

April 7, 2024 2nd Sunday of Easter

	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)
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Reconciliation/confession is held on Wednesday	
after mass from 7:00-8:00	

MASS INTENTIONS – April 6th – 14th, 2024

St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral (Yarmouth):

- Sat. 4 pm Parishioners
- Sun. 9am Jamie McDonnell
- Sun. 11:15 am Rose Deveau
- Tues. 6:30 pm Special Intentions
- Wed. 6:30 pm Fred Charles
- Thurs: 9am J. Donald Surette
- Fri. 9 am Edwin & Lorraine Harding
- Sat. 4 pm Deceased Members of the Manser Family
- Sun. 9am Parishioners
- Sun. 11:15 am Madeline Deveau

Our Lady of Lourdes (Melbourne):

- Sun. 10 am April 7 Pauline Cottreau
- Sun. 10 am April 14 Earl Boudreau

<u>REFLECTION:</u> 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

SAVE THE DATE - Archdiocesan Eucharistic Congress October 18 to 20, 2024 in Halifax. Guest speakers include Halifax native and past president of the CCCB Archbishop Richard W. Smith of Edmonton, and past president of the CCCB Archbishop Paul-André Durocher of Gatineau. More details to follow.

<u>CURSILLO:</u> The Women's Cursillo Weekend will be

held May 16-19 at St. Ambrose Parish. 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 either of the names below: Chester Muise: 902-653-0329 or Liz Richard: 902-307-6456. The Men's Cursillo has been postponed until a later date.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: There is no evil to be faced



that Christ does not face with us. There is no enemythat Christ has not already conquered. There is no cross to bear that

Christ has not already born for us, and does not now bear with us. -St. John Paul II

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY: Sunday April 7th is Divine



Mercy Sunday. Starting at 1:30 pm in the Jubilee Room, I will be showing a video called *The Face of Mercy* narrated

by Jim Caviezel. It "explores the history and relevance of Divine Mercy in our turbulent times". 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 **FOOD BANK:** This weekend, April 6th and 7th. is our turn to support the Yarmouth Food Bank. Non-perishable goods and monetary donations are appreciated. Members of

the Knights of Columbus will be on hand before all the masses to receive the donations.

COFFEE	SOCIALS:
Coffee	Social

are being held after all the masses the weekend of April 20th and 21st. Come join us for a cup.

KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS NEWS: Monthly Meeting:



Tuesday April 9th, all members invited 5:30pm executive meeting, 6:30 supper and 7:30pm general meeting. **4th Degree**

Meeting will be on April 16th at 7:00 pm.

THANK YOU: The youth would like to thank everyone who came out to support the fish chowder fundraisers during the Fridays of Lent. By your support we were able to raise \$5774.00 less expenses. We would also like to thank Midge Rodgerson for cooking each week and to Polly Rodgerson, Elizabeth & Larry Richard and all those who gave of their time each week peeling and preparing.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE: The cancelled meeting from April 4th has been rescheduled to Thursday, April 11th at 7pm in the Jubilee Room. Join us for a spiritual program, social time and planning some activities for Spring.

