



July 26th, 2026 17th 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 25th – Aug. 2nd, 2026

St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral (Yarmouth):

Sat. 4 pm Parishioners
Sun. 10 am Special Intentions Mass at Ellenwood Park
Tues. 6:30 pm Russell Frotten
Wed. 6:30 pm Cecil and Ada O'Toole
Thurs. 9 am Marcel Gingras
Fri. 9 am Special Intentions
Sat. 4 pm Anniversary Leo Mooney
Sun. 9 am Parishioners
Sun. 11:15 am Malcolm Surette

Our Lady of Lourdes (Melbourne):

Sun. 10 am July 26 Paul Surette
Sun. 10 am August 2 Ina DeViller

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: A Priceless Discovery Awaits! *"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant*

searching for fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it." In the first parable above, a person unexpectedly discovers a treasure buried in a field. Imagine that you take a metal detector with you while on a hike, simply curious about what might lie beneath the soil. Suddenly, the detector gives a strong signal. Expecting perhaps a rusted can or an old nail, you begin to dig. But as your shovel strikes something solid, you uncover an old chest. With growing anticipation, you lift it from the earth and open it—only to find it brimming with ancient and priceless jewels, gold and silver coins, and other precious items of immense worth. In the second parable, the merchant is actively searching for a valuable pearl. He knows what he seeks and finally discovers one of exceptional worth—one that eclipses all others. In both cases, however, the response is the same: the man and the merchant each go and sell all they possess to obtain the treasure they have found. These parables pose two fundamental questions for each of us:

- Have I discovered the priceless treasure of the Kingdom of Heaven?
- If I have, am I willing to let go of everything else to attain it?

Like the man who stumbles upon the buried treasure, many people encounter God's grace in surprising ways—through a moment of prayer, a profound experience at Mass, an act of charity, or even during suffering. Maybe those people were not actively seeking divine treasure, yet in a moment of providence, the veil is lifted, and the beauty of God's Kingdom is revealed. Once they discover the treasure, their souls realize that nothing else compares. From that point on, they are moved to reorient their entire lives to possess that treasure fully. The path of the merchant, by contrast, is that of the soul who longs for truth, beauty, and goodness, diligently seeking them out. The one who searches might spend years studying, praying, yearning, and pursuing what is of eternal value. And then—finally—the "pearl" is found. Christ is discovered. The Gospel becomes clear. The longing is fulfilled. Again, everything else is willingly surrendered for the sake of that one Pearl of great price—Jesus Christ. In both parables, the decision to sell all to gain the treasure is an easy choice. The discovery is so great that everything else the person

possesses pales in comparison. But how many people have truly made such a discovery? Many of us are like someone who learns of a buried treasure in a field and, out of curiosity, drives out to look—but spends little or no time searching. Or we are like a merchant who is informed of a rare and valuable pearl for sale far from home. Though interested, we note the length of the journey and abandon the thought. Though we may have heard about the glory of God's Kingdom, unless we truly discover it, we will not see the value of attaining it at any cost. We will only be willing to sell all we have—to detach from every hindrance to grace, every sin, obsession, and distraction—if we make the initial discovery of the priceless nature of God's Kingdom already present on earth and the fullness of His Kingdom that awaits us in Heaven. Reflect today on this invaluable treasure, waiting to be discovered. Consider where you are on that journey of discovery. Have you heard about the priceless treasure of coming to know, love, and serve God? Have you read about the radical response made by many saints? Have you discovered God for yourself, through prayer and moments of profound enlightenment? If you have not, keep searching—the Kingdom is near. If you have made this discovery, then consider all your attachments, and willingly surrender them to God, acknowledging that nothing is too much to offer to our loving God in exchange for the untold riches of the life of grace to which we are called. -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!

ULTREYA: The Yarmouth and Area Ultreya will be held on Thursday August 6th in Marian Hall at 7:00pm. We hope to see you there. DeColores!
95th Men's Cursillo – October 15th- 18th, 2026. Cursillo is a Spanish word meaning "short course" in Christianity. It is a weekend that helps people to live

as a Christian in normal everyday life and a desire to journey with Christ. Cursillo is not a retreat but an encounter with oneself, with Christ and with others. If you or someone you know might be interested in learning more, please contact Larry Richard, 902-746-4256, jsll@persona.ca

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: The gate of the kingdom



must be asked for by praying, sought after by living properly, and knocked at by persevering. -St. Bede, the Venerable
-Let us learn to cast out hearts into God.
-St. Bernard of Clairvaux

OFFICE CLOSED: The office will be closed on Monday July 27th and reopen for Tuesday July 28th for regular hours of operation.

LEGACY GIVING: As Catholics, we believe that our assets are gifts from a generous God, and that we are called to be wise stewards of these blessings. Have you ever thought about leaving a legacy gift to Saint Ambrose? This is a way for you to help in continuing the Church's mission long after you are gone. Please remember St. Ambrose Parish in your will.

FOOD BANK: Next weekend, August 1st & 2nd, 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.



Our sympathy is extended to the family and friends of

Elaine Marie Mahar, Jamie Albert Muise, Gayle Catherine Noah, Darrell Daniel Sweeney, Beatrice Eleanor Duncan, Danny Gary Saulnier and Lynda Lee Morris

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them.