St. Ambrose Church



210 South Street, Cambridge ON N1R 2P4 519-621-2013 Email: stambrose@golden.net Website: stambrosecambridge.ca

OFFICE HOURS: Monday to Thursday 9am to 4pm, Friday 9am to 2pm. After hours by appointment only.

WEEKEND HOLY MASSES:

Saturday 5:00 pm

Sunday 9:00 am and 11:00 am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 8:30 am to 9:30 am Wednesday 6:00 pm to 6:45 pm Saturday 4:00 pm to 4:45 pm Sunday from 8:00 am to 8:45 am; 10:15 am to 10:45 am

PARISH SCHOOLS: St. Anne School 519-621-8920

Holy Spirit School 519-621-8973

Fr. Gary Schlack - Pastor

Fr. Michael King, retired - in residence

Rev. Mr. Paul Klaassen - Deacon

Barbara Roy - Administrative Assistant

Myra Klaassen - Parish Ministry

Rose Capistrano - Youth Ministry

Sandy Figueiredo - Sacristan/Custodian

Carol Renner - rectory housekeeper

St. Vincent de Paul School 519-740-0678 Monsignor Doyle High School 519-622-1290

BAPTISM - The Baptism Preparation Program for parents is required before a Baptism date is scheduled. **MARRIAGE** - Contact the parish office at least 12 months in advance, as Marriage Preparation is required. **VISITS and COMMUNION TO THE SICK** - Inform the parish office of hospitalization or home confinement.

FOR THE HOSPITAL/HOSPICE/PATIENTS

Need a Catholic Priest? Please call 519-404-5344

Priests are available 24/7, for emergency ministry, e.g. 'Anointing of the Sick' or 'Last Rites' For non-emergency ministry please contact your local parish or the hospital/hospice spiritual care team.

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL - for assistance with food vouchers, leave a message at 519-623-8764 - St. Vincent de Paul Value Store 519-629-0103

First Saturday Promise:

"Behold, my daughter, my Heart encircled with thorns, with which ungrateful people pierce It at every moment by their blasphemies and ingratitude. Give me consolation, you, at least; and make known on my behalf that I promise to assist at the hour of death, with the graces necessary for salvation, all who on the First Saturday of five consecutive months: 1) confess their sins, 2) receive Holy Communion, 3) recite five decades of the Rosary, 4) keep me company for fifteen minutes meditating on the mysteries of the Rosary, 5) and have the intention of making reparation to my Immaculate Heart."

(Our Lady of Fatima's message to Lucia)

First Saturday Masses are held at 8:00 am each month at St. Ambrose Church.

Message from Most Rev. Douglas Crosby, OMI Bishop of Hamilton Diocese

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

We have begun the Advent Season, a time of active and spiritual preparation for the celebration of Christmas. The four weeks of Advent pass quickly and, almost before we know it, Christmas is upon us: the birth of Jesus Christ in a manger in Bethlehem.

During Advent, we meet, in Sacred Scripture, figures who help us understand the importance of the Christmas event and point out the way for us to prepare well. The Angel Gabriel assures us that "with God all things are possible"! The Virgin Mary sets the high standard of openness and obedience to God's will in our lives. St. Joseph acts on revelations in his dreams. John the Baptist calls us to prepare spiritually and practically for the coming of Christ into our lives. The shepherds listen to the revelation of angels and hurry to meet the Lord. The Magi follow a star to find Him. For each, the experience is different. For all, it leads to an important encounter with Jesus.

For the past number of years, the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops has prepared an on-line series called Journey Through Advent. The weekly reflections in English and French open our hearts and minds. This year, Cardinal Francis Leo, Archbishop of Toronto, is the presenter in English. His profound spiritual reflections are gifts to us, available on the CCCB website. They nourish our faith and help us prepare well.

In our Diocese, Parish Priests, Lay Pastoral Ministers, choirs and musicians, sacristans and decorators and cleaners – a bevy of gifted and generous people – help assure that all is ready for the Christmas celebrations. We are blessed that dedicated Priests, Deacons and lay-faithful care enough to do the necessary work of planning and preparing so that we might Come Home for Christmas and celebrate well. I am grateful to all who serve and I pray that, as our cloistered Carmelite Nuns so often say, "God reward you"!

Advent is a good time to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We get ready "outwardly". It is wise to prepare ourselves "interiorly" as well. A good Confession does wonders for the soul and for our hearts. It frees us and lifts us up. Pastors make time to welcome you and are happy to celebrate this liberating Sacrament.

I like to send and receive Christmas cards at Christmas. The Canada Post strike has precluded that pleasure this year. It means prayers for my family and friends must be evermore intentional. As I pray for them, I pray also for you, brothers and sisters, co-workers in the vineyard of the Lord, and parishioners throughout this vast Diocese. As we open the Jubilee Year of Hope on December 29, and live the experience of being Pilgrims of Hope, let us give thanks for the gift of faith that provides meaning and purpose to our lives — and hope for a future in union with the One Who Comes!

Sincerely in Christ and Mary Immaculate, +Douglas Crosby, OMI



No Mass on Mondays

Tuesday, December 17

8:00 am – the intentions of Nonya Ngwaba – her parents CONFESSIONS at 8:30 am to 9:30 am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 8:30 - 9:30 am

Wednesday, December 18

1:00 pm – Prayers for the Sick - everyone welcome. Please enter through <u>parking lot side door</u>.

7:00 pm + SOULS IN PURATORY

- + JORGIANA MELO & FAMILY Tina
- + TESESINHA ANDRADE Manuel
- + WILLIE & VERN LIX Maria Correia
- + OLIVIA OLIVEIRA her son
- intentions of Christine and Ben McCabe

CONFESSIONS at 6:00 pm to 6:45 pm

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 6pm to 7pm

Thursday, December 19

8:00 am + MARIA & JOAO CHAVES and DECEASED FAMILY

CONFESSIONS at 8:30 am to 9:30 am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 8:30 - 9:30 am

Friday, December 20

8:00 am + ANN & FRANK DeSOUZA & ED TEIXEIRA

CONFESSIONS at 8:30 am to 9:30 am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 8:30 – 9:30 am

Saturday, December 21

Confessions available 9:00 am to 4:45 pm (all day)

5:00 pm + PIERINA MAGLIOCCO - her husband

- + EDUARDO TAVARES Helder
- + MARIA LURDES MONTEIRO MELO & FAMILY
- + ALVINO TOSTE Juliete
- + GARRETT & MICHAEL PENNEY- Judy
- + LUCILLE STOLTZ Teresa and Nick
- intentions of the Cabral and Tavares Families Korina & Anthony Taylor

Sunday, December 22 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:00 am - for the intentions of all parishioners

11:00 am - MRS. FITA - Maria and John Correia

CONFESSIONS: 8:00 to 8:45 am and 10:15 am to 10:45 am

St. Ambrose Parish Come home for Christmas!

Christmas Mass schedule:

December 24 at 7:00 pm and 12:00 Midnight

December 25 at 9:00 am and 11:00 am

Sacrament of Confessions:

Tuesday, December 17 - 8:30 am to 9:30 am Wed, December 18 – 6:00 pm to 6:45 pm

Thursday, December 19 – 8:30 am to 9:30 am Friday, December 20 – 8:30 am to 9:30 am

Saturday, December 21 – Confession will be available all day from 9:00 am to 4:45 pm. Fr. Gary and Fr. Michael will alternate throughout the day.

Christmas Mass schedules for all the parishes of the Diocese of Hamilton are available on their website at hamiltondiocese.com

St. Ambrose Ladies' group, "Daughters of the King" will meet on Tuesday, December 17 in the

Church Hall, 7pm to 9pm. You're welcome to invite a friend to join us! All ladies are welcome.



For 2025:

Reminder... please pick up your boxed set for 2025. Those who actively used church envelopes this year will be automatically re-

issued a new set. To request a set, please phone the parish office.

Please remember those who are less fortunate by donating to our St. Vincent de Paul Society. The Society will continue to offer Christmas assistance to those in need, so that all families may have a merry Christmas.

If you know someone who could still use some assistance with food for Christmas, please ask him/her to phone **519-623-8764** to leave a voice message.

NEW PROCEDURE - Emergency Pastoral Ministry at Cambridge Memorial Hospital If you or a loved one need a priest for Emergency Ministry (Anointing of the Sick) please call our parish office. After hours emergency on call ministry can be accessed by calling 519-404-5344. After an emergency visit please let our office know when someone is in hospital so that we can arrange a visit, bring communion, or help to facilitate this ministry. Be assured of our parish's support in every moment of need, we or one of the local on call priests, will do our best to respond as soon as possible.

Schedules for LECTORS and EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS of the Eucharist: Emailed schedules were sent last week. If you did not receive yours, please check your junk mail folder.



Youth in grades 6 to 12 are invited to gather for our Youth Group on Mon. December 16th, from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm in

the church hall. **Join us** to grow in faith, make new friendships, and have fun!

information, please email Rose at youth@stambrosecambridge.ca

Mom & Tots Pray & Play: Do you want to introduce your child/children to Eucharistic Adoration? Do you need some quiet time praying with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament? If so, this program is for you. Bring your children to adoration, and when you're ready you can drop them off to enjoy supervised play with other children for the remaining time while you adore alone. This will be held the LAST Monday of each month from 10:00-11:30am in the Adoration Chapel and Children's Liturgy room at St. Ambrose Church. Registration is required, please email momtotsprayplay@gmail.com Please register for the upcoming date of **Monday**, **December 30**th.



Sign-up to take up the offertory at Christmas Masses. Parishioners are invited to take up the offertory gifts at the Christmas and New Year's Masses. There is a sign-up sheet at the main entrance area. Thank you.



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