



September 1st 2024
22nd Sunday of Ordinary
Time

Pastor: Fr. Henry Smolenaars
Fr. Henry Email: frhenrys@gmail.com
Hospital Chaplain: Fr. Wieslaw Papuga
Priest on Call: 902-746-8233 (Emergencies and Sacrament of the sick)
Office hours: Monday to Friday from 9:30 am to 1:00 pm
Church email : stambrosemail@gmail.com
Bulletin email: stambrosebulletin1@gmail.com
Tabitha Centre: 902-742-8960
Confession/Adoration Wednesday 7:00-8:00

MASS INTENTIONS –August 31st– Sept. 8th, 2024

St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral (Yarmouth):

Sat. 4 pm Parishioners
Sun. 9am Olive & Alfred Pothier
Sun. 11:15 am Delbert d’Entremont
Tues. 6:30 pm Bernice Twaddle
Wed. 6:30 pm Edwin & Marie Doucette
Thurs: 9 am Marjorie Smith
Fri. 9 am George Gibbs
Sat. 4 pm Marie & Paul DeGrosbois
Sun. 9am Parishioners
Sun. 11:15 am Donald Baker

Our Lady of Lourdes (Melbourne):

Sat. 6 pm Sept.1 Loring Clairmont
Sun. 10 am Sept. 8 Marion Pothier

REFLECTION: Rejecting False Accusations When the Pharisees with some scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus, they observed that some of his disciples ate their meals with unclean, that is, unwashed, hands. What a foolish thing for these Pharisees and scribes to be concerned about! They were in the presence of the Son of God, the Savior of the World, a man of perfect virtue and pure goodness, and all they could do was to observe that some of Jesus’ disciples failed to follow the scrupulous teaching on how

they should wash their hands before a meal. The reason for this was their pride. These teachers of Israel had devised a large body of detailed, unwritten, human laws that they treated with the same binding force as the Law of Moses that they received from God. But the scribes’ and Pharisees’ human traditions were not from God; they were a body of regulations flowing from their own self-righteous need to act as interpreters of the Law. Therefore, whenever someone failed to follow the traditions the Pharisees and scribes taught as binding, they took it personally and reacted with judgment. One lesson we can learn from these religious leaders is that we should never take things personally. Allowing ourselves to become personally offended at anything at all is, in fact, an act of our own pride. We do need to have sorrow for the sin we see, but that is different than allowing ourselves to become personally offended. For example, even if we were to teach the very Law of God and someone rejects that teaching, our response must be sorrow for them as we reject their error. Jesus went on to respond to the Pharisees and scribes by quoting to them the Prophet Isaiah: *“This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines human precepts”*. What’s interesting is that Jesus didn’t really engage them in conversation about this, defending Himself or His disciples in their eyes. Instead, He rebuked the Pharisees and scribes in a general way so as to dismiss their criticism as false, and then turned away from them and addressed the crowds. We will all experience unjust condemnation at times. If we are in the wrong, then we must receive the condemnation as if it were from God and repent. But if the condemnation flows from someone’s wounded pride or error, then Jesus set the example on how we ought to respond. The best response is to reject their error and then refuse to become engaged in the conversation further. Too often when we are criticized unjustly, we also take it personally. We tend to fight back and justify ourselves, trying to prove that the other person is wrong. But when we do that, we are most likely acting out of our own wounded pride. This will result in angry sulking feelings and the experience of oppression that the evil one inflicts upon us. Jesus’ model is to reject the lie and then refuse to

engage it further. The reason for this is that the unjust condemnation is actually the seed of the evil one. The person delivering it is only the instrument. So, we rebuke the lie of the evil one and refuse to get into a personal battle with the person delivering the lie. Doing so brings freedom from oppression and allows our hearts to remain at peace, no matter what we endure. Reflect, today, upon any ways that you have taken some conversation personally, allowing it to oppress you with anger, becoming defensive or argumentative. Know that whenever that happens, this is an attack from the evil one as he seeks to oppress you. Do not accept that abuse. The guide for each of us is the peace and joy that comes from the Holy Spirit. Even the greatest martyrs remained at peace and felt joy in the midst of their persecution. Reflect upon any ways that you have allowed the evil one to agitate you and leave you upset with your wounded pride. Do not fall into his trap. Hold on to the truth and remain at peace, and that will be all the defense you need to make.

-My Catholic Life

EUCCHARISTIC CONGRESS: Eucharistic Procession

news On Saturday afternoon October 19th Eucharistic Congress attendees will have the opportunity to boldly witness the faith and take part in a Eucharistic Procession. The procession will start at 4:00pm and start from Saint Agnes Church Mumford Road and process to Saint Mary’s Cathedral Basilica Spring Garden Road. The walk is approximately five kilometres. For those who wish to walk only part of the procession there will be stopping points along the route for a brief prayer and for others to join in. The route and stopping points will be provided once confirmed. Our hope is that this procession will witness Christ alive and well in our Archdiocese and so by representing of ALL the faithful including the young, young at heart, members of the Mi’kmaq, parishioners from across the whole Archdiocese, and representatives of the various new immigrant communities. To register go to <https://www.halifaxyarmouth.org/congress2024>

OFFICE CLOSED: The office will be closed on Monday September 2nd to observe the Labour Day holiday. We will reopen for regular hours of operation on Tuesday.



WANT TO BECOME CATHOLIC? *Are you a non-Catholic interested in the Catholic faith? Are you thinking you might want to become Catholic? Are you a Catholic adult who never celebrated your 1st Communion and/or Confirmation?* Then RCIA is for you. RCIA will be starting this fall at St. Ambrose. If you are interested then please contact the office for a form you can fill out to sign up. Come and join us this fall!



STAINED GLASS WINDOW INFORMATION: One of our parishioners is doing some research on the stained-glass windows here at Saint Ambrose. Many of these windows are donated on behalf of loved ones, and she is hoping to gather some information about them. If you have information to share, please leave your contact information with the office.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: Divide your returns with your God, Share your gains with Christ. Make Christ a partner in your earthly possessions so that he will also make you ch-heir of his heavenly kingdom. -St. Cyprian of Carthage



ULTREYA: The next Yarmouth Area Cursillo Movement Ultreya is on September 5th, 2024 at 7pm at St. Ambrose Marian Hall.



FOOD BANK: This weekend, August 31st and September 1st, is our turn to support the Yarmouth Food Bank. Non-perishable goods and monetary donations are appreciated. Members of the Knights of Columbus will be on hand before all the masses to receive the donations.



CATECHISM CLASS REGISTRATION: Registration for Catechism classes for grades primary to eight will take place on October 6th in the Praish Centre from 10:00 am to 11:00 am. Classes will only start October 20th from 10:10 to 11:00. Confirmation registration to be determined.



KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS NEWS: Monthly meeting Tuesday September 10th, all members invited to attend. 6:00pm executive meeting, 7:00pm general meeting **Soup kitchen** will start up on Tuesday September 10th, all are welcome.

