

14 January 2024

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

# St. Ambrose Catholic Church



## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Recitation Confessions will be heard on the first Sunday of each month, 7:15-7:45 a.m., or contact the parish office for an appointment.

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM & MARRIAGE:

Please contact the parish office in advance as preparation and arrangements for each sacrament are needed.

## RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults):

RCIA is the process of initiating adults into the Catholic Church. It is for those desiring full membership through Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. Contact the parish office for information.

## CARE OF THE COMMUNITY:

Please contact the parish office when pastoral care is needed or to request prayers.

**St. Ambrose Catholic Church**  
**609 East Main St.**  
**Cecilia, KY 42724**

**Phone: (859) 481-8435**  
**Email: stambrose@windstream.net**

Priest Administrator  
**Reverend Benedict J. F. Brown**

## *Mass Schedule*

**Sunday:** 8:00 a.m.  
**Wednesday:** 5:30 p.m.  
**Thursday:** 5:30 p.m.  
**Saturday:** 5:30 p.m.

## *Mass Intentions*

**Saturday, 13 January**  
Mary Ellen Bryan

**Sunday, 14 January**  
People of St. Ambrose, St. Ignatius & St. Clare

**Wednesday, 17 January**  
Micah Taylor

**Thursday, 18 January**  
James Virgil Myers

**Saturday, 20 January**  
Dale Taylor  
People of St. Ambrose, St. Ignatius & St. Clare

**Sunday, 21 January**  
Eddie Thompson

*Mass Intentions for deceased loved ones can be scheduled throughout the year through the Parish office. There are many Mass days still available for this calendar year. A minimum of \$10 per Mass Intention is encouraged.*

## Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B; 14 January, 2024

1 Samuel 3:3-19; Psalm 40; 1 Corinthians 6:13-20; John 1:41; John 1:35-42

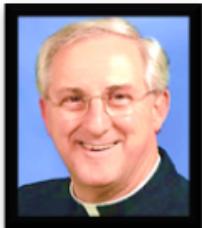
*“Choose to chance the rapids and dare to dance the tides” (Garth Brooks).*

**Collect or Opening Prayer:** Almighty ever-living God, Who govern all things, both in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the pleading of your people and bestow Your peace on our times; through Christ, our Lord.....

**Prayer Over the Offerings:** Grant us, O Lord, we pray, that we may participate worthily in these mysteries, for whenever the memorial of this sacrifice is celebrated the work of our redemption is accomplished; through Christ, our Lord.....

**Prayer after Communion:** Pour on us, O Lord, the Spirit of your love, and in your kindness make those You have nourished by this one heavenly Bread, one in mind and heart; through Christ our Lord.....

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### MESSAGE FROM FATHER BROWN

On our calendar of worship, we moved quite quickly from the infancy narratives about Jesus, to the beginnings of His ministry in adulthood. Other than two episodes, the flight to Egypt while still an infant and the Temple conversation with scholars at age twelve, there is little-to-no coverage in the Gospels of Jesus' years between infancy and adulthood. There are interesting theories about where Jesus was and about what He was doing between ages twelve and thirty; and, much has been written about these so-called “hidden years.” One idea that I have studied has to do with travel to western England, and another speculates that He spent some years in a Buddhist monastery in the Himalayas. The speculation is interesting, but is still speculation.

Of far greater importance is what we do have in our Gospel selections. Today, having received His own call in Baptism, Jesus begins to call His Apostles; He selects the biological brothers Simon (Peter) and Andrew. Next week, He will confirm the trio who will be with Him in some of His most memorable moments: Peter, James, and John. With Andrew (who is mentioned again next week) and eight others, they will be the original Twelve who move from the position of disciple/follower, to the position of Apostle or Church Planter. Some of the most recent teaching about these original Twelve can be found in the writings of the late Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. These twelve and other followers of Jesus will watch with us as over the next three weeks, we see Jesus exercise His ministry of compassionate healing of unclean spirits (Fourth Sunday), Peter's mother-in-law (Fifth Sunday), and the dreaded leprosy (Sixth Sunday).

The ministry of Jesus continues for us in the Roman Catholic Tradition in what we call our System of Seven Sacraments. One sacrament to which we are paying close attention locally this week-end is Matrimony. It was at a wedding celebration in the village of Cana that Jesus began His public ministry. We are celebrating a marriage which took place at the Main Post Chapel of Fort Knox on 11 January of 1964. The bride and groom were Byrle Davidson and Walker Thomas. We are joining Mr. & Mrs. Thomas and their family at Saint Ambrose on Saturday evening, as they pray in thanksgiving for the blessings of the years; and we thank them for the beautiful example of the joy of Christ-like living which they provide for us.

**CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**

The first week-end of the new year saw the official launch of the Capital Campaign at Saint Ambrose. This is an effort to procure donations towards a goal of \$175,000.00 to cover the cost of the inspirational elements of our current renovation project: steeple & cross; sanctuary furnishings, and stained-glass windows. Printed information and pledge cards are being distributed throughout our congregation, our county, and beyond. "May God who begins this good work in us, bring it to fulfillment," (Philippians 1:6).

In appreciation for turning in your pledge card by 1/21, one random card will be selected and awarded dinner out with Father Ben!

**ONLINE GIVING**

St. Ambrose is now offering online giving to all its parishioners! Please consider ParishSOFT, our online giving service, to support our parish. You can also support St. Clare Oratory (Maintenance and Cemetery) and St. Ambrose's Capital Campaign on the eGiving page. We are providing this option in addition to cash or check donations. You can still give through traditional methods, but now you can make recurring or one-time gifts online with a credit/debit card or electronic check.

Here are four ways to give:

1. Text 'Give' to 270-671-9324
2. Scan the QR Code below with your smartphone camera
3. Enroll Online:  
[giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/stamb](http://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/stamb)
4. Call Donor Support: 866-930-4774 ext. 8, option 2



We need **YOU** to be involved in the parish! There are lots of ways each member of your family can be involved in Mass, parish activities, service projects and more! Please fill out a stewardship form in the back of church (or email [sarahcfellows@gmail.com](mailto:sarahcfellows@gmail.com) for a copy) and return it to Father Ben or a parish council member.

**ROOM IN THE INN**

Room in the Inn winter shelter is going on now and St. Ambrose is helping with snacks. If you would like to provide any of the following items, please bring them to the parish hall and leave them on a bench in the hallway. We will take donations through February 1, 2024.

Needed items: individually wrapped protein-rich snacks including beef jerky, protein bars and peanut butter crackers. They can also use bottled water, individual Gatorade flavor packets, string cheese and granola bars.

**FAITH FORMATION**

Does your child/grandchild need religious education? We have materials for family-based faith formation for any child K through high school. Just email [sarahcfellows@gmail.com](mailto:sarahcfellows@gmail.com) or text/call 502-419-0681 with the names, ages and grades of each child and if any child needs to receive a Sacrament in the next year.



**Celebrate!**

**January Birthdays:** Emma Fellows - 01/02; Raymond Ellis & Belinda Stuecker - 01/06; Freddy Thomas, Jr. - 01/10; Charles Thompson - 01/13; Alex Hadden - 01/19; Anna Mattingly - 01/20; Ginny Bowling - 01/21; Connor Crutcher - 01/27; Anna Nichols & Laurita Goodrich - 01/28

**January Anniversaries:** Larry & Lisa Ellis - 01/02; Walker & Byrle Thomas - 01/11 (60 years)

# Prayer Requests

Please keep our sick, recovering, and home-bound members in your prayers: **Dennis Arnold, Kelli B.**

*Please send Prayer Requests or Birthday/Anniversary dates to Virginia Hart at [vahplans@live.com](mailto:vahplans@live.com)*

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

### FEEDING AMERICA

The second Tuesday of the month is our parish night to help put together food bags for school children and area seniors. Volunteers must be 7 yrs. or older and wear closed-toe shoes. The next volunteer date is **Tuesday, 13 February 5:30-7**. Please RSVP to **Sarah Fellows**.

### WARM BLESSINGS

The second Friday of the month is our parish night to pack to-go dinners for those in need. Our next date is **Friday, 9 February**. If you or your family would like to join, please RSVP to **Sarah Fellows**.

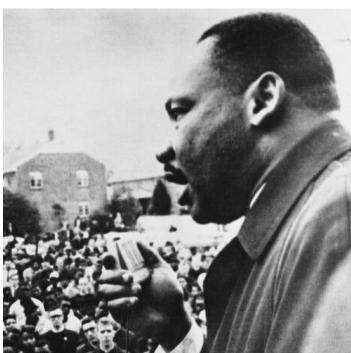
Sarah Fellows contact information: 502.419.0681 or [sarahcfellows@gmail.com](mailto:sarahcfellows@gmail.com)

## VOCATIONS



**Pope Francis**   
[@Pontifex](https://twitter.com/Pontifex)

*Civilian victims of war are not "collateral damage." They are men and women with names and surnames, who lose their lives. They are children who are orphaned and deprived of their future. They are individuals who suffer from hunger, thirst and cold, or are left mutilated. [#Peace](#)*



“

Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'"

Insider Inc.

## PARISH COUNCIL



**Sarah Fellows, Rick Thomas, Rita French, Paul Stuecker, Marianne Sheroan, Charlie Wise, Jason Crutcher, and Joe House**

The next Parish Council meeting is scheduled for **7 February at 6:15 PM**.

## STEWARSHIP

*"When Samuel went to sleep in his place, the LORD came and stood there, calling out as before: Samuel, Samuel! Samuel answered, "Speak, for your servant is listening." "1 Samuel 3:9-10*

### St. Ambrose Weekend Collection Totals

Weekend of 7 January: \$3,374.00  
Yearly Collection Budget 2023-2024: \$106,855.00  
Weekly Goal: \$2,055.00  
FYTD Total: \$101,672.20

St. Clare Collection 7 January: \$1,113.00  
St. Clare Cemetery: \$50.00

Today we hear Samuel respond eagerly, "Here I am" each time the Lord calls him. A steward must be listening for the call of God in one's life and be ready to respond like Samuel, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

## AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

### Knights of Columbus Dinner

Grilled Pork Chop Dinner  
January 21, 2024 10:00 - 2.00

Drive thru behind K of C Hall  
312 East Main St., Vine Grove, Ky

Grilled Pork Chop, Baked Potato, Green Beans, Dinner Roll, and Soda

\$11.00 per meal

POC: John Pike (270) 307-1499