

SAINT AMBROSE CATHOLIC CHURCH

January 7, 2024 | The Epiphany of the Lord



WHERE THE CHURCH IS, THERE ARE HIS MYSTERIES
- SAINT AMBROSE -

Very Reverend Andrew J. Fisher, V.F., Pastor
Reverend Michael T. Nugent, Parochial Vicar
Reverend Anthony Appiah, In Residence

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday | 8 a.m., 10 a.m., Noon, 5 p.m.

Monday - Friday | 7 a.m., 9 a.m.

Saturday | 9 a.m., 5 p.m. (Vigil)

Holy Days | As announced

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Saturday | 9:30 a.m., 3 - 4 p.m.

MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA

Saturday | After 9 a.m. Mass

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

First Friday | 9:30 a.m. - 7 p.m. (Benediction)

SAINT AMBROSE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

703-698-7171 | stambroseschool.org | info@stambroseschool.org

3901 WOODBURN ROAD | ANNANDALE, VA 22003 | 703-280-4400 | STAMBROSEVA.ORG



Welcome!

Whether you are a parishioner, a visitor, seeking a parish home, returning to the practice of your Catholic faith, or interested in learning more about the Catholic Church, we welcome you to St. Ambrose and invite you to become a member of our growing parish family.

PARISH OFFICE

Monday - Friday | 9 am - 4 pm
3901 Woodburn Road | Annandale, VA 22030
703-280-4400 | stambroseva.org
email: dvasilakos@stambroseva.org

CLERGY

Very Rev. Andrew J. Fisher, V.F., Pastor
frfisher@stambroseva.org

Rev. Michael T. Nugent, Parochial Vicar
frnugent@stambroseva.org

Rev. Anthony Appiah, In Residence
tonyapia50@yahoo.com

Ted Devlin, Permanent Deacon
tdevlin@stambroseva.org

STAFF

Donna Vasilakos, Parish Secretary
703-280-4400 | dvasilakos@stambroseva.org

Margaret Kelty, Administrative Assistant
703-280-4400 | mkelty@stambroseva.org

Carla Yaglou, Business Manager
703-280-4400 | businessmanager@stambroseva.org

Maria Tejada, School Principal
703-698-7171 | principal@stambroseschool.org

Claire Jackson, Director of Religious Education/Youth Ministry
703-280-1122 | cjackson@stambroseva.org

Jon Laird, Obl.O.S.B., Director of Music
703-280-4400 | jlaird@stambroseva.org

Alfonso Dominguez, Plant & Facilities Manager
703-280-4400 | facilities@stambroseva.org

BULLETIN NOTICES

Please email your announcement request to Donna Vasilakos.
Bulletin deadline is **14 days before publication**.

ISSUES AFFECTING THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

The Diocese of Arlington website provides a resource page with information about recent events affecting the Church. Child protection policies and responses to the crisis, from Bishop Burbidge and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, are available at arlingtondiocese.org/childprotection

SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

Baptism: First-time, expectant parents must attend an instruction class prior to the Sacrament of Baptism. Call the Parish Office to make the necessary arrangements. Baptisms are usually celebrated on Sundays following the Noon Mass.

Matrimony: Registered parishioners who wish to be married at St. Ambrose, or to be prepared for marriage in another parish, must, by Diocesan policy, begin the required preparation at least six months prior to the proposed date for their marriage. Contact the Parish Office for an appointment.

Returning to the Church: If you are Catholic and returning to the Sacraments, or to the practice of the faith, we welcome you back! If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact a priest at the Parish Office or after Sunday Mass. We're happy to help you come back home to the Catholic Church.

Initiation of Adults and Children: The Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA) is the process through which a person becomes initiated into the full sacramental life of the Catholic Church through weekly instruction. If you or someone you know would like to inquire about the life of Jesus Christ and the beliefs and teachings of His Church, please call Claire Jackson, Director of Religious Education/Youth Ministry, 703-280-1122.

Sick Calls: Contact the Parish Office to schedule visits to the sick and/or homebound for the Sacraments of Penance, the Eucharist & the Anointing of the Sick.

Parish Membership: Parish Membership is necessary for Baptism, Matrimony, or Sacramental Sponsor Forms. In order for a Sponsor Form to be issued, one must be a registered/participating member of the Parish for at least three months. Please notify the Parish Office of any changes on your registration form, telephone number, address, temporary absence, etc. Forms are available in the Parish Office and at stambroseva.org



Mass Intentions Pray for people in need, both living or deceased, by having a Mass said for that intention. Masses can be offered to celebrate Baptisms, Birthdays, Anniversaries, Confirmations, Special Intentions, Weddings or other needs.

Devotional Candles for the St Ambrose Shrine in the Narthex are available for a \$4 donation.

For Mass Requests, please visit the Parish Office, Monday through Friday, 9 am-4 pm. Devotional Candles may be purchased during Parish Office hours or from the ushers before/after weekend Masses.

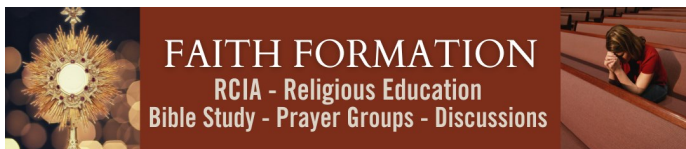
FAITH DIRECT

Plan your recurring Offertory donations through Faith Direct. Visit membership.faithdirect.net/VA401 or click Donate tab on stambroseva.org

PARISH MINISTRIES

Visit stambroseva.org + click on Ministries tab for details and contacts

Adult Choir	Altar Servers	Altar Society
Bereavement Group	Bible Prayer Group	Christ House Meals
Eucharistic Adoration	Gabriel Project	Garden & Grounds Club
Intercessory Prayer Tree	Knights of Columbus	Knitting Group
Lectors	Religious Education	Rosary Makers
St. Ambrose for Life	St. Ambrose Samaritan Group	Ushers
Vocations Committee	Women of St. Ambrose	Young Adults Group
Youth Choir	Youth Ministry	



See details for each program at stambroseva.org

THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) stambroseva.org/RCIA

September - May | Mondays | 7-8 pm | Parish Hall

RCIA is the Church's process for people over the age of seven who want to become Catholic and are

- unbaptized or baptized in another Christian tradition
- Baptized Catholics who have not received First Communion and/or Confirmation

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION stambroseva.org/RE

Grades K-7 | Sundays | 8:45-9:45 am | School

Grade 8 | Mondays | 7-8 pm | Parish Hall

Classes for public /non-Catholic school students. Instruction includes required preparation for First Penance, First Communion, and Confirmation.

JESUS, MARY & A CUP OF JOE stambroseva.org/JMJ

September - May | Sundays | 8:45-9:45 am | School Gym

Learn more about the faith. Enjoy fellowship, coffee and conversation. All adults welcome!

APOLOGETICS DISCUSSION GROUP stambroseva.org/BibleStudy

Third Tuesday of the Month | 7:30-9pm | Parish Hall

Grow in your knowledge & ability to evangelize & defend our Catholic faith.
Facilitator: Lee Cena

ADULT BIBLE STUDY stambroseva.org/BibleStudy

The Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation

- September - May | Wednesdays | 10 am-Noon | Parish Hall
- Facilitators: Ron + Mary DeSantis, Chrissy Rabayda

BIBLE PRAYER GROUP stambroseva.org/faith-formation/bible-prayer-group

Fridays | 9:30-11 am | Parish Library

Adults read and reflect on the following Sunday's Gospel.

WOMEN'S PRAYER GROUP stambroseva.org/WSA

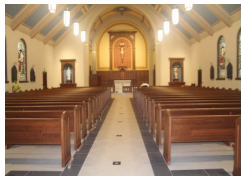
Sundays | 1:15-3:15 pm | Parish Library

Take time for God! Open to all women of the parish.

Claire Jackson

Director of Religious Education/Youth Ministry | 703-280-1122

St. Ambrose Church Holy Stones & Altar Relics



Visit stambroseva.org/new-church for information about the Holy Land pilgrimage stones as well as the stones under the statues of Mary and Joseph. Links to biographies of the saints whose relics rest in the altar are also provided.

YOUTH MINISTRY



GOD SQUAD

stambroseva.org/GodSquad

September-May | Sundays | 6-8 pm | School Gym

Open to everyone in Grades 9-12

Bring a friend - see you there!

UPCOMING SATURDAY EVENTS

January 27 | Pray at Falls Church Abortion Facility

February 24 | Homeless Ministry

WORK CAMP 2024!



WorkCamp 2024 is currently scheduled for June 22-28 in Frederick County, VA.

Open to all high school students, St. Ambrose Youth Ministry is attending WorkCamp with St. Philip's youth group. Our first meeting is Wednesday, January 10, 7:45-9pm at St. Philip's in Hayden Hall.

All interested teens, as well as at least one parent, should plan to attend. Interested in going with us? Contact Claire Jackson, Director of Religious Education/Youth Ministry, 703-280-1122, cjackson@stambroseva.org.

We live our lives according to the stories we believe...

What if there is a different story?

The Story is the gospel.

the
RESCUE
project



DINNER | VIDEO | DISCUSSION
stambroseva.org/rescue-project

All adults & teens are welcome!

Tuesdays | January 30 - March 12 | 6:30 - 8:30 pm | Parish Hall
Saturday Retreat | March 9 | 9 am - 2:30 pm

The Rescue Project is an 8-week experience of community, conversation, dinner, prayer and the gospel - and it's free! All adults & teens are welcome. Register now: scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/ambroseproject. For more information, visit stambroseva.org/rescue-project or contact Claire Jackson, cjackson@stambroseva.org, 703-280-1122.



MASS INTENTIONS

Monday	January 8: The Baptism of the Lord
7:00 a.m.	Patricia Burke ✝
9:00 a.m.	Steven Wu ✝
Tuesday	January 9: Weekday
7:00 a.m.	Bernice Nicewicz ✝
9:00 a.m.	Barbara Lovell ✝
Wednesday	January 10: Weekday
7:00 a.m.	Mary Ann Ayd ✝
9:00 a.m.	Maria Moy & Family
Thursday	January 11: Weekday
7:00 a.m.	Sean Weide ✝
9:00 a.m.	Josephine Bourgeois ✝
Friday	January 12: Weekday
7:00 a.m.	Jorge Bergoglio
9:00 a.m.	Alex & Simeona Geston ✝
Saturday	January 13: Wkdy; St. Hilary, Bishop & Doctor of the Church, BVM
9:00 a.m.	Frank Nicewicz ✝
5:00 p.m.	Jamie Coniglio
Sunday	January 14: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 a.m.	People of the Parish
10:00 a.m.	Rob Laird
12:00 noon	Brian Houston ✝
5:00 p.m.	Paula Elder

First Friday Adoration | February 2, 2024

9:30 a.m.-7:00 p.m. (Benediction)

During the week before Adoration, sign up in the binder in the Church Narthex or call the Parish Office, 703-280-4400

PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Sick

Irene Anderson, Katie Bader, Josephine Crosby, John Crowley, Kathy d'Alelio, Conor Doyle, Bill Foster, Therese Fruet, Marianne Haley, Amy Hobbs, Kathleen Johnson, Robert Koldys, Helen (Dolly) LaViolette, Thomas LaViolette, John Maskeny, Lou Osborn, Liz Post, Marcelina Respuesto, Diane Rispoli, Lisa Rhoads, Lewis Rhodes, Jean Reed Saylor, Fr. Spychala, Jim Smith, Irene Symm, Nicole A. Tramonte, Donella Wright, Lilian Yetman

For Our Diocesan Priests

Jan 8	Rev. Denis M. Donahue
Jan 9	Rev. Jeb S. Donelan
Jan 10	Rev. Alexander R. Drummond
Jan 11	Rev. Paul L. Dudzinski
Jan 12	Rev. Michael R. Duesterhaus
Jan 13	Rev. David A. DuFresne
Jan 14	CH (LT) Luke R. Dundon

✝ For the Deceased of St. Ambrose ✝



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." - Mt 2:1-2

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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Monday, January 15

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. Day

Parish Offices Closed



DONUT SUNDAY!

**JANUARY 7
AFTER 8 + 10 AM MASSES
PARISH HALL**

**Hosted by
Pro-Life Ministries**

St. Therese of Lisieux Women's Silent Retreat Friday, January 26 - Sunday, January 28

St. Therese of Lisieux's spiritual doctrine is easily understood and can be applied in our day-to-day lives. Join Fr. Jack Riley at the feet of Jesus at San Damiano to learn more about this great saint. For more information and to register, visit arlingtondiocese.org/stthereseretreat/

Quo Vadis Seminary Visit for High School Boys

Ever wondered what college seminary is like? Join Fr. Isenberg and Quo Vadis on January 27 to experience it firsthand at St. John Paul II Seminary, Washington, D.C. Meet the seminarians and their formators, see where they live, pray, eat and study, celebrate Mass together and tour parts of Catholic University where they have classes. Dads are welcome but not required. Registration deadline is January 18. Visit ArlingtonDiocese.org/QuoVadis or contact the Office of Vocations, 703-841-2514 or vocations@arlingtondiocese.org. Quo Vadis events are for high school boys interested in growing in their spiritual life and exploring their vocations.

Mornings of Mercy Join other members of the Diocese who have gone through divorce in a series of morning retreats. The morning will include Holy Mass, talk, and Benediction. Mornings of Mercy retreats are led by Rev. Thomas P. Ferguson, Pastor, Good Shepherd Catholic Church. The retreats are free. The next retreat is Saturday, February 3 at 9 a.m. at St. Luke Catholic Church in McLean. Please register at arlingtondiocese.org/morningsofmercy

The Shepherd's Center is hosting a Lunch 'N Life program on Thursday, January 18, Noon - 2pm, Abiding Presence Lutheran Church, 6304 Lee Chapel Rd., Burke, VA 22015. Ms. Andrea Loewenwarter will speak on Historic Blenheim and the Civil War Interpretive Center in Fairfax City. \$15. RSVP by January 12: call 703-273-5730.

Is the Holy Spirit leading you to share your gifts as a priest or religious brother or sister? Please contact Father Michael Isenberg, 703-841-2514 or michael.isenberg@arlingtondiocese.org.

Church Construction Debt Reduction

To complete the church, the parish took out a loan of \$2.9M from the diocese. The loan has not been amortized yet. Currently, we are only paying 3.5% interest on the loan. Once the loan is amortized, we will begin making a monthly mortgage payment. The more we can pay down the principal prior to amortization, the lower our monthly mortgage payment will be. Any amount that you can give to help with the reduction of this debt is greatly appreciated. For those receiving envelopes, a debt reduction envelope has been added. For those using our electronic giving, a debt reduction line item has been added to Faith Direct.



ST. AMBROSE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

"Christ is Everything to Us" - St. Ambrose

NEWS & NOTES

Saint Ambrose School offers open enrollment and availability throughout the school year for all grades. Please visit stambroseschool.org or call the St. Ambrose School Office, 703-698-7171.

Dear St. Ambrose Community, .

We're hosting an all school Open House on Sunday, January 28, 11am -1:30pm. Come and kick off Catholic Schools Week with us!

Saint Ambrose Preschool is accepting applications for the 2024-2025 school year. Information and application requirements are available at stambroseschool.org. Application information forms are also available from the school or parish offices.

St. Ambrose School always needs extra substitute teachers. If you would like to be added to our sub list, please call the school office at 703-698-7171.

Yours in Christ,

Maria Teresa Tejada, Principal | principal@stambroseschool.org



Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community

3827 Woodburn Road | Annandale, VA 22003
703-698-7171 | info@stambroseschool.org
stambroseschool.org

st. ambrose school open house

SUNDAY | JANUARY 28
11 AM - 1:30 PM

celebrate catholic schools week!
stambroseschool.org



FAITH. FRIENDS. FUN!

St. Ambrose Summer Camp | June 17 - August 2, 2024 | stambrosesummer.com



Campers!

Camp registration opens at 1 pm, March 3, 2024. The schedule for campers, ages 4-13, is live now at stambrosesummer.com/camps.

Counselors!

Full-time | May 28 - August 2

Saint Ambrose Summer Camp is hiring engaging, fun and responsible college students who exhibit a joyful love of Christ and desire to be positive role models in the lives of young children this summer. Apply now!
stambrosesummer.com/employment



Saint Ambrose Summer Camp strives to offer a dynamic, Christ-centered summer experience that forms the next generation of saints. Join us!



**Knights of
Columbus®**

ST. AMBROSE COUNCIL 8403

Business Meeting | 2nd Tuesday | 7:30 pm
Social Meeting + Dinner | 4th Tuesday | 7 pm
Parish Library
ambrosecouncil.org | info@ambrosecouncil.org



MARCH FOR LIFE

Rally Watch Party, Potluck & Prayer

Friday | January 19
11 am - 2 pm | Parish Hall
All are welcome!

Bring a potluck lunch side dish
or dessert to share!

RSVP bit.ly/wsawatchparty

Sponsored by Women of St. Ambrose



FORMED



young adults group

[STAMBROSEVA.ORG/YOUNG ADULTS](https://stambroseva.org/young-adults)



- Eucharistic Adoration on First Fridays, 6-7 pm, followed by a social at Glory Days on Nutley Street.
- Women's Group every Tuesday night from 7:30-9 pm. All single, engaged, or married women ages 21-35 are welcome!
- Stay in the know! Scan the QR to join our group chat - get updates on all young adult events. Join us!

PRO-LIFE CORNER

St. Ambrose for Life | stambroseva.org/pro-life

Next Diaper Drive Weekend = February 3 + 4

St. Ambrose Parish supports The MaRiH Center by providing diapers, formula and wipes for moms & their babies. Collected at all Masses on the first weekend of each month, urgent needs are: diapers (all sizes); wipes; formula (especially Similac Advance), diaper rash ointment. To donate other critical items, please visit stambroseva.org/pro-life or contact The MaRiH Center, 703-370-4774, marih.org.



Rosary for Life | Wednesdays | Noon - 1 pm

Help + Hope + Healing

visit stambroseva.org/pro-life for more resources

Gabriel Project
helpforpregnantwomen.org
703-841-3810
info@h4pw.org

**Diocese of Arlington
Catholic Charities**
703-841-3830
www.cdda.net

Project Rachel
helpafterabortion.org
703-841-2504
info@helpafterabortion.org

Save the Dates

March for Life | January 19 | Washington, DC
WSA March for Life Rally Watch Party, Potluck & Prayer | January 19
WSA MaRiH Center Baby Shower | February 4 | Parish Hall
Virginia Right to Life March | February 21 | Richmond

After Abortion Retreats: A Day of Prayer and Healing for women who have experienced abortion will be held on Saturday, February 10, 2024. These group healing events are held in a private and peaceful setting, in English and in Spanish, based on the Entering Canaan model (2 separate retreats, in 1 location). There will be an opportunity to hear from a past participant and others who have found healing. You are not alone. Take the first step. For confidential inquiries, please contact Project Rachel Ministry, 703-841-2504 or nfo@helpafterabortion.org.



HumbleBee Highlights

<https://stambroseva.org/humble-bee>



In this week's Gospel, we learn that there are no foreigners or outsiders. God loves all His children, and all are welcome to come adore Him! The wise men followed the star with trust, not knowing where it would lead, and it led them to Jesus!

FAMILY DISCUSSION

- Let us prayerfully consider the journey of the wise men to Jesus.
- As a family, do we appreciate and welcome all people as Jesus did? Do we recognize people who are different from us as our brothers and sisters, all created by God?
- Do we courageously follow the path God set before us and trust Him even when we aren't sure where we're going? What are some examples? How can we be more trusting?

See The Bee for more faith + fun!