

SAINT AMBROSE CATHOLIC CHURCH

September 7, 2025 | Twenty-third 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

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

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 | fnugent@stambroseschool.org

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

MOM'S NIGHT OUT

stambroseva.org/WSA

Fourth Wednesdays | 6:30 pm | Parish Library

Cat Chunn, Coordinator

Open to all women of the parish. Join us for a pot luck supper and religious book study. Sponsored by the Women of St. Ambrose.

CONTACT

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



REGISTER NOW!

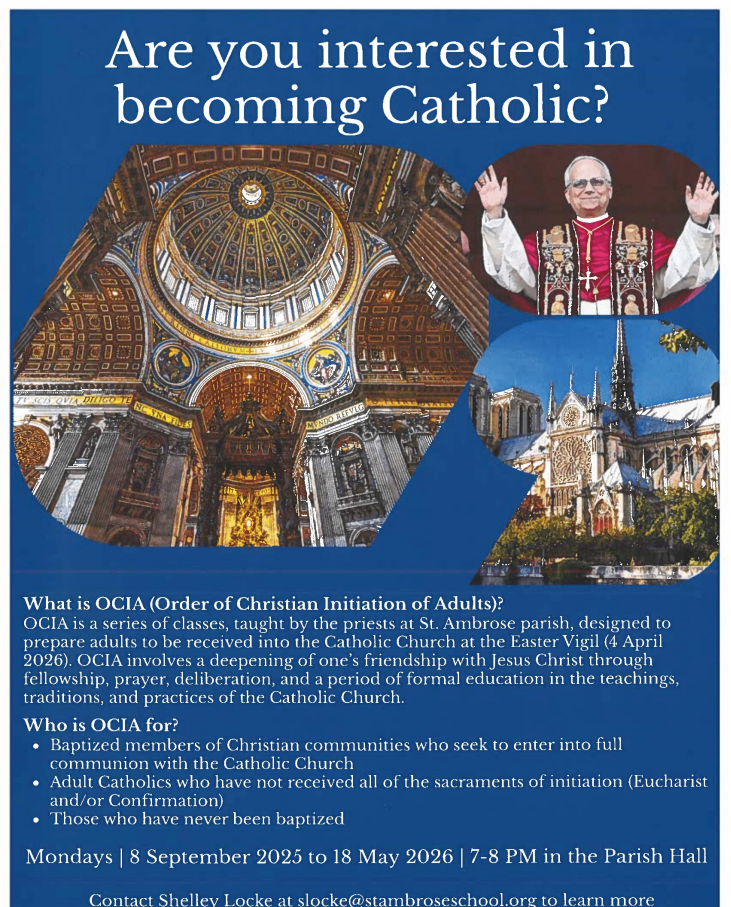
**2025-26
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

ST. AMBROSE PARISH
[BIT.LY/REREGISTRATION2025-26](http://bit.ly/reregistration2025-26)



FORMED®

DISCOVER THE FAITH
ANYWHERE, ANYTIME.
bit.ly/formedfaith



Are you interested in becoming Catholic?

What is OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults)?
OCIA is a series of classes, taught by the priests at St. Ambrose parish, designed to prepare adults to be received into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil (4 April 2026). OCIA involves a deepening of one's friendship with Jesus Christ through fellowship, prayer, deliberation, and a period of formal education in the teachings, traditions, and practices of the Catholic Church.

Who is OCIA for?

- Baptized members of Christian communities who seek to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church
- Adult Catholics who have not received all of the sacraments of initiation (Eucharist and/or Confirmation)
- Those who have never been baptized

Mondays | 8 September 2025 to 18 May 2026 | 7-8 PM in the Parish Hall

Contact Shelley Locke at slocke@stambroseschool.org to learn more

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday	September 8: Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
7:00 a.m.	Victor Louis, Rose Helen, Gary Wayne Bianucci †
9:00 a.m.	Margaret Dominguez †
Tuesday	September 9: USA; St. Peter Claver, Priest
7:00 a.m.	Keith E. Weide †
9:00 a.m.	Annie & John Harrison
Wednesday	September 10: Weekday
7:00 a.m.	Carole Lynn Knight †
9:00 a.m.	James Kem
Thursday	September 11: Weekday
7:00 a.m.	Max Cordova †
9:00 a.m.	Josephine Bourgeois †
Friday	September 12: Wkdy; The Most Holy Name of Mary
7:00 a.m.	Kelly Warren †
9:00 a.m.	John Kem
Saturday	September 13: St. John Chrysostom, Bishop & Doctor of the Church
9:00 a.m.	Alex & Catherine Chunn
5:00 p.m.	Ruth Wright †
Sunday	September 14: The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
8:00 a.m.	Andrew Saladino †
10:00 a.m.	Pope Leo XIV
12:00 noon	Michael Healy †
5:00 p.m.	People of the Parish

Eucharistic Adoration ~ Friday, October 3, 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, 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

Sep 8	Rev. Matthew J. DeForest
Sep 9	Rev. Msgr. Paul F. DeLaDurantaye
Sep 10	Rev. Robert J. DeMartino
Sep 11	Rev. Alexander Diaz
Sep 12	Rev. Denis M. Donahue
Sep 13	Rev. Jeb S. Donelan
Sep 14	Rev. Alexander R. Drummond

† For the Deceased of St. Ambrose †



23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Which of you wishing to construct a tower does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if there is enough for its completion? ... In the same way, anyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple." - Lk 14:28, 33

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

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



St. Ambrose Choirs



Adult Choir

- Adults and high school age children
- Sings at Sunday 10am Mass
- Rehearsals Thursday 7:30-9pm

Youth Choir

- Children in grades 4-8
- Sings at St. Ambrose School Masses and select parish Masses (including Christmas and Easter)
- Rehearsals Monday afternoon

INTERESTED IN MORE INFORMATION?

Go to <https://bit.ly/stamchoir25>
or scan this code



ST. AMBROSE PARISH PICNIC

**OCTOBER 5
1 - 4 PM**

Food & Activities!

Pizza, Ice Cream, Popcorn,
Cotton Candy, Moon Bounce,
Pony Rides, Petting Zoo
and more!

KofC Youth Soccer Challenge
during the Picnic

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



all proceeds benefit



Order of Malta sponsored
MercyRide 2025
September 13 7:00am

W&OD Trail: 7, 20, 35 mile lengths

Questions: mercyrideinfo@gmail.com

WELCOME SUNDAY!

September 7

After 8 + 10 am Masses

Parish Hall

Hosted by Religious Education



St. Ambrose School's Annual Coat Drive will be held Monday, October 13 through Friday, November 7. We collect ONLY washed and/or dry-cleaned and in good condition coats. NEW coats are most welcome! The Coat Drive is the school's project for the diocesan-wide Week of Service being organized by Bishop Burbidge. More details to come!

CYO CROSS COUNTRY/TRACK REGISTRATION NOW OPEN



All 3rd through 8th graders who are a part of our RE, RE Homeschooled, or St Ambrose School are invited to join our CYO Cross Country/Track team. For more information and to register, email cyo@stambroseschool.org



**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

Congratulations!

ST. AMBROSE COUNCIL #8403

**STAR COUNCIL
2024-25**



Congratulations to our St. Ambrose Council for achieving the Knights of Columbus' highest award for the 10th time! The STAR Council Award recognizes excellence in charity, membership growth, benefits, and council performance.

"The day of the Nativity of the Mother of God is a day of universal joy, because through the Mother of God, the entire human race was renewed, and the sorrow of the first mother, Eve, was transformed into joy."
~ Saint John Damascene

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

WSA

WOMEN OF ST. AMBROSE

Second Fridays | 9:30 am | Parish Hall

stambroseva.org/WSA

WSA@stambroseva.org

DATE CHANGE: WSA will meet on Friday, October 17.



I would like that our first great desire be for a united Church, a sign of unity and communion, which becomes a leaven for a reconciled world. For our part, we want to be a small leaven of unity, communion and fraternity within the world.

We want to say to the world, with humility and joy: Look to Christ! Come closer to him! Welcome his word that enlightens and consoles!

- Pope Leo XIV, *Homily for the Inauguration of his Pontificate*

St. Ambrose Men's Group Fall Schedule 2025

13 September

27 September

11 October

25 October

8 November

22 November

13 December

27 December

- Coffee, conversation & formation in the parish hall, 7:00 - 8:30 AM
- Every 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month, each month of the year
- Grow in your knowledge and practice of the faith



Sign up here to stay connected!