

28 January 2024

Fourth 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

Church Website
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, 27 January

Mary Mudd

Sunday, 28 January

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

Wednesday, 31 January

Randy Mudd

Thursday, 1 February

Micah Taylor

Saturday, 3 February

Rick Miles

Sunday, 4 February

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

St. Clare 5 PM (Intentions

Announced at Mass)

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.

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B; 28 January, 2024

Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Psalm 95; 1 Corinthians 7:32-35; Matthew 4:16; Mark 1:21-28

“The people who sit in darkness have seen a great light; on those dwelling in a land overshadowed by death, light has arisen.”

Collect or Opening Prayer: Grant us, Lord our God, that we may honor You with all our mind, and love everyone in truth of heart; through Christ, our Lord.....

Prayer Over the Offerings: O Lord, we bring to Your altar these offerings of our service, be pleased to receive them, we pray, and transform them into the Sacrament of our redemption; through Christ, our Lord.....

Prayer after Communion: Nourished by these redeeming gifts, we pray O Lord, that through this help to eternal salvation true faith may ever increase; through Christ our Lord.....



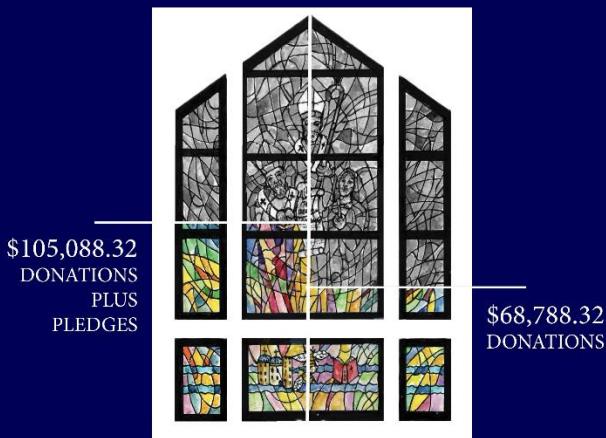
MESSAGE FROM FATHER BROWN

About twice each year, I ask the question: “What is so ordinary about Ordinary Time.” In upper case letters ordinary refers to a season on our Calendar of Worship (aka, Liturgical Year) which comprises 33 of the 52 Sundays of the Calendar Year. The precise dates on which they fall can vary from one year to another, mainly because of the date of Easter, the most important day of the year, varies. The 33 weeks of Ordinary Time as a whole are divided into two segments which, again, will vary in length. This year, we have six Sundays of Ordinary Time before the Season of Lent. After the six weeks of Lent, the Easter Season (7 weeks), the Ascension (40 days after Easter), and Pentecost (50 days after Easter), we resume Ordinary Time, and follow it until the end of the year.

But we are jumping too far ahead of ourselves; let’s get back to the original question: “What is so ordinary about “Ordinary Time”? There are at least two meanings of the word ordinary. We normally understand it with synonyms like plain, routine, uneventful, etc. The Church looks at the Latin root word, *ordinis*, which means rule, regulation, guide, etc. Both usages apply when we talk about Ordinary Time. The guidance or rule for how and when we observe this season in our worship is actually spelled out in a small handbook, which deacons, priests, bishops, etc., refer to as an Ordo. But the common usage also applies. These Sundays and weeks are called Ordinary, because they simply do not have a special designation, such as, Easter, Pentecost, Trinity Sunday, etc.

However, I like to take the reflection a bit further and consider what it is that we do, on all the Sundays, whether with a special designation or as Ordinary. And, keeping with our focus on the word, let’s consider its basis in what Jesus did in teaching us to remember Him. He took bread; He took wine; He took ordinary food from His ordinary table and offered it to His ordinary friends. Sure, He went beyond ordinary to Ordinary, which we acknowledge with our faith. But just as he invited those ordinary fishermen to do extraordinary missions, by spreading His Word and becoming His Body and Blood living in the world, so He invites us to do the same. What’s so ordinary about that!

Goal: \$175,000



Church Renovation Capital Campaign

PARISH MESSAGING

Parish 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!

STEWARSHIP - TIME & TALENT

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 for a copy) and return it to Father Ben or a parish council member.

FAITH FORMATION

Does your child/grandchild need religious education? We have materials for family-based faith formation for any child K through high school. Email 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.

The Service & Outreach Committee wants to let you know that the St. Ambrose cookbook is still in the works! The typesetting got delayed due to other job responsibilities our talented typists have.

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)

February Birthdays: Brenda Bush - 02/02; Allison Stuecker - 02/04; Sharon Kennedy & Jessica McGuffin - 02/05; Amy Hadden - 02/13; Kara Graycarek - 02/23; John Stuecker - 02/25

February Anniversaries: David O. & Virginia Hart (40 Years) - 02/11; Michael & Karen Williams - 02/15; James & Marie Stuecker - 02/26; Charles Dave & Donna Hart - 02/28

Prayer Requests

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

Please send Prayer Requests or Birthday/Anniversary dates to Virginia Hart at vahplans@live.com

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**.

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
4. Call Donor Support: 866-930-4774 ext. 8, option 2

Scan me!



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

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 1st.

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

STEWARDSHIP

"The people were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority and not as the scribes." Mark 1:22

St. Ambrose Weekend Collection Totals

Budget FY 2023-2024 (\$106,855.00)
Weekly Goal (\$2,055.00)

Previous Total	\$106,355.20
Weekend of 21 Jan.	\$1,734.00
FYTD Total:	\$108,089.20

Feeding America: \$90.00

Listening to the authority of Jesus' teachings helps us not be confused by the perceived 'wisdom' of the world. The world focuses only on self, while the authority of Jesus teaches a steward is to think of others rather than oneself.

RECENT AND CURRENT PARISH OFFERINGS

2024 Opportunities for Life

In the name of the parish, a donation was made to Opportunities for Life in the amount of \$262.50, which represents 7.5% of an average weekend offering. The weekend before the anniversary of Roe vs. Wade (January 22), the four Kentucky dioceses took up a collection as part of the Kentucky bishops' unified message advocating for a pro-life culture in our Commonwealth. In the Archdiocese of Louisville, funds from this collection will provide resources to pregnant women and new families in crisis, including services through Walking With Moms in Need groups in many parishes and the Lifeline Fund maintained by Catholic Charities.