

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



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THE TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

27 September 2026



POPE LEO ON THE LITURGY

The August heat in Rome forced the first general audience after Pope Leo's summer holiday to move inside the Vatican Basilica. Pope Leo continued his teaching on the church's pivotal document on the liturgy. The Holy See's press office summarized his catechesis this way:

"In our continuing series of catecheses on the Second Vatican Council's Constitution on the liturgy, *Sacrosanctum Concilium*, today we turn our attention to

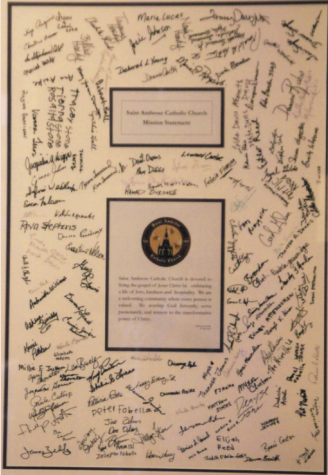
the ecclesial dimension of the Church's liturgical prayer. Far from avoiding the world and its needs, all prayer, especially in the entire liturgy, is the essential dimension of our humanity. In our prayer we unite ourselves with Jesus to offer praise and thanksgiving to God the Father, through the power of the Holy Spirit. In a particular way, Saint Paul VI expressed a longing that the Liturgy of the Hours, the daily public prayer of the Church, would be prayed by all the members of Christ's Body. In this way, we will allow the Holy Spirit to breathe into each thought and action, inspiring a deeper experience of the Paschal Mystery. My brothers and sisters, may we find the spiritual nourishment necessary on our earthly pilgrimage by joining with the whole Church in her liturgical prayer as we await the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."

The complete text of 820 words is available here:

<https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/audiences/2026/documents/20260805-udienza-generale.html>



PARISH MISSION STATEMENT RETREAT DAY



Last Saturday twenty-two of us gathered in the friary for a five-hour day of prayer and reflection on the parish's newly-promulgated mission statement.

The members of the Parish Mission Council and leaders of all the various ministries discussed how each organization strives to live and embody our mission and how those

efforts contribute to the work of other groups. Conversations flowed naturally, everyone listened respectfully, many learned a lot about how and what other ministries do, and ideas for better collaboration between ministries came to the fore.

This afternoon's meeting of the Parish Mission Council will include a follow-up conversation of the retreat day and will advance plans for the next retreat day which will be open to the entire parish on Saturday, October 24th. Keep an eye out for registration details.

FAITH RENEWED

MISSION SUSTAINED

Living our parish mission – being a faithful follower of Jesus – doesn't mean that you have to be a member of any particular ministry in the church. But every one of us does need to be committed to living what we say we believe every moment of our days wherever our responsibilities and lives take us. You may not be a lector or minister of the Eucharist, you may not be a member of the Catholic Daughters or the Men's Fellowship, but you are a member of the Body of Christ and that portion of his body that worships at Saint Ambrose Church. Your presence and your striving to be a faithful disciple is valuable to everyone who comes through our doors, and is meaningful in every encounter of your life beyond our doors.

We are sustained by many gifts: prayer, service, participation, generosity and the quiet commitment of so many. You help make our shared mission possible. Carry the question with you throughout the week: how is God calling me to help renew faith and sustain the mission of our parish?

MASS ON THE GRASS 2027

Save the Dates!

Next year's weekend has been selected and confirmed. Mark your calendars now.

Friday - Sunday

27 - 29 August 2027

MASS WITH THE SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Thursday, October 8
6:00 pm



The Thursday evening Mass on October 8th will include the opportunity for those in attendance to celebrate the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. The sacrament takes place after the homily and before the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

The sacrament is not only for those who are in danger of imminent death and should not be thought of exclusively in that way. The sacrament may and should be given to anyone

whose health is seriously impaired. Here are some general guidelines for receiving the sacrament:

- those whose health is seriously impaired by sickness or old age;
- the sacrament may be repeated if the sick person recovers after being anointed and then again falls ill, or if during the same illness the person's condition becomes more serious;
- elderly people may be anointed if they have become notably weakened even though no serious illness is present;
- sick children may be anointed if they have sufficient use of reason to be strengthened by this sacrament.

Celebrating the sacrament during Mass gives us the opportunity to collectively bring our weakness and ill health to God for blessing and healing. By the sacrament, we present ourselves and our loved ones to God for healing, and we are strengthened by praying together for each other. Even if you are not in need of this sacrament at this time, come and pray with brothers and sisters here, who beg God's healing Spirit in their lives.

Celebrate the Passing of our Holy Father Saint Francis 03 October 1226

800 years ago this October 3rd, Saint Francis died in the evening, lying naked on the ground according to his wish. Celebrating his passing is always a deeply meaningful way we friars begin our commemoration of Saint Francis' life every year on October 4th. The eighth centenary makes it particularly special to us.

Please join us in church on that Saturday evening at 6:00 pm to celebrate the *Transitus* within the Liturgy of the Hours. Night Prayer centers around the singing of a psalm; and the *Transitus* features an extended reading about the death of Saint Francis.

Because of a longstanding tradition in which Franciscan friars and Dominican friars exchange preachers on each one's Founder's Day, Fr. Maximilian Jaskowak, O.P. will deliver a brief homily. Fr. Maximilian is not only a Dominican friar, but also the spiritual director and a professor at Saint Mary Seminary and University, Roland Park.

Please join us!
Your presence would do the friars a great
honor.



Use this QR code or link to submit a request to have a meeting or an event published on the parish calendar.

<https://www.osvhub.com/saintambrose/forms/calendar-request>

MASS INTENTIONS

09/27:	Gloria Jiggetts on the 1 st anniversary of her passing, requested by her loving husband, Clinton, and family
10/01:	the people of Saint Ambrose Church
10/04:	Denver Johnson on the 1 st anniversary of his passing, requested by his loving wife, Ethel, and his brothers and sisters
10/08:	the people of Saint Ambrose Church
10/11:	Ronnie Tuitt on his birthday and the 2 nd anniversary of his passing, requested by his mother, Merle Parejo
10/15:	the people of Saint Ambrose Church
<i>Eternal rest grant unto the faithful departed, O Lord, and let your perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.</i>	

MASS INTENTIONS FOR 2027

Next year's book for recording Mass intentions is now open for requests. To make sure that everyone has time to place an intention on the calendar, we will accept two intentions per person until March 1st. After that, individuals may request more.

TITHES AND COLLECTIONS

20 September 2026 – online contributions	\$1,615.40
20 September 2026 – envelope contributions	\$1,966.00
Sunday collection total	\$3,581.40
<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	Linda Davis	Betty Jones	Charles Richardson Williams	Vernon Thornton
E-Otree Allen	Kenneth Davis	Angela Johnson	Corey Richardson	Kenneth Townsend, Sr.
Phillip Ashton	Dante Davis	Cornell (Nelson) Johnson	Carl & Bernice Shrieves	Tammy Vaughn
Denise Bannon	Dale Dyson	Josie Johnson	Patricia Simms	Rosalie Watkins
Kimberley Barnes-Ohanwe	Earlene Forrest	Joseph Jones	Danielle Singley	Sr. Ann Marie Whelan, SSND
Jean Bennett	Doris Ford	Lydia Lashley	Bryan Smith	Yvonne Wilder
Parrish Boyd	William Ford III	Sheila Leary-Smith	Daniel Smith Sr.	Brenda Williams
Karen Brown-Berkley	Eric Frazier	Ernest Livers	Archie Stith	William Young, Sr.
Michael Bruce	Sarah Gamble	Charles Manns, III	Rosalita Stone	
Renee Bruce	JoAnn Glenn	Kimberly Merrill	Gloria Tate	
Debbie Chase	Karen Gross	Danielle Owens	Ernest Thames	
Louis Cooper	Gloria B. Harris	Brenda Richardson	Jean Thomas	

FAITH RENEWED

MISSION WEEKEND

MISSION SUSTAINED

Thank You for Reflecting on Our Parish Mission

Thank you to everyone who took time this weekend to reflect on where the mission of our parish is being lived out.

Our parish is sustained by many gifts: prayer, service, participation, generosity, and the quiet commitment of parishioners who help make our shared mission possible.

As we continue Faith Renewed, Mission Sustained, we invite you to carry these questions into the week ahead.

Pray & Reflect This Week



Where am I most grateful for this parish?



Where has my faith been renewed here?



How do I see the mission of our parish being lived out?



How might God be inviting me to help sustain this mission?



Next Weekend: Renewal Weekend

Next weekend we will reflect on our personal commitment to the life of the parish and the ways each household can help support the mission we share.

St. Ambrose
Women's Day 2026
Celebrate With Us!

When: Sunday, October 18, 2026 at 10 a.m.

Theme:
Women of St. Ambrose
Spreading *Hope* and Serving God
Through *Faith, Unity, and Love*

Attire Colors: Yellow = Hope Blue = Faith Purple = Love White = Renewal

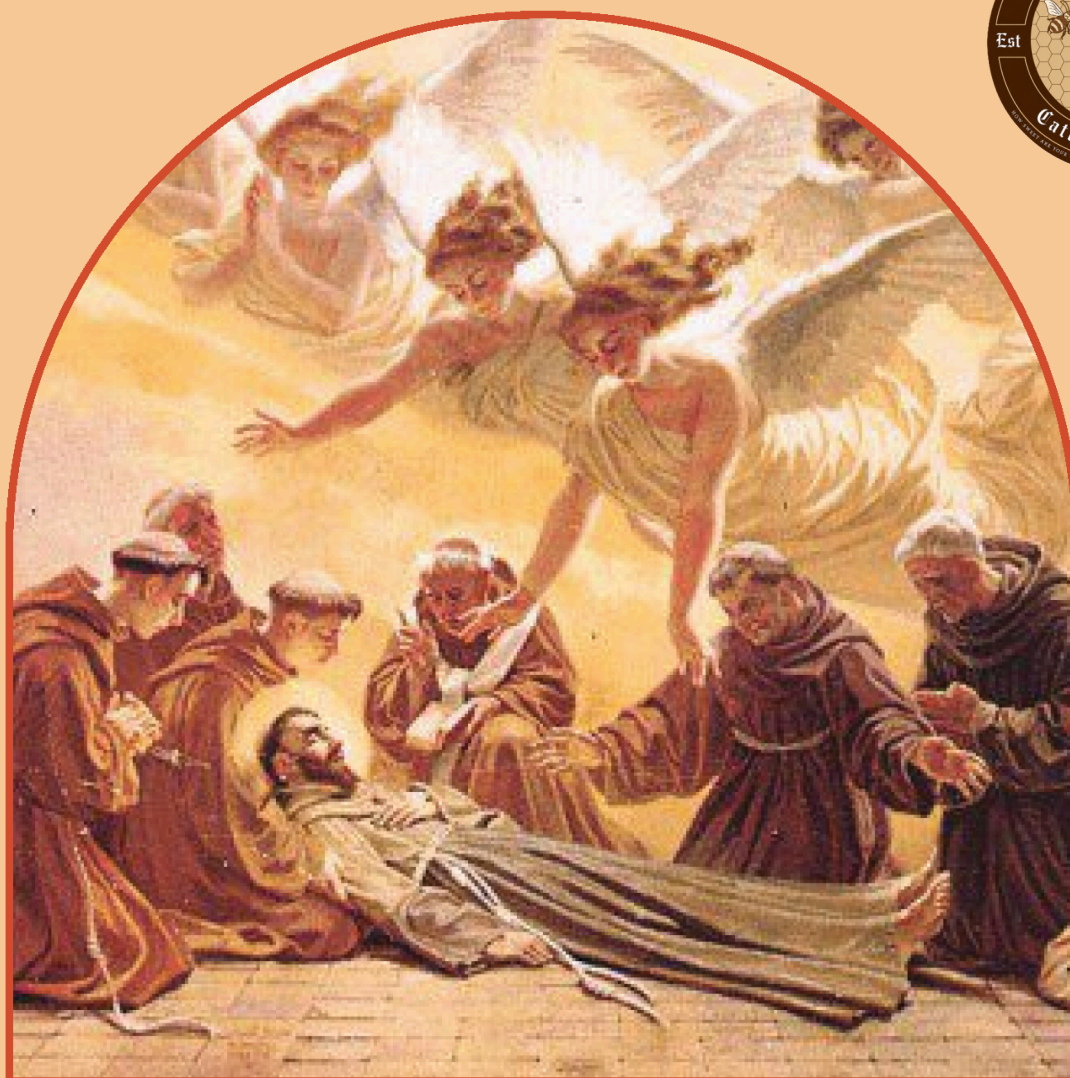
Ladies and men may wear any combination of these colors.

See Dani Owens or Angela Moore-Jones for questions.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY UPDATE

The regular meeting of the Women's Ministry was last Sunday with 15 women in attendance. Even with a focus on Suicide Prevention Awareness Month, the ladies had fun, gained knowledge, shared, and were spiritually fed. If you missed this one, you are welcome to attend the next gathering which will be on Women's Day, October 18th.

There are only three more rehearsals for the special choir that will lead our congregation in singing that day. The rehearsals are on Mondays in church from 6:00 - 7:30 pm. Next rehearsal: tomorrow, September 28th.



The Capuchin Friars invite you to
celebrate the
Transitus of Saint Francis of Assisi

Saturday, 03 October 2026
Saint Ambrose Church, 6:00 pm
4502 Park Heights Avenue

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL FOLLOW!



Saint Ambrose Catholic Church
invites you to celebrate the
Anointing of the Sick
during the celebration of the Eucharist

Thursday, 08 October 2026
Saint Ambrose Church, 6:00 pm
4502 Park Heights Avenue

THE TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
27 September 2026

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 18: 25 - 28

Thus says the LORD:

You say, "The LORD's way is not fair! Hear now, house of Israel: Is it my way that is unfair, or rather, are not your ways unfair? When someone virtuous turns away from virtue to commit iniquity, and dies, it is because of the iniquity he committed that he must die. But if he turns from the wickedness he has committed, and does what is right and just, he shall preserve his life; since he has turned away from all the sins that he has committed, he shall surely live, he shall not die.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 25: 4 - 9

Remember your mercies, O Lord.

Your ways, O LORD, make known to me; teach me your paths, guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my savior.

Remember that your compassion, O LORD, and your love are from of old. The sins of my youth and my frailties remember not; in your kindness remember me, because of your goodness, O LORD.

Good and upright is the LORD; thus he shows sinners the way. He guides the humble to justice, and teaches the humble his way.

SECOND READING

Philippians 2: 1 - 11

Brothers and sisters:

If there is any encouragement in Christ, any solace in love, any participation in the Spirit, any compassion and mercy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, with the same love, united in heart, thinking one thing. Do nothing out of selfishness or out of vainglory; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves, each looking out not for his own interests, but also for those of others.

Have in you the same attitude that is also in Christ Jesus,

Who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
something to be grasped.

Rather, he emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
coming in human likeness;
and found human in appearance,
he humbled himself,
becoming obedient to the point of death,
even death on a cross.

Because of this, God greatly exalted him
and bestowed on him the name
which is above every name,
that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
of those in heaven and on earth and under the
earth,
and every tongue confess that
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

GOSPEL

Matthew 21: 28 - 32

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people:

"What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He came to the first and said, 'Son, go out and work in the vineyard today.' He said in reply, 'I will not,' but afterwards changed his mind and went. The man came to the other son and gave the same order. He said in reply, 'Yes, sir, 'but did not go. Which of the two did his father's will?' They answered, "The first."

Jesus said to them, "Amen, I say to you, tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you. When John came to you in the way of righteousness, you did not believe him; but tax collectors and prostitutes did. Yet even when you saw that, you did not later change your minds and believe him."