

February 25th, 2024 2nd Sunday of Lent

Fr. Henry Email: **Hospital Chaplain: Priest on Call:**

Fr. Henry Smolenaars frhenrys@gmail.com Fr. Wieslaw Papuga

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

902-742-8960 **Tabitha Centre:**

Reconciliation/confession is held on Wednesday

after mass from 7:00-8:00

MASS INTENTIONS – Feb.23rd – March 3rd, 2024

St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral (Yarmouth):

4 pm Parishioners Sat.

9am Elizabeth Landry Sun.

11:15 am Jeanne Dukeshire Sun.

6:30 pm Anniv. Robert Cottreau Tues.

6:30 pm Grandchildren of Eli & Celina Hubbard Wed.

Thurs: 9 am Conrad & Mickey LeBlanc

9 am Anniv. Elizabeth & Robert Trefry Fri.

4 pm Lisa Lusk Sat.

Sun. 9am Parishioners

11:15 am Anniv. Rose Purdy Sun.

Our Lady of Lourdes (Melbourne):

10 am February 25 Frances & Vincent Surette Sun.

10 am March 3 Margaret & Lawrence Clairmont Sun.

Reflections

REFLECTION: Glory Overshadowing the Cross Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured

before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. Just six days prior to this glorious event of the Transfiguration, Jesus spoke for the first time to His disciples about His pending crucifixion and

death. He taught them that "the Son of Man must suffer greatly and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and rise after three days" Recall that Peter had a difficult time accepting this teaching. Jesus went on to rebuke Peter for his refusal to accept this prophetic teaching and further explained that "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me". These disciples then had six days to ponder this prophecy of our Lord before witnessing the Transfiguration.

In your life, is there something that God is trying to say to you that you have difficulty accepting? If so, it will most likely be related to God's call to you to take up your cross and follow Him. The Cross of Christ comes in many forms throughout life. It might be experienced when we allow the passion of anger to die so that pure mercy can be offered to one who has hurt us. Or it might be that God is calling you to step out in faith to embrace some endeavor that requires courage and trust. Or it might be that God is calling you to accept some hardship in life that is difficult to accept, such as the loss of a loved one, an illness, the loss of a job or any other difficulty that you struggle to accept with love and trust. Bitterness, resentment, anger, fear and the like are often the most difficult crosses we are called to embrace and let die. If this resonates with you, then this story of the Transfiguration is for you. After giving these disciples six days to ponder the difficult news of His coming Cross, Jesus gives them hope and inspiration through this sacred encounter. Though it lasted for only a short time, this manifestation of Jesus' glory was all that these disciples needed to begin to accept Jesus' prediction of His passion. On one hand, they feared what Jesus said was going to happen. But on the other hand, they saw His glory and majesty. By combining these two experiences, these disciples were given a new hope and strength to trust that whatever was to happen in the future, God was in control. We also need the consoling revelation of our Lord's glory to help us navigate the difficulties we will endure. For some, life is good, very good, and they walk with joy and ease with our Lord. But for others, life has taken a difficult turn and confusion has set in. If life is good for you right now, then rejoice that you are currently sharing a taste of

the glory of the Transfiguration. Give thanks to God

and tell Him with Saint Peter, "Rabbi, it is good that we are here!" Give thanks to him for the joy and consolation you currently experience. But if life is difficult for you right now, ponder those six days during which the disciples struggled with the prediction of the Lord's passion. Think about their confusion, doubts and fear. As you do, turn your eyes up the mountain. Know that the glory of God awaits you and that He wants to free you from all fear and anxiety. The mountain is climbed by a firm faith that is grounded in prayer. Make that journey with our Lord through prayer. Reflect, today, upon this holy mountain to which you are called. Know that as you climb it with perseverance and determination, hope and joy will be given to you. Pray for the ability to trust in the God Who not only died a cruel death but also is radiant in glory for all eternity. Trust Him, turn to Him and commit to the journey ahead.

My Transfigured Lord, You revealed Your glory to these disciples as a way of helping them accept Your Cross. Help me to also embrace Your Cross in my life and to see clearly the glory that results from its embrace. I trust in You, dear Lord; help me to trust You more. Jesus, I trust in You. -My Catholic Life

SERIES ON DEATH AND DYING: Sometimes we're confronted with a life changing diagnosis regarding our health or for someone who we love. Maybe a family member is approaching death, and decisions need to be made on how this happens. What decisions we make in these situations require moral discernment through the lens of our faith. We believe in the dignity and sacredness of human life at all stages, from conception to natural death. At the same time, our faith does not demand that life is to be sustained at all costs. As Catholics, our faith in Jesus Christ has much to teach us about living and dying well. Horizons of Hope is a series about this topic. If you want to learn about what the Church teaches on death and dying, join me (Fr. Henry) for Thursday February 29th at 6:30 in the Jubilee Room.

ULTREYA: The next Yarmouth Area Cursillo Movement Ultreya is on March 7th at 7pm at St. Ambrose Marian Hall. Cursillo Weekends will be held May 16-19 (Women's) and May 23-26 (Men's) 2024 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 Chester Muise: 902-653-0329 or Liz Richard: 902-307-6456.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be held on the Fridays



of Lent at St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral at 6:30pm. Each week will be led by a different group.

FISH CHOWDER FRIDAYS: We will be offering take out fish chowder on the Fridays of Lent. If you wish to purchase the chowder, we ask you to call the parish office to place

your order. The cost is \$7.00 and it may be picked up at the Marian Hall doors between 4:00 and 5:00.

FOOD BANK: Next weekend, March 2nd-3rd, 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.

KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS NEWS: Monthly Meeting:



Tuesday March 12th, all members invited 5:30pm executive meeting, 6:30 supper and 7:30pm general meeting. 4th Degree Meeting will be on March 19th at 7:00 pm.

COOFFEE SOCIAL AND PANCAKE & SAUSAGE



SOCIALS: The Coffee social will be held after the 4pm mass on March 16th as usual. The Pancake & Sausage socials will

be held following the 9am & 11:15 am masses on March 17th. As a result of bad weather, we cancelled the Shrove Tuesday supper but we had already bought the supplies so, we decided that it would be rescheduled in place of the two coffee socials. There is no charge to attend however if you wish to give a donation there will be a free will offering box available with all the proceeds going to the youth who will be attending the Steubenville Atlantic conference this summer.