



**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary  
Time  
January 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

**Pastor:** Fr. Henry Smolenaars  
**Hospital Chaplain:** Fr. Wieslaw Papuga 902-746-8233  
**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 by appointment only at this time please call the office or email Fr. Henry directly for an appointment.

**MASS INTENTIONS--January 23<sup>rd</sup>– 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021**

<b>Sat.</b>	<b>Jan. 23</b>	<b>4pm</b>	<b>Parishioners</b>
	<b>Jan. 24</b>	<b>9am</b>	<b>Leo Richard and Ray Miller</b>
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>Jan.24</b>	<b>10am (Melbourne)</b>	<b>Loring Clairmont</b>
	<b>Jan.24</b>	<b>11am</b>	<b>Elizabeth Shelick and Edwin &amp; Marie Doucette</b>
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>Jan. 27</b>	<b>9am</b>	<b>Anniv. Ron Muise and Anniv. Shirley LeBlanc Tidd</b>
<b>Sat.</b>	<b>Jan. 30</b>	<b>4pm</b>	<b>Troy Comeau and David Bub LeBlanc</b>
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>Jan. 31</b>	<b>9am</b>	<b>Michael LeBlanc and Paul Fitzgerald</b>
	<b>Jan. 31</b>	<b>10am (Melbourne)</b>	<b>Margaret Nickerson</b>
	<b>Jan. 31</b>	<b>11am</b>	<b>Parishioners</b>

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.

**LIVE STREAM MASS AT ST. AMBROSE:** We live stream mass every Wednesday at 9:00 am and on the weekend at the Saturday 4:00 pm, Sunday at 9:00 am or 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](http://www.stambroseyarmouth.ca) or go to our YouTube channel [www.youtube.com/c/SaintAmbroseParish/videos?view=57](http://www.youtube.com/c/SaintAmbroseParish/videos?view=57)

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

**WHAT NAME DO YOU PUT ON YOUR DONATION CHECK?**

The question was asked recently about what name should we put on the check for donations. All checks for the parish whether you are at mass at Our Lady of Lourdes or St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral or a donation for Tabitha Centre, should have on them **St. Ambrose Parish**. This money goes into the one account but is kept track of separately for each of the churches and Tabitha Centre.

**QUOTE OF THE WEEK:**

If the soul is sick, one must begin by treating the soul. Do you have faith? Do you believe that God can do something for you? Go confess yourself to the priest... then go to Communion. – St. Andre Bessette

**REFLECTION: Jonah, the Man Who Ran from God**

The word of the LORD came to Jonah, saying: "Set out for the great city of Nineveh, and announce to it the message that I will tell you." So, Jonah made ready and went to Nineveh, according to the LORD'S bidding. Jonah is one of the most beloved Old Testament prophets. Why? Perhaps because of the fascinating story of him being swallowed by a whale. This image lends intrigue to one's imagination and is somewhat fairy-tale-like. It's a good story and a fun story! But what we may easily forget is why Jonah was swallowed by the whale. It was because he heard God call him to a particular mission in life and he ran as fast as he could the other way. He did all he could to avoid his calling. But God was relentless. In the end, God won and Jonah went to Nineveh to preach. The best part is that the people of Nineveh listened to him and changed their lives! Jonah's preaching was, in the end, a great success. Imagine what would have happened if Jonah would have just listened to God from the very beginning. It may have left us with much less of that fairy-tale-like story but it certainly would have saved Jonah and others a great amount of stress. He would not have had to endure the great storm at sea, the wrath of the crew on that

ship, the distress of being thrown over the boat and the experience of being held captive in the belly of the whale for those three days. All this could have been avoided if he would have just listened to God from the very beginning. With that said, it's also interesting and insightful to look at the story from another perspective. The truth is that Jonah did endure all of these difficulties. And though we may be tempted to judge him for that and shake our finger at him, we may want to be careful. Why? Because it's entirely possible that God actually allowed him, by an act of His divine permissive will, to go through these struggles for a reason. It's entirely possible, and perhaps probable, that it was part of the wisdom of God that Jonah, at first, resisted His will. Why would God do this? Most likely for our sake in that Jonah becomes a great example for us. It seems clear that one of the main lessons from Jonah's life was that God is relentless in His love for us and is relentless in calling us to embrace His will. So, Jonah's life and actions become prophetic and teach us a great lesson. God does not give up on us. He does not simply throw us away the moment we turn from Him. Instead, our denial of Him only makes His resolve to pursue us all the greater. He takes our brokenness, our lack of resolve, our failings and weaknesses and uses them for His glory and His perfect plan. Reflect, today, on whether you are discouraged in life and feel like you have failed in following the will of God for your life. If so, then the message of Jonah is clear. Don't give up. Don't lose hope. God has not given up on His plan for you and He has not lost hope. In the end, you may discover that those parts of your life that seem to be the greatest burden and obstacle for you will be turned upside down by God's grace and become the very source of the manifestation of His glory!

*Lord, You never give up on me. You never lose hope. Give me the grace to change, to listen and to respond. Use my weakness and brokenness and let Your strength and grace shine through.*  
 ~My Catholic Life

**FOOD BANK:** The weekend of February 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>, is our turn to support the Yarmouth Food Bank. Non-perishable goods and monetary donations are appreciated.



**WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY:** The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity takes place January 18-25, 2021. Each year Christian denominations around the world take this time to pray for and work towards reconciliation and unity in the Church, one another, and the faith we have in our One God. The year's theme, "Abide in my love and you shall bear much fruit" (John 15.5-9). The theme "calls us to pray and to work for reconciliation and unity in the church, with our human family, and with all of creation. Drawing on the Gospel image of vine and branches, it invites us to nourish unity with God and with one another through contemplative silence, prayer, and common action. Grafted into Christ the vine as many diverse branches, may we bear rich fruit and create new ways of living, with respect for and communion with all of creation"

Resources for individual as well as parish prayer can be found on the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity at:



[www.weekofprayer.ca/2021-wpcu-resources](http://www.weekofprayer.ca/2021-wpcu-resources)

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS: Monthly**



**Meeting:** Tuesday February 9<sup>th</sup>,  
**6:00pm** executive meeting  
**7:00pm** general meeting

All members invited.  
**4<sup>th</sup> Degree meeting** Tuesday February 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm all members are welcome.  
**Community Lunch Tuesdays** have resumed 11:00am to 1:00pm everyone welcome.



Please welcome into our Christian community - Henrik Louis Atar who was baptised on Sunday January 17, 2021.

Please keep Henrik and his family in your prayers.

**THE WORD AMONG US MISSELETES:** have arrived for March. This edition has daily meditations for Lent starting February 21<sup>st</sup> to April 4<sup>th</sup>. The cost \$3.00 each and are available at the parish office.