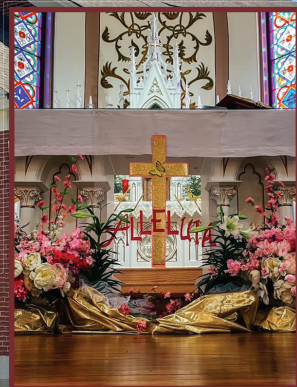


2025 GUIDE BOOK & DIRECTORY

St. Ambrose CHURCH



325 S. CHESTNUT STREET
SEYMOUR, INDIANA 47274

812-522-5304
WWW.STAMBROSESEYMOUR.ORG

St. Ambrose Church

325 South Chestnut Street

Seymour, IN 47274

812-522-5304

Email: info@stambroseseymour.org

Website: www.stambroseseymour.org

Dear Parishioner,

Here is your Guide Book & Parish Directory for 2025-26. Its purpose is three-fold. First, to provide each registered parishioner and/or family with a complimentary, annually-updated, directory booklet. Second, to utilize this directory to create an awareness of the various ministries and programs available at St. Ambrose Church. And finally, as an opportunity to reach out and connect with all of our parishioners and/or families to invite them to engage themselves in the life of this wonderful parish.

Stay connected and informed with St. Ambrose by referencing our multiple communication vehicles:

Parish Website: www.stambroseseymour.org

Weekly Parish Bulletin (www.stambroseseymour.org/publications)

E-News updates through registration with

flocknote.com/stambrose (or text “stambrose” to 84576 to subscribe)

Join us on our Facebook Group - St. Ambrose Church

There is an abundance of activity in the parish. The pages immediately following will provide a brief snapshot of the programs and ministry areas, as well as highlight ways you can engage and share your God-given gifts and abilities to help enhance our efforts here at St. Ambrose. We invite and encourage you to get involved – simply contact the appropriate staff member by email, phone or in person.

Please keep this directory as a handy reference tool to utilize throughout the year. The directory will be updated annually, so if we have any incorrect information in your family listing, please do not hesitate to contact the Parish Office so we can update our records.

We thank you for your ongoing support of St. Ambrose and look forward to seeing you at the various liturgies, programs, events and activities planned in the year ahead. If you have any questions or suggestions please contact us, we'd love to hear from you!

May God bless you in the coming year, and may all of your connections to St. Ambrose be fruitful and faith-inspiring.

Mission

We, the people of St. Ambrose Catholic Church, are called to live the Gospel message of God's love and mercy. We live our faith through worship, prayer, faith formation, and as a loving servant to those in need both in our parish and the larger community.

Vision

We, the Catholic Community of St. Ambrose Church, embrace a common vision grounded in our spiritual foundation. Through God's grace, we envision a vibrant, welcoming and culturally diverse community united in faith and committed to:

- Our liturgy, through the celebration of the Sacraments together.
- Lifelong faith formation through St. Ambrose Catholic School, religious education programs, youth ministry, and adult education.
- Christian service by ministering to the needs of the parish, the larger community and the world.
- Good stewardship of our finances and parish resources.

Mass Times/Horarios de Misa

Weekend Mass Schedule/Misas Fin de Semana

Saturday/Sábado 5:30 p.m.

Sunday/Domingo 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m.,
12:30 p.m. (Bilingual) & 5:00 p.m. (Bilingual)

Weekday Mass Schedule/Misas de la Semana

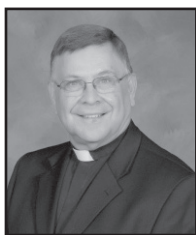
Tuesday/Martes 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday/Miércoles 8:45 a.m.

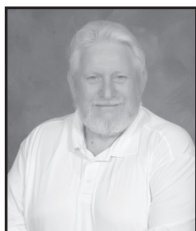
Thursday/Jueves 5:30 p.m. (Bilingual)

Friday/Viernes 8:45 a.m.

Parish Staff, St. Ambrose Church



Rev. Daniel Staublin
Pastor



Mike East
Deacon



John Cord
Deacon



Robin Davidson
Business Manager



Leticia Pasillas
*Administrative Assistant/
Bookkeeper*



Maria De Martinis
Hispanic Ministry



Beth Pifer
*Coordinator of
Religious Education &
Youth Ministry*



Michelle Neibert-Levine
School Principal



Amy Pruden
School Secretary



Danny Simmons
*Parish Maintenance
Coordinator*

Blessings and Greetings parishioners of St. Ambrose!

St. Ambrose has been serving faithful men, women and children of the Roman Catholic faith for over 150 years. We are happy you are part of our family.

St. Ambrose currently serves over 900 families scattered throughout Jackson County. Many of these people have lived their entire life in the parish. Many have moved here because of employment, family connections and other reasons. We are of German-western European descent, some from eastern-Europe, Vietnam, Philippines, Mexico, Colombia, Guatemala and other parts of the world. In short, we are a snapshot of the Universal Church!

I hope you will find your place with us to pray and to add your hands in service to the Church and the larger community.

If I can be of service to you, please contact me by calling the Parish Office at 812-522-5304. If you would like to have your home blessed, call me and that can be arranged.

Again, glad you are here and may God bless.

Peace,

Rev. Daniel J. Staublin

¡Bendiciones y Saludos feligreses de San Ambrosio!

San Ambrosio ha estado sirviendo a hombres, mujeres y niños fieles de la fe católica romana durante más de 150 años. Estamos felices de que seas parte de nuestra familia.

St. Ambrose actualmente atiende a más de 900 familias repartidas por todo el condado de Jackson. Muchas de estas personas han vivido toda su vida en la parroquia. Muchos se han mudado aquí por motivos de trabajo, conexiones familiares y otras razones. Somos descendientes de alemanes de Europa occidental, algunos de Europa del Este, Vietnam, Filipinas, México, Colombia, Guatemala y otras partes del mundo. En resumen, somos una imagen de la Iglesia Universal!

Espero que encuentre su lugar con nosotros para orar y poner sus manos al servicio de la Iglesia y de la comunidad en general.

Si puedo servirle, comuníquese conmigo llamando a la oficina parroquial al 812-522-5304. Si desea bendecir su hogar, llámeme y eso se puede arreglar.

Una vez más, me alegro de que estés aquí y que Dios te bendiga.

Paz,

Padre Daniel J. Staublin

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MKT-5894P-A AECSPAD

Parish History

Indiana became a state in 1816 and was part of the mission fields supported by the Propagation of the Faith in Lyons, France, and other missionaries from France. Our parish was part of these mission fields. Accounts of Catholic settlers of German descent in Jackson County are dated 1834. During this time Mass was said in homes when a priest, usually on horseback, passed through. The home of John Culver on the northeast corner of Third and Broadway Street, used by Catholic railroad workers and their families, is on record as one of these sites.

The area grew in population and aspired to be a town. Meedy Shields, a Seymour founding father, offered land and \$100 to any congregation that would build a church in the future town. Jackson County Catholics accepted the offer and built a wooden church on S. Chestnut Street. Oral tradition has it that the church, a wooden structure, was dedicated to St. Ambrose in 1860. In accordance with the Archdiocese directives of the day, a cemetery was purchased and a Catholic School was started. Rev. Philip Doyle was the first resident Pastor of St. Ambrose. Rev. Doyle's sister, Catherine Doyle, left the Sisters of Providence Community and became the first Catholic school teacher for the children of St. Ambrose Parish. Catherine was the first American Postulant received by Saint Mother Theodore Guerin and the Sisters of Providence at St. Mary-of-the-Woods.

With the backdrop of the Civil War, and lawlessness in the area around the notorious Reno Gang, the church membership grew, necessitating a larger church. The Cornerstone for the brick church you see today was laid on August 21, 1870.

The second resident Pastor, Rev. Anthony A. Schenk, oversaw the building of the St. Ambrose Academy and Day School for three sisters from the Sisters of Providence who were in charge of 120 pupils at its start in 1874. In these early school's subjects were usually reading, spelling, arithmetic, geography and history. Religion was taught as a special topic outside of the regular class hours. School was held six to seven hours daily, six days a week, ten months a year.

Fr. Schenk also enlarged the church with the addition of a sanctuary in 1884.

Then Fr. Clement Conrad was Pastor at St. Ambrose for forty-six years from 1887 to 1933. The influence of his long and conscientious service was felt outside his church as well as throughout the years. Under his guidance, a new rectory was built (1891), new pipe organ installed (1907), three new altars were purchased from a New Albany church (1907), and the Knights of Columbus was established.

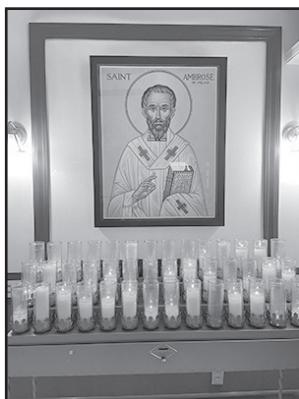
St. Ambrose has been fortunate to have long serving, dedicated and talented Pastors over the years as the parish has continued to grow. New buildings along the way have been erected and paid for with successful capital campaigns. For example, the present school was dedicated January 29th, 1959, the present rectory was built in 1967, and the Parish Center

was completed in 1997 under the leadership of Fr. Joseph Sheets. Over the years the school children were taught by the Sisters of Providence (1873-1917), Ursuline Sisters (1917-1929) and Sisters of the Order of St. Benedict (1930-1983). Today St. Ambrose School is staffed by lay teachers in classes Kindergarten through 8th grade.

St. Ambrose celebrated its 150th anniversary in 2010. Fr. Daniel J. Staublin began his ministry here and celebrated the opening of our 150th year with a Mass with Archbishop Daniel Mark Buechlein, OSB, in June of 2010. Father Dan uses the Parish Commissions Model and Parish Council to assist in the operation of the Parish. With a wide variety of activities and groups operating within the Parish community, it is a challenge to schedule spaces for the assorted ministries but it works.

On December 7, 2022, an icon of our Patron Saint was dedicated and placed in our church.

St. Ambrose, pray for us.



Sacraments & Funeral Information

Please call the office for further information.

Penance/Reconciliation:

Tuesday: 4:30 p.m. – 5:10 p.m.

Thursday: 4:30 p.m. – 5:10 p.m.

Saturday: 4:30 p.m. – 5:10 p.m. or by appointment

Anointing of the Sick:

If you or a family member would like to receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, please call the Parish Office at 812-522-5304. If you are scheduled for surgery, you are asked to call in advance of the surgery date.

Unción de los enfermos:

Si usted o un miembro de su familia desea recibir el Sacramento de la Unción de los Enfermos, llame a la Oficina Parroquial al 812-522-5304. Si tiene programada una cirugía, se le pide que llame antes de la fecha de la cirugía.

Sacrament of Baptism:

Please contact the Parish Office to schedule an appointment with Fr. Dan. A session of baptismal preparation may be required.

Sacramento de Bautizo:

Por favor llamar a la oficina de la parroquia para anotar a padres y padrinos para pláticas bautismales.

Marriage Preparation:

Please schedule an appointment with Fr. Dan six months prior to the wedding date.

Preparación Matrimonial: *Por favor programar una cita con el Padre Dan seis meses antes de la fecha de la boda.*

Holy Eucharist:

First Communion: At St. Ambrose School, children receive their First Holy Communion in second grade. For those attending a school other than St. Ambrose School, please contact Beth Pifer, Religious Education Coordinator, Preschool – 12th Grade at 812-522-5304 ext. 322, to learn about our sacramental preparation program. Please keep in mind that a child must have received at least one year of preparation for Religious Education prior to preparation for receiving Sacraments.

Sagrada Eucaristía:

Primera Comunión: En la escuela San Ambrosio, los niños reciben su Primera Comunión en segundo grado. Para aquellos que asisten a una escuela que no sea la escuela San Ambrosio, comuníquese con Beth Pifer, Coordinadora de Educación Religiosa - Preescolar - 12º grado al 812-522-5304 ext. 322 para conocer nuestro programa de preparación sacramental. Tenga en cuenta que un niño debe haber recibido al menos un año de preparación para Educación Religiosa antes de prepararse para recibir los Sacramentos.



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Parishioner

Homebound Communion: If you would like to receive the Eucharist but are unable to attend Mass due to ill health, infirmity, or advancing age, you may arrange to have Communion brought to you. Please call the Parish Office at 812-522-5304.

Comunión en casa: *si desea recibir la Eucaristía, pero no puede asistir a Misa debido a problemas de salud, dolencia o edad avanzada, puede hacer arreglos para que le lleven la Comunión. Llame a la oficina parroquial al 812-522-5304.*

Confirmation:

Confirmation is typically received by students in their sophomore year of High School or older. You must have been involved and active in our Youth Ministry Program at least one year prior to participating in Sacramental Preparation. If you do not meet these criteria we ask that you join us for Youth Ministry and service projects before enrolling in Confirmation.

Confirmación:

La confirmación generalmente la reciben los estudiantes de segundo año de escuela secundaria o mayores. Debe haber estado involucrado y activo en nuestro Programa de Ministerio Juvenil al menos un año antes de participar en la Preparación Sacramental.

Si no cumple con estos criterios, le pedimos que se una a nosotros para el Ministerio Juvenil y proyectos de servicio antes de inscribirse en la Confirmación.

Funeral Scheduling Information:

To schedule a funeral, please call the Pastor at the Parish Office at 812-522-5304. We will need to know the name of the deceased, the name and telephone number of the family contact, and the name of the funeral home. We will obtain any other necessary information to help facilitate funeral planning, which will involve the availability of the priest, the church, and other parish facilities.

Información sobre programación de funerales:

Para programar un funeral, llame al párroco de la oficina parroquial al 812-522-5304. Necesitaremos saber el nombre del fallecido, el nombre y número de teléfono del contacto familiar y el nombre de la funeraria. Obtendremos cualquier otra información necesaria para ayudar a facilitar la planificación del funeral, lo que implica la disponibilidad del sacerdote, la iglesia y otras instalaciones parroquiales.

St. Ambrose Catholic School

301 South Chestnut Street ~ Seymour, IN 47274

Phone: 812-522-3522 ~ Fax: 812-522-3545

www.stambroseseymour.org/school

Facebook: St. Ambrose Catholic School-Seymour, Indiana

St. Ambrose School Mission Statement

Led by Christ through prayer and study, the St. Ambrose Catholic School Community encourages a lifelong commitment to faith, learning, leadership, and service.

Our students and staff live our mission in the following ways:

FAITH: Attending Mass together (weekly, Holy Days of Obligation, other special days), receiving Sacraments (Eucharist, Reconciliation), praying (beginning/end of day, before/after lunch, Rosaries, Stations of the Cross, when we hear emergency vehicles, May Crowning of Mary), celebrating Liturgical Seasons (Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter), honoring special feast days (St. Ambrose, Our Lady of Guadalupe, St. Nicholas, All Saints Day), Attending Retreats (CYO Camp), etc.

LEARNING: Providing a rigorous curriculum (reading, language arts, math, science, social studies) and special area classes (art, music, foreign language, P.E.), participating in Indiana state assessments (ILEARN, IREAD-3, WIDA), utilizing current student and classroom technology (Chromebooks, Promethean smart boards), participating in extra-curricular activities (volleyball, basketball, VEX Robotics, state music competitions, essay contests, DARE), attending educational field trips, etc.

LEADERSHIP: Planning and participating in school Liturgies, providing ministry at weekend Masses (altar servers, musicians, lectors, greeters), participating in Jackson County Youth Program (YoJACK), sharing classroom, school, and parish responsibilities, providing assistance at Knights of Columbus Lenten fish dinners, etc.

SERVICE: Delivering Meals on Wheels, assisting at local charities (Anchor House, Provisions, and Seymour Clothing Center), Collecting for others facing hardships (Haiti, Catholic Charities, Ronald McDonald House, Salvation Army, natural disasters, etc.)

The St. Ambrose School Commission is an advisory committee that works with the Pastor, the Principal, and staff on the advancement of the school 2025-26 members: Anna Alexander (Secretary), Pascual Baltazar, Dennis Carlson, Diane Chelius, Mary Ellen Emch (Chairperson and Parish Council Representative), Andrea Fernandez, Raquel Pasillas, and Xochitl Rizo.



Stewardship

Welcome to the Stewardship Commission!

The Mission Statement for the Stewardship Commission:

In collaboration with our Pastor and our Parish Council, the commission is responsible for the following objectives:

1. To educate our parish that God is the source of everything we have and are. We are also accountable for the cultivation of God's gifts.
2. To direct and communicate opportunities for involvement in Parish Ministries.
3. To promote hospitality within the parish and fully engage all parishioners.
4. To develop and implement our Annual Archdiocese and Parish Stewardship program.
5. To aid in the development of programs concerning estate planning, deferred gifts, and management of individual financial resources.
6. To express gratitude to our parishioners for their generous gifts of time, talent and treasure.

Ministries of the Stewardship Commission:

- Buildings and Grounds for Church, Rectory, School & Cemetery
- United Catholic Appeal
- Time, Talent, & Treasure appeal for the parish
- Communications and Promotions
- Financial Endowments
- Parish Pictorial Directory
- Hospitality Committee

All Ministries have their committees and meet when needed.

Healing Touch

Healing Touch is a welcoming group to anyone at the loss of a loved one.

Every first Tuesday of the Month we meet for Mass offered for the souls of the departed loved ones.

Hope for the Christian Dead

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

The members meet occasionally for a meal, reflection and support each other with ongoing prayer. Please email Sylvia Rust if you need more information at varsdj@gmail.com.

St. Ambrose Faith Formation Commission

Faith Formation promotes and supports adult faith formation opportunities in St. Ambrose Parish.

1. The Faith Formation Commission is a committee of the Parish Council and is consultative to the Pastor and Parish Pastoral Council.
2. It also collaborates with the parish administrator of Religious Education to implement Commission policy and attain goals.
3. These opportunities and activities are aimed to lead people in a lifelong process to holiness in an increasingly secular world.

The Commission offers specific ministries including but not limited to:

- RCIA
- Retreats
- Lenten Lectionary Studies and Reflections
- Renowned speakers to come to speak on various topics of interest
- Christian musicians who come to lift up our spirits through music

St. Ambrose Youth Ministry (7th – 12th Grade)

St. Ambrose Youth Ministry

Grades 7-12

St. Ambrose Youth Ministry is for students in grades 7-12 and will meet on most Wednesday evenings in the Youth Area from 8:00-9:00 p.m. We usually begin with either a guest speaker and/or a purposeful game, then break into small groups for Lectio Divina - reflection and discussion about the week's Gospel and how we can apply it to our daily lives. We close with group prayer, including prayer requests. Our goal is to help students grow in their identity as Catholics, as well as foster friendships with people who share their faith.

Any Middle School and High School students and their friends are welcome at any time! Young adult and parent volunteers are always needed as mentors and chaperones for special service projects and events. Please contact Beth Pifer at 812-522-5304 ext. 322 or pifer@stambroseseymour.org.

Here are just a few of the things we do

- “We Care” packages for college and military students previously active in our youth ministry program
- Leaf Raking
- Community Diner (soup kitchen)
- Souperbowl of Caring
- NCYC (National Catholic Youth Conference)
- Ignite (previously ICYC - Indiana Catholic Youth Conference)
- Salvation Army Bell Ringing
- Mission Trip

Parent/Guardian consent forms and schedules are available on our website at stambroseseymour.org/youth-ministry or in the Parish Offices.

Visit flocknote.com/stambrose or text stambrose to 84576 to sign up for updates!

If you have any questions, please contact Beth Pifer at 812-522-5304 ext. 322 or pifer@stambroseseymour.org.



Confirmation

Our goal is to provide you with information and experiences that enable you to answer questions about Catholicism, get a better understanding of the Sacrament of Confirmation and our call as Catholic Christians to social justice, and allow you time to reflect on your personal faith. Another goal of our program is to expose you to what it means to be an active, participating adult in the Catholic Church through participation in liturgies, education, service and retreats. By the end of the program, we hope we have achieved these goals so that you can more consciously make your decision about becoming a fully initiated member of the Catholic Church.

Our program is based on the guidelines set forth by the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, which states that each candidate complete the following:

- 20-30 hours of Catechesis
- 20 hours of service
- Retreat experience

Classes typically occur during the sophomore year of high school or older. Please note that **YOU MUST HAVE BEEN INVOLVED AND ACTIVE IN OUR YOUTH MINISTRY PROGRAM FOR AT LEAST ONE YEAR PRIOR TO PARTICIPATE IN PREPARATION FOR THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION.** If you do not meet these criteria, we ask that you join us for Youth Ministry and service projects before enrolling in Confirmation.

Additional information is available on our website at stambroseseymour.org/confirmation-

If you have any questions, please contact Beth Pifer at 812-522-5304 ext. 322 or pifer@stambroseseymour.org.



Religious Education

Preschool - 8th Grade

Religious Education for Preschool - 8th grade meets every Wednesday from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. We go by a calendar similar to our school. The material used for their formation is according to their school grade level. All of our materials are available in bilingual form. Religious Education is a vital part for our children, especially for those preparing for First Reconciliation and First Communion.

Children/Youth who are looking forward to receiving First Reconciliation, First Communion or Confirmation must have received at least one year of preparation for Religious Education prior to enrolling in Sacrament preparation. Usually students receive First Reconciliation/First Communion their 2nd grade year, so that means as 1st graders it is important that they are enrolled and attending Religious Education Classes.

SPREAD (Special Religious Development) utilizes a variety of programs and adaptive materials to provide an environment in which persons with developmental and cognitive disabilities can experience ongoing faith formation, as well as positive integration into the liturgical and community life of the Church. The annual SPREAD Mass offers special opportunities to experience Christ through participation in the Mass. SPREAD meets twice a month so they may connect faithfully with their friends. This class time will take place from 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Additional information is available on our website at <https://www.stambroseseymour.org/religious-education>

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact:

Beth Pifer, Coordinator of Religious Education 812-522-5304 ext. 322 or pifer@stambroseseymour.org

Visit flocknote.com/stambrose or text stambrose to 84576 to sign up for updates!



Spiritual Life

The Spiritual Life Committee is a standing committee of the parish Pastoral Council, dedicated to the promotion of active participation in worship and programs in spiritual development.

The overall purpose of the Spiritual Life Committee is to assist the Pastor in planning and providing for the spiritual development of the members of St. Ambrose through liturgical celebrations.

The Spiritual Life Committee is active and helpful in preparing parish liturgies and prayers, setting parish policy regarding liturgy, and educating the parish in issues of liturgy. The Spiritual Life Committee is also involved in recruiting and training liturgical ministers including lectors, greeters, music ministers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, sacristans, servers, and those focused on making our Church environment beautiful and sacred.

The Spiritual Life Committee assists the Pastor and the Pastoral staff in forming and maintaining a vision of liturgy which is truly the source and summit of life at St. Ambrose.

Opportunities to serve are as follows:

Committee member: The committee meets on the third Tuesday of the month as needed.

The committee meets around nine times per year to plan upcoming liturgies and evaluate past liturgies.

Congregation: All people at the liturgy are responsible to participate fully in the liturgy.

Lector: The lector is instituted to proclaim the readings from sacred scripture.

Hispanic Ministry: The Hispanic Ministry serves to help coordinate Hispanic liturgical offerings which include:

- La Celebración Misa bilingue (Bi-lingual Mass celebrations.)
- Música Litúrgica (Musical liturgy)
- Celebraciones especiales (Special celebrations)
- Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe (Our Lady of Guadalupe)

Music Ministry: The goal and purpose of the Music Ministry is to enhance the experience of worship by heightening the Word of God with music and to provide beauty to the liturgy through music. Those involved are cantors who lead the congregation in singing and musicians who provide the instrumental music.

Greeters: The church Greeting Ministry is a vital part of welcoming visitors to our church. It helps shape the first impression a church presents to potential parishioners. The greeters also serve as ushers who help seat people for Mass and collect the offering.

Servers: A person (usually boys and girls from the parish) who helps the celebrant during a liturgical service.

Arts and Environment: A group of parishioners who design and prepare the worship space in accordance with the liturgical calendar.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: help the Pastor distribute communion to the congregation. These ministers are invited to serve by the Pastor.

Sacristans: Prepare the Altar area before and after Mass.

Finance Committee

Purpose:

The Finance Committee of St. Ambrose Parish coordinates all financial activities of the Parish and acts as an advisory body for planning, providing counsel and direction to the Pastor and Pastoral Council on financial matters, in accordance with Canon Law and the norms of the Diocesan Bishop.

Function:

- a. Assists and advises the Pastor and Business Manager concerning the administration of the parish goods according to Canon Law and Archdiocesan directives, policies, and norms.
- b. Directs the preparation of the St. Ambrose annual budget and assists in monitoring operations to assure budget conformance.
- c. Reviews financial reports at each meeting and presents a report to the Pastoral Council.
- d. Advises the Pastor, Business Manager and Pastoral Council on matters of financial planning.
- e. Provides support to other committees and organizations regarding financial matters.

Welcoming Committee

Purpose:

We will serve as an outreach committee to promote a culture of openness and fellowship. In which new church members, those who are returning to our Catholic faith and current parishioners feel welcome and connected to our church. Our main goal is to make everyone feel welcome and promote fellowship.

Responsibilities:

Contact newly registered individuals and families and provide them with a welcome packet with information about our parish.

Committee members will follow-up with newly registered parishioners with a phone call to see how they are becoming acquainted with us, answer questions they might have, and inform them of upcoming activities at St. Ambrose.

For more information, contact Claudia Dominik by email:
desdemon47274@yahoo.com



St. Ambrose Women's Fellowship

Providing funeral dinners is a corporal work of mercy that takes many willing and giving hearts. The newly reorganized Daughters of Isabella, now known as the St. Ambrose Women's Fellowship under the St. Ambrose church umbrella, wants to express their appreciation to the parish for their support. Four funeral committees cover the year using a list of volunteers compiled from the time-talent-treasure cards. Funeral dinners average around 40 people and take 16 to 20 people generously donating a side dish or dessert. Please know your efforts are greatly appreciated by the families of our souls passing on to their heavenly reward.

To join the St. Ambrose Women's Fellowship, email dbedwell@gmail.com or join our meeting on the 1st Thursday of the month at the K of C Hall at 6:00 p.m.

Legion of Mary

St. Ambrose Legion of Mary began in 1947. Members meet on Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. in the Parish Center for a weekly meeting and prayer.

Members pray the Rosary and Legion prayers daily. It is open to any church member 18 and over.

We are part of a worldwide group. You are welcome to come to a meeting. We currently have 4 active members and 23 auxiliary members.

Any questions, call Maria Robb at 812-498-9292.

Knights of Columbus

From the moment of our founding, charity has been the first principle of the Knights of Columbus. We are Catholic men of faith and men of charitable action. In 2016, the Knights of Columbus, as an international organization, set a record in charitable giving for the 18th consecutive year.

Our charitable activities encompass an almost infinite variety of local, national and international projects. Our own unique charities include Special Olympics, Ultrasound Initiative, Coats for Kids and the Wheelchair Project.

Our local K of C strongly supports our school, church and various charitable organizations in our community. We are able to accomplish this by fundraising events like the Oktoberfest food booth, Frühlingsfest in May, tenderloin and chicken dinners every month.

We, as Catholic gentlemen, are in Solidarity with our Bishops and Priests. If you'd like to be a part of an international organization whose principal work involves helping others in need, we'd like to meet you and invite you to join us.

Speak with any Knight or call 812-522-2989 and leave a message. We will contact you.

St. Vincent de Paul

Mission Statement

Inspired by gospel values, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, a Catholic lay organization, that leads women and men to join together to grow spiritually by offering person to person service to those who are in need and suffering. Helpline! 812-524-8566

The local group meets about an hour on the 4th Thursday of the month in the Parish Center at 6:00 p.m.

Projects:

- Help people in need in Jackson County by assisting in paying for utilities, food, rent, medicine, etc.
- Providing lodging for short periods of time.
- Provide shoes for elementary school children if needed.

Hispanic Ministry

The first Hispanic families began to regularly worship at St. Ambrose in the mid to late 1990's.

Today there are Hispanic representatives on almost all commissions. They are involved in the Anglo parish commissions and take the information back to the general meeting in Spanish open to all involved in the different commissions and ministries. Ideas and information are exchanged and passed back and forth this way. Maria De Martinis serves as the Hispanic Ministry Coordinator.

Our bilingual Masses are very well attended. We have 5 enthusiastic music groups who participate in the bilingual liturgy. In 2015, we started to see the presence of our Guatemalan brothers and sisters who have joined our parish and some have started participating in Liturgy Ministries. We have seen a huge growth in our Hispanic population in the last few years. Fr. Dan decided to add a second bilingual Mass to the weekend schedule. This Mass was initiated on Sunday, April 17, 2022.

Major feasts are generally bilingual, faith formation events are held in Spanish/English and some Spanish feasts are observed with Hispanic traditions. Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebrations remind us that we are catholic people and one America. Other events include the celebration of Hispanic Heritage month, Posadas, Dia de Reyes, Mother's Day and Father's Day.

Fr. Dan prays that the bilingual "spirit" continues to grow in our liturgies and that the Hispanic parishioners continue to take an active role in the life of the parish.



Haiti Committee

The Haiti Mission was started as part of a Twinning Program that links parishes in poor countries with parishes in America. We have twinned with St. Therese Parish in Gaspard, Haiti, since 1998. Our initial commitment was to help with a medical clinic. To support the clinic, St. Ambrose needed to commit to sending \$900 per month to our sister parish. In order to accomplish this, the committee requested that 180 parish families each commit to contributing \$5 each month to support this medical mission. The commitment was reached and St. Ambrose parishioners have supported the clinic and have increased funding to support many additional needs of the community for the past 26 years. In 2024, we were able to fully fund the medical clinic (which also does trips to the neighboring village of Jean Clair), fully fund the school staff salary (supports approximately 350 kids), repair roofs and power (solar/generator), repair and maintain a vehicle that serves the community, as well provide food, fuel, and other needs as we are able to. Over the last few years, we have been having dialog with other charities that support the area and are finding additional ways to partner with these groups to further help the people of Gaspard. Some of these groups are Food for the Poor, Caritas, and Solidarity Haiti.

Haiti is the poorest country in the western hemisphere. Here are some fast facts:

- One of the top 10 water-poor countries of the world
- One in five children die before reaching the age of five
- Life expectancy is about 25-30 years less than the US
- Most people lack access to medical care
- Most people live on one or less meals a day
- Most homes lack electric, running water, and other modern standards
- Lack of job opportunities

One goal of the committee has been to start making mission trips to Gaspard again. This should greatly help us determine how we can best serve them with our time, talent, and treasure as well as build a stronger relationship with our brothers and sisters in Haiti. We would like to help them find ways to break out of poverty and improve their quality of life. Many different backgrounds are needed to support trips (medical/dental/vision/pharmacy persons, educators, builders, project managers, electrical folks, IT folks, financial folks, mission team support folks, etc.). Please prayerfully consider a future trip. If you think you are called to a trip, but are unsure how your presence might be helpful, please contact the leader of the committee to discuss.

We currently meet quarterly and invite all parishioners to join us. Funds are sent down to Gaspard from St. Ambrose quarterly after the committee prayerfully assesses the needs presented by the priest at St. Therese on behalf of the church, community, school, and medical clinics. Because of the extreme poverty and rising costs in the country, the needs exceed the amount of money that is currently being donated but we are making a lifesaving difference for the people of Gaspard. They very much appreciate the help that the parishioners of St Ambrose are giving.

Please continue to generously support our sister parish through the envelopes that you should be receiving with the regular parish envelopes (please mail into St. Ambrose or drop in the collection basket or simply mark an envelope with “Haiti Mission” if you are not receiving the envelopes). Please keep the priest, parishioners of St. Therese, and Haiti in general in your prayers.

Please contact John Rennekamp at 812-498-1084 or at rennekampfam@cenergymetro.net with questions or if interested in joining the committee.

St. Therese Parish in Gaspard, Haiti

Roof repairs, while painting will prolong the life, the salty air shortens the useful life of all metal in the area.



First Communion



Celebrations for the feast of St Therese. The lights have not been working for the last six years, but with generator repairs there are functional lights in the church



Prayer Shawl Ministry

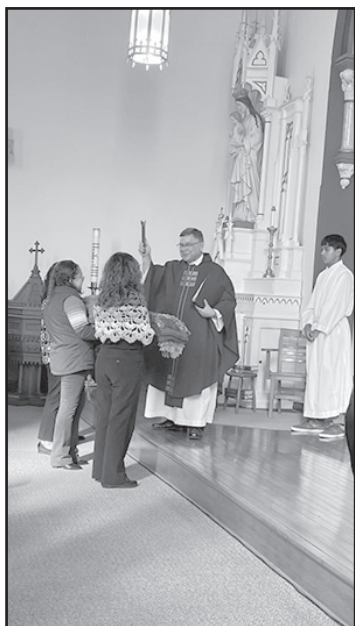
All are welcome. The Ministry will gladly teach a beginning knitter to help someone regain their skills. Patterns for various skill levels are available through the coordinators.

The knitters who are inspired to knit for this ministry know the power of prayer and the need of each should to be remembered and comforted when they face difficult times not of their choosing. Christ has no hands on earth but ours so we reach out. Knitting needles and hands in this ministry become instruments of prayer. We ask for the blessing of comfort on the shawl recipients and if possible that their health be restored. We hope they know other care.

Ministry coordinators, Kay Melton and Kitty Lewis work with the Parish Office staff to receive names, bless the shawls, and deliver shawls through the Eucharistic Ministers. Names also come to the ministry through word of mouth.

The Hispanic group with coordinator, Teresa Morales (812-530-6984), meets each Tuesday from 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. in the downstairs meeting room in the Parish Center. Other knitters in the ministry knit at home.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry of St. Ambrose Church began in the summer of 2009. The ministry met its goal to make and present shawls to the forty plus homebound parishioners within its first 12 months of existence. The ministry continues to knit for the homebound and in July of 2010 began knitting the white garments needed for the Sacrament of Baptism. Last year, 73 shawls were used in the Baptisms performed at St. Ambrose.



Mental Health Ministry

In 2024, St. Ambrose started a Mental Health Ministry. This Ministry is made up of mental health professionals from our Parish. The Mental Health Ministry has a couple of goals. First, to help our school children and our Youth Ministry students to feel comfortable talking about issues and feelings that may cause them stress. The team is giving talks to our young people on a regular basis about these topics. The second goal is to help our Parish to have a better understanding of how God uses His helpers to work with us when we are facing some of life's issues.

If you would like to learn more about our Mental Health Ministry, or if you or someone you know needs to talk to a professional, please call Catholic Charities Counseling Services at 765-349-6730.