



September 28th, 2025 26th 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 – Sept.27th – Oct. 5th, 2025

St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral (Yarmouth):

Sat. 4 pm Karen Bullerwell
Sun. 9am Barb & Greg Deveau
Sun. 11:15 am Parishioners
Tues. 6:30 pm Madeline, George & Mary Mallett
Wed. 6:30 pm Int. Donna JoAnn Winter
Thurs. 9 am Mary “Mimi” Deveau
Fri. 9 am Franciso Duarte
Sat. 4 pm Parishioners
Sun. 9am Blair Boudreau
Sun. 11:15 am Anniv. Peter Eldridge

Our Lady of Lourdes (Melbourne):

Sat. 6 pm September 27 Lionel O’Connell
Sun. 10 am October 5 Jane Surette

REFLECTION: Spiritual Riches



Jesus said to the Pharisees: “There was a rich man who dressed in purple garments and fine linen and dined sumptuously each day. And lying at his door was a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who would gladly have eaten his fill of the scraps that fell from the rich man’s table. Dogs even used to come and lick his sores. When the poor man died, he was carried away by angels to the bosom of Abraham.” No rational person would want to go to hell. The rich

man in this parable certainly did not desire hell, but his actions led him there. Most people, however, do want to be rich in this world. In fact, many people would think it irrational *not* to desire wealth. It is very rare to find a person who chooses to live in simplicity as a means to deeper spiritual fulfillment and as a preparation for the riches of Heaven. But one clear message from our Gospel story today is that the life that Lazarus lived on earth was far better than that of the rich man. So which life do you prefer here and now? While it is true that the rich man’s riches were not the exclusive cause of his eternal damnation, it is also true that his riches imposed upon him a temptation toward selfishness and indifference to the needs of others, which ended in his eternal demise. Imagine that you won many millions of dollars. What would you do with it? As a good Christian, you might immediately profess that you would use that money for good, to help the poor and make a difference in the lives of others. What would the ideal response be to winning many millions of dollars? Would it suffice to give away ten percent and then use the rest for yourself? Probably not. One thing that this parable teaches is that material wealth not only adds nothing of value to our eternal reward, it also adds much temptation to our lives. True, if you received a lot of money and then used that money exclusively for good in accord with God’s will, that would be a holy act of charity on your part and good for your eternal soul. But doing so would be very difficult. It would be very difficult to resist the temptations that come from material wealth. Is it good to be rich? It is certainly good to be able to take care of your basic needs in life and those of your family. Having money helps you do that. But once our basic needs have been met, the money left over is far more of a temptation than it is a blessing. We have to believe that. And if you are among those who want to become rich so that you can help others, consider this scenario. If that is your motivation, and if you did win a large amount of money, would it be possible for you to continue living the way you are living now? Imagine staying in the same home, driving the same car, having the same lifestyle, and using all the money you obtained 100% for the glory of God and the good of others. That would be hard to do. But if you could do it, not only would it be good for others, it would

be exceptionally good for your own soul. Though this Gospel story has many valuable lessons in it, one of the clearest messages is that earthly poverty benefits a soul far more than earthly wealth. Many people will find that hard to accept. Reflect, today, upon the stark contrast between Lazarus and the rich man. One dined sumptuously every day, was clothed in fine linen and purple garments and then spent eternity in the netherworld where he was tormented. The other longed to eat the scraps from another’s table, had no home, was covered in sores, but spent eternity in Heaven after being carried away by angels to the bosom of Abraham. Choose to imitate Lazarus rather than the rich man. If you have many material possessions, work hard at being detached from them. Live simply, be generous, and never neglect those in need. If you have very little, do not covet more. Eliminate envy, don’t despair, trust in the providence of God, and rejoice that, like Lazarus, you are able to build up eternal riches within your soul that will remain with you forever. -My Catholic Life

PARISH JUBILEES: This fall, our Archdiocese will celebrate four Jubilee gatherings, one for each of the pastoral priorities: Catechesis (Sept. 21st), Evangelization (Oct 19th), Social Justice (Nov 16th), and Liturgy (Dec. 7th). On each of these weekends, I will be talking a bit about each of these and how they relate to us in our ministry here at St. Ambrose. This past weekend, we had the first Jubilee where we acknowledged those who help with catechesis in our parish. Thank you again to those who work in this ministry.

WHAT’S WRONG WITH MAiD? PRESENTATION:



Thursday, October 9, at 1:00 p.m. Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD), whether familiar to you or not, is becoming an increasingly significant part of healthcare in Canada. This is an important issue that calls for thoughtful reflection from the Christian community. The presentation will be led by Larry Worthen, Executive Director of the Christian Medical and Dental Association of

Canada. Larry is one of the nation’s leading voices raising concerns about MAiD and its impact. You will learn how MAiD laws may affect you, your loved ones, and the Canadian healthcare system. Together, we’ll look at this issue from a Christian perspective, drawing on history, insights, and personal testimonies that highlight the growing influence of MAiD in our country. **Location: Holy Trinity Church 63 William St.** on Wednesday October 8th at 7:00pm and **Église Sainte-Anne, 7317 Route 3, Ste-Anne-du Ruisseau, NS Thursday, October 9, at 1:00 p.m.** **Register here:** bit.ly/47qmQub RSVP is not required, but registering will help the host venue prepare and ensure you receive follow-up information about the presentation.

FOOD BANK: Next weekend, October 4th & 5th, is our turn to support the Yarmouth Food Bank. Non-perishable goods and monetary donations are appreciated.



OFFICE HOURS: The office will be closed Monay and Friday. September 29th and October 3rd to accommodate staff vacation.



Our sympathy is extended to the family and friends of
Rita Ann Durkee and Gloria Jean Goodwin
Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them.



God’s abundant blessings upon Kevin Joseph Cooke and Marina Joy Lesa Nixon who were married on 20th September 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.