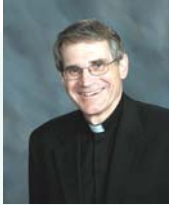




# SAINT AMBROSE OF WOODBURY

Catholic Community

## FROM OUR PASTOR



Tuesday is Independence Day. We will have Mass at 9:00 AM that morning and there will be no 5:30 PM Mass nor confessions at 6:00 PM. Please join us at Mass to praise God for our country and religious liberty, even as we intercede with God for our country. The office will be closed on July 4<sup>th</sup> and will close at noon on Monday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>. This week I had a long conversation with Fr. Greg Schaffer who ministers in Venezuela about conditions there. I'll write about that next week. Let's appreciate the life and liberties we have here.

Each year dioceses around the country arrange special events to highlight the importance of defending religious freedom. The Fortnight for Freedom is from June 21, the vigil of the Feasts of St. John Fisher and St. Thomas More, to July 4, Independence Day.

The United States Council of Catholic Bishops write: **Religious freedom** has recently become one of the major focal points in the conversation on how Americans can promote the common good. Our Catholic tradition has much to offer this conversation. In this time of **increasing polarization** in our culture, we can contribute to a **better understanding** of this issue in a way that **respects all people**. We can speak with friends and neighbors about religious freedom and work to clear up misconceptions about it.

**1. Respect:** Many religious freedom skeptics have plausible concerns. For example, they are concerned that all people should be treated with equal dignity. Indeed, the dignity of all people is the foundation for Catholic teaching on religious liberty. It is important that we not dismiss skeptics, but rather, that we listen to their concerns and take them seriously.

So, if the skeptics have a point, what do we say?

**2. A Fundamental Right:** Religious freedom is a fundamental right. It means that the government cannot coerce people into acting against their consciences. This is important for all people, not just people of faith. A government that makes one group choose obedience to the state over obedience to faith and conscience can force any group to submit to the state's demands. Religious freedom underlies all other freedoms for everyone.

**3. Space to Do Good:** People of faith need religious freedom to have the space to serve others. Oftentimes, religious liberty disputes arise when religious organizations are expected to sacrifice aspects of their faith in order to continue to serve the surrounding community. But it is our faith that inspires us to serve. Take the Little Sisters of the Poor, who live out their Christian faith by serving the elderly poor.

These women have had to seek protection from a regulation requiring them to facilitate access to contraceptives, including abortion-inducing drugs and devices. Or, consider adoption services run by Catholic Charities, which simply seek to place children in homes with a married mother and father. Due to the redefinition of marriage in civil law, many Catholic Charities and other faith-based adoption agencies around the country have been forced to end their adoption and foster care services.

Challenges to religious freedom often come from a mistaken view of religion, a view that sees religion as good only if it conforms to every value that happens to prevail today.

*Continued on Page 4*

## LITURGY SCHEDULE

Monday 8:00 AM Mass  
Tuesday 9:00 AM 4th of July Mass  
Wednesday 8:00 AM Mass  
Thursday 5:30 PM Mass  
Friday 8:00 AM Mass  
Sunday Vigil Mass/Saturday 4:00 PM  
Sunday 8:30 AM, 11:00 AM, 5:00 PM

## MASS INTENTIONS

### SUNDAY JULY 2, 2017

8:30 AM: Wayne Long †  
11:00 AM: Metty Sebastian †  
5:00 PM: Mass for the Parish

### MONDAY JULY 3, 2017

8:00 AM: Jeff Oxford †

### TUESDAY JULY 4, 2017

9:00 AM: John & Virginia Plumbo †

### WEDNESDAY JULY 5, 2017

8:00 AM: Paul Hennessey †  
Marie Fleming †  
9:15 AM: JoAnn & Jerry Grahm †

### THURSDAY JULY 6, 2017

5:30 PM: James Clay †

### FRIDAY JULY 7, 2017

8:00 AM: Julie Nierenhausen †

### SATURDAY JULY 8, 2017

4:00 PM: Maria Coraty †

### SUNDAY JULY 9, 2017

8:30 AM: Alex & Bozena Borkowski †  
11:00 AM: San Miguel de Cubitas  
5:00 PM: Mass for the Parish

## RECONCILIATION

6:00 PM - Tuesdays

8:30 AM - First Friday of the Month

Saturdays before Mass

3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

## MARRIAGE & BAPTISM

Please contact the Parish Office to make arrangements. Allow at least six months to prepare for marriage, three months for baptism.

## SICK & HOMEBOUND

If you wish to receive communion because you are homebound, contact the Parish Office to make arrangements.

## SERVICES

Nursery during Sunday morning Masses. Hospitality following Sunday morning Masses in Fellowship Hall.

## OUR PARISH FAMILY

### BAPTISMS



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

**HENRY SHAWN NOWAK**

Son of Shawn & Emily

**COOPER AIDAN RICK**

Son of Cameron & Kathleen

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



### NEW PARISHIONERS

We welcome the following new parishioners to our parish family:

Sarah Humphrey-Pagnotta

Child: Emma

Randi Mongeon

## 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.

## OUR MISSION

Saint Ambrose strives to be an actively involved community which seeks to witness the Gospel of Jesus Christ to one another, as well as the greater community of Woodbury, through our **Worship, Education and Outreach.**

## 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

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Woodbury, Minnesota 55129-9257

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Fr. Stan Mader, Pastor

[frstan@saintambroseofwoodbury.org](mailto:frstan@saintambroseofwoodbury.org), 651-768-3005

Fr. Nicholas Froehle, Parochial Vicar

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Deacon Rip Riordan, Parish Deacon

[riordanr@archspm.org](mailto:riordanr@archspm.org)

Deacon Larry Amell, Pastoral Ministry

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LeAnn Bauer-Staiger, Pastoral Ministry & Parish Operations

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Hector Bautista, Sr. High Youth Ministry & Confirmation

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Yvonne Blanchard, Faith Formation Administrative Assistant

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Lisa Cressy, Director of Liturgy

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Monica Hamer, Music & Liturgy Assistant

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Greg Hereford, Parish Business Administrator

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Marie Maki, Administrative Assistant

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Dione Murray, Administrative Assistant

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Treva Peters, Administrative Assistant

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Janine Ricker, Elementary Faith Formation

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Brianna St. Amour, Jr. High FF & Jr. High Youth Ministry

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Mike Thompson, Buildings & Grounds

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Patti Watkins, Director of Faith Formation

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Saint Ambrose of Woodbury School

Phone: 651-768-3000 Fax: 651-768-3080

Betsy Osterhaus-Hand, Principal

[betsy.osterhaus-hand@saintambroseofwoodbury.org](mailto:betsy.osterhaus-hand@saintambroseofwoodbury.org)

Early Childhood Education Center

Phone: 651-768-3031 Fax: 651-768-3090

Anne Huber, Director

[anne.huber@saintambroseofwoodbury.org](mailto:anne.huber@saintambroseofwoodbury.org)

## STEWARDSHIP

### SACRIFICIAL GENEROSITY

June 19, 2017 - June 26, 2017

Adult Contributions .....	\$12,829.33
Children's Envelopes .....	\$35.09
Votive Candles .....	\$131.46
Hospitality .....	\$60.45
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>\$13,056.53</b>

Direct Withdrawal Contributions for June	
General Stewardship .....	\$67,933.15
Legacy of Faith .....	\$14,221.90

Special Collections	
Legacy of Faith .....	\$240.00

#### Fiscal Year-to-Date Information

July 1st, 2016 - May 31, 2017

Sunday Stewardship Collected .....	\$1,748,676.00
Sunday Stewardship Budgeted .....	\$1,666,192.00
Difference .....	\$82,484.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

## DAILY WORD

### READINGS FOR THE COMING WEEK

Sunday: 2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a/Ps 89:2-3, 16-19/Rom 6:3-4, 8-11/Mt 10:37-42

Monday: Eph 2:19-22/Ps 117:1bc-2/Jn 20:24-29

Tuesday: Gn 19:15-29/Ps 26:2-3, 9-12/Mt 8:23-27

Wednesday: Gn 21:5, 8-20a/Ps 34:7-8, 10-13/Mt 8:28-34

Thursday: Gn 22:1b-19/Ps 115:1-6, 8-9/Mt 9:1-8

Friday: Gn 23:1-4, 19; 24:1-8, 62-67/Ps 106:1b-5/Mt 9:9-13

Saturday: Gn 27:1-5, 15-29/Ps 135:1b-6/Mt 9:14-17

Next Sunday: Zec 9:9-10/Ps 145:1-2, 8-11, 13-14/Rom 8:9, 11-13/Mt 11:25-30

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JULY 2 - JULY 9, 2017

### SUNDAY

8:30 AM Mass  
11:00 AM Mass  
5:00 PM Mass

### MONDAY

8:00 AM Mass  
\*Parish Office will close at Noon\*

### TUESDAY

9:00 AM Mass  
\*Parish Office closed for Holiday\*

### WEDNESDAY

8:00 AM Mass (Summer Stretch attends) (CH)  
8:30 AM Summer Stretch  
9:15 AM Mass at Woodbury Health Care Center

### THURSDAY

5:30 PM Mass

### FRIDAY

8:00 AM Mass

### SATURDAY

9:30 AM Adult Spanish Class (LCR)  
3:00 PM Reconciliation  
4:00 PM Mass

### SUNDAY

8:30 AM Mass  
11:00 AM Mass  
5:00 PM Mass

### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION



**Wednesdays: (5/24 through the Summer Months)**

Exposition following the 8:00 AM Mass  
Benediction: 9:00 PM

**Sundays:**

Exposition: 1:00 PM  
Benediction: 4:45 PM

## FROM OUR PASTOR CONTINUED

However, the good that religious institutions do is inseparable from the parts that challenge prevailing norms. Religious convictions hang together, in and out of season. When faith groups violate their consciences, they undermine the whole mission of their ministry. People of faith and faith-based organizations need space to make their unique contributions to the common good.

**4. Authentic Pluralism:** Skeptics are often concerned about the effects that religious organizations have on people who do not share those religious beliefs. Skeptics tend to see a conflict between religious freedom and their vision of equality and choose a mistaken concept of equality over freedom. These are certainly difficult issues. Here are points to consider:

- A pluralistic society makes space for people who hold views that run counter to the mainstream. Religious groups, and groups formed around a particular set of principles, need to be able to express their views with integrity. Should an animal rights organization be required by law to hire a member of a hunting association? Of course not. Then, for example, neither should a religious organization be required to hire people who oppose the teachings of that religion. It is crucial that our society not adopt the view that all groups – least of all religious groups -- must conform to one view. True freedom results in a diversity that strengthens, rather than weakens, society.
- Some skeptics say that religious people impose their faith on others. However, when religious groups are accused of causing harm to others, the "harm" is often that they do not facilitate an action. The craft store chain Hobby Lobby refused to cover abortifacients for its employees. But Hobby Lobby is not preventing its employees from obtaining these devices. The Christian family that runs Hobby Lobby refuses to participate in an activity it believes is immoral.
- It is similar when family-owned businesses choose not to participate in same-sex weddings. For example, florist Barronelle Stutzman had served a customer she knew was in a same-sex relationship for almost a decade. However, she could not in good conscience create custom floral arrangements for the customer's same-sex ceremony. She was happy to provide flowers for any other occasion but did not want to be forced to participate in a particular event that went against her Christian beliefs. The State of Washington sued Barronelle for declining to participate in an activity that went against her faith.
- Above all, the Church seeks to offer a better way. Catholic teaching is holistic, rooted in the dignity of the person, a dignity that is visible to reason yet made more clear by the light of the gospel of Jesus Christ. We are not simply asking for freedom from coercion so that we can be left alone. We believe that what we teach - about marriage, sex, family life, care for refugees, care for the poor, care for the sick, care for all vulnerable – is good for society. When we see a culture that is often un-loving and hostile to life, we work to bear witness to a healthier culture, a "civilization of love," in which all people can flourish.

**5. Own It:** When we engage in conversation as Catholics, people want to know what we think. It's good to represent the Church and the beauty of her teachings; it's even better when we internalize those teachings and reflect on our own experiences and reasons for caring about religious freedom. Your friends and neighbors want to know what you think. You have a unique contribution to make to the conversation!

I will be gone 2-3 days this week with five of my six siblings at the cabin of one of my brothers. We eat, play and pray with each other, and generally have a great deal of fun teasing each other amidst some serious discussions.

As you can see, the parking lot project has made significant progress this week. Additional pedestrian ramps have been inserted in the curbing on the eastern parking lot, both the church and the school as well. A sidewalk that has been needed between wings of the school has been installed, and as I write this on Tuesday, the asphalt surface of the eastern lot has been removed.

Please take a look at the news item on page 6 regarding a SPO Missionary from our parish. Andy Kaufer is a graduate of Saint Ambrose School who will be a missionary on college campuses this fall as a member of Saint Paul Outreach. Read his story. He will be available after each Mass next weekend to speak with you. He would appreciate financial support from parishioners while a missionary.

Fr. Stan Mader

## FAITH FORMATION

### 17/18 FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION

Registration Information Packets were sent home with the youngest child in each family during Faith Formation classes in May. We would like to encourage you to send your registration form in as soon as possible so that we can begin to make plans for the fall. If you did not get your registration packet, you can pick it up at the main desk in the parish office.

### SUMMER STRETCH

Summer Stretch will take place this coming Wednesday, July 5, 2017. Teens (grades 6-8) need to be at Saint Ambrose no later than 7:50AM for morning Mass. Teen leaders should report to Fellowship Hall 1 no later than 7:30 AM. For any questions please contact Bri St. Amour at 768-3021 or Patti Watkins at 768-3011.

## QUESTION & ANSWER

What does Jesus mean when he talks about taking up our cross?

Our parents and grandparents used to say to us, "Nothing worthwhile is ever easy. You have to work at it." Anything of substance and value requires patience, effort, and careful planning. If it were easy to do, there would not be much value in it. Maybe it took years to learn, but there comes a point where experience teaches what our stubbornness refused. Easy come, easy go!

Jesus says the same thing about faith. Our journey of faith begins in baptism. When we are faithful to it, we find God's plan for us, his way of allowing us to participate in his saving work, which in turn becomes for us our own salvation. Stated simply, we share in the mission of Jesus each day. We live our life with all of its ups, downs, joys and sorrows in union with the mission of Jesus. Our work then is holy. It is joined to the cross, God's will for Jesus, the way in which he destroys sin and death and makes eternal life possible. His sacrifice accomplishes what we ourselves cannot do.

To take up the cross, then, means that we share in the mission of Jesus and so embrace the sufferings of the cross. It is our daily life made holy, given a redemptive mission. It is our purpose and goal to unite our life to that of Christ. St. Paul says it best, "If we have grown into union with him through a death like his, we shall also be united with him in the resurrection" (Rom 6:5).

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## FUN & GAMES

### Puzzle

Find and circle these words from today's Gospel:

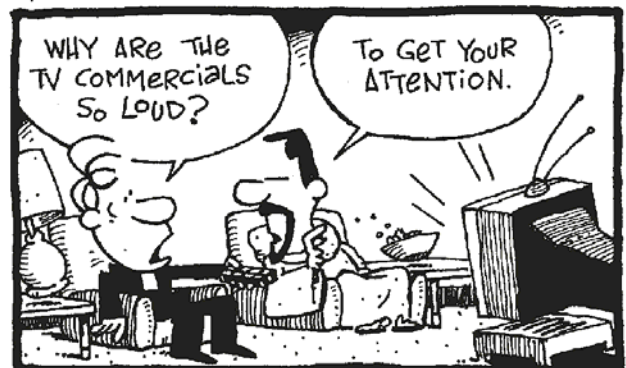
LOVE	GIVE	GOOD
CROSS	WELCOME	REWARD
LIFE	PROPHET	FOLLOWER

```

F A Y I O E U O L U V
L R E W A R D F I A Y
I U T E H I M P O E T
F O L L O W E R Y R A
E V A C E U L O V E N
Y G O O D R I P A S O
U I N M A S E H N I D
O V A E G U T E A R Y
S E A M O E R T I T H
U N Y E A C R O S S E
A I R O N T U W Y O R
    
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## FATHER FLOOD



## EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### AMBROSIANS

Looking for a FUN and SOCIAL group of new FRIENDS?! Calling anyone "55" or over to attend our Ambrosians Gathering. Whether you are a NEW parishioner, or a longtime member, I would love to welcome you to CHECK OUT the "Ambrosians" evening gathering. We are a social group, growing with over 100+ members, formed to foster friendship among people 55 and over who are members, or spouses/friends of members of Saint Ambrose who would love to join us for a FUN evening. This evening is for everyone, whether single, married or widowed. ALL are welcome. Our purpose is Socialization, Support and Service. I'd love to invite you to attend our next Ambrosian Party, to be held on Tuesday, July 11th in Fellowship Hall. Social time: 6:00 PM. Dinner: 6:30 PM. Menu will be: baked chicken, baked potatoes, fresh green beans, fresh fruit and dinner rolls and a host of homemade desserts! Please call in your reservations to John and Judy at 651-731-9486 or Mary Beth and Dennis at 651-459-4959. Sorry we can not accept reservations after Sunday, July 9th!

Warmly, LeAnn Stadt, Ambrosian President

### INVITATION TO EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Would you like to spend some quiet time with our Lord? Experience Eucharistic Adoration in the Saint Francis Chapel Wednesdays, 8:30 AM - 9:00 PM, and Sundays, 1:00 PM - 4:45 PM.

### VATICAN SYNOD ON YOUTH/YOUNG ADULTS

Pope Francis is calling a general assembly (synod) of the bishops on the theme, "Youth, Faith, and Vocational Discernment" in October 2018. The Church wishes to listen to the voices of young people, their sensitivities, their faith, even their doubts and criticisms. A series of Listening Sessions are being held throughout our Archdiocese. The next session is Wednesday, July 19, 6:30 PM at O'Gara's, Saint Paul (part of the Theology on Tap summer series). In addition, young adults ages 16-30 are encouraged to take a brief online survey. For many more details, please visit [www.archspm.org/YoungAdultVoices](http://www.archspm.org/YoungAdultVoices).

### MEET ANDY KAUFER - SPO MISSIONARY

I first want to thank you for taking the time to read this short biography about myself; your time and attention is humbly appreciated. My name is Andy Kaufer and I am both a parishioner and alumni of St. Ambrose. I was born and raised in Woodbury, Minnesota and attended St. Ambrose as a kindergartner when the school first opened in 2000 and graduated as a part of the first class to attend K-8th grade.

Post-SAW, I attended East Ridge High School where I continued my faith journey as I prepped for and completed Confirmation. Looking back, my faith was always a part of my life, but felt as though it was just a "part of the program". It wasn't until my sophomore year at the University of St. Thomas where a friend of mine, whom I've known since 1st grade at SAW, and I discussed getting back into our faith for ourselves. It was in this search that we both came across a college outreach organization, Saint Paul's Outreach (SPO). After having attended their "Fan Into Flame" retreat, I found that there truly was something meaningful here and joined a men's small group. As the years went by, I found myself more and more involved with the SPO community and even leading a men's small groups. It was with this personal growth in Christ that I feel convicted to continue my journey as a missionary for SPO.

Of course, there is much more to my story and I'd be honored to sit down and talk with you further about what the Lord has done in my life. I am currently building a support team for both my financial and spiritual needs as a missionary and would be humbled with the opportunity to discuss how you can walk alongside myself and the students I will be encountering this next year at Texas State University.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

God Bless,  
 Andy Kaufer  
 651-402-0410  
[andy.kaufer@spo.org](mailto:andy.kaufer@spo.org)



"WHOEVER GIVES ONLY A CUP OF COLD WATER TO ONE OF THESE LITTLE ONES TO DRINK BECAUSE THE LITTLE ONE IS A DISCIPLE--AMEN, I SAY TO YOU, HE WILL SURELY NOT LOSE HIS REWARD." - MT 10:42