



## November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025 33<sup>rd</sup> 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 :** stambrosemail@gmail.com  
**Bulletin email:** stambrosebulletin1@gmail.com  
**Tabitha Centre:** 902-742-8960  
**Confession/Adoration** Wednesday 7:00-8:00

### MASS INTENTIONS – November 15<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025

#### St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral (Yarmouth):

**Sat. 4 pm** Parishioners  
**Sun. 9am** Ben & Ethel Surette  
**Sun. 11:15 am** Melford & Doris Fitzgerald  
**Tues. 6:30 pm** Gerald Muise  
**Wed. 6:30 pm** Kay & Edward Robicheau  
**Thurs. 9 am** Ted Zelmer  
**Fri. 9 am** John & Monique Brulé  
**Sat. 4 pm** Anniv. Irene Amirault  
**Sun. 9am** Parishioners  
**Sun. 11:15 am** Donald Baker

#### Our Lady of Lourdes (Melbourne):

**Sun. 10 am November 16** Stanley DeViller  
**Sun. 10 am November 23** Geraldine Pothier

### REFLECTION: Courage and Strength



“Before all this happens, however, they will seize and persecute you, they will hand you over to the synagogues and to prisons, and they will have you led before kings and governors because of my name. It will lead to your giving testimony. Remember, you are not to prepare your defense beforehand, for I myself shall give you a wisdom in speaking that all your adversaries will be powerless to resist or refute. It could be said that these are among the least

consoling words that Jesus ever spoke. Imagine what His disciples would have thought upon hearing this. Some of them might have changed their minds about following Jesus and walked away. Why would anyone want to be seized and persecuted, or thrown into prison? Jesus even went on to say that “they will put some of you to death.” Though these words might not, at first, seem all that consoling, they were inspired words and, therefore, must be inspiring. By analogy, imagine an army general in charge of troops defending their families and homeland from hostile invaders. If that general were to say similar words to the troops, acknowledging that some of them would be captured and even killed, it would be a reality check for sure. But it would also inspire a certain courage and drive. In that moment, the soldiers would need courage to face the challenge that awaited them. Therefore, by being honest with them, the general would stir up their courage and strengthen their resolve to enter the battle. We must hear Jesus’ words today as His battle cry, spoken to encourage us. He is warning us that the secular and unchristian world will be hostile. The leader of the kingdom of darkness, the devil, is very active and, with his legion of demons and followers, is seeking to destroy us. For our part, we must decide whether we will retreat and hide, or enter the battle for the salvation of souls. Though most of us will not endure physical martyrdom for our faith, it will happen to some. But for most of us, the persecution we will endure will be on a different level. We may be mocked or even hated for our refusal to accept immorality within the culture. We may be called hateful when we stand up for the dignity of the unborn child in danger of abortion. We may be deemed superstitious or old fashioned by remaining faithful to Sunday worship and daily prayer. And we may be thought of as out-of-touch or behind the times for refusing to embrace the latest popular fads and secular values. Sometimes this happens even within the family. Instead of shying away from the various forms of persecution we may experience, we need to allow our Lord to stir up a courage within us that is fueled by love. We must deeply desire the salvation of every soul and remain certain that the only way to salvation is through fidelity to Christ. When you are challenged by others or by the world, you must trust in Jesus’

words. “I myself shall give you a wisdom in speaking that all your adversaries will be powerless to resist or refute.” When we resist and refute the errors of our age, some people will become hostile. But if we remain faithful to our Lord and speak by His inspiration, then those who are hostile will be affected for the good. Because Jesus said that people will not be able to “resist or refute” the words He inspires us to say, we must know that our words can make a difference in the battle for souls. We must engage the battle with courage and love and rely upon our Lord to lead. Reflect, today, upon the fact that we are all in a battle for the salvation of souls, beginning with our own. We cannot be passive bystanders. We must move forward with much courage and strength. We must trust in the guidance given to us by our Lord. We must be open to the words He will inspire us to speak when needed. Resolve to follow our Lord into this holy battle, and He will equip you with all you need to be victorious.

*-My Catholic Life*

### QUOTE OF THE WEEK: - Kindness has converted



more people than zeal, science or eloquence. -St. Teresa of Calcutta

**JUBILEE OF SOCIAL JUSTICE:** This weekend we focus on the Jubilee of Social Justice. The Catechism of the Catholic Church calls social justice “the respect for the human person and the rights which flow from human dignity and guarantee it. Society must provide the conditions that allow people to obtain what is their due, according to their nature and vocation.” The Catholic Church has always been a big promoter of social justice, reaching out to those who need help. Here at St. Ambrose, we have Tabitha Center that helps those struggling with bills. The Knights of Columbus also collect food and donations once a month for the food bank, raising around \$30,000 in donations alone, not to mention the food given. We also partner with Acts of Kindness with our food pantry. Thank you to everyone who has given and has helped these and other important ministries that help those in need. Fr. Henry

### CHURCH CLEANING: Please join us on **Monday**



**November 24<sup>th</sup>** at 9:00am if you are able. Your help is greatly appreciated.

**CATHOLIC WOMEN’S LEAGUE:** We are beginning to collect our annual dues. You may put your \$35 in an envelope marked CWL dues with your name, address, phone number and email (if available) in the collection on weekends or drop them in the mailbox at the parish office or for pickup call (902)749-7504. **CWL and friends** - mark your calendars for our Christmas social December 13.

### WOMEN’S ADVENT STUDY: Encountering



Emmanuel, a Women’s Advent Study will be held in the Adult Faith Formation room at the St.

Ambrose Parish Centre from 9:30-10:30 am every Monday from November 24 to December 22. Books can be purchased from Amazon but aren’t necessary. No registration required. For more information call Liz Richard at 902-307-6456.

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS: Community



**Breakfast:** will be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall from 9:00 am to 11:30 pm November 23<sup>rd</sup>. The cost is \$10.00 for adults and \$7.00 for 12 and under.

### BLESSING OF THE BOATS: This year’s Blessing of the



Boats will be held Saturday November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025 in Pinkney’s Point at 10:00am and Little River Wharf at 10:45am. All are welcome!

**COLLECTION ENVELOPES:** Please remember to pickup your envelopes for 2026. They are available in the entrance of the church.



God’s abundant blessings upon Jarrett Louis Robinson and Catalina Castro Evan who were married on November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025 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.