

## 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

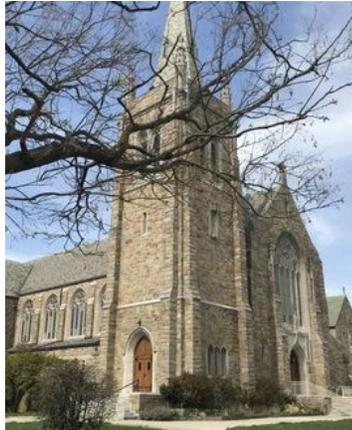
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 Saint Ambrose Baltimore



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## THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

21 December 2025

## God is with Us

*The prophecy of the ages is the truth of our present*

Merry Christmas, Saint Ambrose Church!

### IN PRAYERFUL GRATITUDE

The beauty of the Christmas decorations are coming together, waiting to surround and embrace us and our celebration on Wednesday evening and throughout the entire season. This beautiful Christmas comes to us through the hard work, dedication, and contributions of many people. The names of those who have contributed to the beauty that will surround us are placed on the altar of repose near the tabernacle in prayerful gratitude.

That beauty includes those who:

- \* spent so many hours planning the décor;
- \* are doing the decorating;
- \* are practicing the hymns, carols, and joyful accla-

mations we will use;

- \* are studying the Scripture verses so as to proclaim them worthily and eloquently;
- \* have washed the pews and ceiling fans;
- \* have lovingly placed photographs of our families on the tree;

May God bless everyone who helped in any way to make our church clean and beautiful this Christmas and are working to make our liturgies elegant and worshipful. May God hear and answer every prayer of our hearts and fill our homes and streets with his peace.

My heart is full of gratitude for you all!

*J. David*

**DO YOU HAVE 10 MINUTES?**

Tomorrow is the last of the four Advent reflections Father David is offering this season. Join fellow parishioners for a ten-minute spiritual reflection over Zoom. It is live:

12:10 - 12:20 pm  
one more Monday  
tomorrow, December 22

The QR code will take you right to the virtual meeting room. You can also find the link on the home-page 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

This is 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 tomorrow. The reflections are being recorded so that if you happen to miss one, you can participate later. These QR codes take you to the first three reflections:



Passcode: Ga1l3hH\$



Passcode: E8w+45x\$

**MAY SHE REST IN HIS LOVING ARMS**

On Thursday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, Madeleine Charles passed into the Lord's embrace. As we celebrate the birth of Jesus here, we rejoice with her as she is born into the new life of heaven. Funeral arrangements are pending and will be announced as soon as they are finalized.



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

*This is the only Mass for Christmas*

Mass for Mary, the Mother of God  
December 31 at 6:00 pm

*This is the only Mass for New Year's Day*

**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.

**YOUTHFUL REFLECTIONS AT CHRISTMAS MASS**

Our Christmas Mass on the 24<sup>th</sup> will be punctuated with short reflections, given by four of our young ladies of the parish, on some of the major themes of the season:

*The Greatest Gift*

*Hope Has a Name*

*Light in the Darkness*

*Journey to the Manger*

At certain moments throughout the Mass we will pause what we are doing, and take in a spiritual thought.



**SECURITY AND RESPONSE TEAM HELPERS NEEDED**

Security and Response Teams are parish volunteers who accept a particular responsibility when we are together in church to assist in responding to any crisis which arises, even a small one. We hope to build three teams so as not to overly burden any one. If you are willing to help, please call the parish office.

**PEACE WALK**

Saint Bernardine Catholic Church with Historic Saint Peter Claver is hosting its 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. & Rev. Msgr. Edward Michael Miller Peace Walk, to be held on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, January 19, 2026, at 12:00 noon.

This annual tradition gathers community members, civic leaders, clergy, and neighbors from throughout the region for a prayer service, a walk dedicated to peace, justice, and unity and a community gathering with chili and refreshments afterwards. This year's event will feature Pulitzer Prize winner Taylor Branch as the guest speaker. He is recognized for his award-winning trilogy chronicling the life of Dr. King and the American Civil Rights Movement.



**PRAYER VIGIL FOR HOMICIDE VICTIMS AND AN END TO VIOLENCE**  
**MONDAY, DEC. 29 AT 6 P.M.**

GATHER AT ST. JOSEPH'S MONASTERY PARISH  
 FOR PRAYER SERVICE  
 PRAYER WALK TO MY BROTHER'S KEEPER TO FOLLOW



**MASS INTENTIONS**

- 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;
- 12/24: the people of Saint Ambrose Church;
- 12/28: Randell Dorsey on the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his passing, requested by his mother, Gloria Smith-Dorsey;
- 12/31: the people of Saint Ambrose Church;
- 01/04: Josephine Forte on the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her passing, requested by her daughter, Millie Jackman-Forte;
- 01/08: the people of Saint Ambrose Church.

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

**DECEMBER GRADUATE**

Saint Ambrose Church congratulates Mika Baldwin on receiving her degree in Exercise Science from Towson University. Mika is the daughter of Tina Spears and granddaughter of the late Veronica Spears.

If weather prevented you from dropping your envelope in the basket last week, please don't forget to bring it when you can. Online giving makes it easy to continue supporting the church even when you cannot be present in person.

**TITHES AND COLLECTIONS**

14 December 2025 — online contributions	\$1,129.90
14 December 2025 — envelope contributions	\$1,964.00
<b>Sunday collection total</b>	<b>\$3,093.90</b>

*Thank you so much for your continuous support!*



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

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

21 December 2025

### FIRST READING

*Isaiah 7: 10 - 14*

The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying: Ask for a sign from the LORD, your God; let it be deep as the netherworld, or high as the sky! But Ahaz answered, "I will not ask! I will not tempt the LORD!" Then Isaiah said: Listen, O house of David! Is it not enough for you to weary people, must you also weary my God? Therefore the Lord himself will give you this sign: the virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*Psalm 24: 1 - 6*

**Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.**

The LORD's are the earth and its fullness; the world and those who dwell in it. For he founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.

Who can ascend the mountain of the LORD? Or who may stand in his holy place? One whose hands are sinless, whose heart is clean, who desires not what is vain.

He shall receive a blessing from the LORD, a reward from God his savior. Such is the race that seeks for him, that seeks the face of the God of Jacob.



### SECOND READING

*Romans 1: 1 - 7*

Paul, a slave of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised previously through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, the gospel about his Son, descended from David according to the flesh, but established as Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness through resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him we have received the grace of apostleship, to bring about the obedience of faith, for the sake of his name, among all the Gentiles, among whom are you also, who are called to belong to Jesus Christ; to all the beloved of God in Rome, called to be holy. Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

### GOSPEL

*Matthew 1: 18 - 24*

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: *Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel*, which means "God is with us." When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home.