

SAINT AMBROSE CATHOLIC CHURCH

November 5, 2023 | 31st 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
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



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 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

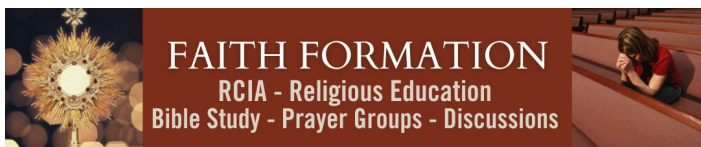
FAITH DIRECT

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

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 | 6 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

Stewardship Reflection

"Whoever exalts himself will be humbled; but whoever humbles himself will be exalted." Matthew 23:12

The world celebrates people in the spotlight and those who have the most of everything. We think celebrity, money and possessions is the key to happiness. Yet, our world is filled with more loneliness, anxiety and depression than ever before. The key to a happy life is relationship. Relationship with God and each other. Trust is the foundation of any good relationship and humility is the seed of trust.

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

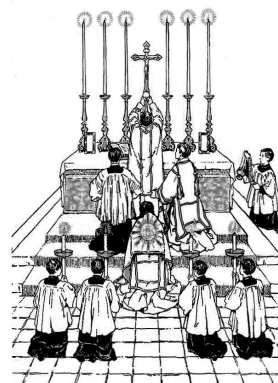
Bring a friend! See you there!

Claire Jackson

Director of Religious Education/Youth Ministry

Altar Server Update

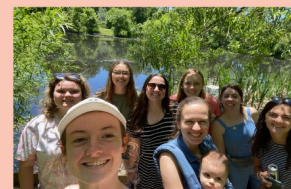
Young men (Third Grade through High School) are invited to serve as altar boys for Sunday Masses at St. Ambrose. Required training sessions for all new servers will be held on November 11 and 18 at 11am in the Church. All current servers are expected to attend one of the two November trainings. Please email Cindy Hollcraft at hollcraft@stambroseschool.org to register. Thank you!



Election 2023 Resources The Virginia Catholic Conference (VCC) is providing election resources - including new Virginia political maps. Visit the VCC 2023 Election Resource Hub at vacatholic.org/Election2023.

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

Diocesan Pilgrimage | National Eucharistic Congress

Indianapolis | July 17-21, 2024 | bit.ly/nec2024



CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF
ARLINGTON

We are inviting you to participate in this pivotal moment in the Church! Join our diocese at the National Eucharistic Congress and draw into a deeper intimacy with our Lord. Scan the QR Code at the right for more information.



[Learn More](#)

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday	November 6: Weekday
7:00 a.m.	Bernice Nicewicz †
9:00 a.m.	Kosnik & Koldys Families †
Tuesday	November 7: Weekday
7:00 a.m.	Emil Franks †
9:00 a.m.	Lorna Elder Atienza
Wednesday	November 8: Weekday
7:00 a.m.	John Messiter
9:00 a.m.	Mary Ann Stasik
Thursday	November 9: The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica
7:00 a.m.	Jane Paladin †
9:00 a.m.	Marcia Ward †
Friday	November 10: St. Leo the Great, Pope & Doctor of the Church
7:00 a.m.	Jan Witter
9:00 a.m.	Isidoro Sayson, Jr. †
Saturday	November 11: St. Martin of Tours, Bishop
9:00 a.m.	Souls in Purgatory †
5:00 p.m.	Josephine G. Bourgeois †
Sunday	November 12: 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 a.m.	People of the Parish
10:00 a.m.	Victoria Fuster †
12:00 noon	Ma & Pa Njovens †
5:00 p.m.	Frank Nicewicz †

First Friday Adoration | December 1

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. Sychala,
Jim Smith, Irene Symm, Nicole A. Tramonte, Lilian Yetman

For Our Diocesan Priests

Nov 6 Rev. Clarence M. Trinkle (Ret.)
Nov 7 Rev. John T. B. Trong (Ret.)
Nov 8 Rev. James A. Tucker
Nov 9 Rev. Christopher T. Vaccaro
Nov 10 Rev. Stephen M. Vaccaro
Nov 11 Rev. Thomas P. Vander Woude
Nov 12 Rev. Joseph D.Q. Vu

† For the Deceased of St. Ambrose †

VETERANS DAY

HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

Friday, November 10

St. Ambrose School & Parish Offices are Closed

SAVE THE DATE

Anticipating Christ with Our Lady & the Saints

Ladies Advent Retreat | Rev. Francis Peffley, Presenter

Saturday | December 2 | 10 am | Parish Hall

Sponsored by the Women of St. Ambrose

WSA
WOMEN OF ST. AMBROSE

SERVANT



"The greatest among you
must be your servant."

MATTHEW 23:11

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

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LISTEN & LEARN

New Mass Parts

STAMBROSEVA.ORG/MUSIC



National Vocation Awareness Week

November 5 - 11, 2023

The annual week-long celebration of the Catholic Church in the United States, National Vocation Awareness Week (NVAW) is dedicated to promoting vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and consecrated life through prayer and education, and to renew our prayers and support for those who are considering one of these vocations.

St. Ambrose Council, Knights of Columbus, will celebrate NVAW on Sunday, November 5, in the Parish Hall with coffee and donuts after the 10 am Mass. This year, **Deacon John Kist** and **Seminarian Sam McPeak** from the Theological College in D.C. are teaching religious education classes to our students on Sunday mornings. Stop by for coffee and donuts to meet them and hear about their discernment stories. Join us for a fun morning and thank them for following God's call!

National Vocations Awareness Week

Pray for those who are discerning a call to proclaim the hope of the Resurrection as religious brothers, sisters, priests or deacons.

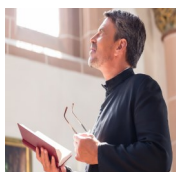
If you feel God is offering you the grace of a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life, contact Fr. Michael Isenberg, Vocations Director 703-841-2514 or vocations@arlingtondiocese.org.

SEMINARIAN EDUCATION ENDOWMENT FUND (SEEF)

Please support our seminarians and SEEF, a permanent endowment fund established in 2011.

SEEF's income provides funding for annual seminarian expenses such as room, board, tuition, health insurance and books, which total almost \$45,000 per seminarian.

Please give generously! To donate, make checks payable to: "Foundation for the CDA - SEEF." Mail to: The Foundation, 200 N. Glebe Road, Suite 811, Arlington, VA 22203. Questions? Contact John French at john.french@arlingtondiocese.org or 703-841-3819.



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, some highlights for this week include:

- Student Photo Day, Monday, November 6
- Parent/Teacher Conferences, November 9 & 10
- The School is closed Friday, November 10 for Veterans Day

St. Ambrose Preschool currently has some openings in our 3 year old half-day program. To 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

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

THREE KINGS GIFT SHOP NEWS

Be a star - support the Three Kings Gift Shop!

The St. Ambrose School PTO elves are preparing for your Three Kings Gift Shop donations! See what we need for this annual event at bit.ly/3KingsShop. And - you won't have to traverse afar! **Bring your donations to the School or Parish Hall Lobby November 20 - December 1.** Thank you!



For Parishioners! We'll be still proceeding on Wednesday, Dec. 6, 8:30am - Noon, Parish Hall, with the Three Kings Clearance Sale!

ST. LUCY PROJECT FALL FOOD DRIVE

St. Ambrose Council, Knights of Columbus, hosts the annual Fall parish-wide food drive to support the St. Lucy Project, the Diocese's food assistance program. It provides food resources to local pantries that distribute the food directly to those in need. Please donate non-perishable food items. *No glass items, please.*

- November 4 + 5: Bag distribution at weekend Masses
- November 11 + 12: Bag collection





**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

DONUT SUNDAY

November 5 | After 8 & 10 am Masses
Hosted by the Knights of Columbus

Knights of Columbus Events December 2023

Parish Spaghetti Dinner

Saturday | December 2 | 6 pm | School Gym

Celebrate the Feast of St. Ambrose, our Parish Patron! All-U-Can-Eat spaghetti, famous sauce (meat or veg), salad, garlic bread, beverages & dessert. Complimentary wine & beer for adults (ID required).

Tickets

- Pre-Sale: Child: \$10, Adult: \$18, Family: \$45
- Day of: Child: \$12, Adult: \$20, Family: \$50
- Pre-Sale Online at ambrosecouncil.org/dinner or after weekend Masses on November 18 & 19 and 25 & 26.



Christmas Card Sales After Weekend Masses

December 2 & 3 | December 9 & 10

Spread good news of great joy by sending religious cards – cards that express the meaning of the Season! The Knights offer a variety of affordable Christmas cards, with all proceeds donated to Christ House, Alexandria. Keep Christ in Christmas!

Pancake Breakfast with Santa

Sunday | December 10 | After 8 & 10 am Masses
School Gym

All-U-Can-Eat pancakes, eggs, sausage, fruit & beverages!

Tickets

- Pre-Sale: Child: \$6, Adult: \$8, Family: \$25
- Day of: Child: \$8, Adult: \$10, Family: \$30
- Pre-Sale Online at ambrosecouncil.org/pancake_breakfast or after weekend Masses on November 18 & 29, 25 & 26 and December 2 & 3.



Men's Advent Retreat

Saturday | December 16 | 9 am | Church & Parish Hall

Prepare the way of the Lord with prayer, reflection and fellowship. All men are welcome.

Help transform the lives of the poor and vulnerable by donating your used car, truck, motorcycle, RV, or boat to Catholic Charities. Your donation is tax deductible while supporting a cause that is near and dear to your heart. We'll arrange for the pickup of your vehicle donation at no cost to you. Please call 877-570-GIVE (4483) or visit ccda.careasy.org/home to complete the online form.

PRO-LIFE CORNER

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

Diaper Drive This Weekend 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: diapers (all sizes); wipes; formula (especially Similac Advance); 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

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

Saint Ambrose School Winter Wear Drive

October 23 - November 20 | Drop Box in School Lobby

Getting ready for the holidays? Consider purging those closets of coats and other winter wear for our annual **WINTER WEAR DRIVE** for those in need. Please donate items **WASHED or DRY CLEANED** and in **GOOD CONDITION** that you would be happy to receive if your family was in need. Items are given to our Catholic Charities' Mobile Response Team and some adult coats/men's ties are donated to the INOVA Mental Health Institute. We appreciate those who have donated professionally cleaned and brand new items in the past. We hope to have a banner year in donations for our less fortunate neighbors. God bless your charity and kindness!



HumbleBee Highlights

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



In this week's Gospel, Jesus teaches that those who would be great must be servants.

FAMILY DISCUSSION

- Do you know what the term "practice what you preach" means? If you don't, have an adult explain it to you.
- Why is it important to "practice what you preach"? What do you admire about people who do this? How could your family better practice the faith that you profess? What is one action you can take that will show your faith in action? (Reference: www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources)
- Suggestion: Say a Prayer for Vocations

See The Bee for more faith + fun!