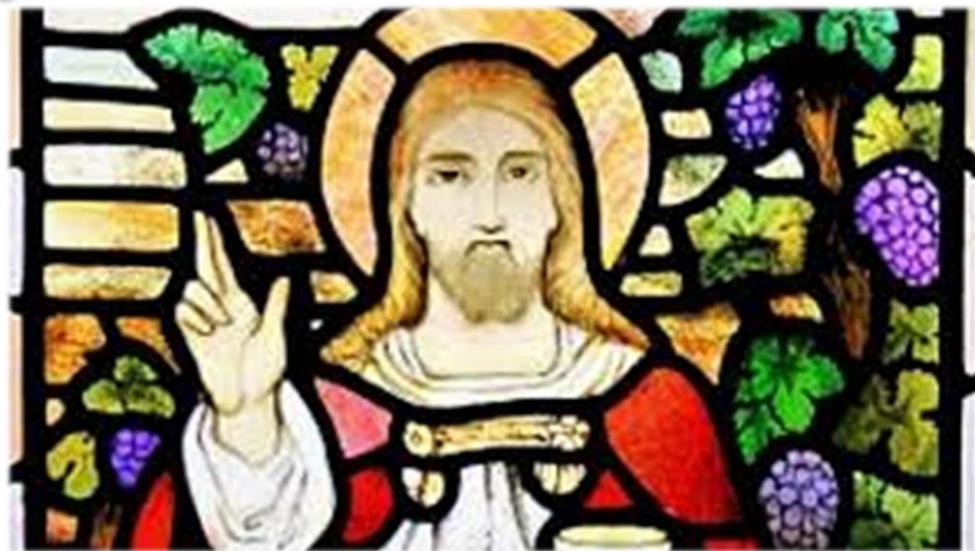


28 April 2024

Fifth Sunday of Easter

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.

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 April

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

Sunday, 28 April

Natalie Schall

Wednesday, 1 May

Micah Taylor

Thursday, 2 May

Dick Striegel

Saturday, 4 May

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

Sunday, 5 May

Ralph Meredith

St. Clare 5 PM (Intentions Announced at Mass)

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 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.

Fifth Sunday of Easter, Year B; 28 April, 2024

Acts of the Apostles 9:26-31; Psalm 22; 1 John 3:16-24; John 15:4; John 15:1-8

“Remain in me as I remain in you, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me will bear much fruit.”

Collect or Opening Prayer: Almighty and ever-living God constantly accomplish the Paschal Mystery within us, that those You were pleased to make new in Holy Baptism may, under Your protective care, bear much fruit and come to the joys of life eternal, through Christ our Lord

Prayer Over the Offerings: O God Who by the wonderful exchange effected in this sacrifice have made us partakers of the one supreme Godhead, grant we pray that as we have come to know Your truth, we may make it ours by a worthy way of life, through Christ our Lord.....

Prayer after Communion: Graciously be present to Your people we pray O Lord, and lead those You have imbued with heavenly mysteries to pass from former ways to newness of life, through Christ our Lord.....



MESSAGE FROM FATHER BROWN

In the Liturgy of the Word for this weekend, we are introduced to a person who is arguably the most prominent character in the New Testament after Jesus. Though not one of the original Twelve, he nonetheless has the title Apostle and earns it nobly as he develops Christian communities throughout the known world of his time. He is by far the most prolific writer in the New Testament with his letters which number 13, nearly half of the total of the 27 books of the New Testament. Ironically we do not hear from his writing today but he is written about by his traveling companion Luke, the author of the Acts of the Apostles.

Of course this character is the great traveling teacher Paul of Tarsus. The specific moment captured in today's passage is when after much effort, Paul is finding acceptance among the community of believers, the Nazarenes. Yet for his own protection, they are sending him away from Jerusalem. His complicated but heroic career is getting under way. Of Paul's many insightful and instructive expressions, here is one very much in keeping with today's Gospel message: "It is no longer I who live, but Christ Who lives in me," (Galatians 2:20). This comes from one of Paul's early letters, in which he gives a bit of his personal history, especially the story of his encounter with the risen Jesus and his complete conversion.

For His part, Jesus gives us yet another metaphorical description of Himself. Following on last week's image of Christ as the Good Shepherd and our regular title for Him as the Lamb of God, today He refers to Himself as the Vine, and to us as the branches, He makes it clear that apart from Him we can do nothing, (John 15:5).

Perhaps it seems like a stretch, (but perhaps not completely) to say that there can be no springtime in Kentucky without Derby Week. It is part of who we are. We (at least most of us) put aside the days, hours, and minutes of toil, and relax, focusing energy on a brief moment ("two minutes") of sport. It is part of who we are. Perhaps our encounter with Christ (in Word, in Sacrament, in Community) though minimal in minutes, makes us who we are for all eternity.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Archbishop of Louisville, **Shelton J. Fabre** will lead the **Celebration of Mass at 7:00 pm on 30 April** (this Tuesday) in historic Saint Ignatius Church in White Mills. The Archbishop will confer the Sacrament of Confirmation on:

Connor Crutcher
Connor Miles
Paige Haddle
Avery Payne

Alex Hadden
Maggie Stuecker
Chloe Hayes
J.P Trey Stuecker

These students and their families join me in thanking **Rita S. French** for her guidance and instruction over many months of preparation. We also thank **Linda Self, Amy Fries, Gina Sims, Phillip Nall**, and others for their help with the liturgical celebration. We thank and welcome Archbishop Fabre for this his first visit to the southern part of Hardin County. All of our parishioners are welcome to attend on Tuesday evening, to meet the Archbishop, but most especially to encourage our students. They have each written letters to me, and believe me, their youthful energy is contagious!

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



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

May Birthdays: Allison Solar-Clark (Daughter of Joyce & Charles Solar) – 05/01; John Catlett –05/03; Denette Hebert – 05/06; Marisa Ellis and Kristy Stuecker – 05/09; Luke Stuecker and Rosalynn Thomas – 05/17; Rachel Larkin – 05/18; Daniel Kennedy – 05/19; Cindy Miles 05/21; Jason Crutcher and Camillia Thomas – 5/23; Casey Payton – 05/26; Jonathan Rivera – 05/27; Becky Miller – 05/30

May Anniversaries: Terry & Myrna Priest – 05/03; John & Ginny Bowling – 5/13; Larry & Rita French – 5/19 ; Bill & Jeanie Thompson – 05/21; Father Ben Brown (Ordination) – 05/25; Jim & Brenda Bush – 05/31

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

STEWARDSHIP

"I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing." John 15:5

St. Ambrose Weekend Collection Totals

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

Weekly Goal (\$2,055.00)

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Previous Total | \$150,648.20 |
| In-Pew Collection (4/21) | \$1,706.00 |
| Online (4/15-4/21) | \$345.00 |
| FYTD Total: | \$152,699.20 |

Feeding America (April): \$112.00

Rice Bowl Collection: \$467.03

We cannot produce abundantly without a deep prayer life, without living in God. A woman with a full time job and four children was once asked how she possibly had time to pray. She replied: "I am too busy not too pray! If I didn't take time to be with God, I would be swallowed up in chaos."

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.

VOCATIONS



Pope Francis
[@Pontifex](https://twitter.com/Pontifex)

The love we receive from the Lord is the force that transforms our lives and enables us to love. We are able to love only because He has loved us, because He pours His own Spirit of holiness into our hearts. His Love heals and transforms us.



Archbishop Shelton Fabre
[@ArchbishopFabre](https://twitter.com/ArchbishopFabre)

"Whoever believes in me believes not only in me but also in the one who sent me, and whoever sees me sees the one who sent me. I came into the world as light, so that everyone who believes in me might not remain in darkness" (Jn 12:44-50). Christ is the Light in our darkness.