

St. Ambrose Parish

DECEMBER 6, 2009
BEEHIVE

Who is St. Nicholas?

The true story of Santa Claus begins with Nicholas, who was born during the third century in the village of Patara. At the time the area was Greek and is now on the southern coast of Turkey. His wealthy parents, who raised him to be a devout Christian, died in an epidemic while Nicholas was still young. Obeying Jesus' words to "sell what you own and give the money to the poor," Nicholas used his whole inheritance to assist the needy, the sick, and the suffering. He dedicated his life to serving God and was made Bishop of Myra while still a young man. Bishop Nicholas became known throughout the land for his generosity to those in need, his love for children, and his concern for sailors and ships.

Under the Roman Emperor Diocletian, who ruthlessly persecuted Christians, Bishop Nicholas suffered for his faith, was exiled and imprisoned. The prisons were so full of bishops, priests, and deacons, there was no room for the real criminals – murderers, thieves and robbers. After his release, Nicholas attended the Council of Nicaea in AD 325. He died December 6, AD 343 in Myra and was buried in his cathedral church, where a unique relic, called manna, formed in his grave. This liquid substance, said to have healing powers, fostered the growth of devotion to Nicholas. The anniversary of his death became a day of celebration, St. Nicholas Day.

Through the centuries many stories and legends have been told of St. Nicholas' life and deeds. These accounts help us understand his extraordinary character and why he is so beloved and revered as protector and helper of those in need.



One story tells of a poor man with three daughters. In those days a young woman's father had to offer prospective husbands something of value – a dowry. The larger the dowry, the better the chance that a young woman would find a good husband. Without a dowry, a woman was unlikely to marry. This poor man's daughters, without dowries, were therefore destined to be sold into slavery. Mysteriously, on three different occasions, a bag of gold appeared in their home – providing the needed dowries. The bags of gold, tossed through an open window, are said to have landed in stockings or shoes left before the fire to dry. This led to the custom of children hanging stockings or putting out shoes, eagerly awaiting gifts from Saint Nicholas. Sometimes the story is told with gold balls instead of bags of gold. That is why three gold balls, sometimes represented as oranges, are one of the symbols for St. Nicholas. And so St. Nicholas is a gift-giver.

Another story tells of three theological students, traveling on their way to study in Athens. A wicked innkeeper robbed and murdered them, hiding their remains in a large pickling tub. It so happened that Bishop Nicholas, traveling along the same route, stopped at this very inn. In the night he dreamed of the crime, got up, and summoned the innkeeper. As Nicholas prayed earnestly to God the three boys were restored to life and wholeness. In France the story is told of three small children, wandering in their play until lost, lured, and captured by an evil butcher. St. Nicholas appears and

Continued on page two...

Who Is St. Nicholas?

Continued from page 1

appeals to God to return them to life and to their families. And so St. Nicholas is the patron and protector of children.

Several stories tell of Nicholas and the sea. When he was young, Nicholas sought the holy by making a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. There as he walked where Jesus walked, he sought to more deeply experience Jesus' life, passion, and resurrection. Returning by sea, a mighty storm threatened to wreck the ship. Nicholas calmly prayed. The terrified sailors were amazed when the wind and waves suddenly calmed, sparing them all. And so St. Nicholas is the patron of sailors and voyagers.

Other stories tell of Nicholas saving his people from famine, sparing the lives of those innocently accused, and much more. He did many kind and generous deeds in secret, expecting nothing in return. Within a century of his death he was celebrated as a saint. Today he is venerated in the East as wonder, or miracle worker and in the West as patron of a great variety of persons – children, mariners, bankers, pawnbrokers, scholars, orphans, laborers, travelers, merchants, judges, paupers, marriageable maidens, students, children, sailors, victims of judicial mistakes, captives, perfumers, even thieves and murderers! He is known as the friend and protector of all in trouble or need.

Sailors, claiming St. Nicholas as patron, carried stories of his favor and protection far and wide. St. Nicholas chapels were built in many seaports. Following his baptism in Constantinople, Vladimir of Russia brought St. Nicholas' stories and devotion to St. Nicholas to his homeland where Nicholas became the most beloved saint. Nicholas was so widely revered that more than 2,000 churches were named for him, including three hundred in Belgium, thirty-four in Rome, twenty-three in the Netherlands and more than four hundred in England.

Nicholas' tomb in Myra became a popular place of pilgrimage. Because of the many wars and attacks in the region, some Christians were concerned that access to the tomb might become difficult. For both the religious and commercial advantages of a major pilgrimage site, the Italian cities of Venice and Bari vied to get the Nicholas relics. In the spring of 1087, sailors from Bari succeeded in spiriting away the bones, bringing them to Bari, a seaport on the southeast coast of Italy. An impressive church was built over St. Nicholas' crypt. The Nicholas shrine in Bari was one of medieval Europe's great pilgrimage centers and Nicholas became known as "Saint in Bari." To this day pilgrims and tourists visit Bari's great Basilica di San Nicola.

Through the centuries St. Nicholas has continued to be venerated by Catholics and Orthodox and honored by Protestants. By his example of generosity to those in need, especially children, St. Nicholas continues to be a model for the compassionate.

Widely celebrated in Europe, St. Nicholas' feast day, December 6th, kept alive the stories of his goodness and generosity. In Germany and Poland, boys dressed as bishops begged alms for the poor. In the Netherlands and Belgium, St. Nicholas arrived on a steamship from Spain to ride a white horse on his gift-giving rounds. December 6th is still the main day for gift giving and merrymaking in much of Europe. In the Netherlands St. Nicholas is celebrated on the eve of the 6th, by sharing candies (thrown in the door), chocolate initial letters, small gifts, and riddles. Dutch children leave carrots and hay in their shoes for the saint's horse, hoping St. Nicholas will exchange them for small gifts.

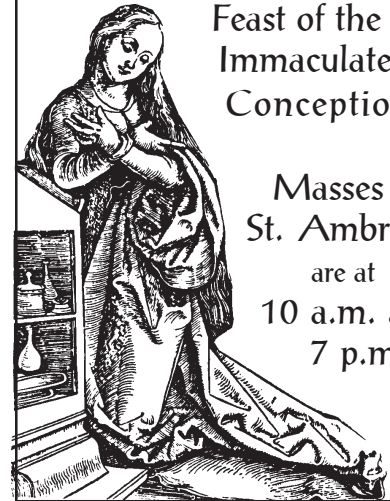
Exported from stnicholascenter.org.

Adopt-A-Family

The St. Ambrose Chapter of the St. Vincent dePaul Society will be sponsoring a Christmas Adopt-a-Family Program. You can "adopt" a needy family or individual within our parish boundaries and provide them with food for the Christmas season. Contact the parish office at (313) 822-2814 to sign up and get involved.

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

This Tuesday,
December 8th is the
Feast of the
Immaculate
Conception.



Masses at
St. Ambrose
are at
10 a.m. and
7 p.m.

Retirement Fund for Religious

Thousands of women and men have spent their lives serving our Church and world. They have educated the young, cared for the sick, comforted the dying, and spoken for the oppressed. Never counting the cost, they have invested in the future of others. Many continue to serve today. Others are frail and elderly. Most face skyrocketing healthcare expenses while receiving a minimal Social Security benefit. Your tax-deductible gift supports such basic necessities as: prescription drugs, medical and rehabilitative services and home care assistance.

The Retirement Fund for Religious is your special collection envelope for the month of December.

All Things Considered

In addition to today's celebration of the Second Sunday of Advent, December 6th is a day on which we remember **SAINT NICHOLAS**, who died on that date back in the year 343. A saint is someone who has lived such a holy life that, after dying and going to heaven, he or she is still able to help people on earth. Saints often become patrons to different groups of people. For Nicholas, that group was children, and many legends abound explaining his protection for them.

By the year 450, churches across Asia Minor and Greece were being named in honor of Nicholas. By 800, he was declared a saint by the Eastern Catholic Church.

In the 1200's December 6th was being observed as St. Nicholas Day in France and vast portions of Europe. By the end of the 1400's, St. Nicholas had 2000 chapels and monasteries in Europe named after him.

Following the Protestant Reformation in the 1500's, devotion to St. Nicholas was diverted into another gift giving figure **FATHER CHRISTMAS**, who bore lots of similarities to the 4th century saint. The name **SANTA CLAUS** was derived from the Dutch **SINTER KLASS** pronunciation of St. Nicholas. Early Dutch settlers in New York (once called New Amsterdam) brought their traditions of St. Nicholas. As children from other countries tried to pronounce Sinter Klass, this soon became **SANTA KLASS**, which was settled as Santa Claus. The old bishop's cloak with mitre, jeweled gloves and crosier were soon replaced with his red suit and clothing seen in other modern images. In the 1800's, New York department stores co-opted the St. Nicho-

las/Santa Claus person into a symbol of Christmas shopping.

In spite of 1,700 years of image changes, the spirit of St. Nicholas remains as strong as ever. Now that you know the story of the man who became Santa, you can be inspired to follow his example in selfless giving and concern for the welfare and happiness of children.

Maybe this is a good time to do your shopping for the Pregnancy Aid Society. Or visit the website of Catholic Relief Services at crs.org and make a contribution to one of their programs that assist children who are caught up in the calamities of our modern world.

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Tomorrow is the patronal feast of our Parish, **ST. AMBROSE OF MILAN**. Like Nicholas, (and **ST. MARTIN OF TOURS**) he too was part of that first generation of saints that came out of that period of history following the Peace of Constantine in 313. Although it is unlikely, these saints could have crossed paths at one time. Makes you wonder how a Church that had just come out of three centuries of persecution could have emerged with such strong leaders. What does that say about emerging saints in our world today? Will we produce men and women outstanding in holiness and concern for others following these troubled times?

In honor of Sts. Nicholas and Ambrose, we'll host some Advent hospitality in the ARK today after our Sunday masses.

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Another way of honoring children on this, the feast of their patron, St. Nicholas, is by taking the time to read the full text of our United States Catholic Bishops' most recent letter to the United States Senate expressing their concerns regarding health care reform. Make a call to **SENATOR DEBBIE STABENOW** at 313-961-4330, or send an email to her at senator@stabenow.senate.gov. And also call

SENATOR CARL LEVIN at 313-961-4330 or an email to him at senator@levin.senate.gov. Expressing your concern as a Catholic would even be a greater act of witness.

In brief, our bishops are concerned about three things missing in the current version of the Senate bill that were a part of the House bill:

- that the current federal law regarding abortion and conscience protection be kept in place,
- that the current access immigrants have to health care be maintained and that obstacles be removed,
- that there be strong provisions for adequate affordability and coverage standards.

Sadly, the legislative proposal the Senate is working on now does not meet these moral criteria. And if it violates these moral principles, the legislation needs to be opposed. Health care reform needs to protect the life, dignity, consciences and health of all.

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The Feast of the Immaculate Conception is this Tuesday, December 8th. It's a holy day of obligation as well as the patronal solemnity of the United States of America. It's the day we honor the **BLESSED VIRGIN MARY** and celebrate her conception in the womb of her mother, **ST. ANNE**. Join us at one of our two masses on that day as we praise God who kept her sinless from the first moment of her life. Let's pray that in our sinfulness, we would obtain God's mercy.

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We're going over our building checklist before winter hits. All our gutters were cleaned this past week – and that is no small feat considering the height of our buildings. It's pricy to get equipment in for that job, but I've learned that if we don't, we end up paying an even higher price for water damage. In cleaning the gutters, we replaced a dozen broken or missing slate pieces on the church and rectory roofs.

*All Things Considered**Continued from Page 3*

That should solve the water leak you see at the head of the west aisle in the main body of the church. As to what continues to cause the leak in the areas around the large stained glass windows in both the east and west transepts, we and our contractors are still puzzled.

The approaching cold weather will soon mean higher heating bills and snow removal bills. Last year, we had lots of snow and it always seemed to fall the heaviest between Saturday afternoon and Sunday afternoon! Not counting the work of our in-house staff, we spent more than \$17,000 in snow removal services and ice melt the last fiscal year. Let's hope this mild fall continues into a mild winter.

These operational expenses prompt me to ask you to consider a special end-of-the-year gift to St. Ambrose. We depend on the Christmas Collection as an important component of our annual budget.

This is a good time to make up for any weekend you were away. It's a good time to check your charitable deductions in anticipation of filing your income tax. It's a good time for a gift to the parish, since by agreement with the Archdiocese, the Christmas collection is exempt from any "cathedraticum", which is the 6% we would normally remit to the Archdiocese on any donation made to us.

You don't have to wait until Christmas to make your Christmas contribution. Just be certain to clearly mark your check or envelope as such. And donations don't always have to be in cash. Other gift giving ideas could include stock, property, and even artworks. Your financial advisor can help you with this. If you don't have an advisor, our parish accountants can answer most of your questions.

I know you're getting hit with a lot of solicitations during this time of year; we all are. But please remember to include your home parish of St. Ambrose on your Christmas gift list.

TRP

Pregnancy Aid Giving Tree

We welcome again our annual Pregnancy Aid Giving Tree in the back of church. This Giving Tree outreach program benefits the local Pregnancy Aid Society. Take a snowflake from the tree as a pledge, reminder, and gift tag to bring back with a present for a newborn at Christmas mass.

The Pregnancy Aid Society has a new wish list for this year. Some past favorites are no longer needed, but many new requests have taken their place. Current needs include: Baby clothing (0-6 mos.), sleepers, blankets, bibs, under-shirts (especially one-piece snap-style), bath accessories, baby toiletries, diapers, strollers, breast-feeding accessories and informative support books, "You and Your Baby" type support books, new or gently used "Pack 'n Plays", and Pack 'n Play-sized crib sheets. Note: Please do not bring in wipes, or full-sized crib sheets!

The major collection of these items takes place at our Christmas Eve Children's liturgy, but gifts may be brought in as early as the Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 19th and 20th.

Items brought in at Christmastime are part of an inventory from which Pregnancy Aid draws all year long. There are few better ways to give a birthday present to Jesus than through this Pregnancy Aid project.

Vigil and Mass to Honor Our Lady of Guadalupe

Bring her flowers, bring her your family, bring her your heart...

At 7 p.m. on Friday, December 11th, Archbishop Allen Vigneron will celebrate Mass at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral in honor of the feast day of Our Lady of Guadalupe. A rosary program will precede the Mass, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Bishop Daniel Flores will concelebrate the bilingual liturgy. The Cathedral is located at 9844 Woodward Ave. in Detroit.

Bethany

Bethany is a Catholic organization that provides spiritual, social and educational assistance to Christians who are divorced or separated. Visit BethanyofSoutheasternMichigan.org. or telephone Carol at (248) 390-7771 or Michelle at (313) 996-8644.

Discerning What is of Value

During their long exile from the land of their ancestors, the people of Israel had hopes and dreams of deliverance. In the midst of his lament for the destruction of Jerusalem, Baruch, a scribe for Jeremiah, put words to these hopes and dreams, seeing the glory of God in Israel's return. In his vision, the restored Israel is clothed with splendor — a reflection of the peace, justice, and mercy of God. His words are a wonderful description of the presence of God in us and in the world.

As we move closer to Christmas, it is good to hear Paul's words in the Second Reading and examine how well we are discerning what is of value. Paul refers to the Philippians as partners in the living of the Gospel, and so are we. Because of this, our life in Christ is marked by our love and knowledge of God. But how deep is that love and knowledge? In a season of giving and receiving presents, we might consider our relationship with material things. What do we need to have around us? What can we let go of? The world is full of false claims on our time, our money, and our allegiance.

In these weeks before Christmas, have we fallen into a consumer mentality, taking in more and more of everything and failing to see what God wants of us and where God needs us to be? Advent calls us to remember that our Baptism claims us for Christ.

The Buzz

The Lord has done great things for us (Resp. Ps. 126)

We're already a full week into Advent and a new liturgical year. Thanksgiving is past and most of society is thinking ahead to the 25th. So it's OK to ask: what do you want for Christmas? I wonder if you answered that you want a "call" from the Lord to be His minister for others?! If your answer is "NO", or "The Lord would never do that with me", today and tomorrow may be very dangerous days for you.

Ordinarily, December 6th is the feast day of St. Nicholas and December 7th is the feast day of St. Ambrose. Both saints lived in the same century, one in the East and one in the West. They both have stories about being gifted . . . and spending their lives as gifts in ministry for others – often in surprising ways.

Read an adult version of the Nicholas legend that gave rise to "hanging stockings by the fire with care". Look up the story of Ambrose who was groomed for government work until God's People called him to be their bishop . . . when he was still only an unbaptized catechumen!

Then be careful what you ask for Christmas; you may just get a call from the Lord to keep giving the gifts you have received for the sake of others. There is no better way to prepare for Christmas than to realize how Christ is calling you to be His much-needed gift.



Speaking of gifts, one way to look at Tuesday's Holyday, that of Mary as our national patroness under the title – the Immaculate Conception – is to focus on gifts . . . divine gifts that is! The immaculate conception is not something Mary earned or worked at. It was pure gift, but for a purpose that went far beyond one recipient.

We as individuals – we as a nation – are gifted. For what purpose? That's why we should come together Tuesday in humble prayer. Not because of a precept-obligation, but to support one another in recognizing and giving thanks for the "gifts", and to help each other figure out God's purposes and dedicate our lives to their fulfillment. Happy Holyday, Americans!



At sundown this Friday, our Jewish brothers and sisters begin an eight-day celebration of Hannukah. It is a remembrance of the miraculous burning of the sanctuary lamp for eight days when there was enough oil for only one.

More importantly, this miracle occurred during a time of foreign occupation and religious persecution in the centuries just before Jesus. It signaled hope for an oppressed people; it encouraged them to keep the flame of faith burning in the face of insurmountable odds -- even death itself.

So, during this week, check out the Old Testament books of I & II Maccabees in the Bible, and pray for our "older brothers and sisters in faith". With additional prospects for expanded fighting in our own day, let's pray extra that the light of God's wisdom might shine upon those with the power to bring about true peace on earth. Perhaps you can do this as a family while lighting the candles of your own home Advent Wreath all week long.



And for more Advent prayer suggestions and resources, check out the American bishops' website: www.usccb.org/advent. Then plan on a final spiritual preparation for Christmas by celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation at the parish communal liturgy – about two weeks from now – on Saturday, December 19th, at 2:00 in the afternoon.

Chuck Dropiewski

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.

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

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: Laura Blake (313) 822-1594

School Archives: 313-237-5846

Parish Website: stambrosechurch.net

Third Sunday of Advent December 12th and December 13th

4:00 p.m. - Saturday - Celebrant: Fr. Pelc **Lector:** Mary Urbanski
Eucharistic Ministers: Mary & Ray Oberly, Mary Helen Quigg-Hillyer, Jan Ramsey,
Chloe Srebernak, Sue & Roger Playwin **Altar Servers:** Patrick, Charlie & Daniel Bernas

8:30 a.m. - Sunday - Celebrant: Fr. Naessens **Deacon:** Michael Cummins
Lector: Karlos Haynes **Eucharistic Ministers:** Colleen Gatzke, Mary Howard,
Judy & Bob Jogan, Lorrie & Isabel Peck, Chris Walsh
Altar Servers: Freddie & Joshua Haynes, Charlie Peck

11:15 a.m. Sunday - Celebrant: Fr. Naessens **Deacon:** Michael Cummins
Lector: Ann Kraemer **Eucharistic Ministers:** Lynn Brocklehurst, Dee Cimini,
Lupe Davila, Michele Hodges, Nicole Justin, Jeri & Bob Krueger
Altar Servers: Sylvia Hodges, Joseph Kurta

Your Envelope ... Speaks the Inside Story

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

On November 29, 2009

in envelopes we received \$6,602.00

in loose collection \$972.37

in electronic donations \$670.00

in children's envelopes..... \$25.00

for a total of..... \$8,269.37

Over for the week by \$69.37

Number of envelopes mailed 800

Number of envelopes used 178

ARC debt reduction receipts..... \$57,820.00

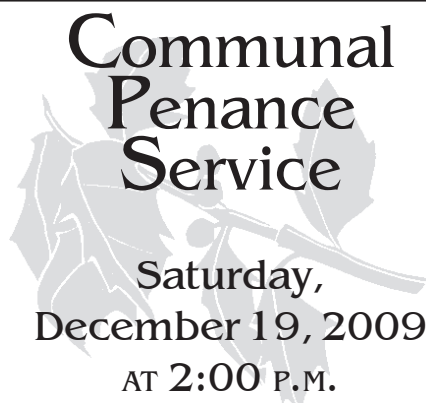
Fuel..... \$35.00

Campaign for Human Development.... \$862.00

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, Mary Bernadine Green, 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, Douglas Beaupre, Joseph Caligiuri, Joe Puhly, Erin O'Connor, Miguel Davila, Kathy Peterson, Mary Wherry, Amanda Westfall, Bill Rice, Pete Corsiglia and Mr. & Mrs. Wilson.

Communal Penance Service



**Saturday,
December 19, 2009**
AT 2:00 P.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.

Liturgy Schedule for the Coming Week

Monday, December 7

St. Ambrose, bishop & doctor

8:30 a.m. - Communion Service

Tuesday, December 8

10:00 a.m. - Mass - For peace in the world

7:00 p.m. - Mass - For peace in the world

Wednesday, December 9

St. Juan Diego, hermit

8:30 a.m. - Communion Service

Thursday, December 10

8:30 a.m. - Mass - Hugh Johnston

Steve Molitor

Friday, December 11

St. Damasus I, pope

8:30 a.m. - Mass - Dave Vileo

Kathalene Liberty

Saturday, December 12

Our Lady of Guadalupe

1:30 p.m. - Wedding - Heather Balint &

Tim Kushnier

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

Sunday, December 13

The Third Sunday of Advent

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

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

Scriptures for the 2nd Week of Advent

Monday, December 7

- Is 35: 1-10
- Ps 85: 9ab, 10-14
- Lk 5: 17-26

Tuesday, December 8

- Gn 3: 9-15, 20
- Eph 1: 3-6, 11-12
- Lk 1: 26-38

Wednesday, December 9

- Is 40: 25-31
- Ps 103: 1-4, 8, 10
- Mt 11: 28-30

Thursday, December 10

- Is 41: 13-20
- Ps 145: 1, 9-13ab
- Mt 11: 11-15

Friday, December 11

- Is 48: 17-19
- Ps 1: 1-4, 6
- Mt 11: 16-19

Saturday, December 12

- Zec 2:14-17 or
Rv 11:19a;12:1-6a,10ab
- (Ps) Jdt 13: 18 bcde, 19
- Lk 1: 26-38 or Lk 1: 39-47

Sunday, December 13

- Zep 3: 14-18a
- Phil 4: 4-7
- Lk 3: 10-18

The Christmas Season at St. Ambrose

VIGIL OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

Thursday, December 24, 2009
CHILDREN'S LITURGY AT 4:00 P.M.

FEAST OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

Friday, December 25, 2009
Concert at 11:30 p.m. Christmas Eve
MIDNIGHT MASS AT 12:00 A.M.
MASS OF CHRISTMAS DAY AT 8:30 A.M.
MASS OF CHRISTMAS DAY AT 11:15 A.M.

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Saturday, December 26, 2009
MASS AT 4:00 P.M.
Sunday, December 27, 2009
MASSES AT 8:30 A.M. & 11:15 A.M.

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.

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

December 7 - Grace Community

- Tips for Successful Businessmen

December 14 - St. Paul

- Tune-up Your Job Plan

December 21 - St. Ambrose

- Success Stories

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

Meetings run from 7:30 - 9:00 a.m.