

St. Pius X Lenten Mission

March 13-15, 2019

Living Without Shame, Dying Without Fear: Saint Ambrose of Milan on Being a Christian in the World



The sessions will be presented each day at 9:30 AM and 6:30 PM

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Living Without Shame, Dying Without Fear:

Saint Ambrose of Milan on Being a Christian in the World

As a young man Saint Ambrose of Milan (340-397) had pursued ambitions in the imperial civil service of Rome, where he quickly distinguished himself as an orator and court advocate before being appointed governor to a prestigious post with headquarters in Milan. It was in Milan where, by popular demand, his career plans were dramatically altered when he was acclaimed a bishop of the Catholic Church. When he lay on his deathbed surrounded by Roman nobles and Catholic clergy twenty-three years later, Ambrose publicly testified that he had lived in such a way that he was not ashamed to continue living among them nor afraid to die.

In this series of Lenten conferences we will examine the life and teachings of Saint Ambrose to discover how to live out our lives as Christians in the world without shame and to face death without fear. In each conference a specific theme drawn from the writings of Saint Ambrose will guide our discussion.

I. Faith: 'For we have a good Lord'

What was the basis for Saint Ambrose's fearlessness in the face of imminent death? In this conference we learn what inspired and sustained Saint Ambrose's life of virtue and service, and we will discuss how his faith can instruct and inspire our own.

II. Zeal: The Fire of Faith

How is faith transformed in action? In this conference we discover the key to Ambrose's vision of a Christian life marked by repentance, conversion, and fervent resolve, and we will consider how the zeal of Saint Ambrose's faith can fan into flame our own.

III. Virtue: The Discipline of Delight

What is the purpose of our lives? How is it achieved? In this conference we allow Saint Ambrose to guide our exploration of the question 'Why did God make you?', and we will reflect on possible ways to renew our own commitment to virtue and the pursuit of delight.