

Mission Statement

Saint Ambrose Catholic Church is devoted to living the Gospel of Jesus Christ by embracing a life of love, kindness, and hospitality. We are a welcoming community where every person is valued. We worship God fervently, serve passionately, and witness to the transformative power of Christ.

MASSSES:

Sunday, 10:00 am
Thursday, 6:00 pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:
Thursday, 4:30 - 5:30 pm



Staffed by the
Capuchin friars of the
Province of Saint Augustine
www.capuchin.com

Saint Ambrose Catholic Church

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Saint Ambrose Baltimore



Fr. W. David Nestler, OFM Cap, pastor
pastor@saintambrose.com

Ms. Faye Augins, receptionist
receptionist@saintambrose.com

Rev. Mr. Seigfried Presberry, deacon
spresberry@verizon.net

Rev. Mr. Steve Rubio, deacon
srubio530@icloud.com

Mr. Deitrick Goodwin, director of music
deitrickgoodwin@gmail.com

PENTECOST SUNDAY

24 May 2026

PENTECOST

"In each person the Spirit reveals his presence in a particular way for the common good. The Spirit comes gently and makes himself known by his fragrance. He is not felt as a burden, for he is light, very light. Rays of light and knowledge stream before him as he approaches. The Spirit comes with the tenderness of a true friend and protector to save, to heal, to teach, to counsel, to strengthen, to console. The Spirit comes to enlighten the mind first of the one who receives him, and then, through him, the minds of others as well.

"As light strikes the eyes of a person who comes out of darkness into the sunshine and enables him to see clearly things he could not discern before, so light floods the soul of the one counted worthy of receiving the Holy Spirit and enables him to see things beyond the range of human vision, things hitherto undreamed of."

— Saint Cyril of Jerusalem, bishop
4th century

MISSION STATEMENT TOWN HALL RECAPITULATION

Sixty-one people stayed after Mass last Sunday for the presentation about our new mission statement and to offer reactions to it. The presentation focused on the development of the new statement in light of all the feedback the Parish Mission Council received. While some of us still want to see minor revisions to the text, the goal of the town hall was to lay out a reason for presenting it as it is. It is the fruit of a collaborative effort and walks the fine line of respecting every contribution.

The mission statement is shaped by the people of our parish. It is faithful to the Gospel of Jesus. It is a standard worthy of our aspirations. Up next will be an opportunity to formally commit ourselves to use it as a benchmark for our parish life by signing the statement. The rationale which was distributed after the town hall meeting is inserted in this bulletin. Please take the time to pray and reflect on it individually and in the meetings of parish ministries.

2026 GRADUATES

Our celebration to honor our graduates this year is the last Sunday of June. Please note that the invitation to participate is for graduates who are members of Saint Ambrose Church. So that we can be sure to recognize all of our graduates on June 28th, please sign up by June 14th. There are two ways:

- use this QR code and complete the form;
- use the paper form at the Welcome table in church.



FATHER'S DAY IS JUNE 21

The current envelope packet includes a remembrance for fathers after the pattern of the Mother's Day remembrance. Please use the envelope the same way. We will light candles in honor or remembrance of fathers and pray a novena for them. An online portal has been established through our website. A prayer for the nine days will be provided at the beginning of the novena.

Primary Election Day is June 23

Early voting is June 11 - 18

PLEASE VOTE

MASS ON THE GRASS

WEEKEND

14 - 16 August

Friday - Sunday

Save the dates!

This year's dates are one week earlier than usual. Please make sure you have the correct dates on your calendar.

On Friday afternoon that weekend, we will be hosting an event outside under the tent, inviting neighbors and neighborhood organizations to see our school building as we discuss possibilities for its repurposing as a community resource center in some way. Please save that afternoon for us, so that those who may want to partner with us can meet our church family and be touched by our customary hospitality. More details will be announced as a plan for that day takes shape.

ONE NATION UNDER GOD

"In honor of America's 250th year, the 2026 National Eucharistic Pilgrimage will carry the theme One Nation Under God. One Nation Under God is not a slogan — it's an invitation to realign our lives, communities, and country under the sovereignty of Christ. It's a call to build unity through prayer, and to let Jesus, present in the Eucharist, renew and heal the heart of our country, one person at a time. As pilgrims on this route, we walk with Christ so that His love might draw our nation back to Him. You're invited to join, in person or in spirit, and offer prayers and sacrifices for the renewal of America."



The pilgrimage is coming to the Archdiocese of Baltimore from June 9 - 11. Free events are planned, including Mass and processions, tours of the country's first cathedral, a retreat and adoration in Carroll Gardens.

The pilgrimage route has been named the *Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini Route* in honor of the first U.S. citizen to be canonized a saint. It covers 2000 miles from Florida to Maine to Pennsylvania, ending in Philadelphia over Independence Day weekend. For more information, visit EucharisticPilgrimage.org. You can register for local events at ArchBalt.org.



CATHOLIC IN AMERICA PODCAST

Archbishop Lori was recently interviewed on *Catholic in America*, reflecting on the 250th anniversary of the United States and growing divisions within American society. He spoke of the urgent need for Catholics to bring both charity and truth into public life. You can listen to the podcast here:





Sixty-five BUILD clergy and lay leaders called on the Baltimore City Council to do their part to keep families together at May 14th's City Hall budget hearing. BUILD leaders shared personal stories with the City Council and stated a clear need to increase funds for immigration legal and mental health services. They also delivered 1,206 letters of support that they collected in one week, including 74 from our parish community. Thank you for lending your voice to this effort.

BIBLE STUDY



A group of parishioners gathers at 6:30 pm on Wednesday evenings in the Saint Augustine Room to study the Bible together. You don't have to come to

every one to benefit; each session is a self-contained, prayerful study. The group has just started a new series, each week centering their study on a particular person in the Bible. We're calling it:

FAITH OF OUR MOTHERS - FAITH OF OUR FATHERS
This week: *Hannah*

MASS INTENTIONS

- 05/24: the people of Saint Ambrose Church;
- 05/28: Fr. Michael J. Warner on the 40th anniversary of his passing, requested by Faye Augins;
- 05/31: Valerie Cole-James on the 6th anniversary of her passing, requested by her loving family;
- 06/04: the people of Saint Ambrose Church;
- 06/07: Elbert W. Gross on the 12th anniversary of his passing, requested by his daughter Patricia E. Shorter;
- 06/11: the people of Saint Ambrose Church.

Eternal rest grant unto the faithful departed, O Lord, and let your perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

A FRIAR'S SUMMER INTERNSHIP

Brother Charlie Cascino, O.F.M. Cap.

Through most of June and July one of our young friars in the midst of his theology studies will spend several weeks of his summer assignment among us. Look for him wherever we can give him an experience of parish ministry.



TITHES AND COLLECTIONS

17 May 2026 — online contributions	\$1,745.30
17 May 2026 — envelope contributions	\$3,339.00
Sunday collection total	\$5,084.30
<i>Thank you so much for your continuous support!</i>	



Use this QR code to make a donation or to sign up for online giving.

PRAY FOR OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS

If you or members of your family are admitted to the hospital and would like to be visited and remembered in prayer, please notify the parish office. If you are unable to attend Mass and want to receive a visit from the pastor, a deacon, or a eucharistic minister, please contact the parish office.

Let us always pray for our sick and shut-in parishioners. In particular, please remember in prayer:

- | | | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Mary Adderly | Louis Cooper | Gloria B. Harris | Brenda Richardson | Jean Thomas |
| E-Otree Allen | Linda Davis | Angela Johnson | Charles Richardson Williams | Kenneth Townsend, Sr. |
| Phillip Ashton | Kenneth Davis | Cornell (Nelson) Johnson | Corey Richardson | Tammy Vaughn |
| Kimberley Barnes-Ohanwe | Dante Davis | Josie Johnson | Carl & Bernice Shrieves | Rosalie Watkins |
| Jean Bennett | Dale Dyson | Joseph Jones | Danielle Singley | Sr. Ann Marie Whelan, SSND |
| Parrish Boyd | Earlene Forrest | Lydia Lashley | Bryan Smith | Yvonne Wilder |
| Karen Brown-Berkley | William Ford III | Sheila Leary-Smith | Daniel Smith Sr. | Brenda Williams |
| Michael Bruce | Eric Frazier | Ernest Livers | Archie Stith | William Young, Sr. |
| Renee Bruce | Sarah Gamble | Charles Manns, III | Rosalita Stone | Alice Zaborowski |
| Al Butler | JoAnn Glenn | Kimberly Merrill | Gloria Tate | |
| Debbie Chase | Karen Gross | Danielle Owens | Ernest Thames | |

PENTECOST SUNDAY

24 May 2026

FIRST READING

Acts 2: 1 - 11

When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled, they were all in one place together. And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were. Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven staying in Jerusalem. At this sound, they gathered in a large crowd, but they were confused because each one heard them speaking in his own language. They were astounded, and in amazement they asked, "Are not all these people who are speaking Galileans? Then how does each of us hear them in his native language? We are Parthians, Medes, and Elamites, inhabitants of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the districts of Libya near Cyrene, as well as travelers from Rome, both Jews and converts to Judaism, Cretans and Arabs, yet we hear them speaking in our own tongues of the mighty acts of God."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 104: 1, 24, 29 - 31, 34

Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

Bless the LORD, O my soul! O LORD, my God, you are great indeed! How manifold are your works, O LORD! the earth is full of your creatures;

May the glory of the LORD endure forever; may the LORD be glad in his works! Pleasing to him be my theme; I will be glad in the LORD.

If you take away their breath, they perish and return to their dust. When you send forth your spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the earth.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 12: 3b - 7, 12 - 13

Brothers and sisters:

No one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit.

There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone. To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit.

As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons, and we were all given to drink of one Spirit.

GOSPEL

John 20: 19 - 23

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained."



The Comforter Has Come

And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever. [n. 14:16
Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me. Ac. 1:8

1. Oh, spread the tid-ings 'round, wher - ev - er man is found, Wher - ev - er hu - man
2. The long, long night is past, the morn - ing breaks at last, And hushed the dread - ful
3. Lo, the great King of kings, with heal - ing in His wings, To eve - ry cap - tive
4. O bound - less love di - vine! How shall this tongue of mine To won - d'ring mor - tals
5. Sing till the ech - oes fly a - bove the vault - ed sky, And all the saints a -

hearts and hu - man woes a - bound; Let eve - ry Chris - tian tongue pro - claim the joy - ful sound:
wail and fu - ry of the blast, As o'er the gold - en hills the day ad - vanc - es fast!
soul a full de - liv'rance brings; And through the va - cant cells the song of tri - umph rings;
tell the match - less grace di - vine— That I, a child of hell, should in His im - age shine!
bove to all be - low re - ply, In strains of end - less love, the song that ne'er will die:

⌘ Fine Refrain

The Com - fort - er has come! The Com - fort - er has come, the Com - fort - er has come! The Ho - ly Ghost from

D.S. al Fine

Heav'n, the Fa - ther's prom - ise giv'n; Oh, spread the tid - ings 'round, wher - ev - er man is found—



Saint Ambrose Church
4502 Park Heights Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21215

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

Revised, May 2026

sentence by sentence rationale

- 1. “Saint Ambrose Catholic Church is devoted to living the gospel of Jesus Christ by embracing a life of love, kindness and hospitality.”**

What It Means:

This reflects our identity shaped by Jesus’ teachings. To “live the gospel” means believing in Christ and practicing His way of life, focusing on the core virtues of love, kindness, and hospitality.

How It Is Shown in Liturgy and Ministry:

LITURGY:

Ministers of Hospitality greet attendees warmly, helping set a positive tone for the liturgy and creating a sense of belonging. Our pastor and deacons emphasize compassion and mercy in their homilies. Worship includes practices like the Sign of Peace, communal prayer, and inclusive roles for various members of the community, which demonstrate kindness and value for everyone.

MINISTRY ACTIVITIES:

Outreach programs, such as meal ministries and clothing drives, illustrate love in action. Saint Vincent de Paul serves the poor, while the Catholic Daughters of the Americas support the sick and youth in the community. The Saint Anthony Clothes Closet offers free clothing with dignity and care. Pastoral care teams provide support to the sick and grieving. The Bereavement Ministry offers comfort to families, while the Sick and Homebound Ministry ensures that no one feels forgotten. Events like *Mass On the Grass* Weekend foster a welcoming atmosphere for all.

- 2. “We are a welcoming community where every person is valued.”**

What It Means:

This shows our commitment to inclusivity and recognizing every individual’s worth, making the parish a spiritual home for all.

How It Is Shown in Liturgy and Ministry:

LITURGY:

Participation in liturgy is open to everyone, with inclusive roles and multilingual expressions, reflecting our diverse community. Accessibility features, such as ramps and sign language support, ensure that all can participate fully.

MINISTRY ACTIVITIES:

All parish ministries share a mission to value individuals and meet their needs, whether in grief, poverty, or seeking community support. This commitment fosters a spirit of unity and compassion throughout our parish.

3. “We worship God fervently, serve passionately, and witness to the transformative power of Christ.”

What it Means:

WORSHIP FERVENTLY: We approach prayer and liturgy with enthusiasm and devotion.

SERVE PASSIONATELY: We engage in ministry with energy and commitment.

WITNESS TO CHRIST’S TRANSFORMATIVE POWER:

We share how Christ changes lives through our words and actions, showing His work in us—healing, strengthening, forgiving, and redirecting our lives.

KEY ASPECTS:

How we treat others

How we handle suffering

How we love and forgive

How we live differently because of Christ

For instance, if Christ has helped you overcome struggles, your peace and joy become a testament to His transformative power.

How It Is Shown in Liturgy and Ministry:

LITURGY:

The Eucharist is celebrated with reverence, uplifted by music and community participation, fostering joyful worship. Special liturgical seasons allow us to deepen our relationship with God. Through sacraments and preaching, we experience grace that strengthens our service.

MINISTRY ACTIVITIES:

Liturgical ministries support worship with joy and devotion, while outreach programs like Saint Vincent de Paul and Street Disciples serve those in need. Evangelization and faith-formation programs help parishioners grow spiritually and share their faith confidently.



The
Josephites

The Most Reverend
John Huston Ricard, SSJ

BORN:

29 February 1940
New Roads, Louisiana

ENTERED JOSEPHITE ORDER:

1958

ORDAINED PRIEST:

25 May 1968

CONSECRATED BISHOP:

02 July 1984
Auxiliary Bishop of Baltimore,
1984 - 1997
Bishop of Pensacola-Tallahassee,
1997 - 2011

**SUPERIOR GENERAL,
SOCIETY OF SAINT JOSEPH
OF THE SACRED HEART
2019 - 2026**

DIED:

20 May 2026
Washington, D.C.

MOTTO:

God is gracious

Official Statement on the passing of Most Reverend John H. Ricard, SSJ

Washington, DC — It is with deep sorrow that the Josephites announce the passing of Most Reverend John H. Ricard, SSJ, Superior General of the Josephites and Bishop Emeritus of the Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee, who died on May 20, 2026, at Saint Joseph's Seminary in Washington, DC.

Born on February 29, 1940, Bishop Ricard faithfully served the Catholic Church for decades through his ministry as a Josephite priest, counselor, educator, pastor, bishop, humanitarian, and leader. He devoted his life to the proclamation of the Gospel, humanitarian efforts worldwide, the mission of the Josephite Society, and the pastoral care of God's people, especially within Black Catholic communities.

The Josephite community asks for prayers for the repose of Bishop Ricard's soul, for the Josephite community, his family, friends, and all who mourn his passing.

Further information regarding funeral arrangements and memorial services will be shared soon.

Media & Public Inquiries

Please direct all inquiries to:

Very Reverend Ray Bomberger, SSJ
Vicar General
Email: communications@josephites.org



Introductory to
HOSPICE & PALLIATIVE CARE
TRAINING

June 13, 2026 | 8:30am – 12:30pm

Saint Ambrose RC Church / Zoom Meeting ID: 82172388343 Passcode: nOYw7n

About the Training

Join us for an informative training designed to equip health care professionals, caregivers, community advocates, and volunteers with essential skills in hospice and palliative care. Learn how to provide comfort, dignity, and support to individuals facing life-limiting illness, while also supporting the families and loved ones.

What You'll Learn:

- Principles of hospice and palliative care
- Pain and symptom management basics
- Communication with patients and families
- Emotional, spiritual, and cultural support
- End-of-life care planning and ethics
- Caregiver self-care and resilience
- Understanding military culture at End-of-Life

Who Should Attend:

- Health care professionals
- Counselors
- Caregivers and family members
- Volunteers and community advocates
- Anyone interested in compassionate care at End of Life

Facilitators

- **Barbra A. Swann**, CAVS, MS, Gerontology
- **Michelle Sheldon-Rubio**, RN, BSN, CDCES, CSD
Pastoral, Palliative and Hospice Care

Spaces are limited – reserve your spot today!

For questions or to register:

Swann.Barbra@gmail.com or call 410-925-2448

