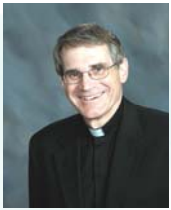




SAINT AMBROSE OF WOODBURY

Catholic Community

FROM OUR PASTOR



We have passed the midway point of Lent, gotten down to the Sweet Sixteen in the NCAA tournament, and crossed into the season of spring, having observed the vernal equinox this past week. This Sunday is Laetare Sunday, so called because of the first word in the Introit, or Entrance Antiphon that we recite at the beginning of Mass this Lenten Season. That word is "Rejoice." "Rejoice with Jerusalem and be glad because of her; exult, exult with her all you who were mourning over her!"

This might be a good time to take in a half-time report. Not about your NCAA brackets, but about how you are doing with Lenten resolutions. Are you different than you were on Ash Wednesday? Recall the commitments you made then, which were written on the slips of paper that have been laid at the foot of the altar since then. Is your prayer deepening? Do you somehow hear the voice of God more clearly? Have you fasted beyond the minimum of abstaining from meat on Fridays? Fasting, as we have noted, is not always about denying yourself sweets or coffee or cigarettes. It might be fasting from what has intruded into how we spend our time – TV, social media, idle gossip. Is our fasting in some way making us more aware of the needs of others? As St. Peter Chrysologus said almost 1,600 years ago, "When you fast, see the fasting of others. If you want God to know you are hungry, know that another is hungry. If you hope for mercy, show mercy. If you look for kindness, show kindness. If you want to receive, give. If you ask for yourself what you deny to others, your asking is a mockery." How are you doing with mercy, or almsgiving? Are any relationships healing, or have you been more generous with time and money? If you took a bag of rice and beans, have you used them to connect with others who eat that and only that almost every day? Have you returned what you would have spent on other food so we can distribute that for hunger issues in our community, or to Catholic Relief Services, or to help fund our Sister Parish in Cuba in their outreach to those who are even poorer? If you were not among the 1,000 household who took a bag of rice and beans, what was the reason?

If you feel your Lent is in shambles, start again. Recommit for the final three weeks. God knows we fail, God understands, and God forgives. But we must try again. Rejoice! Easter is coming.

Look in the bulletin for a semi-regular "Cuba Corner" feature, telling about San Miguel de Cubitas, our sister parish in Cuba. Fr. Michael will be writing it, giving information and updates about the parish there.

We will be interviewing candidates for the new Communications Position on our staff this week. Twenty three eventually applied; we'll interview 5-7 of them.

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Monday 8:00 AM Mass
Tuesday 6:30 AM & 5:30 PM Mass
Wednesday 8:00 AM Mass
Thursday 5:30 PM Mass
Friday 8:00 AM Mass
Friday 9:45 AM School Mass
Sunday Vigil Mass/Saturday 4:00 PM
Sunday 8:30 AM, 11:00 AM, 5:00 PM

MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY MARCH 26, 2017

8:30 AM: Susan Schappe †
11:00 AM: Mass for the Parish
5:00 PM: Kris Miller †

MONDAY MARCH 27, 2017

8:00 AM: Rev. Ronald Dahlheimer †

TUESDAY MARCH 28, 2017

6:30 AM: Mass for the Homeless
5:30 PM: Margaret Rothstein †

WEDNESDAY MARCH 29, 2017

8:00 AM: Jeanette Kohls †

THURSDAY MARCH 30, 2017

5:30 PM: Kevin Goetzke †

FRIDAY MARCH 31, 2017

8:00 AM: Margaret Jaros †

SATURDAY APRIL 1, 2017

4:00 PM: Albert & Rita Gottwald †

SUNDAY APRIL 2, 2017

8:30 AM: Bob Savina †
11:00 AM: John F. Maye †
5:00 PM: Mass for the Parish

LENT 2017

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays at 6:00 PM

LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Wednesday, March 29 at 7:00 PM
Fridays, March 31 & April 7 at 7:00 PM
Sunday, April 9 at 1:30 PM
Good Friday at Noon

LENT SOUP SUPPERS:

Fridays during Lent at 6:30 PM

RECONCILIATION

- Tuesday, March 28 at 6:00 PM
- Friday, March 31 at 8:30 AM
- Saturday, April 1 at 2:30 PM
- Sunday, April 2 at 2:00 PM
- Tuesday, April 4 at 6:00 PM
- Friday, April 7 at 8:30 AM
- Saturday, April 8 at 2:00 PM
- Monday, April 10 at 6:00 PM
- Tuesday, April 11 at 6:00 PM
- Wednesday, April 12 at 10:30 AM

Continued on Page 4

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT ~ MARCH 26, 2017

OUR PARISH FAMILY

BAPTISMS

We welcome into the family of God and our Catholic Community:



I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

ASHLAN RIANE ANDRESEN
Daughter of Matthew & Diane

ROBERT VINCENT LEISEN
Son of Anthony & Morgan

WEDDING BANNs

KAARI SPIESS & MICHAEL ANGELL
Who will be married on April 1, 2017
At Saint Ambrose of Woodbury



NEW PARISHIONERS

We welcome the following new parishioners to our parish family:

Christina & John Atkinson
Child: Benjamin

ARE YOU REGISTERED?

Registration helps us keep you informed of important events especially regarding sacramental preparation for your children. The date you register also determines your priority for enrolling your children in Saint Ambrose School. If you don't receive mailings from the parish, you're probably not registered.

Also, please let us know when you move or when any of your phone numbers change. Having current emergency contact information (home, work, and cell) can make a critical difference if an emergency should arise with children in our school or faith formation programs.

SOCIAL MEDIA



Follow Saint Ambrose of Woodbury on Social Media!

- Facebook: Saint Ambrose of Woodbury
- Instagram: [saintambroseofwoodbury](https://www.instagram.com/saintambroseofwoodbury)
- Pinterest: Saint Ambrose of Woodbury
- Twitter: SaintAmbroseMN

CONTACT INFORMATION

Saint Ambrose of Woodbury

4125 Woodbury Drive
Woodbury, Minnesota 55129-9257

Phone: 651 768-3030 Fax: 651-714-9257
Website: www.saintambroseofwoodbury.org

Fr. Stan Mader, Pastor
frstan@saintambroseofwoodbury.org, 651-768-3005

Fr. Michael McClellan, Parochial Vicar
frmichael@saintambroseofwoodbury.org, 651-768-3006

Deacon Rip Riordan, Parish Deacon
riordanr@archspm.org

Deacon Larry Amell, Pastoral Ministry
larry.amell@saintambroseofwoodbury.org, 651-768-3008

LeAnn Bauer-Staiger, Pastoral Ministry & Parish Operations
leann.bauer-staiger@saintambroseofwoodbury.org, 651-768-3009

Hector Bautista, Sr. High Youth Ministry & Confirmation
hector.bautista@saintambroseofwoodbury.org, 651-768-3022

Yvonne Blanchard, Faith Formation Administrative Assistant
yvonne.blanchard@saintambroseofwoodbury.org, 651-768-3015

Lisa Cressy, Director of Liturgy
lisa.cressy@saintambroseofwoodbury.org, 651-768-3007

Monica Hamer, Music & Liturgy Assistant
monica.hamer@saintambroseofwoodbury.org, 651-768-3018

Greg Hereford, Parish Business Administrator
greg.hereford@saintambroseofwoodbury.org, 651-768-3010

Marie Maki, Administrative Assistant
marie.maki@saintambroseofwoodbury.org, 651-768-3064

Dione Murray, Administrative Assistant
dione.murray@saintambroseofwoodbury.org, 651-768-3030

Treva Peters, Administrative Assistant
treva.peters@saintambroseofwoodbury.org, 651-768-3001

Mary Reimann, Director of Music
mary.reimann@saintambroseofwoodbury.org, 651-768-3017

Janine Ricker, Elementary Faith Formation
janine.ricker@saintambroseofwoodbury.org, 651-768-3020

Brianna St. Amour, Jr. High FF & Jr. High Youth Ministry
brianna.stamour@saintambroseofwoodbury.org, 651-768-3021

Mike Thompson, Buildings & Grounds
mike.thompson@saintambroseofwoodbury.org, 651-768-3026

Patti Watkins, Director of Faith Formation
patti.watkins@saintambroseofwoodbury.org, 651-768-3011

Saint Ambrose of Woodbury School
Phone: 651-768-3000 Fax: 651-768-3080

Betsy Osterhaus-Hand, Principal
betsy.osterhaus-hand@saintambroseofwoodbury.org

Early Childhood Education Center
Phone: 651-768-3031 Fax: 651-768-3090

Anne Huber, Director
anne.huber@saintambroseofwoodbury.org

STEWARDSHIP

SACRIFICIAL GENEROSITY

March 12, 2017 - March 19, 2017

Adult Contributions	\$15,618.38
Children's Envelopes	\$49.42
Votive Candles	\$108.75
Hospitality	\$57.28
TOTAL	\$15,833.83

Special Collections	
Legacy of Faith	\$1,261.00
Soup Supper	\$107.00
Rice Bowl	\$1,378.00
Little Sisters of the Poor	\$50.00
Global Solidarity	\$155.00

Fiscal Year-to-Date Information

July 1st, 2016 - February 28, 2017

Sunday Stewardship Collected	\$1,243,127.84
Sunday Stewardship Budgeted	\$1,229,498.00
Difference	\$13,629.84

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

DAILY WORD

READINGS FOR THE COMING WEEK

Sunday: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-6/Eph 5:8-14/
Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

Monday: Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-12a, 13b/Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday: Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-15, 17-18/Jn 5:17-30

Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-23/Jn 5:31-47

Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-21, 23/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-12/Jn 7:40-53

Next Sunday: Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-8/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MARCH 26 - APRIL 2, 2017

SUNDAY

8:30 AM	Mass & Liturgy of the Word for Children
8:30 AM	Preschool Faith Formation
9:45 AM	RCIA (FH3)
9:45 AM	Symbolon
9:45 AM	Elementary Faith Formation
9:45 AM	Rediscover Jesus Book Study (PR)
11:00 AM	Preschool Faith Formation
11:00 AM	Mass & Liturgy of the Word for Children
5:00 PM	Mass
6:30 PM	Men's Book Study
6:30 PM	Confirmation Year 1 Small Groups

MONDAY

8:00 AM	Mass
8:30 AM	Rediscover Jesus Book Study (SA1)
7:00 PM	Boy Scouts Court of Honor (FH3-4)

TUESDAY

6:30 AM	Mass
9:00 AM	Women's Rediscover Jesus Book Study (SA1)
5:30 PM	Mass
6:00 PM	Reconciliation
6:00 PM	Parenting the Love & Logic Way
7:00 PM	Living Stations Rehearsal (CH)

WEDNESDAY

8:00 AM	Mass
5:30 PM	Schola/Jubilate Rehearsal (SA1)
5:30 PM	Joyful Noise (CH)
6:30 PM	Living Stations of the Cross
6:30 PM	Rediscover Jesus Book Study (PR)
6:30 PM	Uprising - High School Youth Group
6:30 PM	Elementary & Jr. High Faith Formation
7:00 PM	Adult Choir (CH)

THURSDAY

9:00 AM	Women's Bible Study
9:30 AM	Pray & Play (EDR)
5:30 PM	Mass
6:00 PM	Spieß/Angell Wedding Rehearsal (CH)
7:00 PM	Vatican II Series - Fr. Stan Mader (SA1)
7:00 PM	Women's Book Study (PR)
8:00 PM	Men's Club (FH3)

FRIDAY

8:00 AM	Mass
8:30 AM	Reconciliation
9:30 AM	Women's Book Study
12:40 PM	School Reconciliation
6:00 PM	Stations of the Cross
6:30 PM	Soup Supper
7:00 PM	Communion & Liberation
7:00 PM	Living Stations of the Cross

SATURDAY

8:00 AM	Jr. High Retreat
9:00 AM	Adult Spanish Class (LCR)
9:30 AM	Momnipotent
1:30 PM	Spieß/Angell Wedding
3:00 PM	Reconciliation
4:00 PM	Mass

SUNDAY

8:30 AM	Mass
8:30 AM	Preschool Faith Formation
9:45 AM	RCIA (FH3)
9:45 AM	Symbolon
9:45 AM	Elementary Faith Formation
9:45 AM	Rediscover Jesus Book Study (PR)
11:00 AM	Preschool Faith Formation
11:00 AM	Mass & Liturgy of the Word for Children
5:00 PM	Mass
6:30 PM	Men's Book Study
6:30 PM	Confirmation Premier Sunday

FROM OUR PASTOR CONTINUED

Next Sunday from 2:00-4:00 p.m. we will have a number of priests here for our Lenten Penance Service. Other times are being extended or added for confessions as well. You may have received a Lenten Letter from me with all sorts of information attached.

Two other traditional events are happening next week. One is the 40-hours of adoration in our parish. It will begin at the end of Mass on Thursday April 6 and conclude with a Mass at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 8th. The other is the Chrism Mass, held at the Cathedral on Thursday, April 6 at 7:00 p.m. At this Mass, the Archbishop has the diocese gathered around him and blesses oils that are used in the parishes in the coming year for anointing the sick, for catechumens, and Chrism, which is used in baptisms, ordinations and Confirmation. Earlier in the afternoon the priests gather for Vespers, share a meal and renew their priestly vows. Both Fr. Michael and I will attend that Mass, and we encourage anyone else to as well, especially if they are anticipating using those oils in the coming year.

At our parish council meeting this past week we discussed many topics. Among those there were the tuition level in the school; the new Stewardship Committee which will begin meeting this week; some ways to use our new free magazine that will be published at no cost to us through Catholic Lighthouse Publishing this starting this summer; some aspects of the small Christian groups, or neighborhood groups we will begin to form this summer; a report on the Cuba trip earlier this month, and the online directory that is now available to those who had their picture taken for it this past year. We also discussed some ways of updating our database of parishioners through some process of re-registration. We noted in particular that many children never get de-listed from their parents – to where we have people well into their 30s still listed as parishioners under their parents rather than as their own households. Updating this will give us better information as to who really is in our parish, and can help us focus our ministry and our re-evangelization efforts. Also, in response to questions from parishioners last month, we worked on determining our priorities in terms of ways people can help us reach them. The priorities could perhaps all fall under the single term "engagement." How do we engage the people in the parish in terms of our three parts of the mission statement: OWE – Outreach, Worship, and Education. How do we engage parishioners in worship – not just at the liturgies, but in personal prayer, in commitment to Jesus Christ. How will we be engaged in education: learning more about the faith ourselves, and passing that on to others by being teachers in our home or as catechists, neighborhood leaders or evangelizing. How to we engage people more in outreach – either through the many ways we do this already with tithing to local needs from our Sunday giving, our various collections for San Miguel in Cuba, for the food shelf, or at Christmas, blood drives, etc., or getting to know the poor themselves. Much of it will require that we get more committed to the parish, and feel more connected here. That requires making what is so big here feel small at times, so we know we are needed and wanted. Stay tuned. We have ideas and need people, and want to hear your ideas as well.

Fr. Stan Mader

CUBA CORNER

We will be starting to have more information about our sister parish, San Miguel de Cubitas, in the bulletin. This section of the bulletin will include information about the parish, our trips, and updates from Cuba.

Our recent trip down went really well! Thank you to all who prayed for the success of our visit. We met so many wonderful people. We were very edified and inspired by the deep faith of the parishioners there and their joy.

This past Sunday our sister parish celebrated the patronal feast of its main church, San Jose (St. Joseph) in Esmerelda. They were happy to welcome the Archbishop of Camagüey, Monsignor Willy, to their parish for Mass. The picture is of a group of parishioners after Mass.

Let us keep each other in prayer.

Peace,
Fr. Michael



FAITH FORMATION

FAITH FORMATION CLASSES

Sunday, March 26

- Preschool Faith Formation: 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM
- Sunday Elementary Faith Formation: 9:45 AM
- Confirmation Year 1 Small Groups: 6:30 PM

Wednesday, March 29

- Elementary Faith Formation: 6:30 PM
- Jr. High Faith Formation: 6:30 PM

SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH

- **Stebenville Rochester:** Is a weekend-long Catholic youth conference, complete with music, speakers, entertainment, small groups, Eucharistic Adoration, and more. (Actually, it's kind of like a weekend-long concert with friends!) The conference will be held at the Mayo Civic Center in Rochester, MN and will be held July 14-16, 2017. This conference is for current high schoolers. We have a limited amount of tickets so please see Hector Bautista for more information or to register.
- **Extreme Faith Camp:** Is an Archdiocesan summer camp for middle schoolers to have fun and get to know Jesus Christ through prayer, Adoration, Mass and much more. This will be held at Big Sandy Camp in McGregor, MN June 26-30, 2017 and is for teens currently in grades 6-8. Teen leaders interested in helping at the camp need to currently be in grades 9-12.
- **Senior High Mission Trip:** This summer we invite all current 9-12 grade students to join us for a week long Catholic Heart Work Camp in Muskegon, Michigan. We will be leaving on Sunday, July 23rd and returning to Saint Ambrose on Saturday, July 29th. For more information and/or to register, please contact Hector Bautista at 768-3022 or email hector.bautista@saintambroseofwoodbury.org
- **Summer Stretch:** Begins Wednesday, June 28, 2017 and is for students who are entering grades 7, 8, and 9 this coming fall. Students going into grade 10 are invited to join us as Tenors (Teen Leader in Training) and students going into grades 11 & 12 are invited to join us as small group leaders.
- **Vacation Bible School:** Children ages 3 (as of January 1, 2017) through 5th grade are invited to participate in "Created by God, Built for a Purpose" at VBS from 9:00 AM-12:00 PM beginning Monday, June 12, through Friday, June 16, 2017. Preschool aged children must be potty-trained and able to separate. Registration forms are available at the parish office.

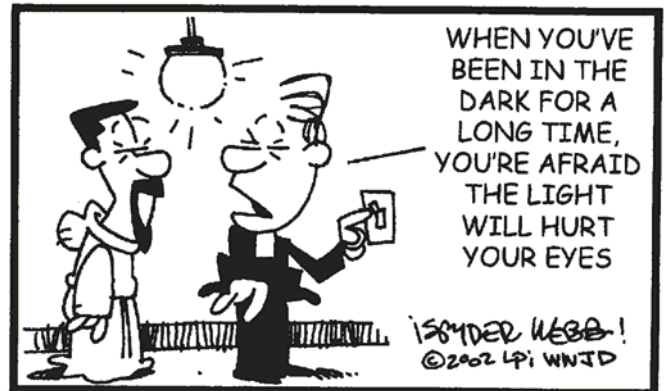
EDGE RETREAT

MIDDLE SCHOOL RETREAT OPPORTUNITY

Middle Schoolers are invited to take part in the Edge Retreat: **Be Not Afraid - A Retreat on True Happiness!** This retreat will run from **8:00 AM to 7:00 PM on Saturday, April 1st.** This retreat is being held at Saint Ambrose for teens in grades 6-8. We will focus on a quote from St. Pope John Paul II that begins "It is Jesus in fact that you seek when you dream of happiness..." The retreat sessions will outline what it means to be truly happy, and how we can achieve true happiness only when we are in relationship with Jesus. Please contact Bri St. Amour for a registration form or more information at 768-3021 or email her at bri.stamour@saintambroseofwoodbury.org.



FATHER FLOOD



EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE LIVING STATIONS

The Saint Ambrose Drama Ministry will be presenting The Living Stations: Were You There? rendition of our Lord's Passion and Death at Saint Ambrose on Wednesday, March 29 at 7:00 PM, Fridays, March 31 & April 7 at 7:00 PM, Sunday, April 9 at 1:30 PM, and Good Friday at Noon. This hour-long service is suitable for the entire family and is another way of bringing the message of Jesus to our faith community. Consider attending and bringing family and friends.

VATICAN II SERIES:

Saint Ambrose is excited to offer a three part series on Vatican II and you are invited to come join us for an in-depth look at Vatican II and how it has impacted the Catholic Church. Our three part series continues on Thursday, March 30th with Fr. Stan talking about the Scripture. The talks will be from 7:00 - 8:30 PM and there is no cost for the series. We look forward to seeing you there and please feel free to bring any questions you might have about Vatican II to the talks! For more information please contact Patti Watkins at 768-3011.

EASTER PLANT DEDICATION

Help decorate our worship space for the Easter Season! Dedicate a flowering plant in memory of or as a tribute to a loved one. The cost is \$15 per plant. You can do this at the parish office during regular business hours, and also at the welcome table in Oehlke Commons following weekend Masses now through Palm Sunday, April 9. Thank you so much for your participation and generosity!!

40 HOURS OF ADORATION

A tradition in our parish is to have 40 Hours of Eucharistic Adoration leading up to Palm Sunday. We will begin with the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament following the 5:30 PM Mass on Thursday, April 6 and have it continually exposed until closing Mass on Saturday, April 8 at 10:00 AM. 40 Hours of Adoration give us a wonderful opportunity to pray for the parish, to pray for and receive mercy, and to spend an hour with the Lord just before we read of Jesus praying in the Garden of Gethsemane. There will be a table in the Commons area for sign-up for these 40 hours.

LENTEN SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

- April 1-2 is designated Global Solidarity Sunday weekend in the Archdiocese. A special outreach collection will be taken for four global priorities of the U.S. Catholic Bishops that includes Africa, Latin America, Central and Eastern Europe, as well as humanitarian activities of Catholic Relief Services.

VIRTUAL PARISH DIRECTORY

On behalf of Saint Ambrose of Woodbury and Fotohaus USA, we would like to introduce to you, the new Saint Ambrose of Woodbury Virtual Directory! Start connecting with members today!

Logging in is as easy as:

1. Visit <http://www.saintambroseofwoodbury.org/>
2. Click on Virtual Directory link
3. Input login username and password
4. Start connecting with Members!

Usernames and password are unique for each Member. Usernames and passwords are as follows: saow + invoice number. Example: saow4516

Once you are logged in, you may change your username and password and member information in the "Update my Information" section. If you forgot your invoice number or were not given one, please contact Treva Peters at the Saint Ambrose Church Office at 651-768-3001.

HOPE FOR THE JOURNEY HOME SHELTER

Saint Ambrose will be providing volunteers to staff the Hope for the Journey Home Homeless Shelter located at Guardian Angels Parish in Oakdale. We need volunteers to help the week of April 16-22. The three shifts are: 2:45 PM - 5:15 PM, 5:00 PM - 8:15 PM, & 8:00 PM - 9:15 AM. Please note there is no 5:00 PM - 8:15 PM shift on Thursday. Volunteer shifts are first come first serve. Sign-up is online at <http://tinyurl.com/HJHApril16> or by calling Deacon Larry at 768-3008 or larry.amell@saintambroseofwoodbury.org. Please contact Deacon Larry with any questions.



WHEN JESUS HEARD THAT THEY HAD THROWN HIM OUT, HE FOUND HIM AND SAID, "DO YOU BELIEVE IN THE SON OF MAN?" HE ANSWERED AND SAID, "WHO IS HE, SIR, THAT I MAY BELIEVE IN HIM?" JESUS SAID TO HIM, "YOU HAVE SEEN HIM AND THE ONE SPEAKING WITH YOU IS HE." HE SAID, "I DO BELIEVE, LORD," AND HE WORSHIPED HIM. - JN 9:35-38