



April 16th, 2023 2nd Sunday of Easter!

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 –April 15th- 23rd 2023

St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral (Yarmouth):

Sat. 4 pm Lorna Burnham
Sun. 9am Alan Thibeau
Sun. 11:15 am Parishioners
Tues. 6:30 pm Deceased Members of the Cottreau &
 Pothier families
Wed. 6:30 pm Anniv. Sharron Rodgerson
Thurs: 9 am Ryan & Blaine Anthony
Fri. 9 am Anniv. Marion Surette
Sat. 4 pm Parishioners
Sun. 9 am Intentions of Eileen Muise
Sun. 11:15 am Norman Griffin

Our Lady of Lourdes (Melbourne):

Sat. 6pm April 15 Wayne Doucette
Sat. 10 am April 23 Elize Saulnier

OREMUS: A Guide to Catholic Prayer In this 8-week video-based study program, Fr. Mark Toups teaches you the essentials of an effective and fruitful prayer life. Come and discover how God speaks to you, even in the smallest encounters. Following the Tradition of the Catholic Church and the wisdom of the saints, you will learn how to express yourself to God in prayer, and how to hear God's voice.

Thursday evenings 7 to 8:30 beginning April 13th, 2023 in the Jubilee Room and repeating on Friday mornings 10 to 11:30 beginning April 14th, 2023 in the parish centre.

REFLECTION: Coming into the Light There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. He came to Jesus at night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you are doing unless God is with him."



Nicodemus, a Pharisee and a ruler of the Jews, is mentioned three times in the Gospel of John. The passage above comes from the first time he's mentioned. The second time is when he reminds the Sanhedrin that Jesus should be heard by them before they condemn Him, and the third time is when Nicodemus assists with Jesus' burial after His death. John's Gospel is very symbolic. He especially uses the images of light and dark. For example, when Judas went out to betray Jesus, John's Gospel notes that "it was night." In the passage above, John's Gospel notes that Nicodemus came to Jesus "at night."

Saint Augustine, in commenting upon this passage, says that Nicodemus came to Jesus "at night" because Nicodemus was not yet fully born again and, therefore, was not yet living fully in the light of faith. But the fact that Nicodemus does come to Jesus and questions Him at length shows that he had a spark of faith and that he wanted to deepen that faith. He clearly hoped that Jesus was the Messiah and professed that Jesus was "a teacher who has come from God."

From early times, prior to the formalization of canonization practices, Nicodemus has been given the title of "saint" within the Catholic Church as well as in the Orthodox Church. He is especially venerated because he stood up against the other religious leaders at the time to defend Jesus and show support for Him. This took courage. He was ridiculed and risked being shunned by the others. But Nicodemus knew there was something special about Jesus, and he persevered in following that inspiration.

In many ways, Nicodemus is a great example for us today in our modern world. More and more, in most secular world cultures, being a follower of Jesus is

looked down upon. This is especially true if you choose to live your faith openly and believe all that the Gospels teach. Many Christians find that living their faith openly, especially within the workplace, school environments, and other civic circles, is challenging. And like Nicodemus, many find it easier to come to Jesus "at night," meaning, in a hidden way. And though Nicodemus started this way, he eventually spoke openly in defense of Jesus in the presence of his fellow Pharisees who, according to some traditions, persecuted him and drove him into exile.

Reflect, today, upon Saint Nicodemus. He allowed the spark of faith within him to grow as He listened to Jesus, struggled with the pressure from his peers, but ultimately openly professed his faith in Christ. And though this hurt his worldly position of honor within the Sanhedrin and among the earthly rulers, it earned Nicodemus an eternal honor in Heaven. Reflect upon the courage he must have had to go against the pressure of his peers by allowing the faith he found in Christ to grow and fill his life with the light of Truth. Seek to imitate this good man and allow yourself to be inspired by his courage so that you, too, will receive the same eternal glory he now enjoys in Heaven. – My Catholic Life

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY: Sunday April 16th is



Divine Mercy Sunday. Starting at 1:00 pm in the Jubilee Room, I will be showing a video called **Love and Mercy: Faustina**. It's about Saint Faustina and her experiences with Jesus. It "includes previously unknown facts and recently disclosed documents that shed new light on the Divine Mercy message and devotion." It is 120 minutes in length, so right after the video, we will be going upstairs to the church to pray the Divine Mercy chaplet. If you don't wish to watch the video, you can still come to pray with us at 3:00 pm. Fr. Henry

THANK YOU: The youth would like to thank everyone who came out to support the fish chowder and seafood chowder fundraisers during the Fridays of Lent. By your support we were able to raise \$5211.80 less expenses. We would also like to thank Midge Rodgerson for cooking each week and to Polly Rodgerson, Elizabeth & Larry Richard and Chester & Kay Muise who gave of their time

each week peeling and preparing. Thank you also to the anonymous donor who donated all the lobster. All your help was greatly appreciated.

THE SAINTS THAT SURROUND US - Our Stained



Glass Windows Come join us to hear about the lives of the saints that are portrayed in our windows and what the symbols in their windows represent. Sunday from 10:15 to 11:00 at the Parish Centre, upstairs from April 2 to April 30.

KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS NEWS: Monthly Meeting:



4th Degree Meeting: Tuesday April 18th at 7:00pm. All members welcome.
Community Breakfast: April 23rd 9:00 to 12:00 cost is \$10.00 Adults and 12 and under \$7.00. Take outs are also available.

OFFICE CLOSED: The office will be closed on Monday April 17th and Friday April 21st for staff vacation. We will be open Tuesday to Thursday for regular hours of operation.

COFFEE SOCIALS: Please note the coffee socials are being held after the 4pm & 9am masses the weekend of April 15th & 16th. Come join us for a cup. There will be a potluck being held April 16th following the 11:15 am mass in the parish centre. Please bring a dish to share!

QUILTING: Are you looking to have a quilt hand quilted? Contact Carolyn Pike at 902-742-7470 or 902-749-7504. The ladies quilt at the parish centre on Tuesday & Wednesday afternoons. Come visit them.



Our sympathy is extended to the family and friends of
 Marie Fitzgerald and Richard Robicheau
 Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon Them.