

SAINT AMBROSE CATHOLIC CHURCH

December 28, 2025 | Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph



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

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

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday | 8 am, 10 am, Noon, 5 pm

Monday - Friday | 7 am, 9 am

Saturday | 9 am, 5 pm (Vigil)

Holy Days | As announced

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Saturday | 9:30 am, 3 - 4 pm

MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA

Saturday | After 9 am Mass

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

First Friday | 9:30 am - 7 pm (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

Reverend Andrew J. Fisher, Pastor
rfisher@stambroseva.org

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

Reverend 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

Ratna Adinata, Bookkeeper
703-280-4400 | radinata@stambroseva.org

Dr. Aranzazu Ascunce, School Principal
703-698-7171 | principal@stambroseschool.org

Jennifer Wyse, Director of Religious Education
571-640-9938 | DRE@stambroseva.org

Lissie Torres, Youth Minister
703-280-4400 | YM@stambroseva.org

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

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

BULLETIN DEADLINE

The parish bulletin deadline is 14 days prior to the desired Sunday publication date. Please email your announcement request to Donna Vasilakos, dvasilakos@stambroseva.org

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

Parish Registration: 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. Registration forms are available in the Parish Office and at stambroseva.org/registration



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.

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA): The process through which a person is 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 the Director of Religious Education, 571-640-9938.

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



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.

ONLINE GIVING: PARISHSOFT

Faith Direct, our online giving platform, is now called ParishSoft. **The new login is at bit.ly/sacc25** Your Faith Direct email and password remain the same for ParishSoft login.



FAITH FORMATION

OCIA | Religious Education | Youth Ministry | Bible Studies | Discussions

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (OCIA)

stambroseva.org/OCIA

September - May | Mondays | 7 - 8 pm | Parish Hall
Jennifer Wyse, Director of Religious Education
DRE@stambroseva.org | 571-640-9938

OCIA is the Church's process for people over the age of seven who want to become Catholic and are not baptized or baptized in another Christian tradition and Baptized Catholics who have not received First Communion and/or Confirmation.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

stambroseva.org/RE

September - May | Grades K-8 | Sundays | 8:45 - 9:45 am | School
Jennifer Wyse, Director of Religious Education
DRE@stambroseva.org | 571-640-9938

Instruction for public/non-Catholic school students. Classes include 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 101

stambroseva.org/BibleStudy

Third Tuesdays | 7 pm | Parish Hall
January - August 2026
Lee Cena, Facilitator

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

stambroseva.org/BibleStudy

Wednesdays | 9:30 am, Snack 10 am - Noon, Study | Parish Hall
January - April 2026 | Foundations of Faith
Ron & Mary DeSantis, Ann Rossi, Facilitators

.FRIDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

bit.ly/FridayAMBibleStudy

Fridays | 9:30 - 11 am | Parish Library
Carol Russell, Coordinator

All are welcome to drop in and discuss the upcoming Sunday's gospel.

ST. AMBROSE MEN'S GROUP

bit.ly/stambrosemensgroup

Second & Fourth Saturdays | 7 - 8:30 am | Parish Hall
Father Nugent, Facilitator | fnugent@stambroseva.org
All men, 21 and older, are invited to join for prayer, coffee, conversation and faith formation.

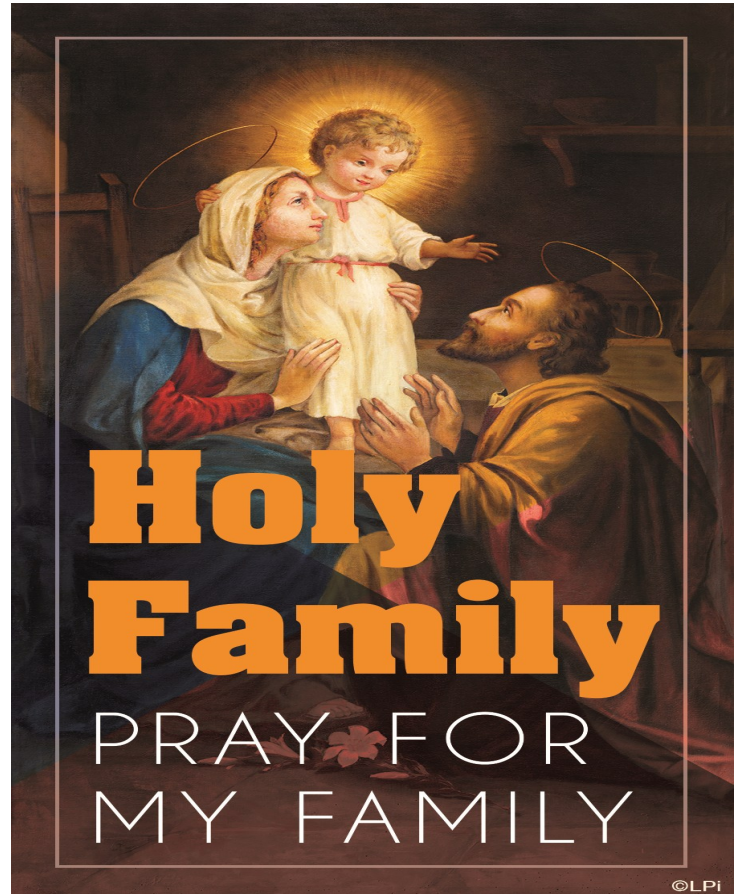
WALKING WITH PURPOSE: WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

stambroseva.org/WWP

Wednesdays | 7 pm | Parish Hall | January 28 - March 11
Julia Waterman, Coordinator | email: wwp@stambrosethool.org
Open to all women of the parish. Please RSVP/register/order the study materials at stambroseva.org/WWP

ST. AMBROSE YOUTH MINISTRY

Lissie Torres, Youth Minister
703-280-4400 | YM@sstambroseva.org



Parish Office Hours

December 29, 2025 - January 2, 2026

Monday	December 29	9 am - Noon
Tuesday	December 30	9 am - Noon
Wednesday	December 31	9 am - Noon
Thursday	January 1	CLOSED
Friday	January 2	9 am - Noon

HAVE A BLESSED
new year

©LPI

"Rise, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel."
Matthew 2:20

Joseph's obedience to God protected the Holy Family. Pray and reflect on the kind of obedience God may be asking of you. If you sense it may be as a priest or religious, contact the Vocation Office at 703-841-2514 or email: vocations@arlingtondiocese.org.

FORMED[®]
DISCOVER THE FAITH
ANYWHERE, ANYTIME.
bit.ly/formedfaith

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday

December 29: 5th Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord; St. Thomas Becket, Bishop & Martyr

7:00 a.m. Shirley Harris †

9:00 a.m. Members of the Tchong Family Living & Deceased L/ †

Tuesday

December 30: 6th Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

7:00 a.m. Franklin Clark †

9:00 a.m. Bernice Marian Elder †

Wednesday

December 31: 7th Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord; St. Sylvester I, Pope

7:00 a.m. Julie Nelson

9:00 a.m. Rev. Michael Craig Kelly †

7:30 p.m. Edward Donohue †

11:00 p.m. Holy Hour followed by Midnight Mass

Thursday

January 1: The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord, Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

12:00 a.m. People of the Parish

10:00 a.m. Susan B.

12:00 Noon Vasilakos/Chiappetta Families Living & Deceased L/ †

Friday

January 2: Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops & Doctors of the Church

7:00 a.m. Jeanne Donlon †

9:00 a.m. James Carroll

Saturday

January 3: Christmas Wkdy; The Most Holy Name of Jesus

9:00 a.m. Eleanor Redican

5:00 p.m. Philip Chiappetta †

Sunday

January 4: The Epiphany of the Lord

8:00 a.m. People of the Parish

10:00 a.m. William Carroll

12:00 noon Larry Payne †

5:00 p.m. Nicogossian Family

No January First Friday Eucharistic Adoration

February 6 | 9:30 am - 7 pm (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, Ken Dinger, Conor Doyle, Marianne Haley, Amy Hobbs, Larry Holmes, George Hughes, Kathleen Johnson, Lauren Elizabeth Kasydar, Robert Koldys, Helen (Dolly) LaViolette, Thomas LaViolette, John Maskeny, Lois LeFebvre, Meghan Lewis Logeais, Lou Osborn, Liz Post, Joyce Pueblo, Amor Regala, Marcelina Respuerto, Diane Rispoli, Lisa Rhoads, Lewis Rhodes, Jean Reed Saylor, Fr. Spsychala, Jim Smith, Irene Symm, Nicole A. Tramonte, Donella Wright, Lilian Yetman

For Our Diocesan Priests

Dec 29 Rev. Marcus A. Pollard

Dec 30 Rev. Carlos Mauricio

Dec 31 Very Rev. Patrick L. Posey, VF

Jan 1 Rev. Juan A. Puigbo

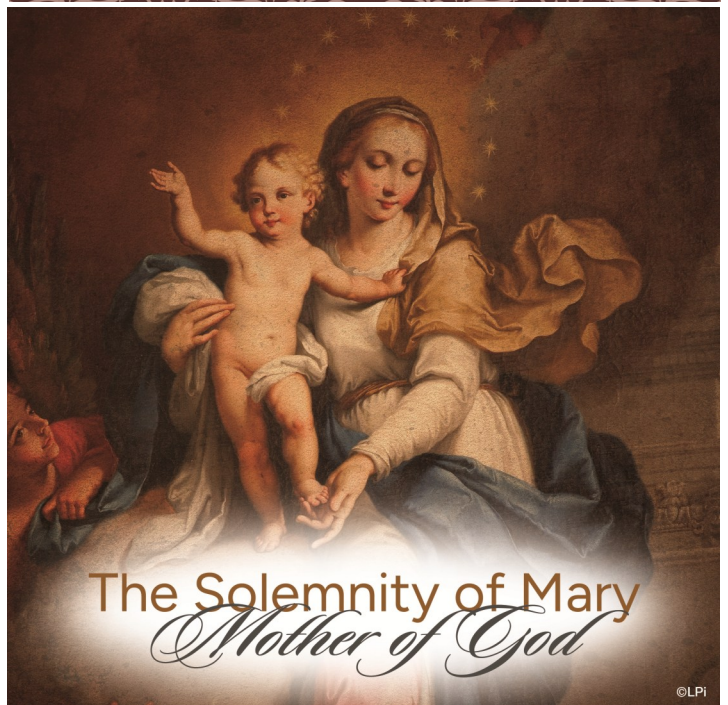
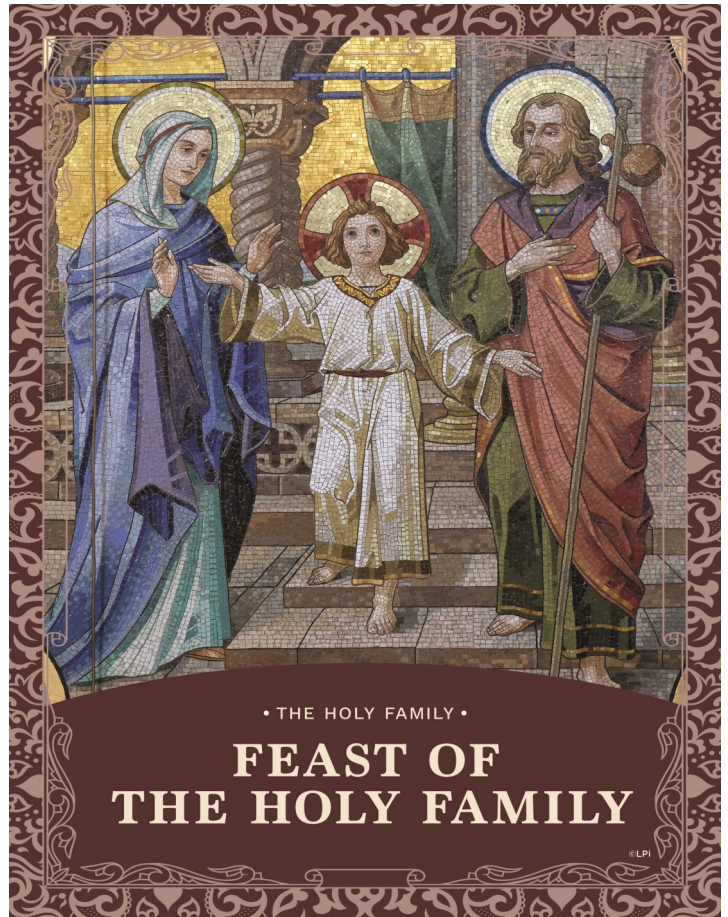
Jan 2 Rev. Luis Quinones

Jan 3 Rev. Joseph M. Rampino

Jan 4 Rev. Robert C. Renner



For the Deceased of St. Ambrose



WEDNESDAY | DECEMBER 31 | NEW YEAR'S EVE

7:30 pm | Vigil Mass

11 pm | Holy Hour followed by Midnight Mass

THURSDAY | JANUARY 1, 2026
SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

Holy Day of Obligation Masses

Midnight Mass (12 am), 10 am & Noon

RETREAT REST REDISCOVER

2026 DIOCESAN RETREATS

Visit our website at www.arlingtondiocese.org/retreat for more information about San Damiano and the retreats being offered in the months ahead.

Women's Silent Retreat: Finding Jesus with St. Therese of Lisieux

St. Therese is a magnificent manifestation of "the Feminine Genius" and a "Wise Woman" in the fullest sense of the words. Pope St. Pius X called her "the Greatest Saint of Modern Times" before Pope St. John Paul the Great declared her a Universal Doctor of the Church. Join Fr. John Riley at the Arlington Diocese's San Damiano Retreat Center in White Post, Virginia to read, pray, and rest with Jesus as we consider her great autobiography, *Story of a Soul*. This retreat begins at 6 pm Friday January 23 and concludes Sunday January 25 at noon. Retreat cost is \$299, and financial assistance may be available. For further information, please contact Father John Riley at: retreat@sacredheartwinchester.org or visit our website at www.arlingtondiocese.org/retreat

Praying with the Saints: Retreat for Married Couples

Retreat to our Arlington Diocese's San Damiano Retreat Center in White Post, Virginia. Join Father Stephen Vaccaro and Father Ed Guilloux as they team up to lead a retreat for Married Couples. With conferences on the lives and teachings of great saints, they'll help couples to incorporate a deeper spiritual life into their vocations. This retreat begins at 6 pm Friday February 13 and concludes Sunday February 15 at noon. Retreat cost is \$499, and financial assistance may be available. For further information, please contact Deacon Mark Maines at: mark.maines@arlingtondiocese.org.

Women's Retreat: Mystery of Christ's Death and Resurrection

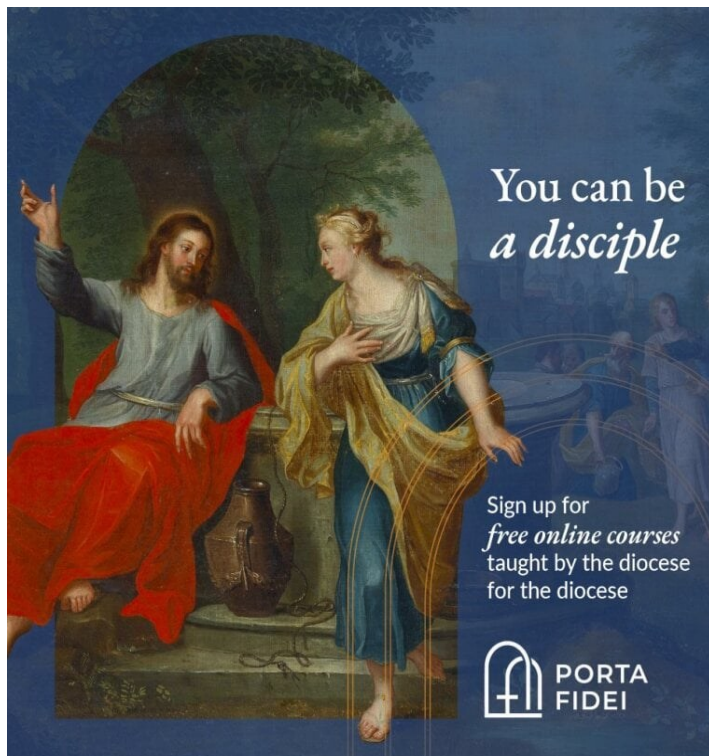
Gather at the midpoint of Lent and retreat to our Arlington Diocese's San Damiano Retreat Center in White Post, Virginia. Join Msgr Mangan from Mt. St. Mary Seminary as we renew our sorrow for our sins, and we express our gratitude to God for the new life that comes to us through the Mystery of Christ's Death and Resurrection. We will listen to His Holy Word, and we will participate in His grace-filled Sacraments. This retreat begins at 6 pm Friday March 13 and concludes Sunday March 15 at noon. Retreat cost is \$299, and financial assistance may be available. Please contact Deacon Mark Maines at: mark.maines@arlingtondiocese.org.



WELCOME SUNDAY!
Coffee & Donuts
After 8 + 10 am Masses
Parish Hall

Your Hosts

January 4 | St. Ambrose Pro-Life Groups
January 11 | Youth Ministry
February 1 | St. Ambrose School PTO - Gala
February 8 | Walking with Purpose
March 1 | Garden & Grounds Club
March 8 | St. Ambrose Men's Group
May 3 | Women of St. Ambrose
May 17 | Young Adults / Women's Group
& Young Professionals Holy Hour



You can be
a disciple

Sign up for
free online courses
taught by the diocese
for the diocese



PORTA FIDEI | DOOR OF FAITH

Sacred Scripture tells us that Jesus Christ has "opened the door of faith" to all. Inspired by this assurance we invite you to a new threshold: Porta Fidei, a new companion to help you grow in faith by God's grace through digitally accessible, intellectually engaging, and spiritually fortifying courses. Porta Fidei is brought to you by the Catholic Diocese of Arlington and produced by its Office of Communications. This initiative is a fruit of our Diocesan Strategic Plan, which emphasizes encouragement and growth in authentic discipleship among the faithful. Porta Fidei courses are anywhere from 45 to 90 minutes in length, segmented into easy to digest lessons. Membership is free. Visit <https://www.portafidei.com/about/>



We ask your intercession, Mary, Mother of God, on the year ahead. Hold each of us as you once held your Son, Jesus. As you taught him, teach us, too, to trust in the Almighty deeply, with a faith that surpasses understanding. Carry us to him, every day. Amen.



**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



WOMEN OF ST. AMBROSE
Second Fridays | 9:30 am | Parish Hall
stambroseva.org/WSA
WSA@stambroseva.org

apologetics 101 discussion group

third tuesdays | 7 pm | parish hall
stambroseva.org/BibleStudy

KNITTING GROUP

Fourth Tuesday of the Month
After 9 am Mass | Parish Library
bit.ly/knittinggroup



USHERS NEEDED
EMAIL USHERS@STAMBROSEVA.ORG

PRO-LIFE CORNER

Saint Ambrose for Life
stambroseva.org/pro-life

Diaper Drive Weekend: January 3 & 4

St. Ambrose Parish supports & provides The MaRiH Center with basic supplies for moms & their babies. Collected at all Masses on the first week-end of each month, **critical needs are diapers (newborn - 6), fall/winter clothes/coats (newborn - 2T), Similac Advance formula, wipes, bibs.** To donate other items, please see stambroseva.org/pro-life or contact The MaRiH Center, 703-370-4774, marih.org.

Rosary for Life | Wednesdays | Noon - 1 pm

Join us for the fifth annual **Virginia Pro-Life Day** on January 15, 2026 in Richmond! Meet with your legislators to advocate for life and against the extreme, radical and deadly proposal to enshrine a virtually unlimited "fundamental right" to abortion in Virginia's constitution. Be a voice for the voiceless! With majorities in both the State Senate and House of Delegates poised to advance extreme abortion measures quickly, it is more important than ever to show up in record numbers and stand up for life. Virginia Pro-Life Day will be your last chance to stop the extreme abortion amendment from going to a referendum. Register at: vaprolifeday.org Virginia Pro-Life Day is a collaborative effort of the Virginia Catholic Conference, Dioceses of Arlington and Richmond, and Virginia Society for Human Life.

GIVING TREE

November 29, 2025 - January 4, 2025 | Church Narthex

Give a Gift for Life this season to help the Gabriel Project fund a mother's maternity care. Please take a donor gift card and envelope from the Giving Tree. Mail the card along with your donation or take them to the Parish Office during office hours. May God bless you for your generosity to those helped by the Gabriel Project and Project Rachel. Visit arlingtondiocese.org/giftforlife for more information or to donate online.



2026 Catholic Charities Ball

Bishop Michael F. Burbidge and Catholic Charities invite you to join us on Friday, February 6, 2026, at 6 pm at The Ritz-Carlton in Tysons Corner, McLean, for the 2026 Catholic Charities Ball. This elegant evening is an opportunity to come together to celebrate the great works of Catholic Charities and raise the funds necessary to continue to support the ministries. Purchase a table, a seat, or make a donation to help us reach our goal of \$1.7 million by visiting ccda.net/ball.



Widows Fellowship

Saint Paula Society

THIRD THURSDAYS | 7 - 9 PM | bit.ly/saintpaula

The parish you love. Now on Instagram.



**Follow us to
learn about
great events
coming in 2026!**



@ST_AMBROSE_CATHOLIC_CHURCH