



September 27th 2026 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. 26th – October 4th, 2026

St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral (Yarmouth):

Sat. 4 pm Parishioners
Sun. 9 am Alan Cottreau
Sun. 11:15 am Holy Souls in Purgatory
Tues. 6:30 pm Nora Warner
Wed. 6:30 pm William Cottreau
Thurs. 9 am Bernard Paul Vacon
Fri. 9 am Viola Lombard
Sat. 4 pm Anniversary Peter Eldridge
Sun. 9 am Parishioners
Sun. 11:15 am Sydni MacKinnon

Our Lady of Lourdes (Melbourne):

Sun. 10 am September 27 Enos Jacquard
Sun. 10 am October 4 Emile Comeau

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.**

REFLECTION: **Action over Words** *Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: “What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He came to the first and said, ‘Son, go out and work in the vineyard today.’ He said in reply, ‘I will not,’ but afterwards changed his mind and went. The man came to the*

other son and gave the same order. He said in reply, ‘Yes, sir,’ but did not go. Which of the two did his father’s will?” This parable must have been difficult for the chief priests and elders to hear, especially since it was clearly directed at them. In fact, after Jesus tells them a second parable, not included in today’s Gospel, we read, “although they were attempting to arrest him, they feared the crowds, for they regarded him as a prophet”. It seems they dismissed Jesus’ words and His rebuke, but fear of public backlash, rather than fear of God’s judgment, kept them silent for a time. In today’s Gospel, the first son represents the tax collectors and prostitutes, those who initially violated God’s law but later repented after hearing the preaching of John the Baptist and Jesus. The second son represents the chief priests and elders. After telling the parable, Jesus declares, “Amen, I say to you, tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you.” Like the second son, the religious and civic leaders paid lip service to God’s law, but their actions did not align with its intent. They were hypocrites, blind to their own rejection of God’s saving Word, and they misled others by their outward piety and self-righteous attitudes. Consider more carefully the reactions of the two sons. We might imagine that the second son, who said, “Yes, sir,” represents all who put on a false appearance of holiness. In the sight of others, they say the right things, but behind closed doors they fail to act. The first son is markedly different. Though he initially responds with defiance— “I will not”—his conscience eventually moves him to do what is right. Some may wonder why Jesus didn’t include a third son, one who says “Yes, sir,” and then follows through. But Jesus likely omits such a son because all of us fall into one of the two categories He presents. Only our Blessed Mother obeyed perfectly in both word and deed from the first moment of her Immaculate Conception. The first son becomes our model because each of us, in some way, struggles to enter into perfect obedience to God’s will. From childhood, we contend with what the Church calls concupiscence, the disordered tendency that arises from Original Sin. Though we are created good and in the image of God, our nature is wounded and inclined toward what is contrary to His will. The spiritual journey we undertake in this life is one in which grace slowly

reorders our fallen inclinations and restores us to the obedience we are called to live. Reflect today on the first son, and humbly see yourself in him. In what ways do you find it difficult to say “Yes” to God’s will right away? It is not a sin to struggle with obedience. This struggle is part of our fallen human nature. Like the first son, we must allow grace to work within us, forming our conscience and compelling us to act in accordance with God’s will, especially in the areas where we resist. When we allow grace to move us beyond our initial hesitation, we grow in virtue and become more like our Blessed Mother and our Lord Jesus, who both said “Yes” to the Father and followed through completely. -My Catholic Life

THE ATLANTIC MARIAN GATHERING: warmly invites you to attend: "Woman, behold your son," with guest speaker Fr. Tim Devine, CC, and Worship Leader Heather Jansma. Join us at St. Vincent de Paul Church in Dartmouth from October 2nd to 4th. Check our website for special hotel group rates for those coming from out of town. For more information and to register go to: <https://atlanticmariangathering.ca/> or email: mariangatheringhalifax@gmail.com

FOOD BANK: Next weekend October 3rd and 4th 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

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: Helping a person in need is good in itself. But the degree of goodness is hugely affected by the attitude with which it is done. -St. John Chrysostom

INCENSE: Incense will be used this Sunday at the 11:15 mass only.

ULTREYA: The Yarmouth and Area Ultreya will be held on Thursday, October 1st, 2026 in Marian Hall at 7:00 pm. We hope to see you there. DeColores!

ULTREYA: 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. To learn more, please contact Larry Richard, 902-746-4256, jsll@persona.ca

OFFICED CLOSED: The office will be closed Monday September 28th and Friday October 2nd for staff vacation. Opened Tuesday to Thursday 9:30-1:00.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COMMUNITY BREAKFAST: Sunday, September 27th at the Knights of Columbus Hall from 9:00 am to 11:30 am. The cost is \$10.00 for adults and \$7.00 for children 12 and under.

CATECHISM REGISTRATION: Catechism class registration for grades Primary through 7 will take place on Sunday, October 18, in the parish centre from 10:10 a.m. to 11:10 a.m., between the morning Masses. Classes will begin on Sunday, October 25.

CATHOLIC WOMEN’S LEAGUE: First fall meeting will be held on Saturday, October 3, 2026 at 2:30-3:30 p.m. in the Jubilee Room. Bring a friend. We will have a spiritual program and discuss upcoming activities.

PILGRIMAGE OF GRACE TO MEDJUGORJE: with day and night in Dubrovnik, October 25th to November 5th, 2026. Join us on pilgrimage to Medjugorje, a place of prayer, peace and spiritual renewal. Cost: \$3,699 CAD - Includes flights, accommodations, 2 meals per day, local guide Spiritual Director: Father Rob Elford (Diocese of Grand Falls, Newfoundland / Saint Alphonsus Parish and Missions) Group Leader: Rhonda-Lynn Cormier *of Touched by Grace Canada* Come experience daily Mass, prayer, the sacraments, Apparition Hill, Cross Mountain, and the peace that has drawn millions of pilgrims from around the world. Please contact Joanne Thibeau (Parish Manager at Stella Maris Parish) for more information or to register: [902-580-5350](tel:902-580-5350). Seats are limited. Early registration is encouraged.