

To See and Learn New Things

The Epiphany's Gospel account ... it's all about seeing, about vision, about what holds our attention and captures our concerns.

We've all heard expressions such as "Well, in the light of what you've just said I see things differently now." Or, "Seen in that light I think..." Or, "Oh, now I see the light."

All of these express a change in perspective, a change in which we see and understand things. It isn't so much a matter of just seeing as it is a matter of seeing and changing one's outlook. That changed outlook results in changing one's attitude and ways of knowing, one's comprehension.

The Christmas story, the infancy narrative of Jesus Christ, isn't just a story for children – it's a challenge for adults. When we see our world covered in darkness and are tempted to despair. We need to change our perspective. Instead of seeing only with our human eyes, eyes that see only what is apparent, obvious and objectively provable, we need to see ourselves and our world as God sees things. And how does God see things? The way Jesus does. "The Father and I are one," he told us.

The first reading for Epiphany is about how the ancient Israelites were seeing life. They had been living in terrible times,

times of forced migration and misery in Babylon. Their homeland had been pillaged and plundered; their beloved Jerusalem was lying in ruins. The prophet Isaiah, whose words we just heard, was speaking to them upon their return back home, their return to Jerusalem. They were back home, but living in ruins.

It was time to rebuild. Isaiah was giving them a new perspective on their lives. Isaiah is giving them words of God's promise, giving them reason to hope. Hope was something they desperately needed in the darkness of the death and destruction in which they had lived. They needed to see things differently; they needed to see themselves and their lives in a new light.

The same was true centuries upon centuries later when Jesus the Christ was born. But at Christ's birth it was not only the Jews who needed to see things differently, it was all other people as well, the non-Jews, the Gentiles, people all over the world who were living in times of terrible darkness and despair. It was into such a world that God sent His only begotten Son, Christ Jesus. And as He did then, so He does now, in our times.

On December 25th we celebrated the birth of the Jewish Messiah, the one born in fulfillment of what the Jewish prophets had proclaimed to be God's Promised One. Born of the Virgin and born into David's lineage, Jesus fulfilled all that was promised throughout the many previous centuries about the Messiah. But that perspective was too narrow. God went way beyond the hoped for vision of the Jewish prophets and sent His Son to bring light into the souls of men and women all over the world,

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to Gentiles as well as to Jews. Matthew, who directed his gospel to the Jews, gave them a much broader vision, one that brought enlightenment, hope and vision to everyone everywhere.

Thus we find mystics from other parts of the world coming to Bethlehem to see something new, something fresh, something offering hope and redemption to everyone everywhere. These mystics, astrologers, seers, these “magi” or “wise men,” came not only to worship and adore, offering Him their homage and gifts, they came as well to learn and see new things, and take their message of hope out into the whole world, the broader world from whence they came.

That message of hope, both then and now, is not something based on mere wishful thinking. It isn't a hope based simply upon renewed human energies. It is a hope grounded upon what God is doing. The message is a vision of what God is in fact doing. It is God who is at work, not just us. Our new pope, Pope Francis, is reminding us of that truth.

Our world is filled with images of terrorism, suicide bombers, abuse of children, corruption in high places, and the politics of hate. Secularists and the cultured despisers of religion are aggressively attempting to force Christians into the closet. People of faith are these days frequently labeled as “religious fanatics”. Our television programs usually do not build up, they often degrade and tear down. Most of the time they simply entertain us, thus diverting our attention away from the highest and best that is within us.

Who can claim we do not need a change in perspective? Who can claim that the light in which we see things is more than darkness, more than a dark image of ourselves and the world in which we live?

Attending Mass on Sundays is a good thing. Hearing God's word proclaimed during Mass is something we all need. But, to be truthful, that time is only sixty minutes out of each week, sixty minutes out of a weekly total of 10,080 minutes. If you remove the hours of sleep from that total we have 7,560 minutes of consciousness each week, 7,500 minutes apart from each week's Sunday Mass. What fills those 7,500 minutes? What light, what images, what vision-shaping experiences come to us during those 7,500 minutes each week apart from the time we spend here during Mass?

A mystical star, a heavenly guiding light, lead Gentile astrologers, people who are seers and mystics, to search out, find and pay homage to the Child born of the Virgin. Gold, frankincense and myrrh were their gifts to Him, gifts usually given to kings. Enlightenment, vision and a changed perspective were His gifts to them. They are His gifts to us, also, and not only just today but in each and every one of the days of our lives.

We must remember that gift-giving is an exchange. One gives, one receives, and in the giving one receives something in return. But in order to receive fully we must have eyes to see what it is that's being given us, and the purpose of the gift that we receive.

What, then, is the exchange you experience here in Mass? What are you giving ... and what are you receiving ... and for what purpose? Without seeing and understanding this divine exchange, our coming to Mass will simply slip into the fuzzy blur that constitutes the 7,560 minutes of consciousness we have each week. Without seeing and understanding Holy Mass will simply become another of our week's events, just another image in our image inflated lives.

May Epiphany's star lead us throughout the days and weeks ahead of us. And may the Light of the World, God's incarnate Word in Jesus Christ, fill our hearts and minds with God's vision and purpose for our living here in this beautiful world that is so filled with His glory, a glorious endowing gift He has placed in each one of us.

*By Fr. Charles Irvin, a priest of the Diocese of Lansing.
Reprinted from Catholicweb.com.*



Climate Change: Our Call to Conversion

A four session process for faith communities

January 18th - Our Earth Community

January 25th - Science of Climate Change

February 1st - Ecological Conversion

February 8th - Eco-Imagining Our Future

Moderated by Sue Schrieber and Julie Telang in
the ARK at St. Ambrose in between Masses
from 9:45 a.m. until 11 a.m.

All Things Considered

All of us to one extent or another like to “show off.” Kids in school have “show and tell” days and adults hold parties to do the same thing – show off.

Today we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany when God showed off his Son. He showed him off to people in the neighborhood like the shepherds. He showed him off to strangers from afar like the Magi. God was justifiably proud of Jesus, and he wanted the whole world to see what he had done for them. The Epiphany is a feast of God’s great “show off.”

God blesses us all with certain gifts and talents, and when we use them we are “showing off” what God has done for us and with us. If we give God the credit for what has been accomplished through us, then the praise goes where it belongs – to God.

This new year, promise yourself that you are going to use your talents and gifts to their maximum potential. “Show off” what the Lord has done for you and give praise and credit where it is due.

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One of the most reliable places that we meet Christ is in our homes. There is a time-honored custom of blessing the main door of a Christian home on the feast of the Epiphany. The connection is that the Magi visited Jesus in his own dwelling. Home blessing kits have been prepared for you courtesy of **Betty Haley** and our Religious Education Department. You can avail yourself of one these kits at the manger scene in church. With our compliments, send a kit to your kids away at school or living out state so that they can bless their room, apartment or house.

It’s best to do this home blessing at the evening meal on the feast of

the Epiphany, although anytime is permissible. In honor of this great feast of the Epiphany, keep your Christmas tree and outdoor decorations lit this week. In our Christian calendar, the Christmas season lasts until the feast of the Baptism of Jesus which we celebrate next weekend.

If you are sending things to your family at the opening of this new year, consider including a Catholic calendar so that they can keep the feasts and fasts of the Church year. If you want to take your mailing a step further, purchase one of our [Daily Prayer 2015](#) books.

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Bishop Walter Hurley is scheduled to be our visiting prelate for Confirmation next Saturday, January 11th at our 4:00 liturgy. Bishop Hurley is the recently retired Ordinary of Grand Rapids, and formerly a priest of our Archdiocese of Detroit.

Please join us at next Saturday’s Confirmation liturgy as we enliven 15 of our young parishioners in the faith.

It seems that whenever we have a special event (or a visiting bishop) at one of our weekend liturgies, parishioners tend to stay away. Quite frankly, that’s inhospitable.

For the most part, these special celebrations take only a few minutes longer than a regular weekend mass, and your support of our young people is essential to who we are. The top “want” that appears in survey after survey of Catholics is “more youth ministry.” Yet, in my experience, most parishioners want someone else to do that. Here’s a concrete way you can support the next generation of Catholics – come and pray with and for them as they are Confirmed.

And let me remind you that this coming Wednesday evening is the next installment of our Dinner, Drinks and Dogma night which is specifically designed for the 21–40 year olds in the parish and neighborhood. This is “youth ministry” that is not aimed at “teens” but at an older demographic. As such it should have broader appeal.

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I don’t know how to thank so many for so much. Bringing St. Ambrose into and through the holiday season takes the talents and hard work of a small army of people. I am tempted to start thanking individuals by name, however, I realize that not only would that list be long, it would be incomplete.

That makes me realize that our parish is the recipient of a real Christmas spirit all year long – that spirit that makes this community so invigorating and exciting. It’s your spirit, people of God at St. Ambrose, “companions on the journey, breaking bread and sharing wine” in this holy house of the Lord. So thanks to all of you for the Spirit of Christmas that you give all year long.

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We’re starting off the new year with a new Adult Education program called “**Climate Change – Our Call To Conversion.**” This is a four part process which was produced last year by an intercommunity group of women religious in the United States, led by the Adrian Dominican Sisters.

The purpose is to gather for prayer, reflection, education, analysis, discussion and action to create a just and sustainable world future in the midst of our climate crisis. This series starts in two weeks. A \$3 optional fee will get you a program book loaded with background readings for each session.

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We’re announcing today another parish activity that we hope will become an annual event – our St. Ambrose Golf Classic ... “**Bee at the Tee.**” This is the brain child of **Brian Satterfield** who has been working on this for over a year. Thanks to him our parish will now have its own golf outing like the other Catholic parishes in the Grosse Pointes – but of course, ours will have its own distinct flavor. Details will unfold over the next few weeks. For now, all you need to do is save the date: Friday, June 12th.

TRP



Bee at the Tee
St. Ambrose Golf Classic
Detroit/Grosse Pointe Park

Just how far off can Summer be? Make plans now to join in the inaugural St. Ambrose Parish golf outing on June 12, 2015 to benefit our Religious Education program and to support activities related to our centennial next year.

We're planning a great day of golf and socializing at the beautiful Chandler Park Golf Course (americangolf.com).

The event includes a scramble format with four person teams, lunch and awards with a great dinner to conclude the day at the ARK at St. Ambrose. A person can register to play a round of golf and dinner, or just for dinner. All registrations will be taken on line through Golf Digest Magazine. As a bonus, all registrants will get a free year's subscription to Golf Digest. We'll publish the site address, once that is established.

Multiple sponsorships will be available in many different price ranges. Consider signing-up your business as one of the first supporters of

Religious Education Update

Religious education classes resume this Sunday. My how time flies by! Next Sunday the Circle of Grace lesson winds its way to our third graders who learn that God considers them to be both treasure and gift. This is one of my favorite sessions.

Speaking of time flying by, our ninth graders will be confirmed next week on Saturday, January 10th at the 4:00 p.m. Mass. They have been working hard for one full year to prepare. Hopefully, we will see many of them regularly as they volunteer for one area of parish life or another. Please keep them in your prayers.

Betty Haley

Dinner, Drinks & Dogma

St. Ambrose Parish along with Antonio's Restaurant in the Park is sponsoring a group venue for young adults 21 to 39 years old called: "Dinner, Drinks and Dogma". It's a chance to share our Catholic faith in a casual setting where the discussion can flow freely with "no holds barred". Gatherings are held monthly at Antonio's on the first Wednesday of the month. The format revolves



around a 7 p.m. start when the group will gather in a private dining room for an interesting conversation about faith. Participants are welcome to arrive early or stay late for a dinner and/or drinks at Antonio's at their discretion.

Our next gathering is this Wednesday, January 7th. Share the invite with friends, neighbors, co-workers and acquaintances. Spread the word via social networks. You don't have to be a parishioner or even Catholic to attend. Announced age restrictions are very loosely enforced!

Vincentian Reflection

Today we celebrate with the three Kings who offered the newborn Christ child gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. We thank you for all your generous gifts that allowed the St. Vincent de Paul Conference here at St. Ambrose to bring comfort, compassion and help to our neighbors in need. We were able to help 35 families during these Christmas holydays to experience the love and peace that the Christ child gives.

Stuff for Your Sweetie

Our Valentine's Dinner, Dance & Auction in the ARK will be held on **Saturday, February 14th**. Singles, couples, friends, lovers ... everyone is welcome! Building on its popularity, we will once again include a fabulous silent auction with a variety of gifts and services. Proceeds will benefit the ARC, the St. Ambrose Rebuilding Campaign. Individual reservations (sorry, no table reservations) will be taken beginning Monday, January 19th.

To make the auction as fabulous as last year's, we again need your help. Would you please consider donating to the silent auction? Maybe it's something you got as a gift for Christmas that you really don't like or need! Start gleaning some treasures from your collections to offer for the event. Obviously, the high-end items produce more revenue for the parish, with vacation packages, antiques, jewelry and sports tickets and memorabilia selling particularly well. Written appraisals and donation letters can be given for high-end items that may be used as a deduction for tax purposes.

To discuss donations or to arrange for pick-up or delivery, contact Bob or Jan Ramsey at (313) 885-4784. To make a donation, or to ask auction questions, also call Bob or Jan at (313) 885-4784. But, to secure tickets to the event, contact Mary Urbanski at the rectory office (313) 822-2814.

The Buzz

Happy Epiphany! Happy and peaceful New Year to you and yours! This weekend continues our Christmas celebration of Emmanuel – God with us. Epiphany always makes me wonder how billions of Christians have come to discover the Lord. What's your story? Is it one of dramatic personal encounter (ala St. Paul); is it one of cultural expectation (ala many of us through family, parish, school, etc.); is it one of personal search (ala the Magi)?

There are many valid encounter storylines written by Emmanuel. Our scriptures and tradition assure us that they are often full of irony and surprises. The Magi were mysterious foreigners: Gentiles who used pagan, forbidden means (reading the stars) to search for a (most surprising) king. They did well in their quest. Yet the people who were better prepared with the wisdom of scripture and history ... missed the point.

At the beginning of 2015, how are you and I doing at "getting the point"? We have a great foundation for faith prepared for us. It points us in the right direction; it warmly invites us to journey to meet Him. If you are reading this, it probably means you have come to this "house of bread" (beth-lehem). Did you find Him? Did you get the point of it all? The beginning of a new year is a good time to make a resolution to spend 2015 prayerfully ready to see Emmanuel in every surprising way He comes to us ... and to grow closer to Him each and every day. That would make for the best year ever!

20 + C + M + B + 15

I hope you take the opportunity sometime today to use the Epiphany Home Blessing kit made available in church. If lived faith and prayer don't make it out of the church building and into our homes and neighborhoods, then we have missed the point.

One simple idea I heard about for families to try is this: on Epiphany, each member of the family identifies one God-given gift they have received and begins a plan for how they will use it to light the way for others to find Christ during the coming year. They write this down and seal it in an envelope placed under or near a family candle. Then in the dark of next Advent, everyone opens their envelopes and shares what their "star-power" has accomplished.

20 + C + M + B + 15

Actually, another Epiphany event in the Gospels is the Baptism of the Lord by John in the Jordan River. In preparation for the celebration of that feast in next weekend's liturgies, read Mark 1: 7-11. Jesus' baptism marked the start of His public ministry.

On Saturday at the 4:00 mass, you are invited to celebrate the start of a new phase in the faith-life of our parish 9th graders as they receive the Sacrament of Confirmation from **Bishop Walter Hurley**. It is the same Holy Spirit who descended upon Jesus in the river that will come and fill the hearts of our young confirmandi at a time in their lives when they really need the power and protection of God. Come next Saturday and support them by your prayer, and perhaps we will be surprised to find that God's Spirit will be renewed in us as well.

20 + C + M + B + 15

And if perchance you or someone you know has discovered Emmanuel's call to join Him in His Church through Confirmation – or even Baptism and First Communion – contact me before the starlight fades at 313-822-1248 anytime. I'll be happy to fill you in on the no-cost, no-obligation process for adults and older teens in St. Ambrose's RCIA. If you sense that this is where the Lord is pointing you, don't miss it!

Chuck Dropiewski

E-Donations

St. Ambrose Parish is equipped on our website to make electronic transfers from your checking account or credit card. Christian Financial Credit Union brings our parishioners and friends the ability to make an electronic contribution to St. Ambrose on a regular or one-time basis.

Your checking account or credit card can be used to make a single donation; or you may set up automatic weekly, monthly, or quarterly contributions on a specific schedule. We hope this financial service allows you an easy way to manage your stewardship response to St. Ambrose. A set electronic contribution also helps our parish maintain a steady revenue during months when many are traveling and away from the parish. Parishioners go on vacation. Our parish does not.

Visit stambrosechurch.net for more information on electronic giving, or call our office for personal assistance.

The Beehive

The the parish weekly bulletin of the
St. Ambrose Catholic Community
Detroit/Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan

Pastor: Rev. Timothy R. Pelc

Pastoral Minister: Charles Dropiewski

Religious Education: Elizabeth Haley

Minister of Music: Marilyn Biery

Office Manager: Theresa Harthen

Sacramental Celebrations

Masses: On the Lord's Day –

Saturday Vigil - 4:00 p.m.

Sunday - 8:30 and 11:15 a.m.

Baptism: Arrangements for both adults and infants to be made by contacting the rectory.

Penance: As announced and by appointment.

Marriage: Couples should contact the rectory office a minimum of six months in advance of the proposed date to make arrangements.

Funeral: Normally celebrated within one week after the deceased's passing.

Directory

Parish Office: 15020 Hampton

Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan 48230

Tel: (313) 822-2814 **Fax:** (313) 822-9838

Email address: stambrose@comcast.net

Religious Education: (313) 822-1248

Ark Scheduling: (313) 822-2814

School Archives: 313-237-5846

Parish Website: stambrosechurch.net

Liturgy Schedule for the Coming Week

Monday, January 5

St. John Neumann, bishop

8:30 a.m. - Morning Prayer

Tuesday, January 6

8:30 a.m. - Mass - Joan Convery

Robert Rownd, Ed & Bea Cochran

Wednesday, January 7

St. Raymond of Penyafort

8:30 a.m. - Morning Prayer

Thursday, January 8

8:30 a.m. - Mass - Adeline Urbanski

Julia Kotula, Anna & Irvin Easlick

Friday, January 9

8:30 a.m. - Mass - Franklin McDonald

Freddie Haynes, Jr., John & Mat Pustell

Saturday, January 10

4:00 p.m. - Confirmation Liturgy

Sunday, January 11

The Baptism of the Lord

8:30 a.m. - Mass - For All People

11:15 a.m. - Mass - For All People



Scriptures for the Week of Epiphany

Monday, January 5

- 1 Jn 3: 22-4: 6
- Ps 2: 7bc-8, 10-12a
- Mt 4: 12-17, 23-25

Tuesday, January 6

- 1 Jn 4: 7-10
- Ps 72: 1-4, 7-8
- Mk 6: 34-44

Wednesday, January 7

- 1 Jn 4: 11-18
- Ps 72: 1-2, 10, 12-13
- Mk 6: 45-52

Thursday, January 8

- 1 Jn 4: 19-5: 4
- Ps 72: 1-2, 14, 15bc, 17
- Lk 4: 14-22a

Friday, January 9

- 1 Jn 5: 5-13
- Ps 147: 12-15, 19-20
- Lk 5: 12-16

Saturday, January 10

- 1 Jn 5: 14-21
- Ps 149: 1-6a, 9b
- Jn 3: 22-30

Sunday, January 11

- Is 42: 1-4, 6-7
- Acts 10: 34-38
- Mk 1: 7-11

The Baptism of the Lord

January 10th and January 11th

4:00 p.m. - Saturday - Celebrants: Bp Hurley & Fr. Pelc

Lectors: Clarissa & Kevin Piecuch **Eucharistic Ministers:** Adam Borkowski, Della Cimini, Lupe Davila, Ron Hoffman, Patty Yaden, Anthony Yaden, Kaila Yaden

Altar Servers: Patrick Bernas, Aidan Davila-VinLuan, Brian Garvey, Mateusz Lubanski, Shea Vatalaro, Andrew Yaden

8:30 a.m. - Sunday - Celebrant: Fr. Bede **Lector:** Steve Peck

Eucharistic Ministers: Colleen Gatzke, Christopher Harrison, Joan Jackson, Maggie Jackson, Joellyn Valgoi, Liz & John Witherell

Altar Servers: Nicholas, Margaret, & Meredith Kramer

11:15 a.m. - Sunday - Celebrant: Fr. Pelc **Lector:** Grace Muawad

Eucharistic Ministers: Doris Fleming, Michele Hodges, Sue & Roger Playwin, Darryl Swiatkowski, Cynthia Warner

Altar Servers: Anna & Susie Jarboe, Liam & Maria Liburdi

Your Envelope ... Speaks the Inside Story

To operate, each week our parish

requires a *minimum* of \$10,127.00

On Sunday, December 21, 2014

in envelopes we received\$6,990.00

in the loose collection\$672.00

in electronic donations\$1,170.00

in children's envelopes.....\$28.00

for a total of\$ **8,860.00**

Under budget for the week\$1,267.00

FY 14-15 under budget \$21,416.00

Number of envelopes mailed 800

Number of envelopes used..... 198

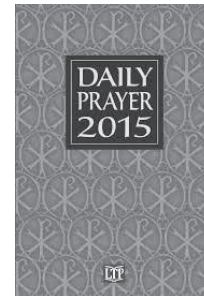
Please use your envelopes or contribute online regularly. End of year donations must be dated prior to January 1st.

Thanks for all your prayers and support!

Our Sick

Please pray for our parishioners who are seriously ill or hospitalized: Roma Affelt, Grace Weise, Daniel Bonior, Kay Balas, Elizabeth Howard, Maria Chinchilla, Mary Ellen Greenup, Bonnie McKenna, Karen Culver, Joseph MacEachern, Mary Myers, David Schumacker, Mary Morreale, Bernice Phillips, Carter Billiu, Bob Ramsey, Dan Fleming, Fred Schroeder, Ann Sullivan Kay, Mary Pat Egan, Pat Blake, Dominic Centorbi, Charlene Lahey, Irene Scopel, Ray Oberly, Milton Aitchison, Donald & Marilyn Miriani, Kathleen Elbersen, Felix Checki, Maureen Barron-Brioc, Ginger Weiksnar, Laura Bush Terry, Fr. Phil Naessens, Charmaine Kaptur, Lennie O'Brien, Maryjane Cullen, Bp. Joseph Imesch, Barbara Bennert, Andrew Chavez, and Angela Hansen.

Pray Every Day



Searching for a fresh way to pray every day of the year?

Daily Prayer 2015 is your guide to prayer that includes scripture, psalmody, a brief

reflection, general intercessions, and a closing prayer. It is ideal for personal and family reflection upon the word of God. This makes an excellent gift for a senior or for a student away at college.

The feedback from a variety of users of every demographic, as well as from our own parish experience with this book, has been positive. These prayer books are \$12 each — a dollar a month — which is a modest investment in spiritual formation.

To pick up a copy of this year's Daily Prayer 2015, stop in the back of church or call the rectory office at 822-2814.

Priestly Vocations

Next week, the archdiocesan Office of Priestly Vocations will offer a discernment weekend at Sacred Heart Seminary from January 8th to 11th, and again from March 19th to 22nd. These firsthand, up close and stress-free looks at seminary life are offered for men who are high school seniors to 55 years old. Visit detroitpriest.com or Facebook at Detroit Priest.



Join us on Facebook
facebook.com/stambroseparish

The Collection Basket

St. Ambrose Parish has a new procedure for the Offertory Collection at our weekend Masses. Baskets are “passed” from one person to the next rather than having an usher “collect” from everyone.

The goal is to personalize – to give a more direct “hands-on” experience – of this moment in the Liturgy for each of us. Catholics are allowed to receive Holy Communion with their hands. How appropriate that our hands be involved in a preparation of things that will be “consecrated” – “made holy” by the need and use of the Church, the Body of Christ!


“Give and gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing, will be poured into your lap. For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you.” Luke 6:38

Several years ago, our son, gave us a great gift. After growing increasingly frustrated with holiday shopping, he told us he was bowing out of the Christmas gift business. He gave us a list of charities in which to donate the money we would have spent on his gifts and asked us to provide the same for him. In short, he gave us the gift of non-gifting!

We shared the idea with our daughter. Being in a state of transition, she certainly didn’t want or need more stuff to haul around so she, too, endorsed the idea. We have kept it up all these years, deciding together on a donation that will serve those in need because of natural disasters or other calamities, or simply because of our collective concern about poverty, disease, or environmental conservation. Thus, we gave one year to an organization serving those who had suffered the devastation of Hurricane Sandy and another year to the victims of the floods in Colorado. This year, I suspect our dollars will go to those aiding victims of the Ebola virus.

In truth, there was great relief in bowing out of the exchange of presents. No more mall crawls or Black Fridays. No more fretting over finding the right present or one that, at least, won’t require the hassle of an exchange. Granted, our family is small and we have no little children to consider. Even so, giving to others who are truly in need rather than a bunch of stuff to one another seems fitting for a season focused on the great gift of love embodied in the person of Jesus. We each donate to charitable organizations throughout the year, but doing so in concert with one another brings a particular sense of joy. I am proud of the way in which my children consider so seriously the concerns of those in need, and delight in the conversation that ensues around the charity of choice for the year. Together we have become even more aware of our abundance and the simple gift of giving to others. What we have received in return is a gift beyond measure.

Reprinted from the Sadlier.com “Believe and Share” Blog, December 3, 2014



Welcome to St. Ambrose!

St. Ambrose Parish continues to grow, not only in spirit, but also in numbers. On behalf of our parish community, now beginning its 99th year of existence, we warmly welcome all those who have newly registered with us this past year...

Nicholas Adams on Beaconsfield in the Park; **Brock and Priscilla Barczyk** on Berkshire in the Park; **Anthony and Catherine Biondo** on Westchester in the Park; **Matthew and Stephanie Blevins** on Anita in the Woods; **Carl and Kristen Caballero** on Westchester in the Park; **Daniel and Mary Card** on Ridgemont in the Farms; **Steven and Caitlin Card** on Westchester in the Park; **George and Kevette Chapman** on Lakepointe in the Park; **Robert and Stephanie Denvir** on McKinley in the Farms; **Donald and Maryann Fitzgibbon** on Pointe Park Place in the Park; **John Giordano and Irene Correi** on Country Club in the Woods; **Kevin and Rachel Hock** on Kerby in the Farms; **Stephen and Jessica Justin** on Wayburn in the Park; **Matthew and Rebecca Labadie** on Ridgemont in the Farms; **David and Ann Marie Legato** on Lakeshore in St. Clair Shores; **Kara Makino** on Hollywood in the Woods; **Eric and Stephanie Niesch** on Middlesex in the Park; **Lennie O’Brien** on Lakepointe in the Park; **Mark and Joyce Olstyn** on Cadieux in Grosse Pointe City; **Sarah Rahaim and Matthew Griffith** on Marter in St. Clair Shores; **Brandon Smarsh** on Fifth Street in Mt. Clemens; **Grace Spear** on Country Club in the Woods; **Richard and Christi Stepanski** on Beaconsfield in the Park; **Maciej and Trista Wdziekonski** on Bedford in the Park; and **Barbara Whotte** on Nine Mile in Eastpointe.