

12 January 2025

Solemnity of the Baptism of the Lord

# 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: [stambrosececilia@gmail.com](mailto:stambrosececilia@gmail.com)

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, 11 January

Randy Mudd  
Dale Taylor

### Sunday, 12 January

Mary Ellen Bryan  
People of St. Ambrose, St. Ignatius &  
St. Clare

### Wednesday, 15 January

Robert A. Brown and Edith B. Finch

### Thursday, 16 January

Mike Wheatley

### Saturday, 18 January

Bob & Lillian Hill

### Sunday, 19 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.*

## **The Solemnity of the Baptism of the Lord, Year C; 12 January, 2025**

Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalms 104; Titus 2:11-14 - 3:4-7; Luke 3: 16; Luke 3:15-22

*"Choose to chance the rapids and dare to dance the tides," (Garth Brooks)*

**Collect or Opening Prayer:** O God, Whose Only Begotten Son has appeared in our very flesh, grant we pray, that we may be inwardly transformed through Him Whom we recognize as outwardly like ourselves; Who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit.....

**Prayer Over the Offerings:** Accept, O Lord, the offerings we have brought to honor the revealing Your Beloved Son, so that the oblation of Your faithful may be transformed into the sacrifice of Him Who willed in His compassion to wash away the sins of the world, Who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit.....

**Prayer after Communion:** Nourished with these sacred gifts, we humbly entreat Your mercy, O Lord that, faithfully listening to Your Only Begotten Son, we may be Your children in name and in truth; through Christ our Lord.....



### **MESSAGE FROM FATHER BROWN**

Does it seem like the holidays were over quickly? Does it seem like they are still lingering? I suppose each of us has her/his own experience of the passing of time. Maybe the holidays were over for you with the first day back to work after Christmas? Maybe your decorations are still up and giving you enjoyment; maybe you are still reading over the Christmas cards once more before tossing them out or putting them in storage? However quickly or slowly you have experienced the Christmas/New Year holidays, we have turned those pages on the calendar, and the year is moving on.

Before we leave the holidays completely though, I want to express thanks for all those who helped with cleaning and decorating in all three churches: Saint Ambrose, Saint Clare, and Saint Ignatius. You did a beautiful job. Saint Ignatius had (to my knowledge) its first ever live animal Nativity scene. Up until the week-end of Epiphany (4-5 January) we had mild weather and that made for generally good attendance. I am re-printing the schedule with the attendance numbers, for two reasons: so that we have data for planning purposes next year, and to remind ourselves of the strength we obtain from knowing that we express our faith, not in isolation, but with the support of our fellow believers.

I feel that support personally. As I often say: As a priest, I can celebrate Mass alone, but it is much more fun when you're here. And once again, I want to express my gratitude for your many and generous gifts, beautiful cards, and sweet sentiments.

And now, we experience a fairly sudden shift, from Gospel stories of the Infancy of Our Lord, to the beginning of the final three years of His life and ministry on earth. Today's passage from the account of Saint Luke describes that moment when Jesus as an adult, accepts baptism from His cousin John. We celebrate that moment and hear the Father's voice affirming Jesus as the One for us to follow.

## PARISH NEWS

### HOLY DAYS ATTENDANCE NUMBERS

Tues, 12/24	6:30PM	St. Ambrose	225
Tues, 12/24	9:30PM	St. Ignatius	36
Wed, 12/25	8:00AM	St. Ambrose	110
Wed, 12/25	10:30AM	St. Clare	70
Tues, 12/31	4:00PM	St. Ambrose	69
Tues, 12/31	7:00PM	St. Clare	29
Wed, 1/1	8:00AM	St. Ambrose	21
Wed, 1/1	10:00AM	St. Ignatius	25

### FAMILY-CENTERED FAITH FORMATION FOR CHILDREN

St. Ambrose faith formation is a family-centered program that provides families with age-appropriate materials for your children to learn about their faith at home on your own schedule. There are no class times (with the exception of Confirmation) and families can choose to participate in service activities that are offered through the parish twice a month if they choose. If your child is in need of a Sacrament, Father Ben will work one-on-one with your family (except Confirmation - see details below) in addition to the materials you work on at home. To sign up to get faith formation materials for the 2024-25 school year, contact Sarah Fellows at [sarahcfellows@gmail.com](mailto:sarahcfellows@gmail.com) or 502-419-0681.

## 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, 14 January 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, 17 January**. Please RSVP to **Sarah Fellows**.

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

## ROOM IN THE INN

Room in the Inn winter shelter runs through the end of February. We are teaming up with St. James every Wednesday and will provide snacks for the guests.

We need donations of high protein snacks (jerky, nutrition bars, peanut butter crackers, trail mix, etc) and hydration drinks (Gatorade, etc) in either bottle form or individual powder packets. Please bring your donations to the parish hall when you come to Mass. We can also arrange pick up if needed.

The shelter is also in need of volunteers to stay during the day and overnight.

Please contact **Sarah Fellows** at 502-419-0681 with any questions.

## SERVICE AND OUTREACH

Now that we are back in the church, Service and Outreach is resuming! During January, we will collect new or gently used eyeglasses for Lions Club. They accept readers which can be purchased at Dollar Tree for \$1.25.

No broken glasses and no cases, please. There is a collection box in the annex.

## PARISH COUNCIL



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

The next Parish Council meeting is scheduled for **5 February at 6:15 PM**. All are welcome to attend.

December Parish Council meeting minutes are included this week.

## *Prayer Requests*

Please keep our sick, recovering, and home-bound members in your prayers: **Dennis Arnold, Opal Ellis, Ann Higdon, and Walker Thomas**.



**January Birthdays:** Emma Fellows - 01/02; Raymond Ellis & Belinda Stuecker – 01/06; Charles Thompson – 01/13; Alex Hadden – 01/19; Anna Mattingly – 01/20; Ginny Bowling and Everett Akers (3 yrs. Old ) – 01/21; Connor Crutcher – 01/27; Anna Nichols & Laurita Goodrich – 01/28

**January Anniversaries:** Larry & Lisa Ellis – 01/02; Walker & Byrle Thomas – 01/11

### STEWARDSHIP

*“After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove.” Luke 3:21*

#### St. Ambrose Weekend Collection Totals

Budget FY 2024-2025 \$119,924.00  
Weekly Goal \$2,306.00

Previous Total	\$87,855.53
In-Pew Collection (1/1)	\$1,110.00
In-Pew Collection (1/5)	\$2,550.00
Online (12/31/24-1/6/25)	\$555.00
<b>FYTD Total:</b>	<b>\$92,070.53</b>
St. Clare Collection (12/31)	\$365.00

Our stewardship journey begins in the waters of baptism. It is through the waters of baptism that we are given a new life and become disciples of Jesus. As Jesus' disciples, we are called to build the kingdom of God with the gifts God has given us.

### AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

#### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PORK DINNER

**When:** 19 January, 10:00 am -2:00 pm

**Where:** 312 East Main St. Vine Grove (drive-thru behind K of C Hall

**Cost:** \$11.00

**Meal:** Pulled pork, baked beans, baked potato, roll and drink.

### SPECIAL DISCIPLES OF JESUS MASS

All are welcome! We hope your family will join us for the Special Disciples of Jesus Mass. We invite all Special Needs family and friends to St. Margaret Mary on Sunday, January 19 at 3PM. We know Mass can be a struggle for many families, so we hope to have a beautiful, unique celebration together where all feel welcome. Just come as you are! Your family will be welcomed with open arms and will hopefully meet other families in similar situations. The Mass will be shorter and geared towards our children. We hope to foster a Catholic community here with fellowship following Mass, so stick around to meet other families and kids. A light reception will follow in the Hospitality Room. For questions, more information or if you would like to help in this ministry, please contact Tara Mattingly at 502-690-2851 or [tmattingly@stmm.org](mailto:tmattingly@stmm.org)

### VOCATIONS



**Pope Francis**   
**@Pontifex**

*A diplomacy of hope is above all a diplomacy of truth. If the link between reality, truth and knowledge is missing, human beings will no longer be able to speak and understand one another, because the foundations of a common language are lacking.*



**Archbishop Shelton Fabre**  
**@ArchbishopFabre**

*“Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is begotten by God, and everyone who loves the Father loves also the one begotten by him. In this way we know that we love the children of God when we love God and obey his commandments.” (cf 1 Jn 4:19–5:4). God is love.*