



January 26th, 2025 3rd 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
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Tabitha Centre: 902-742-8960
Confession/Adoration Wednesday 7:00-8:00

MASS INTENTIONS -January 26th – Feb. 2nd, 2025

St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral (Yarmouth):

Sat. 4 pm Parishioners
Sun. 9am Anniv. Clifford Hipson
Sun. 11:15am Special Intentions
Tues. 6:30 pm Robert Edward Saulnier
Wed. 6:30 pm Vivian & Cecil Surette
Thurs: 9 am Marion Moody
Fri. 9 am Sylvia Skeard
Sat. 4 pm Madeline Moulaison
Sun. 9am Anniv. George D'Eon
Sun. 11:15am Parishioners

Our Lady of Lourdes (Melbourne):

Sat. 6 pm Jan. 25 Loring Clairmont
Sun. 10 am Feb. 2 Liturgy of the Word

REFLECTION: Enthused by the Gospel Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news of him spread throughout the whole region. He taught in their synagogues and was praised by all. This Gospel passage reveals to us the very beginnings of Jesus' public ministry. He began His public ministry immediately after spending forty days in the desert being tempted by the devil. As He began, He went to Galilee "in the power of the Spirit." Many people

heard about Him and welcomed Him with much enthusiasm. Though Jesus was initially welcomed with praise, we know that things quickly changed. Some eventually became so hostile that they put Jesus to death, but it's useful to ponder the initial response He received. This initial response is one that must become continuously new in our lives. The initial response was that He "was praised by all." Jesus would later teach about this initial experience many would have toward the Gospel when He taught the Parable of the Sower. Recall that the seed that was sown on rocky ground, that fell among thorns, and that was sown in good soil all began to grow. Only that which was sown on the path failed to grow, because the birds came and ate it up. This latter case describes those who are completely indifferent to the Gospel. But in today's Gospel, the "all" are those who at least paid attention and initially responded with enthusiasm. The seed began to grow in these three scenarios—but, of course, in only one of those cases did the seed ultimately bear good fruit. Another way to look at this initial encounter with the Gospel is to consider a child. In almost every case, when a child is presented with the Gospel, they will begin to respond and even find excitement in the faith. But, as many parents have seen, this initial welcome is sometimes followed by a rejection of the Gospel later in life. When did you initially encounter the Gospel? For some it was during childhood. For others, there was a powerful experience of conversion later in life. Think of that initial encounter you had and the ways that you were excited by your newfound faith. Has that experience continued and grown in your life? Or has your initial praise of God and enthusiasm dwindled or even died? Reflect, today, upon the fact that God wants us to continuously experience the Gospel as something new and transforming. The newness of the life of grace must never wear off. Ponder this experience in your life and try to see yourself as one of the people in today's Gospel who heard Jesus for the first time. Ponder their enthusiasm and join in their praise of our Lord so that you will be motivated to let God and the preaching of His holy Word continuously transform you. *Glorious Word of God, You have come to set us free by revealing to us Your love and mercy and by bestowing that grace upon us. Please open my mind*

and heart to Your holy Word so that I will be driven by a holy love to serve and follow You all the days of my life. Jesus, I trust in You. -My Catholic Life

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: The objective of our life is the kingdom of God, but we should carefully ask what we should aim for. If we do not look very carefully into this we will wear ourselves out useless strivings. For those who travel without a marked road there is the toil of the journey and no arrival at a destination. -St. John Cassian



COOFFEE SOCIALS: Will be held after the 4pm and 9am masses the weekend February 15th & 16th. Join us for our **winter potluck** Sunday, January 16th in the parish centre dining hall after the 11:15 am Mass. Our theme for this potluck is "multicultural dining". Please bring a special dish to share from your country or culture! For more information or to volunteer please call the office at 902-742-7151.

KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS NEWS: Monthly Meeting: Tuesday, February 11, all members invited. **Executive Meeting** at 6:30 and **General meeting** at 7:30.



ULTREYA: The Yarmouth and Area Ultreya will be held February 6th, 2025 in Marian Hall at 7pm. We hope to see you then! De Colores!

FOOD BANK: Next weekend, February 1st and 2nd, 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.



OLD PALM: If anyone has old palm from last year, you can leave it in the container at the back of the church starting next week or you may burn your old palm yourself at home.



THE CROSS BY THE ALTAR AT ST. AMBROSE: You might be wondering about the cross that has been placed by the altar at St. Ambrose. As I might have mentioned in a previous message, because we are a Co-Cathedral, we are a place of pilgrimage for the

Jubilee year. For this pilgrimage year, every Cathedral or Co-Cathedral is to have a cross next to the altar (preferably one that has some history with the parish). Our cross came from St. Raphael's Church in Pinkney's Point. It is likely over 100 years old from what I have been told. It will remain there until the end of the year.

THE HEAR! HERE! SOCIETY: is delighted to present internationally acclaimed Swiss-Canadian pianist Teo Gheorghiu in an afternoon and evening of masterworks for piano at The Yarmouth County Museum on February 11, 2025 at 4 or 7pm. Tickets can be purchased online at [/www.tickettailor.com/events/hearheresociety/1496745?](http://www.tickettailor.com/events/hearheresociety/1496745)

STEUBENVILLE ATLANTIC CONFERENCE: If you have not signed up yet it is not too late! Youth going into high school in September and peer leaders ages 19 & 20 that would be interested in attending the Steubenville Atlantic High School Conference from July 11th-13th in Halifax this summer can call or message the office to register. This weekend conference is a chance to gather with your peers and experience your faith in a way you never have before.



ROSARY AFTER 9:00 AM MASS THURSDAY AND FRIDAY: A reminder for anyone who would like to join us after 9 am mass on Thursday and Friday to pray the rosary, we gather in the front pews to the left. All are welcome!



Our sympathy is extended to the family and friends of
Paulette Rose Forbes
Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon her.