



**11th Sunday of Ordinary
Time
June 12th & 13th, 2021**

Pastor: Fr. Henry Smolenaars
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Reconciliation/confession is available by appointment only at this time please call the office or email Fr. Henry directly for an appointment.

LIVE STREAMED MASS INTENTIONS-June 13th -23rd 2021
Sun. June 13 10am Parishioners
Wed. June 16 9am Victor Amirault and Lou Lesser
Sun. June 20 10am Parishioners
Wed. June 23 9am Bernice Blades and Arthur Fitzgerald

Please note we will not be carrying the gifts for the offertory until further notice.

Please note: The weekday Mass will be cancelled in the event of a funeral Mass. The Mass intention scheduled for that day will be offered at a later date.

LIVE STREAM MASS AT ST. AMBROSE: We live stream mass every Wednesday at 9:00 am and on Sunday at 10:00 am. The next scheduled mass is always posted on our website's main page. If you want to watch, go to our web site at www.stambrosearmouth.ca or go to our YouTube channel www.youtube.com/c/SaintAmbroseParish/videos?view=57

EMAIL TRANSFERS: are available. Please send to stambrosemail@gmail.com Please add your envelope number or personal information for income tax purposes.

REFLECTIONS: The Wonders of God's Kingdom



Jesus said to the crowds: "This is how it is with the kingdom of God; it is as if a man were to scatter seed on the land and would sleep

and rise night and day and through it all the seed would sprout and grow, he knows not how."

What a beautiful image of the sprouting, growing and coming to fruition of the Kingdom of God in our midst!

God wills that His Kingdom come. We pray this in the Lord's Prayer. What does it mean when we pray for His Kingdom to come? First, it means that God wants to come and dwell within us, establishing His Kingdom within our hearts and souls. We must become living members of His Kingdom and He must be our Ruler and Guide.

Second, we understand this to be the establishment of His laws and will in our world. This means that the social, political and cultural order must be transformed by God's grace so as to participate in and bear the fruit of His Kingdom. We have work to do!

Third, it means that we anticipate the final and glorious coming of His Kingdom when Jesus returns in splendor and majesty. In the end, all things will be transformed and God will bring forth His final judgment upon the world making all things new.

But this passage above especially reveals to us "how" this will happen. It reveals that God's Kingdom will slowly, gently, and miraculously take hold. This will happen in our lives, it will happen in our world as we Christians commit ourselves to this work, and it will miraculously happen at the end of time when Jesus returns.

Think about this image Jesus gives us. The farmer plants the seed and slowly it sprouts, grows and produces fruit. As this happens, the farmer "knows not how."

Reflect, today, upon the mysterious ways that God establishes His Kingdom. He is in charge of it first and foremost. But you must do your part. You must make your heart and world around you, fertile ground. You must plant the seed, water it as needed but then let God do His part. God wants to bring forth His Kingdom in your life and in the world far more than any of us. But if you do your part, you also will be amazed as you watch grow His glorious handiwork of grace.

Lord, help my heart to be fertile soil for Your Kingdom. Help me to allow You to grow Your Kingdom in my heart and help me to be an instrument of that Kingdom in our world. Jesus, I trust in You.

A Hidden Life for God

Jesus said to his disciples: "Take care not to perform righteous deeds in order that people may see them; otherwise, you will have no recompense from your heavenly Father."

Very often when we do something good, we want others to see. We want them to be aware of how good we are. Why? Because it feels good to be recognized and honored by others. But Jesus tells us to do the complete opposite.

Jesus tells us that when we do a work of charity, fast or pray we should do it in a hidden way. In other words, we should not do it so as to be noticed and praised by others. It's not that there is anything wrong with others seeing our goodness. Rather, Jesus' teaching goes to the heart of our motivations for our good actions. He's trying to tell us that we should act in a holy way because we want to grow close to God and serve His will, not so that we can be recognized and praised by others.

This offers us a great opportunity to look deeply and honestly at our motivations. Why do you do what you do? Think about the good things you try to do. Then think about your motivation in doing those things. Hopefully you are motivated to do holy things simply because you want to be holy and want to serve the will of God. Are you content with God and God alone seeing your good actions? Are you OK with no one else recognizing your selflessness and acts of love? Hopefully the answer is "Yes."

Holiness is especially found in your hidden life. There, where you are seen only by God, you must act in a way that pleases God. You must live a life of virtue, prayer, sacrifice and self-giving when only God sees. If you can live this way in your hidden life, you can also be certain that your hidden life of grace will affect others in a way that only God can orchestrate. When you strive for holiness in a hidden way, God sees that and uses it for good. This hidden life of grace becomes the foundation for who you are and how you interact with

others. They may not see all you do, but they will be affected by the goodness within your soul. *Lord, help me to live a hidden life of grace. Help me to serve You even when no one sees. From the solitude of those moments, bring forth Your grace and mercy for the world. Jesus, I trust in You.* ~My Catholic Life

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: The Heart of Jesus is the



ultimate symbol of God's mercy; but it is a real symbol which represents the centre, the source from which salvation for all humanity gushed forth. ~Pope Francis

RESOURCE: AMORIS LAETITIA VEDIO SERIES

On March 19, 2021 the Church celebrated five years since the release of Pope Francis' apostolic exhortation *Amoris Laetitia* on the beauty and joy of life in the family. To mark this occasion, the Pope launched the Year "*Amoris Laetitia Family*," which concludes on June 26, 2022, at the 10th World Meeting of Family in Rome with the Holy Father.

In light of this, the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life at the Vatican has produced a resource for everyone to delve deeper into the document. Over the course of ten monthly episodes, Pope Francis will discuss each chapter of *Amoris Laetitia*, paired with testimonies of different families who will share some aspects of their daily lives. Each video is accompanied by a free downloadable guide to encourage the reading of *Amoris Laetitia* among families and ecclesial (diocesan, parochial, community) groups. Videos and accompaniment guides will be uploaded each month. For more information on this video series please go to <http://www.stambrosearmouth.ca/>

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE NEWS: Archbishop



Brian Joseph Dunn and Father Henry Smolenaars will celebrate St. Ambrose Catholic Women's League 100th anniversary **mass** on August 26, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. Further details and invitation to attend will follow when indoor capacities are permitted. Regardless, it will be live streamed.

THE WORD AMONG US: The monthly missals and the Living Faith booklets have arrived! Those who wish to pick up a copy can do so at the parish office.