



July 16th, 2023
15th 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)
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
Reconciliation/confession is held on Wednesday
 after mass from 7:00-8:00

MASS INTENTIONS –July 15th – 23rd 2023

St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral (Yarmouth):

Sat. 4 pm Parishioners
Sun. 9am William Hersey
Sun. 11:15 am Gerard MacKinnon
Tues. 6:30 pm Beth LeBlanc
Wed. 6:30 pm Marie Antoinette Ferguson LeBlanc
Thurs: 9 am Fr. Clarence Thibeau's 100th Birthday
Fri. 9 am Cindy Whittaker
Sat. 4 pm Anette Maillet
Sun. 9 am Parishioners
Sun. 11:15 am Paul Moore

Our Lady of Lourdes (Melbourne):

Sat. 10 am July 16 Roland Surette
Sun. 10 am July 23 John Donald Surette

REFLECTION: **Growing Rich in Grace** "To anyone who has, more will be given and he will grow rich; from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. This is why I speak to them in parables, because *they look but do not see and hear but do not listen or understand.*"

How is it that someone can look without seeing or hear without listening or understanding? This is only possible when one's eyes and ears are working

properly, but the mind is distracted, not attentive to what is seen or heard. For example, say you were listening to a book being read and suddenly you realized that even though you heard what was read, your mind was elsewhere and you had no idea what was spoken. This is a common experience for everyone from time to time.

This portion of the Gospel quoted above comes immediately after Jesus spoke the Parable of the Sower to the crowds from a boat. In that parable, seed fell on the path, on rocky ground, among thorns and in rich soil. Only the seed on the rich soil grew and produced good fruit. Therefore, Jesus' teaching quoted above, as well as His parable spoken before it, teach that there were many who heard the Word of God and witnessed Jesus' miracles but failed to allow His teachings and miracles to produce faith in their hearts.

This Gospel passage is especially important for those who have been Catholics for many years but have become stagnant in their faith. When someone goes to Mass every week, listens to the Gospel and shares in the Eucharist but fails to continually grow in holiness and understanding of the Mysteries of Heaven, then they will slowly lose even the little faith they have. They will become lukewarm Catholics who go through the motions but fail to produce the good fruit that comes from authentic faith.

When you look back at your life as a practicing Catholic, what do you see from year to year? Was there a time when you were strong in faith but have slowly closed your ears to the Gospel and have drifted away from a deep and prayerful interior engagement with our Lord? Or when you look back do you see that the Lord has continuously given you more and more, leading you to a life of true spiritual riches? Has the Gospel entered not only your ears, but also your mind and your understanding? Do you both see and perceive the action of God in your life and in the world around you? Are you actively engaged with the life of grace and find that you grow closer to God every day? Or, sadly, have you lost interest and zeal and now find yourself slowly drifting away from the fruitful practice of your faith?

Reflect, today, upon these important questions and strive to answer them honestly. If you do not see yourself growing in faith every year and becoming

truly rich in the grace of God, then know that something needs to change. Stagnation and lukewarmness in the faith are not good. They lead to the slow loss of everything. As you reflect upon your own faith journey, recommit yourself to a zealous embrace of the Gospel so that your soul will be truly rich soil that continually produces an abundance of good fruit.

Lord, You desire that all people hear Your Word and see Your action in their lives. Please continue to pour forth Your grace into my life so that I will continually grow rich in Your mercy. I pray that my eyes and ears will be open to You more fully every day. Jesus, I trust in You.
 -My Catholic Life

WANT TO BECOME CATHOLIC? Are you a non-



Catholic interested in the Catholic faith? Are you thinking you might want to become Catholic? Are you a Catholic adult who never celebrated your 1st Communion and/or Confirmation? Then RCIA is for you. RCIA will be starting this fall at St. Ambrose. If you are interested then please contact the office for a form you can fill out to sign up. Come and join us this fall!

MASS OF CANDIDACY: Bruce Muise - After his first year in seminary, Bruce Muise has been accepted by our Bishop as an official candidate to the priesthood. On Saturday, July 15 at 5 p.m., Archbishop Dunn will preside over a Mass at Holy Family Church in Amirault's Hill where he will formally accept Bruce for his journey towards the priesthood. All are invited to attend and a reception will follow the Mass.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS: Baby Bottle



Fundraiser campaign: The campaign is scheduled to conclude on the July 17th weekend. There will be a marked container in the entrance of the church for the bottles to be deposited in. For those who may still be interested in donating there are still empty bottles in the same location if you would like to pick one up.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: It is necessary to be strong, in order to become great: that is our duty. Life is a struggle, which we cannot avoid. We must triumph! -St. Pius of Pietrelcina



COFFEE SOCIALS: are being held after all the masses this weekend. Come join us for a cup.



PARISH PICNIC: A parish picnic is happening on



Sunday, July 30th at Ellenwood Park from 11 AM to 2 PM, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. The food will be provided for by the Knights and the Parish. There is no cost. Bring your families and children, there will be games for all ages. Because we need to be able to plan for how much food to have on hand, we need to have a sign-up sheet. Kindly sign in the sheet at the entrance of the church and indicate the number of people per family that will be attending the picnic. We look forward to seeing you for the BBQ.

MUSIC CONCERT: Two concerts coming up on July



29 and 31. Hear! Here! Society will host Randy and musical friends on Saturday, July 29 at 3 p.m. at the Argyle Historic Church at Frost Corner on Route 3 in Argyle, just off Highway 103. Tickets are a minimum \$25 and all donations are welcomed.

Music Royale will be presenting Best of Boxwood, celebrating Celtic music, Monday July 31 at 7 pm - St. Peter's Church, 1152 Route 335, Middle West Pubnico. Admission: \$25 at the door • \$20 advance • \$10 students (some exceptions)

NO SCENTS PLEASE: Help us to keep the air we



share healthy and fragrance free. The chemicals used in scented products can make some people sick, especially those with fragrance sensitivities, asthma, allergies and other medical conditions.

PARISH LIBRARY: Did you know we have a parish



library in the Parish Center? We have many good books to choose from. Books on saints, spirituality, biographies and many other topics. Come and check out what we have and borrow one!

THANK YOU: We like to thank everyone who supported us both through prayers and financial support for our Steubenville Atlantic youth conference. A great time was had by all!