



July 21st 2024
16th 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 20th – 28th, 2024

St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral (Yarmouth):

Sat. 4 pm 101st Birthday of Fr. Clarence Thibeau
Sun. 9am & 11:15 am No Mass at the Church
Sun. 10 am Parishioners (At Ellenwood Park)
Tues. 6:30 pm Caroline Duncan Saulnier
Wed. 6:30 pm Anniv. Irene Polson
Thurs: 9 am Jim Muise
Fri. 9 am Richard Bradshaw
Sat. 4 pm Special Intentions
Sun. 9am Parishioners
Sun. 11:15 am Joan Surette

Our Lady of Lourdes (Melbourne):

Sun. 10 am July 21 Anniv. Vincent Surette
Sun. 10 am July 28 June Surette

REFLECTION: Zeal and Determination When he disembarked and saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them, for they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things. Both Jesus and the Twelve Apostles had been working very hard. The Twelve had been out on mission to many of the neighboring towns preaching, healing the sick and casting out demons. Upon the completion of their mission, they returned to Jesus and reported all that they had done. Jesus, in turn, invited them to “Come away by

yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while.” But the crowds heard about their departure by boat and quickly went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee so that they would arrive before Jesus and the Twelve. The passage quoted above reveals the internal reaction that Jesus had toward the crowds as He and the Twelve disembarked from the boat. Though they had attempted to go away together to a quiet place for rest, the crowds were intent on being with them. Jesus, of course, was not upset that the crowds had spoiled His attempt to find some quiet time with the Twelve. Instead, His heart was moved with compassion. He could see that the people were hungry for more and were “like sheep without a shepherd.” For that reason, Jesus immediately began to feed them with His teachings. A helpful point to ponder in this passage is that the people who gathered were described as a “vast crowd.” From the subsequent passage in Mark’s Gospel, we learn that when Jesus finished teaching them many things, He performed the miracle of the multiplication of fish and bread and fed 5,000 men, not counting the women and children. Given the fact that the estimated ratio at that time of adult men to women and children was at least 5:1, the crowd could have been as large as 25,000 people. For a spontaneous gathering of people in a remote area by the Sea of Galilee, that is a huge number. This is especially the case, since it is estimated that there were only about 1,500 people living in Capernaum at that time. People had flocked to our Lord from very far away. This vast and spontaneous gathering reveals to us the hunger that Jesus instilled in the hearts of very many people. Some of these people had already heard Jesus speak and had witnessed His miracles. Others were those to whom the Twelve had just preached in the surrounding villages. The Twelve had spoken clearly and convincingly by the power of the Holy Spirit about Jesus, and many people responded, wanting to know more about our Lord. As you ponder the enthusiasm of so many people, try to compare that with your own enthusiasm for Jesus. Are you driven to seek Him out with the same passion and zeal that consumed these first followers? Or do you find that your zeal and enthusiasm are lacking at times? This vast crowd, with their zeal and determination to seek out our Lord, should be a source of inspiration and self-examination for us all.

Reflect, today, upon this vast crowd. Try to see yourself joining them. Ponder yourself being so moved by the preaching of the Apostles that you become single-focused in your determination to be fed by Jesus’ holy teaching. If it is hard to imagine yourself acting this way, then humbly acknowledge that you may need more zeal for Jesus in your life. Pray that these holy desires become stirred up within you, and do all that you can to foster such zeal.

My compassionate Lord, the vast crowds sought You out to listen to You and to be fed by Your holy Word. They burned with a desire to be with You, and You responded to them with great mercy. Please fill my heart with the same zeal and desire for You. Teach me, Lord, feed me and draw me close to You. Jesus, I trust in You.
 -My Catholic Life

ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC: This year, we are trying something different. We will be having an outdoor mass at 10:00 am on Sunday July 21st 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.

EUCCHARISTIC CONGRESS: Introducing Eucharistic Congress keynote speaker **Archbishop Paul-André Durocher** Born in Windsor, Ontario in 1954, he grew up in Timmins, Ontario before attending the University of Western Ontario where he completed the Bachelor of Musical Arts, specializing in vocal performance. He then attended St. Paul’s University in Ottawa, completing the Bachelor of Theology in 1981 and the Master’s of Arts in Theology in 1985. He simultaneously completed the Bachelor of Education degree at the University of Ottawa. Ordained to the priesthood for the diocese of Timmins on July 2, 1982, he taught high school and served in various parishes. He eventually was named Episcopal vicar for pastoral and sacramental

affairs and director of the chancery. Ordained to the episcopacy on March 14, 1997, he was entrusted with the pastoral leadership of the French sector of the diocese and of the native parishes in the Manitoulin-North Shore area. In 2002, he was named diocesan bishop of Alexandria-Cornwall, Ontario, where he remained for nine years. During that time, he served on the Education Commission of the Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario and was elected to the Executive Committee of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops. On November 30, 2011, he was installed as the archbishop of Gatineau, Québec.

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!

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: To you be praised indeed, O eternal God, and endless thanksgiving for the that you deigned to become a human being and that for us in the world you willed to consecrate your venerable Body out of material bread and lovingly bestow it on us as food for the salvation of our souls! -St. Bridget of Sweden

ULTREYA: The next Yarmouth Area Cursillo Movement Ultreya is on August 1st, 2024 at 7pm at St. Ambrose Marian Hall.

FOOD BANK: The weekend of, August 3rd and 4th, 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.

BEST OF BOXWOOD: will perform in Yarmouth on Saturday, July 27, at 7pm at Holy Trinity Church. Tickets: \$25 at the door, \$20 in advance, students \$10. Contact: info@sighnofthewhaleonline.com