



October 11th, 2026 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 10th- 18th, 2026

St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral (Yarmouth):

Sat. 4 pm Eric Warner
Sun. 9 am George D'Eon
Sun. 11:15 am Parishioners
Tues. 6:30 pm John Lombard
Wed. 6:30 pm Eddie Theriault
Thurs. 9 am Dorothy Callahan
Fri. 9 am Holy Souls in Purgatory
Sat. 4 pm Parishioners
Sun. 9 am Richard Robicheau
Sun. 11:15 am Sandy Fevens

Our Lady of Lourdes (Melbourne):

Sun. 10 am October 11 Hilda and Alfred Harris
Sun. 10 am October 18 Avite Saulnier

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.**

Please note: The weekday Mass may be cancelled in the event of a funeral Mass. The Mass intention scheduled for that day will be offered at a later date.

REFLECTION: The Wedding Feast of the Liturgy

Jesus again in reply spoke to the chief priests and elders of the people in parables, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king who

gave a wedding feast for his son. He dispatched his servants to summon the invited guests to the feast, but they refused to come.” Today’s parable is part of Jesus’ final teachings in Jerusalem during Holy Week. It continues His direct confrontation with the religious leaders of Israel—specifically, the chief priests and elders. Through this story, Jesus unveils the mystery of the Kingdom, the tragedy of Israel’s rejection, and the universal call to salvation. The central theme of this parable is found in the opening line: “The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son.” In this parable, the king is God the Father, the Son is Jesus, and the Wedding Feast represents the Messianic Banquet—a celebration of the eternal joy of union with God. Today, the Holy Mass is a real participation in that Messianic Banquet and a foretaste of its fullness to come. The first invited guests “refused to come.” This is commonly understood to refer to many among the people of Israel who rejected Jesus as the Messiah, especially the religious leaders. The second invitation was ignored by some and met with hostility by others. This reflects the way the prophets were treated throughout salvation history—ignored, rejected, and often persecuted. When the king learned of their refusal, he sent his troops to destroy those who had been invited, which is a clear reference to God’s justice, His judgment, and the penalty of grave sin: spiritual death. The king then sends his servants out to invite everyone they can find. This is the mission of the Church. From the moment Jesus founded His Church and entrusted it to the Apostles, the invitation to the heavenly banquet has gone out to the ends of the earth, and it continues to this day. Each of us has received this divine invitation. Today, the fullest way to participate in the Wedding Feast is through the Holy Mass. The Mass is truly our wedding banquet, and our union with Christ is sealed in Holy Communion. But do we see the Mass this way? Often, we tend to evaluate the Mass by the personality and preaching of the priest, the quality of the music, or other superficial elements. When we fail to attend Mass as we would attend the Wedding Feast of the Son of God, then we, like the first group, “refuse to come”—even if we are physically present. True attendance requires spiritual attentiveness and interior participation. When we view the Mass as a burden

or inconvenience, we act like those in the second group who responded with indifference or hostility. Ideally, we will attend Mass every Sunday—and more often if possible—willingly, joyfully, reverently, and with hearts prepared to encounter the bridegroom. This requires that we remain in a state of grace. The parable ends with a sobering image: A man found at the feast without a wedding garment is cast out into the darkness. The “wedding garment” symbolizes the state of the soul, especially the presence of sanctifying grace, which is received in Baptism and restored through Confession. To approach the altar without this garment is to risk being cast out, as the man in the parable was. We must therefore examine our conscience, repent of sin, and prepare our hearts with devotion so that we may worthily partake of this Heavenly Meal. Reflect today on the Mass as the true Wedding Feast of the Lamb. Do you approach this sacred celebration with joyful reverence, spiritual preparation, and genuine love for the bridegroom? Strive to make your presence at Mass much more than physical; let it be the expression of a soul properly clothed, joyfully responding to the King’s invitation. May our worthy participation in the Eucharist be a foretaste of the eternal banquet prepared for those who are invited and respond with all their hearts. -My Catholic Life

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. If you or someone you know might be interested in learning more, please contact Larry Richard, 902-746-4256, jsll@persona.ca

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.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: People aspire to what is



beautiful and love it. But what is beautiful is also good. God is good. Everyone looks for the good, therefore everyone looks for God. - St. Basil

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.

COFFEE SOCIALS: The coffee socials will take place the weekend of October 17th & 18th after all the masses in the Jubilee Room. Come join us for a cup.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS: Monthly Meeting



at the Knights of Columbus Hall Tuesday October 13, all members invited. (6:00 pm executive meeting and 7:30 pm general meeting).

CATHOLIC WOMEN’S LEAGUE: We are beginning to collect our annual dues. You may put your \$35 in an envelope marked CWL dues with your name, address, phone number and email (if available) in the collection on weekends or drop them in the mailbox at the parish office or for pickup call 902-749-7504

NO SCENTS PLEASE: Help us to keep the air we share healthy and fragrance free. The chemicals used in scented products can make some people sick, especially those with fragrance sensitivities, asthma, allergies and other medical conditions.

