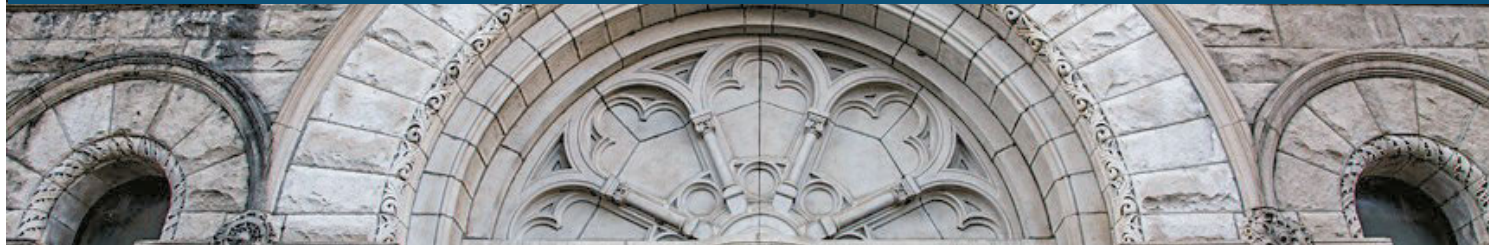


# Saint Ambrose Cathedral

Diocese of Des Moines | Most Reverend William M. Joensen, Bishop  
Dec. 26th, 2021 & Jan. 2nd 2022 | Christmas & Solemnity of Mary  
607 High Street, Des Moines, IA 50309 | phone 515.288.7411 | SaintAmbroseCathedral.org



## CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S SCHEDULE 2021

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday, December 20-23  
11:00am—12:00pm

*No Reconciliation December 24 or 25; call the parish office on 515-288-7411 ext. 201 to arrange another time to celebrate this sacrament.*

### Sacrament of Holy Eucharist

#### Christmas Eve Masses (Birth of Jesus)

Friday, December 24  
4:00pm (Prelude: 3:30pm), 6:30pm & 10:00pm (No Midnight Mass)

#### Christmas Day Masses (Birth of Jesus)

Saturday, December 25  
8:30am & 11:00am  
Refugee Mass at 12:30pm

#### New Year's Day Masses (Feast of Mary, Mother of God)

Saturday, January 1  
9:00am

*The parish offices will be closed December 24, 12:00pm Noon—December 27  
& December 30, 12:00pm Noon—January 4.*

*For sacramental emergencies, contact Fr. Nipin at 515-288-7411, ext 205 or 515-444-7821  
or Fr. Ambrose at 515-288-7411, ext 204 or 515-991-2231*

### *Parish Mission Statement*

We St. Ambrose Cathedral parish of the Diocese of Des Moines are a diverse community of the rich and poor, disadvantaged and hungry, young and elderly, visitors, and those seeking refuge. We are a Eucharistic community of many cultures. We strive for unity in our diversity expressing our love of God through prayer and worship, justice and service, the ministry of hospitality, and through catechesis, evangelization, and ecumenism. We pursue this mission faithfully by following the example of Jesus Christ, the power of the Holy Spirit, and the gifts and talents of our faith community.





**Message from Fr. Nivin:  
What is your Christmas wish?**

*"She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn." Lk 2:7*

What is it like to have no bed to sleep in? Recently I visited a refugee household. The mother of the family welcomed me lovingly. Immediately, I noticed how little they have: no furniture, no kitchenware, no bed. She and her young children sleep on the carpet, even in this cold winter! It reminded me of baby Jesus in the manger. With the help of Fr. Ambrose and Catherine Swoboda, we furnished her house with whatever suitable we found in the SVDP store.

There are many others living in similar condition. They have no complaints, no grumbles. Every day they thank God for being in this country, away from war and other worse troubles. These are our brothers and sisters in St. Ambrose parish. They are baby Jesus in the manger. Surely, we can do something! My Christmas wish is that every parishioner will have at least a mattress to sleep on. Will you help me make this wish come true?

Fr. Nivin Scaria †

*Parish Calendar Highlights*

**Friday, December 24-Christmas Eve (No 12:10pm Mass)**

- 4:00pm | Christmas Eve Vigil Mass (Cathedral)
- 6:30pm | Christmas Eve Vigil Mass (Cathedral)
- 10:00pm | Christmas Eve Vigil Mass (Cathedral)

**Saturday, December 25—Christmas (No Sat. 4pm Vigil Mass)**

- 8:30am | Christmas Day Mass (Cathedral)
- 11:00am | Christmas Mass Day (Cathedral)
- 12:30pm | Christmas Mass Day (Cathedral)

**Monday, December 27**

- 5:00pm | Holy Hour (Cathedral)

**Thursday, December 30**

- 1:30pm | Wedding Rehearsal (Cathedral; Private)

**Friday, December 31 (No Masses today)**

- 1:30pm | Wedding (Cathedral; Private)

**Saturday, January 1, 2022 (Happy New Year!)**

- 9:00am | Solemnity of Mary Mass (Cathedral)

**Sunday, January 2**

- 9:15am | Family Faith Formation (Pastoral Center)
- 11:00am | Pre-K/K Classes (Parish Hall)

**Monday, January 3**

- 5:00pm | Holy Hour (Cathedral)

**Tuesday, January 4**

- 10:00am | Connection Café (Parish Hall)
- 5:30pm | St. Vincent de Paul Council meeting (Parish Hall)

**Sunday, January 9**

- 11:00am | Pre-K/K Classes (Parish Hall)
- 3:00pm | Confirmation Classes (Parish Hall)
- 4:00pm | Burmese Community Mass (Cathedral)

**Monday, January 10**

- 5:00pm | Holy Hour (Cathedral)

*Fruits of Your Giving*

**CATHEDRAL TITHING SUPPORT**

Amount Needed for December—\$34,917

Amount Received as of December 16—\$21,312

**SPECIAL COLLECTIONS—FALL FUNDRAISER**

There has been generous support for our Fall Fundraiser. Despite being only three weeks into the fundraiser, we have received \$22,735 of the \$40,000 goal. Thank you!

**ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL (ADA)**

We are grateful for your fulfilled or additional offering as our Cathedral community continues to reach our \$119,537 goal. We are currently at \$92,233 of our total goal.

*Faith Formation at St. Ambrose Cathedral*

**Sunday Family Faith Formation classes** will meet on January 2, January 23, and February 6. This includes the First Communion class, Parent class, Grades 3-5, Grades 6-8, and High School. **Family Faith Formation does not meet Jan. 9 or Jan. 16.**

**Confirmation Classes** will meet January 9, January 16 and February 13 in the parish hall from 3 PM to 5 PM.

**Preschool / Kindergarten Classes** are offered on all five Sundays in January (Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30.) No class on Sunday February 6. Class meets in the parish hall during the 11:00 Mass. Children age 3-5 or enrolled in Kindergarten are welcome. Please come early to register.

All class calendars and registration information are found at [www.saintambrosecathedral.org/religious-education](http://www.saintambrosecathedral.org/religious-education)

**RCIA** classes are for adults preparing for Baptism, Eucharist, or Confirmation at the Easter Vigil Mass, or for those considering becoming Catholic. For classes in English, contact Vern Rash at [dsmrash@msn.com](mailto:dsmrash@msn.com). For classes in another language, contact Deacon Francis Chan at 515.210.4444.



**ST. AMBROSE CATHEDRAL  
MONTHLY HEALING SERVICES**

All are invited to attend a monthly healing service, hosted by Tim Jameson, here at the Cathedral, every third Wednesday at 7pm. The next service is on January 19, 2022 at 7pm.



**HOLY FAMILY  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

**CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS FOR OUR SCHOOL FAMILIES**

**January 3**

Classes resume

**January 5**

1st Round 2022-23 registrations

**January 7**

\$1 Jeans Day

**ENROLLMENT FOR PROSPECTIVE FAMILIES**

Holy Family Catholic School is a growing multicultural community, pre-K through 8th grade, that works and worships together. Discover the Catholic school difference! Visit [HFCSDm.org](http://HFCSDm.org) or call the School Office at 515-262-8025.



*“We must pray without ceasing, in every occurrence and employment of our lives - that prayer which is rather a habit of lifting up the heart to God as in a constant communication with Him.”*

—St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

# FORMED

**Free Catholic for the Christmas Season**  
At mid-December Masses we invited you to sign up for FORMED – an online ser-

vice with Catholic movies and learning, children’s programs, audio stories & e-books for your phone, tablet, computer, maybe even your TV. It’s not too late – and it’s given free to you from St. Ambrose parish.

During this Christmas season you might like to watch “**The True Meaning of Christmas.**” These 5-minute videos take us into scripture and history to give more meaning to the things we think we know about Christmas. Also, search under “CHRISTMAS” for more program choices.

**To sign up for FORMED on your computer:**

Go to <https://signup.formed.org/>

- Enter our parish’s zip code: **50309**
- Enter your **name** and your **email address**

**To view on your phone or tablet,** download the free FORMED app. Just search for *FORMED Catholic* in your app store. May this new resource be a blessing to you and your family!

**2021 END-OF-YEAR STATEMENTS**

If you wish to have any donation, tithe or pledge payment included on your 2021 contribution statement, it must reach the parish office no later than Friday, December 31st through the mail or personally delivered to the parish office by 12 noon on Thursday, December 30. Contributions received on or after January 1st 2022, regardless of the date of the check, will be credited to 2022 contribution statements.



**THE GIFT OF FOOD & ESSENTIALS: JANUARY 1ST & 2ND, 2022**

Please bring to Mass any items you’d like to share through the St. Vincent de Paul food pantries in Des Moines. Our parish is responding generously to this “First Sundays” collection. In December, we gave more than 330 items plus cash to the food pantries! Together we’re caring for our brothers and sisters in Christ.

On January 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, you can bring foods that do not need refrigeration. Also, items to keep homes and bodies clean are especially needed now (like toothpaste, soap, laundry detergent, shaving cream and diapers). Simply place items or cash in the baskets near the altar. Our SVDP volunteers take them to the food pantry for you.

All are welcome at our monthly St. Ambrose SVDP meeting on Tuesday, January 4 at 5:30 in our parish hall. Come to learn more or meet new friends in faith and service! Questions about this new monthly collection? Contact Anita: [anitaogara@gmail.com](mailto:anitaogara@gmail.com) or 515-249-4490

**Readings for the Week of December 26**

**Sunday:** Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/ 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

**Monday:** 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

**Tuesday:** 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18

**Wednesday:** 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35

**Thursday:** 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40

**Friday:** 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18

**Saturday:** Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

**Readings for the Week of January 2**

**Sunday:** Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/ Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

**Monday:** 1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

**Tuesday:** 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8/Mk 6:34-44

**Wednesday:** 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/Mk 6:45-52

**Thursday:** 1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17/Lk 4:14-22a

**Friday:** 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Lk 5:12-16

**Saturday:** 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b/Jn 3:22-30

**Next Sunday:** Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/ Lk 3:15-16, 21-22 or, Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 [1]/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22



*Mass Intentions & Observances*

To have your deceased loved one(s) remembered during a scheduled Mass, please contact the Parish Office.

**Friday, December 24**

- 4:00pm Presider Intention
- 6:30pm John Daniel
- 10:00pm Mary Scaria

**Saturday, December 25**

- 8:30am Presider Intention
- 11:00am TJ Scaria
- 12:30pm Olga Anthony

**Sunday, December 26**

- 8:30am For the People
- 11:00am Pete & Esther Leo

**Monday, December 27**

- 12:10pm Rosemary Inman

**Tuesday, December 28**

- 12:10pm Deceased members of Arellano, Ramos & Samonte Families

**Wednesday, December 29**

- 12:10pm Holy Souls in Purgatory

**Thursday, December 30**

- 12:10pm Deceased members of Cuaycomg, Castillo & Gustilo Families

**Friday, December 31**

No Masses today

**Saturday, January 1, 2022**

- 9:00am All living members & descendants of Lacona Family
- 4:00pm Frank Lacona

**Sunday, January 2**

- 8:30am For the People
- 11:00am Joseph Nicholas Graff

**Monday, January 3**

- 12:10pm Broderick Frazier

**Tuesday, January 4**

- 12:10pm Earl Stone

**Wednesday, January 5**

- 12:10pm Dorothy Sweeney

**Thursday, January 6**

- 12:10pm Zong Ly Family

**Friday, January 7**

- 12:10pm James & Teresa Lacona

**Saturday, January 8**

- 4:00pm Deceased members of St. Ambrose St. Vincent de Paul Council

**Sunday, January 9**

- 8:30am For the People
- 11:00am Benjamin Arellano

*Pastoral Offices & Ministry Contacts*

Parish Office Hours | Weekdays, 8:30am-4:30pm

**Pastor | Bishop of the Diocese of Des Moines**

Most Reverend Bishop William M. Joensen, Ph.D. | 515.243.7653

**Rector**

Rev. Nipin Thakidipurathu Scaria | 515.288.7411, ext 205

**Associate Pastor**

Rev. Ambrose Ladu Daniel | 515.288.7411, ext 204

**Deacons**

Deacon Francis Chan, Deacon Jim Obradovich, Deacon Chris Rohwer,  
Deacon Ly Pao Yang

**Administrative Staff**

Justin Carrick, *Business Manager* | 515.288.7411, ext 200

Megan Mary Cook, *Administrative Assistant* | 515.288.7411, ext 201

**Maintenance Engineer**

Bud Kephart | 515.229.9558

**Refugee Ministry**

Fr. Ambrose Ladu Daniel | 515.288.7411, ext 204

Deacon Francis Chan, *National Advisor for American Sudanese Catholics* | 515.210.4444

**Wedding Director**

Debbie Rohrer | 515.288.7411, ext 300

**Vicar of Youth Faith Formation (Interim)**

Fr. Ambrose Ladu Daniel | 515.288.7411, ext 204

**Youth Faith Formation Associates**

Anita O'Gara | 515.249.4490 | anitaogara@gmail.com

Catherine Swoboda | 515.943.9398

**RCIA Director**

Vern Rash | dsrash@msn.com

**Ministry to the Homebound**

John Martin | 515.491.7171

**Prayer Chain Ministry**

John Martin | 515.491.7171 | prayerchainstambrose@gmail.com

**Holy Family School**

Marty Flaherty, *Principal* | 515-262-8025

Fr. John O. Bertogli, *Canonical Administrator*

Rob Ferguson, David Powell, Martin Nawl, *Board of Education Members*

**Dowling High School Liaison**

Vern Rash | dsrash@msn.com

*Parish Councils & Committees*

**Finance Council**

Doug Sharp, *Chair*; Chris Stern; Dr. Teri Wahlig, *Parish Trustee*;  
Cory Millmier; Ramona Peterson; Angela Burke Boston; Sol Rosenbaum

**Pastoral Visioning Council**

Antonio Bañuelos, Angela Burke Boston, George Brucks,  
Deacon Francis Chan, Dr. Barbara Decker, Chao Ly,  
Chris Rohwer, Samol Thlang, Martin Nawl, Margaret Niang Mang,  
Michael Lian, Vaida Gadum, Nasir Kemi, Paul Saybehson

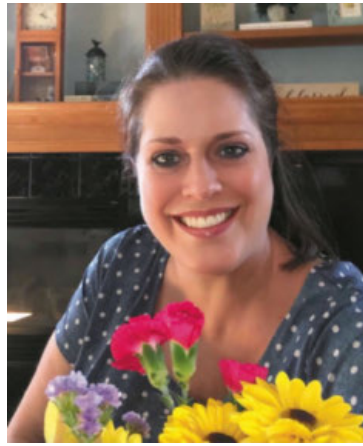
**St. Vincent de Paul Society**

Anita O'Gara | 515.249.4490 | anitaogara@gmail.com

**Knights of Columbus**

Vincent Chukwuemeka, *Grand Knight*

For information on joining our parish Knights of Columbus Council  
15336, please contact Vincent at 319-493-2507, or visit our council  
website at: [sites.google.com/site/kc15336/home](https://sites.google.com/site/kc15336/home)



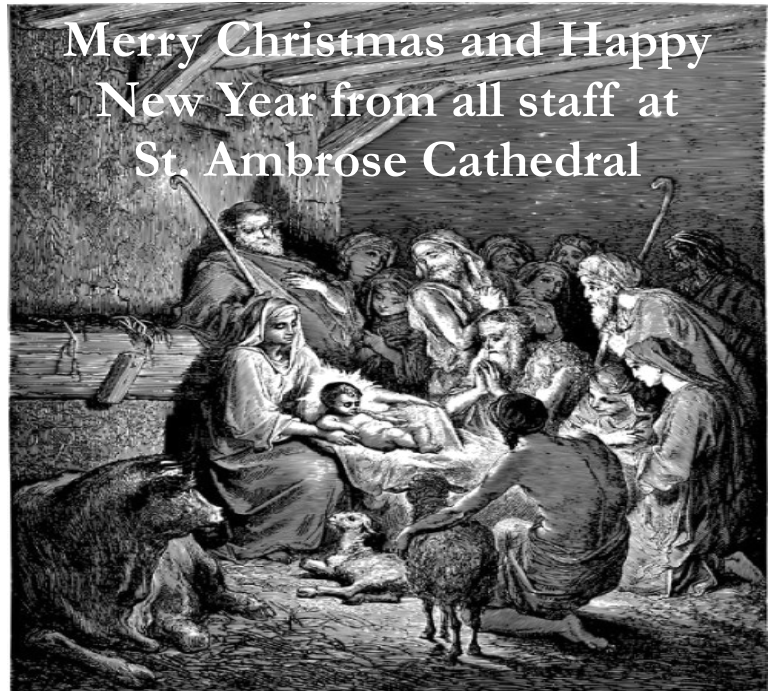
**INTRODUCING:  
MEGAN MARY COOK—THE  
CATHEDRAL'S NEW ADMIN  
ASSISTANT!**

Megan has been hired as our new administrative assistant. Megan replaces Lani McDonald, who has been sorely missed since she followed God's call to Colorado for a new career in early November.

Megan brings a wealth of experience, a positive disposition and an Iowa nice personality.

We look forward to working with Megan and we encourage all parishioners to make Megan feel warmly welcomed. We pray Megan has a smooth transition into her new role with the Cathedral. Thank you, Fr. Nivin.

**Merry Christmas and Happy  
New Year from all staff at  
St. Ambrose Cathedral**

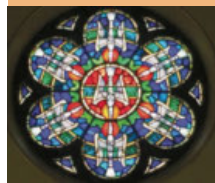


**ONLINE GIVING IS NOW AN  
OPTION AT  
ST. AMBROSE CATHEDRAL**

St. Ambrose offers online giving through Faith Direct. Parishioners can sign up for either one-time or regular automatic online giving at the following url:

**<https://membership.faithdirect.net/ia1147>**

We thank you for your continued support of the Cathedral.



*Welcome to St. Ambrose Cathedral!*

We are blessed by all parishioners, guests, and visitors who gather here for prayer, Mass, and the sacraments. **Registered parishioners** are asked to ensure that the Parish Office always has your current contact information on file. **Visitors** who

would like to join our parish are asked to complete a registration form and visit the Parish Office during weekday business hours, 8:30am-4:30pm. Thank you for being with us!



**Patrick M. Carpenter**  
Attorney

Workers Comp.  
Personal Injury

◆◆◆  
**515-244-9907**

pat@carpenterlawfirm.com

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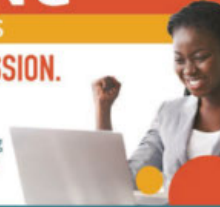
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# EXCEL

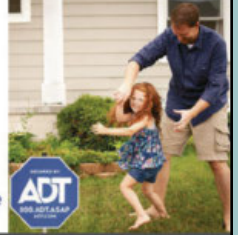
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**Terry Taylor, Agent**  
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Bus: 515-274-3444  
[terry.taylor;jxdh@statefarm.com](mailto:terry.taylor;jxdh@statefarm.com)

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