

Church Opening Hours

Monday	6.30am – 7.00pm
Tuesday	6.30am – 8.00pm (7.30pm Mass)
Wednesday	6.30am – 6.00pm
Thursday	6.30am – 6.00pm
Friday	6.30am – 7.00pm
Saturday	6.30am – 6.00pm
Sunday	8.30am – 11.00 am & 4.00 pm - 6.00pm

Please remember as you enter the church to wear your mask, sign on to our COVID register and sanitise your hands. On leaving, please wipe the area you have occupied with the disinfectant wipes found with the sign in register.



Revised Reconciliation Times

Days	Morning	Evening
Monday	8.30am – 8.50am	N/A
Tuesday	N/A	6.00pm - 7.00pm
Thursday	8.30am – 8.50am	N/A
Friday	8.30am to 8.50am	N/A
Saturday	N/A	3.30pm - 4.30pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Silent Prayer

Monday	5.00pm – 7.00pm
Tuesday	5.00pm – 7.00pm
Friday	5.00pm – 7.00pm



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Sunday Masses: Sat Vigil 5pm, Sunday 9.30am & 5pm
Live-streamed Mass: Sat Vigil 5pm. You can participate from your home online & receive the Spiritual Communion.

Weekday Masses: 9am Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri (or Fri 9.15am school Masses)
Tuesday evening 7.30pm

Saturday **8.00am** Devotions to Our Lady of Lourdes
Saturday **8.30am** Mass

Reconciliation: Sat 3.30 – 4.30pm

Adoration: Mon & Fri 6-9pm, Tues 5.45pm – 7.15pm,
Sat 3.30 - 4.30pm, Italian Cenacle: Mon 9.30am

Holy Hour & Cenacle: Wed after 9am Mass, Fri 9.30am

Baptisms: 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month at **11.30am** by appointment.

Weddings: by appointment. Contact Parish Office.

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, 10th January, 2021

First Reading

Isaiah 55:1-11 (The first reading from Cycle A, Isaiah 42:1-4,6-7, may also be chosen.) Isaiah calls upon the people to return to the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Isaiah 12:2-3,4-6 (The psalm from Cycle A, Psalm 29:1-4,9-10, may also be chosen.) A prayer of praise for God's salvation.

Second Reading

1 John 5:1-9 (The second reading from Cycle A, Acts of the Apostles 10:34-38, may also be chosen.)

The Spirit of Truth testifies on behalf of Jesus, God's Son.

Gospel Reading

Mark 1:7-11

Jesus is baptized by John the Baptist.



He bowed his head in humility as an example, not because he suffered imperfections Who would not want a doctor who, before he cuts, lifts his shirt a little, shows his own scar, and says to the patient, "I had the same. It's going to be alright"? What soldier would not be just a little braver, stand a little taller, seeing medals for valour on his commander's uniform? We want our heroes, our leaders, and our guides to lead through personal example. To have been there. To have done that. And we want our Saviour to do the same. To empathize. To participate. To identify. To accompany. Actions resonate more than words.

Our sinless God "became" sin, in the words of St. Paul. Jesus identifies with sin but never sinned. Jesus carries sin but is not a sinner. Why? Because to become sin is to become man. In order for God to enter into human reality, He had to identify with all that sin entails. God wanted to stand with us shoulder to shoulder. He did not fake becoming man. He really became man. And if God came to forgive sins and sinners, and to shed His blood for them on the cross, He had to bear the burden they bore yet retain His perfection.

This is why our sinless God was baptised on today's feast. God lays to the side His perfection and dignity and bows His head in the dirty waters of a river. He lined up with sinners to receive in humility what He did not need. To attend a school whose subjects He had mastered. Our God knew the value of empathy. He knew the power of example. And He knew that His ministry to mankind had to start not on a golden throne but in the mud with other men just trying to start again and again and again.

The fullness of the Holy Trinity, first revealed more subtly at the Annunciation, is present and spoken for at the Lord's baptism. The Holy Spirit, in the form of a dove, hovers. The voice of God the Father intones favor toward His Son. And the Son enters into the essential Christian pact with man—I will become like you so that you can become like me. Sins will be taken away through water and blood. I will suffer for your benefit. This is the promise. And the Church's priests will carry on the baptising and forgiving and consecrating until the sun sets for the last time. God

comes to us in many ways, but most intensely through the Sacraments. Jesus' actions prove this.

O Lord, your Baptism shows us that you are not remote. You are at our side. You know sin but are not a sinner. Give us the grace to renew our baptism through a frequent reception of confession and the Holy Eucharist. By receiving one, we strengthen the others. By receiving You, we receive God Himself.

From Fr B

Dear People of St Ambrose Parish

I have now officially left the parish. I miss you all.

I have just re-read all your lovely cards and messages. I sincerely thank you for your lovely wonderful thoughts.

Thank you for the generosity and kindness.

I leave you in humble peace and a lot of sadness.

God bless you and all your families.

THE NEXT SUNDAY IS THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME.

Through the yearly cycle, the Church unfolds the entire mystery of Christ and keeps the anniversaries of the saints. Ordinary time is devoted to celebrating **the mystery of Christ** in all its aspects.

New appointments of the Parish

- Parish Safeguarding officer: **Mrs. Joyce Hone**
- Maintenance officer: **Mr. Steve Lia**

Our sincere thanks to Sr. Judith who was the former safeguarding officer of our parish for a long time. We wish her good health and happiness.

Nominations for the Parish Pastoral Council

Parish pastoral Councils are one of the structures which were strongly recommended by the Bishops of the Second Vatican Council. The purpose of the councils was seen as furthering the work of the Church by fostering the spiritual growth of parishioners and leading them to respond actively to their universal call to mission. Therefore, we need parishioners who have a passion for God and the Church and have time to serve on the Parish Pastoral Council with joy and energy. Members hold their positions for a period of two years with the option for a further two years. The priests and school principal are automatic members of the Parish Council. Meetings are held bimonthly.

We are looking for new members right now!!

Send an email expressing your interest to serve on the Parish Pastoral Council or meet with Fr Chaminda personally.

The last date to submit your nomination is 24th January 2021.

COVID-19 restrictions with effect from 2nd January 2021

- The 4 sqm rule should be enforced strictly.
- Masks will be compulsory in most indoor settings including churches. This would seem to apply to clergy, ministers and congregation alike. A lector, after reaching the lectern, could remove the mask for the duration of reading. When people come to receive Holy Communion, it is recommended that they remove their mask only in order to consume the Host.
- Anyone not wearing a mask will be subject to a \$200 fine and the parish may also be liable. Therefore, From Monday, no one will be allowed to enter/remain in the church without wearing the mask, until this restriction is lifted.
- QR codes will now be compulsory for churches. It will be made available soon. Once it is done, all attendees will be required to use the QR code. It is assumed that the government will show some leniency in the case of technically-challenged, perhaps elderly, parishioners who are unable to use the QR Code.
- The upper limit for church services in Sydney is now 100 attendees. Please inform your family members and friends about this change.

Please remember in your prayers the following for whom Masses will be offered.



Recently Deceased: Patricia Mountford

Anniversaries: Kitty Egan, Lorraine Noyes, Peter Nguyen

Please pray for the sick especially:

Rev Sr Judith, Bill McLoughlin, Denise McCaffery, Dr Bede Muller, Joe Abbate, Patricia Christosi, Dalton James Bonnici, Maria Manno, Joseph Borg, Yuan Sheng Ye, Veronica Rutherford, Paul Dovico, David Bagnato, Angela, Rosaria Natalina Patamia, Felice Minutillo, Charlie Rossini, Kelly & Ursula, Giuseppina Algozzino, Viru, Esther Tully, Rosa Mastro, Tanya Greenaway, Gianna, Matthew, Luisa, Zia Pina, Grace Comare, Elizabeth Esguerra, Juliet Walsh, Barbara Wayne, Marilyn Deguara, Elijah, Adrian Vanzella, Matthew Chan, John Rodrigues, Belinda Nicholls, Nan Peters, Carmela Smigliani, Shinta Widzaza, Alan Borg, Rosa Maria Santos, Bhupinder Tamber, Rebecca Sinclair, Marina Arasaratnam, Teresa Domalewski, Adel Abraham, Anne Vassily, Gloria Clark, Kim Long, Bob & Marion Merrell, Stacey Spencer, Joanne Ford, David, Celia and Gomes Family, Warwick Cook, Louise, James Anthony Manassa, June Corcoran, Rosina Morson, Celina Shaw, Laurence O'Connell, Sam Carroll, Robert Carey, Mario Bianco, Rochelle Rodrigues, Kevin Desouza, Pat Toohey, Charmaine Yu, Anne Collins, Anna Viteznic, Adrian Walker, Lauren Wedd, Peter Weinfoe, Ivy Ross, Dr Siri Kannangara, Maria Rosa de Angelis, Frank Zappia, Cecily Culligan



Live streaming services at St. Ambrose Church are available for funerals, weddings and special services.

Terms and conditions apply.

Please contact Sean on 0406 339 011

St Ambrose Building and Maintenance Donation Envelopes



Envelopes are scattered near the entrances /exits. If you feel that you can contribute, please take one. Take it home and with your own liabilities in mind, assess what you think you can contribute. Donations will, unfortunately, not be tax-deductible.

Other ways to donate to this project include –

- Cheques - made payable to St Ambrose Church.
- Donations can be made via our website. Please use the Building Renovation and Maintenance tab to ensure your donation is directed to the correct account.
- Soon we will also have a dedicated tap and go facility.

Donations of any amount are welcome, but for the overall program to be successful, we are hoping for some substantial amounts to be donated.

A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney

Abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with a crime are the police. If you – or anyone you know – have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org or call (02) 9390 5810 or You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance.

The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.