



August 3rd, 2025 18th 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
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Tabitha Centre: 902-742-8960
Confession/Adoration Wednesday 7:00-8:00

MASS INTENTIONS – August 2nd – 10th, 2025

St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral (Yarmouth):

Sat. 4 pm Parishioners
Sun. 9am Yvonne Eldridge
Sun. 11:15 am Anniv. Leo Mooney
Tues. 6:30 pm Carol Comeau
Wed. 6:30 pm Dora Anne Amirault
Thurs. 9 am Sandra M. Surette
Fri. 9 am Theresa & Barry Doucette
Sat. 4 pm George Clayton Jr.
Sun. 9am Parishioners
Sun. 11:15 am Monique Belliveau Kaizer

Our Lady of Lourdes (Melbourne):

Sun. 10 am Aug. 3 Gertrude Surette
Sun. 10 am Aug. 10 Ronnie LeBlanc

REFLECTION: Being Cheated



Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher, tell my brother to share the inheritance with me.” He replied to him, “Friend, who appointed me as your judge and arbitrator?” Many things in life are not fair. Children are keenly aware of this any time they sense they have been cheated by a sibling. They complain to their parents, just as the person in the crowd quoted above complained

to Jesus about his brother. We want justice and can become quite upset when we feel that we have been dealt an injustice. The passage above is interesting because Jesus gently but clearly refuses to be the arbiter of justice for this man. It may indeed be the case that he was cheated out of his inheritance by his brother. But it’s interesting that Jesus not only refuses to resolve the dispute, He then goes on to teach about greed, suggesting that the cheated man was acting out of greed. If you were cheated out of your inheritance by a sibling, how would you react? If a sibling were to do this, it would clearly be a sin and an injustice. But the question at hand is your reaction to being cheated. Being cheated by another might result in one of two responses. The most common response is to immediately seek justice, to fight back. But this is not always what God will inspire us to do. Instead, when we experience injustice, we are given an opportunity to love on a very deep level. And this must be our response. This is why Jesus said we must love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us. In the big picture of eternity, earthly injustices are always an opportunity for grace. This is evident by simply looking at the gravest injustice of the suffering and death of the Son of God. Jesus did not complain about being so cruelly treated. He did not call on the angels of Heaven to destroy the Pharisees and Romans who attacked Him. Instead, Jesus used the injustice inflicted upon Him as a foundation for His gift of salvation. As we journey through this life, we need to decide whether we are going to live for this life or for eternity. We cannot have both. However, by choosing to live for eternity, we also enhance our lives here on earth in ways that nothing in this world can match. For example, say you experienced the unfortunate situation of extreme poverty. Say you were cheated out of your home and possessions and were left with nothing. Would this make you miserable? It might, but it doesn’t have to. Instead, such an unfortunate circumstance has the potential for you to live day-by-day, trusting in God’s providential care and to offer mercy in the face of injustice. And that is good. It is good for your eternal soul. It is good because it will motivate you to trust God on a very deep level and to become a beacon of God’s mercy. By contrast, if you had everything you could ever want in this world, it would be seriously

tempting to rely less upon God and more upon the things you possess in this world. But the things of this world cannot save your eternal soul. In fact, they are a serious hindrance to your ability to trust in God alone. So, truth be told, poverty and injustice actually open the door to an opportunity for much more grace in our lives than material wealth does. But so often we still long to have more and more of the things of this world. Reflect, today, upon the spiritual and eternal blessings that come from relying solely upon God and not upon material wealth. This is a hard lesson for most people to learn. If this is your struggle, then try to take on the eternal perspective. Try to look beyond the temporary stability and pleasures that come from accumulating earthly wealth, so that you will see the eternal riches that come from seeking God alone. Everything in this world will one day pass away. In the light of that fact, recommit yourself to the embrace of God’s riches by loving others through every injustice you encounter in life. -My Catholic Life


PICNIC BBQ THANK YOU: A BIG thank you to the Knights of Columbus who helped organize the event and cook the food last Sunday and to all of you who attended to make it a great day!



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS: Monthly Meeting: will be held on Tuesday August 12, 2025 at the Knights of Columbus Hall, all members are invited. Executive meeting at 6.00pm; General meeting at 7.30 **Knights of Columbus Choir:** Do you play the piano or keyboard and would like to be part of the music ministry? We sing every 2 weeks at the Saturday 4:00 PM Mass and require an accompanist beginning September 1st. Practices for the choir are also held every 2 weeks on Wednesdays. If interested please contact Gary Surette at 902-746-4446

ST. AMBROSE RENOVATION PROJECT UPDATE: As you probably noticed, most of the work has been completed. The flat roof on the sacristy is currently being replaced (which has been leaking) and is almost done. There are two windows that still need to be installed. So far, we have raised around \$155,000. Thank you for your generosity

and support for this project. We are still hoping to raise more to cover the costs, so if you still wish to donate, it is much appreciated. -Fr. Henry

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: - Imagine your anger to be a  kind of wild beast, because it has ferocious teeth and claws, and if you don’t tame it, it will devastate all things, corrupting even the soul. – St. John Chrysostom

ULTREYA: The Yarmouth and Area Ultreya will be held August 7th, 2025 in Marian Hall at 7pm. We hope to see you then! De Colores!



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!*



God’s abundant blessings upon Ashton Laurie Dugas and Emma Marie Hemeon who were married on July 26, 2025 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
Raymond Francis Flynn
Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him.