



July 12th, 2026 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 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 –July 11th – July19th, 2026

St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral (Yarmouth):

Sat. 4 pm Madeline Nixon
Sun. 9am Intentions of Baylee and Aaron Coburn
Sun. 11:15 am Parishioners
Tues. 6:30 pm Pere Robicheau
Wed. 6:30 pm Special Intentions
Thurs. 9 am Victor Boudreau
Fri. 9 am Agnes Catherine Amero
Sat. 4 pm Special Intentions
Sun. 9am Deceased members of the MacPherson Family
Sun. 11:15 am Parishioners

Our Lady of Lourdes (Melbourne):

Sun. 10 am July 12 Elizabeth Saulnier
Sun. 10 am July 19 Jean Applebee

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BRING UP THE GIFTS in the offertory procession at a weekend Mass (if you are a family member of the person the Mass is for) please see the greeters **at least 20 minutes before Mass begins.**

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.

REFLECTION: **The Generous Sower** “A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path, and birds came and ate it up...” In today’s Gospel, the Parable of the Sower is delivered from

a boat, as Jesus addresses a large crowd along the shoreline. Jesus uses the natural acoustics of the water to carry His voice to the eager multitude who came to hear Him. Their earnestness offers us an opportunity for self-examination: Am I among that crowd, attentively listening as God speaks to me today? Do I go out of my way to seek, listen, and respond to the Word of God? A parable is a method that both *reveals* and *conceals*. It reveals divine truth to those who are humble and receptive, and conceals that same truth from those whose hearts are closed. The truths of the Kingdom are not concepts that can be quickly grasped. They are divine mysteries that must enter the soul and be pondered and nourished. Only the spiritually docile can penetrate their depths and allow God’s Word to transform their lives. The Sower is Christ. The seed is the Word of God, and the soil represents the human heart, in all its various conditions of readiness and receptivity. Some souls await God’s Word like freshly tilled, moist, and fertilized soil. As soon as the seed enters, it begins to grow rapidly—until fully grown and producing good fruit. Other souls are less receptive. Like the path, some hearts are hardened, stubborn, refusing to receive divine truth. The Word is heard, but not truly received. The enemy snatches it away before it can penetrate. Hearts that are like rocky ground are those who initially receive the Word with joy but lack perseverance. When trials come, they fall away. They may attend Mass, read Scripture, or begin with fervor, but without deep interior conversion rooted in prayer, they cannot endure the heat of testing. The thorny heart is the divided heart, where the Word of God is mixed with anxieties, riches, and pleasures. The Gospel is heard—perhaps even cherished—but it is suffocated by worldly attachments, ambition, or fear. Earthly anxieties and the fascination of riches are thorns that smother the soul and prevent it from growing. The good news is that God, the Divine Sower, is not passive. He sows the seed Himself—personally, directly, and abundantly. He is not like a remote monarch seated on a distant throne, waiting for us to come to Him. No—God always takes the initiative. He goes forth like the sower, casting His seed upon us even before we ask. The seed comes to us in two essential ways: truth and grace. As truth, God’s Word enlightens the intellect to know

His eternal mysteries. As grace, God’s Word strengthens the will to embrace and live those truths with faith and charity. The Divine Sower sows lavishly. He casts the seed everywhere—on the path, among the rocks, amidst thorns, and upon rich earth. This is not careless, but the work of Divine Mercy. God desires that all be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. Even where the ground seems hardened, shallow, or choked with thorns, He still sows. He never ceases to speak, to reach out, to invite. He sows even in places we might deem hopeless—until the final moment, when the time for sowing is ended. Reflect today on God’s generous and continuous sowing in your soul. He never ceases speaking to you, calling to you, and planting His Word within you. How receptive are you? Which soil best describes your soul? It’s never too late to respond in this life. God’s Word can grow rapidly within us when our souls are fertile and receptive. Remove the rocks, cut down the thorns, and till the hardened path, so that the abundant seed will make its way into your heart. -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!

ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC: We will be having an



outdoor mass at 10:00 am on Sunday July 26th at Ellenwood Lake Provincial Park located 1888 Mood Road in Deerfield. Following this mass will be a barbecue which will be cooked by the Knights of Columbus with the food being supplied by the parish. To do this, we will be canceling both the 9 am and 11:15 am masses at Saint Ambrose that morning. For those who would not like to attend at Ellenwood, there is still the 4:00 pm mass at St. Ambrose on Saturday and the 10:00 am mass on Sunday at Our Lady of Lourdes in Melbourne. There will be sign-up sheets at the entrance of the Church for the next

few weeks for those who wish to attend so we know how much food is needed for Barbecuing and if you wish you can bring a salad or sweet to share. This is a community building event meant to help us get to know one another better. Please remember to bring a chair. Fr. Henry

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS: Monthly Meeting



at the Knights of Columbus Hall Tuesday July 14th, all members invited. (6:00 pm executive meeting and 7:30 pm general meeting). **Urgent meeting:** to be held on July 21st at 7:00 pm to discuss the future of our building. All members encouraged to attend.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: One must pass through the



desert and spend some time there in order to receive the grace of God; it is there that one empties oneself, that one drives away from oneself everything which is not God, and that one empties completely the house of one’s soul in order to leave all of it to God alone. -St. Charles de Foucauld



God’s abundant blessings upon Sean Christopher Libby and Laurel Elaine Feldman who were married on 8 July 2026 at St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral.

As you begin your married life together, may you trust and rely on God’s Holy Presence for guidance, direction and strength.



Our sympathy is extended to the family and friends of
Susie May Amirault
Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon her.