

St. Ambrose Church and St. Michael Church

Rev. Stephen Zeigler, Pastor

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Garrettsville, Ohio 44231
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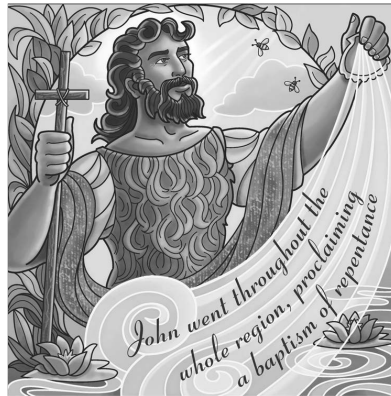
Parish Staff

Mrs. Susan Pickett
PSR & Youth Ministry
Coordinator, St. Ambrose

Mrs. Teresa Motz
Director of Music, St. Ambrose
Mr. Frank Barney
Director of Music, St. Michael

Ms. Gloria Kuhn
Secretary & Bookkeeper,
St. Ambrose

Second Sunday of Advent December 9, 2018



Sacrament of the Eucharist Mass Schedule September - May

St. Ambrose Church
Saturday.....5:00 pm
Sunday.....11:15 am
Weekday.....8:00 am

St. Michael Church
Sunday.....9:00 am

Holy Day.....watch the bulletin
for location and time

June - August (to be announced)

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Confessions are heard the first Saturday at 4:00 PM at St. Ambrose and the first Sunday at 8:15 AM at St. Michael, or anytime by appointment. Communal Reconciliation services are celebrated during Advent/Lent.

Sacrament of Baptism

Please call the rectory to make arrangements for the celebration of Baptism.

Sacrament of Marriage

Engaged couples must contact the parish priest at least six months in advance of the intended wedding date. Marriage preparation includes sessions with the Priest and with a Sponsor Couple.

Sacrament of Confirmation

Confirmation is celebrated every two years in the fall. Preparation sessions for candidates and sponsors are mandatory.

Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick

Anointing of the Sick is available upon request. Please notify the rectory when parishioners are hospitalized. Communal Anointing is held each Spring and Fall. The Eucharist is distributed regularly to the homebound by the Priest and Eucharistic Ministers.

Sacrament of Holy Orders

Men who are discerning a vocation to the priesthood or permanent diaconate are invited to call the rectory or the Diocesan Vocation Office (330-744-8451). Women discerning a call to religious life are invited to call the rectory or the Diocesan Vocation Office.

Religious Education Classes

PSR and Youth Ministry (September through April) Sundays 10:00 to 11:00 AM at the J. A. Garfield Elem. School (PSR) and St. Ambrose church hall (Youth Ministry).

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Adults desiring to become Catholic are invited to participate in the R.C.I.A. The "R.C.I.A. Adapted for Children" is for children in the third grade or older who have not been baptized or celebrated their first Eucharist. For more information, please contact the rectory.

Parish Registration

New parishioners are asked to please call or stop by the rectory to register. If you are changing your address or moving out of the parish, please notify us.

Bulletin Deadline

Please submit all articles for the bulletin no later than Monday of each week.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, Dec. 8, Sunday Liturgy
 5:00 p.m. (SA) Elizabeth Lennart (Family)
Sunday, Dec. 9, Second Sunday of Advent
 9:00 a.m. (SM) Marcia Byich (Andy & Karen Olson)
 11:15 a.m. (SA) Mary Korber (Family)
Monday, Dec. 10, Advent Weekday
 8:00 a.m. (SA) For the parishioners
Tuesday, Dec. 11, Advent Weekday
 8:00 a.m. (SA) Placida Kokinda (A Friend)
Wednesday, Dec. 12, Our Lady of Guadalupe
 No Mass
Thursday, Dec. 13, St. Lucy
 8:00 a.m. (SA) Roy & Norma Stewart (Scopilliti Fm.)
Friday, Dec. 14, St. John of the Cross
 8:00 a.m. (SA) Charles Klesch
 (M/M/ Raymond Oberholtzer)
Saturday, Dec. 15, Sunday Liturgy
 5:00 p.m. (SA) The sick of St. Ambrose & St. Michael
 (Friedel Family)
Sunday, Dec. 16, Third Sunday of Advent
 9:00 a.m. (SM) Peter Byich (Sam Byich)
 11:15 a.m. (SA) Charles Payne (Norma & Pat Mack)

Church Key: (SA) - St. Ambrose (SM) - St. Michael

Readings for the Week

Monday: Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 5:17-26
 Tuesday: Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13;
 Mt 18:12-14
 Wednesday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab;
 Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47, or any readings from the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712
 Thursday: Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13ab; Mt 11:11-15
 Friday: Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19
 Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80: 2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13
 Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-6; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

Liturgical Ministers Schedule for Dec. 15-16

Saturday, December 15
 5:00 p.m. (SA)
 Altar Server: R. & R. Eisenmann
 Euch. Min.: P. Schwendeman,
 L. Stapleton, K. Trzeciak
 Lector: L. Simpson
 Usher/Greeter: M. & J. Viggiani
Sunday, December 16
 9:00 a.m. (SM)
 Altar Server: N. Baker, J. Walker
 Euch. Min.: C. Bervish, K. Olson
 Lector: D. Kohut
Sunday, December 16
 11:15 a.m. (SA)
 Altar Server: I. & C. Johnston
 Euch. Min.: L. Rivera, C. Milko,
 S. Novak
 Lector: O. McCullough
 Usher/Greeter: J. Leonard, B. Voytko

Responsorial Psalm

The Responsorial Psalm for this weekend is:
 (Psalm 126)
**The Lord has done great things for us;
 we are filled joy.**

Awaiting the Salvation of God

The world does not seem big enough to contain the jubilation of the first reading. In the Gospel reading, the Roman empire isn't big enough, either. The great powers of Rome are named and made to stand waiting for the arrival of God's salvation. And we find Paul meditating joyfully on what really matters. According to Baruch, the city of Jerusalem is like a person standing on tiptoe looking for God's salvation, which is coming from the east. Those who were led away on foot, heads down, now come back, a proud people. Why, the very way is smoothed out. The path is lined with fragrant, lush trees. It can't get any better than this, can it? Well, yes, it can. For a voice calls out in the desert. Here is the beginning of the salvation of God. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



The Giving Season

Grab a gift tag from our Christmas Giving Tree, record the card number on the sheet in the vestibule, and return your wrapped, tagged gift(s) by the date on tag. Please consider taking a tag and making someone very happy this Christmas. Your generosity will not be forgotten!! Thanks!!

New Parish Calendars

Once again this year Carlson Funeral Home has provided us with our parish calendars. They are available in the vestibule. Please be sure to take one with you before leaving today.

Oplatke (Christmas Wafer)

For those who observe this tradition of using the "Christmas Wafer" with their Christmas Eve or Christmas Day meal, the wafer is available in the vestibule. Each envelope contains four wafers. A \$2.00 donation is asked for each envelope.

Christmas Flower Envelope

Parishioners are encouraged to please use the Christmas Flower envelope that came in your packet. Your contribution helps to defray the cost of our Christmas decorations.

St. Ambrose Annual Choir Concert

Did you remember to mark your calendar for the Annual St. Ambrose Choir Concert? This festive and celestial musical performance is the perfect way to start off your Christmas week. Join us next Sunday, Dec. 16 at 3:00 p.m.

PSR AND YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

A Fuzzy Friend For You...

The Social Action Committee and our PSR program are again sponsoring a collection of **new, average-sized stuffed animals** to be distributed to nearby children's hospitals. This project is in memory of Melana Matson as she was an avid animal collector. She went home to Jesus after suffering an incurable brain tumor. Animals can be brought to PSR from Nov. 4 through today, Dec. 9.

Pennies From Heaven

This year, as in the past, we will be collecting "pennies" to purchase gift baskets for our St. Ambrose homebound parishioners. We will be collecting money from Nov. 4 through today, Dec. 9. We are requesting that each child donate one dollar. This will total over \$100.00 and we can purchase some very nice gifts. Please be generous!



PSR Christmas Program

Everyone is invited to join us as we celebrate the birthday of Jesus at our annual Christmas program next Sunday, Dec. 16. Students in grades K, 1, and 7 offer this gift of the Christmas spirit to you. Coffee and cookies at 10:00 a.m., program at 10:15 a.m., at the J.A.G. Elem. School on State Route 88.

Communal Penance Service & Confessions

The Portage County Deanery will be holding one Advent Communal Penance Service this Tuesday, Dec. 11, at 7:00 p.m. at Immaculate Conception. **Please note change of date:** Confessions will be held on Thursday, Dec. 20, from 7:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. here at St. Ambrose Church.

Ministry of Care: Prayer Request

If you have a special prayer request, please let Trish Danku know. You can call Trish at home in the evenings at 330-802-2463 or email her at gdanku@neo.rr.com. Please put St. Ambrose Prayer Team in the subject line when you email her.

Christmas Mass Schedule

- Christmas Eve --- 5:00 p.m. (St. Ambrose)
- Christmas Eve --- 5:00 p.m. (St. Michael)
- Christmas Eve --- 9:00 p.m. (St. Ambrose)
- Christmas Day --10:00 a.m. (St. Ambrose)

Please be sure to share this schedule with family and friends who may not read the bulletin regularly.

Peterson Nuts

The women of the 2019 renewal team are selling Peterson's Nuts after masses at St. Ambrose and St. Michael, just in time for your holiday table or gifting. Your contribution to our fund raiser helps pay for women attending our CRHP renewal weekend on May 4-5, 2019.

Save the Date

CRHP Women's Renewal Team will be hosting their Annual Italian Night on Saturday, Jan. 26, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at St. Ambrose Church hall. Please join us for lasagna, socializing and a silent auction.

Discernment Retreat

Men (18 & older) who would like to find out more about the calling God has for their life, are invited to attend a discernment retreat the weekend of Dec. 14 - 16. The retreat will begin on Friday evening at 6:00 p.m. and conclude on Sunday at noon and will be held at Villa Maria Retreat Center in Villa Maria, PA. Men will have the opportunity for prayer – personal and communal – discussions with men who are actively discerning – informational conferences and time to speak with our seminarians about their discernment. There is no cost to attend. For more information call the Vocations Office at 330-744-8451.

Youth Ministry Mass for Life in Washington DC

St. Ambrose and St. Michael Youth Ministry will be attending the national March for Life and Youth Mass for Life in Washington DC on January 18, 2019. This will be a charter bus trip and several other area Youth Groups will be attending with us. We have been fundraising all year, but this is an expensive, yet worthwhile, endeavor. Our cost ends up being around \$60.00 per attendee. If you would like to financially support our trip, please consider sponsoring one of our young attendees. We hope to have about twenty of us attend. Your donation could be dropped in the offering basket or sent to the rectory, payable to St. Ambrose Youth Ministry.

Married Couples

Worn out from the Holidays? Feeling stressed? Are you looking for a way to avoid the winter blahs? Bring some warmth and refreshed intimacy back into your marriage with a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. Winter dates: Jan. 19-20 at St. Paschal Baylon in Highland Heights, or Feb. 15-17 at the Hartville Comfort Suites. Info: www.GreatMarriagesOhio.org or call 330-305-9963.

K of C Fundraiser - Cal's Restaurant

The St. Ambrose Knights of Columbus is hosting a charity fundraiser through Cal's Restaurant in Garrettsville: Dec. 8, 9, 12, 13. Flyers are available in the vestibule.

THIS WEEK AT ST. AMBROSE PARISH

Sunday, December 9
 All Day Cal's Restaurant - K of C
 10:00 a.m. PSR (J. A. Garfield Elem. School)
 10:00 a.m. Youth Ministry (Cleveland)
 8:00 p.m. AA Meeting (hall)

Monday, December 10
 7:30 p.m. Knights of Columbus Meeting (hall)

Tuesday, December 11
 6:45 p.m. Bingo (hall)
 7:00 p.m. Worship Committee (rectory)

Wednesday, December 12
 All Day Cal's Restaurant - K of C
 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal (church)

Thursday, December 13
 All Day Cal's Restaurant - K of C
 6:00 p.m. Pastoral Council Meeting (rectory)

Saturday, December 15
 10:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal (church)
 4:25 p.m. Praying the Rosary (church)

Sunday, December 16
 10:00 a.m. PSR/Christmas Program (JAG Elem. School)
 10:00 a.m. Youth Ministry (JAG Elem. School)
 3:00 p.m. Christmas Concert (church)
 8:00 p.m. AA (hall)

Last Sunday's Collection: \$2,582.00

St. Ambrose Knights of Columbus

... will have their December business meeting this Monday, Dec. 10, at 7:30 p.m. in the hall.

Worship Committee

... will meet this Tuesday, Dec. 11, at 7:00 p.m. in the rectory.

Bingo at St. Ambrose

Doors open on Tuesday, Dec. 11, at 5:45 p.m. Games (early bird) start at 6:45 p.m. in the parish hall. Workers: M. Ryser, G. Kuhn, P. James, L. Barcikoski, K. Motz, N. Harris.

Pastoral Council Meeting

... will be this Thursday, Dec. 13, at 6:00 p.m. in the rectory.

Christmas Ca\$h Winners

The Christmas Ca\$h raffle has been a great success thanks to the many who purchased tickets. The daily drawing began on Dec. 1 and runs through Christmas day, when the winning ticket holder will win \$500.00. If you haven't already won, don't worry...you have many more chances to win a \$50.00 daily prize and a \$100.00 Sunday prize! Congratulations to the following Christmas Ca\$h winners:

December 1 – \$ 50.00 – Stefan Schmidt

THIS WEEK AT ST. MICHAEL PARISH

Monday, December 10
 7:30 p.m. Knights of Columbus Meeting (hall)

Thursday, December 13
 7:00 p.m. Bingo (hall)

December 2 – \$100.00 – Mike Viggaiani

Last Sunday's Collection: \$720.00

Many Thanks...

... to all those who helped in any way with the "Christmas Dinner/Dance" at St. Michael Church.

Windham Knights of Columbus

... will hold their next meeting this Monday, Dec. 10 at 7:30 p.m. in the parish hall.

Bingo at St. Michael

Doors open this Thursday, Dec 13, at 5:30 p.m. Games start at 7:00 p.m. in the parish hall. **Floor Crew:** A. Olson, N. Kendrick,