

St. Ambrose Church



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

Email: stambrose@golden.net Website: stambrosecambridge.ca

OFFICE HOURS: Monday to Thursday 9am to 4pm, Friday 9am to 2pm. After hours by appointment only.

WEEKEND HOLY MASSES:

Saturday 5:00 pm

Sunday 9:00 am and 11:00 am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Monday 6:00 pm to 6:45 pm

Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 8:30 am to 9:30 am

Wednesday 6:00 pm to 6:45 pm

Saturday 4:00 pm to 4:45 pm

Sunday 8:00 am to 8:45 am; 10:15 am to 10:45 am

Fr. Gary Schlack - Pastor

Fr. Michael King, retired - in residence

Rev. Mr. Paul Klaassen - Deacon

Barbara Roy - Administrative Assistant

Rose Capistrano - Youth Ministry

Sandy Figueiredo - Sacristan/Custodian

PARISH SCHOOLS: St. Anne School 519-621-8920
Holy Spirit School 519-621-8973

St. Vincent de Paul School 519-740-0678
Monsignor Doyle High School 519-622-1290

BAPTISM - The Baptism Preparation Program for parents is required before a Baptism date is scheduled.

MARRIAGE - Contact the parish office at least 12 months in advance, as Marriage Preparation is required.

VISITS and COMMUNION TO THE SICK - Inform the parish office of hospitalization or home confinement.

FOR THE HOSPITAL/HOSPICE/PATIENTS

Need a Catholic Priest? Please call 519-404-5344

Priests are available 24/7, for emergency ministry, e.g. 'Anointing of the Sick' or 'Last Rites'

For non-emergency ministry please contact your local parish or the hospital/hospice spiritual care team.

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL - for assistance with food vouchers, leave a message at 519-623-8764

- St. Vincent de Paul Value Store 519-629-0103

First Saturday Promise:

"Behold, my daughter, my Heart encircled with thorns, with which ungrateful people pierce It at every moment by their blasphemies and ingratitude. Give me consolation, you, at least; and make known on my behalf that I promise to assist at the hour of death, with the graces necessary for salvation, all who on the First Saturday of five consecutive months: 1) confess their sins, 2) receive Holy Communion, 3) recite five decades of the Rosary, 4) keep me company for fifteen minutes meditating on the mysteries of the Rosary, 5) and have the intention of making reparation to my Immaculate Heart."

(Our Lady of Fatima's message to Lucia)

First Saturday Masses are held at 8:00 am each month at St. Ambrose Church.

Traditions of Holy Thursday

On Good Friday, the entire Church focuses on the Cross at Calvary. The congregation comes together to contemplate the events that lead to our Lord's crucifixion.

The Church - stripped of its ornaments, the altar bare, and with the door of the empty tabernacle standing open - is as if in mourning.

The liturgical observance of this day of Christ's suffering, crucifixion and death evidently has been in existence from the earliest days of the Church. No Mass is celebrated on this day, because Holy Communion, which had already been consecrated on Holy Thursday night, is given to the people.

Traditionally, the organ is silent from Holy Thursday until the Alleluia at the Easter Vigil, as are all bells or other instruments, the only music during this period being unaccompanied chant or song.

The somber quality of this day reminds us of Christ's humiliation and suffering during his Passion. We can see that the parts of the Good Friday service are:

1) Liturgy of the Word - reading of the Passion; 2) Intercessory prayers for the Church and the entire world, both Christian and non-Christian; 3) Veneration of the Cross; 4) Holy Communion.

Easter Vigil Mass

The most sacred night of the Church year

The Easter Vigil liturgy is the most beautiful liturgy of the Roman Catholic Church.

Although celebrated Holy Saturday evening, it is the dramatic Easter vigil liturgy that marks the beginning of the Easter season.

1) Service of Light The atmosphere in the Church is different: The Holy water fonts are empty, all the lights dimmed, the tabernacle is empty. The service begins outside the Church or at the back of the Church. A ceremonial new fire is lit and blessed. The Paschal Candle is prepared while the priest marks the candle. The candle is then processed through the church, with the deacon lifting the candle at three different times, singing: Christ our light (*Lumen Christi*) and the congregation sings in reply: Thanks be to God (*Deo gratias*). Everyone lights their individual candle from the Easter candle and continue until the whole church is alight. The Paschal candle symbolizes Christ, the Light of the World.

Next follows the glorious Easter song of the Catholic Church: the *Exsultet* (Easter proclamation). "This magnificent hymn, which is remarkable for its lyric beauty and profound symbolism, announces the dignity and meaning of the mystery of Easter; it tells of man's sin, of God's mercy, and of the great love of the Redeemer for mankind, admonishing us in turn to thank the Trinity for all the graces that have been lavished upon us". This is usually sung by the deacon or choir leader.

2) Liturgy of the Word During the Easter Vigil, nine readings, (seven Old Testament and two New Testament) are provided. Not all are required to be read due to time constraints, but at least three Old Testament readings must be read. These readings help us meditate on the wonderful works of God for his

people since the beginning of time. The Gloria is sung before the reading of the Epistle of the Romans, and the Alleluia is sung before the Gospel.

3) Liturgy of the Baptism During this time the Easter water is blessed, new members who have been studying Catholicism in the RCIA program are welcomed into the Church through the reception of the Sacraments of Baptism, Communion and Confirmation, and the faithful are blessed with the new Holy Water and renew their baptismal promises.

4) Liturgy of the Eucharist The Mass continues, with special prayers inserted during the Eucharistic Prayer. The whole congregation is called to join at the sacrificial table that Christ prepared for us through His death and resurrection. The Mass ends with the glorious... *The Mass is ended, go in peace, alleluia, alleluia.* Response: Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia

Join in Praise: A Night of Easter Joy!

You're invited to join us at "Night of Joy", an **online video event** celebrating the enduring power of Easter. This will be viewed in our Church hall, on the big screen.

Everyone welcome! (free event)

Date: Thursday, April 9th

Time: 7:00 – 9:00 PM in our church hall

Brought to you by the University of Steubenville, join Fr. Dave Pivonka, TOR, Fr. Jonathan St. Andre, TOR and John Paul Von, for an evening of uplifting talks, powerful worship, and prayer. Together, let's rediscover that the joy of the Resurrection isn't just meant for Easter Sunday - it's a grace meant to transform our everyday lives. Contact the parish office if you have questions.

The **Permanent Council of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCCB)** has issued a Statement Calling the Catholic Faithful to Prayer for Peace in the Middle East. The statement affirms that we cannot remain indifferent to an armed conflict that risks escalating into a prolonged war.

"Faced with rising tensions and the risk of escalating war, we invite the People of God in Canada to pray for peace. Let us ask the Lord to increase the thirst for justice, reconciliation, and true peace in the world. Let us pray that the leaders involved in this armed conflict will allow the light of wisdom and dialogue to guide their decisions. Where fear and anger threaten to overwhelm hearts, may the Holy Spirit inspire gestures of openness, reconciliation, and peace" (excerpt from the Statement.)

The Statement encourages all Catholics to draw upon the message of the Gospel by becoming peacemakers, cultivating solidarity with people affected by war, and sustaining hope for a better world.



Monday, March 30 – Monday of Holy Week

***Tonight's Mass and Confessions are canceled.**

Tuesday, March 31

8:00 am + JOSEPH NGUYEN

CONFESSIONS at 8:30 am to 9:30 am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 8:30 – 9:30 am

2:30 pm – Prayers for the Sick. Everyone is welcome to join us in the Church. Please use the parking lot side door.

Wednesday, April 1

7:00 pm Mass + SOULS IN PURGATORY – Theresa Tran

+ FRANK CEKAN – Daniel

+ JOSEPH CSERGO – Ildiko and Robert

- intentions of Tony and Shirley Borges

- intentions of Manuel Paiva

CONFESSIONS at 6:00 pm to 6:45 pm and 7:30 – 8:30 pm

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 6pm to 7pm

Thursday, April 2 – Holy Thursday

There is no morning Mass held today, in any church.

7:00 pm + for the souls of our departed priests, especially those who ministered at St. Ambrose Parish.

Confessions from 8:30 pm – 9:30 pm

At the conclusion of Holy Thursday Mass, a solemn procession will be held with the Blessed Sacrament.

Adoration will be held in the Church Hall until 10:00 pm.

Our Adoration Chapel will be closed from 6pm Holy Thursday until 11pm on Holy Saturday.

Friday, April 3 – Good Friday

The Lord's Passion at **11:00 am** and **3:00 pm**

Stations of the Cross at **7:00 pm**

Saturday, April 4 – Holy Saturday

(There is NO 5:00 pm Mass today.)

Easter Vigil Mass 8:30 PM + for the intentions of our choir members and for the souls of our deceased choir members

(This is a special Mass which will be approximately 2.5 hours.)

Sunday, April 5 - Easter Sunday

9:00 am – for the intentions of all parishioners

11:00 am + ROMAN COVE – his grandmother



Blessing of Easter Food
Holy Saturday April 4, at 12:00 noon
in our Church

Święconka "the blessing of the Easter baskets" is an Eastern European tradition, held on Holy Saturday. Baskets/boxes containing a sampling of foods which will be eaten for your Easter dinner, are brought to the church to be blessed on Holy Saturday.

All parishioners who wish to have their food blessed are welcome!

St Ambrose Parish

Easter Floral Tributes – New this year!

For Easter, we welcome floral tributes for our deceased family and friends. The Easter flowers for the church will be placed in the sanctuary, in memory of your loved ones, with their names placed in front of the statue of Our Lady. They will be remembered at all the Masses during the Easter season. (The Church will purchase the flowers)

Forms to fill-in and **special envelopes** are available at the main entrance of the church.

Mass of Chrism 2026 – Monday, March 30

The Mass of Chrism will take place at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King at 2:00 pm on Monday, March 30. Bishop Dabrowski will consecrate Sacred Chrism and bless the Oil for the Sick and Catechumens, which is for use for the Sacraments during the coming year. The Bishops and Priests will renew their Ordination promises. All are welcome. Very limited parking and seating.

"Daughters of the King" parish ladies' group will meet next on Tuesday, April 7th and 21st, from 7pm to 9pm in the Church Hall. Please join us for prayer, discussion and friendship.

St. Ambrose Parish – April Youth Gatherings

Join us for a fun night of friendship, faith and fun!

Tuesday, April 14; Monday, April 20; Tuesday, April 28

All evenings begin at 6pm

For more information, please contact Rose at youth@stambrosecambridge.ca

The Parish Office will be closed on Good Friday, and Easter Monday, and will be open for limited hours from March 29 to April 10. Emails will be checked.

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