



2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time
January 18th & 19th, 2020

Pastor: Fr. Henry Smolenaars
Parish Deacon: Rev. Mr. Stephen Bourque
Fr. Henry Email: frhenrys@gmail.com

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 available every Saturday 11 am-noon at St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral.

MASS INTENTIONS January 18th-26th, 2020

Sat. 4pm Anniv. Frank Muise and Daniel Poirier
(Melbourne) Agnes & Robert Doucette

Sun. 9am Parishioners
11:15am Ralph Deveau and Special Intentions of the Oguntade Family

Mon. No Mass

Tues. 6:30pm Intentions of Pat Goudey and Intentions of Angela Langley & Family

Wed. 6:30pm Melissa Bain and Jennifer LeBlanc

Thur. 9am Pat Gallagher and Hazel Deveau

Fri. 9am Michael David LeBlanc and Richard Griffin

Sat. 4pm Lorraine DeViller and Anniv. Ron Muise
6pm (Melbourne)

Sun. 9am John MacPherson and Stephen Sweeney
11:15am Parishioners

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

COLLECTION ENVELOPES: Just a reminder if you have not picked up your collection envelopes they maybe picked up at the Parish Centre office after this weekend.



COFFEE SOCIALS: The coffee socials will be held next weekend after the Masses .



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS: Community Breakfast: this Sunday, **January 19th** from 9am -noon at the Knights of Columbus Hall. Adults -\$7.00 and children under 12 -\$3.50. Eat in or take out.



STEUBENVILLE ATLANTIC MEETING: There will be an information session for all youth ages 14 and up who are interested in attending the youth conference this summer in Halifax. Please join us Sunday January 26th in the Jubilee Room following the 11:15 Mass.



SITTING IN THE SIDE PEW: –a retreat on Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton. Saturday, January 25, 2020. 9:00am to noon in the Jubilee Room. Why does the Church canonize saints? It doesn't help *them*; after all, they are already in heaven. It's meant to help *us*! The saints' amazing spiritual maturity **reminds us of where we are going**, and the stories of their spiritual journeys remind us that God's grace truly can get us there. The saints inspire us. They intercede for us. They accompany us. In this month's Retreat, ***Sitting in the Side Pew***, we look at the shining example of **North America's first native-born canonized saint**, Elizabeth Ann Bayley Seton. No fee or registration. Sponsored by Regnum Christi - Yarmouth. For further information please call Coleen 902 742-4924 or Helen 902 742-6216.




DEACON STEVE AWAY HELPING: Fr. John (your former pastor) has asked for some help from time to time with his parish that goes from Weymouth to Windsor. This means that Deacon Steven will be away occasionally doing services in the Digby and Weymouth churches.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: The Teacher of the children became himself a child among children, that he might instruct the unwise. The Bread of heaven came down to earth to feed the hungry.
 -St. Cyril of Jersualam



SAINT AMBROSE PARISH ... our new parish name: Starting on January 1st, our new parish name is St. Ambrose Parish. Under that parish is St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral and Our Lady of Lourdes. The official decree has been posted in both churches on the bulletin board and is also available for you to see from the link below or on our website. If you have any questions, you can ask me, Fr. Henry.

https://www.halifaxyarmouth.org/images/websections/Onew_decrees_2020/19-019_Saint_Ambrose.pdf



Our sympathy is extended to the family and friends of
 Paul Louis Fitzgerald, Pauline Emilie Shaver and Wanda Charlene Haley
 Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them.

WORD OF GOD SUNDAY: Pope Francis declares that “the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time is to be devoted to the celebration, study and dissemination of the Word of God”. He wrote a document on it called “Aperuit illis”, which was taken from the opening words of St. Luke’s Gospel, where the Evangelist describes how the Risen Jesus appeared to His disciples, and how “He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures”. Bishop Mancini has just sent out a letter asking us to “highlight the Word of God in some special manner in your parishes.” That Sunday is on January 25th/26th. Below is a summary of what Pope Francis has said.
 -Fr. Henry

TAKEN FROM VATICAN NEWS: Recalling the importance given by the Second Vatican Council to rediscovering Sacred Scripture for the life of the Church, Pope Francis says he wrote this Apostolic Letter in response to requests from the faithful

around the world to celebrate the Sunday of the Word of God. Pope Francis declares that “the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time is to be devoted to the celebration, study and dissemination of the Word of God”. Pope Francis invites local communities to find ways to “mark this Sunday with a certain solemnity”.

The Bible is not meant for a privileged few, continues Pope Francis. It belongs “to those called to hear its message and to recognize themselves in its words”. The Bible cannot be monopolized or restricted to select groups either. “Pastors are primarily responsible for explaining Sacred Scripture and helping everyone to understand it”, writes Pope Francis. Which is why the homily possesses “a quasi-sacramental character”.

The Pope warns against improvising or giving “long, pedantic homilies or wandering off into unrelated topics”. Rather, he suggests using simple and suitable language. For many of the faithful, he writes, “this is the only opportunity they have to grasp the beauty of God’s Word and to see it applied to their daily lives”. The Pope uses the scene of the Risen Lord appearing to the disciples at Emmaus to demonstrate what he calls “the unbreakable bond between Sacred Scripture and the Eucharist”.

“Without the work of the Spirit, there would always be a risk of remaining limited to the written text alone”. The Pope continues: “This would open the way to a fundamentalist reading, which needs to be avoided, lest we betray the inspired, dynamic and spiritual character of the sacred text”. It is the Holy Spirit who “makes Sacred Scripture the living word of God, experienced and handed down in the faith of His holy people”.

Pope Francis invites us never to take God’s Word for granted, “but instead to let ourselves be nourished by it, in order to acknowledge and live fully our relationship with Him and with our brothers and sisters”.

REFLECTION: “Prayer is so much more than just saying your prayers. Prayer is a spiritual Adventure.”
 -Fr. John Bartunek