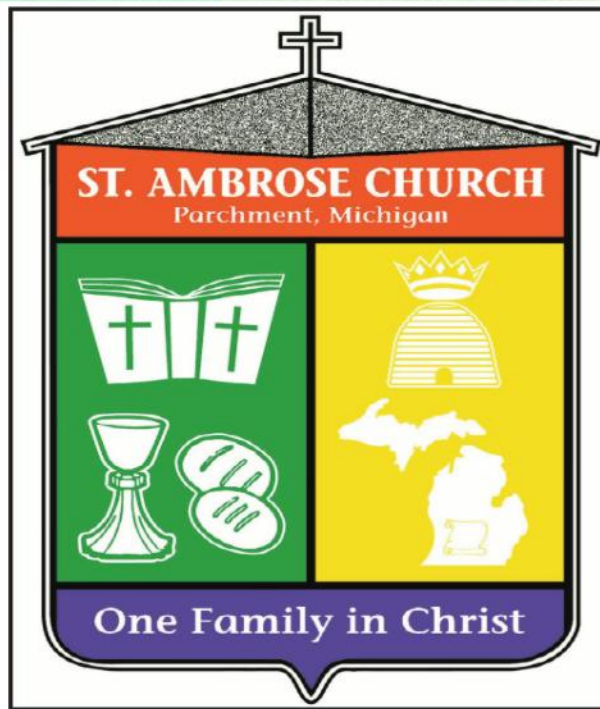


Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time



“Strive to enter through the narrow door, for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough.”

Luke 13:24



Mission Statement

Called by the Holy Spirit to develop a family of faith in Christ, the people of St. Ambrose Parish embrace Christ’s call to know, love, and serve God within our hearts, in our homes, and in our world community.

**1628 East G Avenue
Parchment, Michigan 49004**

Parish Office Hours
Monday through Friday.....9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Parish Contacts
 Rectory & Parish Office.....(269) 385-4152
 Parish.E-Mail.....stambroseparchment@gmail.com
 Parish Web Site.....www.stambroseparchment.com
 Religious Education.....religioused@stambrosepmi.com
 Music Director.....Musicdirector@stambrosepmi.com
 Religious Education Message Line(269) 343-0099
 Fax.....(269) 385-2527
 PrayerLine.....Rectory (269) 385-4152
 Prayer Line—Marilyn Thornburg..... (269) 501-9226

Our bulletin, with the weekly insert, can be found on our website at: stambroseparchment.com



Welcome!

Whether you are here for a day, a week, a season, or a lifetime, *we are glad you are here!*

May God Bless You!

**Very Rev. Albert Kemboi, V.F.
Pastor**

Very Rev. Albert Kemboi, V.F., Pastor
fatheralbertstambrose@gmail.com

Monsignor Michael Hazard,
 Senior Priest in Residence
msgr.hazard@gmail.com
 Chaplain for Ascension Borgess Hospital

Pastoral Staff
Marilyn Thornburg, Administrative Assistant, Bookkeeper, Safe Environment Coordinator
Beth McElhone, Director of Music Ministry
Eileen Rutten, OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults)
Sarah Orr, Religious Education Coordinator
Paulette Turbide, Facilities Janitorial
Sofia Rice, Part-time Office Help

Schedule of Masses
 Friday9:15 AM
 Saturday Evening..... 5:00 PM
 (Live Streamed)
 Sunday.....9:00 AM
 (Live Streamed)11:15 AM

Sacrament of Reconciliation
 Saturday 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM
 Anytime: By Appointment, call **269-385-4152**.

Sacrament of Baptism
 Call the Parish Office at **269-385-4152** for arrangements.

Sacrament of Marriage
 Couples are to make arrangements at least six months prior to marriage. Call the Parish Office, **269-385-4152**, to schedule.

**SACRAMENT OF THE SICK/
COMMUNION FOR THE SICK**

*Please contact the parish office at **269.385.4152** if you wish to arrange to receive the **Sacrament of the Sick**.*

*Are you unable to attend Mass and long to receive the **Lord’s true presence in the Eucharist**? Homebound Communion visits are a cherished practice that brings the **Holy Eucharist** to those who are unable to attend Mass for a variety of reasons, both short and long term.*

*If you, or someone you know, is interested in being brought **Holy Communion** please reach out to us at **269.385.4152**.*

Know, Love and Serve Him AUGUST 24 2025

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat. 8/23

5:00 PM

† Tom Deem

Req. by Nancy Engemann

Sun. 8/24

9:00 AM

† Bert Renaud

Req. by Bob Renaud

11:15 AM

† Ed Harkenrider

Req. by Dave and Eileen Rutten

Fri 8/29

9:15 AM

† Fr John Steffey

Req. by Marilyn Thornburg

Sat. 8/30

5:00 PM

† Larry and Beverly Janssen

Req. by The Janssen Family

Sun. 8/31

9:00 a.m.

† Leslie Sheffield

Req. by Kathy Sheffield

11:15 a.m.

**For Students, Teachers, Staff, Administrators,
Support Personnel and Parents**

Masses are available to request special intentions such as birthdays, anniversaries and remembrance of deceased loved ones. To accommodate more timely requests, we have increased the number of intentions per Mass. Please call the office to schedule Masses at **269-385-4152**. A \$10.00 Mass stipend is customary which can be dropped in the collection basket or mailed to the office, Attn: Marilyn. **Thank you.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 24, 2025

Sunday

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Is 66:18-21; Ps 117:1, 2; Heb 12: 5-7, 11-13; Lk 13:22-30

Monday

1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10; Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b; Mt 23:13-22

Tuesday

1 Thes 2:1-8; Ps 139:1-3, 4-6; Mt 23:23-26

Wednesday

MEMORIAL OF SAINT MONICA

1 Thes 2:9-13; Ps 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab; Mt 23:27-32

Thursday

1 Thes 3:7-13; Ps 90:3-5a, 12-13, 14 and 17; Mt 24:42-51

Friday

MEMORIAL OF THE PASSION OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

1 Thes 4:1-8; Ps 97:1 and 2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12; Mk 6:17-29

Saturday

1 Thes 4:9-11, Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9; Mt 25:14-30

Sunday

22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29; Ps 68:4-5, 6-7, 10-11; Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a; Lk 14:1, 7-14

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St. Ambrose

Scripture Study

On Mondays

Parish Activity Center

Room 5 7:00 p.m.

SUMMER SCHEDULE

The St Ambrose Choir is now on their Summer Practice Schedule. They will be meeting in the church every other Thursday for practice. The next practice will be on **August 29 at 6:00 p.m.**

All are welcome to join.

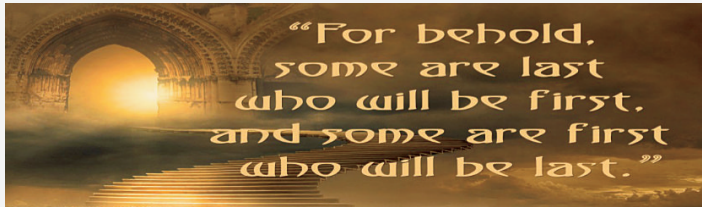


Mass followed by
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament,
Rosary and Benediction

Every Friday at 9:15 AM

in the Church.

We invite you to start your weekend off by
spending some time with our Lord.



**21ST SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, (C)
8/24/2025**

Dear beloved Parishioners,

My nephew, Dan moved to New Zealand to marry Gretchen, who was teaching in a university there. It's not real easy to break into NZ—you can't just move there and decide to stay. You have a certain amount of time to look around, and they expect you to leave when the time's up. Well, Gretchen was Dan's ticket to residency in NZ. Pretty soon, Dan had a good job as an insurance adjuster. Unlike here, where the insurance company has to protect its own interests and turn a nicer and nicer profit, in NZ, Dan found himself with the responsibility of seeing to it that the insured got everything they had coming.

At first glance, it might seem that the narrow door of the Kingdom of God is more like our system than like NZ's, with the bouncer standing at the door and rejecting the visitors because their papers aren't in order.

The Gospel image of the door that's barred and the people knocking and not being recognized and all: it's a little ominous. There *is* a warning in there for us. But it shouldn't paralyze us with fear or make us give up. Instead it should help us *wake* up; it should make us ask the question the questioner in the Gospel *should* have asked: *Which way to the narrow door.:*

The Kingdom of God isn't exclusive—it's for everybody, everybody who wants it enough to get to know Jesus. Not just enough to be able to say we ate in the same restaurant as he did, but to say *He fed us*. Not just enough to say, Yeah, he came through in August and gave a speech, but to say, *You should have been there! He really changed my life!*

Which way to the narrow door? The path Jesus himself took when he walked among mortals as one of us. That's the way. Get to know him, to love him, to serve him. The narrow way is *the* way that leads to the narrow door. Take the path of getting to know Jesus. It's worth it.

Happy end-of-summer days to you.

Fr. Mike (while Fr. Albert's away)

A BACK TO SCHOOL PRAYER

Almighty God We give you our school. We give you all the teachers and staff who work here, We give you all the children who study here. We pray our school would be place of great discovery, adventure and creativity. May it be a place where we love to learn and where we learn to love, A place where every one is respected and all are deeply valued. We ask all this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(A modern prayer from www.lords-prayer-words.com)

Parish Stewardship

Weekly Goal\$ 7,854.14

Weekly Actual

Sunday, August 17, 2025

Sunday Collection..... \$4,425.25

Assumption.....\$847.00

Sister Parish\$10.00

Gaza Relief.....\$25.00



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STEWARDSHIP

Today's reading from Isaiah describes the Israelites bringing their offerings to the Lord "in clean vessels. "The gift of myself - my patient endurance and fidelity to the will of God" - is as important as the monetary gift I offer.

ST AMBROSE PAVER ORDER FORM

Enclosed is my contribution for the Mary Garden paver at St. Ambrose Parish.

NAME _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

CELL PHONE: _____

Three rows of 14 vertical lines for engraving on a brick.

\$75.00 Contribution = One 4"x8" Brick

Engraved with up to 3 lines of 14 characters each. Print CLEARLY in upper case letters exactly how you would like the engraving to appear on you brick. One character per space and one space between words. (spaces count as characters)

Make checks payable to: St. Ambrose Church

Put in collection basket with your order form or mail to:

**St. Ambrose Catholic Church
1628 East G Avenue
Parchment, Michigan 49004**

To order more than one brick, use additional forms that are in the vestibule of the church.

ACTIVITIES AROUND THE DIOCESE

And something good for your soul !

Chesterton Academy Knights of Our Lady, a joyfully Catholic, classical 9-12 program, seeks talented and dynamic teachers to join our team starting in the 2025-26 academic year. Full-time and Part-time options are available. See our website for more information about us at www.chestertonknightskzoo.org. Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, resume, and three to five references to info@chestertonknightskzoo.org. Come and be a part of the Lord's work in forming students to be the leaders and saints of the next generation!

JOY-FILLED MARRIAGE 2025 DATES The **Joy-Filled Marriage Retreat** for engaged couples is hosted by the diocesan Office of Marriage and Family. This weekend provides time for couples to dialogue and enter into a deeper understanding of the Sacrament of Marriage. The schedule for each weekend is typically as follows: Saturday - 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday - 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. **Next Date: September 13-14**. For information and registration form, visit www.diokzoo.org/marriage-preparation.

CAREGIVERS CONNECTIONS Are you a caregiver for someone with a disability? Do you sometimes feel alone or overwhelmed? We invite you to join us for our virtual gathering to build relationships, share experiences, and create a supportive community. We'll spend some time getting to know each other and share a brief reflection on the Sunday scriptures. We gather via ZOOM on the first Sunday of the month from 1 to 2 p.m. Register online: diokzoo.org/personswithdisabilities or contact Veronica Rodriguez at 269-349-8714, ext 1240. Email: vrodiguez@diokzoo.org NEXT ZOOM MEETING: August 7, 2025

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER EXPERIENCES COMING UP! Nurture your Sacrament of Marriage or Holy Orders at a Worldwide Marriage Encounter experience! Upcoming experiences are being held **Oct. 3-5** at Augustine Center in Petoskey, and **Nov. 21-23** at St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center in Detroit. Apply today at wwme.org or contact Amy & Joe Kopacz at 517-667-0433 for more information.

DIACONAL FORMATION
Effective immediately, the Diocese of Kalamazoo will begin receiving applications for candidates to enroll in the inquiry phase of diaconal formation. Additional information including the timelines, standards, requirements and applications can be found on the diocesan website at www.diokzoo.org/deaconformation. Informational meetings will be scheduled in each Deanery during August, with applications due by September 15.

SECOND COLLECTION FOR THE CRISIS IN GAZA

In light of the catastrophic conditions and humanitarian crisis in Gaza, Bishop Edward M. Lohse, and with The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), has requested a second collection during the weekend of August 30/31st to assist with emergency humanitarian relief aid for the Gaza region. Monies collected will be divided equally to support the on-the-ground efforts of The Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA) and Catholic Relief Services (CRS). Checks should be made out to the parish with a notation written in the memo line for "Gaza Relief Fund". You may also give directly to Catholic Relief Services at crs.org. The situation in Gaza and across the Middle East cries out for the assistance of the Catholic community of the United States. To expedite this process, all funds from the collection are due to the Diocese of Kalamazoo September 12, so we can get funds quickly to Gaza relief and save lives.

WEEKLY PARISH ACTIVITIES

Sunday, August 24

- 9:00 AM **Mass**—Church
- 11:15 AM **Mass**— Church

Monday, August 25

- **NOON** **Bulletin Deadline for coming week**
- 7:00 PM **Scripture Study** SAPAC

Tuesday, August 26

- 7:00 PM **Narcotics Anonymous**— SAPAC

Wednesday, August 27

Thursday, August 28

- 6:00 PM **Choir Practice**—Church

Friday, August 29

- 9:15 AM **Mass**-- Church

Saturday, August 30 GAZA RELIEF FUND Collection

- 4:00 PM **Reconciliation**—Church
- 5:00 PM **Mass**— Church

Sunday, August 31 GAZA RELIEF FUND Collection

- 9:00 AM **Mass** Church
- 11:15AM **Mass** - Church

WELCOME to Your Parish!

If you would like to enroll, change your address, or simply have questions about our parish, please fill out the form below and drop it in the collection basket or mail it to the Church Office: 1628 East G Avenue, Parchment, MI 49004

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/ZIP _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

- ◇ I would like to enroll as an active member.
- ◇ Please change my address to the one shown above.
- ◇ I would like to learn more about parish activities.
- ◇ I would like to learn more about the Catholic faith.
- ◇ I would like to offer the name of a homebound or ill Catholic who is not currently being visited:

- ◇ I would like to speak with a priest about a vocation to the priesthood or religious life.

ST AMBROSE PARISH

T-SHIRT

Don't be left out!! The St Ambrose Parish T-Shirt sports the Parish Crest on the Front with the parish motto: "Love Grows Where People Serve" on the back. The T-Shirt features white printing on a Royal Blue background.

They come in sizes ranging from youth small to Adult 3X. Deadline to order is September 7, 2025 for delivery before The St Ambrose Annual Parish Picnic. The price per t-shirt is \$18.00.

Pick-up an order form in the vestibule of the church and return through the collection basket or mail to the Rectory Office.



ARIMATHEAN MINISTRY

The name Arimatheans comes from St. Joseph of Arimathea, who tended to our Lord after his death

Arimatheans are caring parishioners who attend Funerals and Memorial Masses as representatives of the faith community. Arimatheans do their part in offering comfort to a grieving family, greet guests, and answer any questions they might have.

Some people have already expressed interest in being part of this ministry and I would like to extend an invitation to all who might have some interest. We will meet on Sunday, September 7th following the 11:15 am Mass. —Beth McElhone

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Have you ever wanted to participate in the Mass on Saturday or Sunday? If you have, we are looking for you. Assistant Sacristans, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Ushers/Greeters, Gift Bearers and Altar Servers are needed. Training will be provided if needed. Liturgical Ministry Sign up for October – December Masses has been started. If you are on the list as a minister, you should have received a copy by mail or e-mail. Sign-up sheets are also available in the Vestibule of the Church. Sign-up sheets need to be returned by August 31, 2025, so that schedules can be done by mid-September. If you have any questions, please call Jackie Shirey at 269-501-2870 or the Parish Office at 269-385-4152.

IS OCIA FOR YOU?

There are many reasons to get involved in this process. Do any of these fit you?

- ✦ You would like to become a Catholic and have never been baptized.
- ✦ You would like to join the Catholic Church and were baptized in another Christian faith.
- ✦ You were baptized in the Catholic Church but never celebrated the sacraments of First Eucharist and Confirmation.

If you are interested in discovering what the Catholic faith is like and possibly becoming Catholic, or if you are Catholic and would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, we invite you to consider the following: The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) is a process for and about people: people on a journey of faith. OCIA sessions will begin in Fall. If you would like to learn more about this process, or if you know of someone who may be interested in learning about becoming Catholic, call Eileen Rutten (323-2372) or the rectory (385-4152) and leave your name, phone number and message.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

SUNDAY,

SEPTEMBER 28

2:00 p.m.

THE ANNUAL ST AMBROSE PARISH FAMILY PICNIC!!

FOOD LIFT DELIVERY DATES

September 21	October 19
November 16	December 14



Many Thanks to the men and women who prepare and serve the luncheon following Funerals at St Ambrose. It is comforting for the families to be able to share a meal together during this time of grief. Being able to sit down with family and friends and share stories of loved ones is a blessing. Thank you for your ministry to our families.

Thank you to those who brought dishes of food: Your containers are ready to be picked up.

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