



October 12th, 2025 28th 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 11th - 19th, 2025

St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral (Yarmouth):

Sat. 4 pm Benny Boudreau
Sun. 9am Parishioners
Sun. 11:15 am Kenny MacKay
Tues. 6:30 pm Anniv. William Cottreau
Wed. 6:30 pm Fred Charles
Thurs. 9 am James Muise
Fri. 9 am Charles Muise
Sat. 4 pm Billy Gordon
Sun. 9am Alcide & Elizabeth Landry
Sun. 11:15 am Parishioners

Our Lady of Lourdes (Melbourne):

Sat. 6 pm October 11 Margaret Clairmont
Sun. 10 am October 19 Ervin DeViller

REFLECTION: Praying for More than Our Needs: As



Jesus continued his journey to Jerusalem, he traveled through Samaria and Galilee. As he was entering a village, ten lepers met him. They stood at a distance from him and raised their voices, saying, “Jesus, Master! Have pity on us!” This story begins very well for all ten of these lepers. For nine of them, it ends tragically. For one, it ends in an even better and more glorious way than it began. The lepers represent us all. Their illness was a symbol of

all sin and the consequences of sin. When the disease began, the lepers began to experience the effects of their disease. Discolored and thick dry skin, sores, and rashes would set in. Once detected, each leper was removed from the community to stop the spread of the disease and was only free to associate with other lepers. They no longer could gather freely with their loved ones as the lepers entered isolation and shame. Analogously, all sin has similar effects. Sin causes pain within our souls as we discover the growing wounds it causes. Sin affects our relationships and our ability to freely relate to those whom we love. The initial cure for sin is simple. We cry out, “Jesus, Master! Have pity on me!” But that is only the first step. By curing the lepers, Jesus was showing us that He had power over our sin. He could forgive us and will forgive us when we seek His mercy. But forgiveness will end in tragedy if it does not lead us to faith and to a following of the will of God with zeal and determination. If we take the forgiveness of sins for granted, then we will be in an even more miserable state than before. The nine lepers who failed to return and give thanks to God represent those who do not convert their lives when touched by God’s merciful hand. This story highlights the importance of our response to God when He does touch us. We must glorify God with a loud voice, fall on our knees before Him and express our deepest gratitude. When the one leper does this, Jesus says to him, “Stand up and go; your faith has saved you.” That mercy from our Lord was a mercy that touched his soul. It imparted the gift of faith and enabled this man to go forth and be healed with eternal graces. Too often we turn to God in prayer only when we have a problem. Then, once the problem is taken care of, we pay little to no attention to our Lord. God’s role in our lives is not to fix our problems so that we can then go about our daily lives as normal. His mercy must evoke ongoing and profound gratitude. Gratitude to God is nothing other than an acknowledgement of the truth. We owe everything to God. Without Him, we are nothing. We are dead in our sins. Just one leper realized this and was blessed with the gift of faith that saved not only his body, but also his soul. Reflect, today, upon the ways in which you turn to God in prayer. It is good to come to Him with your needs and problems. It is good to cry out “Jesus, Master! Have pity on me!” It

is good to come to Him as the Physician of your soul and the source of healing you need. But that is not enough. In fact, if you stop there in your life of prayer, you will end in a most miserable state. You will be using God for your selfish advantage. Reflect upon whether you are able to take the next and most important step in faith. Do you come to Him when all is well? Do you praise Him with all your might for all that He has done for you? Do you fall on your knees before Him with the deepest gratitude in your heart? Reflect upon your prayer and seek to imitate this one leper. If you do, your faith will also save you and our Lord will invite you to rise and go forth, healed in the truest way possible. -My Catholic Life

OFFICE HOURS: The office will be closed Monday and Friday. October 13th for the Thanksgiving holiday. We will open for regular hours of operation on Tuesday October 14th.

CATECHETICS REGISTRATION AND CLASSES:

Registration and the start of Catechetics 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.

COFFEE SOCIALS: are being held after all the Coffee Social masses next weekend October 18th & 19th. Come join us for a cup.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS: Monthly Meeting:

Tuesday October 14th all members invited. 6:00 pm executive meeting and 7:30 pm general meeting. A 4th Degree meeting will be held on Tuesday October 21st at 7.00 pm; with healing rosary starting at 6:30 pm for all our sick Brother Knights. The October Family of the Month award goes to Kendall Parnell Shaw and family. The award will be presented on Sunday, October 12th after the 9 am Mass.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: - Truly, the soul is more

 noble than the whole world and more stable than all things. It is more worthy because it is spiritual and equal to the angels and created for eternal joy. -St. Bridget of Sweden

BOLD IN FAITH: A Commitment to Stewardship and Mission In this Jubilee Year, our Archdiocese launches the BOLD IN FAITH annual appeal: “Proclaiming the kingdom of God with boldness and without hindrance.” -Acts 28:31 This is a celebration of our story as Catholics in Nova Scotia and a renewal of our commitment to Christ’s mission here and now. Each week, starting in October and leading up to the Archdiocesan Feast Day in December, we will share photos that highlight this story and celebrate our parish communities. To make sure you never miss a photo, sign up for our newsletter or follow us on Facebook. Your gift to this year’s appeal strengthens vital ministries that touch lives every day:  **Parish Mission** – renewing parish life and pastoral ministry  **Community** – caring for our retired priests who gave their lives in service  **Formation** – nurturing the faith of children, youth, and adults alike  **Outreach & Mission** – extending Christ’s love to the most vulnerable, including through the Emergency Shelter Project  **Diocesan Ministry Services** – supporting university and hospital chaplaincies & Discover more in our 2024 Impact Report and in gratitude for your local parish, 20% of every gift will be returned directly to your parish, ensuring that your generosity strengthens both your immediate faith community and our Archdiocese as a whole. This is more than a fundraising effort; it is a movement of faith-filled stewardship. Together let us be Pilgrims of Hope, building a bright future rooted in faith and service. Click here to donate today, or call us at 902-429-9800 ext. 125 to donate by phone.

CCCB FAMILY CATECHETICS: The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops recently announced a new four-part video series titled [Called to Witness and Proclaim](#). This was developed to accompany their [October 2024 Pastoral Letter on Family Catechesis](#). The series aims to help families, catechists, and pastoral leaders deepen their understanding of the family as the “domestic church.” Each video offers accessible and engaging content suitable for formation in parish settings, pastoral reflection on family ministry, parent formation sessions, or personal reflection. To see these videos, go to St. Ambrose’s website home page.