



ST. AMBROSE PARISH  
CENTENNIAL 1916-2016

*Beehive*

APRIL 17, 2016

## A Changing Way of Life For Priests

*Across the United States this Fourth Sunday of Easter is marked as a day to celebrate the Roman Catholic Priesthood. The following report was prepared by the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops.*

On the one hand, the core role of the priest is clear and never-changing. On the other, there has been a dramatic change in what priests do – and in the presence of priests – within the Catholic Church in the United States. Think about a priest in 1950 and think about one today. In 1950 there were 652 Catholics per priest, most of whom were in active ministry. By 2000, there were 1,257 Catholics per priest, and nearly a third of all priests are retired or over the age of 70.

Today, priests collaborate in ministry with a wide variety of specialized lay ecclesial ministers and deacons who serve as Directors of Religious Education, youth ministers, pastoral associates, and many other roles.

Of the more than 19,000 Catholic parishes in the United States, a little more than 4,000 have more than one priest. On the other hand, over 2,000 parishes have a pastor who simultaneously pastors another parish. Another 8,000 parishes are served by a single priest-pastor who pastors no other parish.

Priests live in their parish communities—typically the same building where parish offices are located, “above the store” so to speak, often with a minimum of privacy. Almost all diocesan priests in active parish ministry are on call 24 hours a day—more than 90 percent, according to one recent survey of priests conducted by CARA, the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate at Georgetown University.

From 1970 to the present, the total number of priests fell by 20,000, or one-third of the total number of priests in 1970. Yet priests’ dedication to their people has dramatically

cushioned this remarkable reduction in numbers. As a result, almost all Catholics say they are aware that there are fewer priests, but only one in four report that this has affected them (CARA Catholic Poll 2000).

Like Protestant seminarians, Catholic seminarians are now spread across the entire age range. More than a third of seminarians are over the age of 35. Combined with fewer vocations to priesthood in general, this means that there are now dramatically fewer priests under the age of 35. In 1965, one in five of all active diocesan priests were under 35. By 2000, fewer than one in twenty active diocesan priests were under 35. Priests are older today and there are simply fewer priests to whom they can turn for assistance and support.

Today, more than any time in the past generation, priests who serve a diocese are a mini United Nations. About 20 percent of them were born outside the United States, not merely outside the diocese in which they minister. When priests get together today, they need to be sensitive to the different accents and different food preferences of their brother priests as well as the different kinds of parish communities and ministry challenges they experience. Cultivating unity within the priests of a diocese is much harder today than in years past.

In spite of all these challenges, priests are not merely satisfied in their ministry; they report being highly satisfied. Only a handful of priests say they would not become a priest if they had it to do all over again. In a survey conducted for the Los Angeles Times, just 7 percent of all priests who were polled felt this way.

Today, most diocesan priests live alone. Immigrant priests or others on loan who serve the Eastern Catholic

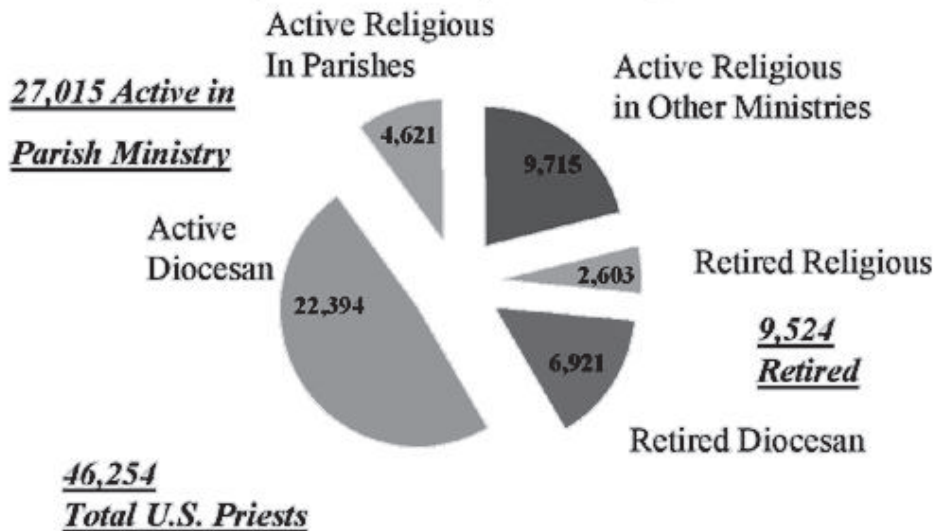
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## A Changing Way of Life For Priests

Continued from page 1.

### *Priests in the United States, 2000*

(Source: USCCB Study of Fewer Priest)



Churches in the United States may be married, and it is commonly said that there are about 75 married priests within the Latin Rite. These are former ministers or priests from other Christian traditions who were accepted for priestly ordination by the Catholic Church.

In conclusion, there are many fewer priests today, particularly if we subtract out retired priests. And yet Mass is celebrated, parish life is attended to, and many Catholics would hardly know that there are significantly fewer priests. Why? The answer has to do with priests themselves. They have responded generously to the call to serve the People of God, often at great personal cost, and with limited acknowledgement or appreciation by the people they serve, whether bishops or parishioners. They continue to work to lift up and serve the People of God through the power of the sacraments and the joy of helping people connect with the sacred in their ordinary, everyday lives.

The sheer giving nature of priests: It's something to celebrate. It's something for which we need to thank God. It's something for which we need to thank priests

### Frequently Requested Catholic Church Statistics

CARA (Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate) gets many inquiries from Church agencies and the media about the numbers for vocations, seminary enrollments, priests and vowed religious, parishes, Mass attendance, schools and the Catholic population. Please visit CARA for additional and updated information related to Church statistics: [cara.georgetown.edu/bulletin/index.htm](http://cara.georgetown.edu/bulletin/index.htm)

### The Catholic Church in the United States

The Office of Media Relations represents the Catholic Bishops of the United States to the media and the media to the bishops. The office's responsibilities include preparing and distributing statements and other resources for the media, arranging for interviews with bishops and staff of the USCCB, organizing press conferences, responding to media queries and credentialing media for coverage of such events as the bishops' annual meetings. Please visit the USCCB for additional and updated information related to the US Catholic Church: [usccb.org/comm/mr\\_usachurch.shtml](http://usccb.org/comm/mr_usachurch.shtml)

## Religious Education Update

We have been extremely blessed over the years with the number of high school teens who volunteer to help on Sunday mornings, with Vacation Bible School, and with other sundry tasks. As they move on to college, others take their place, but each one has a special place in our hearts and in our memories. I am personally grateful for each and every one of them.

Shannon McGlone has been assistant to George Bush every Sunday as he travels to each of the primary grades to share the gift of music. They have taught our first communicants the song they will sing at the Solemn Communion celebration at the end of this month. We are so happy for Shannon as she moves on to college at the end of the school year (Go MSU!), but we will need someone – or maybe a couple of someones – to take her place for next year.

If you are a high school teen who can play the guitar (or maybe another instrument) and could assist Mr. Bush next year (September through May) in bringing music to our children in Sunday School, please give me a call. Too, we are hoping that one or more musical teens will assist Mr. Bush at Vacation Bible School this year (June 20 -24 from 9:30am-Noon). We would be most grateful!

Betty

*DuMouchelles*

On Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup> Ernie and Janice DuMouchelle and the staff of DuMouchelle's Art Gallery Auction House will be in the ARK at St. Ambrose to give verbal or qualified written valuations of antiques and other collectibles. Appraisals will run from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. on each day. Appointment times should be scheduled through Lois in the rectory office by calling 822-2814. Call also to arrange for appraisals of non-transportable items. All proceeds from the event will benefit St. Ambrose Parish.

# All Things Considered

This 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter has been given the unofficial designation of “Priesthood Sunday” because the Scripture readings for the 4<sup>th</sup> week of the season always speak of the Good Shepherd. In a unique way, those who share in the special charisms of the Sacrament of Holy Orders – Bishops, Priests and Deacons – take on the mantle of Jesus, the Shepherd.

It is true that priests are no longer the only ones who offer pastoral care to our people. Yet without a priest, no parish is able to be a Eucharistic community. It is important to reaffirm the importance of the priesthood of Jesus Christ and its central place in the life of our Church.

We will witness this particular grace imparted when our intern, **Deacon Tom Nguyen** is ordained to the Priesthood. That ceremony will be on the last day of the month in a liturgy conducted at the Capuchin Seminary in Wisconsin. Two weeks later, he will return to our parish to celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving. That will be on the Vigil of Pentecost, Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> at the 4:00 liturgy. That’s the day that we’ll get to see Tom “solo” as a leader of our Eucharistic assembly.

Pentecost is a day in which we traditionally use multiple language readers to proclaim the Scriptures at mass. This year, you’ll be hearing the Word of God here for the first time in the Vietnamese language – and our choir is preparing a Vietnamese hymn in honor of Fr. Nguyen. Following that mass, we’ll host a reception for Father in the ARK, where you can offer him your congratulations and receive a personal priestly blessing from him.

Please join me on this special day, Priesthood Sunday, in praying for seminarians, and all priests, in praising God for their courage and their generosity.



The last synod held in the Archdiocese of Detroit was in 1969. Out of that assembly we saw significant changes in the structure of our local Catholic Church – parish councils being just one of them.

So, synods can and do change things. Synods actually have the institutional power to shape a different future for a local Church.

But a synod can only be as effective as the ideas in play in the process. As the saying goes ... “garbage in, garbage out.” So, if we are not careful, SYNOD-16 could degenerate into a rubber stamp of things as they are. I know that Archbishop Vigneron does not want that to happen. He is genuinely seeking the advice of the Holy Spirit as it transmits through the voice of the faithful of our Archdiocese, so that he can chart our future course.

It’s for that reason that I encourage you to participate in the grass roots level of preparation for SYNOD-16 which is a gathering of Catholics from throughout the Archdiocese that promises to unleash the Gospel with new energy and creativity. SYNOD-16

will take place in November.

In preparation for that, I am inviting you to attend a **Parish Dialogue Gathering** on Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup> in the ARK. The purpose of this gathering is to hear directly from you, the faithful, so that we can help the Archbishop identify the most important issues that the Synod will address. Look for a SYNOD-16 Sign-Up Card in the pews, or you can also register for the event online.

For this three-hour session we are bringing back **Fr. Bill Cieslak**, who conducted our retreat last year, to be our facilitator for the evening. Fr. Cieslak, will lead us through prayer, personal reflection and group discussion, on the overarching themes of Encounter, Growth, and Witness.

Responses from our Parish Dialogue Gatherings will be recorded and brought to the Archdiocese by our Synod representative, **Pat O’Hara**. Your recommendations will help serve the foundation topics of SYNOD-16.

I hope that you and many of our St. Ambrose Parishioners will be able to take part in this transformative

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## Motor City Makeover

**Metropolitan Detroit is rapidly being made over in ways that will define its future. We’ve invited persons knowledgeable in the field of Detroit’s makeover to talk with us. Hear their visions of the ‘City to come.’**

**These sessions are Sundays from 9:45 until 11 a.m. in the ARK**

**April 17<sup>th</sup>** “**Hope for the City**” with author **Jack Kresnak** who will tell the story of Father Bill Cunningham, Eleanor Josaitis and others who were drawn into a remarkable social adventure: FOCUS HOPE.

**April 24<sup>th</sup>** “**M1**” with **Nicole Brown** who is a native Detroiter responsible for managing the M1 light rail project’s resident, business and visitor engagement efforts. **John Gallagher** will join her to present “**Detroit’s New Entrepreneurs**” – an update on Detroit’s recovery with an emphasis on young business people who are creating a new economy for the city.



## All Things Considered

*Continued from Page 3*

experience which seeks to empower us in our local Church. The stakes are high. Set aside one evening, Monday May 9<sup>th</sup> for that task. And, of course, since it's difficult to think or pray on an empty stomach, dinner will be served!

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Formal classes for this semester's Religious Education program come to a joyful conclusion on Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup> as we celebrate a Plaza Party with all our students and bring them in for the 11:15 a.m. Pentecost Mass, with special emphasis on the gifts of the Holy Spirit and the unity we carve out of our diversity. All kids in our program and their parents should plan on being there that morning.

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Have you visited our Facebook page yet? This past Holy Week and Easter our page grew to just under 500 likes. Thank you for participating in our social media presence! If you haven't stopped in yet, please do. You'll find the latest news on events and lots and lots of pictures! If you see yourself in any of them, please tag yourself and share. We're at [facebook.com/stambroseparish](https://www.facebook.com/stambroseparish).

TRP

## Agua para la ciudad de Flint

The politicians have left Flint, but the crisis there continues. We've seen a steady, although small, stream of items coming in for Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Flint. Composed mostly of immigrants from Mexico, Guadalupe parish is especially hard hit. They started with little and now have less. They need bottled water, as well as water (and shower) filtration systems. They also need other items such as personal hygiene kits and baby supplies – especially baby bath-tubs. Pharmaceutical samples of all sorts would be welcome.

Leave your donations in the church vestibule or call our office to make arrangements for a drop-off. Gerard Huvaere is making weekly deliveries for us to the Parish of Guadalupe.

## Friar on Fire

Retreats have always been a wonderful time for me and it is something that should be encouraged for others. Taking time out of our lives for self-care and to sit in the silence of God's embrace is life-giving and sacred. Ordination is quickly approaching and there is so much importance in taking the time to enter into reflection, meditation, contemplation and imitation of Christ's Love and Resurrection in my life as an ordained minister.

Fr. Bill Cieslak, who did the Parish retreat for St. Ambrose back in the fall, agreed to do an ordination retreat for both myself and Br. Tien Dinh, who is currently ministering in Montana and will be ordained with me. There is so much excitement in my heart, and this retreat will be a great opportunity for me to break open and reflect on the many experiences in my time as a deacon. What will be enriching is how we brothers will share each of our experiences and the different contexts and situations of ministry we have encountered. Tien has ministered in his time as a deacon with Native Americans, which is entirely a different culture and reality that I am interested in hearing all about.

The other dynamic that will be important is how our own cultural dynamics deeply shape how we see the world of ministry. There is a great reality of the Vietnamese culture that we always have to be aware of because our families and the Vietnamese community will have an expectation for us to minister in that capacity as well. One of the greatest challenges for me has been learning how to begin to be a minister for the Vietnamese community in my own practice and struggles with the language itself and being one of the first Vietnamese-American priests in the United States. This will be a new step into a new era, not just for me but also for the faith of the Vietnamese-American community.

This retreat will be a time to also discuss the ordination ritual and the depth of meaning behind the rich signs and symbols that are used in the ordination rite. There are beautiful ritual actions within the liturgy that will help shape my own understanding in how my life is called to be a humble instrument of God's Love. Fr. Bill will also dive deeper into the understanding of priesthood from the Franciscan point of view and the mission-oriented mindset that Pope Francis is calling ordained ministers to become.

Please continue to pray for us as we prepare for the ordination, which is on Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup> at St. Lawrence Seminary in Mount Calvary, Wisconsin starting at 10 a.m. Not everyone can make it, but your love and prayers will be there with me that day. Please save the date for the Masses of Thanksgiving at St. Ambrose on Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m. and the next day, Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup> at the Solanus Center at 9 a.m. There will be celebrations after both Masses.

The Young Adult Tap Into Life session is on April 17<sup>th</sup> (which is my last as a *deacon*). It will take place at Atwater in the Park starting at 6 p.m. with dinner and 7 p.m. discussion. Thank you for all your prayers, and most of all, your love.

Br. Tom

## Cathedral Cultural Series

The Cathedral Cultural Series presents *Monteverdi 1610 Vespers* at the Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Detroit next Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup>.

Renowned early music ensemble Dark Horse Consort will join up-and-coming chamber choir Audivi to present the liturgical masterpiece. Noah Horn will conduct this first performance of the Vespers in Detroit on period instruments.

Sacred music is an important part of the new evangelization. Your gifts to the Catholic Services Appeal fund music ministries at the Cathedral and St. John's, as well as throughout the Archdiocese, including the Cathedral Cultural Series and the Archdiocesan Chorus.

Tickets for the performance, which begins at 3 p.m., are \$30, or \$15 for students. For more information about this and other CSA-funded ministries, programs, and services, please go to [aod.org](http://aod.org).

## The Buzz

“Unleash the Gospel” is the title given by our Archbishop to a radical change he hopes to effect in the Catholic Church in Detroit. It is also a perfect theme for the Easter season of the Church Year.

What difference should the reality of the resurrection make in our lives? Is the living Christ real to you? Could you say that you have met/encountered the risen Lord? Where and when? How has this changed you? Can you say you have grown (and are still growing) in your faith relationship with Him? What has helped you most in doing this? What do you envision could help you more in this? How have you shared your faith with others? Who needs you most as a witness of Christ’s Good News in their lives? How could your parish better help you to “Encounter Christ anew”, “grow daily as His disciple”, and “witness to others the power of His mercy”? How could your Archdiocese help in this?

In less than a month, on Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, you are invited to the ARK at 6:00 P.M. for dinner and a most important gathering with your brother and sister parishioners at St. Ambrose. The meeting is our participation in the preparations for SYNOD-16 by bringing together your answers and reflections on these “Easter” questions. The goal is to assemble all your suggestions and forward them to the Archdiocesan Synod to be held in November.

Through SYNOD-16, Archbishop Vigneron wants to energize all the members of the Body of Christ to take on a mission-focused faith (rather than simply inward or maintenance-focused) that will reach out and transform our part of the world as well as our faith communities. He feels there is a decline in the faith of the local Church that needs to be remedied. There are many opportunities and events scheduled around town to help Catholics form their hearts and minds in this direction. You can read a lot more about this at aod.org.

In our Centennial Year, the People of God at St. Ambrose Parish are in a unique position to offer Spirit-filled reflections to the rest of our Archdiocese. You are special; and this Catholic Community is special in our history, experience, atmosphere, attitude, etc. We will only benefit others if we speak up. Thus the importance of the May 9<sup>th</sup> meeting!

To help us pray and focus our efforts that evening will be Fr. Bill Cieslak, our Capuchin friend who led our parish Centennial Opening Retreat last November. He was willing to return to us now as he sees our May meeting as a continuation of what to do with the spirit and direction that was begun here last Fall.

Clear your calendar now and plan to participate on Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup>. We would like you to preregister so that . . .

- ✓ we could give you some advance materials to help you prepare for the meeting (The format calls for a 3-hour meeting.)
- ✓ we will be able to adequately set up the ARK tables and seating;
- ✓ prepare enough materials and food for everyone.

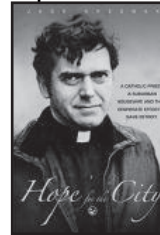
Fr. Tim has expressed that the Archdiocese needs to hear what we have to say. They may not hear the same from anywhere else. But this won’t happen without you joining in. So just do it! Registrations begin next weekend.

Chuck Dropiewski

## St. Pat’s Senior Dinner

St. Ambrose Parish is scheduled to cook and serve dinner on Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup> for about 100 low-income adults at the St. Patrick’s Senior Center in the Cass Corridor/Cultural Center. There is a sign-up sheet in back of church for you to contribute food, or you can make a monetary donation. Servers and personal representatives from St. Ambrose for that day are important. If you and your family can give the time, you would be greatly rewarded. Shared transportation can be offered. Call us at 822-2814.

## Marcellina’s Book Club



In his book Hope for the City, author Jack Kresnak tells the story of Father Bill Cunningham, Eleanor Josaitis and others who were drawn to the mission of Focus Hope.

This is a captivating story of a seminary English teacher who rode a Harley-Davidson and marched with Dr. King across the Edmund Pettus bridge. It’s the story of a suburban mother of five who organized marriage enrichment events before she persuaded her husband to move back into Detroit. It’s also the story of the 1967 riot that exposed systemic racial inequality and the civil rights organization that evolved.

Our book club will meet with the author, Mr. Kresnak, this Sunday morning, April 17<sup>th</sup> from 9:45-11:00 in the ARK.

## 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. Thomas Nguyen, ofm, cap  
**Pastoral Minister:** Charles Dropiewski  
**Religious Education:** Elizabeth Haley  
**Minister of Music:** Norah Duncan, IV  
**Office Manager:** Lois Sokolowski

### 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

**Parish Website:** stambrosechurch.net

## Liturgy Schedule for the Coming Week

### Monday, April 18

8:30 a.m. - Morning Prayer

### Tuesday, April 19

8:30 a.m. - William Ciaramitaro,  
Virginia Ciaramitaro, Felix Checki

### Wednesday, April 20

8:30 a.m. - Morning Prayer

### Thursday, April 21

*St. Anselm, bishop & doctor*

8:30 a.m. - Mass - John Riccardo  
Maurice Paoletti, Sr.

### Friday, April 22

8:30 a.m. - Mass - Rosemarie Samarjian  
Stephen Bush, Jane Sawicki

### Saturday, April 23

*St. George, martyr &*

*St. Adalbert, bishop & martyr*

1:30 p.m. - Solemn First Communion  
4:00 p.m. - Mass For All People

### Sunday, April 24

*Fifth Sunday of Easter*

8:30 a.m. - Mass - For All People  
11:15 a.m. - Mass - For All People



## Scriptures for 4<sup>th</sup> Week of Easter

### Monday, April 18

- Acts 11: 1-18
- Pss 42: 2-3; 43: 3-4
- Jn 10: 1-10

### Tuesday, April 19

- Acts 11: 19-26
- Ps 97: 1b-7
- Jn 10: 22-30

### Wednesday, April 20

- Acts 12: 24-13: 5a
- Ps 67: 2-3, 5-6, 8
- Jn 12: 44-50

### Thursday, April 21

- Acts 13: 13-25
- Ps 89: 2-3, 21-22, 27
- Jn 13: 16-20

### Friday, April 22

- Acts 13: 26-33
- Ps 2: 6-11b
- Jn 14: 1-6

### Saturday, April 23

- Acts 13: 44-52
- Ps 98: 1-4
- Jn 14: 7-14

### Sunday, April 24

- Acts 14: 21-27
- Rv 21: 1-5a
- Jn 13: 31-33a, 34-35

## Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 23<sup>rd</sup> and April 24<sup>th</sup>

4:00 p.m. – Saturday – Celebrant: Fr. Bede Lector: Bob Krueger  
Eucharistic Ministers: Patrick Bernas, Della Cimini, Peter Hern,  
Jeri Krueger, Mary Helen Quigg Hillyer  
Altar Servers: Patrick & Jack Hern

8:30 a.m. – Sunday – Celebrant: Fr. Bede Lector: Karlos Haynes  
Eucharistic Ministers: Judy & Bob Jogan,  
Liz & Steve Linne, Bernadette Pieczynski,  
Altar Servers: Nicholas, Margaret, & Meredith Kramer

11:15 a.m. – Sunday - Celebrants: Fr. Pelc Lector: Pat Sperti  
Eucharistic Ministers: Mary Ghesquiere, Michele Hodges,  
Sue & Roger Playwin, Janis Ramsey, Darryl Swiatkowski  
Altar Servers: Effie Hodges, Joseph Strong

## Your Envelope Speaks . . . the Inside Story

To operate, each week our parish requires a *minimum* of ..... \$10,100.00

### On Sunday, April 10, 2016

in envelopes we received ..... \$8,343.00  
in the loose collection ..... \$500.00  
in electronic donations ..... \$1,200.00  
in children's envelopes .... \$10.00  
for a total of ..... **\$10,053.0**  
**Under** budget for the week ..... **\$47.00**  
Number of envelopes mailed ..... 800  
Number of envelopes used ..... 161

*Offering Envelopes are an essential accountability tool that churches use to measure the general level of member commitment.*

*If someone isn't giving to their church, they haven't fully committed to the ministry of that church. Chances are they also aren't giving their time or investing their talents either.*

*To give electronically, go to [stambrosechurch.net](http://stambrosechurch.net).*

## Our Sick

Please pray for our parishioners who are seriously ill or hospitalized:

Kay Balas, Peyton Barron, Pat Blake, Laura Bush, Dominic Centorbi, Andrew Chavez, Maria Chinchilla, Karen Culver, Mary Pat Egan, Kathleen Elberson, Dan Fleming, Mary Ellen Greenup, Angela Hansen, Elizabeth Howard, Ann Sullivan Kay, Donald & Marilyn Miriani, Bonnie McKenna, Mary Myers, Jeanne Noto, Ray Oberly, Elizabeth Robert, Bob Ramsey, David Schumacker, Fred Schroeder, Matthew Elias, George Bucec, Scott Nedoff, Betty Greenia, Emilie Kasper, Angeline Boluk, Arthur Stoyshin, Anna Noto Billings, and Baby Cecelia DeRosier.

## Spring Cleaning for a Good Purpose

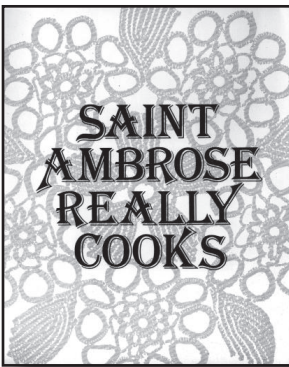
In the Easter Gospels, Jesus stands in the midst of us and says: "Peace be with you!" During Mass we turn to each other and say "Peace be with you!" When members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society help someone living in poverty we are saying to them, "Peace be with you, and Christ is here through us to help with your needs."

It's time to clean out your closets and organize your attics. Our St. Ambrose St. Vincent de Paul Society's "Bundle Weekend" will take place Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup> and Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>. To save you a trip to the donation center, a pod will be located in the church parking lot to collect your items. We are in particular need of new/clean bed linens. If you have those, please put them in a separate bag and let us know when you drop them off. We are also in need of kitchen items, such as pots and pans, and small furniture such as card tables and chairs. Good clothing in good condition is always needed.

We have an ongoing need for clean twin mattresses, box springs and bed frames. We can arrange to pick these up from your home if you are not able to bring them to the pod. Just call the rectory and let us know. Organize your stuff now for a drop off in May.







## Centennial Cooks

For our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, we published “St. Ambrose Really Cooks,” which was a collection of recipes from our parishioners in 1991 and a reprint of recipes from our parishioners in 1925. For our Centennial, we reasoned that the time was right for a new edition of “St. Ambrose Really Cooks.”

Irene Scopel, who organized the 1991 book, graciously agreed to be the guiding force for our 2016 book. The planned publication date will be at the end of September – just in time for OYSTERFEST. In fact, this year’s cookbook will have a special guest chef section comprised of recipes contributed by the restaurants which have frequented Oysterfest in the past twenty-five years.

We need to start now in assembling recipes from you, our Centennial parishioners. Recipes can be dropped off in the collection basket; or at the parish office; or at Religious Education; or emailed to [stambrose@comcast.net](mailto:stambrose@comcast.net). Please include your name, phone and/or email with your recipe along with a few words describing why this is a favorite, or what family traditions are associated with these special foods.

Sections include: Appetizers; Soups & Salads, Vegetables & Side Dishes; Main Dishes; Breads & Rolls; Desserts; Cookies & Candy. We’ll be receiving recipes until June 15<sup>th</sup>. Consider sharing your holiday specialties with your larger St. Ambrose family.

## Gardening with Bees in Mind

Join us for a special presentation in the ARK on Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:45 a.m. until 11 a.m.

Bees are a symbol closely associated with Bishop Ambrose of Milan, and St. Ambrose Church nourishes this connection with several live beehives located behind our church building.

Bees are essential in producing one out of every three bites of food we eat. But evidence is mounting that the health and productivity of these critical pollinators, along with many wild pollinators, is declining rapidly.

You can help – right in your own back yard – by planting native flowers with bees in mind and by avoiding damaging pesticides. Learn more about this at a special presentation by the St. Ambrose Environmental Committee. The presentation will cover:

- Beekeeping at St. Ambrose Church
- Importance of Bees and the Collapse of Bee Colonies
- Native Flowering Plants Which Help Bees Thrive
- Cultivating a “Bee Garden” in Your Backyard
- Pesticides to Keep Out of Your Garden and Lawn

You will also have the opportunity to purchase a native flower “starter kit” containing six small pesticide-free plants discussed in the presentation. Kits are \$15 each (cash or check).

Spring is finally here and the Earth is blooming once again. This gardening season, take steps that will benefit the bees!



Save the Date!  
Friday,  
June 10, 2016.

Make plans now to join the St. Ambrose 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Bee at the Tee Golf Classic benefiting our Religious Education program and activities related to our Centennial year!

Last year, over 80 people were involved in some way – golfing, dining, volunteering or

just socializing. The goal for this year is at least 100 golfers – keeping in the spirit of our centennial year.

Bee at the Tee begins at 11:00 AM with sign-in/lunch. Picture at noon, then a shotgun start for golf. The day concludes with dinner at the ARK.

You can register at [StAmbroseBeeAtTheTee.com](http://StAmbroseBeeAtTheTee.com) or use one of the flyers located at the back of church. Don’t play golf? Join us for dinner or consider volunteering for the golf course or dinner.

You can also help with a sponsorship; many levels exist to suite every budget. You can also help by spreading the word and helping us get additional sponsors – consider asking your doctor, dentist, accountant or lawyer.

Dave Simmet and Brian Satterfield are also looking for a few other folks to be on our planning committee. Contact us at [St.Ambrosegolf@gmail.com](mailto:St.Ambrosegolf@gmail.com) for more information.