



January 18th, 2026

2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time

Pastor:	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)
Office hours:	Monday to Friday from 9:30 am to 1:00 pm
Church email :	stambrosemal@gmail.com
Bulletin email:	stambrosebulletin1@gmail.com
Tabitha Centre:	902-742-8960
Confession/Adoration	Wednesday 7:00-8:00

MASS INTENTIONS – January 17th to 25th, 2026

St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral (Yarmouth):

Sat.	4 pm Parishioners
Sun.	9am Anniv. Pius and Cecilia Landry
Sun.	11:15 am Jerry MacKenzie
Tues.	6:30 pm Anniv. Frank Joseph Muise
Wed.	6:30 pm Intentions of Flora Ann Maloney
Thurs.	9 am Wallace Doucet
Fri.	9 am Special Intentions
Sat.	4 pm Anniv. George Nixon
Sun.	9am Parishioners
Sun.	11:15 am Anniv. Ron Muise

Our Lady of Lourdes (Melbourne):

Sun.	10 am January 18 Mass of Thanks Giving
Sun.	10 am January 25 Anniv. Loring Clairmont

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.

REFLECTION: **The New Paschal Lamb** *John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.*



He is the one of whom I said, 'A man is coming after me who ranks ahead of me because he existed before me.'" Central to the Jewish faith was the Feast of Passover, the commemoration of God's deliverance of His people from slavery in Egypt (Exodus 12). In Jesus' time, Passover was one of three major annual feasts during which the Jews made a pilgrimage to the Temple in Jerusalem. Additionally, the Feast of Weeks celebrated the giving of the Law on Mount Sinai and the first fruits of the harvest, and the Feast of Tabernacles recalled the Israelites' wandering in the desert and celebrated God's providence. Recall the first Passover meal. Moses instructed the people to sacrifice an unblemished lamb, mark the doorposts of their homes with its blood, and eat the lamb with unleavened bread and bitter herbs in haste, ready to depart. This act of faith and obedience protected them from the angel of death who passed over the marked houses, sparing the firstborn of Israel, while striking down the firstborn of Egypt. The Passover thus became a perpetual memorial of God's saving power and His covenantal faithfulness to His people. Because of the Passover, the idea of a sacrificial lamb was intimately familiar to the Jewish people. The Jews were also familiar with the prophecy in Isaiah 53—often referred to as the Suffering Servant—in which the servant of the Lord is described as "a lamb led to the slaughter," who bears the sins of many. Additionally, each morning and evening, a lamb was sacrificed in the temple as a continual offering for sin. As Jesus began His public ministry, the first thing said of Him came from John the Baptist: "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world." His words would have resonated within the minds and hearts of John's disciples. His disciples believed that John was a great prophet and the forerunner of the Messiah, sent to prepare the way for the Lord. They saw him as a holy man who called for repentance and renewal, and some even wondered if he himself might be the Christ, though John consistently denied this. Because John's ministry was one of preparation for the Messiah, his disciples would have anticipated the Messiah's imminent arrival. Imagine the excitement, surprise, questions, uncertainty, and hope that would have filled their minds and hearts as they listened to John's prophecy about Jesus. John continued, "He is the

one of whom I said, 'A man is coming after me who ranks ahead of me because he existed before me.'"

Though John's proclamation about Jesus took on a powerful significance for his disciples that first moment that he revealed Jesus as the Lamb of God, John's words must resonate within each of us today. Now that the Christmas Season is complete and we enter into Ordinary Time, we are invited to embrace Jesus' public ministry, with all His teachings and Paschal Sacrifice, as something extraordinary in our lives. We must approach His ministry with the same hope, enthusiasm, excitement, and anticipation that John's disciples experienced. Reflect today on the moment when John the Baptist's disciples heard him proclaim, "Behold, the Lamb of God!" Like them, strive to see Jesus with new eyes and hopeful anticipation as we begin Ordinary Time. This liturgical season marks the beginning of Jesus' public ministry, and it must also be a renewed beginning of His works in your life. Follow Him without reserve, allowing Him to take away your sins and share in His life and love.

-My Catholic Life

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: Let us therefore give ourselves to God with great desire to begin to live thus, and beg him to destroy in us the life of the world of sin, and establish his life within us. *-St. John Eudes*

INCENSE BEING USED AT THE 11:15AM MASS: Our Catholic Church has a long-standing tradition of using incense. It is a powerful symbol, having its roots in Jewish temple worship. The rising smoke symbolizes the prayers of the faithful ascending to God, drawing from Old Testament imagery (Psalm 141:2) and the Book of Revelation. Incense purifies and sanctifies people and objects, marking them as holy. It signifies God's presence, recalling the cloud on Mount Sinai and the incense used in the Temple. The fragrant smoke reminds us of our heavenly home and the worship of angels and saints. Some of our older parishioners might remember it being often used in their youth. In some of our churches in the diocese, it is still used every weekend. As the Co-Cathedral, it would be nice to see this symbol being used here. Having said this, **incense will be used on the last Sunday of every month at the 11:15 mass only.**

-Fr. Henry

INCENSE NEXT WEEKEND: Incense will be used at 11:15am mass & on the last Sunday of every month.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP: Grief is a difficult process. Grief doesn't go away, but we learn to grow around it, and expand our lives beyond it. Have you lost someone recently, or well in the past? It may help to share your experience, or perhaps just hear from others who may have insight into what you are going through. Stories are medicine. Join us at the Marian Hall 1:00 to 3:00 the afternoon of January 22nd to see if this group can help ease your suffering.

STEUBENVILLE ATLANTIC CONFERENCE: This high school conference is for youth going into high school in September and peer leaders ages 19 & 20 that would be interested in attending this summer's conference from July 10th-12th in Halifax. This weekend conference is a chance to gather with your peers and experience your faith in a way you never have before. If you are interested in attending, please contact the office to ask for more details. We hope to see you there!


God's abundant blessings upon Chad Edward LeBlanc and Lynn Marie Amirault who were married on January 10, 2026 at St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral.

As you begin your married life together, may you trust and rely on God's Holy Presence for guidance, direction and strength.


Our sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Owen David Atkinson, Florence Marie Jacquard and Philip David Kitter. Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them.