

## Saint Ambrose Parish Mission

is to live and fulfill the Gospel of Jesus Christ through our acts of love, kindness and hospitality.

### MASSES:

Sunday, 10:00 am  
Thursday, 6:00 pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:  
Thursday, 4:30 - 5:30 pm



Staffed by the  
Capuchin friars of the  
Province of Saint Augustine  
[www.capuchin.com](http://www.capuchin.com)

# Saint Ambrose Catholic Church

4502 Park Heights Avenue • Baltimore, Maryland 21215

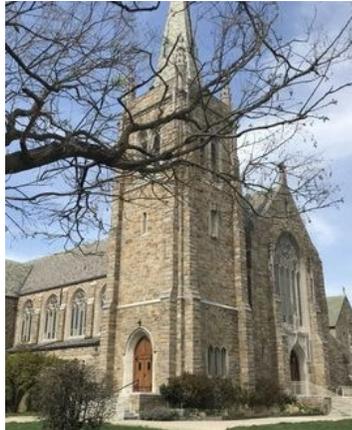
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Saint Ambrose Baltimore



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## THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

07 December 2025

### DO YOU HAVE 10 MINUTES?

Each Monday during Advent, Father David is offering a ten-minute spiritual reflection over Zoom. It will be live:

12:10 - 12:20 pm  
on three more Mondays  
December 8, 15, and 22

The QR code will take you right to the virtual meeting room. Or you can find the link on the homepage of our website. If you need it, the following information will also get you there:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86256061836?pwd=UyVaEebuVFCQMgx30DwMoKMTcdasJb.1>

Meeting ID: 862 5606 1836  
Passcode: 312112



The code and the sign-in information are the same for all the sessions.

When you join the Zoom meeting, you don't have to say anything; you can even keep your video turned off if you want. But this will be a live gathering of our Saint Ambrose family for a deliberate and short time of prayerful reflection.

Consider it a gift to Jesus, for yourself. Give God ten minutes of your lunch hour once a week. The reflections will be recorded so that if you happen to miss one, you can participate later. This QR code will take you to last week's reflection:



**AT HOME WITH THE LORD**

On Thanksgiving Day JOSEPH GARNER responded to the Lord's call to return home to him. May he rest in God's peace and know the fullness of his light and mercy.

His funeral Mass will be celebrated in church on Wednesday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am. You may pay your respects on Tuesday the 16<sup>th</sup> between 3:00 and 7:00 pm at the Joseph H. Brown, Jr. Funeral Home / 2140 N. Fulton Avenue during which time the Vigil for the Deceased will be celebrated.

Very suddenly, RODNEY CARTER passed away on Monday this past week. He is the son of Ms. Anita Carter of our parish. No funeral arrangements have been announced yet. Please pray for Rodney's eternal rest and peace, and remember his mom as you turn your thoughts to God in prayer.

**WHEN THE HOLIDAYS ARE MARKED BY GRIEF**

Our Hands of Mercy Bereavement Ministry has prepared a small gift, a card, which is being distributed in church today especially for those who find the holidays marked by grief. The card is a resource for you and for anyone you care to share it with. If you don't need it, please give it to someone you know who may benefit from it.

The ministry has a meeting on the second Sunday of every month — that's next week, December 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Christmas Mass is on Christmas Eve  
December 24 at 6:00 pm**

*This is the only Mass for Christmas*



*In addition to sharing your favorite cookies, bring a friend. There is a sign up sheet on the Welcome table.*

**SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY'S  
CHRISTMAS WORKS**

Throughout December, our parish's Saint Vincent de Paul Society is collecting gifts to share the joy of Christmas with others. Look for baskets in the back of church to drop off items for:

- ◆ SEAFARERS: combs and hairbrushes, toothpaste and toothbrushes, soap or body wash, lotion, pens/pencils, 2026 pocket calendars, address books, playing cards, paperback books, pocket bibles and rosaries.
- ◆ OBLATE SISTERS OF PROVIDENCE: gift cards for Walmart, Giant or another retailer. A suggested card value is \$10.00.
- ◆ WOMEN VETERANS: toiletries and mini manicure kits.

**Prayer Vigil for Homicide Victims - Dec.29, 6pm**

Each year, Catholic Charities partners with Health by Southwest, the Archdiocese of Baltimore and others to hold this vigil to recall those lost during the year to gun violence and to pray for an end to violence.

This year's gathering will take place on December 29 at 6pm. The vigil starts at [St. Joseph's Monastery Parish](#) and participants walk to My Brother's Keeper.

The Thursday evening Mass this week anticipates the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas. Join us at 6:00 pm.

**FOR YOUR ADVENT CALENDAR**

We are looking for volunteers to help give the church a thorough cleaning before Christmas. Please come on Saturday this week at 11:00 with rags and a bucket!

On Wednesday evening, December 17<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 we will put up the tall Christmas tree in the back of the church and decorate it with photographs of our families. We saved the photographs that we used last year; but if you want to replace it, bring a new one with you.

Remember: Father David is available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the church every Thursday from 4:30 - 5:30 pm.

You are welcome to join other parishioners for a celebration of Mass every Thursday at 6:00 pm.



**MAKING THE SACRED SIX, SEVEN**  
It's never too late to give!

**FRIARS TAKING A DAY OF PRAYER**

From Friday night to Saturday evening (the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>), the local friars are spending a day in quiet prayer and solitude as part of their Advent spiritual practices. Know that you will be prayed for, and the longings of your hearts will be held before God's merciful gaze.

**MASS INTENTIONS**

- 12/07: Augustine Stith on her 82<sup>nd</sup> birthday, requested by her daughter, Paula Langford;
- 12/08: the people of Saint Ambrose Church;
- 12/11: the people of Saint Ambrose Church;
- 12/14: Angelina Daniel on the 19<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her passing, requested by her daughter, Denise Daniel;
- 12/18: the people of Saint Ambrose Church;
- 12/21: George E. Augins, Jr., on the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his passing, requested by his daughters, Faye Augins and Shelley Augins-Tyler.

*Eternal rest grant unto the faithful departed, O Lord, and let your perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.*

TITHES AND COLLECTIONS	
30 November 2025 — online contributions	\$870.70
30 November 2025 — envelope contributions	\$3,639.00
<b>Sunday collection total</b>	<b>\$4,509.70</b>
OTHER COLLECTION TOTALS, NOVEMBER 2025 <i>online and envelope contributions combined</i>	
Continuing Our Mission	\$11,170.60
Utility Fund	\$105.10
Thanksgiving Day	\$691.10
Archdiocese of Military Services	\$407.20
Giving Tuesday	\$281.60
Online donations through archdiocesan portal	\$690.00
<i>Thank you so much for your continuous support!</i>	



Use this QR code to make a donation or to sign up for online giving.

**PRAY FOR OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS**

*If you or members of your family are admitted to the hospital and would like to be visited and remembered in prayer, please notify the parish office. If you are unable to attend Mass and want to receive a visit from the pastor, a deacon, or a eucharistic minister, please contact the parish office.*

*Let us always pray for our sick and shut-in parishioners. In particular, please remember in prayer:*

- |                         |                  |                          |                             |                       |
|-------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Mary Adderly            | Debbie Chase     | JoAnn Glenn              | Kimberly Merrill            | Gloria Tate           |
| E-Otree Allen           | Louis Cooper     | Karen Gross              | Brenda Richardson           | Ernest Thames         |
| Phillip Ashton          | Linda Davis      | Gloria B. Harris         | Charles Richardson Williams | Jean Thomas           |
| Kimberley Barnes-Ohanwe | Kenneth Davis    | Angela Johnson           | Corey Richardson            | Kenneth Townsend, Sr. |
| Jean Bennett            | Dante Davis      | Cornell (Nelson) Johnson | Carl & Bernice Shrieves     | Tammy Vaughn          |
| Parrish Boyd            | Dale Dyson       | Josie Johnson            | Danielle Singley            | Rosalie Watkins       |
| Karen Brown-Berkley     | Earlene Forrest  | Joseph Jones             | Bryan Smith                 | George Warfield       |
| Renee Bruce             | William Ford III | Sheila Leary-Smith       | Daniel Smith Sr.            | William Young, Sr.    |
| Al Butler               | Eric Frazier     | Ernest Livers            | Archie Stith                | Alice Zaborowski      |
| Madeleine Charles       | Sarah Gamble     | Charles Manns, III       | Rosalita Stone              |                       |

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

07 December 2025

### FIRST READING

*Isaiah 11: 1 - 10*

On that day, a shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse, and from his roots a bud shall blossom. The spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him: a spirit of wisdom and of understanding, a spirit of counsel and of strength, a spirit of knowledge and of fear of the LORD, and his delight shall be the fear of the LORD. Not by appearance shall he judge, nor by hearsay shall he decide, but he shall judge the poor with justice, and decide aright for the land's afflicted. He shall strike the ruthless with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall slay the wicked. Justice shall be the band around his waist, and faithfulness a belt upon his hips. Then the wolf shall be a guest of the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the young lion shall browse together, with a little child to guide them. The cow and the bear shall be neighbors, together their young shall rest; the lion shall eat hay like the ox. The baby shall play by the cobra's den, and the child lay his hand on the adder's lair. There shall be no harm or ruin on all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be filled with knowledge of the LORD, as water covers the sea. On that day, the root of Jesse, set up as a signal for the nations, the Gentiles shall seek out, for his dwelling shall be glorious.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Psalms 72: 1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17*

#### **Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.**

O God, with your judgment endow the king, and with your justice, the king's son; he shall govern your people with justice and your afflicted ones with judgment.

Justice shall flower in his days, and profound peace, till the moon be no more. May he rule from sea to sea, and from the river to the ends of the earth.

For he shall rescue the poor when he cries out, and the afflicted when he has no one to help him. He shall have pity for the lowly and the poor; the lives of the poor he shall save.

May his name be blessed forever; as long as the sun his name shall remain. In him shall all the tribes of the earth be blessed; all the nations shall proclaim his happiness.

### SECOND READING

*Romans 15: 4 - 9*

Brothers and sisters:

Whatever was written previously was written for our instruction, that by endurance and by the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to think in harmony with one another, in keeping with Christ Jesus, that with one accord you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I say that Christ became a minister of the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, to confirm the promises to the patriarchs, but so that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written:

*Therefore, I will praise you among the Gentiles and sing praises to your name.*

### GOSPEL

*Matthew 3: 1 - 12*

John the Baptist appeared, preaching in the desert of Judea and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" It was of him that the prophet Isaiah had spoken when he said: *A voice of one crying out in the desert, prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.* John wore clothing made of camel's hair and had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. At that time Jerusalem, all Judea, and the whole region around the Jordan were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins.

When he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you, God can raise up children to Abraham from these stones. Even now the ax lies at the root of the trees. Therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. I am baptizing you with water, for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in his hand. He will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Saint Ambrose of Milan was born of a Roman family at Trier about the year 340. He studied at Rome and served in the imperial government at Sirmium. In 374, while living in Milan, he was elected bishop of the city by popular acclaim and ordained on December 7. He devotedly carried out his duties and especially distinguished himself by his service to the poor and as an effective pastor and teacher of the faithful. He strenuously guarded the laws of the church and defended orthodox teaching by writings and actions against the Arians. He died on Holy Saturday, April 4, 397. Saint Ambrose is celebrated on the church's universal calendar on December 7 every year. The following meditation is from a writing by Saint Ambrose entitled, the *Proslogion*.

Escape from your everyday business for a short while, hide for a moment from your restless thoughts. Break off from your cares and troubles and be less concerned about your tasks and labors. Make a little time for God and rest a while in him.

Enter into your mind's inner chamber. Shut out everything but God and whatever helps you to seek him; and when you have shut the door, look for him. Speak now to God and say with your whole heart: *I seek your face; your face, Lord, I desire.*

Lord, my God, teach my heart where and how to seek you, where and how to find you. Lord, if you are not here where shall I look for you in your absence? Yet if you are everywhere, why do I not see you when you are present?

Lord, you are my God and you are my Lord, and I have never seen you. You have made me and remade me, and you have given me all the good things I possess, and still I do not know you. I was made in order to see you, and I have not yet done that for which I was made.



Look upon us, Lord, hear us and enlighten us, show us your very self. Restore yourself to us that it may go well with us whose life is so evil without you. Take pity on our efforts and our striving toward you, for we have no strength apart from you.

Teach me to seek you, and when I seek you show yourself to me, for I cannot seek you unless you teach me, nor can I find you unless you show yourself to me. Let me seek you in desiring you and desire you in seeking you, find you in loving you and love you in finding you.

Monday, December 8<sup>th</sup>  
is a holy day of obligation

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
*patronal feast day of the United States of America*

Mass is at 6:00 pm tomorrow