



## Feast of Saint Ambrose December 7th

Ambrose was born around 339 in what is now France, the son of the Roman prefect of Gaul. Following in his father's footsteps, Ambrose embarked upon a career in law and politics and by 370 AD, he had become the Imperial governor of Northern Italy. When the seat of Bishop of Milan became vacant in 374, the people demanded that Saint Ambrose be made their bishop. The neighboring bishops and the Emperor convinced him to accept this call as the will of God, and so the catechumen Ambrose was baptized and ordained first deacon, then priest, then bishop, all in a single week!

This politician-turned churchman was profoundly aware of his lack of preparation for this great responsibility and so set himself immediately to prayer and the study of Scripture. His deep spirituality and love of God's Word married together with the oratorical skill acquired in law and politics made St. Ambrose one of the greatest preachers of the early church.

Around 385, an ambitious professor of public speaking named Augustine came to hear Saint Ambrose preach in order to study his technique, and in the process, was attracted to the Catholic faith. In 386 Augustine was baptized by St. Ambrose and went on to become bishop of Hippo in North Africa. Ambrose and his pupil, Augustine, together with St. Jerome and St. Gregory the Great, make up the four original Doctors of the Latin Church. Saint Ambrose, the great bishop of Milan, died on Holy Saturday (April 4) in the year 397 AD. His feast day in the Roman calendar is December 7, the day he was ordained bishop.

*"No one heals himself by wounding another."*

~ Saint Ambrose of Milan

*"Prayer is the wing wherewith the soul flies to heaven, and meditation the eye wherewith we see God."*

~Saint Ambrose of Milan



### What is the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary?

The Immaculate Conception is the Catholic doctrine of which Mary, the mother of Jesus, was conceived in the womb of her mother, Saint Anne, without original sin. Some people think the term refers to Christ's conception in Mary's womb without the intervention of a human father; but that is the "Virgin Birth." Others think the Immaculate Conception means Mary was conceived "by the power of the Holy Spirit," in the way Jesus was, but that, too, is incorrect.

From the first instant of her existence she was in the state of sanctifying grace and was free from the corrupt nature of original sin.



Pope Francis is asking each and every one of us to become involved in the synodal process leading up to the Synod of Bishops to be held in Rome in 2023. The Pope tells us that the point of a synodal Church - *"is to listen, as the entire People of God, to what the Holy Spirit is saying to the Church."*

<https://hamiltondiocese.com/synod/#resources>

In response to Pope Francis' invitation to each and every person to become involved in the synodal process, His Excellency, Bishop Crosby, OMI, and the Diocesan Committee for the 2021 – 2023 Synod of Bishops developed a few materials to encourage the participation of the Faithful of our Diocese. Please visit the link below to view a video by Bishop Crosby, read the prayer for the Synod, and to participate in the online survey:

[https://www.surveymonkey.ca/r/Hamilton\\_Diocese\\_Synod](https://www.surveymonkey.ca/r/Hamilton_Diocese_Synod)

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### Church Donation Envelopes for 2022

Donation envelopes for 2022 are available at the back of the Church for those who have actively used Church donation envelopes this year and with the same envelope number. If you ordered an envelope set, these are also at the back of the Church.

If you would like to begin using Church donation envelopes in 2022 please contact the parish office by email or phone to have this arranged [stambrose@golden.net](mailto:stambrose@golden.net) 519-621-2013

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**Could God be calling you** to be a priest, deacon, brother, or sister to help our world of today to truly "prepare the way of the Lord"? Contact Bishop Wayne Lobsinger, Director of Vocations and Priestly Formation, Diocese of Hamilton (905-528-7988). Email [vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com) [www.hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/](http://www.hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/)



**Tuesday, December 7 – St. Ambrose**

7:00 pm – In Thanksgiving from Purita Avilla

**CONFESSIONS at 6:00 pm to 6:45 pm**

\* **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 6pm to 7pm**

**Wednesday, December 8 – Immaculate Conception**

7:00 pm + FRANCISCO ALVES – his sister

+ DECEASED REGO and CORREIA FAMILIES – Maria & John

+ LEOCADIA & MANUEL SANTOS – Maria and Abel

- in thanksgiving to St. Joseph – from Daisy

+ ANTONIO & MARIA CONCEICAO FIGUEIREDO – Manuel  
and Maria

+ MARIA deFATIMA BRAGA

+ MARIA CONCEICAO ROSA

**CONFESSIONS at 6:00 pm to 6:45 pm**

\* **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 6pm to 7pm**

**Thursday, December 9**

7:00 pm + JORIGIANA MELO, SPOUSE, SONS & FAMILY –  
Tina

**CONFESSIONS at 6:00 pm to 6:45 pm**

\* **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 6pm to 7pm**

**Friday, December 10**

7:00 pm + FOR THE SOULS IN PURGATORY

**CONFESSIONS at 6:00 pm to 6:45 pm**

\* **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 6pm to 7pm**

**Prayers for the Souls in Purgatory at 6:30 pm**

**Saturday, December 11**

**CONFESSIONS at 4:00 pm to 4:45 pm**

5:00 pm + MANUEL BRAGA MELO – his family

+ WILLIAM & PAULINE MCKAY – Charlene & Tony

+ DECEASED CHAVES FAMILY – Maria and Silvino

+ JOAO MEDEIROS – Teresa and family

+ MARIA PALMIRA & EUGENIO PEREIRA – DeAlmeida family

**Sunday, December 12 – Third Sunday of Advent**

9:00 am + ED and OPHELIA GROZELLE – Doreen & Tony

11:00 am – for the intentions of all parishioners

**CONFESSIONS: 8:00 to 8:45 am and 10:15 am to 10:45 am**



**What Is "Bambinelli Sunday?"**

Each year on the **Third Sunday of Advent**, children gather with their families in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican for "Bambinelli Sunday." The children bring with them figurines of the Christ Child -- the "Bambinelli" -- from their family's Nativity scene.

Here at St. Ambrose Parish, we invite children and adults to bring their baby Jesus to Mass on **December 12<sup>th</sup>** to have Father Gary bless the figurines.

**Holy Spirit Prayer Community of St. Patrick Parish**

The Holy Spirit Prayer Community would like to invite you to join us in prayer, as we reconnect with the sustaining presence, love, and mercy of our compassionate God, revealed to us through our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Our prayer group meets every 1st and 3rd Tuesday evening at St. Patrick's Church (53 Wellington Street, Cambridge), at 7:30 p.m. The main doors of the church will be open at 7:15 p.m. Masks and social distancing are mandatory. For further information, contact Mary Ann 519-740-1668

**Each week of Advent**, the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops) will release a video recording of a Bishop in Canada reflecting on the Gospel Reading for each Sunday of Advent. This year's reflections were developed in view of the Indigenous Delegation which will be travelling to Rome to meet with Pope Francis from December 17 to 20, 2021. Each reflection is based one of the five essential stages of reconciliation: examen, confession, repentance, reparation (making amends), and reconciliation. Likewise, it is hoped these reflections will assist the faithful, Indigenous and non-Indigenous alike, in preparing for Pope Francis' eventual apostolic journey to Canada

<https://www.cccb.ca/evangelization-catechesis-catholic-education/video-resources/journey-through-advent/>

The Pope's prayer intention for December:

*Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.* <https://thepopevideo.org/>

