

21 April 2024

Fourth Sunday of Easter, Good Shepherd Sunday

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, 20 April

James H. Brown
Barbara Brown Castle
Harl Brown
Jessie Brown

Sunday, 21 April

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

Wednesday, 24 April

Billy Mattingly

Thursday, 25 April

Randy Mudd

Saturday, 27 April

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

Sunday, 28 April

Natalie Schall

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 of Easter, aka Good Shepherd Sunday, Year B; 21 April, 2024

Acts of the Apostles 4:8-12; Psalm 118; 1 John 3:1-2; John 10:14; John 10:11-18

"I am the Good Shepherd," says the Lord; "I know my sheep, and my sheep know me."

Collect or Opening Prayer: Almighty ever-living God, lead us to a share in the joys of heaven, so that the humble flock may reach where the brave Shepherd has gone before, Who lives and lives and reigns forever and ever.....

Prayer Over the Offerings: Grant we pray O Lord, that we may always find delight in these paschal mysteries so that the renewal constantly at work within us, may be the cause of our unending joy, through Christ Lord.....

Prayer after Communion: Look upon Your flock kind Shepherd and be pleased to settle in eternal pastures the sheep You have redeemed by the Precious Blood of Your Son, Who lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.



MESSAGE FROM FATHER BROWN

The much-anticipated (just because it is one of my personal favorites) Good Shepherd Sunday, is here. Of the several references in Scripture to Jesus as the Good Shepherd, one in the tenth chapter of Saint John's Gospel which we read today is quite emphatic; Jesus is really wanting to make this clear, especially to His opponents among the Pharisees. Their concept of God is rather far-removed from the idea of a caring personal protector.

We hear also from Saint Peter, who as the first pope, followed directly in the footsteps of Jesus as the Chief Shepherd of the flock, the church. While we often hear the words of Saint Peter from his writings (two letters in the New Testament), We hear today from his preaching. He does that quite a bit in the Acts of the Apostles, and he does so very boldly challenging the Jewish leadership over their not recognizing Jesus as the Messiah. Saint John's letter also, though it does not include the metaphor of the shepherd and the sheep, nonetheless describes our relationship to Christ as one characterized by real affection, truly divine love.

Chief Pastor or Shepherd is how several of the modern-day popes have thought of themselves, and taking their cue from Jesus and Saint Peter, have used the title as well as the approach. This seems to be especially true of Jorge Bergoglio, former Archbishop of Buenos Aires in Argentina, now in his twelfth-year reigning as Pope Francis I, the first Pope from the Americas. Of the several accounts of his life, the biography which I have read and recommend is by Austen Ivereigh entitled, The Great Reformer. I also highly recommend a movie, which though it has not been marketed in theaters, continues to be available through NETFLIX. It is called "The Two Popes," and received Oscar nomination for the actors who portrayed Popes Francis I and Benedict XVI. If you have NETFLIX and want me to watch it with you, I will bring the popcorn!

Last Wednesday, we hosted a Mass at Saint Ignatius in which we honored parishioners who are marking milestones in their educational careers. Ms. Amy Nall, Assistant Superintendent of Schools for the Archdiocese spoke to our community and helped us to honor:

Lauren Sheroan, daughter of Ryan and Marianne Sheroan, who graduates with honors from Bethlehem High School;

Layla Ulrich, daughter of Will and Tracy Ulrich, who graduates with honors from John Hardin High School; and

Ethan Williams, son of Tim and Katie Williams, who also graduates with honors from Central Hardin High School.

PARISH NEWS

CHURCH WEBSITE

Go online to saintambrosechurchcecilia.com to see the updated parish website. There are pictures of progress on the church renovation project, a link to online giving, current and past bulletins, and more!

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.

Prayer Requests

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

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

Celebrate!

April Birthdays: Rachel Hart – 04/01; Jim Decker – 04-04(1938); Maggie Stuecker – 04/09; Kaylee Arnold – 04/11; Calvin Skees – 04/28; Bobby Jones – 04/29; Lucy Arnold – 04/30

April Anniversaries: Bobby & Kay Jones – 04/19: In Memory of Steven Jones – 04/21

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 May 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, 10 May**. 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

STEWARSHIP

"I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. A hired man....sees a wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away....This is because he works for pay and has no concern for the sheep." John 10:11-13

St. Ambrose Weekend Collection Totals

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

Previous Total	\$145,507.20
In-Pew Collection (4/14)	\$4,121.00
Online (4/09-04/15)	\$1,020.00
FYTD Total:	\$150,648.20

Unlike the hired hand, the good steward feels personal responsibility for the owner's property. The image of the good shepherd teaches us that stewardship is not about money, but about responsibility and commitment.

ONLINE GIVING

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.

Scan me!



Here are four ways to give:

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

PARISH COUNCIL



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

The next Parish Council meeting is scheduled for **1 May at 6:15 PM**. All are welcome to attend.

PARISH MESSAGING

If you are not receiving messages, please text or call **Marianne Sheran** 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!

AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

BUNCO
Thursday April 25, 2024
St. Francis Xavier
Women's Club
155 Stringer Ln
Mt Washington, KY
Great Prizes
Lower level of the Parish Hall
Bring a friend/spouse \$15 per person
\$ Split the Pot \$\$
5:45pm Doors open
Food & Drinks included
6:30 Bunco Starts
License #ORG1325

VOCATIONS



Pope Francis
@Pontifex

Jesus has triumphed over evil. He turned His cross into the bridge to the resurrection. Raise your hands to Him daily to praise and bless Him. Tell Him the hopes of your heart and share with Him your deepest secrets. God loves this kind of living, concrete, and heartfelt [#Prayer](#).



Archbishop Shelton Fabre
@ArchbishopFabre

As they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he fell to his knees and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them;" when he said this, he fell asleep (Acts 7:51–8:1a). St. Stephen died with God's mercy on his lips.

A Prayer for Attentiveness

Heighten my awareness, O God.
Sharpen my senses so that I am better able to see the beauty of...



Enlarge my capacity for compassion so that I am better able to care for those who need...

Re-shape my attitudes so that I am less likely to complain about...

Remind me to slow down so that I take in the wonder of the present moment, especially...

Heighten my awareness, O God, so that I never cease to appreciate what I have here and now.
Amen.