St. Ambrose Church

210 South Street, Cambridge, ON N1R 2P4 519-621-2013

E-mail: stambrose@golden.net www.stambrosecambridge.ca

Fr. Gary Schlack - Pastor **Fr. Michael King**, retired - in residence
Rev. Mr. Nick Cherri - Deacon **Rev. Mr. Paul Klaassen** - Deacon
Barbara Roy - Administrative Assistant **Myra Klaassen** - Parish Ministry
Carol Renner - Housekeeper **Sandy Figueiredo** - Sacristan/Custodian

The Nativity of the Lord

Christmas Creed

I believe in Jesus Christ and in the beauty of the gospel begun in Bethlehem.

I believe in the One whose spirit glorified a little town; and whose spirit still brings music to persons all over the world, in towns both large and small.

I believe in the One for whom the crowded inn could find no room, and I confess that my heart still sometimes wants to exclude Christ from my life today.

I believe in the One who the rulers of the earth ignored and the proud could never understand; whose life was among common people, whose welcome came from persons of hungry hearts.

I believe in the One who proclaimed the love of God to be invincible: I believe in the one whose cradle was a mother's arms, whose modest home in Nazareth had love for its only wealth, who looked at persons and made them see what God's love saw in them, who by love brought sinners back to purity, and lifted human weakness up to meet the strength of God.

I confess my ever-lasting need of God: The need of forgiveness for our selfishness and greed, the need of new life for empty souls, the need of love for hearts grown cold.

I believe in God who gives us the best of Himself.

I believe in Jesus, the Son of the living God, born in Bethlehem, for me and for the world.

God sent a star to light the night for
The Way, The Truth, The Life - His Son.
He sent the Light of Life to show His heart
so we would invite His Son into our own.
God has given us all the light we'll ever
need to find peace on earth, goodwill for all.

Bishop Crosby's Christmas Message 2022

"*Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.*"
Gospel of St. Luke, Chapter 2

Dear Friends,

Christmas is a time of familiarity. We sing familiar songs, share familiar greetings, we pray and gather and celebrate in all those ways to which we are accustomed. Yet does this familiarity numb us to the awe-inspiring reality of the Lord's Nativity? Look into the Christmas crèche: what do we see here? The King of the Universe - lying helpless in a manger. The Lord God Almighty – wrapped in swaddling clothes. The Eternal Word – an infant, unable even to speak!

The Creator of Heaven and Earth is held in the arms of one he has created, and upon opening his eyes looks up at his mother - and so looks up at each of us. God so loves us that he comes to us, he lowers himself for us, he refuses to be distanced from us and so becomes one of us – taking on the frailty of the human form, yet losing nothing of the greatness of his Divine power.

May we never grow tired of discovering anew these jarring truths, which turn upside-down our expectations of power, greatness, kingship, and so much else. May we renew with fervour our adoration of the God who has become a child, who for love of each one of us has inserted his very self into our human story. This is the blessing of Christmas – may it fill our hearts during these holy days!

May God, who by the Incarnation brought together the earthly and heavenly realm, fill you with the gift of his peace and favour and make you sharers with the Church in heaven!

Merry Christmas!
+*Douglas Crosby,* OMI (Most Rev.)
OMI Bishop of Hamilton

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

Tuesday, December 27
8:00 am + VERN LIX – Myra and Paul Klaassen
CONFESSIONS at 8:30 am to 9:30 am
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 8:30 – 9:30 am

Wednesday, December 28 – Holy Innocents
7:00 pm + SOULS IN PURATORY
+ IRONDINA CANTO – Eduardo & Jose Tavares
+ GLORIA SOUSA – Maria & John Correia
- for the unborn and souls in purgatory – Desiree
- for the intentions of Mr. & Mrs. Tony Borges
- for those who suffer from illness, may they be healed – Maria Correia
CONFESSIONS at 6:00 pm to 6:45 pm
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 6pm to 7pm

Thursday, December 29
8:00 am – for the intentions of Mila and Dan Eljuga
CONFESSIONS at 8:30 am to 9:30 am
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 8:30 – 9:30 am

Friday, December 30
8:00 am – Deceased ancestors of Theresa Tran
CONFESSIONS at 8:30 am to 9:30 am
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 8:30 – 9:30 am

Saturday, December 31
CONFESSIONS at 4:00 pm to 4:45 pm
5:00 pm + JOSEPH & MARY DUFFY – Gert and Les
+ SOULS IN PURGATORY – Maria Pock
+ JOHN MAJIC – Borges family
+ FRANCES & DOUG WILSON – a friend
+ STANLEY, MARGARET, KATHLEEN BOWEN – James & Genevieve

Sunday, January 1, 2023 – Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
9:00 am + PALMINA RUFOLO – Peter and Danyelle
11:00 am – for the intentions of all parishioners
CONFESSIONS: 8:00 to 8:45 am and 10:15 am to 10:45 am

Prayers for the Sick at St Ambrose Church is cancelled for December 29

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
January 1st 2023
(Holy Day of Obligation)

In Canada, **January 1st**, New Year's Day, is celebrated as the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God - a day devoted to our Blessed Mother.
Masses will be:
December 31st **5:00 pm**
January 1, 2023 **9:00 am**
11:00 am

Thank you to our Volunteers:

On behalf of the parish staff, we are deeply grateful for our volunteers who assist in many different ways. We are blessed to have dedicated parishioners, such as our choir members, St. Vinent de Paul volunteers, lectors, extraordinary ministers, ushers, altar servers, collection money counters, maintenance helpers, chapel adorers, church decorating helpers, and all others who help!

"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms." **1 Peter 4:10**

Thank you for your continued financial contributions to St. Ambrose Parish!
Parishioners can use Church Donation Envelopes by contacting the parish office to have this arranged.
Donations can also be made through the donation portal called "CanadaHelps"
www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/st-ambrose-parish/

Prayer for Christmas Dinner

Father, thank you for our family. Life is not always easy for us, but we know that You are always with us. As Your Word says, You will never leave us nor forsake us. Thank you for the love that holds us together and for always meeting our needs. Draw us closer together through this coming year. We love You and want our time of celebration to be memorable today. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Do you know of a homebound parishioner who would like a spiritual care visit?
Please contact the parish office for information.

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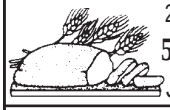

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