



Don't Let Illness Get You Down

Good health is undeniably one of our greatest blessings from God. Be it minor aches and pains, an annoying chronic condition, or a debilitating illness, health issues are welcomed by no one. How we deal with our bodily ills – whether with a joyful heart or a crushed spirit – can be far more an important factor in the successful management of our health than any medicine, therapy, or physician could ever be.

This was all brought home to me one night last year when I was whisked away to a hospital after suddenly becoming seriously ill. During the next several months of treatment for a previously undetected health issue, I found great support in my faith, secure in the knowledge that no matter what course my health would take, Jesus would be at my side through it all. So often when we pray during poor health, we ask only to be made well again. During the course of my treatment, I encountered numerous opportunities, both positive and negative, that actually served to strengthen my relationship with God and God's people.

Here are five ways that can help you maintain a joyful heart in the midst of medical challenges.

1. Turn to God.

No matter the nature of the health issue facing us, shock and disbelief at our diagnosis are often our first reactions. We might ask ourselves, How did this happen? Could it have been found sooner? And, of course, the ubiquitous, Why me? When coming face-to-face with your diagnosis, resist the common reaction of turning away from God, especially in anger. God is also saddened by your illness. God already knows that the road ahead of you will, at times, be a difficult one. Realize, however, that God is ready to carry you along this

journey. Be open to God's comforting embrace. As I lay in the emergency room that night, tethered to a host of machines that beeped and buzzed with my every breath, my prayer was not "Jesus, I know that you will save me," but "Jesus, I know that you will stay with me." Thankfully, he did both.

2. Give yourself a break.

We are often quick to blame ourselves for our health problems. Some thoughts that might race through our minds: I should have stopped smoking. Did I really need to drink so much? Why didn't I exercise like the doctor told me? While we may speak of the importance of forgiving others, we often forget to forgive ourselves. Give yourself the gift of reconciliation. Recognize your past mistakes, wipe the slate clean, and ask for God's help in adopting whatever measures are necessary to improve or control your health situation. By showing yourself the same amount of compassion that Jesus shows us, you will be honoring both the life and the body that God has given you.

3. Always be thankful.

Though appointments, tests, and procedures may seem annoying at best, offer prayers of gratitude for the incredible knowledge and abilities with which God has gifted our physicians, nurses, technicians, and all other health-care workers. The nurse who makes certain you are comfortable, the doctor who successfully completes your surgery, the pharmacist who puts your prescriptions in order, the receptionist who works you into the doctor's busy schedule: they are today's co-ministers of Jesus.

Don't Let Illness Get You Down

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4. Step up your faith.

Frequent attendance at Mass, reception of the Eucharist, and prayer are tried-and-true ways to find solace through our faith. But do not hesitate to seek out new ways of increasing your faith experience.

A powerful way of maintaining a joyful heart through illness is to involve yourself with a local community of consecrated religious, be they male or female. I have been fortunate to be able to share in the mission and charism of a particular community of women religious.

There are numerous communities that you might contact, such as the Franciscans, the Benedictines, the Mercies, the Jesuits, and many others. Most have programs for lay associates and co-ministers that allow you to take part in their sponsored ministries, special events, prayer groups, or meetings. If you cannot physically connect with a community, you probably can electronically. Nearly all religious communities maintain interactive websites that allow followers to join in prayer, petition, readings, videos, live chats, streaming liturgies and prayer services, commentaries, and more.

By involving yourself with a community, you will not only add a new dimension to your own faith experience, but also draw continual comfort and support. You might even find that your presence and contributions are providing the same comfort and support to others whom you are touching with your life.

Don't forget that you may also connect electronically with all the major Catholic shrines around the world. Can't get to Lourdes, Lisieux, Assisi, or the Vatican? Simply go online to find their live services, presentations, prayers, and soothing images.

5. Always pray.

Prayer should be at the center of our existence, no matter where we are on our life's journey. A favorite of many in need is the beloved Serenity Prayer, which may provide just the right combination of acceptance, strength, and hope needed during any trial: ***God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.***

By Rita E. Piro for St. Anthony Messenger Press. Rita is on the faculty at The Mary Louis Academy in Jamaica Estates, New York. You can subscribe to the St. Anthony Messenger by logging onto subscribe.franciscanmedia.org.



Native American Catholic Spirituality

The Nicholas Black Elk – Kateri Circle is a community exploring personal faith, Native American culture and Catholic spirituality. It is affiliated with the National Kateri Tekakwitha Conference which is the voice, presence and identity of Indigenous Catholics of North America under the protection and inspiration of Saint Kateri.

Meetings in the Archdiocese take place at St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish in Dearborn on 16101 Rotunda Drive, in the Parish Center's St. Martha Room every second Wednesday of every month from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.,

It's sponsored by the Archdiocesan Native American Ministry. For more information Fr. Charles Morris St. Mary of Redford Parish (313) 273-1100.

All Things Considered

When I arrived here in 1986, we had an old Bell/Western Phone System with two incoming lines. I added a third. Eventually Michigan Bell stopped servicing those units and we installed Lucent Technologies phones supported by Avaya. That system served us flawlessly for more than two decades.

Eventually technology left analog phones, POTS (Plain Old Telephone Service) in the dust, so in 2016 we were forced into a new phone system for St. Ambrose. Our new provider was Grid4. But with their installation we discovered that they could not a.) keep the phones running 24/7 and b.) could not help provide us with T1 or Ethernet service because they were not compatible with the copper lines that existed in the ATT lines leading to this part of town. That meant whenever it rained, our phones would be non-operational for days, even weeks at a time. ATT and Grid4 spent months blaming each other for our problems.

Since Grid4 reached the limit of their expertise on our project, we looked into Comcast. After a lot of grumbling, Grid 4 agreed to let us out of our contract. Then Comcast engineers came out and researched our system and told us they could handle the job. Their exact words were "no additional work will be needed to implement this solution. We would estimate 2 – 3 weeks from the date we submit your order to installation. There will be about 5 – 15 minutes of downtime which can be eliminated by forwarding your main line to a cell phone until installation is complete."

Wrong. Last August, Comcast installers found their engineers miscalculated. Their phones are internet-based phones (VOiP) and our IT system was actually not a system at all. It was 6 or 7 little modem-connected hubs all around the St. Ambrose campus. The hubs didn't talk to one another and often they didn't work at all.

We were told that we needed an IT firm to come in and do a survey and scope out a new system. The proposal was to build a new network with two pathways – one for data and one for voice – and it would run something in the neighborhood of \$18,000.

In September, the IT firm (SecureSolutionsIT) came in and worked hand-in-hand with Comcast installers. At some point during that setup of 22 phone lines, (remember we started with 2) Comcast discovered that our buildings – Rectory and Church/ARK – were connected with underground cable and that would be extremely costly for the IT company to access and use for the new IT system (including tearing up concrete we had just paid to repair and replace last summer).

So...Comcast went back to the engineers who decided that we needed to break up the phone/data installation into two separate projects. We agreed. That second installation took place in October. It, too, did not go well. In all, the two installations took more than three months, and throughout, the phones would go down sporadically. Except for the phones in my quarters – those units would stop working for days at a time. In the process, the phone number I had since my arrival here disappeared – leading to lots of people wondering what happened to me.

We called Comcast to get them to restore at least my original number. Comcast said they'd love to return the original phone number, but Grid4 had taken possession of some of our old numbers and wouldn't let them go (or "port them out"). We made more phone calls and scheduled more service visits, filled out online request forms, followed up with calls, and threatened legal action.

Finally, Grid4 released the numbers – which didn't belong to them anyway. Good news: I got my phone number back. Bad news: it doesn't work

all the time. Telemarketers get through, but no one else does. We called Comcast service again. A technician came in, did a little digging and then told us that the problem is not theirs but the fault of the new IT system. And by the way, it only rings on one unit – not four as it did since ATT time immemorial.

We called the IT company. They came and did some more digging to find out that no, it was indeed a Comcast malfunction. We called Comcast again.

The IT company says their work is done, but they agreed to come back whenever we call to fix little things at no extra cost. They do, but all of the phones in the complex still don't work. Except mine which still only gets telemarketers.

In the meantime, we continued to work on getting all the alarms connected and operating at peak efficiency. Engineers from two outside companies came in to tell us what we needed to do to bring back security services. But first, they recommended that we install new cellular phones – since fire systems need to have two communication methods and one can't be VOiP. They gave us an estimate of \$3,800 to do that work. They also stated that they cannot install the "pre-work" that needs to be done:

1. Customer (St. Ambrose) will need to provide a penetration point going down into the basement needing a 1½" hole with a 1¼" PVC sleeve going to a 4x4 weatherproof box.
2. Customer will need to install a 4x4 weatherproof box.
3. Customer needs to get an electrician to provide a dedicated outlet near the fire panel to be on the same circuit as the fire panel.
4. Electrical permit will be pulled and a post-installation inspection will be mandatory.

For a brief time all the phones were working on a mix of old and new numbers. Then Comcast came back and told us that they will send us a subcontractor to work on the alarms because there is no reason we need to spend all that money that ADT wants us to spend. That subcontractor came and worked all day on the lines. During that period, the polar vortex caused the rectory boiler to create enough steam in the basement mechanical room to replicate the set for the horror movie, "The Fog." A plumber fixed that. But not before it took out the just-fixed alarm system.

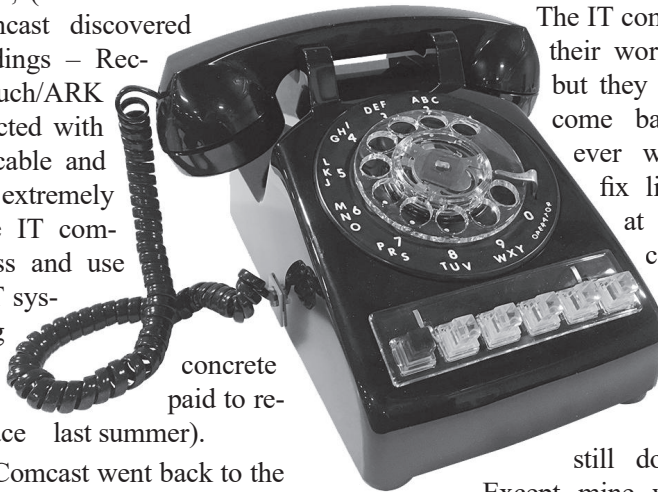
Then inexplicably, all the phones in the church, the office, and the ARK stopped working. Comcast says it doesn't know why. The subcontractor says it doesn't know why. ADT says it doesn't know why. The IT company says it doesn't know why but would help figure it out.

One week, 13 emails and four phone calls later, many of those phones still don't work (although the ones in the main office do). As of last Friday afternoon, no one was scheduled to come look at the other problems.

We have invested more than \$25,000, five months (not counting the previous two years of terrible phone service with the other phone system) and hundreds of hours of time and frustration in this project. My office staff has been held hostage by no fewer than 9 different companies, subcontractors and consultants – and we still have a phone system that is just one step above tin cans and string – barely. And did I mention in middle of all this, our live answering service went belly up?

I am painfully aware that we have failed in receiving several critical communications during these outages. I apologize for the many times the phone system has been down when you have called – in an emergency or not. We will continue to pursue this until we have a fully operational phone system, but right now it's such a mess that we, quite frankly, don't know what the next step might even be.

TRP





Name

Home Phone

Work Phone

Email Address

- I would simply like to learn more about the Catholic Faith.
- I desire to prepare for my Baptism into Christianity.
- I've been Baptized as a Christian and now desire to join in Catholic Communion.
- I'm non-Catholic, but married to a Catholic, and now wish to join the Catholic Church.
- I'm Catholic and I would like to complete my initiation into the Catholic Church by celebrating Confirmation and/or Communion.
- I'm Baptized Catholic and would like to learn more about my faith and how to practice it.
- I want to propose someone for Catholic Church membership and offer to serve as their sponsor.
- I would be willing to help with an R.C.I.A. program.
- I have other needs, requests, and questions. Please contact me.

Return this to the Parish Rectory or place it in the Collection basket.

The Buzz

Can you believe it is already the third weekend of February?! The next BUZZ is scheduled to appear in two weeks – and it'll be March! Ash Wednesday will finally arrive that week.

If we were using the old Church-Year calendar, this weekend would already begin to focus our attention on that somewhat distant approach of Lent. The name for this weekend may ring a bell with people my age and older; it was called Septuagesima because it is roughly 70 days before Easter. It began a three-week “getting ready” time for Lent.

In our own day, the Sunday Gospel passages over the next three weeks still can effectively suggest some Lenten themes for us to consider in our personal renewal. Today we have Luke’s version of the Beatitudes. Compare them to Matthew’s version in Chapter 5 of that Gospel. It’s hard to avoid how much more stark and challenging Luke’s version is – certainly enough to spend a full Lent of prayer and practice . . . if not a lifetime!

Next weekend’s Gospel will set before us a code of ethics for building the Kingdom of God – our Lenten/Lifetime mission in communion with Christ. Finally, in three weeks, we will be offered a definition of discipleship.



As of this writing, our Parish Council Meeting, scheduled for this past Wednesday, has not yet taken place. So I don’t yet know the response of parishioners to Fr. Tim’s invitation to help give a vision in response to the Archbishop’s UNLEASH THE GOSPEL program.

While the title bothers me, I can appreciate a spirit I perceive in it that goes along with our pre-Lenten season. I think everyone has a conscious or subconscious ideal of what the Church, the parish, and one’s own individual faith life should be. How do our “ideals” stack up in the face of three weeks of the sixth chapter of Luke’s Gospel?

If your answers come too easy, I think it’s a sign the “leash” is still on. Read, meditate on, and pray over the Scriptures. Read the Archbishop’s Pastoral Letter for yourself – especially the proposed action steps for families and parishes. (The entire letter is available free of charge on the Archdiocesan website: aod.org) Assess where you’re at . . . and where you’d like to be. Then decide how you might get there. *Et voilà!* – you have a Lenten agenda for yourself.

Or were you planning to observe Lent in the same-ol’-same-ol’ way? What’s your excuse for not going somewhere new, daring, and deeper with God’s surprising Spirit? Watch out! God has answers for excuses! You’ve got two and a half weeks to make a decision and to muster up the courage to commit to it. I don’t see giving up candy or desserts as the centerpiece for any adult’s Gospel unleashing.



And maybe if you or someone you know is hearing a call to respond to the Gospel as a member of the Catholic Community, this year’s fast-track RCIA may be the perfect opportunity for you. There are many ways to inquire about it . . . all with no cost nor obligation. Now is a very good time to do it. Unleash your heart, and see what happens!

Chuck Dropiewski

Joyful Missionary Disciples

A workshop on the spiritual and practical aspects of stewardship as a way of life will be held on Thursday, March 7th at Sacred Heart Seminary from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Our parish will be sending a delegation. Topics include Marketing your Parish; Helping Parishioners Identify and Unleash their Gifts; How to Improve eGiving Results; Leading with Mission; Engaging Youth and Young Adults in Stewardship; and Communicating through Social Media. If you would like to join our parish group attending, contact us at the rectory.

Journey of Hope

The best way to appreciate evangelization as a tool of the Journey of hope is that it reflects on the salvation of body, soul and inter-personal relationships. In our modern day, we have several ways and means to unleash the gospel of evangelization. In the early days, salvation of souls was a common goal that the early missionaries adopted. Their main concern was only about ways to save souls. Matthew's and Mark's gospels prescribe the salvation of souls through the proclamation of reconciliation (Repent and be baptized, for the kingdom of God/heaven is at hand. "John [the] Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins" (Mk1:4; Mt3:2). For the early missionaries, their focus in evangelization was based on "saving the soul" and they saved souls by handing down instructions to follow. According to Frans Wijzen, "The first missionaries in the modern time went to the non-Christian countries to bring to the so called pagans the light of Christ and His message of salvation. They were convinced that outside the Church there was no salvation". Unfortunately these early missionaries forgot that body and soul go together to receive the good news. Thereby, some of the early missionaries weakened the wholeness of humanity by separating the body from the soul. They missed the mark and failed to communicate the oneness of body and soul in order to unleash the gospel.

Another great process to unleash the gospel is considering inter-cultural unity, which interlinks all of us together. This is one of the most important aspects of evangelization and mercy to unleash the gospel. Inter-cultural integrity reveals relational freedom to interconnect with each other openly without any barricades. This is precisely what Pope Francis is doing as a "servant of servants" – as a teacher and student who loves to dialogue. Jesus, after all, tells us that "If I, therefore, the master and teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash one another's feet. I have given you a model to follow, so that as I have done for you, you should also do. Amen, amen, I say to you, no slave is greater than his master, nor any messenger greater than the one who sent him" (Jn 14:13-16).

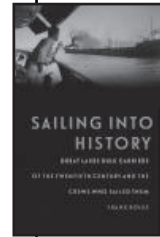
The intercultural practice of evangelization and mercy sums up Christ's affectionate charism of love without hindrance. This indeed brings us to a tangible community of togetherness. The intercultural quality is deeply related to the charism of my Franciscan community which by design supports unity, fraternity and justice for the underprivileged to bring peacefulness to society. This is the core charism that upholds evangelization as well as mercy. You see, various cultural ingredients reveal the community of God's love. Truly, God is love all the time, and all the time God is loved. Just as he loves us, he invites and encourages us to love each other. Accordingly, evangelization and mercy is about sharing God's love and joy which Pope Francis' encyclical **Joy of the Gospel** draws on. For us Christians, evangelization to unleash the gospel means inclining toward God and his message for humanity as communicated to us by Jesus Christ and the apostles. God is LOVE (1 John 4:8), and God's message is that humans should love God and one another as God loves us. Therefore, evangelization and mercy to unleash the loving grace of Christ is the core value of God's love . . . and this fact produces true joy.

Dn. Anthony Kote-Witah, OFM Cap.

Tap into Life This Sunday

Join us every 3rd Sunday of the month for the Solanus Casey Center's Young Adult (Age 18-35) Ministry event, Tap into Life, a Franciscan Approach to Theology on Tap. Fellowship begins at 6 p.m. and the evening's talk and discussions begin at 7 p.m. Please spread the word and bring a friend! To RSVP, email TapIntoLife@thecapuchins.org. The next Tap Into Life will be this Sunday, February 17th. The Solanus Casey Center is located at 1780 Mt. Elliott in Detroit.

Marcellina's Book Club



The Great Lakes create a vast transportation network that supports a massive shipping industry. In [Sailing into History: Great Lakes Bulk Carriers of the Twentieth Century and the Crews Who Sailed Them](#), Frank Boles

relates seamanship, cargo, competition, cooperation, technology, engineering, business, unions, government decisions, and international agreements in a story of unrivaled interest.

We are in the process of connecting with the author to see when he can pay our book club a visit. That date will be announced here. In the meantime, pick up a copy of the book and get a headstart in reading this important work which was one of this year's twenty Notable Book Honorees by the State Library of Michigan.

The Beehive

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

Pastor: Rev. Timothy R. Pelc

Assistant: Dn. Anthony Kote-Witah, OFM, Cap

Pastoral Minister: Charles Dropiewski

Religious Education: Kelly Anne Woolums

Minister of Music: Dr. Norah Duncan IV

Office Manager: Peggy O'Connor

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) 332-5633

Pastoral Ministry: (313) 332-5631

Ark Scheduling: (313) 822-2814

Parish Website: stambrosechurch.net

Liturgy Schedule for the Coming Week

Monday, February 18

8:30 a.m. - Morning prayer

Tuesday, February 19

8:30 a.m. - Mass - Helen Allard

Wednesday, February 20

8:30 a.m. - Morning prayer

Thursday, February 21

St. Peter Damian, bishop & doctor

8:30 a.m. - Mass - Deny Capulong

Friday, February 22

The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle

8:30 a.m. - Mass - Subterenea Agduma

Saturday, February 23

St. Polycarp, bishop & martyr

4:00 p.m. - For All People

Sunday, February 24

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 a.m. - For All People

11:15 a.m. - For All People



Scriptures for the 6th Week in Ordinary Time

Monday, February 18

- Gn 4: 1-15, 25
- Ps 50: 1, 8, 16bc-17, 20-21
- Mk 8: 11-13

Tuesday, February 19

- Gn 6: 5-8; 7: 1-5
- Ps 29: 1a, 2, 3-4, 8c-10
- Mk 8: 14-21

Wednesday, February 20

- Gn 8: 6-13, 20-22
- Ps 116: 12-15, 18-19
- Mk 8: 22-26

Thursday, February 21

- Gn 9: 1-13
- Ps 102: 16-18, 19-23, 29
- Mk 8: 27-33

Friday, February 22

- 1 Pt 5: 1-4
- Ps 23: 1-3a, 4-6
- Mt 16: 13-19

Saturday, February 23

- Heb 11: 1-7
- Ps 145: 2-5, 10-11
- Mk 9: 2-13

Sunday, February 24

- 1 Sm 26: 2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23
- 1 Cor 15: 45-49
- Lk 6: 27-38

The Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 23rd and February 24th

4:00 p.m. - Celebrant: Fr. Bede **Lector:** Bern Degnan
Eucharistic Ministers: Della Cimini, Karen McShane, Matthew Strong
Altar Servers: Jack Hern, Eleanor Bernas

8:30 a.m. - Sunday - Celebrant: Fr. Pelc **Lector:** Norman Cure
Eucharistic Ministers: Colleen Drummond, Christopher Harrison, Bob Jogan,
 Colleen Jogan, Steve Linne, Joellyn Valgoi, Chris Walsh
Altar Servers: Erica, Corey, & Carrigan McGraw

11:15 a.m. - Celebrant: Bp. Gumbleton **Lector:** Leslie Leitch
Eucharistic Ministers: Thomas Bennert, Pat & Michael Mocerri,
 Sue & Roger Playwin, Janis Ramsey, Cristina Swiatkowski
Altar Servers: Liam & Maria Liburdi

Your Envelope Speaks . . . the Inside Story

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

On Sunday, February 10, 2019

in envelopes we received \$13,150.00
 in the loose collection \$428.00
 in other donations..... \$1,390.00
 for a total of..... **\$14,968.00**

Over budget for the week \$4,868.00

Number of envelopes mailed 900
 Number of envelopes used..... 158

"Blessed are you when people hate you, ... exclude and insult you ... on account of the Son of Man." (Luke 6:22)

All of us have been in situations when someone has made a negative comment or joke about God or our Catholic faith. Did you stay silent or pretend to go along with the crowd because you didn't want to cause waves and then, later, you felt bad? Know that God is with you all the time, the Holy Spirit will put the right words in your mouth. Pray for the strength and courage to proclaim our faith to others, especially during uncomfortable situations.

Our Sick

Please pray for those who are seriously ill or who are hospitalized: Pat Blake, Karen Culver, Ann Sullivan Kay, Donald Miriani, Bonnie McKenna, Jeanne Noto, David Schumacker, Matthew Elias, George Bucec, Emilie Kasper, Arthur Stoyshin, Anna Noto Billings, Vilma Rivers, Vilma Marone, Eileen O'Brien, Martha Luna, Dina Engels, Liz Linne, Donna Barnes, Betty Greenia, Alexandra Cullen, Charmaine Kaptur, Darby O'Toole, Frank Gregory, Josephine DeCastris, Alex Billiu, Albina Checki, Gladys Bogos, Lou Rondini and Wayne Wallrich.

Discernment Weekend

Discernment Weekends are a unique experience for anyone sensing a call to the priesthood. Spending four days living at the seminary provides you with a first-hand opportunity to see what it's like from the inside.

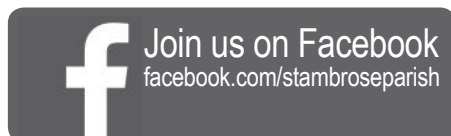
Attending a Discernment Weekend is perfect for anyone from the Archdiocese of Detroit (Single men, high school senior to 55 years old) who is discerning a vocation to the priesthood. These weekends provide you with more tools for proper discernment.

Typically, 10-20 people attend each Discernment Weekend. The next discernment weekend is on March 21-25. Register at detroitpriest.com/programs/discernment-weekend. Also, at that site you can click to see a sample schedule. This will give you a better understanding of what occurs on the Discernment Weekend.

Once you register, the Director of Priestly Vocations will contact you to discuss the Weekend and answer any questions.

Christian Financial

St. Ambrose Parish, through Christian Financial Credit Union, is equipped to make electronic transfers from your checking account or credit card on our website. 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. Go to stambrosechurch.net for information on electronic giving.



Vincentian Reflection

In the Gospel today, Jesus gives us the blessings of serving those who live in poverty, who are hungry, live in fear, hopelessness, and despair. Many of these neighbors live each day with no one to talk with. When you respond to these the least of His friends, you bring joy, peace and hope. We can rejoice when we respond to those He loves and cares about. Jesus tells us that we will receive a great reward – eternity with Him. Taking care of God’s special friends is indeed a special privilege and a way of truly living Gospel values.

If you are interested in joining the Society of St. Vincent de Paul here at St. Ambrose check us out on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/SVdP-StAmbrose and check out the video on You Tube titled “Our Faith in Action” at <https://www.youtube/watch?v=D-bE6UJ87FU> and give us a call at 313-882-2815.

Catholic Principles of Migration

Our approach to migration is rooted in the Gospel and in the rich tradition of Catholic social teaching. A recent example of this teaching is **Strangers No Longer: Together on the Journey of Hope**, a pastoral letter concerning migration from the Catholic Bishops of Mexico and the United States.

Five principles that help guide the Church’s approach to migration

I. Persons have the right to find opportunities in their homeland.

All persons have the right to find in their own countries the economic, political, and social opportunities to live in dignity and achieve a full life through the use of their God-given gifts. In this context, work that provides a just, living wage is a basic human need.

II. Persons have the right to migrate to support themselves and their families.

The Church recognizes that all the goods of the earth belong to all people. When persons cannot find employment in their country of origin to support themselves and their families, they have a right to find work elsewhere in order to survive. Sovereign nations should provide ways to accommodate this right.

III. Sovereign nations have the right to control their borders.

The Church recognizes the right of sovereign nations to control their territories but rejects such control when it is exerted merely for the purpose of acquiring additional wealth. More powerful economic nations, which have the ability to protect and feed their residents, have a strong obligation to accommodate migration flows.

IV. Refugees and asylum seekers should be afforded protection.

Those who flee wars and persecution should be protected by the global community. This requires, at a minimum, that migrants have a right to claim refugee status without incarceration and to have their claims fully considered by a competent authority.

V. The human dignity and human rights of undocumented migrants should be respected.

Regardless of their legal status, migrants, like all persons, possess inherent human dignity that should be respected. Often they are subject to punitive laws and harsh treatment by enforcement officers from both receiving and transit countries. Government policies that respect the basic human rights of the undocumented are necessary.

From the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops. Last Updated: 1/24/17

Our Dead

The Michigan Catholic Conference President and CEO Paul A. Long offered the following sentiments regarding the death of former U.S. congressman Mr. John Dingell whose funeral was celebrated last week at Divine Child Church in Dearborn:

“The outpouring of sympathy and condolences following the death of **John Dingell** in no small way exemplifies the extent to which ‘The Dean’ influenced so many in this state and the nation’s capital. His efforts in Congress on behalf of working-class people in Dearborn and metro-Detroit will remain unmatched for generations to come. I am particularly humbled by his motivation to find the common good and the manner by which he treated others, especially the poor and marginalized. To his wife Congresswoman Debbie Dingell and the rest of the Dingell family, Michigan Catholic Conference offers its prayers for the repose of the soul of one of America’s most influential and memorable public servants.”



Mass Times When Traveling

Your membership in the Catholic Church gives you privileges to worship with any Catholic Community world wide. While on your vacation or traveling, websites like masstimes.org and thecatholicdirectory.com make it easy to find a mass.

50’s Trivia

The Regina High School Alumnae Association is hosting a trivia night on Saturday, March 2, 2019. The cost is \$20 per person and there will be eight people per table. Pizza and salad are included but participants can bring drinks and other snacks for their table to share. This event is 21+, only. Visit reginahs.com/trivia-night to register before February 22nd.

The theme of the night is 50’s, but all questions are general trivia. Fifties attire is encouraged and the team with the best costumes wins a prize! Contact Emily Frikken ’09 at efrikken@reginahs.com