

SAINT AMBROSE CATHOLIC CHURCH

August 17, 2025 | Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time



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

Shelley Locke, Director of Youth Ministry & Religious Education
571-640-9938 | slocke@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 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 Shelley Locke, Director of Religious Education/Youth Ministry, 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.

FAITH DIRECT

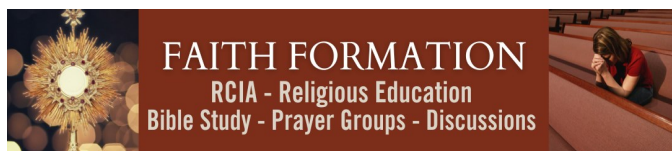
Plan your recurring Offertory donations through Faith Direct. Visit bit.ly/StAmbroseFaithDirect or scan the QR code.



PARISH MINISTRIES

Visit stambroseva.org for details and contacts

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



ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (OCIA) stambroseva.org/RCIA

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

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 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

June - December 2025 | A Walk Through the Creed
Lee Cena, Facilitator

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

stambroseva.org/BibleStudy

Wednesdays | 10 am - Noon | Parish Hall

September - April | Foundations of Faith
Ron & Mary DeSantis, Ann Rossi, Facilitators

MEN'S EVENING BIBLE STUDY

bit.ly/MensPMBibleStudy

Third Thursdays | 7:30 pm | Parish Library

Jonathan Wertz, Facilitator

Come join fellow men as we learn about the Bible and discuss living our Catholic faith. Fellowship, 7:30 pm; Bible Study, 8 pm.

.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 | frnugent@stambroseschool.org

All men, 21 and older, are invited to join for prayer, coffee, conversation and faith formation.

TAKE TIME FOR GOD SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

stambroseva.org/WSA

Will resume in August | Sundays | 3 pm | Parish Library

Cat Chunn, Coordinator

Open to all women of the parish. Celebrate God's goodness through praise & thanksgiving, share holy moments, reflect on God's Words & pray for each other's prayer intentions. Sponsored by WSA.

Shelley Locke

Director of Youth Ministry & Religious Education

571-640-9938 | slocke@stambroseva.org

YOUTH MINISTRY

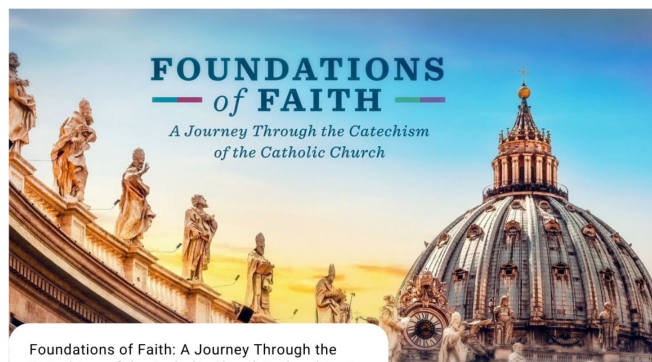


St. Ambrose Religious Ed is seeking Catechists for the 2025-26 school year. Interested? Please contact Shelley Locke, Director of Religious Education, slocke@stambroseva.org

Adult Bible Study

SEPTEMBER 17, 2025 - APRIL 29, 2026

WEDNESDAYS | 9:30 AM - SNACK | 10 - 11:30 AM - STUDY



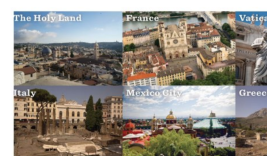
Foundations of Faith: A Journey Through the Catechism of the Catholic Church is the ultimate way for you to encounter the wisdom of the Catechism and deepen your understanding of the Catholic Faith.

This dynamic, video-based program is filmed across 40 locations in 11 countries on 4 continents—taking you to the places where our faith was explained and clarified by Church councils, the Church doctors, and the saints.

Led by renowned educators such as Dr. Edward Sri, Jeff Cavins, Dr. Marcellino D'Ambrosio, Fr. Mike Schmitz, and others, this comprehensive study walks you through the Catechism from beginning to end, unpacking its rich insights and showing you how to apply them to your daily life. Over 20 powerful sessions, you'll explore the core beliefs of the Catholic Faith, discover the historic ecumenical councils, unfold the biblical context of the Catechism, and deepen your understanding of God's plan for your life.

For more information, contact

- Mary DeSantis
 - Mary.t.desantis@verizon.net
- Order program study materials at
- stambroseva.org/BibleStudy



MASS INTENTIONS

Monday	August 18: Weekday
7:00 a.m.	Frederick Koester †
9:00 a.m.	Pomilla Family
Tuesday	August 19: Wkdy; St. John Eudes, Priest
7:00 a.m.	Frederick Koester †
9:00 a.m.	Margaret Dominguez †
Wednesday	August 20: St. Bernard, Abbot & Doctor of the Church
7:00 a.m.	Frederick Koester †
9:00 a.m.	Anonymous Donor
Thursday	August 21: St. Pius X, Pope
7:00 a.m.	Minh Thai, Tiffany Ngo, & Michelle Nguyen
9:00 a.m.	Julie Nicewicz †
Friday	August 22: The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
7:00 a.m.	Theodore Jackson †
9:00 a.m.	Margaret Dominguez †
Saturday	August 23: St. Rose of Lima, Virgin; BVM
9:00 a.m.	Robert & Kirsten
5:00 p.m.	Michael & Helen Gemmell †
Sunday	August 24: 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 a.m.	Grace Hecton
10:00 a.m.	The Nkurunziza Family
12:00 noon	People of the Parish
5:00 p.m.	Marjorie Derrick †

Eucharistic Adoration ~ Friday, September 5, 2025

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, Kathy Burns, Josephine Crosby, John Crowley, Kathy d'Alelio, 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, 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

Aug 18 Rev. Timothy A. Courtney
 Aug 19 Rev. Phillip M. Cozzi
 Aug 20 Rev. Msgr. John C. Cregan
 Aug 21 Rev. Keith D. Cummings
 Aug 22 Rev. Kevin J. Dansereau
 Aug 23 Rev. John C. DeCelles
 Aug 24 Rev. Francis DeRosa

† For the Deceased of St. Ambrose †



20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"There is a baptism with which I must be baptized, and how great is my anguish until it is accomplished! Do you think that I have come to establish peace on the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. From now on a household of five will be divided, three against two and two against three." - Lk 12:50-52

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

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**50th Anniversary Celebration
 of the Canonization of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton
 Sunday, September 14, 2025**

The Seton Shrine, 339 South Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg, MD

You're invited to a Day of Joy to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Canonization of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton! Please join us as we prayerfully reflect on Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton's extraordinary legacy and celebrate this momentous milestone.

11 am - Anniversary Mass

The Most Reverend William E. Lori, Archbishop of Baltimore

12:30 - 5 pm - Festival on the Grounds

Live Music & Performances, Interactive Presentation, Booths featuring 20+ American Saints on their way to canonization, Local Food Trucks, Closing Performance with Damascus Worship

For details and updates, please visit the anniversary website setonshrine.org/fifty

CALLED 2025: A Conference for Young Adults
Saturday, September 20, 2025 | 1:45 - 9:30 pm
Hyatt Regency Reston

Bishop Burbidge invites all young adults (ages 19-35, single and married) to join him at the third annual CALLED: A Conference for Young Adults! We are moving to a new, larger location! Join hundreds of young adults at the Hyatt Regency Reston in Reston, VA on Saturday, September 20, 2025 for Mass with Bishop Burbidge and keynotes in English and in Spanish. The day will also include breakout sessions, dinner, prayer, live music, time to socialize, and so much more! Complimentary childcare is available throughout the entire event.



Encounter Jesus, connect to other young adults and to your local Young Adult Ministries and be encouraged in how the Lord has CALLED YOU to holiness. Register now to make sure you secure a spot. Invite your friends to join! <https://bit.ly/CalledConference>



For the last two years, CALLED has sold out two weeks in advance so secure your spot today and don't miss this incredible event.

2025 Mental Health Day of Prayer | "I Am With You Always"
Saturday, August 23 | 9:15 am - 2:15 pm

You are invited to attend the 2025 Mental Health Day of Prayer, with the theme "I Am With You Always: Healing From Trauma and Loneliness" at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church, 8601 Wolftrap Road Vienna, VA. The day features small group discussions, a keynote luncheon with Dr. Maura McFadden, and Holy Mass celebrated by our shepherd, Most Rev. Michael F. Burbidge, at 11 am. *This event is free, but please register here: bit.ly/MentalHealthDayofPrayer.* We look forward to seeing you there.



Diocesan Week of Service:
Love in Action – Service in Community
November 9 - 16, 2025

The Diocese of Arlington invites you to take part in a powerful witness of our faith from November 9 through 16 for the first Diocesan Week of Service, a time dedicated to putting Love in Action through Service in Community. Rooted in the Gospel and inspired by the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy, our parishes and ministries are joining together to bring Christ to our neighbors by serving individuals and families who are most in need - spiritually, emotionally, and physically. From feeding the hungry and visiting the sick, to comforting the sorrowful and praying for the living and the dead, this week calls each of us to live our faith in concrete and compassionate ways. Want to get involved? Visit: <https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/serviceweek>

Join us in being the hands and heart of Christ to others. Let's serve with purpose, pray with hope, and grow together in the love of God.

30TH
ANNIVERSARY
& HOMECOMING

SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, November 29
3 - 8 pm

Join us to celebrate and give thanks for 30 years of Saint Ambrose School!



EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

3 v. 3 Basketball

Vigil Mass

Kids Movie Night

Cocktail Party (21 yrs +)

MORE INFORMATION

703-698-7171

stambroseschool.org

BACK TO
SCHOOL
Blessings!



Stewardship Reflection

"Do you think I have come to give you peace on Earth?
 No, I tell you, but rather division." LUKE 12:51

Many of us like to play it safe, not cause waves with our family and friends, especially when it comes to politics and religion. We don't want to cause any turmoil. However, many times this is at the expense of the truth. The truth being Jesus Christ. Too many people are misguided because they rely on their own limited human ability to reason and are not allowing faith in God to guide them. Form your conscience; take a stance for life, marriage, and religious liberty.

"Her Call Is Sacred" | Mighty Is Her Call Retreat

Mothers in our Diocese are invited to a day retreat with Mighty Is Her Call, "Her Call Is Sacred", at St. Mary of Sorrows in Fairfax on September 27th. A Mighty Is Her Call retreat is designed to provide a day of rest, encouragement and fortification in your life as a mother. Be reminded of the Christ-like nature of your called. The day includes: - Three inspiring talks, including one by Kimberly Cook, author of *Motherhood Redeemed*. Mass, Adoration, Confession, Food and Fellowship. Register today at mightyishercall.com!



**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

Back to School Rosary with the Knights of Columbus Sunday, August 17 | After 5 pm Mass

Join us to pray for all students in the area returning to school.
. No sign up necessary.

WSA

WOMEN OF ST. AMBROSE

Second Fridays | 9:30 am | Parish Hall
stambroseva.org/WSA
WSA@stambroseva.org

Garden + Grounds Club

[BIT.LY/STAMBROSEGGC](https://bit.ly/stambroseggc)

2ND SATURDAY EACH MONTH
9:45 AM SCHOOL GYM ENTRANCE



The Paul Stefan Foundation
INVITES YOU TO OUR

18TH ANNUAL GALA

"TRULY, I SAY TO YOU,
AS YOU DID IT TO ONE
OF THE LEAST OF MY
PEOPLE, YOU DID IT TO
ME."

OCTOBER 4, 2025

5:30 PM COCKTAIL HOUR & HORS D'OEUVRES
7:00 PM DINNER, SILENT AUCTION, DANCING

\$75 PER PERSON
BUSINESS CASUAL ATTIRE

TO PURCHASE TICKETS, SPONSOR A TABLE OR THE EVENT
PLEASE VISIT [PAULSTEFANHOME.ORG](https://paulstefanhome.org)

540-854-2300 QUESTIONS OR DETAILS

FREDERICKSBURG EXPO CENTER
2371 CARL D. SILVER PARKWAY
FREDERICKSBURG, VA

PRO-LIFE CORNER

Saint Ambrose for Life
stambroseva.org/pro-life

Diaper Drive Weekend: September 6 & 7

St. Ambrose Parish supports & provides The MaRiH Center with basic supplies for moms & their babies. Collected at all Masses on the first weekend of each month, **critical needs are diapers (newborn - 6), spring/summer clothing (newborn - 6), 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

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

Virginia Catholic Conference (VCC) Action Alerts | vacatholic.org

After Abortion Retreats: A Day of Prayer & Healing for women who have experienced abortion will be held on Saturday, September 27, 2025. 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: email info@helpafterabortion.org or call 703-841-2504.

Project Rachel After Abortion Care is hosting a series of Drop-In Virtual Zoom Meetings: We understand that healing after abortion can be a complex and deeply personal journey. If you have experienced abortion and are seeking confidential support and insight into the healing process, we invite you to join our virtual drop-in sessions in a safe space with no commitments, no homework, and no pressure... Upcoming dates @ 5 pm: August 14, September 11. Interested? Contact us today: 703-841-2504 or info@helpafterabortion.org

USHERS NEEDED

[email ushers@stambroseva.org](mailto:ushers@stambroseva.org)

10th Annual Mass Honoring Military and First Responders

Fr. Francis J. Diamond Council #6292 and Fr. Walter F. Malloy Assembly #1894 will host the 10th Annual Mass Honoring Military and First Responders at 11 am on Sunday, September 14, 2025, at St. Leo the Great Catholic Church, 3700 Blenheim Blvd, Fairfax, VA. Most Reverend Michael Burbidge will be the Main Celebrant and Homilist. All members of the military, law enforcement, and fire & rescue are cordially invited to attend this Mass in dress uniform with their families. A luncheon will follow in the school gym. For more information, please contact David Todd, Jr. at djtoddjr@gmail.com.