

**Saint Ambrose Parish**  
C/O P.O. Box 617  
Avonmore, PA 15618

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### Dear Parishioners,

The safety and health of every member of our parish have been in my daily prayers as together we continue to face the ups and downs of the pandemic. Many of you, I know, have endured great pain and personal loss, not to mention the numerous concerns that have developed as the pandemic has imposed an ongoing struggle with fear and isolation in many people's lives. Still today, there is the ongoing uncertainty of what is next.

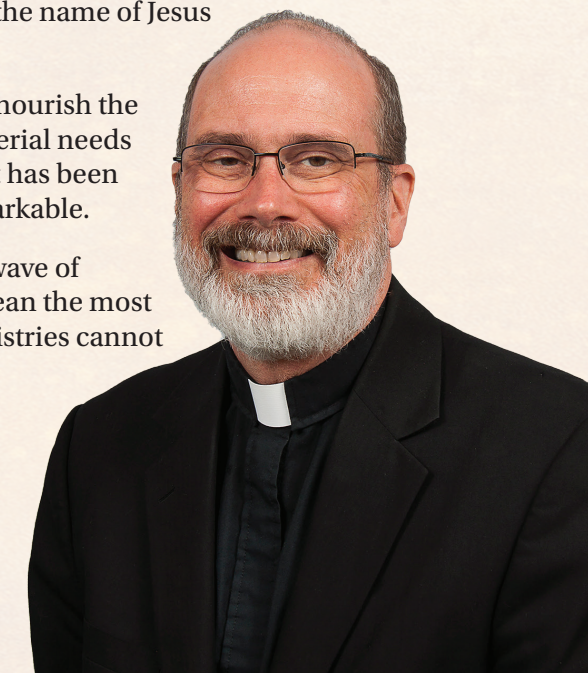
I hope you have been comforted by our local and Diocesan outreach through streaming Masses and commitment to get things to the "new normal" in the parishes. There were also special collections to support mission work at home and around the world, food drives to help the hungry, and volunteers who cleaned and sanitized our churches to protect our at-risk parishioners, and Father John and our eucharistic ministers have gotten back to doing Communion calls. Deacon Craig will begin doing these soon. These are just a few examples of the outpouring of love we saw in the name of Jesus Christ throughout the pandemic.

I want you to know that through it all, Saint Ambrose Parish has continued to nourish the seeds of faith that have been planted, seeking to care for the spiritual and material needs of our entire parish community. The good news in all of this is that the harvest has been bountiful! In fact, the support provided by you, the faithful, has been just remarkable.

As excited as I am about the impact of our outreach, I also realize that a tidal wave of need is still on the horizon. Economic uncertainty and continued isolation mean the most vulnerable among us will need us now more than ever. Our missions and ministries cannot continue to meet that need without your help.

I want to sincerely thank you for all that you have given to our parish either financially or with your time. Remember, your contributions keep this parish vibrant and impactful. Please remember your parish this year, and prayerfully consider increasing your stewardship (time, talent and financial) so we can continue God's work.

*Yours in Christ,*  
**Father John J. Harrold**



Growing Support for our  
**FAITH**  
Community



**Saint Ambrose Parish Annual Report 2021**

## Flowers that Feed the Soul: Our Ministry Listing

Please keep in mind that to volunteer in the parish you need to have the six Diocesan child protection clearances. If you don't have them, we will be happy to help you get them. These can be easily accessed and completed online. Everyone over the age of 18 should have these clearances because we all should be involved in the work of the parish.

- Altar Servers
- Adult Altar Servers
- Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
- Lectors
- Ministry of Hospitality
- Liturgy Decorating Volunteers
- Partner Parish Pastoral Parish Council
- Finance Council Member
- Facilities Committee — Painting, Electrical, Carpentry/Construction, Concrete Work, Grounds/Landscaping, Gen. Maintenance
- Altar Rosary Society
- Bereavement Committee
- Martha Ministry (NEW)
- Baking or Preparing a Dish for Parish Functions
- Parish Office Helpers
- St. Vincent de Paul Society
- Knights of Columbus
- Saint Ambrose Food Pantry
- Fundraising Volunteers



# Cultivate the Garden Within: Capital Improvements



Your contributions to our parish help maintain the facility, making it the center of prayer in our community. Last year, I sent you our State of the Parish Report, which provided detailed information about how we are working to grow support for our faith community and facilities. It highlighted that over the last three years, we completed combining the partner parish offices at Saint

Ambrose rectory, replacing the cracked and unlevel sidewalks and front steps, improving the lighting in church, fixing the water problems and replacing the floor in the social hall and kitchen, and improving some of the landscaping. This year we hope to get the outside of the church windows painted and fix the plaster problems on the church ceiling and in the choir loft.

## Parish Financials

	2020-21	2019-20	2018-19
<b>Offertory</b>	\$ 83,008	\$ 91,032	\$ 85,867
<b>Other Ordinary Income</b> <i>(monthly collections, votive candles)</i>	892	445	5
<b>Extraordinary Income</b> <i>(bequests, donations, fundraising, interest, rental income)</i>	5,091	4,820	76,589
<b>Diocesan Lenten Appeal Refund</b>	-	4,272	2,413
<b>Other Non-Assessable Income</b> <i>(The Catholic Accent, sale of property, insurance reimbursements, and PPP Loan)</i>	5,368	61,218	4,917
<b>Special Collections</b>	3,860	3,558	4,452
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>\$ 98,219</u>	<u>\$ 165,345</u>	<u>\$ 174,243</u>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Administration	\$ 29,467	\$ 53,812	\$ 32,582
Church	9,464	13,023	14,301
Rectory	2,991	4,243	4,304
Education and Ministry	10,295	15,941	15,852
General Expenses	39,780	46,784	36,845
Special Collections	3,870	3,815	4,657
Extraordinary Expenses	3,458	26,862	69,694
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<u>99,325</u>	<u>164,480</u>	<u>178,235</u>
<b>Net Operating Income (Loss)</b>	<u>\$ (1,106)</u>	<u>\$ 865</u>	<u>\$ (3,992)</u>

## Our Garden



### Registered Households

2021: 136  
2020: 139  
2019: 134

### Single Member Households

51



### Baptisms

2021: 0  
2020: 0  
2019: 5

### Weddings

2021: 1  
2020: 1  
2019: 2



### Funerals

2021: 11  
2020: 6  
2019: 9



## Weathering COVID-19

Just as God has provided for you, you have provided for our parish. Your investment is like the tilling of the soil, helping us to grow stronger. Despite the pandemic, our parish offertory remained strong, primarily due to the generosity of some of our parishioners, but it was also assisted by some parishioners beginning to use online giving. Sadly, we still have about 21% of the parish who do not financially support the parish.

As I am sure you can imagine, our parish had to adapt in our fundraising activities. Last year, our dinners were takeout only, and we did very well. Our raffle tickets and candy bar sales have also been successful. We were happy to have our Peach Festival this year in the social hall. Please keep an eye on the bulletin and parish website for upcoming fundraisers.



## Ways You Can Give



**BY MAIL:**  
Saint Ambrose Parish  
C/O P.O. Box 617  
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**IN PERSON:**  
Monday, Tuesday,  
Thursday, Friday  
9:00AM - 1:00PM



**ONLINE:**  
[partnerparishesmas.org](http://partnerparishesmas.org)

