

Second Sunday of Advent December 10, 2023

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading:

Isaiah 40: 1-11



Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her service is at an end, her guilt is expiated; indeed, she has received from the hand of the LORD double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: In the desert prepare the way of the LORD! Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God! Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill shall be made low; the rugged land shall be made a plain, the rough country, a broad valley.

Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken. Go up on to a high mountain, Zion, herald of glad tidings; cry out at the top of your voice, Jerusalem, herald of good news!

Fear not to cry out and say to the cities of Judah: Here is your God! Here comes with power the Lord GOD, who rules by his strong arm; here is his reward with him, his recompense before him. Like a shepherd he feeds his flock; in his arms he gathers the lambs, carrying them in his bosom, and leading the ewes with care.

The Word of the Lord. . . Thanks be to God!

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 85

Response:

Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

I will hear what God proclaims; the LORD—for he proclaims peace to his people. Near indeed is his salvation to those who fear him, glory dwelling in our land. R.

Kindness and truth shall meet; justice and peace shall kiss. Truth shall spring out of the earth, and justice shall look down from heaven. R.

The LORD himself will give his benefits; our land shall yield its increase. Justice shall walk before him, and prepare the way of his steps. R.

Second Reading:

1 Corinthians 1: 3-9

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years and a thousand years like one day. The Lord does not delay his promise, as some regard "delay," but he is patient with you, not wishing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a mighty roar and the elements will be dissolved by fire, and the earth and everything done on it will be found out. Since everything is to be dissolved in this way, what sort of Show us Lord, your love; and grant us your salvation. persons ought you to be, conducting yourselves in holiness and devotion, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved in flames and the elements

melted by fire. But according to his promise we await new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

Therefore, beloved, since you await these things, be eager to be found without spot or blemish before him, at peace. **The Word of the Lord. . . Thanks be to God!**

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: All flesh shall see the salvation of God.

Gospel

Mark 1: 1-8

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet: Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way. A voice of one crying out in the desert: "**Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.**"

John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. People of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins.

John was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey. And this is what he proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

The Gospel of the Lord. . . Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ!



Tithe Update

11/26/23: Regular collection: \$3,113.00

Thanksgiving Day: \$973.00

Cont. Mission: \$105.00

Blessing of the Christmas Tree



Lord God,
let your blessing come upon us as
we illumine this tree.
May the light and cheer it gives be
a sign of the joy that fills our
hearts.

May all who delight in this tree
come to the knowledge and joy of
salvation.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. . . Amen.

The lights of the tree are then illuminated.
The leader concludes the rite by signing himself or herself with the sign of the cross and saying:
May the God of glory fill our hearts with peace and joy,
now and forever. R. Amen.

CDA Christmas Collection Blue Point Nursing Home

The Catholic Daughters of St. Ambrose have chosen Blue Point Nursing Home on Belvedere Avenue as their Christmas project this year and they are asking for your help. They are in need of 130 fleece blankets, one for each of the residents. They are asking that you take an ornament from the tree and to purchase a fleece blanket. The collection ends, December 17th. If not able to help fully, they will gladly accept your monetary donation and someone will purchase the blanket for you. As always, the Catholic Daughters appreciate their St. Ambrose family for all you have done. If anyone has question, see one of the Catholic Daughters. Thank you.



St. Vincent de Paul Collection

The St. Vincent de Paul Society collecting the following items: Apostleship of the Sea, Oblate Sisters of Providence and Women Veterans.

The seafarers are in need of: socks, gloves, hats, playing cards, men's deodorant, soap, tooth paste, tooth brushes, disposable razors, mouthwash, address books, travel size games. Religious items

as well: rosaries, medals, prayer cards.

For the Oblate Sisters of Providence please purchase a \$10 or more gift card for Walmart, Rite Aid or Giant.

For Women Veterans please purchase toiletries. Drop them in the basket at the back of church by Dec. 17.



Christmas Caroling

We invite everyone, especially our children and youth, to join us for Christmas Caroling at the Family Dollar, 4446 Park Heights Ave, a block below our parish on Saturday afternoon, Dec. 16th from noon to 2 PM. We gather in the rectory for prayer and go around the corner singing and inviting everyone to join us for Christmas. It is always fun spreading some Christmas Joy. Missionary Disciples especially welcome or gain credits for Missionary Discipleship Program!



St. Ambrose Family Christmas Tree



Very soon the St. Ambrose Family Christmas will be going up. The tree is adorned with ornaments picturing all of our members. If you are new to the parish and would like to be added onto the tree please see George Johnson to have your photo taken and your picture ornament will adorn this years' tree.

Advent Prayer Group

Please go on to our website:

www.saintambrose.com to join our Advent Prayer Reflection Group every evening, Mon-Fri @ 7pm.

Season of Advent

We continue our Advent Reflection series each week with a guest homilist/speaker on the theme of the day in preparation for Christ's coming again.

Advent Reflections:

Sunday, Dec 10: PEACE - Ms. Malika DeLancey

Sunday, Dec 17: JOY - Jeffrey Griffin from Franciscan Center

Sunday, Dec 24: LOVE - Dr. Camille Privette



Weekly Mass Intentions

Dec. 8th, Immaculate Conception, 9am Sr. Helene Therese Stanislaus, OSP, requested by the oblate Sisters of Providence.

Dec. 10th: Mrs. Phyllis Anita Ford, on the first anniversary of her passing, requested by her loving daughter, Mrs. Myra Clinton.

Eternal Rest grant unto them O Lord and let your perpetual light shine upon them, may their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace, Amen

Christmas Raffle

Once again this year we will host the Christmas Raffle. Tickets will be on Sale next week. The prizes include an Afghan crocheted by Fr. Paul's Mom, gift baskets, nativity scene and more. Tickets are \$2.00 each or a BIG 7 for \$5.00. Drawing on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24th.



Prayers for Mrs. Zaborowski

Mrs. Zaborowski is home recovering and all went well. Ms. Alice and Fr. Paul thank everyone for their prayers. Ms. Alice will be 90 years of age on Christmas Day. If you would like to send a card: Mrs. Alice Zaborowski, 278—38th Street, Pittsburgh, PA, 15201. She loves to hear from St. Ambrose and knows that prayer gets us through!

Christmas Season at Saint Ambrose

Sunday, Dec. 24th, Mass 10AM for
4th Sunday of Advent

Sunday Eve, Dec. 24th,
CHRISTMAS EVE MASS AT 6PM
(NO Mass on Christmas Day)

Sunday, Dec. 31st, 10 AM, Feast of the Holy Family
Blessing for all Families present, 10AM
Sunday Evening, Dec. 31st,
Mass for New Year's Eve, 6pm



Healing Prayer: Mary Adderly, Helen Augins, Jean Bennett, Parrish Boyd, Karen Brown-Berkley, Annie Bruce, Renee Bruce, Al Butler, Debbie Chase, Eric Cullings, Dale Dyson, William Ford III, Eric Frazier, Sarah Gamble, JoAnn Glenn, Angela Johnson, Cornell (Nelson) Johnson, Josie Johnson, Joseph Jones, Sheila Leary-Smith, Charles Manns, III, Kimberly Merrill, Allan Noble, Rhonda Rumbra, Carl & Bernice Shrieves, Daniel Smith Sr., Veronica Spears, Augustine & Archie Stith, Rosalita Stone, Gloria Tate, Ernest Thames, Jean Thomas, Rosalie Watkins, William Young, Sr. Eugene Zaborowski and Alice Zaborowski.



SAINT AMBROSE PARISH

Opening Hymn: Let there be peace on Earth

Let There Be Peace On Earth, And Let It Begin With Me.

Let There Be Peace On Earth, The Peace That Was Meant To Be!

With God As Our Father, Family All Are We. Let Us Walk With Each Other

In Perfect Harmony.

Let Peace Begin With Me. Let This Be The Moment Now. With Every Step I Take, Let This Be

My Solemn Vow. To Take Each Moment,

And Live Each Moment, In Peace Eternally. Let There Be Peace On Earth,

And Let It Began With Me.

PRAYER FOR LIGHTING THE 2ND CANDLE— MAY WE BE FILLED WITH THE GIFT OF PEACE!

Heavenly Father, Lord of All, come and fill this world with your peace. May there be an end to hatred and division among your people. Cease all the fighting and war in this world. Heal the bitterness and hurt in my own heart. In this season of Advent, prepare my heart for the coming of Jesus, our Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Fill my heart with your peace which passes all understanding. For of the greatness of his government and peace, there shall be no end. Amen.

Opening Prayer:

Fr. Paul

SEE THE BULLETIN FOR THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Homily:

Fr. Paul

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Preparation of the Gifts:

St. Ambrose Gospel Choir

Communion Hymn:

“Walk in the Light”

Thomas Whitfield

Chorus:

Walk in the light, beautiful light, come where the dewdrops of mercy shine bright. Oh shine all around us by day and by night, Jesus is, Jesus is the light of the world; Oh we shall walk in the light, beautiful light, come where the dewdrops of mercy shine bright. Oh shine all around us by day and by night, Jesus is, Jesus is the light of the world;

Verse 1: No need to worry, no need to fret, all of my needs, the man named Jesus has met. His love protects me from hurt and from harm, Jesus is, Jesus is the light of the world.

Verse 2: If the gospel be hid, it's hid from the lost, my Jesus is waiting to look past your faults.

Arise and shine, your light has come, Jesus is, I know that He is the only light of this world.

Reflection on PEACE given by Mrs. Malika DeLancey

Recessional: “I Got Peace like a River”

+I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river in my soul. I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river in my soul.

+I've got joy like a fountain, I've got joy like a fountain, I've got joy like a fountain in my soul. I've got joy like a fountain, I've got joy like a fountain, I've got joy like a fountain in my soul.

+I've got love like the ocean, I've got love like the ocean, I've got love like the ocean in my soul. I've got love like the ocean, I've got love like the ocean, I've got love like the ocean in my soul.

Christmas Caroling



Join us in making a Joyful Noise unto the Lord in
the Spirit of Christmas on

Saturday, Dec. 16th, 2023

@ 12NOON.

**Gather at the rectory 11:30am for prayer
and then head to General Dollar,
4432 Park Heights Ave.**

St. Ambrose Catholic Church
4502 Park Heights Ave
Baltimore, MD 21215



Advent/Christmas Activities

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Help Shape the Mission & Ministries of Our City Church Together



VISIONING WORKSHOP

for the Black Catholic focus group

Thursday, December 14, 2023

6:30pm - 9:00pm

Saint Matthew Church
5401 Loch Raven Boulevard
Baltimore, MD 21239

**SCAN HERE to sign up or
visit <https://bit.ly/stc-bcfg>**



OFFICE OF BLACK
CATHOLIC MINISTRIES