

The Origin of the Christmas Manger Scene

Devotionals abound during this Christmas season, including family traditions and ethnic customs, many of which concern Jesus' childhood. Popular piety assists the Church in avoiding consumerism by urging the practice of the values that are most important in life. One Christmas devotional, especially important in every Catholic home, is the manger scene.

In Bethlehem, the cave to which tradition pointed to as the place of Christ's birth, was a pilgrimage site from very early on. Saint Helena (who died in the year 330) built a great basilica over that cave, and Saint Jerome (who died in Bethlehem in the year 420) was one of countless pilgrims who visited the shrine. He was disappointed to find that the clay manger had been replaced with a silver one. *"It is far less precious to me than the one they removed,"* he said in a homily, *"but my wonder is at the Lord, the creator of the world, who willed to be born not in silver or gold but in clay"* (*The Liturgy and Time*, 85). In Rome, the relics of the manger have been venerated at the Basilica of Saint Mary Major since the twelfth century.

The manger scene, or crèche, as we know it, has a very clear origin. In the year 1223, St. Francis of Assisi, a deacon, was visiting the town of Greccio to celebrate Christmas. Greccio was a small town built on a mountainside overlooking a beautiful valley. The people had cultivated this fertile area with vineyards. St. Francis realized that the chapel of the Franciscan hermitage would be too small to hold the congregation for Midnight Mass. So he found a niche in the rock near the town square and set up an altar. However, this Midnight Mass would be very special, unlike any other Midnight Mass.

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St. Bonaventure (who died in 1274) in his Life of St. Francis of Assisi tells the story the best:

It happened in the third year before his death, that in order to excite the inhabitants of Greccio to commemorate the nativity of the Infant Jesus with great devotion, [St. Francis] determined to keep it with all possible solemnity; and lest he should be accused of lightness or novelty, he asked and obtained the permission of the sovereign Pontiff. Then he prepared a manger, and brought hay, and an ox and an ass to the place appointed. The brethren were summoned, the people ran together, the forest resounded with their voices. That venerable night was made glorious by many and brilliant lights and sonorous psalms of praise. The man of God [St. Francis] stood before the manger, full of devotion and piety, bathed in tears and radiant with joy; the Holy Gospel was chanted by Francis. Then he preached to the people around the nativity of the poor King; and being unable to utter His name for the tenderness of His love, He called Him the "Babe of Bethlehem".

A certain valiant and veracious soldier, Master John of Greccio, who, for the love of Christ, had left the warfare of this world, and become a dear friend of this holy man, affirmed that he beheld an Infant marvelously beautiful, sleeping in the manger, whom the blessed Father Francis embraced with both his arms, as if he would awake Him from sleep. This vision of the devout soldier is credible, not only by reason of the sanctity of him that saw it, but by reason of the miracles which afterwards confirmed its truth. The example of Francis is doubtless sufficient to excite all hearts which are negligent in the faith of Christ. And the hay of that manger, being preserved by the people, miraculously cured all diseases of cattle, and many other pestilences; God thus glorified his servant, and witnessed to the efficacy of his holy prayers by manifest prodigies and miracles.

Francis said, "I wish to do something that will recall to memory the little child who was born in Bethlehem and set before our bodily eyes in some way the inconveniences of his infant needs; how he lay in a manger, how, with an ox and an ass standing by, he lay upon the hay where he had been placed." So, at Francis's instructions, a real manger was prepared and filled with straw, and the image of the infant Christ was placed upon it. A live ox and ass were led in to take their places in the scene. "Simplicity was honored, poverty was exalted, and Greccio was made, as it were, a new Bethlehem.... At length the solemn night celebration was brought to a close, and each one returned to his home with holy joy" (St. Francis of Assisi, Writings and Early Biographies: English Omnibus of the Source for the Life of St. Francis, pp. 300-301).

Francis' reasons for setting up the manger scene were quite clear. He wanted people to be reminded of the poverty into which Christ was born; he wanted them to see the newborn child lying on straw, surrounded by real animals. He wanted to make the ancient mystery new for them.

The Order of Blessing of a Christmas Manger or Nativity Scene in the *Book of Blessings* alludes to the familiar story of St. Francis, and the introduction reminds us that the manger scene has the same purpose for us that it had for St. Francis and the people of Greccio long ago: "*When we look upon these figures, the Christmas gospel comes alive and we are moved to rejoice in the mystery of the incarnation of the Son of God*" (BB, 1551) The Christmas manger scene is supposed to move us, touch our hearts, and lead us to reflect and wonder at the mystery of the Incarnation – the mystery of Christ's poverty.

Excerpted from 2010 Sourcebook for Sundays, Seasons and Weekdays, ©2009 Liturgy Training Publications and "St. Francis and the Christmas Crèche" by Rev. William Saunders.

Health Care Reform



Responding to reports of a new "compromise" proposal on abortion in the U.S. Senate's health care reform bill, Cardinal Daniel DiNardo reaffirmed the position of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops that the legislation will be morally unacceptable "unless and until" it complies with longstanding current laws on abortion funding.... Cardinal DiNardo is Archbishop of Galveston-Houston and Chairman of the Conference's Committee on Pro-Life Activities.

The Cardinal commented on efforts by Senator Robert Casey (D-PA) to improve the Senate bill's treatment of abortion. "Senator Casey's good-faith effort to allow individuals to 'opt out' of abortion coverage actually underscores how radically the underlying Senate bill would change abortion policy. Excluding elective abortions from overall health plans is not a privilege that individuals should have to seek as the exception to the norm. In all other federal health programs, excluding abortion coverage is the norm. And numerous opinion polls show that the great majority of Americans do not want abortion coverage."

Cardinal DiNardo had written earlier to the Senate saying that "the Catholic bishops of the United States strongly support authentic reform of our ailing health care system." His letter cited "three moral criteria for reform: respect for life and conscience; affordability for the poor; and access to much-needed basic health care for immigrants," noting that so far the Senate bill "has fallen short of the example set by the House version of this legislation in each of these areas." As the bishops have said many times, 'providing affordable and accessible health care that clearly reflects these fundamental principles is a public good, moral imperative and urgent national priority.'

Excerpted from a USCCB News Release (12-19-09)

All Things Considered

As we celebrate the great feasts of the Christmas season, I want to welcome those who are guests at St. Ambrose – those who have come from out of town or from other communities.

I extend a special welcome to our college students and other young adults home for the holidays. It's a joy to see your bright and shining faces here again.

It's always good to see returning alumni of the parish. Coming back to the church of their youth makes them young once again.

And, of course, I rejoice in all those whose faces we see each week. It's good for all of us to be here to celebrate the love of God revealed in Jesus.

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The period of time from Christmas to New Year's Day is the **CHRISTMAS OCTAVE**. Octaves are eight-day weeks. In Christian symbolism, eight days represent eternity. Maybe that's because an eight-day week begins and ends on the same day of the week. Christmastime is a season to live with one foot in eternity.

The Sunday after Christmas is dedicated to the **HOLY FAMILY**. Everything we know about the family of Jesus, is not very much. It all comes from sketchy gospel writers who were not interested in the *origins* of Jesus as much as they were about the *outcomes* of Jesus. Yet, despite a lack of primary evidence, we can still see strong signs of acceptance and a "good working arrangement" in the family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

Early Christians were not so much interested in the beginnings of Christ's life as we are. It's unfortunate

that more information about the formative life of Jesus was not preserved for us. Yet, the lack of details in this period of Christ's life focuses us on the more important data – how Jesus lived and died – rather than how he was born.

But as I think about it, the same could be said of us. It's more significant how we turn out in life, rather than how or where we may have been born.

The actual octave of Christmas is **NEW YEAR'S DAY** and is a holyday of obligation for Catholics. This feast is probably the oldest celebration of Mary in the Western Church. January 1st, however, has been wrapped in many different theological guises, including the Solemnity of Mary, the Circumcision and World Day of Peace.

I like to think that the best reason for attending mass on that day is much more obvious. It's the beginning of the civil year. What better way can there be to close out the old year and to ask God's blessing on the new? Masses for the holyday here at St. Ambrose are at 4:00 on Thursday afternoon, New Year's Eve and at 10:00 Friday morning, New Year's Day.

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Every now and then, the wrong person reads my column, or interprets what was meant for another person in another way. Let me explain.

When I look at our envelope donor list, I often feel that I need to say some general words of encouragement to people in a seemingly secure income level that they probably could do something more to keep their home parish running. Yet, what often happens is that I get a note or get pulled aside in a conversation by a person of limited financial means, who having read my appeal, feels a need to explain to me why they can't do more.

It's a classic case of the "widow's mite". Those with limited finances feel that they need to be more generous. While those with better means feel that they are generous enough.

With that preamble, let me now try to "**comfort the afflicted**", and "**afflict the comfortable**."

In terms of those who have limited means, you need know that yes, you always need to be generous ... even reckless in giving. But this does not always mean giving money. So consider these creative ways to give:

* **Give time.** Donate time to a cause you find is worthy, at St. Ambrose and/or in your community.

* **Give information.** Become a mentor to someone, young or old. Help in our Religious Education program or Bible Club. You have some skill or knowledge you can share to help another grow.

* **Give talents.** Use your skills to help someone who can't afford to pay for the service you can provide.

* **Give acknowledgment.** Smile at those you meet. Give someone a kind word today. Acknowledge a job well done.

* **Give encouragement.** Be supportive of those around you, at home at work and in church. Let others know you care about them.

* **Give kind thoughts.** Intend the best for other people. Pray for others. Here's a thought – pray for the person in church on Sunday who sits behind you, in front of you and/or on either side of you.

* **Give a meaningful touch.** Give someone a pat on the back, a handshake or, when appropriate, a hug.

* **Give thanks.** Make a concerted effort to say "thanks" to those who enrich your life on a regular basis.

Now to the other Christian, who has a reasonable, maybe even an abundance of gifts, you need to hear the biblical lesson: "*To whom much is given, much is expected.*" (Luke 12:48)

So, in addition to these above named ways of giving, you also need to consider what scripture calls a "tithe" which is far more complicated than the IRS tax code ever envisioned.

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All Things Considered

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A tithe is literally “a tenth portion”, given to God. There are some who want to claim their taxes as part of their tithe, since so many government programs are what charity used to do. I understand your feelings, but that isn't giving to God ... maybe just the opposite.

Please take a reflective moment between now and the end of the year to review the amount of financial support you have given our parish over the past twelve months. Like most churches and nonprofit agencies, St. Ambrose depends upon a sizeable portion of revenue coming in during the month of December.

Many parishioners deliberately wait until year's end to assess their financial position and then use Christmas as a special time to make a gift to the church in order to lessen their federal and state income taxes. Others use this end-of-year time to make up for contributions that were missed in past months.

An additional incentive for making a special gift to the parish at year-end is a bonus – whatever is collected and marked as “Christmas” is exempt from the normal Archdiocesan assessment. This means that your Christmas gift is worth 6% more to us, with every dollar being applied to our operating budget.

Note that we keep the financial books for 2009 open only until New Year's Eve. All gifts made and dated by that time are tax-deductible for this year.

Statements for envelope revenue generally are mailed by our office by the end of January. Statements for the St. Ambrose building campaign, the ARC, also come from our office. Statements for the Catholic Services Appeal, come from the Archdiocese directly, so don't be upset if you don't see that in the documentation you will receive from us.

These are difficult and challenging times for us all. So I want you to know that I am particularly grateful to those who sacrifice for the parish – not only at Christmas, but throughout the year. There is no St. Ambrose Parish without you.

TRP



A Prayerful Study and Reflection on the Gospel of Saint Luke

Scripture is God's unique revelation. When we open the Gospel of Luke, we open our hearts to a dialogue with God. Plan to join us on the following Sunday mornings from 9:45 to 11:00 in the ARK:

January 10	Introduction to Cycle C, the Gospel of Luke
January 17	Luke: A Writer Unparalleled
January 24	Luke: A Distinctive Sunday Lectionary Profile
January 31	The Parables of Luke
February 7	Food in the Gospel of Luke
February 14	The Eucharist in Luke's Gospel

Comites Christi

Several saints' days which fall within the Octave of Christmas are also a part of the “Twelve Days of Christmas.” By placing their feasts near the birth of the Lord, the Church is suggesting that there is a special spiritual proximity as well. These saints are called the *Comites Christi*, “the companions of Christ,” and as that name implies, they are not only close to Him, but they have a certain nobility (the word *comes*, from which we get our word “count,” also implies aristocracy).

St. Stephen (December 26) is the “Proto-Martyr,” the first disciple of our Lord to be martyred. **St. John** (December 27) is the “beloved disciple” who rested on our Lord's bosom during the Last Supper.

The **Holy Innocents** (December 28) are obviously connected in a special way to our Lord's infancy. In our own times, children suffer innumerable forms of violence which threaten their lives, dignity and right to education. On this day, it is appropriate to recall the vast host of children not yet born who have been killed under the cover of laws permitting abortion, which is an abominable crime. Mindful of these specific problems, popular piety in many places has inspired acts of worship as well as displays of charity which provide assistance to pregnant mothers, encourage adoption and the promotion of the education of children.

The Eastern churches honor the **Apostles, Peter and Paul**, on December 28, the founders of the Church at Rome.

St. Thomas Becket (December 29), the Archbishop of Canterbury who was killed by the king's men in 1170 on this day, would have normally seen his feast transferred to a date outside the Octave of Christmas. However, because his martyrdom was such a shock and outrage to Christendom, the Roman authorities deemed it appropriate to leave his “spiritual birthday” exactly where it was, thereby adding him to the list of Christ's nobility.

The final *Comes Christi* is **St. Sylvester I** (December 31), the great pope who lived to see the Roman persecutions of the Church finally end during the reign of Emperor Constantine. It is therefore appropriate to honor this saint within the Octave that celebrates “peace on earth,” especially on the day before the new civic year.

Religious Education Notes from Betty

As we look back over the last few weeks of holiday celebration – Thanksgiving dinner and the Christmas get-togethers – we realize more than ever the importance of family and friends. Perhaps that is why the Church chose to place the Feast of the Holy Family on this weekend. With the Christmas rush behind us, we have the opportunity and the time to better appreciate both our family and those with whom we are close enough to call family.

Today's feast holds high the family unit that is the place where we first learn about love. It is within the relationships between parent and child, siblings, and husband and wife that we get our sense of trust, esteem, acceptance, and community. Our sense of "home" is less a place than a feeling of belonging to someone or some other persons. Most importantly, our sense of God – what we imagine God to be like – comes first from our experiences within our family.

This weekend, the Church once again extols the holy and loving relationship that existed between Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. Luke took care to note that Jesus was the product of a family devoted to God (as seen by their full response to God's plan and their careful observance of religious law) and to each other. Their care and concern for the well-being of the other was the human element responsible for the fact that "Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man" (Luke 2:52).

CONFIRMATION is fast approaching! We are honored to have Edmund Cardinal Szoka confirm our 21 candidates on Saturday, January 9th. In addition, Cardinal Szoka will bestow a special blessing upon one ninth grader who has been continuing her faith formation although she is already fully initiated into the Church.

Rehearsal for Confirmation is Friday January 8th at 7:00 p.m. in the church. It will be very important for candidates and sponsors to be there.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES will resume on Sunday, January 10th. Enjoy the rest of the holiday break!

PARENT/CANDIDATE MEETING FOR FIRST EUCHARIST The next meeting for parents and candidates preparing for First Eucharist is scheduled for Monday, January 11th from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the Ark. At that time, each family is to bring a small portion of some type of bread for a prayer service. Please remember that your children and you need to review Chapter 3 before the session.

THANK YOU to Sue Dropiewski and all the parent volunteers who helped us prepare the Gospel re-enactment for the children's Christmas Eve liturgy. We couldn't have done it without you!

Betty Haley

Octave of Christmas – Holyday of Obligation
Masses at 4:00 p.m. on December 31st and January 1st at 10: a.m.



Marcellina's Book Club



In Angel Time, Anne Rice returns to the mesmerizing storytelling that has captivated readers for more than three decades in a tale of unceasing suspense set in time past – a metaphysical thriller about angels and assassins. Angelically inspiring. Devilishly clever.

Our book club will meet Wednesday, January 13, 2010 in the ARK. The discussion will begin at 7:00 p.m. Plan on joining us.

The Beehive

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

Pastor: Rev. Timothy R. Pelc
Deacon: Rev. Mr. Michael Cummins
Pastoral Minister: Charles Dropiewski
Adult Ed. Director: Michael Maras
Religious Education: Elizabeth Haley
Minister of Music: John Guinn
Office Manager: Theresa Harthen

Sacramental Celebrations

Masses: 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 of the deceased's passing.

Directory

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Religious Education: (313) 822-1248
Ark Scheduling: Laura Blake (313) 822-1594
School Archives: 313-237-5846
Parish Website: stambrosechurch.net

The Epiphany of our Lord January 2nd and January 3rd

4:00 p.m. - Saturday - Celebrant: Fr. Pelc Lector: Pat Ticknor

Eucharistic Ministers: Karen McShane, Mary Helen Quigg-Hillyer, Mary Howard

Altar Servers: Mara Hillyer, Ramon Martinez

8:30 a.m. - Sunday - Celebrant: Fr. Naessens Deacon: Michael Cummins

Lector: Tom Cliff Eucharistic Ministers: Colleen Drummond, Colleen Gatzke,
Michael Hern, Peter Hern, Steve Linne, Lorrie & Isabel Peck

Altar Servers: Stella Gatzke, Joseph Kurta, Frankie Pangborn

11:15 a.m. Sunday - Celebrant: Fr. Pelc Deacon: Michael Cummins

Lector: Kurt Vatalaro Eucharistic Ministers: Dee Cimini, Lupe & Miguel Davila, Michele
Hodges, Michael Justin, Darryl Swiatkowski, Bernadette Gutowski

Altar Servers: Sylvia Hodges, Anthony & Andrew Yaden

Your Envelope ... Speaks the Inside Story

To operate, each week our parish
requires a *minimum* of \$8,200.00

On December 20, 2009

in envelopes we received \$7,157.00

in loose collection \$739.96

in electronic donations \$670.00

in children's envelopes..... \$138.25

for a total of..... \$8,705.21

Over for the week by \$505.21

Number of envelopes mailed 800

Number of envelopes used 206

ARC debt reduction receipts..... \$8,040.00

Fuel..... \$170.00

Our Sick

Pray for our parishioners who are seriously ill or hospitalized: Grace Weise, Rose White, Toni Manseau, Daniel Bonior, Anthony Hicks, Roma Affelt, Mary Jo Parker, Yvonne Smith, Mary Segner, Janet Lazor, Fabian Tryjankowski, Daniel O'Callaghan, Helen Maras, Terry Pfaendtner, Sophie Haas, Kerry Wilhite, Kay Balas, Joyce Martin, Stanley Remus, Mike McComsey, Bernice Phillips, Rose Castellani, Steve Lagae, James Sweeney, Audrey McLean, Faith Smith, Judi Quatrone, Maurice Paoletti, Freddie Haynes, Jr., Anne Blake, Marion McComsey, Hugh Grannum, Bernard Lazor, Cindy Drost-Urbiel, Lynn Kiley, Joseph Caligiuri, Joe Puhly, Erin O'Connor, Miguel Davila, Kathy Peterson, Mary Wherry, Amanda Westfall, Bill Rice, Pete Corsiglia, Mr. & Mrs. Wilson, Carl Petzold Colette Gilewicz, Charles Ebner, Sylvia Landuyt, Steve Bush and Lois Grogan.

Stuff for Your Sweetie

A festive Valentine Dinner and Dance in the ARK will be held on Saturday, February 13th... singles, couples, friends ... everyone is welcome. As an added feature, this year will once again include a fabulous silent auction with a variety of gifts and services. All proceeds will benefit ARC, the St. Ambrose Rebuilding Campaign.

However, to make the auction truly fabulous, we need your commitment. Would you please consider donating something to the silent auction? We are open to all donations. Even small items can be grouped to make special theme packages.

Some suggestions for gifts include jewelry, costume or fine; gift certificates for dinners or services; the preparation, delivering and serving a dinner for a number of guests; coupon books for babysitting, yard work, gutter cleaning; antiques; interesting book collections; small furniture; a dessert a month for a period of time; art; sports tickets, etc.

Be creative and support our goal of acquiring 50 to 100 interesting auction items. To make a donation or ask any questions, please call the rectory at (313) 822-2814 or Bob and Jan Ramsey at (313) 885-4784.

Liturgy Schedule for the Coming Week

Monday, December 28

The Holy Innocents

8:30 a.m. - Communion Service

Tuesday, December 29

St. Thomas Becket, bishop & martyr

8:30 a.m. - Mass - Health & Recovery
of Taylor Ward

Wednesday, December 30

8:30 a.m. - Communion Service

Thursday, December 31

St. Sylvester, pope

4:00 p.m. - Mass - For War Veterans

Friday, January 1

Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God

10:00 a.m. - Mass - For Peace in the World

Saturday, January 2

St. Basil the Great and

St. Gregory Nazianzen, bishops & doctors

4:00 p.m. - Mass - For all the People

Sunday, January 3

The Epiphany of our Lord

8:30 a.m. - Mass - For all the People

11:15 a.m. - Mass - For all the People



Unite our families
in your love, O Lord

Scriptures for the Octave of Christmas

Monday, December 28

- 1 Jn 1: 5-2: 2
- Ps 124: 2-5, 7c-8
- Mt 2: 13-18

Tuesday, December 29

- 1 Jn 2: 3-11
- Ps 96: 1-3, 5b-6
- Lk 2: 22-35

Wednesday, December 30

- 1 Jn 2: 12-17
- Ps 96: 7-10
- Lk 2: 36-40

Thursday, December 31

- 1 Jn 2: 18-21
- Ps 96: 1-2, 11-13
- Jn 1: 1-18

Friday, January 1

- Nm 6: 22-27
- Gal 4: 4-7
- Lk 2: 16-21

Saturday, January 2

- 1 Jn 2: 22-28
- Ps 98: 1-4
- Jn 1: 19-28

Sunday, January 3

- Is 60: 1-6
- Eph 3: 2-3a, 5-6
- Mt 2: 1-12

The Christmas Season Continues

NEW YEAR'S DAY

Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God

Thursday, December 31, 2009

MASS AT 4:00 P.M.

Friday, January 1, 2010

MASS AT 10:00 A.M.

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Saturday, January 2, 2010

MASS AT 4:00 P.M.

Sunday, January 3, 2010

MASSES AT 8:30 A.M. & 11:15 A.M.

FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF JESUS

Saturday, January 9, 2010

MASS AT 4:00 P.M. – Confirmation

Sunday, January 10, 2010

MASSES AT 8:30 A.M. & 11:15 A.M.

Electronic Donations

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

Your checking account or credit card may be used to make a single donation; or you may set up automatic weekly, monthly or quarterly contributions on a schedule. This solution is not meant to replace the current envelope method of collection, but instead to provide an additional alternative for individuals who might prefer to make their contribution electronically. We hope that this additional financial service allows you another way of managing your stewardship to St. Ambrose. Log-on to stambrosechurch.net for more information on electronic giving.

ETC. - Eastside Take Control

The career networking group begun at St. Paul Catholic Church is now in partnership with St. Ambrose, Christ Church - Grosse Pointe, Grosse Pointe Memorial Church and Grace Community Church in order to provide even more information, resources, support and networking opportunities to those in career transition.

The new group is called ETC – Eastside Take Control – an Ecumenical Career Networking Group serving the Eastside community. The meetings, which are free of charge and open to the community, will be held Monday mornings from 7:30 - 9:00 a.m. and will rotate between four area churches as follows:

1st Monday of each month - Grace Community - The Cafe

2nd Monday of each month - St. Paul - Church Assembly Room

3rd Monday of each month - St. Ambrose - The ARK

4th Monday of each month - Christ Church - The Undercroft

Each one-hour meeting provides updates on group activities, information on a specific job-search related topic as well as time to network. Come join this new group and start your week off on the right foot! No reservations are needed. Please share this with anyone you know in need of support. For more information, please contact Sarah Sharp at (248) 219-5720 or sarahsharp521@gmail.com.

ETC. Schedule

Unemployed or underemployed? Then you should do yourself a favor and check out ETC, a job clinic that is sponsored by St. Ambrose and three other churches in the area.

The following are the topics for the upcoming ETC meetings

Meetings run from 7:30 - 8:30 a.m.

December 28 - Christ Church

- Spirituality's Role in the Job Search

January 4 - Grace Community

- Emerging Careers in a Changing Economy

January 11 - St. Paul

- Assessment Tools for Job Seekers

January 18 - St. Ambrose

- Managing Money on a Tight Budget

January 25 - Christ Church

- Behavioral Interviewing Strategies