

# ST. AMBROSE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Very Rev. Andrew J. Fisher, V.F., Pastor  
 Rev. Christopher Hayes, Parochial Vicar  
 Rev. Stefan Starzynski, In Residence

**October 7, 2018 – Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**

## Sacramental Information

**Baptism:** First-time, expectant parents must attend a prior instruction on the Sacrament of Baptism. Call the Parish Office to make the necessary arrangements. Baptisms are normally celebrated on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month following the 12:00 pm Mass.

**Matrimony:** Registered parishioners who wish to be married at St. Ambrose, or to be prepared for marriage in another parish, must, by diocesan policy, begin the required preparation at least six months prior to the proposed date for their marriage. Contact the parish Office for an appointment.

**Initiation of Adults and Children:** The Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA) is a process by which a person becomes initiated into the full sacramental life of the Catholic Church through weekly instruction. If you or someone you know would like to inquire about the life of Jesus Christ and the beliefs and teachings of His Church, please contact Mrs. Laura Mead in the Office of Religious Education. 703-280-1122

**Sick Calls:** Contact the parish office to schedule visits to the sick or homebound, for the Sacraments of Penance, the Eucharist and the Anointing of the Sick.

**Returning to the Church:** If you are Catholic and returning to the sacraments, or to the practice of the faith, we welcome you back! If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact a priest at the parish office or after Sunday Mass. We are happy to help you come back home to the Catholic Church.

**Parish Membership:** Parish Membership is necessary for Baptism, Matrimony, or Sacramental Sponsor Forms. **In order for a Sponsor Form to be issued, one must be a registered/participating member of the Parish for at least three months.** Please notify the office of any changes on your registration form, telephone number, address, temporary absence, etc. Registration forms are available in the parish office or the vestibule of the Church.

## Parish Office

3901 Woodburn Road  
 Annandale, VA 22003

**Phone:** 703-280-4400

**Website:** [www.stambroseva.org](http://www.stambroseva.org)

**E-mail Address:**

[dvasilakos@stambroseva.org](mailto:dvasilakos@stambroseva.org)

## Office Hours:

Mon. – Fri.: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm  
 Donna Vasilakos, Parish Secretary  
 Laura Cameron, Receptionist

## Religious Education

Laura Mead 703-280-1122  
[lmead@stambroseva.org](mailto:lmead@stambroseva.org)

## Business Manager

Carla Yaglou 703-280-4400  
[businessmanager@stambroseva.org](mailto:businessmanager@stambroseva.org)

## Director of Music

Don Cotton 703-698-0374  
[dcotton@stambroseva.org](mailto:dcotton@stambroseva.org)

## Parish School

3827 Woodburn Road  
 Annandale, VA 22003

**Phone:** 703-698-7171

**Website:** [www.stambroseschool.org](http://www.stambroseschool.org)

**E-mail Address:**

[info@stambroseschool.org](mailto:info@stambroseschool.org)

## Principal:

Angela Rowley  
[principal@stambroseschool.org](mailto:principal@stambroseschool.org)

## Youth Ministry

Therese Ryan 703-280-4400  
[cym@stambroseva.org](mailto:cym@stambroseva.org)

## Plant & Facilities Manager

Paul Moeller 703-280-4400  
[facilities@stambroseva.org](mailto:facilities@stambroseva.org)

## Mass Schedule

**Sunday Vigil:** ..... 5:00 pm, Saturday

**Sunday:** ..... 8:00, 10:00 am & 12:00 pm

## Weekdays:

Monday - Friday.....7:00 & 9:00 am

Saturday ..... 9:00 am

**Holy Days:**.....as announced

## Sacrament of Penance

Saturday: ..... 9:30 am & 3:00 - 4:00 pm

## Miraculous Medal Novena

After 9:00 am Saturday Mass

## Adoration

Following 9:00 am Mass First Fridays until 3:30 pm **Benediction**

**This Week's Masses and Intentions**

<b>Monday</b>	<b>October 8: Weekday</b>
7:00am	The Reverend Richard Kuhn †
9:00am	Joseph Monachino †
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>October 9: Wkdy; St. Denis, Bishop, and Companions, Martyrs, St. John Leondari, Priest</b>
7:00am	Wallace & Jean Harb †
9:00am	Joseph Monachino †
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>October 10: Weekday</b>
7:00am	Alice Bolognesi †
9:00am	The Greenhut Family
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>October 11: Wkdy; St. John XXIII, Pope</b>
7:00am	Jacqueline Sanchez Harris †
9:00am	Janet O'Hagan Bushman †
<b>Friday</b>	<b>October 12: Weekday</b>
7:00am	Kelly Elder
9:00am	Carolyn Roman †
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>October 13: Weekday, BVM</b>
9:00am	Stan Urynowski †
5:00pm	George & Louella Roman †
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>October 14: Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
8:00am	People of the Parish
10:00am	Elias Fondufe †
12:00Noon	Dr. Juan J. (Pepe) Blanco †

*October 6-7 is our Diaper Drive.  
October 20-21 is our Food Collection.  
Thank you for your generosity and support.*

**Please Pray For The Ill Of The Parish**

Irene Anderson, Moises Avila, Suzanne Bercier, Nancy Blanco, Carole Boland, Elliott Bloxom, Norinne Browning, Louise Chevalier, Jo Couch, Josephine Crosby, James & Joan Dooley, Conor Doyle, Rosie Ekshian, Michael Everard, Janet Gaydos, Natalie & Ed Habert, Helen Hargenrader, Mia Fernanda Hernandez, Amy Hobbs, Betty Hunt, Neil Keefe, Edwin Keitz, Frank Killelea, Robert Kolbys, James Robert Lewis, Stacey Lindholm, Vicki Lorenc, Jim Kenna, Audrey Martinez, Raymond Mele, La Davian Mills, Arvilla Moyers, Miguel and Julita Pascual, Charles Peck, Bayne Rector, Kristin Rector, Maddie Respicio-Cabatic, Fr. Paul Richardson, Joan Robair, Constance Ross, Juanita Roque, John Rivoire, Virginia Rotunno, Amelia Sanares, Chase Schradder, Father Spsychala, Laura Sutherland, Father Tewes, Joe Rannazzisi, Iliana Santiago, Len Trahan, Arya Vivar, Vivian Vu, Deborah Young

**Parish Schedule of Events**  
*CH- Church, PH-Parish Hall,  
PL-Parish Library, SCH-School*

<b>Monday</b>	<b>October 8—Parish Office Closed</b>
<i>No Events Scheduled</i>	
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>October 9</b>
7:30pm	Knights of Columbus Meeting (PL)
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>October 10</b>
10:00am	Bible Study (PH)
7:00pm	Bible Study (PL)
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>October 11</b>
7:00pm	Lightworks (PL)
<b>Friday</b>	<b>October 12</b>
9:30am	WSA Coffee
10:30am	Bible Group (PL)
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>October 13</b>
9:00am	Mass and Novena to Our Lady Of the Miraculous Medal (Church)
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>October 14</b>
1:00-4:00pm	Parish Picnic at St. Ambrose

*The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, October 8, in observation of the Columbus Day Holiday. It will reopen on Tuesday morning at 9am.*

*The flowers by Our Lady of Fatima are in memory of the deceased members of the Hores family.*

**Please Pray For Your Priests**

October 8	Rev. Patrick Holyroyd
October 9	Rev. Edward R. Horkan
October 10	Rev. Jose Eugenio Hoyos
October 11	Rev. James C. Hudgins
October 12	Rev. Michael C. Isenberg
October 13	Rev. Joel D. Jaffe
October 14	Rev. John D. Kelly

**ST. AMBROSE PARISH PICNIC WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2018  
1 PM TO 4 PM**

**See Flyer inside for details**  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b44a4ad283-parish>

**Saint Ambrose Catholic School**

**Mission Statement**

"Fostering a faith-filled and academically strong environment, Saint Ambrose Catholic School works with families and the faith community to encourage the formation of the whole child through the examples and teachings of Jesus Christ."



Our school will be closed on Monday, October 8 in observance of Columbus Day. On Friday, our 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders will take a field trip to Hemlock Overlook, for some adventure and team-building.

Next Saturday evening our PTO is sponsoring a wine-tasting event. Please plan on joining us as we become "sommeliers" for the evening! More details are in this bulletin.

We are very excited for our parish picnic next Sunday. Our PTO will be running some of the games and we look forward to enjoying some fun, friends and food!

We are delighted that we are able to offer several of our students some financial assistance, and that is in part thanks to the generosity of our tuition angels. If you can spare a little – or a lot – to help give a child the gift of a Catholic education, we would be most grateful. You can find a tuition angel sponsor form at the following: <http://stambroseschool.org/wp-content/uploads/Tuition-Angel-sponsor-form2018.pdf>

Have a blessed week.



**PRO LIFE CORNER**

**TODAY IS RESPECT LIFE SUNDAY!**

The essence of our identity is that we are created in God's image and likeness and loved by him. Nothing can diminish the priceless worth of any human life. Every person is cherished. We are called to be messengers of God's love, treating one another as cherished and chosen by Him. In doing so, we help build a culture that respects all human life. "You who are my messenger, in you I place my absolute trust." Our Lady of Guadalupe

The 40 Days For Life Campaign continues through November 4th. You're invited to join other St Ambrose parishioners to pray for an end to abortion. Please join us in the public right-of-way outside Falls Church Healthcare at 900 S. Washington Street, Falls Church on Wednesday afternoons from 1-3 PM. It has been reported that abortion facilities have fewer numbers show up when people are praying out front. So please come and pray, and be a part of the movement to save lives. Your presence will make a difference. If you cannot attend, please consider offering up your prayers for the unborn, the families and the conversion of those working at the abortion facility.

Devotional Guides for 40 Days for Life will be in the church office. Please stop by and pick one up. For more information call Donna Hores at 703-354-5280.

Holy Hour Sponsored by Project Rachel. (The 2nd Tuesday of each month) Tuesday, October 9th, 7:30 P.M. St. Mary of Sorrows Historic Catholic Church in Fairfax, Virginia. Adoration is so powerful as we place our intentions before God. Please come join this inspirational service in the beautiful chapel of St. Mary's Church.

**St. Ambrose YOUTH MINISTRY**

For information on all youth ministry events, check our website at [www.stambroseva.org](http://www.stambroseva.org)

It takes a Church...Interested in participating/volunteering?

Contact Director of Youth Ministry: Therese Ryan [cym@stambroseva.org](mailto:cym@stambroseva.org)



**Walking humbly with our God...**

**\*Please pray for our young Church who are:**

- Preparing to be Confirmed!
- Growing in holy friendships!
- Preparing for their summer 2019 pilgrimage to Rome w/Fr. Fisher!
- Seeking TRUTH by attending Rel Ed classes and God Squad!
- Serving God and their neighbor at Weekend WorkCamp each month!
- Striving to live the Sacramental life!

This is...THE POWER of YOUR LIFE IN CHRIST in action!

**WeekendWorkCamp**

Sat. Oct. 13th

Works of Mercy & donuts!

7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders 8:45-12:30pm Parish Hall

**\*\*\*High School Youth Ministry\*\*\***

**God Squad Sunday Evenings 5:45- 8pm gym!**

**Sunday October 7<sup>th</sup>-A Pilgrimage shared/Dinner**

**Sunday October 14<sup>th</sup>- Parish Picnic**

**And then a movie night...**

**Sunday October 21<sup>st</sup>-Diocesan Rally @ O'Connell**

**Sunday, Oct.28 -Back From The Dead Cemetery Walk Emmitsburg**

**\*\*\*JR HIGH YOUTH MINISTRY\*\*\***

**Jr High IGNITE- For all 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders! Sunday,**

**Oct.28 -Back From The Dead**

**Cemetery Walk Emmitsburg**

**\*Kolbe's Kids\*- Our Lady's Little Army**

**Mondays 3:15-4:45pm PHL 9/17-5/20**

**\*Faith\*Fun\*Friendship\*Service\*With Our Lady!**

**(\*Service Hours Opportunity)**

**Religious Education**



*"Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth Your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth."*

**Religious Education News**

Do you need a way to get involved in our parish? Then consider becoming a religious education volunteer catechist or aide! Catechists and aides are people who love their Catholic faith, can work with children, and are willing to dedicate a few hours each week to their faith formation.

We are currently in need of the following volunteer positions for the 2018-2019 Religious Education Calendar:

**Sunday (8:45 – 9:45)**  
Catechists for Kindergarten  
Aides for K, 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8  
Hall Monitors

All volunteers MUST become VIRTUS compliant.

**REGISTRATION for Religious Education.**

Grades K-HS: Sunday 8:45am-9:45am

Grades 7-8: Monday 7pm-8pm

For information, please contact:  
Lmead@stambroseva.org

**Are you interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith?**

Join us for RCIA classes  
Monday evenings from  
7pm-8pm  
in the Parish Hall

To inquire about the life, beliefs, and teachings of the Catholic Church or to register for RCIA you are invited to contact:

Laura Mead, Director of Religious Education  
703-280-1122; Lmead@stambroseva.org



**JOIN US for the Study of the Book of Acts**

The Acts of the Apostles provides us more than a history of the First Christians - it is the story about the Early Church with the Holy Spirit as the protagonist. Christ did not leave His Apostles alone - He sent the Holy Spirit to guide, instruct and equip them. Enrich and deepen your faith as you learn how the Apostles continued Christ's mission on earth through the Power of the Holy Spirit.

Join us for *Acts: The Spread of the Kingdom*  
There will be two sessions :

**The morning session is 10 am—noon**  
**The evening session is 7 pm—8:30 pm**

There are **20 sessions**, so the study will run until sometime in March.

If you are interested the preferred method of registration is by using the link below to order your binder of material. If you prefer, you may register with me. The cost is \$35.00.

<https://ascensionpress.com/studies/30862/registrations/new>

Contact: Laura Mead at 703-280-1122 or  
[Lmead@stambroseva.org](mailto:Lmead@stambroseva.org)

**FORMED.org**  
THE CATHOLIC FAITH.  
ON DEMAND.



Discover the Incredible Story of Our Lady of Fatima! When the world was torn apart by persecution, war, and oppression, three children in Fatima, Portugal were chosen by God to offer an urgent message of hope. The film, *The 13th Day*, dramatizes the true story of the six apparitions of Our Lady between May and October 1917, which culminated in the final prophesied Miracle of the Sun on October 13.

Looking for an easy way to educate yourself and explore your faith? Formed is a website designed for you — movies, presentations, podcasts, audiobooks, etc. Sign up now! [www.stambroseva.formed.org](http://www.stambroseva.formed.org)



October 7, 2018

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Times

**Please join the Women of St. Ambrose for Coffee and Fellowship** after the 9am Mass on Friday, October 12, in the Parish Hall. Feel free to bring a friend!

**Memorial Mass for the Deceased,**  
**Saturday, November 3, 2018,**  
**9 a.m.**

Parishioners who have deceased family members and relatives between November 2017 and October 2018 are invited to attend the Memorial Mass and reception hosted by the Bereavement Group and the Women of St. Ambrose, on Saturday, November 3, 2018 at 9 a.m. Invitations will be mailed by October 15, 2018 to families whose loss we are aware of. If you have lost a family member since November 2017, and would like to add a name or names of the deceased to the program, attend the Memorial Mass and reception or if you need more information about the Memorial Mass, please call **Cory Elder at 703-425-9857 or email [cory.elder@verizon.net](mailto:cory.elder@verizon.net)**. You can also call the parish office at 703-280-4400 to add a name or names of your deceased family member. **Please respond by Tuesday, October 30, 2018.**

***The Refiner's Fire***

***Being Purified With – and For – the Church***

The 20th Annual Men's Day of Recollection in honor of Christ the King. Sponsored by the Women's Apostolate to Youth for the sake of Christ's little ones.

**Rev. Paul D. Scalia**

**Saturday, October 27, 2018, 9:15am–1:15pm**  
**St. John the Beloved Catholic Church beginning in Parish Hall (located in the School) 6420 Linway Terrace, McLean**

Contact Robin Maas at [robinmaas@verizon.net](mailto:robinmaas@verizon.net). Or go to [www.waywomen.com](http://www.waywomen.com) or send a check, payable to WAY to Jennifer Lawler, 5464 Mersea Ct., Burke, VA 22015.

**Sunday, October 21, 2018, Religious Freedom and the U.W. Justice System.** St. Mark Catholic Church, Cassidy Activity Center, 9970, Vale Road, Vienna, VA 22181. Wine and Cheese social beginning at 7:00pm. For more information contact [www.stmark.org](http://www.stmark.org).

**Please hold the date!**

**The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a Men's Retreat for all men of St. Ambrose, on Saturday, October 20, 2018.**

The Retreat will begin with 9:00AM Mass, followed by a light breakfast, talks by Father Hayes, and ending with Eucharistic Adoration and Confession from 1-2 PM. Lunch will be provided. The Retreat is open to all men 18 years of age or older. Please plan to join us for prayer, fellowship, and an opportunity to learn more about our Catholic Faith and how to live that faith in our daily lives.

**St. Ambrose Fall Wine Tasting.** Please join us for "**Great Wine and Great Times**" at the St. Ambrose Fall Wine Tasting on **Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the School Gym.** Catch up with old friends and make new ones, learn more about the wines you enjoy, munch on hors d'oeuvres, and bring home a commemorative St. Ambrose wine glass! Come try your hand at blind tasting 10 wines, play fun trivia, vote for your favorite desserts, and win prizes.

**Tickets are \$25 per person and \$45 per couple. Checks can be sent to the school.**

**Post-Abortion Healing Retreat for Women:** An Entering Canaan Day of Prayer & Healing for women who have experienced abortion will be held **on Saturday, October 13, 2018.**

Come begin your healing journey and experience God's hope and mercy. You are not alone. There is hope. There is healing. For more information and confidential registration, please contact Project Rachel Ministry at **888-456-HOPE (4673)** or [info@helpafterabortion.org](mailto:info@helpafterabortion.org).

**Mass for Homeschool Families.** Homeschool families are invited to celebrate Mass with Bishop Burbidge at Holy Trinity Parish on Friday, October 19, 2018, at 10:00 am. You are encouraged to bring a picnic lunch for your family after the Mass. A light reception of beverages and desserts will be provided.

October 7, 2018

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Times

### Invitation to Join!!!

**Legion of Mary.** Put your faith into action! Come be a visitation person! Visit our Legion of Mary meeting. Monday mornings at 9:45am in the Parish Library.

**Rosary Makers** meet the 1st Tuesday of every month after the 9am Mass. The next meeting is Tuesday, November 6, 2018 in the Parish Library.

**Knitting Group** meets the 4th Tuesday of every month after the 9am Mass. The next meeting is Tuesday, October 23, 2018 in the Parish Library.

**Women of St. Ambrose (WSA)** meet the 2nd Friday of every month after the 9am Mass. The next meeting will be Friday, October 12, 2018 in the Parish Hall.

**Bible Study Group** meets every Friday from 10:30 to noon in the Parish Library. We discuss the upcoming Sunday's gospel reading. No prior reading required—please drop in as your schedule permits. Leader is Vee Murray and email is bobveeM@aol.com.

**Knitting/Crochet Group** meets the first Friday of every month at **6:00pm** in the Parish Library. The next meeting will take place on Friday, November 2, 2018.

**Support our Runners in Race for Seminarian.** St. Ambrose parishioners Jeff McCormack (Marine Corps Marathon) and Carol Petroski (Marine Corps 10K) will be running on October 28th to support the Seminarians of the Arlington Diocese. Please consider making a donation in their name to defray the cost of educating the seminarians in our diocese. We are blessed to have two St. Ambrose parishioners (Jeff Petroski and Ryan Switzer) who will greatly benefit from your contribution as well as other seminarians who may one day serve at St. Ambrose. Thanks for your consideration.

Use the following link to make a donation online: <https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/vocations/support/race-for-seminarians/>. Or make a check payable to Catholic Diocese of Arlington with a short note specifying you are pledging Jeff McCormack and/or Carol Petroski for the race on October 28th and mail to:

Catholic Diocese of Arlington, Race for Seminarians, PO Box 1960, Merrifield, VA 22116-1960

**The Paul Stefan Home Presents its 11th Annual Black-tie Optional Gala "I Can Only Imagine" on Saturday, November 10th, 2018 at The Waterford at Fair Oaks, 12025 Lee Jackson memorial Highway, Fairfax, VA 22033.** Cocktail Hour is from 6:00pm—7:00pm, with Complementary Wine and Appetizers. Dinner will be at 7:00 pm. Auction, Raffle, DJ, and Dancing!!! To purchase tickets, select dinner, sponsor a table, or sponsor this event go to: [www.paulstefanhome.org](http://www.paulstefanhome.org).

**PRIME TIME SINGLE CATHOLICS** invites single Catholics 40 and over to attend their Annual Dinner Dance from 5:30 pm to 11:00 pm on Saturday, November 17. For details, see their website: [bit.ly/ptsc](http://bit.ly/ptsc), or email [ptscnva@gmail.com](mailto:ptscnva@gmail.com).

### SEPARATED? DIVORCED? WIDOWED?

The Coping Program helps people who are separated, divorced, or widowed who are still dealing with the trauma of that loss. The six week program starts Sunday, October 14 and meets Sunday evenings 6:00—8:00pm at St. Philip Catholic Church in Falls Church, Virginia. Please contact Gerri Ellenberger at 703-670-4845 for more information or go to <http://www.copingrebuilding.com>.

**Divine Mercy Care's 2018 Blooms of Joy Gala** The pro-life non-profit Divine Mercy Care will be holding its annual Gala on November 10th at 6pm at the Hilton Washington Dulles Airport Hotel. The Gala helps support DMC's mission to advance pro-life healthcare through programs that serve, inspire, and unify. DMC's primary program is support for Tepeyac OB/GYN, one of the largest private pro-life OB/GYNs in the nation. Gala tickets are \$150 for individuals before Oct 10th and \$175 starting Oct 11th. Table sponsorships start at \$2,000. Register or donate towards the event at [divinemerccare.org/gala](http://divinemerccare.org/gala). If you can help by giving auction items like sports tickets or vacation homes, contact [info@divinemerccare.org](mailto:info@divinemerccare.org).

### Future with Hope Women's Conference.

For Catholic women 40+. October 12-13, 2018 at St. Agnes Catholic Church in Arlington, VA. Learn more at [www.futurewithhopewomen.com](http://www.futurewithhopewomen.com), email [info@futurewithhopewomen.com](mailto:info@futurewithhopewomen.com), or call 703-863-3940.

# Parish Picnic

**Sunday, October 14, 2018 From 1PM to 4PM**

**Please bring a side dish, snack, or  
dessert to share**

**Families with last name A-L: please bring a  
Side Dish/Salad: (macaroni salad, coleslaw, potato  
salad, broccoli salad, etc.)**

**Families with last name M-V: please bring a  
Scrumptious Dessert or Fruit**

**Families with the last name W-Z: please bring at least 2  
bags of chips or salty snacks**

## **Picnic Food & Activities:**

**Burgers, Hot Dogs, Brats, popcorn, cotton candy,  
snow cones, moon bounce, relay races, board games, pony rides,  
petting zoo, and much more.**

**Many volunteers are needed. Please use the link below to signup**

**<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b44a4ad283-parish>**

**This is a great time for Parish families  
to get together for food and fellowship.**

**Please invite your children and  
grandchildren. Also, don't forget to  
bring a blanket and chairs since there  
is limited seating!**



**Church  
Picnic**





# Men's Spiritual Retreat

Saturday, October 20th, beginning with 9AM  
Mass

Seeking the Truth  
with Retreat Leader  
**Reverend Christopher Hayes**  
Parochial Vicar, Saint Ambrose Parish

Open to all men - bring a friend

Morning Refreshments and Lunch provided

St. Ambrose Parish, 3901 Woodburn Road, Annandale, VA  
Organized by St. Ambrose Knights of Columbus Council 8403

Please direct questions to [michaelcoss09@gmail.com](mailto:michaelcoss09@gmail.com)





**I**n 1531, when the indigenous peoples of Mexico were subjugated and the practice of human sacrifice was still a recent memory, the Mother of God appeared to St. Juan Diego as a pregnant native woman, now known as Our Lady of Guadalupe.

She sent him with miraculous flowers in his cloak to tell the bishop to build a church where people could receive her Son and her loving, tender care. When St. Juan Diego opened the cloak before the bishop, an image of Our Lady was revealed that remains to this day. The chapel was quickly built, millions embraced Christianity, and the Church increased its protection of the indigenous peoples.

By embracing the mission entrusted to him, St. Juan Diego helped bring Christ's transforming love to cultures gripped by oppression and death.

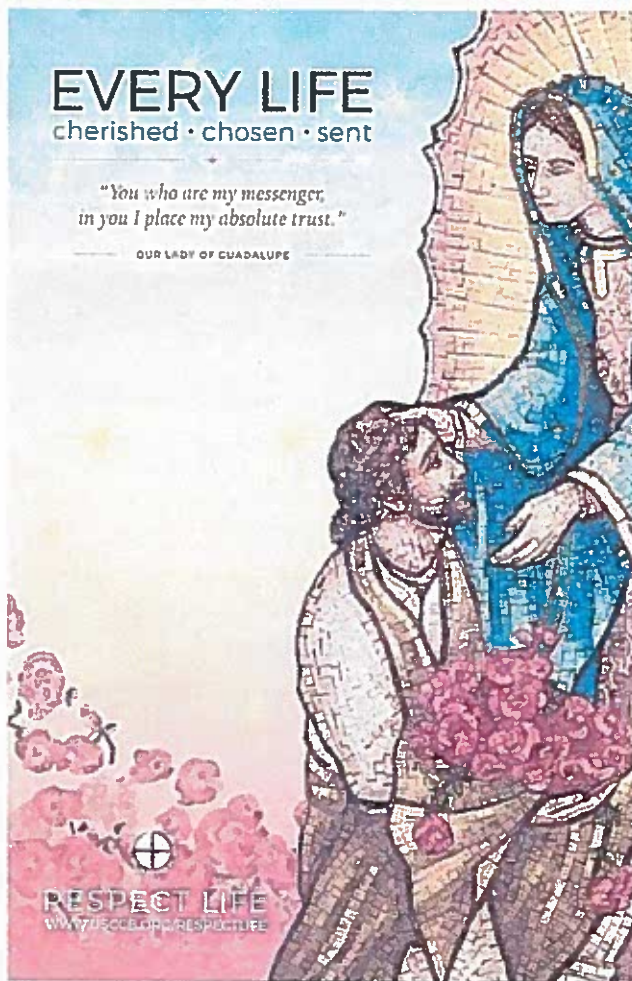
Today, we again see the dignity of human life disregarded. Unborn children are destroyed through abortion, and ill people are encouraged and assisted to take their own lives. How do we respond?

The essence of our identity is that we are created in God's image and likeness and loved by Him. Nothing can diminish the priceless worth of any human life. Every person is *cherished*.

God creates every person for eternal union with Himself and continually invites us to embrace a loving relationship with Him. Every person is *chosen*.

We are called to be messengers of God's love, treating one another as cherished and chosen by Him. In doing so, we help build a culture that respects all human life. Every person is *sent*.

Like St. Juan Diego, let us embrace our daily mission to help others encounter God's transforming, life-giving love.



**RESPECT LIFE**  
[WWW.USCCB.ORG/RESPECTLIFE](http://WWW.USCCB.ORG/RESPECTLIFE)

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