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

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
January 1, 2023

The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God is a liturgical celebration observed on January 1st. It is a holy day of obligation for Canadian Catholics, meaning that Mass attendance is required.

The use of the word "Solemnity" here is not a statement about Mary's personality. It is a designation used for certain days within the liturgical (church-based) calendar of the Church. Solemnities are the highest rank of liturgical celebration, higher than feast days or memorials. By celebrating a solemnity dedicated to Mary's motherhood, the Church highlights the significance of her part in the life of Jesus, and emphasizes that he is both human and divine.

This a celebration of Mary's motherhood of Jesus. The title "Mother of God" is a western derivation from the Greek *Theotokos*, which means "God-bearer." On this day, we are reminded of the role that the Blessed Virgin played in the plan of our salvation. Through the Holy Spirit, God the Father prepared Mary to be the dwelling place where His Son and His Spirit could dwell among all people. Christ's birth was made possible by Mary's humble agreement of God's plan with her words, "Be it done to me according to thy word". Calling Mary "Mother of God" is the highest honor we can give to her. Just as Christmas honors Jesus as the "Prince of Peace," the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God honours Mary as the "Queen of Peace". New Year's Day is also designated as the "World Day of Peace," further acknowledging the role of Mary in our hearts and in our world.

January 1st is World Day of Peace

HOW TO OBSERVE WORLD DAY OF PEACE

Pray for peace

When nothing else can be done, one can always pray for peace. One can always pray for those who are distressed, are in agony, or are away from home. A simple prayer for the welfare of those people can make a difference.

Learn about peace

Without knowing the unrest in the world, the social and political issues in the world, a person would be oblivious to the fact of how much the world needs peace. Learn about these issues from different sources, and think about how the world can be made better.

Act for peace

After all your prayers and learning, then act. Play your part in the effort to achieve peace. Teach others about the issues and help the distressed people in our area. Save someone from the misery caused by social and political issues. Spread awareness in our community.

Tuesday, January 3
8:00 am + For the intentions of Bishop Crosby
CONFESSIONS at 8:30 am to 9:30 am
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 8:30 – 9:30 am

Wednesday, January 4
7:00 pm + SOULS IN PURATORY
+ ISIDORA SILVA – Eva and Gus Silveira
+ WERNER LIX – Sharyn Cooper
+ KEN GREINER – Cleofe and Romeo
+ TUAN VAN LE – Knights of Columbus Galt #2184
+ FRANK RYAN – Phyl Arthur
+ DECEASED FAMILY of Theresa Tran
CONFESSIONS at 6:00 pm to 6:45 pm
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 6pm to 7pm

Thursday, January 5
8:00 am + STELLA PIASECZNY – Katherine Woznuk
CONFESSIONS at 8:30 am to 9:30 am
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 8:30 – 9:30 am

Friday, January 6
8:00 am + MANUEL MEDEIROS – Maria DaSilva
CONFESSIONS at 8:30 am to 9:30 am
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 8:30 – 9:30 am

Saturday, January 7 (First Saturday)
8:00 am – DECEASED KOZDRON, GORBARCZYK & ORGANISCIAK FAMILIES – Stella & Richard

CONFESSIONS at 4:00 pm to 4:45 pm
5:00 pm + DOMENIC BELLISSIMO – Lena
+ NATALIE REGO – Maria DaSilva
+ JOSEPH & MARY DUFFY – Les and Gert
+ JACK, MARY, TED, STAN & JOHN KENNEDY
+ ANTONIO DaSILVA – Maria & John Correia
+ SR. MARY VIVIAN IHESE

Sunday, January 8 – Feast of the Epiphany
9:00 am + TUAN VAN LE – Eva and Leo
11:00 am – for the intentions of all parishioners
CONFESSIONS: 8:00 to 8:45 am and 10:15 am to 10:45 am

***The new year**, like a new born child, is placed in our hands as the old year passes away. The days and weeks to come are God's gift; they carry God's blessing. As a blessing we welcome them. Our hope for the year that passed is that all that was good in it remain with us, and all that was harmful be left behind.*

A gentle reminder:

When receiving the Holy Eucharist

- Please do not have chewing gum in your mouth.
- Please remain in the church after receiving Holy Communion to receive the final blessing of the Mass.
- Please observe the one hour fasting before receiving the Eucharist
- To receive in the hand, please place your left hand on top of your right hand and raise your hands high enough to easily receive the Host from the priest/minister.

2023 Church donation envelopes – there are still quite a few boxes of envelopes to be picked at the back of the Church. Your name label is on top of the box.

Prayers for the Sick at St Ambrose Church
Weekly on Wednesdays at 1:00 pm

Please enter the church using the side door on South Street (the Adoration Chapel entrance)

2,000 Hail Mary Devotions will be held on Saturday, January 14th, beginning with Mass at 8:00 am. Everyone is welcome to join at any time during the day!

Church Bulletin Advertising

Liturgical Publications will be arranging the advertisements for our church bulletin. The advertising will begin in February 2023 and supports the bulletin service – making it free for our parish to have the bulletin printed. Please support the bulletin by advertising your product or service. Call Liturgical Publications at 1-800-268-2637 to have this arranged.

A message from Deacon Paul and Myra Klaassen

A New Year is dawning! It is good to reflect on the many blessings bestowed on us in 2022.

For Myra and I, 2022 was a special year of achievement - after 5 years of formation - I was ordained a Deacon of the Diocese of Hamilton, and happily, (as you know) I was assigned to our home parish, St. Ambrose.

Then in September, Myra and I completed our Camino, a walking pilgrimage from Porto, Portugal to Santiago de Compostela, Spain – a short distance of 258 kms.

The opportunity to minister within our Church, has been the fulfillment of a lifelong desire to serve God, sharing His Love and Hope with our community.

My Diaconate ministry is being fulfilled, as I continue to volunteer with The Bridges Shelter, in Cambridge.
We express our deepest gratitude to the parishioners and staff of St. Ambrose, my workplace, and family for their support throughout this journey. Your prayers, support, encouragement, and love are what made this achievement possible. Thank You!

May God be with you through the New Year, and fill your life with His Love, Peace, Hope and Joy. May the dawn of 2023 be filled with infinite possibilities and God's richest Blessings for you and your family. God Bless!

Deacon Paul & Myra

Sacrament of Confirmation

Information Meeting for Parents
Thursday January 26, 2023 at 7:00 pm

In St. Ambrose Church

Parents of Grade 7 students of our parish schools are asked to attend this meeting to register their child and receive more about the Sacrament.

Jesus Prayer: ***'Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, have mercy on me, a sinner.'***

The history of the Jesus Prayer goes back, as far as we know, to the early sixth century, with Diadochos, who taught that repetition of the prayer leads to inner stillness.

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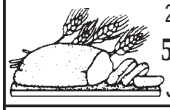

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