



March 2nd, 2025 8th 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 - March 1st – 9th, 2025

St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral (Yarmouth):

Sat. 4 pm Parishioners
Sun. 9am Lucy Landry
Sun. 11:15am Anniv. Rose Purdy
Tues. 6:30 pm Intentions Father Wieslaw Papuga
Ash Wed. 9 am Doug McHolm
Ash Wed. 6:30 pm Peter Eldridge
Thurs: 9 am Lorraine Thibodeau
Fri. 9 am Larry Burke
Sat. 4 pm Parishioners
Sun. 9am Special Intentions
Sun. 11:15am Raymond Bowers

Our Lady of Lourdes (Melbourne):

Sun. 10 am Mar. 2 Anniv. Rebecca LeBlanc
Ash Wed. 6:00 Mar. 4 Paulette Forbes
Sun. 10 am Mar. 9 Stanley Davis & Robert Doucette

REFLECTION: Fully Trained Jesus told his disciples a parable, "Can a blind person guide a blind person? Will not both fall into a pit? No disciple is superior to the teacher; but when fully trained, every disciple will be like his teacher." Are you "fully trained?" What does it mean to be fully trained? Jesus makes it clear



that those who are fully trained will be like their teacher. Of course, we must become like our Lord, who is the one and only Teacher. So, are you like Him in every way? Being fully trained as a Christian is different than being fully trained in an occupation. For example, a doctor is fully trained when all the necessary lessons are learned and the practical aspects of medicine are put into practice. That is why that person becomes a doctor, just like the doctors who were their teachers. But the Christian life is not something we master by learning many teachings of the faith so that, by our expertise, we can then put them into practice using our natural talents. For a Christian to be fully trained, it is necessary that the Divine Physician fully possess them, live within them, and act through them. Thus, Christian training is the practice of allowing God to become one with you so that it is God Who acts in and through you. This form of "training" first takes on the goal of freeing us from spiritual blindness. We must see Christ and come to know Him. Again, this is not a matter of simply learning various truths about God in an intellectual way. It's a matter of coming to know the Truth Himself. We must see and know the Person Who is Christ Jesus. This is true sight. Blindness, however, can always set in again when we take the eyes of our soul off the Savior. Seeing Christ, however, is not enough. Seeing must be followed by doing. That is why our Lord goes on to say in today's Gospel that "every tree is known by its own fruit" and that a "good person out of the store of goodness in his heart produces good." Seeing Christ Himself, within your soul, will produce that "store of goodness," and this will make you more "fully trained." Only then can you produce good fruit, for it will be Christ Himself producing the good fruit in and through you. So back to our original question: "Are you fully trained?" Do you daily keep your eyes on a Person, Jesus Himself? And if so, do You allow Him to act in your life and, through you, in the lives of others? If you cannot answer these questions with a confident "Yes," then you might have more blindness in the spiritual life than you realize. Reflect, today, upon your mission to become a fully trained soldier of Christ. God wants to use you, to live within you, and to act through you. He wants you to be like Him in every way. This is only possible when you admit the blindness with which you

struggle, turn your eyes to Him, and allow Him to become one with you. Start by turning to Him as He dwells within you. Search for Him, seek Him, and love Him. If you keep your eyes upon Him, He will carefully take care of the rest, leading you to a fully trained and fruitful life. -My Catholic Life

FR. WIESLAW RECOVERING: Some of you may have heard that a few weeks ago Fr. Wieslaw slipped on some ice in his driveway, fell, and broke his leg badly. He needed surgery and is now recuperating. He is doing well, but will be off from doing ministry for a while until he recovers. Please keep him in your prayers. Fr. Henry.

ETERNAL REST: We all have very real questions about death. What happens when we die? What does Scripture teach about death? How do we prepare for the life to come? The series called *Eternal Rest* examines the origin of death, the afterlife, and the powerful reality around the sacrament that ushers us into eternal life. "Eternal Rest presents the Catholic Church's teaching about death and God's response to it with wisdom and truth, gentleness and compassion, so we can think about and prepare for death in the light of Jesus Christ, the Author of life." Join me (Fr, Henry) this lent on Thursday evenings at 6:30 in the Jubilee Room starting March 13th.

ROSARIES FOR THE POPE: As Pope Francis' health concerns continue Catholics all around the world have been invited to keep the Holy Father close in prayer. Various groups have organized rosaries to be said. This past Monday, the Vatican announced that the cardinals present in Rome will lead a nightly rosary in St. Peter's Square, gathering at 9 p.m. Rome time to pray for the Holy Father's health. Catholics around the world can join in prayer initiative on their own or by going to the Vatican YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/vatican> Locally, the rosary happens daily at 4:00pm Halifax time.

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.

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.

ULTREYA: The Yarmouth and Area Ultreya will be held March 6th, 2025 in Marian Hall at 7pm.



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



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.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be held here on the Fridays of Lent beginning March 7th

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: May our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; our prayer, the chant of humble and grateful hearts. – Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers



Our sympathy is extended to the family and friends of
 Judy Ann Linda Walters and Shirley Margaret Robichaud
 Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them.