

8 December 2024
Second Sunday of Advent

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

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, 7 December
Micah Taylor

Sunday, 8 December
People of St. Ambrose, St. Ignatius &
St. Clare

Wednesday, 11 December
Randy Mudd

Thursday, 12 December
Bob & Lillian Hill

Saturday, 14 December
Leo & Bernadette Mudd

Sunday, 15 December
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.*

Second Sunday of Advent, Year C; 08 December, 2024

Baruch 5:1-9; Psalm 126; Philippians 1:4-11; Luke 3:4; Luke 3:1-6

“Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight His paths.”

Collect or Opening Prayer: Almighty and merciful God, may no earthly undertaking hinder those who set out in haste to meet Your Son, but may our learning of heavenly wisdom gain us admittance to His company, He lives and reigns forever and ever

Prayer Over the Offerings: Be pleased O Lord with our humble prayers and offerings and, since we have no merits to plead our cause, come we pray, to our rescue with the protection of Your mercy, through Christ our Lord.....

Prayer after Communion: Replenished by the food of spiritual nourishment we humbly beseech You O Lord, that through our partaking in this mystery, You may teach us to judge wisely the things of earth and hold firm to the things of heaven, through Christ our Lord.....



MESSAGE FROM FATHER BROWN

This holy season of Advent introduces us to a very important group of Biblical characters known as Prophets. We will hear from many including: Anna, Elizabeth, Samuel (son of Hannah), the great Isaiah, and most important of all, John the Baptist. Today we will focus on Baruch and John the Baptist in particular. Baruch, though obscure compared to others such as Daniel and Isaiah, nonetheless has some important teachings. In addition to this Second Sunday in Advent in Year C, we hear from Baruch at the Easter Vigil every year. As Baruch is obscure, John the Baptist is prominent..... and weird! He lives in the desert, eats off the land like a mountain man, wears bizarre clothing, and boldly confronts a King (Herod). Yet Jesus gives this John a compliment unlike any received by any other person in the New Testament. He has been compared in some ways to modern day prophets such as Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King, Jr. John uses the power of words to change lives, to speak truth to power.

With her picture in a place of prominence in our sanctuaries, we are appropriately highlighting the Blessed Mother as the central figure in the Advent story. And, of the two major days dedicated to her December, today has special significance for us as American Catholics. Of all her titles, the Immaculate Conception is the one under which the United States is dedicated as a nation, with her Shrine in Washington, DC. This year, the holy day is celebrated on the 9th, and you will find the readings and prayers for Mass in the Missalette. However, the United Conference of Catholic Bishops has dispensed the obligation.

Of course, there are two other Holy days within the next four weeks. Here is the schedule for their Masses.

| <i>Date</i> | <i>Location</i> | <i>Time</i> |
|----------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Christmas Eve | Saint Ambrose | 6:30 pm |
| | Saint Ignatius | 9:30 pm |
| Christmas Day | Saint Ambrose | 8:00 am |
| | Saint Clare | 10:30 am |
| New Year's Eve | Saint Ambrose | 4:00 pm |
| | Saint John | 5:30 pm |
| | Saint Clare | 7:00 pm |
| New Year's Day | Saint Ambrose | 8:00 am |
| | Saint Ignatius | 10:00 am |



PARISH NEWS

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 or 502-419-0681.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

ROOM IN THE INN

Room in the Inn winter shelter has started and runs through the end of February. As in year's past, we are teaming up with St. James on their host night (every Wednesday) and will once again be providing snacks for the guests. They have a new location this year on Woodland Dr. in Elizabethtown.

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. If you can help, please bring your donation to the parish hall when you come to Mass or to the back of church once we are back in there. We can also arrange pick up if needed.

The shelter is also in need of some volunteers to stay during the day and overnight. And they need extra help on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

If you can spare any time to volunteer or need help getting donations to church, please contact **Sarah Fellows** at 502-419-0681

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, 10 December 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, 13 December**. 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

PARISH COUNCIL



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

Prayer Requests

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

Celebrate!

December Birthdays: Jim Bush – 12/06; Karen Williams – 12/11; Kelly Payton – 12/13; Sharon Higdon – 12/14; Marie Stuecker – 12/15; Joyce Solar – 12/18; Jeanie Thompson – 12/21; Carol Cetta – 12/28; Marcella Brangers and Charlie A. Brown – 12/30

December Anniversaries: Bill & Mauhee Edmondson – 12/27; Jim & Sandy Jones – 12/30

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

STEWARDSHIP

“And this is my prayer, that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value....” Philippians 1:9-10

St. Ambrose Weekend Collection Totals

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

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| Previous Total | \$67,735.53 |
| In-Pew Collection (12/1) | \$2,462.00 |
| Online (11/26-12/02) | \$1,055.00 |
| <hr/> | |
| FYTD Total: | \$71,252.53 |
| | |
| St. Clare Collection | \$1,487.00 |

When we take seriously the role of steward, our vision becomes outward-directed with a longing to share from our blessings and abundance with those in need.

VOCATIONS



Pope Francis 
@Pontifex

Please, let us continue to pray for peace! War is a human defeat; it does not

solve problems but only brings destruction. So many children and innocents die! Let us pray for all countries at war. Let us always pray for peace.



Archbishop Shelton Fabre
@ArchbishopFabre

“[Jesus] took the seven

loaves and the fish, gave thanks, broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, who in turn gave them to the crowds. They all ate and were satisfied” (Mt 15:29-37). In the Eucharist, Jesus satisfies our hungry hearts with his own Body and Blood.

AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PORK CHOP DINNER

December 8, 2024, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

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

Grilled Pork Chop, Green Beans, Mashed Potatoes Roll, Soda, \$11.00 Per meal. * **All proceeds and donations will benefit Kim Poe Memorial**

2024 COLLECTION FOR CATHOLIC CHARITIES



Welcome
Strengthen
Empower

Our parish will conduct the annual collection for Catholic Charities of Louisville on **December 21-22**. Last year, CCL served over 73,000 individuals. Your generosity helps to fund many vital ministries and social services, including:

- The Sister Visitor Center and Fr. Jack Jones food pantries.
- Indigent Burial program.
- Resettlement services for refugees.
- Bakhita Empowerment Initiative combatting human trafficking.
- The Long-Term Care Ombudsman, serving close to 15,000 residents in long-term care homes.
- Community gardeners with Common Earth Gardens

CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL



Catholic Services Appeal
Bringing Christ to Others



 SCAN ME

Our Parish Goal: \$18,200

Our Parish Participation Goal: 71 households

Thanks to those who have already responded with a gift to the 2024 Catholic Services Appeal. To date we have raised **\$16,585 (91% of goal)** toward our goal through the support of **49 (69% of goal) households**. During this season of Advent, please consider making a gift to the Catholic Services Appeal. All gifts are tax deductible. Gifts may be made through our parish office or online at www.ArchLou.org/CSA or using the camera on your phone to scan the QR code.