



**3rd Sunday of Advent
December 11th & 12th, 2021**

Pastor: Fr. Henry Smolenaars
Hospital Chaplain: Fr. Wieslaw Papuga
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Reconciliation/confession is held on Wednesday after mass from 7:00 until 8:00 or by appointment if you work and are unable to make this time. To book a time, email Fr. Henry or call the office.

MASS INTENTIONS - Dec. 11th – 19th, 2021

- Sat. 4pm** Deceased Gordon & Robicheau Families and Anniv. Larry Burke
- Sun. 9am** Cliff & Helen Hipson and David Doucette
- Sun. 10am (Melbourne)** Jean Cottreau
- Sun. 11am** Parishioners
- Wed. 6:30pm** Intentions of Kay Olsen and Eva Robicheau
- Thurs. 9am** Sister Ricarda and John, Sandy & Mary Mclsaac
- Sat. 4pm** Parishioners
- Sun. 9am** Donald Joyce and Inabelle d'Entremont
- Sun. 10am (Melbourne)** Anniv. Emile Comeau
- Sun. 11am** Narcisse & Freda Surette and Jean Cottreau

Please note we will not be carrying the gifts for the offertory until further notice.

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.

OUR LADY OF LOURDES CEMETERY: With winter approaching we are seeing a lot of garbage blowing around the cemetery. We are asking that if you are visiting and are able to help out by picking up said garbage and disposing of it properly it would be

greatly appreciated. We would like to keep the properties around us clean. Thank you.

LIVE STREAM MASS AT ST. AMBROSE: We live stream mass every Wednesday at 6:30 pm and on the weekend at the Saturday 4:00 pm, Sunday at 11:00 am mass on a rotating basis. The next scheduled mass is always posted on our website's main page. If you want to watch, go to our web site at www.stambroseyarmouth.ca or go to our YouTube channel www.youtube.com/c/SaintAmbroseParish/videos?view=57

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: What really matters in life is that we are loved by Christ and that we love him in return. In comparison to the love of Jesus, everything else is secondary. And , without the love of Jesus, everything is useless. ~St. John Paul II

EMAIL TRANSFERS: are available. Please send to stambrosemail@gmail.com Please add your envelope number or personal information for income tax purposes.

REFLECTIONS: Purification by the Fire of God: John answered them all, saying, " I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." Again, this Sunday, we are given the glorious witness of St. John the Baptist. In this sermon of John, he says that Jesus will come and baptize "with the Holy Spirit and fire." The image of being baptized "with fire" is a good one to reflect upon. It especially reveals to us the deep purification Jesus desires for our souls.

What does it mean to be purified? For one thing, purification of our soul hurts. But it hurts in a sweet sort of way. Turning from sin and growing closer to God requires great sacrifice and surrender. And it requires that we allow God to do powerful things within us. And the most powerful thing God wants to do is purify us.

Our Catholic faith reveals to us the reality of Purgatory after we die. Purgatory is said to be a place of much spiritual pain, but again, in a sweet sort of way. It's painful in the sense that we are stripped of all that we hold on to that God wants us to let go of. It's painful in the sense that we endure a complete transformation of who we are and what we love. We learn to love God and God alone. And in the embrace of our love of God, we come to love all people.

It's also sweet because, as we are purified, we grow infinitely closer to God and grow in holiness. This lifts the burden of sin and frees us to love as we ought.

But our purification ought not start only in Purgatory. We are all called to enter into that process of purification here and now. We are called to heed the words of John the Baptist today and repent of all that keeps us from holiness of life. Reflect, today, upon the purification to which God may be calling you. What is it that you hold on to that He wants you free of? Commit yourself to the purifying fire of God's love and let that love cleanse you in this Advent season.

Lord, I do long to have my soul purified by You. I do desire holiness of life. Help me to begin this process here and now so that I can begin to experience the joy and freedom You have in store for me. Jesus, I trust in You. ~My Catholic Life

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: Anyone at Lady of Lourdes wishing to donate towards Christmas flowers in memory of a loved one may do so at the office or you can put your donation in an envelope with your name and envelope number on it along with "in memory of _____" written on it and place it in the collection basket. For St. Ambrose, we now have artificial flowers that will be used from year to year but for anyone wishing to still make a donation in memory of a loved, please think of making one to the Tabitha Centre.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE NEWS: *The CWL will be organizing a Christmas basket for SHYFT House. Items needed are socks, underwear, t-shirts, tooth paste, tooth brushes, soap, shampoo, deodorant, towels pajamas. All sizes are*

needed for male and female. They will be collecting items on December 18, 2021 in the parish centre parking lot. If you have any questions, please call Dawn Scott at 902-740-4820.

COLLECTION ENVELOPES: Envelope users may now pick up their new box of envelopes for 2022 from the parish centre office during office hours 9:30—to 1:00.

CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR'S SCHEDULE:

- December 24 – St. Ambrose**
 4:00 pm Children's Mass
 7:00 pm
 10:00 pm
- December 24 – Our Lady of Lourdes**
 7:30 pm
- December 25 – St. Ambrose**
 10:00 am
- January 1, 2022- St. Ambrose**
 10.00 am



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS: Monthly Meeting:

Tuesday December 14th, 2021 **6:00pm** executive meeting, **7:30pm** general meeting. All members invited.
4th Degree Meetings will resume March 15th, 2022.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION: If mass is cancelled due to inclement weather, we will post it on the main page of our website and try to have it on our local radio station as soon as we possibly can.



Our sympathy is extended to the family and friends of
 Pauline Agnes Blades and Thomas Frank Robicheau
 Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon Them.