



February 23rd, 2025 7th 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 -Feb. 22nd – March 2nd, 2025

St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral (Yarmouth):

Sat. 4 pm Lois Armstrong
Sun. 9am Parishioners
Sun. 11:15am Jerry MacKenzie
Tues. 6:30 pm Special Intentions
Wed. 6:30 pm Holy Souls in Purgatory
Thurs: 9 am Ernest Fred Mise
Fri. 9 am Doug McHolm
Sat. 4 pm Parishioners
Sun. 9am Lucy Landry
Sun. 11:15am Anniv. Rose Purdy

Our Lady of Lourdes (Melbourne):

Sun. 10 am Feb. 23 Julie Deveau
Sun. 10 am Mar. 2 Anniv. Rebecca LeBlanc

STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be held on the Fridays



of Lent beginning March 7th at St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral at 6:30pm. Each week will be led by a different group.

REFLECTION: Kindness Toward All



“But rather, love your enemies and do good to them, and lend expecting nothing back; then your reward will be great and you will be children of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just

as your Father is merciful.” It is certainly difficult to be “kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.” But doing so is exactly what our Lord commanded us to do. And His command is not a command in the sense of being a burden. On the contrary, it’s a command that frees us from the ingratitude and wickedness we encounter. Oftentimes, when we encounter ingratitude from another, or any other form of wickedness, we tend to react in kind. Our fallen human nature lures us into cruelty when faced with cruelty. We criticize, condemn, attack and get angry. But Jesus is very clear that this is not how the “Most High” acts toward the wicked. And it is not how He acts toward us. In the end, the wicked who fail to repent will endure the consequences of their rejection of God’s mercy. But until that final judgment, hope of conversion must always be present. And for that reason, we must never give up on another, no matter how difficult. Kindness shown to everyone, in every circumstance, goes to the heart of the mission we have received as children of God. Think about the person in your life who seems unworthy of your kindness and generosity. Why are they undeserving? Are they truly undeserving? The truth, according to our Lord’s teaching, is that these are not questions we should even ask ourselves. Instead, we must fully commit ourselves to loving everyone who appears to be our enemy, and do good to them and to everyone whom we encounter. Though this is difficult, it won’t be if we understand the goodness that God has shown to us. God has shown us perfect goodness, not because He expected anything back, but simply because He has willed to love us. If we want to be children of God the Most High, then we must reciprocate the love given to us. That’s the nature of God’s love. It cannot be contained. It cannot be selfishly received without also allowing it to pour forth from our lives. When we understand this, we will understand the reason Jesus instructed us to be “kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.” It is simply because this is how God has treated us. Reflect, today what you could ever comprehend. Reflect, also, upon the great benefit there is in opening yourself to God’s perfect love, kindness, generosity and mercy. The benefit is that you are able to be filled with that which you receive. And as you receive this love of God, it necessarily overflows into the lives of

everyone you encounter, the good and the wicked. Everyone must always be offered this love. Do not hesitate, for God does not hesitate with you. -My Catholic Life

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:



A person’s attitude toward their profession clearly helps determine the results achieved by it. Whoever regards their work as a mere source of income or pastime will perform differently from the person who feels that their profession is an authentic vocation. -St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross

FOOD BANK:



The weekend, March 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.

LENT IS COMING:

Looking for something to do during lent? Hallow—the #1 Catholic prayer app—breaks down everything you need to know about Lent—including the best prayer resources you’ll find anywhere. For a link to the app, go to the St. Ambrose website. There are also other resources to be found on the website and there are Lenten Booklets available in the entrance of the church.

ASH WEDNESDAY FAST AND ABSTINENCE



RULES: Every person 14 years of age or older must abstain from (not eat) meat. Every person between the age of 18 and 59 must also fast on Ash Wednesday meaning you can eat the equivalent of two meals that day. For example, you can choose to eat one normal meal and two other meals that add up to one meal.

ULTREYA:



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

FISH CHOWDER FRIDAYS:



We will be offering take out fish chowder on the Fridays of Lent starting March 7th. 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 4th 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

KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS NEWS: Monthly Meeting:



Tuesday March 11th, all members invited 5:30 pm executive meeting, 6:30 pm supper and 7:30 pm general meeting.

PILGRIMAGE: May 16– 26, 2025: Pilgrimage to Medjugorje with Hector Caissie and 2 accompanying priests, Fr. Carlos & Fr. Legendre.

Cost of \$3770 includes all airport taxes, security, fuel surcharges, airfare from the Moncton/Halifax, (twin or triple) accommodation, daily breakfast & dinner and experienced local guide. (Optional single room supplement, \$250/p.) **INFO:** Hector Caissie at hectorcaissie@gmail.com or 506-857-2295.

MATTHEW 18 RENEWAL MEETINGS:

We take our name from the scripture Matthew 18:20 which states: "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." We meet every Monday night at 7pm in the Jubilee room, unless it is a holiday or storm, " If the schools are closed, due to storm, there is no meeting." **Who are we?** We part of the Catholic Renewal, approved by the last several Pope's, and have representatives in Rome who report to the Pope. **What to expect?** We open the meeting with an opening prayer, then we sing songs of praise and worship, inspired scripture readings or inspired word from God. There's a time for sharing how God is working in our lives, or maybe how a reading or song struck a core in us. We finish the evening with prayers of petitions and 3 structured prayers. All are welcome to join us at any time. Maybe we are the spiritual nourishment you are needing in your life at this time. If you have any questions about our group, you can contact one of the Core members: Lorraine Manser at 902-749-1903, or Cheryl Harding at 902-740-3816.

INCOME TAX CEIPTS:

The income tax receipts were mailed out last week. Please check your mail to see if you have received them and let the office know if you haven't. Thank you.