

St. Ambrose Catholic Church

Fr. Michael Machacek, Pastor

Fr. Brian Shea, In Residence



Mission Statement:

In Christ we are all things, He is everything to us. If you have wounds to heal, He is a physician; if fever scorches you, He is a fountain. Would you punish evil doing, He is justice, If you need help, He is strength; if you fear death, He is life; if you hunger, He is food.

- St. Ambrose

MASS TIMES

Sunday Liturgy
Saturday (Vigil) 4:30 pm
Family Mass with Youth Choir
Sunday 9:00 am Cantor & Organ
11:00 am Choir & Organ

Daily Mass

Monday-Friday 8:00 am (no Mass Tuesdays)

Devotions

Holy Hour Eucharistic Adoration
First Friday 8:30 am - 9:30 am
"Can you not watch an hour with me?" Matthew 26:40
Holy Rosary Monday - Saturday 7:30 am
Divine Mercy Chaplet Monday - Saturday 8:30 am
Devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Wednesdays 8:45 am

BECOME A FRIENDLY VISITOR!

Under the direction of the pastor, Friendly Visitors serve those in the parish and surrounding community who are in need of social interaction. Must attend a 1 day training session when available.

PARISHIONERS

Please contact the parish office to update address/phone #s or to volunteer in ministries.
Office Hours: Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri 9:30 am - 3:30 pm
Closed Tues, Sat, Sun

To schedule an appointment, please call the office during business hours. (If planning to drop in between 12:00 noon & 1:00 pm please call before)

New Parishioners: Welcome to St. Ambrose! Registration Forms and Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG) Forms can be found on our website at www.stambroseparish.com or you can email stambroseET@archtoronto.org

SACRAMENTS

Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:45-4:15 pm (or by appointment)

Marriage

Couples wishing to arrange a wedding must contact the Pastor One year in advance and be registered with the parish. Please do not set the date until you have met with the Pastor. Marriage Information Guidelines can be found on the parish website, under "Forms".

Baptism

Baptisms for infants and young children are celebrated every 3rd Sunday of the month, immediately following the 11:00 a.m. mass. Baptism Registration and Preparation Instructions can be found on the parish website, under "Forms".

Anointing of the Sick and Care for the Elderly & Shut-Ins

If you or a loved one are in a hospital and wish for a visit from a priest for the sacrament of the anointing of the sick, please contact the Nurses' station and ask them to contact the "Priest on call". For other locations, please contact the parish office. Those who are confined to their homes by illness, infirmity or age, who would like to receive communion, please contact the office.

PARISH MINISTRIES

Altar Servers, Children's Liturgy, Extra-Ordinary Ministers of the Eucharist, Lectors, Lay Pastoral Visitors, Friendly Visitors, Greeters, Ushers, St. Ambrose Choir and Youth Choir, Catholic Women's League, Knights of Columbus & Honouring God's Creation Society

WE WELCOME YOU TO JOIN US!

782 Brown's Line, Toronto ON M8W 3W2 • 416-251-8282

Website www.stambroseparish.com • E-mail stambroseET@archtoronto.org



FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 2

8:00 a.m. (+) Michelantonio Fantetti, req. by Eufemia
Wednesday, December 4, St. John Damascene, Priest & Doctor of Church

8:00 a.m. Pro Populo

Thursday, December 5

8:00 a.m. (+) Mario Dematta, req. by Family
6:30 p.m. St. Ambrose School Advent Mass

Friday, December 6, St. Nicholas, Bishop



8:00 a.m. (+) Rong Roxas, req. by N. DeVera & Family


Saturday, December 7, St. Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

4:30 p.m. (+) Fr. Teo Rustia, req. by Letty Dela Fuente
(+) Yvonne Maillet-Richard,
req. by Les Borbas & Debora Wingell
(+) Virginia Tucciarone, req. by Mervar Family


Sunday, December 8, Second Sunday of Advent

11:00 a.m. (+) Emilio Alcaraz, req. by the Family
St. Ambrose Catholic Mothers Group
(+) Hope Banisch Venneri, req. by Family
(+) Giovanni John Martino, req. by Emma

 The Sanctuary Lamp burns for 14 days in memory of Dorothy Stewart 

 Let us knock at the beautiful garden of Scripture. It is fragrant, sweet & blooming with various sounds of spiritual & divinely inspired birds. They sing all around our ears, capture our hearts, comfort the mourners, pacify the angry & fill us with everlasting joySt. John Damascene

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION/RECONCILIATION

 **& CONFIRMATION:** All dates have been set. For more info & Registration, please visit www.stambroseparish.com and click on Schools tab.

SOCKS FOR SHELTERS

Men's and Women's shelters provide clean, washable clothing to people who need them. There is a special need for *new socks and underwear*. Parishioners are asked to purchase **sport/work socks or underwear** if they can. We are collecting them at the entrance to the church for distribution to **The Good Shepherd and Canadian Food For Children**. Thank you for your help.



ADVENT, from the Latin **Adventus**, signifies a **Coming**. According to Saint Gregory of Tours, the celebration of Advent began in the 5th century when the Bishop Perpetuus directed that starting with St. Martin's Day on the 11th of November until Christmas, one fasts 3 times per week; this is why Advent was sometimes also named "Lent of St. Martin" It's a time for pause, reflection, and preparation for the *gift of God's love coming to us through the baby Jesus*. It is also a reminder of the Old Testament that promises of the coming of the




Messiah. The Advent tradition of **The Jesse Tree** consists of symbols of the Messiah *coming from the line {Root} of Jesse.....(Lk 3:23-38)*

"Advent is a journey towards Bethlehem. May we let ourselves be drawn by the light of God made man."
...Dope Francis



"The giver of every good and perfect gift has called upon us to mimic God's giving, by grace, through faith and this is not of ourselves. Give thanks to God, not to me. I am only a vessel of clay, a poor sinner."St. Nicholas

MAKE A SHARELIFE GIFT  Your contribution to our parish's ShareLife campaign will be **matched by an anonymous donor up to a total of \$500,000. No one is turned away from ShareLife-funded agencies** due to inability to pay. This is all thanks to your compassionate & generous heart. Through your support, ShareLife agencies are helping the most vulnerable in our community and around the world. Thank you for living the Gospel! **Our goal this year is \$40,000. To date we have achieved \$32,133 (80.3%).** Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S MASSES



December 24th - 5:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.
December 25th - 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
December 31st - 4:30 p.m.



January 1st - 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
(No mass on Thursday, Dec. 26th & Thursday, Jan. 2nd)

PROPERTY & BUILDING UPDATE & VIDEO



On the weekend of September 27/28, a video presentation was shared at the end of the 3 weekend masses. This presentation considered the history of the area, the establishment & growth of St. Ambrose parish since 1955, and the parish to address a number of building and property issues of the church. This presentation can still be viewed at www.stambroseparish.com/photo-gallery.html Based on a Preliminary Property Assessment Report commissioned during the summer, the many issues were found, such as:

- Remove existing asphalt and regrade and repave the parking lot
- Excavate and repave the inside of the garage
- Replace many existing window wells around the building
- Address water ingress damage to the church walls
- Address the church front steps
- Brick repointing as needed
- Replace church and rectory AC units
- Replace the church sign near Browns Line
- Chimney on south-west side of church roof needs to be taken down
- Repair the flat roof over the mechanical room
- Replace carpets, install flooring for some of the rooms in the hall basement
- Repair the northwest stairs by the garage
- Update lighting in the hall
- Add a backflow preventer to the hall
- Possibly replace the main church doors
- Kneeler and pew repairs in the church

In the Property assessment report, it was estimated that the **total costs of these repairs would be at least \$450,000**. Currently, we have we have over \$79,000 on deposit with the Archdiocese of Toronto, and roughly \$88,000 in our Family of Faith account with the archdiocese. Over the last few months, parishioners have donated over \$55,000 through our Building Fund that is being deposited with the archdiocese; until that time that we begin these repairs. However, *this still leaves us needing to raise at least another \$220,000 in the near future.*

I urge you to give generously to the Parish Building Fund, both before the year end and in 2025. We have an agreement with the archdiocese that **we can keep 100% of your donations to the Building Fund until**

the end of 2025, unlike the 15% tax we pay to the archdiocese on our regular offertory collections.

God bless you! *Fr. Michael Machacek*

RCIA UPDATE

We are delighted that we have 11 adults who wish to become members of the Roman Catholic church next Easter & have enrolled in our parish RCIA programme.

On Saturday, Dec. 7th, as part of 4:30 pm mass, 7 of them will participate in the Rite of Catechumens, and on Sunday, Dec. 8th, at the 11 am mass the other 4 will participate in the RCIA Rite of Welcoming.

Please keep all 11 in your prayers this coming year!

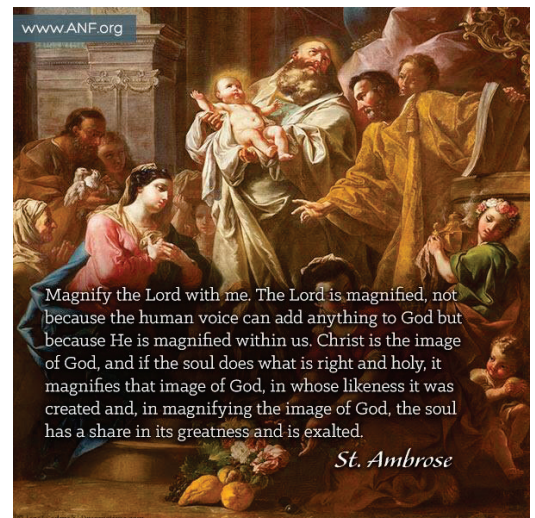
St. Ambrose Patron Saint of our Church

*& of
Milano,
Italy*

*Pray
for Us*



*Ora
pro
Nobis*



Magnify the Lord with me. The Lord is magnified, not because the human voice can add anything to God but because He is magnified within us. Christ is the image of God, and if the soul does what is right and holy, it magnifies that image of God, in whose likeness it was created and, in magnifying the image of God, the soul has a share in its greatness and is exalted.

St. Ambrose

ST. AMBROSE CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Volunteers & Donations Needed - Hello dear parishioners, we are looking for volunteers to help at the **Faith & Fun Christmas Fair on Sunday Dec 8** from 11 am to 3 pm. Community hours will be provided for high-school students, if interested please email st.ambrosechildrenliturgy@gmail.com We are also collecting new items (Gift Cards, Toys, and any other items) for our raffles benefiting the Church Building Fund. Kindly drop off your donation in the blue bin at the church foyer by Sat, Dec. 7. *Thank you.*

ST. AMBROSE CATHOLIC MOTHERS GROUP

Our next meeting will be held next Wednesday, December 4th at 7:00 p.m. in the Church hall. Please join us.



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