



January 5th, 2025 Epiphany of the Lord

Pastor: Fr. Henry Smolenaars
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Hospital Chaplain: Fr. Wieslaw Papuga
Priest on Call: 902-746-8233 (Emergencies and Sacrament of the sick)
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Tabitha Centre: 902-742-8960
Confession/Adoration Wednesday 7:00-8:00

MASS INTENTIONS -January 4th -January 12, 2025

St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral (Yarmouth):

Sat. 4 pm Parishioners
Sun. 9am Stanley & Louise Bourque
Sun. 11:15 am Anniv. Bob LeFave
Tues. 6:30 pm Blaine & Ryan Anthony
Wed. 6:30 pm Clifford Amirault
Thurs: 9 am Joseph & Hattie Thibeau
Fri. 9 am Patricia Ayre
Sat. 4 pm George Nixon
Sun. 9am Parishioners
Sun. 11:15am Deceased Members of the Boudreau Family

Our Lady of Lourdes (Melbourne):

Sun. 10 am Jan. 5 David Boudreau
Sun. 10 am Jan. 12 Liturgy of the Word

REFLECTION: A Manifestation to the World When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." The Magi were most likely from Persia, modern-day Iran. They were men who regularly engaged in a study of the stars. They were not Jewish but were most likely aware of the popular belief of the Jewish people that a king

would be born who would save them. These Magi were called by God to encounter the Savior of the World. Interestingly, God used something very familiar to them as an instrument of their calling: the stars. It was among their belief that when someone of great importance was born, this birth was accompanied by a new star. So, when they saw this new, bright and brilliant star, they were filled with curiosity and hope. One of the most significant aspects of this story is that they responded. God called them through the use of a star, and they chose to follow this sign, embarking on a long and arduous journey. God often uses those things most familiar to us that are part of our daily life to send forth His calling. Recall, for example, that many of the Apostles were fishermen, and Jesus used their occupation to call them, making them "fishers of men." He especially used the miraculous catch of fish to clearly indicate to them that they had a new calling. In our own lives, God is constantly calling us to seek Him out and worship Him. He will often use some of the most ordinary parts of our lives to send forth that calling. How is He calling you? In what way is He sending you a star to follow? Many times, when God speaks, we ignore His voice. We must learn from these Magi and diligently respond when He calls. We must not hesitate and must seek to daily be attentive to the ways that God invites us to deeper trust, surrender and worship. Reflect, today, upon God's call in your life. Are you listening? Are you responding? Are you ready and willing to abandon all else in life so as to serve His holy will? Seek Him, wait on Him and respond. Doing so will be the best decision you ever make. *Lord, I love You and pray that I will be open to Your guiding hand in my life. May I always be attentive to the countless ways that You call to me each and every day. And may I always respond to You with all my heart. Jesus, I trust in You.* -My Catholic Life

KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS NEWS: Monthly Meeting:



Tuesday, January 14th, all members invited. **Executive Meeting** at 5:30pm
Supper 6:30 General meeting at 7:30.

FOOD BANK: This weekend, January 4th and 5th, 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.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: If you are healthy and rich,



alleviate the need of the one who is sick and poor; if you have not fallen, help the one who has fallen and lives in suffering; if you are happy, console the one who is sad; if you are fortunate, help the one who has been bitten by misfortune. – St. Gregory Nazianzen

STEUBENVILLE ATLANTIC CONFERENCE: There will



be an information session in the Jubilee Room in the church on Sunday January 19th following the 11:15 mass. This meeting is for 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. This weekend conference is a chance to gather with your peers and experience your faith in a way you never have before. We hope to see you there! Please bring a \$50.00 down deposit if you are planning to attend.

COOFFEE SOCIALS: Will be held after all the masses



the weekend of January 18th & 19th in the Jubilee Room. Come join us for a cup.

ST. AMBROSE SKI TRIP: The annual ski trip to



Martock will be taking place February 15th. The cost is \$45.00 a person. We have a limited number of spots so it will be first come first served. The event is for youth and families ages 8 and up. We will have to be fully registered by January 24th in order to participate. For more information, please contact the parish office 902-742-7151.

JUBILEES THROUGHOUT HISTORY: In ancient

Judaism, the Jubilee Year (which was called the year of the yōbēl, "of the goat", because the holiday was proclaimed by the sound of a goat's horn) was a year that was declared holy. During this period, the Mosaic law prescribed that slaves could regain their freedom, and that land, (of which God is the sole master), should be returned to its former owners. A jubilee year was typically celebrated every 50

years. In the Christian era, after the first Jubilee of 1300, Pope Boniface VIII fixed the frequency of Jubilee celebrations to every 100 years. Following a plea from the people of Rome to Pope Clement VI (1342), the frequency was reduced to every 50 years. In 1389, in remembrance of the number of years in the life of Christ, Urban VI chose to set the Jubilee cycle to every 33 years and called for a Jubilee in 1390—though it was only celebrated after his death by Pope Boniface IX. Despite this, in 1400, at the end of the previously fixed 50-year period, without having declared a Jubilee ahead of time, Boniface IX granted a Jubilee indulgence to the pilgrims who had flocked to Rome. In 1425, Martin V celebrated a new Jubilee, opening the holy door of St John Lateran for the first time. The last to celebrate a Jubilee on the 50-year cycle was Pope Nicholas V in 1450. Paul II extended the inter-jubilee period to 25 years, and in 1475 a Holy Year was celebrated by Sixtus IV. From then on, ordinary Jubilees were held at regular intervals. Unfortunately, the Napoleonic wars prevented the celebrations of the Jubilees of 1800 and 1850. The Jubilees were resumed in 1875, after the annexation of Rome to the Kingdom of Italy, although that year it was celebrated without the traditional solemnity.

THANK YOU! Once again, Christmas came and went very quickly. I would like to thank all those who put in hard work in the different ministries to make Christmas a joyous occasion. All your (often unseen) hard work helps make the Christmas season a blessed and prayerful time. Also, thank you for your well wishes, cards, gifts. May the New Year through the grace of God bring you good health, comfort and Peace. Fr. Henry, Fr. Pat and Fr. Wieslaw.

COLLECTION: Here are a few items that would greatly help the counters when dealing with collection. 1. If you do not want to put your name on the front that is fine but, we ask you to please put the amount on it. It just confirms what we count on the inside especially if there are distractions. 2. The envelopes are the right size for a cheque or dollar bills so, please do not fold the money, flat is much easier. 3. When using tape please use it sparingly. It makes it very difficult to open them.