

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

4502 Park Heights Avenue • Baltimore, Maryland 21215

(410) 367-9918

www.saintambrose.com

info@saintambrose.com



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

THE TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

18 October 2026



POPE LEO ON THE LITURGY

The Holy Father gave his eighth and final teaching in his series on Vatican II's document on the liturgy on August 26th. He concluded the series by emphasizing what is considered the most important teaching of the document: that the "full, conscience, active participation of all the faithful" is the aim to be considered before any other.

"Dear brothers and sisters, in this final catechesis on the Second Vatican Council's Constitution on the

Sacred Liturgy, *Sacrosanctum Concilium*, we recall the reasons the Council Fathers promoted a liturgical reform. When the Church carries out a reform of the liturgy – a constant process of development across the centuries – there is an important distinction to be made between the divine, immutable elements, and the human elements, which may undergo various modifications. The need arose for the faithful to celebrate the liturgies more consciously and actively, not 'as strangers and silent spectators,' but participating fully in the salvific mystery. In this way, the Christian people learn to recognize sacred realities, offer themselves with and through the hands of the priest, and become more open to receiving God's grace. At every celebration of the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist, let us ask for God's help to be strengthened on our journey and to enter into a deeper relationship with the Lord."

The full text of Pope Leo's teaching is available here:

<https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/audiences/2026/documents/20260826-udienza-generale.html>



"A BARBARIC PROMOTION OF A CULTURE OF DEATH"

Those are the words Archbishop Paul Coakley (the president of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops) used to describe the plan by the Department of Defense and the Trump administration to have a public execution of Nidal Malik Hasan at Fort Hood in December.

A brief article by Fr. Sam Sawyer of *America* magazine articulates so well the outrage and disgust we should have for this plan. The title of his article says it strikingly well: *The Death of the American Conscience will Be Livestreamed*.

If you read the bulletin regularly, you are already used to me recommending reading from time to time. This time I am not only recommending it, I am asking you to take a few minutes to read this short article and allow it to inform and protect your conscience.

<https://www.americamagazine.org/short-take/2026/10/09/fort-hood-execution-firing-squad-hegseth-livestream/>

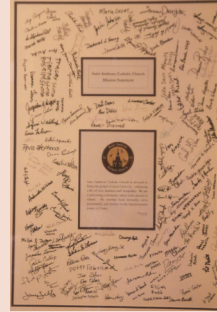


fr. David

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT RETREAT DAY

Saturday, 24 October 2026

10:00 am - 3:00 pm



This Saturday is the retreat day we have planned for every member of every ministry and organization in the parish. The day is also open to any parish member who wants to participate. Everyone is welcome, invited, and encouraged to take part. It's not too late to sign up.

But, because we have to organize space for everyone who will come and we have to offer some lunch to everyone, registering is very important. There is a sign up page on the Welcome table. There is a link and code to access an online form to register. Please choose one way or the other to sign up and please do so soon.

<https://www.osvhub.com/saintambrose/forms/mission-statement-retreat-day>

28 people are signed up so far. Don't be left out.



**FAITH
RENEWED**
**MISSION
SUSTAINED**

Gratitude



Thank You for Sustaining the Mission We Share

Thank you for your generosity, prayer, service, and presence in our parish community.

Together, these gifts renew faith and sustain the mission we share.

Thank you for helping our parish remain a place of worship, welcome, formation, service, and care.



Cards for expressing gratitude and requesting prayers are available at the Welcome table.

Share Gratitude This Year



Notice a mission moment.



Thank someone who serves.



Share an act of kindness.



Write what you are grateful for.

Selected notes may be shared with our parish community throughout the year.

A Grateful Parish is a Stronger Parish

What are you grateful for in our parish? Fill out a gratitude card at the Welcome table.

A PRAYER FOR POPE LEO'S RECOVERY

by James Martin, S.J.

God, at the very dawn of creation,
you breathed upon the waters,
making them the wellspring of creation.

In those same times,
after your divine breath entered into Adam's lungs,
you gave life to all humanity.

When your Son, Jesus, died on the Cross,
He offered his very last breath to you, his heavenly Father.

After the Resurrection, when you breathed new life into your
Son,
He, in turn, breathed on his disciples and gave them the gift
of the Holy Spirit.

In our time, that Holy Spirit guided the cardinals in their
election of Pope Leo XIV.

Now we turn to you and ask you to fill his injured lungs with
that same Holy Spirit, making him strong and healthy, and
removing any trace of illness.

As Leo faces treatment, give him all the gifts of the Holy
Spirit, especially fortitude.

Guide the actions of his doctors, nurses and caregivers, giving
them the Spirit's gifts as well, especially wisdom and
knowledge.

Finally, help your Son's Vicar, and our Pope, Leo, trust in you,
both now in his time of illness, during his treatment and
after his recovery.

Come, Holy Spirit!

Amen.

Share your photographs of parish events. Email
them to: photos@saintambrose.com. As best you
can, please identify the event, day and time, and the
names of individuals pictured.



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](https://www.osvhub.com/saintambrose/forms/calendar-request)

MASS INTENTIONS

10/18:	the people of Saint Ambrose Church
10/22:	the people of Saint Ambrose Church
10/25:	the people of Saint Ambrose Church
10/29:	Archer and Augustine Stith on their 52 nd wedding anniversary requested by their daughter, Paula Langford
11/01:	the people of Saint Ambrose Church
11/02:	all the deceased
11/05:	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>	

BIBLE STUDY

Last Wednesday, the group finished its prayerful reading and study of the Letter to the Romans. At the next gathering they will begin a verse-by-verse study of the Gospel of Mark.

Join them for the next gathering: Wednesday, October 28th at 6:30 pm in the Saint Augustine Room. Everyone is always welcome to come anytime your schedule allows even if it's just every once in a while.

TITHES AND COLLECTIONS

<i>11 October 2026 – online contributions</i>	\$2,011.50
<i>11 October 2026 – envelope contributions</i>	\$2,695.00
Sunday collection total	\$4,706.50
<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	Angela Johnson	Corey Richardson	Kenneth Townsend, Sr.
E-Otree Allen	Kenneth Davis	Cornell (Nelson) Johnson	Carl & Bernice Shrieves	Tammy Vaughn
Phillip Ashton	Dante Davis	Josie Johnson	Patricia Simms	Rosalie Watkins
Denise Bannon	Dale Dyson	Joseph Jones	Danielle Singley	Sr. Ann Marie Whelan, SSND
Kimberley Barnes-Ohanwe	Earlene Forrest	Lydia Lashley	Bryan Smith	Yvonne Wilder
Jean Bennett	William Ford III	Sheila Leary-Smith	Daniel Smith Sr.	Brenda Williams
Parrish Boyd	Eric Frazier	Ernest Livers	Archie Stith	William Young, Sr.
Karen Brown-Berkley	Sarah Gamble	Charles Manns, III	Rosalita Stone	
Michael Bruce	JoAnn Glenn	Kimberly Merrill	Gloria Tate	
Renee Bruce	Karen Gross	Danielle Owens	Ernest Thames	
Debbie Chase	Gloria B. Harris	Brenda Richardson	Jean Thomas	
Louis Cooper	Betty Jones	Charles Richardson Williams	Vernon Thornton	

THE TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

18 October 2026

FIRST READING

Isaiah 45: 1, 4 - 6

Thus says the LORD to his anointed, Cyrus, whose right hand I grasp, subduing nations before him, and making kings run in his service, opening doors before him and leaving the gates unbarred: For the sake of Jacob, my servant, of Israel, my chosen one, I have called you by your name, giving you a title, though you knew me not. I am the LORD and there is no other, there is no God besides me. It is I who arm you, though you know me not, so that toward the rising and the setting of the sun people may know that there is none besides me. I am the LORD, there is no other.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 96: 1, 3- 5, 7 - 10

Give the Lord glory and honor.

Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all you lands. Tell his glory among the nations; among all peoples, his wondrous deeds.

For great is the LORD and highly to be praised awesome is he, beyond all gods. For all the gods of the nations are things of nought, but the LORD made the heavens.

Give to the LORD, you families of nations, give to the LORD glory and praise; give to the LORD the glory due his name! Bring gifts, and enter his courts.

Worship the LORD, in holy attire; tremble before him, all the earth; sing among the nations: The LORD is king, he governs the peoples with equity.

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 1: 1 - 5b

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy to the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: grace to you and peace. We give thanks to God always for all of you, remembering you in our prayers, unceasingly calling to mind your work of faith and labor of love and endurance in hope of our Lord Jesus Christ, before our God and Father, knowing, brothers and sisters loved by God, how you were chosen. For our gospel did not come to you in word alone, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with much conviction.

GOSPEL

Matthew 22: 15 - 21

The Pharisees went off and plotted how they might entrap Jesus in speech. They sent their disciples to him, with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are a truthful man and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. And you are not concerned with anyone's opinion, for you do not regard a person's status. Tell us, then, what is your opinion: Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not?" Knowing their malice, Jesus said, "Why are you testing me, you hypocrites? Show me the coin that pays the census tax." Then they handed him the Roman coin. He said to them, "Whose image is this and whose inscription?" They replied, "Caesar's." At that he said to them, "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God."

Lectionary for Mass for Use in the Dioceses of the United States, second typical edition, Copyright © 2001, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine; Psalm refrain © 1968, 1981, 1997, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved.



Hope, Unity & Relationships

• A MENTAL HEALTH RETREAT •

November 7, 2026 | 9 AM - 2 PM

New All Saints Church

4408 Liberty Road, Baltimore MD 21207

BREAKOUT SESSIONS:

- Vision Board on next chapter with gratitude and hope
 - Breaking isolation and Building Connection
- Relationship Wellness Check (self-awareness and denial)

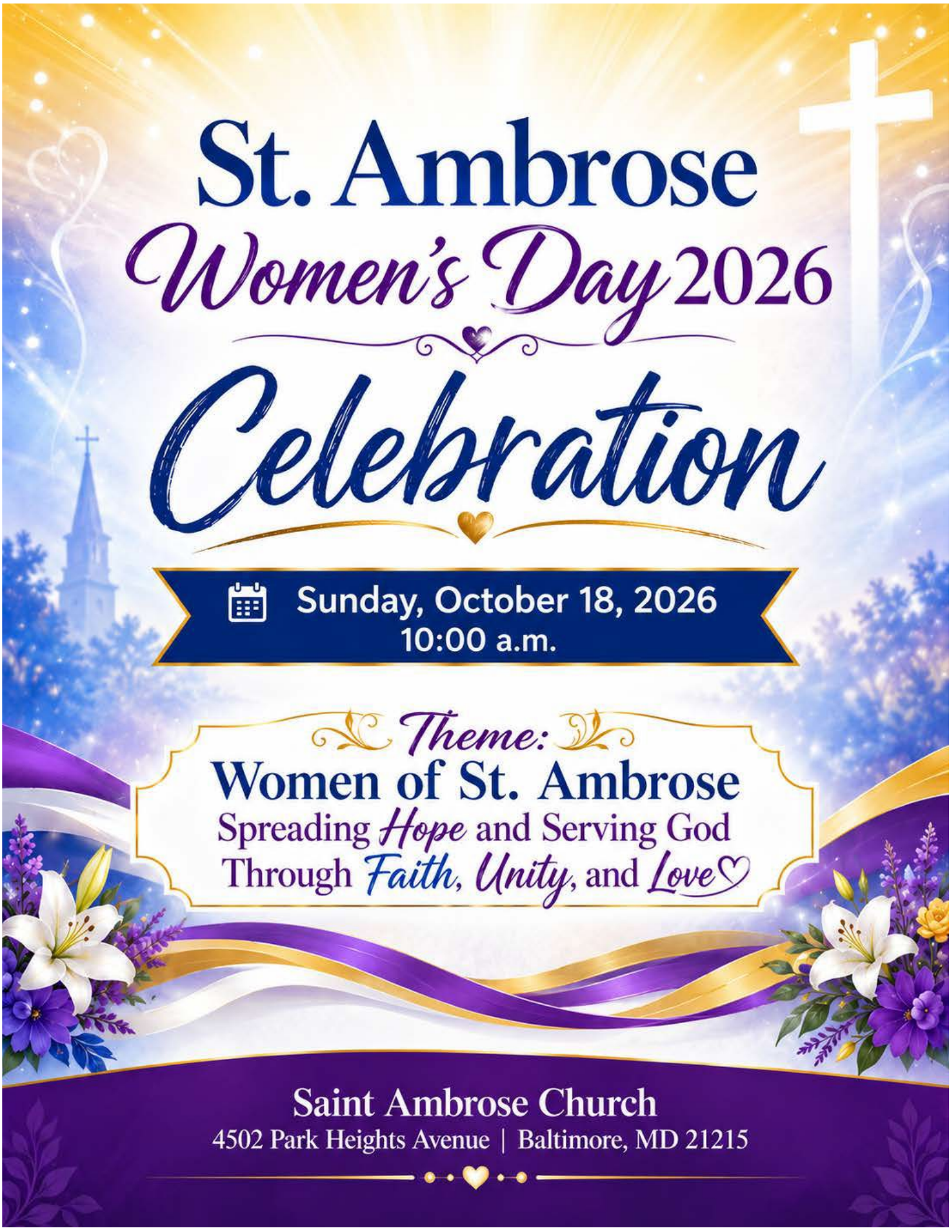
TO REGISTER, SCAN HERE OR VISIT:

<https://archbalt.regfox.com/mental-health-retreat>



SCAN ME





St. Ambrose *Women's Day 2026* Celebration



Sunday, October 18, 2026
10:00 a.m.

Theme:

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

Saint Ambrose Church

4502 Park Heights Avenue | Baltimore, MD 21215





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Baltimore, Maryland 21215

18 October 2026

Dear brothers and sisters of Saint Ambrose Church:

Several years ago I was in a large meeting room with people who served in many different capacities in their parish communities across the Diocese of Cleveland. The bishop told us that he hated it when he heard people use the word “volunteer” to describe the people in the room. He preferred the word “disciple” in order to highlight that what people do in service of their church is a constitutive element of living a life of faith.

When I think of the service offered by the women of our parish I cannot help but remember his remarks that day. Every time I have turned to the Women’s Ministry to ask something of them, they respond immediately, eagerly, and generously. Across our parish community we understand well the difference between doing something because we feel like being generous and doing something because it is an opportunity to put our faith into practice, addressing a need despite any inconvenience.

Today is the day we call out and thank the Women’s Ministry for embracing that subtle difference and living the Gospel way with joy, hope, faith, and love. May God bless them today as we take a moment to call attention to their goodness and thank them for the loving generosity they are so consistently ready to place at our service.

Thank you, ladies. May God’s graciousness return to you and your families in manifold ways.

Blessings to all,

Fr. W. David Nestler, O.F.M. Cap.
Pastor
Saint Ambrose Church
Baltimore, Maryland

Third Annual Women's Day Celebration

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

Order of Service

Welcome

Procession

First Reading

Responsorial Psalm

Second Reading

Gospel

Homily — Deacon Presberry

Introduction of Guest Speaker — Deacon Presberry

Guest Speaker

Preparation of the Gifts

Communion

Final Blessing

Recessional

Please join us in the St. Augustine Room directly after Mass for refreshments.

Our Guest Speaker: Sherita Thomas



Sherita Thomas serves as Director of Human Resources Operations at Baltimore Gas and Electric Company (BGE), bringing more than 20 years of leadership experience across Human Resources, Diversity & Inclusion, Organizational Capability, Associate Engagement, and Corporate Social Responsibility. She previously held roles at T. Rowe Price and CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield.

Sherita is a devoted servant leader at New All Saints Catholic Church, where she serves as Altar Server Coordinator, Religious Education Teacher, Confirmation Teacher, and a supporter of youth and mini-youth group activities. She is the Regent for Court Divine Mercy of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas. Sherita is deeply committed to faith formation, youth engagement, and parish life. Sherita's strong Catholic faith was nurtured by her mother, with whom she faithfully attends Mass—continuing a family tradition of devotion, service, and spiritual grounding.

From 2020 to 2023, Sherita served as Interim Director of the Archdiocesan Office of Black Catholic Ministries, guiding ministry efforts under Bishop Denis J. Madden and Bishop Bruce Lewandowski. She led the Archdiocese of Baltimore's Racial Justice Initiative, presenting its recommendations in 2021 to advance formation, dialogue, representation, and restorative justice rooted in Catholic teaching. She supported Archdiocesan school social teachings and justice initiatives, strengthening education, equity, and Catholic identity across school communities. She also contributed to justice and inclusivity efforts at Notre Dame Preparatory School.

Sherita is active in several civic and service organizations, including Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Jack and Jill of America, The Links, Incorporated, and the National Council of Negro Women. She serves on the boards of the Baltimore Polytechnic Institute Foundation and Notre Dame of Maryland University, where she chairs the Board Resources and Nominating Committee. Her past service includes Habitat for Humanity of the Chesapeake, the Baltimore County Department of Aging Commission, and The Links Foundation, Incorporated.

Sherita is the recipient of several honors, including the Archdiocese of Baltimore Joubert- Miller Medal (2023), The Daily Record Maryland Top 100 Women (2026 and 2017), Bishop P. Francis Murphy Social Ministry Award (2018), and The Daily Record Leading Women (2013).

She holds a Master of Arts from the University of Baltimore, a Bachelor of Science from Frostburg State University, and professional certifications from the Human Capital Institute. Sherita is a proud wife and mother of two teenage daughters, grounding her leadership in faith, family, and service.

OUR MISSION

THE MISSION OF ST. AMBROSE WOMEN'S MINISTRY IS TO FULFILL THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST BY EMBRACING, LOVING, UPLIFTING, AND SERVING EVERY WOMAN WE ENCOUNTER, AND DISCIPLE THEM TO LIVE IN GOD'S PURPOSE.



Women's Ministry Officers

Dani Owens: Chair / Financial Secretary

Norma Townsend: Co-Chair / Secretary

Angela Martin: Communications Coordinator

Lisa Revelry: Treasurer

Felicia Fleming: Administrative Support

Sherma Rudder: Alternate



JOIN US!

WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN THE WOMEN OF ST. AMBROSE AS WE GROW IN FAITH AND SUPPORT ONE ANOTHER.

WE'D LOVE YOU TO JOIN US AT OUR GATHERINGS ON THE 3RD SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH.

ALL WOMEN. ONE COMMUNITY.

A Message from Our Chairperson

Dear St. Ambrose Family and Friends,

It is with a humble heart and great joy that I welcome you to our Third Annual Women's Day Celebration. Our theme, "Women of St. Ambrose: Spreading Hope and Serving God Through Faith, Unity, and Love," is more than a theme—it is a call to action and a reflection of who God has called each of us to be.

As women of faith, we are called to walk boldly in the light of Christ, especially when the road before us may not be easy. Scripture reminds us in Isaiah 40:31, "But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength." There are women among us who have walked through difficult seasons, carried burdens quietly, encouraged others while needing encouragement themselves, and continued to show up with faith. To every woman who may be struggling today, I want you to know: there is still hope. God is not finished with you. Keep walking. Keep believing. Keep trusting.

Our faith also calls us to unity. Colossians 3:14 reminds us, "And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity." As Catholic women, our purpose is not to compete with one another, compare our journeys, or determine who shines the brightest. It is about connection, uplifting one another, supporting one another, praying for one another, and making room for every woman to know that she is valued, loved, and needed.

This celebration is not simply about the women of St. Ambrose celebrating ourselves. It is about bringing the entire congregation together in faith, fellowship, and love so that we can spread God's Word and demonstrate His love to everyone we encounter. We are called to love not only those who worship beside us, but all people—including those who may be searching, hurting, questioning, or have not yet found their way to church.

Jesus reminds us in Matthew 5:16, "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." May the light we share today reach beyond these church walls. May someone who feels forgotten feel seen. May someone who has lost hope find encouragement. May someone who feels alone experience love. And may someone who is unchurched see Christ through the way we live, serve, and love.

I am deeply grateful to our Women's Ministry Leadership Team for your dedication, prayers, hard work, ideas, and unwavering support. To everyone who gave of their time, talents, resources, and energy to help make this celebration possible, thank you. This day would not be what it is without each of you.

I extend a special and heartfelt thank-you to our Chaplain, Deacon Presberry, for your spiritual guidance and support, and to our Pastor, Fr. David, for your leadership,

encouragement, and continued support of the Women's Ministry of St. Ambrose. Your presence and support mean more than words can express.

To the women of St. Ambrose: continue to walk in faith, even when you cannot see the entire path. Continue to spread hope, even when you may need hope yourself. Continue to choose unity, even when differences arise. And above all, continue to love.

Let us remember that we are not called to shine only for ourselves. We shine so that others may find their way to Christ.

May this Third Annual Women's Day strengthen our faith, deepen our unity, and remind us that when we walk together in love, there is room for every woman, every man, every family, and every person who is seeking hope.

May God continue to bless the women of St. Ambrose and our entire parish family. May He use each of us as vessels of His hope, His love, and His light.

In Service, Dani Owens, Chairperson St. Ambrose Women's Ministry

You Ladies are truly a Blessing to Saint Ambrose and me!
Thank You So
Deacon Presberry much for the Gift



A special thank you to the amazing women of the Women's Day Choir for sharing your time, talents, and dedication to help make our Women's Day celebration truly special.

Women's Day Choir

Sopranos

Dani Owens

Maria Royster

Barbra Swann

Mary Yvonne Donnelson

Shelley Tyler

Joyce LeaStreet

Mary Ann Mitchell

Altos

Felicia Fleming

Janice Mewe-Pira

Kiana Royster

Jewel Gibbs

Michelle Rubio

Tenors

Norma Townsend

Phyllis Vaughn

Charisse Caldwell

Music Director: Deitrick Goodwin

Choir Director: Patricia Ross