



## February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025 6<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 -February 15<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025

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

Sat. 4 pm Parishioners  
 Sun. 9am Garry McIntaggart  
 Sun. 11:15am Anniv. Cathy Hubbard  
 Tues. 6:30 pm Dale Goodwin  
 Wed. 6:30 pm Lucille Deveau  
 Thurs. 9 am Suzanne Daigle  
 Fri. 9 am Theresa Doucet  
 Sat. 4 pm Lois Armstrong  
 Sun. 9am Parishioners  
 Sun. 11:15am Jerry MacKenzie

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

Sun. 10 am Feb. 16 Stanley Davis & Robert Doucette  
 Sun. 10 am Feb. 23 Julie Deveau

### REFLECTION: Beatitudes and Woes

“But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. Woe to you who are filled now, for you will be hungry. Woe to you who laugh now, for you will grieve and weep. Woe to you when all speak well of you, for their ancestors treated the false prophets in this way.” [Luke 6:24–26](#)[Luke 6:20–49](#) offers us a shortened version of the Sermon on the Mount found in Matthew’s Gospel. Luke’s version of this



sermon takes place on a plain, “a stretch of level ground.” The teachings in the two Gospels are very similar, despite their difference in length. Luke’s teaching on the Beatitudes adds the “woe to you’s” quoted above, which are not found in Matthew’s version. The early Church Father Saint Bede comments that Saint Luke’s version of the “woes” are meant for those who are “uninstructed hearers” because they “must first be brought by terrors to good works.” He goes on to say that the first part of the Beatitudes, the “blessings,” are meant for the “perfect” because they “need but be invited by rewards” rather than fear of punishment. The fact that Saint Luke includes a teaching for both the sinner and the saint should lead us to the conclusion that we can benefit from both approaches in our spiritual lives. When your spiritual life is strong and you are consistently avoiding serious sin, it might be more helpful to reflect regularly upon the blessings found in the Beatitudes. This will have the effect of drawing you into greater perfection as the desire for the reward of holiness becomes the object of your hope. When your spiritual life is weaker and you are regularly struggling with more serious sin, it might be more helpful to reflect upon the woes of the Beatitudes. This will have the effect of deterring you from the cycle of sin you struggle with, on account of the fear of the consequences of those sins. In the end, the Beatitudes and their subsequent woes are meant to point us interiorly to the desires of our hearts. We must become more and more aware of what occupies our thinking and desires. Ultimately, wealth or poverty, hunger or satisfaction, worldly praise or persecution do not matter. What matters is that our hearts are detached from the desires identified in this sermon so that we more fully desire only God and His holy will, regardless of the circumstances of life we find ourselves in. Reflect, today, upon your own spiritual and moral life and first consider whether you are blessed to be living a life that more imitates the saints or whether you more often reflect the serious struggles of the sinner. From there, try to choose which form of teaching you need the most. Do you need to ponder the rewards of seeking even greater beatitude in life so as to grow deeper in holiness? Or do you need Jesus’ clear condemnations to help you break free from the cycle of sin with which you are struggling? Humbly

identify that which is most helpful to you right now in your spiritual life and allow this full sermon of Jesus to help you on your journey to the Kingdom of Heaven. *Lord of holiness, I do desire to follow You and become truly holy. Please free me from my sin so that I am able to avoid the consequences of those sins. Please help me to also desire the heights of holiness so that I will receive the great rewards that You promised to the saints in Heaven. Jesus, I trust in You.* -My Catholic Life

### QUOTE OF THE WEEK:



Let us have no desire to choose our own paths but walk in those which God may be pleased to present to us. -St. Vincent de Paul

### COFFEE SOCIALS:

Will be held after the 4pm and 9am masses this weekend February 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>. Join us for our **winter potluck** Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup> 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!

### KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS NEWS:

This year marks the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Fourth or Patriotic Degree of the Knights of Columbus. The Knights are represented in most of the parishes in Nova Scotia and offer a great deal of voluntary service in our church and community. The Fourth Degree are the ones we see in uniform. Please join us in wishing a “Happy Anniversary” to our Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus and thanking them for their service. **Knights of Columbus Nova Scotia State Council Scholarship (value \$1000.00)** Scholarships are available for Catholic students who will be attending first year university or community college next year. Yarmouth Council 2181 will accept applications from students attending Yarmouth High, Par-en-Bas and Drumlin Heights. Students applying for a Nova Scotia State Council Scholarship will also be considered for one of our local scholarships. Please consult your school guidance counselor for application forms. Completed applications with supporting documents must be received by Council 2181 Scholarship Chairman Philippe Doucet on or before Friday March 7, 2025.



If you require more information, please call 742-2970 or 748-1592.

### SMALL GROUPS: Are you interested in forming a Catholic small group?

Small group discussions are an excellent way of developing your faith and sharing with others. There will be a small group information session February 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 in the Jubilee Room. If you would like more information, please contact Liz Richard at [liz.richard.ab@gmail.com](mailto:liz.richard.ab@gmail.com) or 902-307-6456. The following is a testimony of a parishioner on how small groups have been beneficial: *Small groups that form during and after Cursillo weekends are called group reunions. For those in our group reunion there is a sense of connectedness that nourishes us spiritually. It is an informal place where we can speak freely about our lives and lives of our families and know that it is confidential. It is a place of listening and support. We find that meeting every week keeps us committed to each other and to our faith. LR, MR, PR, AR, CS, KS, ER*

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

will be held on the Fridays of Lent beginning March 7<sup>th</sup> at St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral at 6:30pm. Each week will be led by a different group.



### FISH CHOWDER FRIDAYS:

We will be offering take out fish chowder on the Fridays of Lent starting March 7<sup>th</sup>. We ask you to call the parish office to place your order. The cost is \$7.00 and it may be picked up at the Marian Hall doors between 4:00 and 5:00.



### SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER:

Tuesday, March 4<sup>th</sup> in the dining hall from 4:30-6pm, \$7.00 per person, \$5.00 for children 12 & under Includes pancakes, sausages and tea or coffee



### INCOME TAX RECEIPTS:

The income tax receipts have been mailed out.

### OFFICE CLOSED:

Please note that the office will be closed on Monday February 17<sup>th</sup> in observance of the Heritage Holiday. We will reopen on Tuesday February 18<sup>th</sup> for regular hours of operation.

