



November 30th, 2025 1st Sunday of Advent

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 – Nov. 29th– Dec. 7th, 2025

St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral (Yarmouth):

Sat. 4 pm Anniv. Mary Cameron
Sun. 9am Donald Parnell
Sun. 11:15 am Parishioners
Tues. 6:30 pm Doris Thibeau
Wed. 6:30 pm Hector d'Eon
Thurs. 9 am Burt Surette
Fri. 9 am Adele Doucette
Sat. 4 pm Parishioners
Sun. 9am Florence Harris
Sun. 11:15 am Antoinette Belliveau

Our Lady of Lourdes (Melbourne):

Sun. 10 am November 30 Vincent Surette
Sun. 10 am December 7 Avite Saulnier

REFLECTION: Being Prepared *"Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come. Be sure of this: if the master of the house had*



known the hour of night when the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and not let his house be broken into. So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come." How does one "stay awake" as our Lord commands us? We receive this holy exhortation as we enter into a new liturgical year. In Advent, we

begin at the beginning. We ponder the Incarnate Son of God dwelling as a human Child in the precious womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We anticipate the celebration of His birth into the world at Christmas. As the liturgical year progresses, we will prayerfully walk through each moment of His life, from the events of His childhood, to His public ministry, and ultimately His death, resurrection, and ascension into Heaven. Our Lord's exhortation to stay awake invites us to be attentive to the ways that the Son of God's human life speaks to us, calling us to become fully united to Him so as to share in the glorious gifts of holiness in this life and eternal salvation in the next. After exhorting us to stay awake, the Son of God said, "For you do not know on which day your Lord will come." Of course, we know He came into this world over 2,000 years ago in physical form. This exhortation is not only a call to ponder that event long ago; it's also an invitation and exhortation to become continuously more attentive to the effect that His historical coming has upon us today. Advent is a season that invites us to reflect on Christ's first coming in Bethlehem, His daily coming to us in grace, and His final coming at the end of time. These moments are intimately connected, as each prepares us more fully for the next. From Heaven, the Son of God continues to descend to us, inviting each of us to conceive Him in our souls by grace, to be attentive to His divine presence within us, and to nurture His divine presence so that He will grow and live within us, making us true members of His Body, the Church. Staying awake means being aware of Christ's presence in every moment and cultivating a personal relationship with Him that is alive and growing. This Advent, ask yourself: How am I nurturing my relationship with Jesus so that I am ready to meet Him whenever He comes? Jesus calls us to be prepared at every moment of every day, "for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come." Though this is a promise that He will return one day to judge the living and the dead at the end of time, it is also a promise that He relentlessly pursues us here and now, communicating to us by grace and inviting us to be transformed more fully, so as to love Him and manifest His love to the world around us. As we mature in our faith, God often speaks in subtler ways, inviting us to listen with the ears of our

hearts. These gentle whispers of grace require us to be even more attuned to His presence, ready to respond to His call in the quiet moments of our day. Reflect today on Jesus' exhortation to be awake, vigilant, attentive, and ready to love Him in the smallest ways. To stay spiritually awake, cultivate habits that keep you attuned to God's presence: set aside time for daily prayer, receive the sacraments frequently, and be mindful of opportunities to serve others. These practices will help you remain vigilant and ready to encounter Christ at any moment. Search for Him this Advent, and never tire of loving Him in your prayer and in those around you. The Son of God continuously comes to you "at an hour you do not expect." By building a spiritual habit of being prepared, you will meet and love Him throughout your day. *-My Catholic Life*

ADVENT CANDLES: Anyone wishing to purchase Advent Candles may do so at the parish office between the hours of 9:30 and 1:00 Monday to Friday. Supply is limited.



CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE: We are collecting our annual dues. You may put your \$35 in an envelope marked CWL dues with your name, address, phone number and email (if available) in the collection on weekends or drop them in the mailbox at the parish office or for pickup call (902)749-7504. **CWL and friends** - December 13 Christmas social 2-3:30 Jubilee room - tea, sweets, cheese and crackers - prayer service, ideas for next gathering.

ULTREYA: The Yarmouth and Area Ultreya will be held December 4th 2025 at Marian Hall at 7pm. We hope to see you then! De Colores!



CHRISTMAS MUSIC CONCERT: Saint Ambrose is having their annual *Night of Joy Christmas concert* on Sunday, December 14th at 7:00 p.m. Proceeds to Tabitha Centre.



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: Anyone wishing to donate towards Christmas flowers for **Our Lady of Lourdes** in memory of a loved one may do so at the office or you can put your donation in an envelope with your name and envelope number on it along with



"in memory of _____" written on it and place it in the collection basket.

THANK YOU: to all the people who came to help with the pre-Christmas church cleaning. It was greatly appreciated and a job well done!



FOOD BANK: next weekend, December 6th & 7th, is our turn to support the Yarmouth Food Bank.



QUOTE OF THE WEEK: Be submissive to good, unbending to evil, gentle in generosity, untiring in love, just in all things. -St. Columban



ST. AMBROSE CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR'S SCHEDULE

December 24 Wednesday (Christmas Eve)

6:00 pm
8:00 pm
10:00 pm Please join us for carols prior to mass.



December 25 Thursday (Christmas Day)

10:00 am

December 31 Wednesday (New Year's Eve)

6:30 pm

January 1 Thursday (New Year's Day)

10:00 am

Please note there is no masses before 6:00 pm as directed by the diocese.

OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE:

Wednesday December 24th (Christmas eve)

To be determined



RECONCILIATION SERVICE: There will be a reconciliation service Wednesday December 10th at 6:30 pm here at St. Ambrose. Why not make this Christmas extra special with feeling the deep forgiveness this sacrament can give?



WOMEN'S ADVENT STUDY: Encountering Emmanuel, a Women's Advent Study will be held in the Adult Faith Formation room at the St. Ambrose Parish Centre for the next four Mondays. Feel free to join in.

