

August 21, 2026

ST. AMBROSE SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



APPLEFEST IS COMING!

Hello School Families! Get ready to kick off the countdown to Applefest! Keep an eye out this Monday for the very first edition of Applefest News coming home in backpacks, packed with the essential Applefest order form (if that's how you roll). Can't wait until Monday? You can visit our official Applefest webpage today to get a head start! Think AFest tee, Grand Raffle tickets, and Sponsorships at

www.saintambroseparish.org/applefest. Who's ready to swap the usual weekend routine for a weekend of pure Applefest energy? We've been waiting since last year to come back and do this weekend up big again. We're talking gloriously messy pie-eating contests, food tents stacked with the best treats, talent show, highland cows, caricature artist, airbrush tattoos, video gaming truck, adult gaming, live bands and more to keep the whole place buzzing. Our goal is simple: create unforgettable family memories that will keep everyone grinning long after the festival ends. Mark those calendars because we can't wait to celebrate with you! Warmly, Mike & Lynne Adams, Your 2026 Applefest Chairs

2026-2027 CALENDAR, SUPPLY LISTS & MORE ON QUICKLINKS

The [Quicklinks](#) section of the school website contains lots of important information, including:

- 2026-2027 School Calendar
- Class Supply Lists
- Parent-Student Handbook
- Athletic Handbook
- Other important school information

Please take some time to review the information available through [Quicklinks](#) throughout the school year.

LUNCH START TIME – NEW THIS YEAR

For all lunch volunteers, please be aware that this year's schedule has our lunch periods starting later than last year.

- Grades K-3: 11:25-11:50 AM
- Grades 4-8: 12:00-12:20 PM

CALENDAR

- August 28 - Welcome Night on the Playground, 5:30-7:00 PM; \$1.50 Dress Down
- August 29 - Middle School Dance, Grades 6-8, 6:00-9:00 PM
- September 2 - SAPA Meeting, 6:00 PM
- September 4 - SAPA Dress Down Pass Day
- September 7 - NO SCHOOL – Labor Day
- September 9 - 1:30 Dismissal; School Advisory Council 6:00 PM

DRESS DOWN DAYS & SPIRIT WEAR FRIDAYS

In general, every Friday is Spirit Wear Friday, except when a special fundraiser day, SAPA Dress Down Pass, or Student Council theme dress down day takes its place. On Spirit Wear Fridays, students may wear a Spirit Wear top with their regular uniform bottoms.

SAPA Dress Down Pass Days

9/4, 9/11, 10/2, 10/16, 12/4, 1/8, 1/15, 2/5, 4/2, 4/9, and the last week of school if passes remain.

Student Council Dress Down Days

10/9, 11/13, 12/18, 1/22, 4/16

\$1.50 Dress Down Days

8/28, 9/25, 10/23, 11/20, 12/11, 1/29, 4/30, 5/14

All Dress Down Days are also posted on the calendar in FACTS.

ALL SCHOOL MASS

Upon the recommendation of the Safety and Security Committee, we are pleased to announce that School Masses will be held in the Church for the 2026-2027 school year.

This recommendation comes after additional physical upgrades to the Church building, as well as additional security measures.

Important: All attendees at School Masses are to enter through the awning entrance at the Church. Mr. Johnson will be opening that door for attendees, and all other doors will be locked.

ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL TIMES

New for the 2026–2027 school year, arrival and dismissal times have been updated by five minutes.

Morning Arrival

- Normal drop-off in the gym begins at 7:30 AM.
- At 7:50 AM, students will move upstairs for morning announcements and to begin the day.
- Morning announcements begin at 7:55 AM.
- Any student arriving after 7:55 AM should be dropped off at the main entrance of the school.

Afternoon Dismissal

- PreK: 2:40 PM
- K–8: 2:50 PM

LUNCH INFORMATION

In response to parent requests for more lunch options, we have moved to one caterer providing lunches Monday through Thursday.

Nicky G's Catering will provide lunch options four days a week. On Fridays, we will continue to offer Little Caesar's pizza.

Nicky G's will provide many popular items that have been served in the past, as well as some new options that we believe will be popular among students and parents. Ordering must be completed for the entire week and submitted by Thursday of the week before. Notifications will be sent on Thursdays as a reminder to complete ordering for the following week.

FALL PLAY TRYOUTS

HEAR YE, HEAR YE... DESTINY IS CALLING! St. Ambrose Drama Club is officially summoning all brave 4th–8th graders who dare to step into the spotlight! This fall we're bringing you the high-energy, laugh-out-loud adventure **BOOK REPORTS OF DESTINY** and we need YOU to help bring the story to life! Tryouts are almost here: Tuesday, August 25 & Wednesday, August 26, Right after school! Here's your mission: 1. Grab a permission form from Mrs. Preston 2. Choose your tryout time slot 3. Show up ready to have a blast, show your personality, and maybe even discover a little stage magic!

Performance dates are locked in for October 8–10 so mark those calendars now! Whether you've been on stage a hundred times or this is your very first adventure... this is your moment. The pages are blank until YOU write the next chapter. Don't miss your destiny...Pick up that form. Claim your slot. See you at tryouts. The adventure starts NOW!

MORNING ARRIVAL & AFTERNOON DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

Morning Drop-Off

K–8 students are to be dropped off in the lower parking lot nearest the gym entrance, beginning at 7:30 AM. School staff will be on duty to greet students and safely assist them into the building.

Afternoon Pick-Up

PreK dismisses at 2:40 PM. Parents and designated pickup individuals should come to the bottom of the stairs in the lower parking lot to pick up their child.

We ask that PreK and Kindergarten pickup vehicles be off the lot by 2:50 PM.

The dismissal process will be completed entirely in the lower large parking lot.

During PreK and Kindergarten dismissal, cars are free to come and go. Please monitor your children during this time.

At 2:50 PM, all vehicle movement will stop and grades K–8 will dismiss. Students are to proceed immediately to their vehicles.

VEHICLES WILL ONLY BE ALLOWED TO MOVE AGAIN ONCE ALL STUDENTS ARE DONE MOVING. SCHOOL STAFF WILL DIRECT THE PROCESS.

Parents should park in single rows so backing up is not necessary. This helps keep our children safe.

For everyone's safety:

- Students should go immediately to their vehicles.
- Once student movement has stopped, teachers will move their stop signs from "STOP" to "SLOW."
- Only at that time should vehicles begin moving.
- Vehicles parked in the front two sections should wait to be dismissed by staff up the hill in front of the Church.
- Vehicles should not turn left down the aisles.
- Vehicles should wait in their lines to be dismissed or may turn right and head toward the ramp opposite Schnucks to exit toward the back of the parking lot.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation as we work to make dismissal as safe and efficient as possible.

FORMS DUE

Please remember that several forms and documents are due at the beginning of each school year. These include:

- Parent-Student Handbook consent – digital or paper, due by September 4, 2026
- Medical documents – physicals, dental exams, eye exams, immunization records, etc.
- Sacramental records – for new students
- Birth certificate – for new students

Please make sure all required documents are submitted as soon as possible.

BEFORE & AFTER CARE INFORMATION

For the 2026–2027 school year, Before and After Care will be billed at a flat rate of \$1.50 per 15 minutes (quarter hour) to help cover expenses.

THANK YOU TO COACH AMANDA EDWARDS & LCCC SOFTBALL

If you did not know, Amanda Edwards is a parishioner at St. Ambrose, a school parent, and a member of our School Advisory Council. She is also the head coach for the Women's Softball team at Lewis & Clark Community College.

This summer, we kicked off a girls' softball team at St. Ambrose for the first time in a long time. At the beginning, we had no equipment, and the girls lacked experience and familiarity with the game.

Coach Edwards and players from the LCCC softball team have been tremendous in helping our team secure equipment, sharing their knowledge, and even attending practices to provide direct instruction.

They also attended the softball team's first game this week!

Thank you to Coach Edwards and the LCCC softball team for all of your support, encouragement, and generosity. Best of luck to the LCCC softball team!

26–27 STUDENT-PARENT HANDBOOK POSTED

The 2026–2027 Student-Parent Handbook is now posted on the school website.

Each year, schools are required to obtain consent/acknowledgment from parents and guardians that they have read and agree to abide by the school's handbook.

After reviewing the handbook, please use the link to complete the digital consent, or print the last page, sign it, and return it to the school office.

All consents must be completed and submitted by Friday, September 4, 2026.

After September 4, students will be withheld from school until the required consents are received.

MIDDLE SCHOOL DANCE TO BENEFIT CHEER PROGRAM

St. Ambrose is hosting a "Back to School" Middle School Dance for middle school students from local Catholic elementary schools on Saturday, August 29, in the school gymnasium.

Time: 6:00–9:00 PM

Invited schools include:

- St. Ambrose
- St. Mary's
- Our Lady Queen of Peace
- St. Francis/Holy Ghost

Only students in grades 6–8 from the invited schools will be permitted to attend.

Pizza and drinks will be provided. Donations are encouraged to benefit the St. Ambrose Cheer Team.

A registration link will be sent out soon.

26–27 ATHLETIC HANDBOOK POSTED

The 2026–2027 Athletic Handbook is now posted on the school website. Please review the handbook for important information regarding St. Ambrose athletics.

LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Our St. Ambrose library volunteers could use a few more people to help out!

If you would be interested in volunteering in our school library, please contact Principal Mr. Baird at rbaird@stambrosegodfrey.org.

Thank you to everyone who gives their time and talents to support our students and school!

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS WANTED

Like most schools and districts, St. Ambrose Catholic School can always use extra substitute teachers.

If you are interested in substituting, please contact Principal Mr. Baird at rbaird@stambrosegodfrey.org.

EMERGENCY DRILLS SCHEDULED

The required emergency drills have been scheduled for the 2026–2027 school year. These include:

- 3 Fire Drills
- 2 Severe Weather Drills
- 2 Lockdown Drills
- 1 Earthquake Drill

Every time we conduct a drill, we are very aware and sensitive toward our youngest students while also preparing everyone for the possibility of a real emergency.

The first Fire Drill is scheduled for Tuesday, August 25 at 9:00 AM. The Godfrey Fire Department will be on hand to observe our first fire drill.

The first Lockdown Drill is scheduled for Thursday, August 27 at 8:05 AM. The Madison County Sheriff's Department will be on hand for the first lockdown drill.

FOOTBALL RAFFLE

Our 2026 Football Raffle Tickets are ON SALE NOW! Visit saintambroseparish.org/football to purchase online or physical tickets can be purchased from the Parish Office and after every Mass this weekend. If you are new here, you must go visit the webpage and hear all about how to chase some serious prizes all season long while supporting St. Ambrose in the most fun (and easy) way! Every single ticket is in the running for prizes every week of the regular season (Thursday–Monday). That's 18 weeks of chances to win! First game kicks off September 9, 2026... so the action starts soon! Just \$25 per ticket or snag the deal: Buy 3, Get 1 FREE!

NEWSLETTER

Announcements:

Welcome to another exciting
school year at St. Ambrose!

Upcoming Events

- **Back to School Night**
August 28
St. Ambrose Playground & Gym
- **Applefest**
September 18 & 19

Questions?

Email us!

sapa@stambrosegodfrey.org

SAPA Dress Down Pass Dates

9/4, 9/11, 10/2, 10/16, 12/4
1/8, 1/15, 2/5, 4/2, 4/9

Purchase passes here:
[https://stambrose.link/
DressDownPasses](https://stambrose.link/DressDownPasses)



Back to School Night!

Hang out with friends old and new
at the playground and gym
to celebrate the new school year!

Preorder Chic-Fil-A!

[https://stambrose.link/
BTSOrder](https://stambrose.link/BTSOrder)



SAPA Links:

SAPA Page:

<https://stambrose.link/sapa>

SAPA Calendar:

<https://stambrose.link/sapacalendar>

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, September 2nd
6:00 pm
Community Center

ST.
AMBROSE

Saints



BACK TO SCHOOL Night!



Come out and play with your friends
TO JUMP START AN AMAZING SCHOOL YEAR!



FRIDAY
AUG. 28TH



5:30-7:00 PM
at the
**PLAYGROUND
AND GYM**



FREE
**POPSICLES &
SNO CONES**
for everyone!

★ **SAPA** ★
SPONSORED

Chick-fil-A

ORIGINAL OR
SPICY SANDWICH

8 COUNT
NUGGET



PREORDER CHICK-FIL-A

for a quick and easy dinner!

TABLES WILL BE SET UP IN THE GYM!

\$10

INCLUDES
CHIPS & DRINK



PREORDER BY
August 25th!

CLICK THE QR CODE
... TO ORDER! ...

SCAN THE QR CODE TO ORDER!



Let's kick off an incredible school year together! We can't wait to see you there!



**ST.
AMBROSE**

Saints

Support Our **TEACHERS!**

Our amazing teachers go above and beyond
every day for our students.

Help them bring their classrooms to life!



**SCAN THE
QR CODE**

to view and shop from

ALL teacher wishlists!



♥ Thank you for ♥
**SUPPORTING OUR
SAINTS AND TEACHERS!**





**ST.
AMBROSE**

Saints

Stay

CONNECTED

WITH SAPA ON



remind™

SAPA uses the Remind app to keep families informed with important **updates, reminders, event announcements, and volunteer opportunities**—all in one convenient place!



WHY JOIN?



INSTANT UPDATES

Get alerts on events, deadlines, and important news.



STAY INFORMED

Never miss out on what's happening at St. Ambrose.



EASY CONNECTION

Simple communication between SAPA and school families.



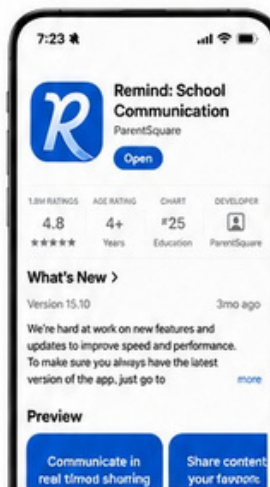
ALL FROM YOUR PHONE

Quick, simple, and convenient communication.

HOW TO JOIN OUR REMIND CLASS

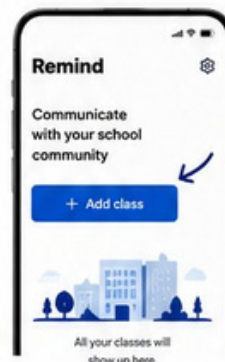
1 DOWNLOAD

Download the Remind app from the App Store or Google Play.



2 OPEN THE APP

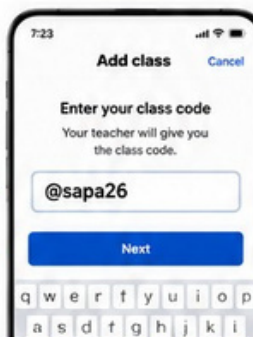
Open Remind and tap "Add class".



3 ENTER THE CLASS CODE

Enter the class code when prompted.

@sapa26



4 YOU'RE IN!

You'll start receiving important messages from SAPA.



ONE APP. ALL THE UPDATES.

Everything you need to know, right at your fingertips!

GET THE APP:



Let's work together to make this the best year yet!



Questions? Email us at sapa@stambrosegodfrey.org



ST. MARY'S ALTON

ST. AMBROSE

SFHG

OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE

Back to School Luau Dance

Hosted by
St. Ambrose Catholic School

Middle School Dance for 6th-8th Grades

Saturday, August 29th • 6:00 – 9:00 PM



Must Register

Pizza & drinks provided!

Gym

822 W. Homer Adams Parkway

Godfrey, IL

Suggested Donation: \$15

All proceeds go towards new cheerleading uniforms

WWW.SAINTAMBROSEPARISH.ORG/MIDDLE-SCHOOL-DANCE