

April 23rd, 2023 3rd Sunday of Easter!

Pastor: Fr. Henry Smolenaars
Fr. Henry Email: frhenrys@gmail.com
Hospital Chaplain: Fr. Wieslaw Papuga
Priest on Call: 902-746-8233 (Emergencies)
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 held on Wednesday
 after mass from 7:00-8:00

MASS INTENTIONS –April 23rd – 30th 2023

St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral (Yarmouth):

Sat. 4 pm Parishioners
Sun. 9am Intentions of Eileen Muise
Sun. 11:15 am Norman Griffin
Tues. 6:30 pm Beth LeBlanc
Wed. 6:30 pm Lady of Good Counsel
Thurs: 9 am Arthur LeBlanc
Fri. 9 am Anniv. Janice (Surette) Leslie
Sat. 4 pm Anniv. Fidelis Moulaison
Sun. 9 am Parishioners
Sun. 11:15 am Edgar Amirault

Our Lady of Lourdes (Melbourne):

Sat. 10am April 23 Elize Saulnier
Sat. 10 am April 30 Anniv. Agnes Doucette

OREMUS: A Guide to Catholic Prayer In this 8-week video-based study program, Fr. Mark Toups teaches you the essentials of an effective and fruitful prayer life. Come and discover how God speaks to you, even in the smallest encounters. Following the Tradition of the Catholic Church and the wisdom of the saints, you will learn how to express yourself to God in prayer, and how to hear God’s voice. Thursday evenings 7 to 8:30 beginning April 13th, 2023 in the Jubilee Room and repeating on Friday

mornings 10 to 11:30 beginning April 14th, 2023 in the parish centre.

REFLECTION: Understanding Disperses Doubt “But we were hoping that he would be the one to redeem Israel; and besides all this, it is now the third day since this



took place. Some women from our group, however, have astounded us: they were at the tomb early in the morning and did not find his body; they came back and reported that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who announced that he was alive.” The day on which our Lord rose from the dead, some of the women who had accompanied Him went to the tomb to anoint Jesus’ body and found the tomb empty. An angel spoke to them of Jesus’ Resurrection and then these women went to tell the disciples what they saw. The reaction of the disciples is recorded this way: “but their story seemed like nonsense and they did not believe them.” Later that day, two of those doubting disciples were traveling on foot to the town of Emmaus. As they traveled, they were “conversing and debating” about what had happened to Jesus and also about what these women reported to them. It is clear from their words that they were quite confused and discouraged about what was happening. They encountered our Lord in His public ministry. They had listened to His powerful teachings. They witnessed His miracles. They had hoped that He was the Messiah. But then they saw Him arrested, humiliated, beaten, crucified and killed. Jesus’ death took a serious toll on them and made them question their faith in Him. And even after they heard that He had risen, they couldn’t bring themselves to believe. Thus, they traveled the road to Emmaus—discouraged, confused and doubting. As these disciples walked along, our Lord appeared to them, but they did not recognize Him in His resurrected form. They expressed their confusion to Him and Jesus finally said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are! How slow of heart to believe all that the prophets spoke! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?” After Jesus went on and explained the Scriptures to them, they were hungry for more. They asked this stranger to stay with them and He did. That evening, Jesus broke bread with them, and in that sacramental act, they recognized Him before He vanished from their eyes.

We must see ourselves in these disciples. There are many things in life that can lead us to discouragement. When we strive to follow God’s will but find that things have not turned out how we expected, there is a temptation to doubt. Why is that? What is the cause of doubt? More than anything else, doubts and discouragement come from our failure to understand the perfect plan of God for our lives.

If these disciples had understood, from the beginning, all that Jesus explained to them on the road to Emmaus, they would not have despaired. They would not have lost hope. So also with us, when we begin to lose hope in our lives, it is primarily because we have failed to understand the divine plan for our lives correctly. We have failed to see that God permits certain things for His glory. He permits certain hardships to deepen our faith and trust in Him. When we fail to see His permissive will in all things, we will become discouraged and confused. Reflect, today, upon these two disciples. They had the incredible privilege of spending much time with our Lord during His public ministry, seeing His miracles and hearing His sermons. But when the Cross ensued, they doubted and despaired. Let these disciples witness to you and reveal to you any ways that you fall into similar temptations. Do you have perfect hope in God and His plan for your life? Or do you allow the various crosses you endure to confuse you and lead you to doubt? Allow our Lord to appear to you through prayer and reveal to you His perfect plan. Be open to the gift of understanding by trusting that the wisdom of God will dispel every temptation you have toward doubt, replacing it with trust and hope.

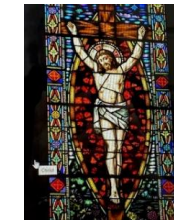
Lord of perfect wisdom, Your plan for my life is perfect and glorious beyond imagination. Too often, I fail to understand Your will and fall into confusion and doubt. Please open my mind to Your truth and help me to see everything from Your perspective so that I will always walk with hope and trust in You. Jesus, I trust in You. - My Catholic Life

KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS NEWS:



Community Bingo every Monday, doors open at 4:30 pm. All are welcome!
Breakfast: April 23rd 9:00 to 12:00 cost is \$10.00 Adults and 12 and under \$7.00. Take outs are also available.

THE SAINTS THAT SURROUND US - Our Stained



Glass Windows Come join us to hear about the lives of the saints that are portrayed in our windows and what the symbols in their windows represent. Sunday from 10:15 to 11:00 at the Parish Centre, upstairs from April 2 to April 30.

QUILTING: Are you looking to have a quilt hand quilted? Contact Carolyn Pike at 902-742-7470 or 902-749-7504. The ladies quilt at the parish centre on Tuesday & Wednesday afternoons. Come visit them.



SPRING CONCERT: St. Ambrose Spring concert, **Sunday May 7 at 7:00 pm.** Freewill offering in aid of the Tabitha Center. Three choirs and an organist.

ULTREYA: The next Ultreya will be May 4th at 7 pm at St. Ambrose Parish in the Marian Hall. All welcome!

IT'S NOT ME (FR. HENRY): Once again, someone has been contacting people from our parish saying that it is me (Fr. Henry), and that I am stuck in some way and looking for money. Please don't fall for this. As I said before, I will ask in person if I need financial help. Fr. Henry



Our sympathy is extended to the family and friends of
 Carol Comeau and Velma Scott
 Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him.

