

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT-MARCH 9, 2025

Sat.	3-8	5:30 p.m.	The 1st Sunday of Lent (St. Francis) +Frank Oplotnik
Sun.	3-9	8:00 a.m.	The 1st Sunday of Lent (St. Ambrose) People of the Parishes
Sun.	3-9	10:00 a.m.	The 1st Sunday of Lent (St. Francis) +Leslie & Alex Treiber
Mon.	3-10	8:00 a.m.	No Mass
Tue.	3-11	8:00 a.m.	No Mass
Wed.	3-12	6:15 p.m.	(St. Francis) +Pam Dent
Thur.	3-13	8:30 a.m.	(St. Ambrose) +Virginia Westerman
Fri.	3-14	9:00 a.m.	(PMRV) +Floyd Diskin
Sat.	3-15	8:00 a.m.	(St. Francis) +Mary Ita Brown
Sat.	3-15	5:30 p.m.	The 2nd Sunday of Lent (St. Francis) +Mary Jo Bradshaw
Sun.	3-16	8:00 a.m.	The 2nd Sunday of Lent (St. Ambrose) People of the Parishes
Sun.	3-16	10:00 a.m.	The 2nd Sunday of Lent (St. Francis) +Jack Whelan

CONFESSIONS:

Fridays in Lent 4:00-5:00 p.m. at St. Francis
 Saturday 4:30-5:15 p.m. at St. Francis
 Wednesday 5:30-6:00 p.m. at St. Francis
 30 minutes before each Mass.

ST. AMBROSE LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Sunday, March 16th-8:00 a.m.

Lector: Donna Bohrer
Altar Server: Laura Hoppas
Gifts: M/M Bill Schoenhofer
Ushers: Ed & Kim Spielbusch

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Total Amount Needed

St. Francis	\$4,745.00	\$6,348.40
St. Ambrose	\$1,578.00	\$1,128.85

Please remember your parish in your Will.

Please pray for: Steve Kirk, Jill Coomes and the sick and homebound in our parish. If you would like to add a name to the prayer list please call the office at 620-449-2224. The prayer list will be updated the first of each month.

Fr. Matthew's Email:

pastor.saintfrancisambrose@gmail.com

Sacramental Emergency Number:

620-236-0705

ANOINTING OF THE SICK:

If you are going to have a significant surgery, please call for Anointing of the Sick before you enter the hospital.

ST. FRANCIS LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Saturday, March 15th-5:30 p.m.

Altar Servers: Jace, Micah, Daxen
Lector: Ron Reeves
Eucharistic Minister: Marcia Gard
Gifts: M/M Jeff Gard

Rosary: Mary Jean Zandler

Sacristan: Jeff & Alice Corn

Sunday, March 16th-10:00 a.m.

Altar Servers: Patrick, Jackson, Devin, Brec

Lector: CYM

Eucharistic Minister: Terry Diskin

Gifts: CYM

Rosary: CYM

Sacristans: Mike & Debbie Mann

March Ushers:

Saturday-5:30 p.m.-Rick Coomes, Merl Ewan, Joel VanLeeuwen

Sunday-10:00 a.m.-Mike Grosdidier, Steve Harmon, Charles Schettler

Church Cleaners-March 15th-Becky Oplotnik, Jackie Harmon, Sheryln Oplotnik

HOMEBOUND: If you know of someone who is elderly or can not attend Mass, please let the office know. Thank you.

SPIRITUAL LENTEN FRIDAYS: During Lent on Fridays there will be Stations of the Cross at both parishes. St. Francis Church will have Adoration Holy Hour from 4:00-5:00 p.m., ending with Benediction. The Stations will begin at 5:15 p.m. There will be confessions available during the Holy Hour. St. Ambrose Church will have Stations at 6:00 p.m.

LENTEN COMPANION BOOK: There are books available for free to all parishioners on the back tables of the churches. The book can be read individually or as a family, and discussed as a family using the "family resources" page or in a small group. If interested in reading with a small group, with the help of Fr. Matt, please reach out to the office.

ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC CHURCH CHOIR: We invite you to join our church choir and be a part of a joyful ministry that uplifts and glorifies God through music! Rehearsals are held every Monday at 6:30 p.m., beginning March 10th, in the church choir loft. Singing in the choir is a beautiful way to connect with others and grow in faith.

RCIA, ADULT EDUCATION: Fr. Matt will have class on Tuesday, March 11th at 6:30 p.m. in the St. Francis Parish Hall. All are welcome. The topic will be "Church History."

PARISH PHOTOS: Tuesday, March 11th will be the final day to have photos taken for our Parish Directory. Please sign-up in the back of the church. If you have questions please call the parish office. We hope to have every parishioner in our new book!

DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA will meet Tuesday, March 11th in the St. Francis Parish Hall. The meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. Come join us for an enjoyable evening.

PSR will meet in the classrooms Wednesday, March 12th. If you have any questions call Bridget Paisley at 316-833-1722.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS LENTEN FISH FRIES will be on March 14th and March 28th from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at the St. Francis Parish Hall. Come by for a delicious Lenten meal. The Knights will have a meeting Sunday, March 16th, at 7:00 p.m. in the St. Francis Parish Hall.

BIBLE STUDY, THE GOSPEL OF JOHN, will be moved to Sunday, March 16th from 7:00-8:30 p.m. and will be moved to St. Francis Parish Hall. All are welcome. Bring your Bible.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY MASS: Monday, March 17th at 6:30 p.m. there will be a Mass at the St. Patrick Catholic Church in Walnut. The collection for this Mass will go towards the maintenance of the St. Patrick Cemetery. All are welcome to attend.

HARVEST HOUSE will meet Thursday, March 20th, at noon in the St. Paul Café. The topic will be, "How you met your sweetheart?" For more information call Marlene Clark 620-687-4401 or Judy Fager 620-423-9144.

THE K OF C OUTING FOR ALTAR SERVERS AND CYM will be Thursday, March 20th. They will leave from the church parking lot at 4:30 p.m. and return at approximately 9:00 p.m. Please RSVP by March 17th to Dan Vitt 620-820-3690 or Susan Vitt 620-724-3452, so we can get a headcount.

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY to the family and friends of Heather VanLeeuwen, who passed away on March 3, 2025. *Eternal Rest grant unto her, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon her. And may all of the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

PASTOR MUSINGS: First Sunday in Lent, and we have many things I could discuss that are happening. We kick off the Diocesan Capital Campaign, *One Family, Fully Alive in Christ!* at our parishes in all weekend Masses. We also are finishing up pictures for the new photo directory for the two parishes. Both of these might be considered good Lenten penances! We also have the Rite of Election on Sunday – the ceremony by which our catechumens who are getting baptized and receiving sacraments for the first time at Easter, are officially received as the "Elect" by Bishop Kemme in Wichita. We will have sent them off from our parish at the 10am Mass to join every other catechumen in the Wichita Diocese. There are 250 this year! A record number in recent memory! But instead, I'd like to address quickly what I won't be able to address in my homily: this is also Safe Haven Sunday, a weekend designated to bring awareness to Internet safety within homes of Christian families. The US Conference of Bishops says, "The use of pornography by anyone in the home deprives the home of its role as a safe haven and has negative effects throughout a family's life and across generations." I don't think it's a secret that the internet has a wide reaching dark side that is easily accessible, unfortunately. Homes are kept safe from burglars through security systems, firearms, etc. in the home. Most homes have a storm shelter to be protected from natural disasters. But in this digital age, where children and adults alike all have their own screens with internet, what about the dangers from within the home? How do we protect from those? These are important questions to ask, and the Church is here to help. Pornography damages current and future relationships, conditioning the brain to self-gratification over self-sacrificing love. Some helpful books are on the back west table of St. Francis. More resources are available on the "Covenant Eyes" website. "Be watchful and vigilant." 1 Peter 5:8

ONE FAMILY, FULLY ALIVE IN CHRIST! CAMPAIGN: This weekend marks the official start of the *One Family, Fully Alive in Christ!* Diocesan Campaign. Our parish goal is \$290,000 for St. Francis and 55,000 for St. Ambrose. In the coming weeks, you will be receiving a letter from Bishop Kemme. The letter includes a specific amount that Bishop would like you to consider prayerfully. Please review the campaign material, pray about your response, and continue to spread the positive message about this historic effort. Also, many of you will soon be receiving a phone call from a campaign volunteer. This fellow parishioner will be visiting with you to help answer your questions. Many thanks to our volunteer team for their dedication and commitment to the *One Family, Fully Alive in Christ!* Diocesan Campaign. Please pray the campaign prayer for our success and for our hard-working campaign volunteers who are giving of their time and talents.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT will be at St. Francis on Wednesdays from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Adoration at St. Ambrose will be on Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to drop in anytime during Adoration to make a visit.

WEATHERPROOF EXTERIOR STONE: The St. Francis Church exterior stone is in need of weatherproofing. Mike Grosdidier will be working on this for several months. Anyone who can take a day or more to help with this project, please call Mike at 620-423-9869. All help is greatly appreciated.

SAVE THE DATE! Totus Tuus will be July 13th-18th.