

SAINT AMBROSE CATHOLIC CHURCH

October 8, 2023 | 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time



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
rfisher@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
dvasilakos@stambroseva.org

Margaret Kelty, Administrative Assistant
mkelty@stambroseva.org

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

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

Youth Ministry | 703-280-4400

Director of Religious Education | 703-280-4400

Jon Laird, 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



O Lord, who hast mercy upon all,
take away from me my sins,
and mercifully kindle in me
the fire of thy Holy Spirit.
Take away from me the heart of stone,
and give me a heart of flesh,
a heart to love and adore Thee,
a heart to delight in Thee,
to follow and enjoy Thee,
for Christ's sake, Amen.

Prayer of St. Ambrose

SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

Baptism: First-time, expectant parents must attend an instruction prior to the Sacrament of Baptism. Call the Parish Office to make the necessary arrangements. Baptisms are normally celebrated on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month 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 703-280-4400.

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

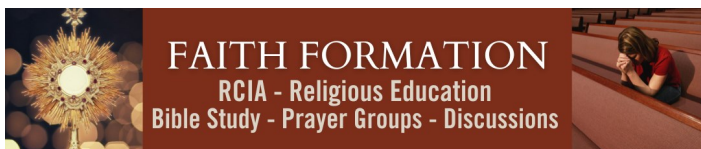
FAITH DIRECT

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	



FAITH FORMATION

RCIA - Religious Education
Bible Study - Prayer Groups - Discussions

See each program's details 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 | Parish Library

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

APOLOGETICS DISCUSSION GROUP

stambroseva.org/BibleStudy

Second 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 | 6 pm | Parish Library

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

Director of Religious Education | 703-280-4400

Stewardship Reflection

"The stone that the builders rejected has become the corner stone..."
Matthew 21:42

Jesus was rejected by the religious and political leaders of his day, as well as ordinary citizens, but he was still obedient to God, the Father. Similarly, living a stewardship lifestyle may cause you to be "rejected" by others, but we, too are called to be obedient. Saying grace before a meal in a restaurant may attract some strange looks from some. But to others it is a sign that God is alive and well!

YOUTH MINISTRY



GOD SQUAD

High School Youth Ministry
stambroseva.org/GodSquad

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

Open to everyone in Grades 9-12
Bring a friend! See you there!

Take Aim at Holiness: Quo Vadis Paintball Challenge

Calling high school boys interested in growing in holiness and virtue! Join Quo Vadis, along with some priests and seminarians, for Mass, talk and an epic Paintball competition on Saturday, October 28, 8:15 am-1:30 pm, Corpus Christi Catholic Church and Pev's Paintball in Aldie, VA. Cost is \$50, includes equipment and lunch (financial aid is available). Limited space! To reserve a spot & get the permission form (due October 13), please email the Vocations Office at vocations@arlingtondiocese.org or visit arlingtondiocese.org/QuoVadis

BE NOT CONFORMED TO THIS WORLD: Having the Mind of Christ in an Age of Error

How should a Catholic man respond to Christ's challenge to have his mind totally transformed? *The 25th Annual Christ the King Men's Day of Recollection*, directed by The Very Reverend Paul D. Scalia, will be held on Saturday, October 28, 9:15 am -1:15 pm at St. Raymond of Peñafort Catholic Church, 8750 Pohick Road, Springfield VA 22153. There's no charge, but you must register at www.waywomen.com/mensretreat before October 22 to attend. Donations gratefully accepted. For more details, contact Robin Maas at rmvlmaas@gmail.com.

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP

STAMBROSEVA.ORG/YOUNGADULTS



- **Young Adults Women's Group** meets weekly on Tuesday nights from 7:30-9 pm. Come for community and time to discuss how God is working in our lives. All single, engaged, or married women ages 21-35 are welcome! For more information, please contact youngadults@stambroseva.org
- **Join us** on Friday, November 3, 6-7 pm for Eucharistic Adoration. A social follows at Glory Days on Nutley Street, Fairfax.

Retreat for Young Adults: Finding Jesus with Frassati November 14-16 | San Damiano Center | White Post, VA

Come climb with us! Join us at the Arlington Diocese's San Damiano Retreat Center for a weekend of spiritual adventure as we ascend "the Heights" with Pier Giorgio Frassati & Jesus Christ. Cost is \$285 and financial assistance may be available. For more details and/or to register, visit arlingtondiocese.org/frassati2023/

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday	October 9: Wkdy; St. Denis, Bishop, & Companions, Martyrs; St. John Leonardi, Priest
7:00 a.m.	Mr. & Mrs. Hoi Huynh
9:00 a.m.	Casper Lewis †
Tuesday	October 10: Weekday
7:00 a.m.	Johnny Laird
9:00 a.m.	Alice Bolognesi †
Wednesday	October 11: Wkdy; St. John XXIII, Pope
7:00 a.m.	Patricia Burke †
9:00 a.m.	Josephine G. Bourgeoise †
Thursday	October 12: Weekday
7:00 a.m.	Jane Palladino
9:00 a.m.	Kelly Elder
Friday	October 13: Weekday
7:00 a.m.	Peggy †
9:00 a.m.	Midge Sharkey & Family
Saturday	October 14: Wkdy; St. Callistus I, Pope & Martyr, BVM
9:00 a.m.	Souls in Purgatory †
5:00 p.m.	Sean DeWolfe †
Sunday	October 15: 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 a.m.	Czestaw & Kazimiera Kosnik †
10:00 a.m.	Dorothy Martin †
12:00 noon	Elias Fondufe †
5:00 p.m.	People of the Parish

First Friday Adoration | November 3

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

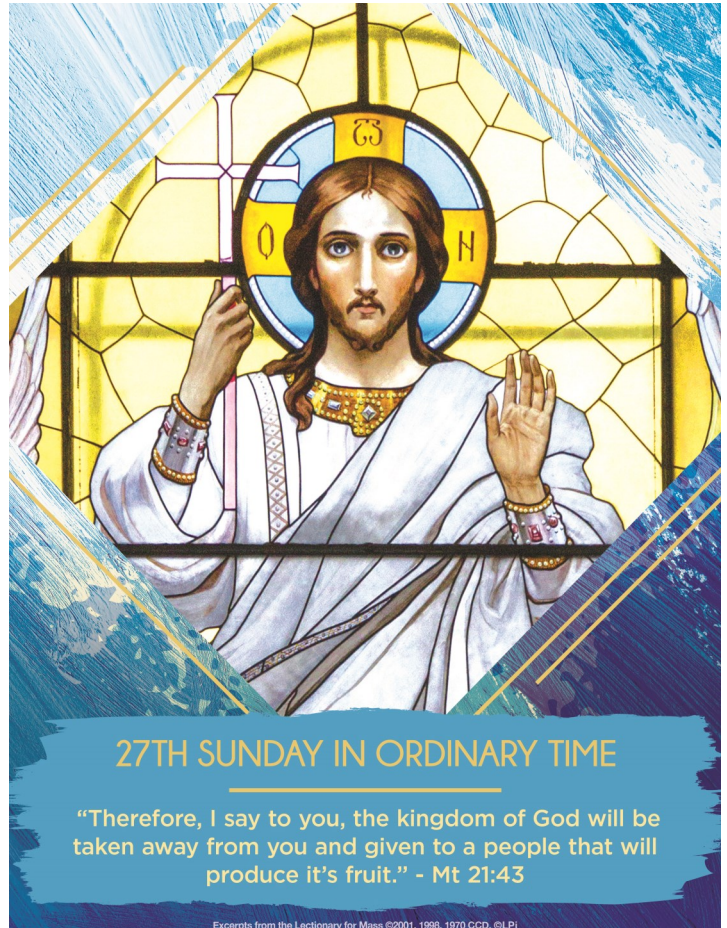
Irene Anderson, Katie Bader, Josephine Crosby, John Crowley, Kathy d'Alelio, Conor Doyle, Bill Foster, Therese Fruet, Marianne Haley, Amy Hobbs, Kathleen Johnson, Robert Koldys, Helen (Dolly) LaViolette, Thomas LaViolette, John Maskeny, Lou Osborn, Liz Post, Marcelina Respuesto, Lisa Rhoads, Lewis Rhodes,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

For Our Diocesan Priests

Oct 9	Rev. Lino Rico Rostro
Oct 10	Rev. John J. Riley
Oct 11	Very Rev. Robert J. Rippy, JV
Oct 12	Rev. Donald J. Rooney
Oct 13	Very Rev. Lee R. Roos, VF
Oct 14	Rev. Robert L. Ruskamp
Oct 15	Very Rev. William P. Saunders



For the repose of the soul of
Therese Hile



"...with glad adoration a song let us raise!"

ADULT CHOIR | YOUTH CHOIR
bit.ly/stambrosevachoir

REHEARSALS | CHOIR ROOM | PARISH HALL
Youth Choir | Mondays | 4:30-5:20 pm
Adult Choir | Thursdays | 7:30-9 pm

Join Bishop Burbidge for the Praise and Worship Holy Hour for Healing and Conversion of Families on Tuesday, October 10, at St. Leo the Great Catholic Church in Fairfax from 7:30-8:30 pm. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available. Bring a friend!

ANNUAL MEMORIAL MASS & RECEPTION

Saturday | November 4 | 9 am



St. Ambrose's annual Memorial Mass & Reception is a special remembrance of those whose funerals were celebrated in the parish during the past year. We invite you to include the names of your loved ones who've died since November 2022 (even if the funerals were celebrated elsewhere). Please contact the Parish Office (703-280-4400) by October 24 to provide the names for the Memorial Mass program and RSVP for the Reception. The Memorial Mass & Reception are hosted by the Bereavement Group and the Women of St. Ambrose.

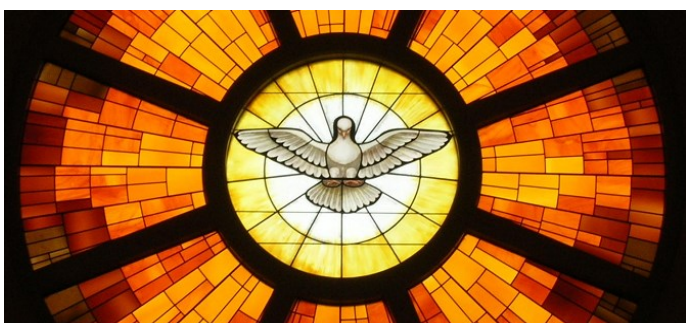
COLUMBUS DAY



The Parish Office & School are closed Monday, October 9.

St. Ambrose Knights Pro-Life Holy Hour & Novena October 17 | 7 - 8 pm | Church

The Ambrose Council is offering a nine-day Pro-Life Novena, starting with a Holy Hour on October 17, 7-8 pm. The Novena continues through October 25. Please join us, wherever you are, in praying each day to end abortion. The Knights' novena is a part of 40 Days for Life, an internationally coordinated campaign that aims to end abortion locally through prayer and fasting, community outreach, and a peaceful all-day vigil in front of abortion businesses. For more information, visit 40daysforlife.com



Congratulations to our Confirmandi!

Welcome back to St. Ambrose, Father Gruber!

Father Jacob Gruber will celebrate Mass at 10 am on Sunday, October 22. Ordained in June for the Diocese of Pittsburgh, Father Gruber served at St. Ambrose while completing his studies at Theological College and the Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. A reception follows in the Parish Hall, hosted by the Women of St. Ambrose. Stop by and congratulate Father Gruber.



Loving Through Loss is a one-day Couple's Workshop for families who have experienced the loss of a child from pregnancy through adulthood. The workshop begins with Mass at 9 am (optional) on Saturday, October 28, and runs from 10 am - 4:30 pm, at St. Thomas à Becket Church, 1421 Wiehle Ave, Reston. Light breakfast and lunch included. Cost is \$80 per couple. Please register at arlingtondiocese.org/redbird.

ST. AMBROSE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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

"Christ is Everything to Us" - St. Ambrose

Saint Ambrose School offers open enrollment and availability throughout the school year for all grades. Please visit the school website or call the school office.



SCHOOL NEWS

Dear St. Ambrose Community, notable items this week:

- Monday, October 9, Columbus Day - no school.
- Tuesday, October 10 - students switch to winter uniforms.
- Wednesday, October 11, 2:30 pm - the school will pray a Living Rosary.

Saint Ambrose Preschool Little Lambs 3 Year Old Class: it's not too late to enroll your preschooler at Saint Ambrose. We currently have a few openings in our 3 year old half-day program. If you would like to see our program and learn more, please contact Marybeth Cuccias mcuccias@stambroseschool.org with any questions or to arrange a tour.

Yours in Christ,

Maria Teresa Tejada, Principal | principal@stambroseschool.org

ST. AMBROSE SCHOOL MISSION

Fostering a faith-filled and academically strong environment, Saint Ambrose Catholic School works with families and the faith community to encourage the formation of the whole child through the examples and teachings of Jesus Christ.

The Catholic Bar Association (CBA), the nation's leading association of Catholic lawyers, is holding its Annual Conference and General Assembly at George Mason University Arlington Campus on Friday, October 27 and Saturday, October 28. Speakers include top legal scholars Judge Justin Walker, Helen Alvaré, Mark Rienzi and Nicole Garnett among others. CLE available! Bishop Michael Burbidge will be the Celebrant and Homilist for the concluding Red Mass at the Basilica of St. Mary in Alexandria on Saturday, October 28 at 5:00 PM with a banquet following at the Westin Alexandria Old Town. Register at catholic-bar.org/CBA2023

Give the Gift of Faith

More and more Catholics are responding to the idea of giving a gift that perpetuates our Catholic faith. Please consider remembering Saint Ambrose Parish in your will. By doing so, you establish a legacy of love for others by enabling the Church to continue the expansion of our Catholic faith through its many ministries. For more information on naming St. Ambrose and the diocese in your will, please call the Diocesan Planned Giving Office at 703-841-3819 or visit arlingtondiocese.planmylegacy.org.



UPCOMING EVENTS - JOIN US!
Details at stambroseva.org/WSA

Presentation - Veronica Royal, Iconographer
Saturday | October 21 | 9:45 am | Parish Hall



All Saints Peg Doll Swap + Potluck
Friday | October 27 | 5:30 - 8:30 pm | Parish Hall

Questions? Contact WSA@stambroseva.org

Ladies: Discover the Gifts You Have Been Given at a GIVEN Gathering on Saturday, November 11, 9 am - 4 pm at Saint Thomas à Becket Catholic Church, 1421 Wiehle Ave, Reston. Hosted by the Diocese of Arlington's Office of Marriage, Family and Respect Life and created by The GIVEN Institute, the event is designed to inspire you to receive the gift you are, to realize the gifts you have been given, and respond with the gift that only you can give. The day includes talks and Mass, Confession and Adoration. Coffee, light pastries and lunch provided. Cost is \$55. Learn more/register at giveninstitute.com/arlington-given-gathering/

Saint Pope John XXIII | Feast Day | October 11

"O Jesus, come back into our society, our family life, our souls and reign there as our peaceful Sovereign."

Catholic Investments for Catholic Families Knights of Columbus Asset Advisors' advisory services



Learn more about our faith-based investments at our upcoming Financial Seminar and Social.

October 24, 2023 7:00 p.m.

St. Ambrose Catholic Church
3901 Woodburn Road, Annandale, VA 22003



**Knights of
Columbus**
Asset Advisors®

RSVP free but required:
abbatekofc.com/events
1-866-868-1492
The Abbate Agency



Remembering the Light of Your Life



Fairfax Memorial Funeral Home is hosting "Remembering the Light of Your Life Pouring Party" on Sunday, October 22, 2-4 pm. To attend this free event, please RSVP by October 13 at fairfaxmemorialfuneralhome.com and click the "Pouring Party" tab on the homepage.

PRO-LIFE CORNER

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

Next Diaper Drive October 7 + 8 at all Masses

St. Ambrose Parish helps The MaRiH Center by providing diapers, formula and wipes to moms & their babies. Collected at all Masses on the first weekend of each month, the most urgently needed items are: all sizes of diapers; formula (especially Similac Advance); wipes, and 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

40 Days for Life

September 27 - November 5 | 7 am-7 pm daily
Help save lives by praying for an end to abortion
Falls Church Healthcare Center, 900 S Washington St, Falls Church.
www.40daysforlife.com/en/fallschurch

Mass in Celebration for Respect Life Month

Please join the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Arlington, on Sunday, October 29 at 11 am at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Alexandria, for the Mass to Celebrate Respect Life Month. All are welcome!

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



31st International WEEK of PRAYER & FASTING

Theme: Miracles of the Eucharist

Friday, October 20 - Saturday, October 28, 2023

in collaboration with the Legion of Mary

iwopf.org



HumbleBee Highlights

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



This week's Gospel reminds us of an important truth about God's justice and how we might hope to be part of His Kingdom. We are called to serve others and bear fruit, that is, to make the Kingdom better by doing His will.

FAMILY DISCUSSION

'Fruit' refers to the evidence that we have responded to God's will and built up His kingdom. This evidence can be that those around us feel loved, that their needs are taken care of, and that they can feel the joy that is in us because of our love of the Lord and our Christian example.

- In what ways do we successfully build up the Kingdom? What are the fruits of this service for the Lord?
- In what ways can we improve in serving others and the Lord?

See The Bee for more faith + fun!