



December 4, 2022 Second Sunday of Advent

Pastor: Fr. Henry Smolenaars
Fr. Henry Email: frhenrys@gmail.com
Hospital Chaplain: Fr. Wieslaw Papuga
Priest on Call: 902-746-8233 (Emergencies)
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
Reconciliation/confession is held on Wednesday
 after mass from 7:00-8:00

MASS INTENTIONS — Dec. 4th-11th, 2022

St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral (Yarmouth):

Sat. 4pm Hector D'Eon and Doris Fitzgerald
Sun. 9am John, Mary & Alexander Maclsaac and Sister
 Ricarda of Switzerland
Sun. 11:15 am Parishioners
Tues. 6:30pm Ian Scott and Thomas Thibault
Wed. 6:30 pm Felix, Celeste & Cecile Saulnier and Kenneth
 Scott
Thurs: 9 am Special Intentions of the Associates AFMA and
 Gerald Robbins
Fri. 9 am Catherine Jackson and Dora Surette
Sat. 4 pm Parishioners
Sun. 9 am Helen Hipson and Jamie McDonnell
Sun. 11:15 am Marilyn & Earl Goudey
Our Lady of Lourdes (Melbourne):
Sun. 10 am Dec. 4 Enos Jacquard
Sun. 6 pm Dec. 10 Marie d'Entremont

WHAT NAME DO YOU PUT ON YOUR DONATION CHECK?

Just to remind everyone, we now only have one account for the parish. When writing out a check for donations to any of the churches (St. Ambrose Cathedral/Our Lady of Lourdes),

Tabitha Centre or cemeteries (Our lady of Calvary/Our Lady of Lourdes/St. Gabriel's/St. Raphael) please, write them out to St. Ambrose Parish. Please put a note on the memo line the what the donation is intended for and we will make sure it is directed to the proper place.

REFLECTION: Public Repentance When he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers!

Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance." [Matthew 3:7-8](#)

This was both a very intense and yet very holy encounter. It was intense in that Saint John the Baptist, who had become quite popular and respected and was considered a great prophet, spoke harshly toward the Pharisees and Sadducees. "You brood of vipers!" he says. This was not the way the Pharisees and Sadducees were normally spoken to.

John speaks this way because it was the truth. These religious leaders were not leading anyone closer to God. One only needs to ponder all that Jesus would eventually say to the Pharisees and Sadducees to understand what kind of people these religious leaders had become.

So, this passage is certainly intense. But it is also very holy. It is holy because this "brood of vipers" needed to be chastised. They needed to be condemned and challenged. They needed to be humbled. And there is nothing more humbling than sincerely repenting of one's sins in a public way.

Notice that John does not dismiss the leaders outright. Rather, he requires of them "evidence" of their repentance. Why? Because of the spiritual damage these men did to the people of Israel on account of their pride, self-righteousness, hypocrisy, love of public honors, condemnation of others, etc. They had so distorted the faith that the good of their souls required public repentance. It required that everyone see sincere good fruits flowing from their lives as a sign that they had changed. Though this is a tall order for the Pharisees and Sadducees, it's the way to holiness for them.

The same is true for us. If you have allowed yourself to fall into some of the same traps as the Pharisees and Sadducees, then you, too, will greatly benefit

from clear and humble public change. If you have struggled with self-righteousness, a critical tongue, a "holier than thou" attitude or a judgmental attitude toward others, then you might have great need for a humble and public repentance.

Reflect, today, upon the Pharisees and Sadducees. Try to understand their sin and the reason John called them a "brood of vipers." If you see any of their pride and self-righteousness within your own soul, then listen to this exhortation from John the Baptist as if it were spoken to you directly. "Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance." Do this, and God will free you through the gift of true humility.
 -My Catholic Life

RECONCILIATION SERVICE: There will be a reconciliation service Thursday December 8th at 6:30 pm here at St. Ambrose. Why not make this Christmas extra special with feeling the deep forgiveness this sacrament can give?



CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE NEWS: The CWL will be meeting Monday December the 5th at 6:00pm in the Jubilee Room. Please bring in your vote if you haven't mailed them in yet. We are also asking members to bring in a personal hygiene item, socks, clothing or basic cleaning supplies. We will be collecting wool, cards and stamps as usual.



FOOD BANK: This weekend, December 3rd & 4th is our turn to support the Yarmouth Food Bank.



QUOTE OF THE WEEK: Mary sustains our journey toward Christmas, for she teaches us how to live this Advent season in expectation of the Lord. For this time of Advent is a time of waiting for the Lord, who will visit us all on the feast, but also, each one, in our own hearts. The Lord is coming! Let us wait for him! -Pope Francis



ARCHBISHOP BRIAN DUNN COMING TO SAINT AMBROSE NEXT WEEKEND: Next weekend, our Archbishop will be here for what is called a pastoral visit. He will be talking with people responsible for various areas of the pastoral life of the parish. Pastoral Visits are done so that the bishop


will know the situation of the parish, those who serve in the parish, and the conditions of the temporal goods of the parish, which include financial goods and properties. He may give recommendations on how to serve the parish better in the future. Please join me in welcoming him on the weekend. Fr. Henry

HOMELES IN YARMOUTH One of the pastoral priorities of the diocese given by our Archbishop is to help the homelessness. In keeping with this, once again we are looking for items. If you want to help, here is a list of things needed that they often don't have money for. You can drop these items off at the parish center or leave them at the back of the church after weekend mass. Thanks for helping the less fortunate in our community. Fr. Henry.

Personal hygiene: shampoo, soap, body wash, deodorant, razors, toothpaste, toothbrushes, hair brushes, combs, sanitary pads/tampons.

Clothing: socks, underwear. Basic cleaning: all-purpose cleaner, dish detergent, bathroom cleaner, laundry soap.

Miscellaneous: toilet tissue, Kleenex, vouchers for a cup of coffee or a slice of pizza.

COFFEE SOCIALS: Please note the coffee socials are  being held after all the masses the 2nd weekend of December, the 10th and 11th. Come join us for a cup.

CHRISTMAS POTLUCK: On Dec. 18th there will be a Christmas potluck in the parish centre after the 11:15am mass. If you are able, please bring a dish to share! Dishes may be dropped off in the kitchen prior to mass. Contact Leila with any questions at 902-307-5966.



OFFICED CLOSED: The parish office will be closed this coming Monday December 5th but will reopen Tuesday December 6th for regular office hours.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS: Monthly Meeting: Tuesday December 13th, all members invited. 6:00 pm executive meeting (No Supper) 7:00pm general meeting 4th Degree Meeting Tuesday December 20th at 7:00pm.

