



February 18th, 2024 1st Sunday of Lent

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Hospital Chaplain: Fr. Wieslaw Papuga
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Office hours: Monday to Friday from 9:30 am to 1:00 pm
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Tabitha Centre: 902-742-8960
Reconciliation/confession is held on Wednesday after mass from 7:00-8:00

MASS INTENTIONS – February 17th – 24th, 2024

St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral (Yarmouth):

Sat. 4 pm Erin Amon
Sun. 9am Marie Antoinette LeBlanc
Sun. 11:15 am Parishioners
Tues. 6:30 pm Irene Polson
Wed. 6:30 pm Peter Eldridge
Thurs: 9 am George Nelson Muise
Fri. 9 am Anniv. Alyre Comeau
Sat. 4 pm Parishioners
Sun. 9am Elizabeth Landry
Sun. 11:15 am Jeanne Dukeshire

Our Lady of Lourdes (Melbourne):


Sun. 10 am February 18 Julia Deveau
Sun. 10 am February 25 Frances & Vincent Surette

REFLECTION: The Ministry of Angels. The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert, and he remained in the desert for forty days, tempted by Satan. He was among wild beasts, and the angels ministered to him. What an amazing event we reflect upon today. Jesus, the Son of God, the Second Person of the Most Holy Trinity humbled Himself in two ways in the passage quoted above. First, He allowed Himself to endure the temptations of satan.

Second, He permitted His very own creation, the good angels, to minister to Him in His human form. First of all, recall that satan is a fallen angel. He was created by God and was created good. But the Book of Revelation (12:4) indicates that one-third of the created angels were cast out of Heaven to roam the earth. These demons act under the direction of the highest fallen angel, satan. Thus, according to the passage above, it was satan himself who tempted Jesus in the desert. Additionally, Jesus permitted the good angels to minister to Him in His human nature. These acts reveal the perfection of the virtue of humility within the humanity of our Lord. According to Saint Thomas Aquinas, angels were created for three primary reasons. The first is for the purpose of worship. Worship of God brings about communion with God and enables perfect love to flow back and forth from God to each angelic being. Second, angels enact the will of God in all things. This includes the implementation of the laws of nature and the imparting of the grace that Christ won on the Cross. Third, God uses angels as messengers. Scripture records various ways that the angels spoke to the prophets, to our Blessed Mother, to Saint Joseph and to others. Saint Thomas Aquinas also believed that each of us is given a particular guardian angel whose role is not only to protect us but also to communicate the will of God to us. As God, Jesus was the Creator of all angelic beings with the Father and the Holy Spirit. As man, Jesus was the recipient of both the ministry of the good angels and the attacks of the fallen angels. By humbly subjecting Himself to the natural powers of these angelic creatures, Jesus was also teaching us that we must do the same. One of the primary natural powers of both the good and bad angels is the power of influence and suggestive thought. Angelic beings have the ability to put before your imagination ideas meant to either influence you for the good (the good angels) or to deceive you and lead you into sin (the bad angels). These communications are real, and we should be aware of them. In his book, The Spiritual Exercises, Saint Ignatius of Loyola devotes much time and energy to the ministry of angels. He teaches how to distinguish the lies and deceptions of the fallen angels from the consoling direction communicated by the good angels. In many ways, our Gospel passage today, by which Jesus

submitted Himself to the temptations and ministry of the angels, lends much support to the importance of trying to understand how these angelic creatures influence us. Reflect, today, upon the amazing truth that both angels and demons are constantly active in your life, seeking to influence you. As you ponder their spiritual role in your life, consider the various ways you can learn more about them. Speak to your guardian angel. Ask for the intercession of the highest of angels. Try to join them in their divine worship. Pray for their protection. Ask them to communicate to you the highest of truths from God. Seek to be attentive to these holy angels so that as you learn to discern their voices, you will be ready to follow the direction they give to you from God. -My Catholic Life.

SERIES ON DEATH AND DYING: Sometimes we're confronted with a life changing diagnosis regarding our health or for someone who we love. Maybe a family member is approaching death, and decisions need to be made on how this happens. What decisions we make in these situations require moral discernment through the lens of our faith. We believe in the dignity and sacredness of human life at all stages, from conception to natural death. At the same time, our faith does not demand that life is to be sustained at all costs. As Catholics, our faith in Jesus Christ has much to teach us about living and dying well. Horizons of Hope is a series about this topic. If you want to learn about what the Church teaches on death and dying, **join me (Fr. Henry) for 2 evenings (Thursday February 22nd and 29th) at 6:30 in the Jubilee Room.**

KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS NEWS: The knights of  Columbus meeting that was cancelled is rescheduled for Tuesday, February 20th. Executive Meeting 6:00pm, General Meeting 7:30pm. **Nova Scotia Knights of Columbus State Council Scholarship (value \$1000.00)** Scholarships are available for Catholic students who will be attending first year University or Community College next year. Yarmouth Council 2181 will accept applications from students attending Yarmouth High, Par-en-Bas and Drumlin Heights. Students applying for a Nova Scotia State Scholarship will also be considered for a Council

2181 Scholarship (value \$500). Please consult your school guidance Councillor for application forms. Completed applications with supporting documents must be received by Council 2181 Scholarship Chairman Philippe Doucet on or before Friday March 8, 2024. If you require more information, please call 742-2970 or 748-1592.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be held on the Fridays of Lent at St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral at 6:30pm. Each week will be led by a different group.



FISH CHOWDER FRIDAYS: We will be offering take out fish chowder on the Fridays of Lent. If you wish to purchase the chowder, we ask you to call the parish office to place your order. The cost is \$7.00 and it may be picked up at the Marian Hall doors between 4:00 and 5:00.



COOFFEE SOCIALS: Will be held after all the masses this weekend February 17th & 18th. Come join us for a cup.



ULTREYA: Cursillo Weekends will be held May 16-19 (Women's) and May 23-26 (Men's) 2024 at St. Ambrose Parish. 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 either Chester Muise: 902-653-0329 or Liz Richard: 902-307-6456.



Our sympathy is extended to the family and friends of
 Joseph "Matnakewinu" Benjamin Marshall
 Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him.