The Parish is Served by
Rev. Jack C. Grimes
Pastor
Rev. Jack O’Kane
Parochial Vicar
Deacon Thomas Yondolino
Dr. Theodore Kadela, Ph.D.
Principal
Mrs. Joan Abitabile
Parish Office Manager
Mrs. Maggie Zmigrodska
Parish Catechetical Leader
Mrs. Kathy Abair
Parish Catechetical Leader
Mrs. Margaret Kmiec
Music Director, Organist & Wedding Coordinator

~ A Welcoming Community Of Faith In The Heart Of Old Bridge ~

Parish Office Hours and Contact Information
Monday through Friday 9:00AM-12:00 Noon & 1:00PM-4:00PM
Parish Office Phone: 732-679-5666; Parish Fax: 732-679-0853
Religious Education Office: 732-679-5580
Social Ministry-St. Vincent DePaul Society: 732-679-5666

School Information
School Phone: 732-679-4700; School Fax: 732-679-6062
School Website: www.stambroseschool.net
Lee Ann Bocanegra, School Office Manager
Palm Sunday
Of The Lord’s Passion
SATURDAY, MARCH 19
5:00PM— Rudy Valazza req. Wife, Ann & Family

SUNDAY, MARCH 20
7:30AM— John R. Graziano req. The Tortorici Family
9:00AM— Robert R. Rahner req. The Rahner Family
10:30AM— John Krenkel req. The seniors of Old Bridge
12:00NOON— Alfonso Fazzolari req. Wife Melina & Children

MONDAY, MARCH 21
6:30AM— Marion Favara req. Pat & Andy Kudla
9:00AM - John O’Neill req. John Corrigan

TUESDAY, MARCH 22
6:30AM - John Todd req. Bernice Todd
9:00AM - Rose Leone req. Rosemary & Joe Mulanerton

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23
6:30AM - Mary Koutnik req. Joan Edgeworth
9:00AM— Barbara O’Hara req. Peggy O’Hara

THURSDAY, MARCH 24
7:30PM— John Droz req. The Abitabile Family

FRIDAY, MARCH 25
3:00PM - Passion of Our Lord & Communion
7:00PM - Divine Mercy Novena and Chaplet
7:30PM— Stations of the Cross

SATURDAY, MARCH 26
12:00NOON— Easter Food Blessing
8:30PM— People of the Parish, living & deceased

SUNDAY, MARCH 27
7:30AM— People of the parish, living & deceased
9:00AM— Edward Sapp req. Irene Sobolewski
10:30AM— Edith Ianelli req. John Corrigan
12:00NOON— Christopher McGinty, Jr. req. The Tardo Family

Saint Ambrose Parish
The collection for March 6th was $15,052.08
The building fund collection was $3,849.00
Thank you for your generous support!

PRAYER FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH
I salute Thee, I adore Thee, and I love Thee, O adorable face of Jesus, the Beloved, noble seal of Divinity; with all the powers of my soul I apply myself to Thee, and most humbly pray Thee to imprint in us all of the features of Thy divine likeness...Amen

Palm Sunday
“I tell you, Peter, before the cock crows this day, you will deny three times that you know me. “ (LUKE 22:34)
How many times have you heard someone make a disparaging comment about Jesus or the Catholic faith? How do you react? Do you remain quiet not to cause a disturbance or worst yet, because you don’t want your friends or family to think negatively about you? Pray for the courage to speak up and enter into a respectful dialogue.

WEDDING BANNS II
Anthony Dietrick and Holly Mannucci

WEDDING BANNS I
Alexandria LaRocca & Arthur Pereira

EASTER FLOWERS
If you would like to donate flowers for the altar for Easter in memory of a loved one please contact Peggy O’Hara (732) 679-4608 or Trudy Lange (732) 679-8897.

BEREAVEMENT GROUP
If you or someone you know has suffered a loss of a loved one, attending our Bereavement Group is a place where you can begin to heal. Please call the parish office at 732-679-5666 for more information. There is no fee but registration is required. Meetings will be held in the St. Anthony room beginning on April 14th (6:30pm-8:00pm) and will run for 9 sessions.

Please pray for the men and women in the service, both home and abroad, caregivers, for those in need of God’s graces, and for world peace.

Palm Sunday

~~PARISH & SCHOOL NEWS~~

GIFT AUCTION

Find your treasure at our Tropical Seas Gift Auction sponsored by the St. Ambrose Home School Association.

When: April 15, 2016

Time: Door Open at 5:30 pm

Where: St. Ambrose School Auditorium

Featuring over 200 prize baskets including a 50” smart TV, laptop, Disney Passes, designer bags, gift cards local restaurants and retailers, housewares and so much more! Come and enjoy a great night out with friends and family. Admission including opening price level tickets is $30.00, Early Bird Special Ticket packages including admission are $60.00 (a $75.00 value).

Please contact Lisa O’Keefe: StAmbroseEvents@yahoo.com or 732-754-1475 for reservations. Seating is limited and this event will sell out. Call today to reserve your seat!

The Parish Office will be closed on Holy Thursday, March 24th, Good Friday, March 25th and Easter Monday, March 28th. The office will reopen on Tuesday, March 29th. The office will be opened from 9:00am-12:00 noon during Easter week.

There is NO BINGO on Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday!

The second collection this weekend is for the Fund of our Retired Diocesan Priests. This collection is exclusively for the benefit of our 29 retired priests, as well as our active priests upon their retirement. May your generosity to this collection reflect your gratitude and love of our retired priests who have been dedicated and faithful to their priesthood over the years.

Painting and Wine Social

Friday, April 22, 2016

St. Anthony Room

7-10 pm

21 years old and up

$45 per person- includes professional instruction (and all painting supplies), wine and snacks

Reservations required

Contact Kathleen at kathleenabs@aol.com or 732-251-5848

SPRING CALENDAR RAFFLE

The calendar raffle is back! The first drawing will be on April 3rd. Don’t miss out! Purchase your tickets after Mass or at the parish office. Each ticket is $20 and affords you the opportunity to win a cash prize of $500.00. The raffle will run for twelve weeks and you may win multiple times.

BAPTISM INSTRUCTION

There will be a baptism instruction class on Monday, March 28th at 7:30pm in the Parish Meeting Room in the school. Attendance is required for parents of children being baptized. Please enter the building through door #4.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK: If anyone is seriously ill at home, please notify the parish office. Do not wait until your loved one is at a critical point. The hospital visits are covered by each hospital’s own chaplains. Our priests are assigned to Old Bridge Hospital for Tuesday and Wednesday.

BAPTISM: The 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month at 1:30pm. Prior attendance at an instruction session for parents is required. Call the Parish Office to make arrangements as early as possible.

SACRAMENT OF Penance: Saturday: 4:00 – 4:45pm or by appointment

MARRIAGES: Arrangements must be made one year before the date of marriage.

~~PARISH & SCHOOL NEWS~~

Find your treasure at our Tropical Seas Gift Auction sponsored by the St. Ambrose Home School Association.

When: April 15, 2016

Time: Door Open at 5:30 pm

Where: St. Ambrose School Auditorium

Featuring over 200 prize baskets including a 50” smart TV, laptop, Disney Passes, designer bags, gift cards local restaurants and retailers, housewares and so much more! Come and enjoy a great night out with friends and family. Admission including opening price level tickets is $30.00, Early Bird Special Ticket packages including admission are $60.00 (a $75.00 value).

Please contact Lisa O’Keefe: StAmbroseEvents@yahoo.com or 732-754-1475 for reservations. Seating is limited and this event will sell out. Call today to reserve your seat!

The Parish Office will be closed on Holy Thursday, March 24th, Good Friday, March 25th and Easter Monday, March 28th. The office will reopen on Tuesday, March 29th. The office will be opened from 9:00am-12:00 noon during Easter week.

There is NO BINGO on Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday!

The second collection this weekend is for the Fund of our Retired Diocesan Priests. This collection is exclusively for the benefit of our 29 retired priests, as well as our active priests upon their retirement. May your generosity to this collection reflect your gratitude and love of our retired priests who have been dedicated and faithful to their priesthood over the years.

Painting and Wine Social

Friday, April 22, 2016

St. Anthony Room

7-10 pm

21 years old and up

$45 per person- includes professional instruction (and all painting supplies), wine and snacks

Reservations required

Contact Kathleen at kathleenabs@aol.com or 732-251-5848

SPRING CALENDAR RAFFLE

The calendar raffle is back! The first drawing will be on April 3rd. Don’t miss out! Purchase your tickets after Mass or at the parish office. Each ticket is $20 and affords you the opportunity to win a cash prize of $500.00. The raffle will run for twelve weeks and you may win multiple times.

BAPTISM INSTRUCTION

There will be a baptism instruction class on Monday, March 28th at 7:30pm in the Parish Meeting Room in the school. Attendance is required for parents of children being baptized. Please enter the building through door #4.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK: If anyone is seriously ill at home, please notify the parish office. Do not wait until your loved one is at a critical point. The hospital visits are covered by each hospital’s own chaplains. Our priests are assigned to Old Bridge Hospital for Tuesday and Wednesday.

BAPTISM: The 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month at 1:30pm. Prior attendance at an instruction session for parents is required. Call the Parish Office to make arrangements as early as possible.

SACRAMENT OF Penance: Saturday: 4:00 – 4:45pm or by appointment

MARRIAGES: Arrangements must be made one year before the date of marriage.
St. Ambrose Parish

remembers all Servicemen and women and all our Veterans,
active duty, retired, or those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

At St. Ambrose Parish, we take the time to remember all the brave
men and women who have risked their lives for the United States of
America, those who have served, and those who continue to serve.
As President Dwight Eisenhower said, "it is well for us to pause, to
acknowledge our debt to those who pay so large a share of freedom’s price". As we stand in grateful remembrance of their contri-
butions, we invite you to thank these men and women for keeping us
safe through their heroism and efforts. Today, say a special prayer
for them, their families and loved ones. Be sure to take the time to
say “thank you”, or give a warm handshake to an active duty soldier
or veteran. Most especially, please remember to pray for:

Danny Vorsky
Peter Guaracci
Matthew Cordova
Nicholas Stragazzi
Christian Stragazzi

VEHICLE DONATION TO BENEFIT ST. AMBROSE

Saint Ambrose Church is the beneficiary of a Qualified Vehi-
cle Donation Program made available through Stan Kocur of
PNJ Auto Wreckers

As a tax deductible donation, cars, trucks, vans, RVs, and boats
may be picked up at no cost to the donor. If you are interest-
ed in this program, or have a vehicle to donate, please call the
parish office at 732-679-5666 and speak to our secretary.

SAT CLASS

Ivy Masters Learning Center is offering a free SAT seminar for
parents on Sunday, March 20th, from 5:15 to 7:15 in the parish
room. SAT class will run 5:15 to 7:15 every Sunday from
April 3rd to May 29th. Cost is $675 and includes 18 hours of
instruction and materials. Late signups accepted. For more
information, call Paul Pscolka at 732-485-6480.

Memorials Available

If you would like to purchase memorials, kindly call the Parish
Office during business hours and we would be happy to ac-
commodate your request, based on date availability: (All re-
quests are for a one week time frame)

- Bread and Wine Offering $15.00
- Sanctuary Lamp and Altar Candle $15.00

With the redesign of our Altar, the following flower options
are available:

- Flowers for Blessed Mother $75.00
- Flowers for St. Joseph $75.00
- 2 altar arrangements $70.00/ea (med size)
- 2 altar arrangements $80.00/ea (lg size)
- 1 pulpit arrangement $75.00
- “Rose for the Unborn” $10.00

(to be placed at the tabernacle. The intention will read “Rose
for the Unborn” donated in memory of/by.)

SAINT AMBROSE SCHOOL CORNER

FOCUS ON GRADE 4

The Fourth grade at St. Ambrose School has been busy working
on reading a fantasy book called "The Lion, the Witch and the
Wardrobe," which will allow us to see and discuss the relation-
ship between good and evil. We have started our work on our
Science Fair project and are participating in "The Great Mail
Race." We have been invited by a Catholic School in New Mexi-
co, St. Francis School, to write a letter to them and other fourth
grade students around the United States. This will enable us to
learn more about the other regions in our country and all 50
states. We are filling out a survey about our school and receiv-
ing one from each Catholic school that we write to. Also in
writing a letter we have the possibility of becoming pen pals
with other Catholic school students around the US. The fourth
grade students will be inducted into the Mini Vinnies in May.
The students are extremely excited about all that has been go-
ing on this year!

ITALIAN NIGHT

FRIDAY, MAY 20TH

7:00pm-11:00pm

Saint Ambrose Café
$35.00 per person

For more information and reservations contact
Anthony Cosentino—732-713-2295

Chrism Mass

On Monday, March 21, 2016 at 7:30pm at The Cathe-
dral of St. Francis, Metuchen Bishop Paul G. Bootkoski
will celebrate the Chrism Mass with the priests of the Dio-
cese. At this Mass, the Bishop will bless the Holy Oils which
each parish receives for the rites of anointing. Saint Ambrose
[340-397] began this custom—which we now call the Chrism
Mass—in his Cathedral in Milan. These Holy Oils, which are
used to sanctify the Faithful, have been channels of holiness
for centuries! The Oil of Catechumens is used to anoint the
chest of infants and hands of adults before their Baptism;
the Oil of the Sick is used on the forehead and hands of the
infirm in the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick; and
Sacred Chrism is used to anoint the head of the newly bap-
tized, the foreheads of confirmandi, the hands of a priest at
his ordination, the head of a bishop at his ordination, and
the altar and walls of new churches. At the Mass, all priests
make a Renewal of Commitment to Priestly Service, re-
committing themselves to their Bishop and to their ministry
to God and His People; the Bishop and all Priests then ask
the people for a pledge of their prayerful support. All are
strongly encouraged to join in the ancient, grace-filled
Chrism Mass at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi in Metu-
chen at 7:30pm.
The Diocese of Metuchen DIVINE MERCY APOSTOLATE
invites all to attend

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY
4/3/16 @ St. Ambrose Church
Main Celebrant/Homilist: Fr. Glen Sudano, CFR
1:30PM – 4:00PM Veneration/Confession/Rosary/Chaplet/Mass

The Sunday after Easter is Divine Mercy Sunday!
How should we prepare for this great Feast of Mercy?

Jesus told St. Faustina that this Feast of Mercy would be a very special day when “all the divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened”. (Diary 699) Our Lord made a great promise to all those souls who would go to Confession and then receive Him in Holy Communion on the Feast of Mercy, on the Sunday after Easter, which is now called Divine Mercy Sunday throughout the Catholic Church.

Jesus promised that “The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain the complete forgiveness of sins and punishment.” (Diary 699) He went on to say “I want to grant a complete pardon to the souls that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion on the Feast of My Mercy.” (Diary 1109)

We want to encourage everyone to take advantage of this incredible promise and the additional Plenary Indulgence on this great Feast of Mercy “Divine Mercy Sunday”. We want you to benefit fully from these promises, and we also want you to notify all of your family and friends about them too and urge them to return to the practice of their faith!

The image of The Divine Mercy, which Our Lord requested to be solemnly blessed and venerated on this day, will be on display in our church. Pope John Paul II said that the image portrays the Risen Jesus Christ bringing Mercy to the whole world. Our Lord said “I want the image to be solemnly blessed on the first Sunday after Easter, and I want it to be venerated publicly so that every soul may know about it. I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish”. (Diary 341, 48) Please take the time to visit with this image of The Divine Mercy and venerate Jesus.

Jesus said to St. Faustina “I am offering people a vessel with which they are to keep coming for graces to the fountain of mercy. That vessel is this image with the signature: Jesus, I trust in You”. (Diary 327) “The two rays denote Blood and Water. The pale ray stands for the Water which makes souls righteous. The red ray stands for the Blood which is the life of souls. These two rays issued forth from the very depths of My tender mercy when My agonized Heart was opened by a lance on the cross… Happy is the one who will dwell in their shelter, for the just hand of God shall not lay hold of him.” (Diary 299)

About the feastday “Divine Mercy Sunday”, Jesus said “…tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon the souls who approach the Fount of My Mercy. On that day all the divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet…. Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My Mercy”. (Diary 699)

Our Lord said “When you go to confession, to this fountain of My mercy, the Blood and Water which came forth from My Heart always flows down upon your soul…” and “Every time you go to confession, immerse yourself entirely in My mercy with great trust, so that I may pour the bounty of My grace upon your soul. When you approach the confessional, know this, that I Myself am waiting there for you. I am only hidden by the priest, but I Myself act in your soul. Here the misery of the soul meets the God of mercy” (1602) Make your confession before Me. The person of the priest is... only a screen. Never analyze what sort of a priest that I am making use of; open your soul in confession to Me, and I will fill it with My light.” (1725)

It is required of all Catholics to confess their serious sins at least once every year. If you haven’t yet met this obligation then take advantage of this outstanding opportunity to receive an outpouring of an ocean of graces that Jesus promises on this day. Those who have already confessed their sins should make room for others.

The Church allows for one to go to Confession for up to about 20 days, before or after Divine Mercy Sunday.

Excerpts taken from the Diary of St. Faustina, copyright 1987 Mandate of the Immaculate Conception, Stockbridge MA, USA
Bulletin insert taken from the www.DivineMercySunday.com website and may be copied and re-produced without permission.
March, 2016

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

In this Jubilee year, we are urged more than ever to demonstrate our mercy and solicitude for our brothers in the Middle East. Refugees, displaced persons, the elderly, children, and the sick are all in need of our help. In this land of the East, people are dying, being kidnapped and even killed. Many live in agony for their loved ones, or suffer when the family is divided on account of forced migration and exodus. They know the darkness and fear of neglect, of loneliness, of misunderstanding. It is a time of trials and challenges, even of martyrdom.

“We cannot remain indifferent: God is not indifferent! God cares about mankind. God does not abandon us” (Pope Francis). This care is expressed by our open hands, contributing generously. We are called to assist our brothers and sisters who now live in the land that was sanctified by the Lord’s life, death and resurrection. We are indebted to those who went out from there, carrying the light of faith to the world. As well as to those who remained to give witness to that faith, in spite of the conflicts that have always tortured that Land.

The Collection for the Holy Land reminds us of an “ancient” duty, which the history of recent years has made more urgent. I urge you to be as generous as your means allows for this Collection. For centuries, Christians have called the Holy Land home. Today, your financial support will help to keep the door to Christianity in the Holy Land open. Thank you for your consideration and your generosity.

May God bless you during this Holy Season!

Sincerely in the Lord,

Most Rev. Paul G. Bootkoski
Bishop of Metuchen
PALUMBO’S ITALIAN RESTAURANT
2243 Rt. 9 N. • Old Bridge, NJ • 732-727-0970 • www.PalumbosNJ.com
We specialize in repast, anniversary, communion, christening, retirement, office meeting, rehearsal dinner, birthday, etc.
Catering Trays for all Occasions • Like Us on Facebook • Taking Reservations for Mother’s/Father’s Day!
CALL FOR INFORMATION, OR VISIT FACEBOOK OR OUR WEBSITE

Diocese of Metuchen
Catholic Cemeteries and Crematory
800-943-8400
Holy Cross Burial Park
840 Cranbury-South River Rd.
Jamesburg, NJ 08831
Resurrection Burial Park
Hoes Lane and Park Ave.
Piscataway, NJ 08854
www.diometuchen.org/cemeteries

Morgan
Basement Waterproofing
Serving PA, NJ & DE
877-401-4777
Specializing in Basement Waterproofing & Mold Remediation Since 1984
Drainage Systems • Pumps • Coatings
Foundation Repair • Outside Water Management
Emergency Service • Free Inspections
Licensed & Insured
www.morganbasementwaterproofing.com

Software Engineers
Knowledge in asp.net | c# | sql | javascript
WANTS TO TALK TO YOU
email: petevyz@jppc.net
JOHN PATRICK publishing company, inc.

Celebration Here!
• First Communions
• Christenings
• Confirmations

Go Karts • Rides • Bar & Grill • Arcade • & More!

Church Bulletin Advertising
Does Your Advertising
• Establish a relationship?
• Build a friendship?
• Capture repeat business?
• Earn referrals?
• Generate a testimony?
This happens for thousands every day with church bulletin advertising!
The constant visual presence your business needs to succeed.

Familiar • Trusted • Proven Effective… Now That’s Advertising!
1.800.333.3166 ext.161 | www.JPPC.net

John Patrick Publishing, Inc. • 800-333-3166 • www.jppc.net