



October 27th 2024
30th 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 – Oct. 26th – Nov. 3rd, 2024

St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral (Yarmouth):

Sat. 4 pm Rosemary & Barbara Feener
Sun. 9am Elizabeth Rottery
Sun. 11:15 am Parishioners
Tues. 6:30 pm Anniv. Yvonne Eldridge
Wed. 6:30 pm Intentions of Brandan & Xavier Johnston
Thurs: 9 am Edward and Catherine Robicheau
Fri. 9 am Mass of Remembrance
Sat. 4 pm Parishioners
Sun. 9am George Bain
Sun. 11:15 am Anniv. Jadon Robinson

Our Lady of Lourdes (Melbourne):

Sun. 10 am Oct. 27 Claudette Taylor
Sun. 10 am Nov. 3 Mass of Remembrance

REFLECTION: I Want to See As Jesus was leaving Jericho with his disciples and a sizable crowd, Bartimaeus, a blind man, the son of Timaeus, sat by the roadside begging. On hearing that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, “Jesus, son of David, have pity on me.” Imagine the humiliation you might experience if your only way to survive each day was to sit on the side of the road and beg. As a blind man at that time, Bartimaeus was not able to work and support himself. Many saw his blindness as a curse from God and the result

of his sin or the sins of his parents. He would have been treated as an outcast of society and as a burden to his family and community. Thus, the mental and emotional trauma a blind person experienced at that time would have been just as difficult to deal with as the physical blindness itself. The symbolism in this story is extraordinary and teaches us many things about our Christian journey. First, we must strive to identify with Bartimaeus’ humility and weakness. On a spiritual level, we are all blind and, in our fallen natural state, we are spiritual outcasts. This means that we cannot attain Heaven by ourselves. Bartimaeus is a symbol of our fallen natural state. We need to humble ourselves every day and see ourselves as people in dire need who are incapable of saving our own souls. Bartimaeus is also a symbol of what we must do in order to be drawn out of the blindness and misery we experience in life. The moment he heard that Jesus was walking by, he cried out for mercy. But he didn’t just every day, cry out to our Lord. He did so with perseverance. The people who heard him crying out rebuked him and told him to stop. But their rebukes only led him to be more fervent in his prayer. Also, it appears that Jesus ignored him at first. Why would Jesus do that? It certainly wasn’t because Jesus didn’t care. It was because our Lord knew that Bartimaeus would persevere and He wanted him to do so. Jesus wanted Bartimaeus’ prayer to become more resolute, and it did. The prayer of Bartimaeus must become the way we pray. It is very easy to become discouraged in life and to lose hope. When that happens, our prayer becomes weak and ineffective. At times, we will experience many other temptations to give up on prayer. The rebukes by the crowd are a symbol of the many temptations we will experience to give up on prayer. When those temptations come, we must double our effort and strengthen our resolve. Jesus’ silence at first must also be seen as an invitation to pray with greater faith. If we pray and feel as though God is not listening, we must know that God does hear us and His initial silence is His way of inviting us closer and to a deeper level of faith and prayer. When Jesus stopped and told the disciples to bring Bartimaeus to Him, Bartimaeus immediately got up, threw off his cloak and went to our Lord. His cloak is a symbol of everything we need to shed in life that keeps us from immediately and quickly responding

to the promptings of grace. Though there is nothing wrong with having a cloak, in that moment it was a slight hindrance to his prompt response to Jesus. So also, with us; we must be ready and willing to eliminate anything that keeps us from responding to God the moment He calls to us. Finally, Bartimaeus’ prayer was perfect. “Master, I want to see.” Spiritually speaking, we must work to foster the deepest desire to see God, to see our Lord. If we desire the gift of faith, the ability to see spiritual truths and understand them, then our Lord will answer that prayer. Our Lord will also say to us, “Go your way; your faith has saved you.” Reflect, today, upon this poor blind beggar, Bartimaeus. See in his humble soul a model of how you must see yourself and of how you must pray. Observe the humility of your fallen state, the isolation you experience from your sin, and the perseverance you need to have in prayer. Follow the example of Bartimaeus, and our Lord will remove the blindness of your heart so that you can follow Him more fully -My Catholic Life

NET RETREAT: NET is a National Evangelization Team which travels across Canada putting on retreats for youth. We will be having the NET team down to St Ambrose on Saturday November 2nd. There will be discussions, small group, skits and much more. It is for youth in grades 6 to 12. It will begin with registration at 12:00 pm and the main retreat will begin at 12:15 am. Supper will be provided and the day will include mass at 4pm and finish around 7:00 pm. We are asking to pre-register by October 28th. Please call the office at 902-742-7151. The gathering will take place in the Marian Hall. It’s an event the youth will truly enjoy!

KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS NEWS: Monthly Meeting: Tuesday November 12th, all members invited 5:30pm executive meeting, 6:30 supper and 7:30pm general meeting. **4th Degree Meeting** will be on November 19th at 7:00 pm. There will be a Healing Rosary on the 19th starting at 6:30 pm for all our sick brother Knights.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER: This this Sunday October 27th and next month’s November 24th 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.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: I do not understand how it is possible not to trust in him who can do all things. With him, everything; without him, nothing. He is Lord. He will not allow those who have placed all their trust in him to be put to shame. -St. Faustina Kowalska

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE: At the start of November, our Book of Remembrance will be in the church for you to write the names of your deceased loved ones. They will be prayed for throughout the month of November.

ULTREYA: The Yarmouth and Area Ultreya will be held November 7th, 2024 in Marian Hall at 7pm. We hope to see you then! De Colores!

FOOD BANK: Next weekend, November 2nd-3rd, 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.

ALL SAINTS’ PARTY: There will be an All-Saints’ Party for children in the Jubilee Room after the 11:15 am mass on Sunday, Nov 3. Children can dress up as their favourite saint and say a word or two about who they are. Light refreshments will be served. Everyone welcome. For more info contact Leila at 902-307-5966.

CATHOLIC WOMEN’S LEAGUE: We are beginning to collect our annual dues. You may put your \$35 in an envelope marked CWL dues with your name, address, phone number in the collection on weekends or drop them in the mailbox at the parish or for pickup call (902)749-7504.

MASS OF REMEMBRANCE: There will be a mass of remembrance for parishioners that have passed away in the last year at **Our Lady of Lourdes** on November 3rd. Mass of remembrance at **St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral** will be November 1st at 9:am.