



**October 13<sup>th</sup> 2024**  
**28<sup>th</sup> 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 – October 12<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral (Yarmouth):**

**Sat. 4 pm** Parishioners  
**Sun. 9am** Anniv. William Cottreau  
**Sun. 11:15 am** Stephen Harding  
**Tues. 6:30 pm** Anniv. Jim LeBlanc  
**Wed. 6:30 pm** Bernadette and Nazaire d'Entremont  
**Thurs: 9 am** Anniv. Randy Muise  
**Fri. 9 am** Edward and Katherine Robicheau  
**Sat. 4 pm** **NO MASS (EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS)**  
**Sun. 9am** Parishioners  
**Sun. 11:15 am** Anniv. Shannon Churchill

**Our Lady of Lourdes (Melbourne):**

**Sun. 10 am Oct. 13** Mary Ellen Saulnier  
**Sun. 10 am Oct. 20** Nicholas Clegg

**REFLECTION: Exceedingly Astonished** “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for one who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” They were astonished and said among themselves, “Then who can be saved?” Jesus looked at them and said, “For human beings it is impossible, but not for God. All things are possible for God.” Have you ever been “exceedingly astonished” by the demands of the Christian life? Hopefully you have been. And if you have been,

hopefully you are no longer. Being exceedingly astonished is one of many purifications we must go through in order to enter the Kingdom of God. The “eye of a needle” is a reference to one of the gates in the wall surrounding the city of Jerusalem. After dark, the gate would be closed and the only way to enter was through a small door in the center of that gate. A person could pass through by ducking down, but a camel could not enter unless it got down on the ground and literally crawled through. This took much effort and direction from the master of that camel, but it was possible. The point of this story is to emphasize that we will not be able to easily stroll into Heaven. In this case, Jesus was speaking about how easy it is for a person with money to become so attached to that money that they fail to obtain the riches of Heaven. The rich young man, to whom Jesus was just speaking, went away sad because Jesus lovingly invited him to detach from his earthly wealth so as to obtain the riches of Heaven. Jesus said to him, “Go, sell what you have, and give to the poor and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” To that, the rich young man went away sad. Greed and an all-consuming attachment to material wealth clearly have the potential to destroy your soul. There is no way around it. But this teaching applies to every other form of attachment also. When we are attached to any sin to a serious degree and refuse to separate ourselves from that sin, we will not enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Therefore, if love of God does not motivate us to turn from sin, perhaps fear of hell will. When the disciples witnessed this rich young man preferring his wealth over Heaven, and then Jesus standing His ground and making it clear that it is very hard to make it to Heaven, their astonishment would have challenged them personally. But that is good. It is good because it reveals that they were also convicted of their own unholy attachments and their astonishment arose from a holy fear within. As they saw the rich young man walk away, they would have thought about those things that they also held onto that needed to be purged from their lives. “Astonishment” in this case is the holy realization that they needed to change. The good news, however, is that when a person does change and becomes freed from the attachments that keep them from God, then they will no longer have any attachment that will lead them to be astonished at

God’s demands. The ultimate goal is to overcome the astonishment caused by the demands of discipleship so that conformity to these demands becomes a way of life. Reflect, upon anything that our Lord has taught that is difficult for you to face. Is there any commandment that you tend to ignore? Any teaching that you attempt to rationalize? Any demand that appears to you to be too much? If you are to enter the eye of the needle, you must be wholeheartedly committed. Jesus will not shy away from demanding a total surrender of your life to Him. Reflect upon those attachments that you continue to hold onto and try to see Jesus speaking to you about those attachments as He spoke to this rich young man. Overcome all astonishment and make unwavering submission to the will of God your way of life. This is the only way to enter the gates of the Kingdom of God. -My Catholic Life

**KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS NEWS: 4<sup>th</sup> Degree meeting**



Tuesday October 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm with the Rosary being said at 6:30pm for all brother Knights who need our prayers.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER:**

This month’s October 27<sup>th</sup> and next month’s November 24<sup>th</sup> breakfast will be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. The cost is \$10.00 for adults and \$7.00 for 12 and under. The proceeds are to go towards the new handrail for the wheelchair ramp here at the church.

**CATECHISM CLASS:** Classes will start October 20<sup>th</sup>



from 10:10 to 11:00. For those who have not registered yet, you can do so during the week or on the first day of classes.

**JUBILEE YEAR 2025:** In 2025 the Catholic Church celebrates a Jubilee Year. Pope Francis has stated that the overarching theme of our upcoming Jubilee year is: **hope**. In the papal bull declaring the year he wrote: “*May the Jubilee be a moment of genuine, personal encounter with the Lord Jesus, the 'door' (cf. Jn 10:7,9) of our salvation, whom the Church is charged to proclaim always, everywhere, and to all as 'our hope' (1 Tim 1:1),*” **What is a Jubilee year?** A Jubilee Year is a special celebration the Church holds at least once every 25 years. It’s a year of

pilgrimages, of a focus on the spiritual life, of confession and special Masses, and of a general turn towards God in thanksgiving, and in repentance. It’s often said that Jubilee years are all about seeking and giving forgiveness - asking God and one another for forgiveness, and offering forgiveness to the people we need to forgive.

**CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION:**Confirmation for this year will include Grade 8 and Grade 9.

Registration and Information session, for the Sacrament of Confirmation this year, will take place on Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 5:15 pm at the Parish Centre. **This meeting/registration is for parents and students, and it is mandatory to attend.** The first class starts, at 6:00 pm and end at 9:00 pm. Any questions please call Debbie Muise at 902-774-0373.

**QUOTE OF THE WEEK:** The journey to God follows



many routes. So let each person take to the end with no turning back the way that was chosen. -St. John Chassian

**SATURDAY NIGHT MASS CANCELLED:** As you are aware, there is a Eucharistic Congress happening in our Diocese in Halifax from October 17<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup>. The archbishop has asked that all priests attend on the Saturday for the Eucharistic procession. For this to happen, the diocese has asked that **masses in our diocese on Saturday October 19<sup>th</sup> be cancelled.** Regular masses will be held on Sunday here at Saint Ambrose and Our Lady of Lourdes. Thank you for your understanding.

**ADORATION CHAPEL OPEN AGAIN:** Our Adoration Chapel is now open for visits once again.

**OFFICE & CHURCH CLOSED:** The office and church will be closed on Monday October 14<sup>th</sup> for the Thanksgiving holiday.

**THANK YOU, KNIGHT’S:** last weekend was our Parishioner Appreciation Weekend. At the end of mass was served apple crisp which was supplied by the parish and cooked by the Knights of Columbus. A big thank you to them from us for doing such a good job in preparing this desert! Fr. Henry.