



October 5th, 2025
27th 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 – October 4th - 12th, 2025

St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral (Yarmouth):

Sat. 4 pm Parishioners
Sun. 9am Blair Boudreau
Sun. 11:15 am Anniv. Peter Eldridge
Tues. 6:30 pm Holy Souls in Purgatory
Wed. 6:30 pm Anniv. Sandy Fevens
Thurs. 9 am Harold Doucette
Fri. 9 am Gerald LeBlanc
Sat. 4 pm Benny Boudreau
Sun. 9am Parishioners
Sun. 11:15 am Kenny MacKay

Our Lady of Lourdes (Melbourne):

Sun. 10 am October 5 Jane Surette
Sat. 6 pm October 11 Margaret Clairmont

REFLECTION: Nourished by Faith: The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith.” The Lord replied, “If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you would say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.” Is it possible to completely uproot a tree and plant it in the sea? It’s certainly hard to imagine how. It is especially hard to imagine doing so with a simple command of faith. Uprooting a tree is hard enough to imagine, but it is

even more difficult to imagine a tree being planted in the sea. Though water is necessary, one cannot plant a tree in the sea and expect it to grow. But that’s partly the point. We often underestimate the power of true faith. Saint Matthew’s Gospel says that faith can move mountains. Saint Luke’s says it can uproot a tree and replant it in the sea. All it takes to do so is faith the size of a mustard seed. How much faith is equal to a mustard seed? A mustard seed is small, very small. It measures only about one millimeter in length. People who worked the soil at that time would have known that it was among the smallest of seeds they planted. For that reason, Jesus uses this familiar image to teach the apostles that faith, even a little faith, is powerful. Jesus’ teaching comes in response to a prayer on the part of the apostles. “Increase our faith,” they said. Jesus’ response, inviting them to have only a little faith, implies that their faith was quite weak. To increase their faith to the size of a mustard seed suggests that they did not even have a little faith yet. Most likely they were aware of that fact, and that was the reason they asked Jesus to increase their faith. They perceived their lacking and turned to Him Who could help. One of the first steps to increasing faith is to humbly admit our lack of faith. In our pride, we often want to convince ourselves and others that we are filled with faith. But if that were the case, God would be doing incredible things through us. He would be doing that which is otherwise humanly impossible. Obviously, faith does not give us magical powers by which we can literally command a tree to uproot itself and plant itself in the sea. This imagery is meant to tell us that faith will work miracles of faith, not necessarily physical miracles. In fact, if God ever did use us and our faith to work a physical miracle, it would only happen because it was a motivation for the far more important gift of the increase of faith. What, then, can a little faith do? It can uproot sin from your heart and from the hearts of those around you. It can nourish you and others in ways that seem impossible. Just as a tree cannot normally be planted in the sea and survive, the gift of faith, even a little faith, will enable the soul to be nourished and strengthened in ways that otherwise seem impossible. A martyr perfectly illustrates this fact. Normally, persecution and death are not considered to be nourishing to a person. But when

a person has faith and suffers martyrdom on account of Christ, then their soul will be fed by the persecution itself. And that is among the greatest of miracles possible. Suffering, persecution, illness, poverty, and every other difficulty imaginable are transformed by God into a source of nourishment when we endure them with true faith. Reflect, today, upon the prayer of the apostles: “Increase our faith.” Some of the greatest mystics taught that faith darkens the intellect. By this darkening, they mean that, by faith, God will lead us into the unknown, on a path that He alone is aware of. We will become instruments of His transforming grace in ways that are completely beyond our natural abilities. Pray for an increase of faith. When our Lord hears your humble prayer, by which you also confess your lack of faith, He will increase that faith, uproot sin and evil, and plant your soul in places in which you become nourished in ways that you could have never imagined possible. -My Catholic Life

PILGRIMAGE TO OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY: Saint Alphonse Church, Notre Dame d’Acadie Parish. Program: 1:30 – welcome and procession with the Blessed Virgin Mary with songs 2:00 - Rosary and Litany to the Blessed Virgin Mary 2:30 – Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and confessions 3:30 – Mass

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: This 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 Monday and Friday, October 6th and October 10th to accommodate staff vacation.

CATECHISM REGISTRATION AND CLASSES:

Registration and the start of Catechism classes will both begin on Sunday October 19th in the Parish Centre. Classes will run from 10:10 am to 11:00am and is for grades primary to eight.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR MIGRANTS:

This Sunday, October 5 is the 111th World Day of Migrants and Refugees. On this Day, **Pope Leo XIV** calls the Church to see migrants and refugees not only as people on the move, but as *missionaries of hope*.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS:

Fall Tea Party on Sunday October 5th from 2-4 p.m. at the council hall, 10 Collins Street. All brother Knights and families are welcome. Please join us for an afternoon of fund, music, tea and snacks.



MEN’S CURSILLO - November 6th to the 9th is in

need of help. We need four or five Cursillistas to work in the kitchen. Please answer our call. Contact Midge Rodgeron at 902-742-4475.

CANADA NEEDS OUR LADY:

Public Rosary, is being prayed on October 11th at 12:00 pm outside of the church. For more information call Rosa Maio at 902-649-3273. Please Join us.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: - Beware of angling for

compliments, lest you lose God’s favour in exchange for people’s praise. -St Jerome

