say, "Thank You, Donut Sunday Crew!"



Save the date for the Saint Ambrose Lenten Bus Trip

Thursday, March 7, 2024



The Itinerary will include a visit to Our Lady Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Cathedral in Toledo, Ohio, followed by lunch at Spaghetti Warehouse.



More details coming soon!

Only JESUS

Register by March 10 at StAmbrose.us/Bus-Trips

Parish School of Religion

Children of God

"For those who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God." - ROMANS 8:14

During these 40 days of Lent, our students will be focusing on preparing their hearts for the Resurrection of Christ on Easter. Some of those many ways will be spent in our Lenten Workshop, preparing for our 5th grade Living Station presentation, partaking in Lenten Prayer Service and Reconciliation, attending our Lent Mini VBS, participating in our traditional Seder Meal, and serving our parish community in a variety of different ways.

Our hope and prayer for our students is that, as they focus on walking these days of Lent, they will find that it is "Only Jesus" that they need in their hearts.

Saint Ambrose School and PSR Sixth Graders, parents and siblings are invited to:

The Seder Meal

Wednesday, March 20, 2024
Dinner at 5:30pm • Seder Meal at 6:15pm
IN HILKERT HALL GYM

We hope you are able to join us!

If you are able to help with set up at 4pm or stay at the end to help clean up, please contact Janet Majka at JMajka@StAmbrose.us or 330-460-7321

Member Spotlight

The Martin Family

Meet the Martin family: **Joel and Mary and their two children, Gabriel (age 6) and August (age 4).** While Joel and Mary both grew up in Christian homes, neither were raised in the Catholic Church. So, Joel went through RCIA in 2010 and Mary started RCIA in 2014 right before meeting Joel. After Joel and Mary were engaged they dove right into Pre-Cana. After that they started Baptism classes for their son, Gabriel. Mary says, "It was a whirlwind and while we were immersed in these back-to-back Sacraments, we were really looking forward to finding a way to make faith part of our family every day outside of these special times."

The Martins moved to Strongsville in the fall of 2018 and after attending a few Masses, the Martins were thrilled to find Saint Ambrose Parish. Both Joel and Mary agree that the parish community made them feel welcome. They recall that even with wrangling two young children at Mass, Father Bob's homilies still kept them engaged. Mary says, "We finally felt like we had found our faith groove and were making God a priority in our everyday lives when the COVID-19 pandemic hit. For us new Catholics, it completely knocked us off our routine." Of course, during the height of the pandemic, everyone was physically distanced from the church and Joel and Mary really felt the void. Mary admits that "Even though God and prayer remained an important part of our home, losing that active participation in the Liturgy truly impacted our connection to each other and our church community."

Now that the pandemic has ended, the Martins are enrolled in the monthly family faith formation classes here at Saint Ambrose. "Being neophyte Catholics, we know we still have so much to learn ourselves and are excited to go through this process with our sons which is what these classes allow us to do," Mary says. And, even better, the Martins are back to weekly Mass. They also often volunteer at the parish and love being a part of the parish's family events. Mary tells us that "they are so excited to continue lifelong learning individually and as a family at a wonderful parish and are so fortunate to have found a home at Saint Ambrose Parish."



A Journey to the Cross
LENT MINI VBS
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2024
9:00-11:00 AM | HILKERT HALL GYM

FREE EVENT!

We invite you to join us during Lent as we prepare our hearts for the Risen Lord on Easter Sunday.

The morning will take us on a journey through 40 Days of Lent filled with Bible adventures, games, crafts and more.

Children ages 4-11 are invited to join.

Register at StAmbrose.us/Lent



Vacation Bible School

July 8 -12, 2024

Registration for the BEST week of the summer will open soon! Join us for "Scuba Diving Into Friendship with God." Stay tuned at StAmbrose.us/VBS to sign up your children or to volunteer!

Music Ministry

Angels Choir Spotlights

Introducing...Norah, a second year Angels Choir member! She is a homeschooled fourth grader who loves ice skating. She is currently taking her first year of ice skating lessons. When she's not spinning and jumping at a rink or around the house, you can guarantee she's singing! In fact, one of Norah's goals for the future is to become a cantor at Saint Ambrose. But, in the meantime, be sure to look for her at our upcoming Angels Choir performances and you'll want to also keep an eye out for her in this year's Fish Fry videos!



Introducing...Addison, a member of our Cherubs Choir! She is six years old and in kindergarten at Saint Ambrose School. Addison enjoys learning new songs and practicing each week with the other Cherubs. She loves coming to church each weekend with her mom, dad, Nani, and Papa. Addison's favorite part of Mass is any chance she gets to sing, whether the Cherubs are performing or not! She also enjoys reading, drawing, coloring, building Legos, swimming, and playing T-ball. She is excited to continue singing and looks forward to joining the parish's Angels Choir in a few years!



Meet-a-Member

Music Ministry Spotlight

Lisa Stronsick has played violin for most of her life. She also sings and writes songs. Lisa enjoys participating in the Saint Ambrose Music Ministry because it allows her to share God's gift of music with others to help bring them closer to Him. Over the years, she has performed at many other churches, various benefit concerts, weddings, and special events. At work, she helps her team manage a digital technology initiative. Lisa also enjoys gardening, learning new things, and spending time with her family and loved ones.



We appreciate that Lisa has answered God's call to share her great talents with our parish community. If you see Lisa, be sure to introduce yourself!

SAVE THE DATE



CHILDREN OF EDEN
ALLPARISH MUSICAL

Upcoming Musical Auditions

Children of Eden is a musical about the creation of man, Noah, and the ark. The performances will take place outside (weather permitting) this coming summer - July 2024. Michelle Cha, our Minister of Performing Arts, hopes to be able to cast many of our Saint Ambrose members for this All Parish Musical.

There will be a sitting chorus as well as a staged chorus. There are also many roles, including two young boy leads. Auditions will take place this coming spring. For more information, email to MCha@StASchool.us.



School News

GOD IS OUR STRENGTH, OUR HOPE AND OUR PEACE

Lent gives us another opportunity to grow closer in our relationship with Him, and teach and reinforce life skills that are so necessary today! Jesus is our strength, our hope and our peace. Check out what some of our students say about what this means to them this Lenten season.

JOIN US ON OUR LENTEN JOURNEY

Beginning with our Palm Burning Prayer Service on [NEED DATE], we journey together as a school community of faith to the Cross in prayer, fasting and almsgiving. In addition, some grade levels lead Stations of the Cross and all are invited to our presentation of Living Stations of the Cross on Thursday, March 21 at 6:30 pm.

FOLLOW THE LEADER

Our school has chosen to operate through a uniquely different lens. "Leader in Me" is about empowering every student to reach their full potential while ultimately finding their voice. As an example of an empowered student leader; one of our eighth grade students, **Collin G., spearheaded and led a toiletry collection because his heart was moved by a connection he made this past summer while serving at Herman House.**

Thanks to his leadership, supported by **Mrs. Maria Grama**, our Campus Minister, our school crushed the goal of 200 kits by providing enough toiletries to make 318 hygiene kits for the guests of Saint Hermans! This is just one example of goodness and its rippling effect on our community. As a school, the staff in this building have made five core commitments to our students. We call these our Core Paradigms. In these paradigms you will find the belief and way we view all students.

At the beginning of this school year, in preschool - eighth grade we recognized the following of each of our students:

- Everyone is a leader.
- Change starts with me.
- We empower students to lead their own learning.
- Everyone has genius.
- Educators and families partner to develop the whole person.

SAS HIGH SCHOOL PLACEMENT TEST SCHOLARS

Did you know that **ten percent of our graduating eighth grade class recently placed in the top 10% nationally on their High School Placement Tests**, and will be accepting generous scholarships to their high school of choice for their academic achievements?!?!?

We celebrate their success with them as they finish with us and enter high school more than prepared to lead and succeed. **I continue to receive high compliments of our students from area high schools when I am in meetings.** What a wonderful affirmation of their hard work, and an excellent representation they are of our school.

With gratitude in Christ,
Lisa Cinadr, *Principal*



2023-2024 Littlest Angels Preschool & Saint Ambrose School Grades K-8

Open enrollment begins February 14, 2024

Apply at online
SaintAmbroseSchool.us/Admissions.



Preschool News

"FOLLOW THE LEADER" IS OUR FAVORITE

We started our Leader in Me program this semester! The children and staff have enjoyed our lessons! This week we discussed all of the things they can do now that they couldn't do as a baby. We remember to celebrate all that they can do. When things are hard, we are reminded that we don't get upset. We just can't do it, yet! We have young leaders in our preschool!

Lent is a special time to reflect on our faith and how we can grow closer to Jesus and each other. We tell our preschoolers that Lent is a time to pray for., to fast from., and to give to others. We are challenged to reach out to those around us to share our belief in Jesus and ask others to share their faith journey. The stories of God working in people's lives are amazing and life-changing!

Believing in Jesus, and what He did for us, is the most important decision we can make! Every day... fast from, pray for, share your faith, and give!

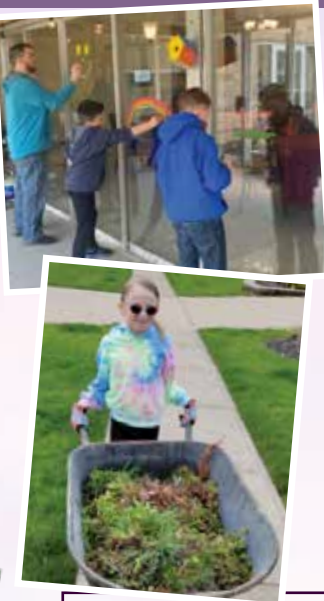
CONGRATULATIONS, LITTLEST ANGELS PRESCHOOL!

LAPS attained their renewal accreditation and 5STARS from the State of Ohio Early Learning. This is the highest rating given in the State of Ohio and an affirmation of the wonderful work happening every day at Littlest Angels Preschool.

In His love,

Mrs. Catherine Mitchell
Preschool Director





Community Weekend of Service

Save the Dates!

April 19-21, 2024

There is a way for everyone to help!

Together we will do simple, family-friendly projects for someone who could use an extra hand.

The time commitment can be just a couple of hours, or as many as you'd like to give, scheduled over our weekend of service, at your preference.

www.StAmbrose.us/Service


Unpack the Alleluia

Unpack the Alleluia during this year's holy week as we "adopt a member" and deliver random acts of kindness during one of the holiest times of the year.

We provide the gifts, the addresses, everything you need, we just need YOU to deliver gifts to one of our fellow parishioners who needs a little bit of a "pick me up" during this season. It is easy, thoughtful and a wonderful opportunity to pass along the Light of Christ.



For more information or to join, please contact Gabby Moss at GYatson@StAmbrose.us or 330.460.7327.

Healing Ministry & Prayer

Ongoing Meetings

The Living Word Healing Prayer Ministry invites all to their bi-weekly meetings on the **1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month, at 7:00 pm in the Chapel.** Bring your Bible with you and come to lift your heart and voice up in praise, worship, and prayers.

Healing Prayer Sessions

Every 3rd Saturday of the month, following the Saturday Vigil, the Living Word Healing Prayer Ministry hosts a special session of healing prayer. All are welcome to come.

Gabriel Project

For Mothers in Need

Embracing and supporting moms and families is how we change our culture to one of love and life. **The Gabriel Project is ready to serve mothers who find themselves unexpectedly pregnant.** Pregnancy can be a time of joy but can also lead to concerns about the future and how others will perceive the situation. For more information, visit StAmbrose.us/Gabriel-Project, email thegabrielproject@stambrose.us, or call us at 330.460.7345.



Healing Hearts


CHILDREN GRIEVE TOO

Children may have a difficult time to process emotions and feelings surrounding the loss of a loved one.

It can be tough for them to talk about these feelings or know what to do with them. While we can't spare our children the pain of loss, we can try thoughtful and hopeful activities focused on God's love.

Healing Hearts is a 6-week program designed to help and support children and adolescents who have lost a loved one and will focus on bringing hope, healing and joy to your child.

New Series: April 4 – May 7, 2024
Tuesdays, 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm
Lehner Center Mark Room

Please contact Jennie at JPorco@StAmbrose.us or 330.460.7317 to RSVP or for more information.

Care & Compassion Ministries

Tender Hearts Ministry

Walking with families who are caring for a chronically ill child. If your family is in need of support, or if you can extend help to families in need, visit StAmbrose.us/tender-hearts. Please contact Kim at 330.460.7316 or KNemet@StAmbrose.us if the Holy Spirit is calling you to work with the families of our parish!

Mental Health Ministry

The Saint Ambrose Mental Health Ministry (MHM) works together to offer support, education, and a network of resources for individuals and families dealing with mental health challenges. We aim to be a learning community that will increase our knowledge and understanding of mental illness and how best to respond with the care and compassion of Christ. For more information, contact Jennie Porco at JPorco@StAmbrose.us or call at 330.460.7317.

Group Support

Hearts of Hope Widows Group

Second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm

Share conversation, prayer, and community with other women who have lost their spouse. Together with the Lord, our hearts will always find the help and the hope we need. For more details, including meeting location, contact Lisa Cinadr at LCinadr@StASchool.us.

Cancer Support Group

First Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm

Share, support, and embrace friendship with prayer. This group is for cancer survivors, caregivers, family members and anyone whose life has been touched by cancer. For more information, call Terri Blasko 216.990.0082 or Miriam Hopkins 330.225.9005.

NAMI Support Group

Third Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm

The National Alliance on Mental Health has collaborated with us to bring a NAMI Support Group to Saint Ambrose Parish. This is a faith-based group for adults. Sessions are peer-led and offer participants an opportunity to share their experiences and gain support from other attendees. For more information, please reach out to Jennie Porco at JPorco@StAmbrose.us or 330.460.7317.

Women's AA Meetings

Mondays, 6:15 pm and Saturdays, 8:30 am, in the Lehner Center

We are here to relate and share experiences, strength, and hopes with each other in order to grow and help each other recover from alcoholism.

"For I know well the plans I have in mind for you; plans for your welfare and not for woe, so as to give you a future of hope. When you call Me, and come and pray to Me, I will listen to you." - JEREMIAH 29:11



Stephen Ministry

Ministers are Here for You

For those who have suffered a loss or who are going through a difficult time, Easter can be a time of painful loneliness and emptiness. If you are smiling on the outside but full of pain on the inside, and the joy of Easter seems far away, **help is available.**

Our Stephen Ministers are ready to provide confidential, one-on-one Christian care. They will listen, care, encourage, and pray with and for you. Stephen Ministers have been specially trained to meet your emotional and spiritual needs; male Stephen Ministers are always matched with men, and female Stephen Ministers are matched with women.

If you or someone you know is hurting, find out more about Stephen Ministry by talking with one of our Stephen Leaders: Carol Maline at CMaline@StAmbrose.us or 330.460.7336; Lisa Homady at 330.460.7315 or LHomady@StAmbrose.us.

Or, visit us online at StAmbrose.us/Stephen-Ministry.





Together, for the Glory of God

Catholic Works of Mercy Food Distributions

Wednesdays, 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Our constant prayer is that no one will go hungry. If you, or someone you know, are in need of groceries, please come to Saint Ambrose. Line up at the Catholic Works of Mercy Outreach Center at the time indicated and our volunteers will load your vehicle. If your life is full of abundance, please continue to donate or lend a hand. For additional information, please call the Parish Office at 330.460.7300 and inform the receptionist that you are calling to inquire about Catholic Works of Mercy services.

Mercy Mondays

**1st Monday of the month,
5:00 pm to 6:30 pm**

Your generous donations of non-perishable items continue to support our programs that feed hundreds each week - thank you! Simply pull your vehicle up to our Catholic Works of Mercy building and let us unload. You can find a list of specific needs for each month published in our parish's weekly bulletins on the weeks near to the collection date. God bless you!

Our Partnership with OneHope NEO

**3rd Tuesday of the month,
at 4:00 pm in Hilbert Hall**

OneHope NEO helps coordinate community efforts throughout Cleveland's near west side neighborhoods. Our parish works closely with OneHope NEO on many great initiatives including a monthly food distribution. We ask our members to help sort food into bags for this distribution. It's easy and fun - a great service to do together as a family with your children.

3rd Wednesday of the month

Help distribute the bags that were packed the day prior! Email brandi@mejorviafoundation.com for more information on how you can help with this monthly food distribution.

♥ Lend a Hand ♥
Many hands make for light work!

FOOD SORTING:
Tuesday, February 20
Tuesday, March 26
Tuesday, April 16

For the Love of God

By Rebecca Kaaikaula

While I'm nowhere near retirement age, I do often wonder, "what does one do once they retire?" Lots of our members can answer this question since our parish is so blessed to have many who give so much back to our community. This time though, **I want to tell you about Mike Lanzarotta.** He does love to golf now that he is retired. But, he isn't on a course nearly enough because the list of things for him to do is actually quite long. And, it isn't simply because he's married to Helen Lanzarotta.



Mike is a Stephen Minister, an Acolyte for funerals, a counter for the offertory collection, helps with Arts & Environment, a Bingo volunteer, cooks for many parish events, works the entire Fish Fry season, serves on Finance Council, and is there to help before, during, and after every Summer Festival. He is also a member of our Knights of Columbus. Mike is one of the most engaged and giving members at Saint Ambrose. Yes, a lot of it is because he loves Helen. But, if you know him, you know how much he loves God and the members of our parish community. So my question becomes a hope... that when I retire, **I am as caring and devoted as Mike is to Saint Ambrose Parish.**

SAINT AMBROSE PARISH
HEALTH & WELLNESS FAIR 2024

SUNDAY, MARCH 3
8:30AM - 12:30PM
Hilbert Hall Gym

Join us for a delicious, healthy breakfast provided by our good friends at Marc's!

Visit a variety of local vendors who can share great tips and samples. Learn what you can do physically, mentally and spiritually to stay fit, healthy and full of life.

Invite your family and friends to join you for Mass & breakfast!

A variety of vendors and Community Partners!

Stop at all of the booths to explore more ways to improve your overall health.

Eating healthier has never been easier!

Marc's breakfast will include fresh fruit, yogurt, bagels, granola and more right from their local store.

For further information, contact Jennie Porco
JPorco@StAmbrose.us or 330-460-7300

www.StAmbrose.us/Health-Fair

**SAINT AMBROSE PARISH
SUNDAY LENT BINGO**

Sunday, March 3
Spend \$25 and receive one **FREE** Extra Coverall.
\$3 Sloppy Joes, Chips and Cookie

Sunday, March 17
One **FREE** small lightning with any Marker Madness purchase.
\$5 Corned Beef, Potatoes, Cabbage and Cabbage

Pre-Buy Packages Online!
StAmbrose.us/BINGO

2:00 PM - DOORS OPEN
4:00 PM - BINGO BEGINS

VOLUNTEER AT A BINGO NIGHT!
Our Bingo Nights are fun! The proceeds from Bingo benefit many of the outreach work that our parish does here at home and beyond. Have an extra hour or two to spare? Visit StAmbrose.us/Bingo to volunteer!

Peace, Love & Prom

Saturday, April 20, 2024
6:00 pm - 10:00 pm

You're invited!

We invite guests with special needs (aged 16 and up) to be our guest for this magical and memorable night!

Enjoy a red-carpet entrance, dinner, dancing, a photo booth, a photographer, and a respite room for parents.

\$20 Tickets per Honored Guest

(Parents and direct support professionals do not need a ticket, but everyone must RSVP.)
Contact Jennie at JPorco@StAmbrose.us with questions.

RSVP online by April 6 at StAmbrose.us/Peace-Love-Prom or by visiting the Saint Ambrose Parish Front Office.

Volunteers Needed!

Please consider helping with hospitality, serving and beverages, in the kitchen, decorations, clean-up! A volunteer sign up will begin soon - please see the website for more details. Email GYatson@StAmbrose.us with questions.

Thursday, June 20
6:00 - 10:00 pm
RUMOURS
Family Night - Discounted Wristbands & \$2 Burgers!

Friday, June 21
5:00 - 11:00 pm
OUT OF EDEN
Casino opens for the weekend!

Saturday, June 22
5:00 - 11:00 pm
TIM MOON'S BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY
Disney Night - Meet your favorite Disney Princesses

Sunday, June 23
5:30 - 10:00 pm
DISCO INFERNO
Grand Raffle Drawing & Fireworks Show!

CASINO!

Friday, Saturday, and Sunday

FEATURING:

Let it Ride, Blackjack, Hold 'Em, Over/Under, and Money Wheels



Saint Ambrose Parish
929 Pearl Rd
Brunswick, Ohio 44212
www.StAmbrose.us

WINTER 2024

LENT 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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SAINT AMBROSE PARISH

Lenten Fish Fry

Join us for our annual Community Fish Fry!

Dine-in or pre-order take-out online!



Ash Wednesday & Every Friday during Lent

4:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Delicious food, friendly people, and for a great cause!

Please enter Hilbert Hall from the doors facing Pearl Road.

Weekly Specials

WEEK 1 February 16 – Stuffed Shells

WEEK 2 February 23 – Fish Tacos

WEEK 3 March 1 – Fried Shrimp

WEEK 4 March 8 – Fish Sandwich

WEEK 5 March 15 – Coconut Shrimp

WEEK 6 March 22 – Lobster Mac

WEEK 7 March 29 – Tuna Melt

Specials subject to change, follow website and bulletin for most up to date information.

Cash, checks, and credit cards are accepted when dining in with us.

FULL MENU & ONLINE ORDERING:
www.StAmbrose.us/Fish-Fry

Fish Fry Dinners

Baked or Fried White Fish
Potato & Cheese Pierogies
Cabbage & Noodles
Macaroni & Cheese

A la Carte Sides

New England Clam Chowder
French Fries • Cheese Pizza
Cole Slaw • Applesauce
Steamed Vegetables

Visit [Facebook.com/StAmbrose.us](https://www.facebook.com/StAmbrose.us) or our website for news and to watch our well-loved videos that announce the specials for each week!



Only
JESUS

SAINT AMBROSE PARISH: LENT 2024

Holy Week Schedule

March 28: Holy Thursday

Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7:30 pm

Courtyard Adoration:

8:30 pm - 10:30 pm

Night Prayer: 10:30 pm

Adoration in the Church:

11:00 pm - 8:00 am

March 29: Good Friday

All events held in the Church

Morning Prayer: 8:15 am

Stations of the Cross: 12:00 pm

Passion of the Lord Mass: 3:00 pm

fiat Living Stations: 8:00 pm

March 30: Holy Saturday

Morning Prayer: 8:15 am

Easter Food Basket Blessing: 1:00 pm

Easter Egg Hunts: 1:30 pm

RSVP at StAmbrose.us/Easter

Easter Vigil 8:45 pm

March 31: Easter Sunday

Easter Sunday Masses: 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am, and 12:00 pm in the church.

9:00 am and 10:30 am also in Hilbert Hall.

All Masses will also be live streamed.