

21 January 2024

Third 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](mailto:stambrose@windstream.net)**

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

Church Website  
[saintambrosechurchcecilia.com](http://saintambrosechurchcecilia.com)

## *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, 20 January

Dale Taylor  
People of St. Ambrose, St. Ignatius & St. Clare

### Sunday, 21 January

Eddie Thompson

### Wednesday, 24 January

Jodie Hart

### Thursday, 25 January

for the unity of christians

### Saturday, 27 January

Mary Mudd

### Sunday, 28 January

People of St. Ambrose, St. Ignatius & St. Clare

*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.*

### Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B; 21 January, 2024

Jonah 3:1-10; Psalm 25; 1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:15; Mark 1:14-20

*“Your ways, O Lord, make known to me; teach me Your paths.”*

**Collect or Opening Prayer:** Almighty ever-living God, direct our actions according to Your good pleasure, that in the name of Your beloved Son we may abound in good works; through Christ, our Lord.....

**Prayer Over the Offerings:** Accept our offerings, O Lord, we pray, and in sanctifying them grant that they may profit us for salvation; through Christ, our Lord.....

**Prayer after Communion:** Grant, we pray, Almighty God, that receiving the Grace by which You bring us to new life, we may always glory in Your gift; through Christ our Lord.....

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#### MESSAGE FROM FATHER BROWN

Thursday of this week is the Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul, the most prolific writer in the Christian Scriptures (13 of 27 titles), and arguably the greatest academic teacher about faith in Christ whom the world has ever known. Last Thursday (18 January) we celebrated the Feast of Saint Peter at Antioch, the first pope and “running mate” to Saint Paul in the apostolic leadership of the early decades of the church. These two dates (18 and 25 January) are the “book-ends” of what for over a half century has been known as “The Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity; these days, we more commonly call it a Week of Prayer. Pope Francis will be joined by the leadership of other communities in faith in a service of prayer and renewed commitment toward the fulfillment of the prayer of Jesus at the Last Supper, “that they may all be one,” (John 17:21).

This ecumenical experience of religious belief and worship was more the exception than the norm in our world, nation, and local community, prior to the Papacy of Saint John XXIIIrd (1958-1963). The Second Vatican Council which he convened in Rome, involved the representatives of non-Catholic communities and traditions from all over the world. As a “baby boomer,” who has clear memories of the segregation among religious denominations, I still read that last sentence with a great deal of wonder. And while we have a very fine history of shared prayer with the protestant congregations of Colesburg and White Mills, it continues to be a disappointment that pastors in Cecilia have not been more responsive to my invitations. Thus, “the Week of Prayer” or “Prayer of the Weak,” continues.

I would be remiss if I failed to mention the observance last Monday of the annual national holiday in honor of Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., whose work was carried on and surely strengthened by a pronounced spirit of ecumenism. Our Archbishop Shelton Fabre, a national leader in today’s civil rights movement, presided at an ecumenical service of remembrance at the Cathedral of the Assumption on 15 January.

**CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**

The first weekend 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

*Scan me!*  
6 →



Parrish messaging has begun! If you are not receiving the weekly messages, please text or call **Marianne Sheroan** at 270-312-5587 with your name, phone number, and whether that number is a mobile or home number and you will be added immediately!

**STEWARDSHIP - TIME & TALENT**

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.

**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**.

# 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)

## STEWARDSHIP

*“Jesus said to them, “Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men.” Then they abandoned their nets and followed him.” Mark 1:17-18*

### St. Ambrose Weekend Collection Totals

Budget FY 2023-2024 (\$106,855.00)

Weekly Goal (\$2,055.00)

Previous Total	\$101,672.20
Weekend of 14 Jan.	\$4,683.00
FYTD Total:	\$106,355.20

If we truly recognize that all the things we have in life are gifts from God, would we be able to heed Christ's call to give it all up and follow Him?

## 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

## VOCATIONS



*The #Word Of God invites us not to close ourselves off or think that we can do it alone, but to grow together. Let us listen to each other, talk together, and support one another. #Christian Unity*