



## 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent December 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**Pastor:** Fr. Henry Smolenaars  
**Hospital Chaplain:** Fr. Wieslaw Papuga  
 902 - 746 – 8233 (Hospital)  
**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 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. 18<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**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**  
**Wed. 6:30pm Anniv. Clarence Surette and Edward**  
 Robicheau  
**Thurs. 9am Bob Earle and Larry Burke**  
**Fri. 4pm Special Intentions**  
**Fri. 7pm Special Intentions**  
**Fri. 7:30 pm (Melbourne) Parishioners**  
**Fri. 10pm Special Intentions**  
**Sat. 10am Parishioners**  
**Sun. 9am Anniv. Ray Miller and Anniv. Lillian Gordon**  
**Sun. 10am (Melbourne) Jinny DeCoste**  
**Sun. 11am Parishioners**


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 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.stambroseymouth.ca](http://www.stambroseymouth.ca) or go to our  
 YouTube channel  
[www.youtube.com/c/SaintAmbroseParish/videos?  
 view=57](https://www.youtube.com/c/SaintAmbroseParish/videos?view=57)

**QUOTE OF THE WEEK:** Open wide your door to the  
 one who comes. Open your soul, throw  
 open the depths of your heart to see the  
 riches of simplicity, the treasures of peace,  
 the sweetness of grace. ~St. Ambrose

**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.

**REFLECTIONS:** The Witness of Mary and Joseph  
 "Blessed are you who believed that  
 what was spoken to you by the Lord  
 would be fulfilled." As we enter into  
 the fourth week of Advent, we are given our Blessed  
 Mother and St. Joseph to reflect upon. Though our  
 Blessed Mother was perfect, and St. Joseph was a  
 deeply virtuous man, they were both still fully  
 human and would have walked through Mary's  
 pregnancy and Jesus' birth with every human  
 emotion and experience. St. Joseph was faced with  
 an extraordinary mystery as he discovered his wife  
 was pregnant. He knew her to be a woman of  
 exceptional virtue and holiness and had to reconcile  
 that with her surprising pregnancy. Even after the  
 angel appeared to him in a dream, he would have  
 had questions arise in his mind as he faced this  
 situation.  
 Our Blessed Mother was also invited by God to face  
 her pregnancy in faith. Her response was perfect,  
 "Let it be done to me according to your word." She  
 could not explain nor understand what was  
 happening but, nonetheless, she knew deep in her  
 soul that God was in charge leading all to His glory.  
 Both Mary and Joseph are wonderful models of  
 faith and obedience. They were obedient to the will  
 of God despite the fact that the will of God drew

them into an incredible and unfathomable mystery.  
 They were first-hand witnesses to the salvation of  
 the world and to the greatest act ever known. And  
 they both embraced this mystery and accepted it in  
 faith.

Reflect, today, upon your own invitations from God  
 to embrace the mysteries of life. God's ways are  
 often more than we can comprehend and figure  
 out. Mary and Joseph give us the witness of how we  
 are to handle every mystery God invites us to  
 participate in. Say "Yes" to the will of God just as  
 this holy couple did. ~My Catholic Life


**CHRISTMAS MESSAGE:** For so many, "the most  
 wonderful time of the year" is one of the  
 hardest. Memories of what once was contrast with  
 what is now, causing hearts to be saddened  
 because of those no longer with us.

So too, COVID once again has been disrupting our  
 lives with uncertainty and our plans for gathering  
 with family. Fear of catching it has caused isolation  
 and anxiety in many. The classic Christmas song "I'll  
 be home for Christmas" takes on new meaning for  
 many again this year. It's been another year of  
 disappointments and constant change.


There seems to be not a lot to rejoice about. Yet  
 the world Jesus was born into was also difficult  
 one. To that world, an angel announced: "Do not  
 be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will  
 be for all the people. Today in the town of David  
 [Bethlehem] a Saviour has been born to you; he is  
 Christ the Lord." (Luke 2:10-11) The good news that  
 Jesus brings is the coming of a better king and a  
 better kingdom.

As we get into the Christmas season, I encourage  
 people to seek out "the reason for the season"  
 which is Jesus. Even when everything else is taken  
 from us, He cannot be. He is always with us by our  
 side.

May God bless you and keep you safe. ~Fr. Henry

**FOOD BANK:** The weekend of, January 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>, is  
 our turn to support the Yarmouth Food  
 Bank. Non-perishable goods and monetary  
 donations are appreciated. For those that  
 do not have mass that weekend your donation can  
 be dropped off at the parish centre office and it will  
 be forwarded for you.

**REGULAR WEEKEND MASSES:** Starting this  
 weekend December 19<sup>th</sup> we are now back on our bi-  
 weekly scheduled rotation. This weekend  
 December 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> is Week A and next  
 weekend December 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> is Week B. If you  
 have recently returned to mass, please call the  
 office to be placed on one of the weekend  
 schedules and we will try our best to accommodate  
 you. Thank you for your patience.

**CHRISTMAS MASSES:** With the social distancing in  
 place once again as a result of  
 increasing COVID 19 numbers, we are  
 now doing a lottery draw for spots at  
 the Christmas masses. If you have not  
 heard from the office and would like to enter the  
 draw, please phone the main office at 902-742-  
 7151 during office hours no later than Tuesday  
 December 21<sup>st</sup>. You will then be entered into the  
 lottery and only be contacted if your name has been  
 drawn. You will be contacted by December 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR'S SCHEDULE:

**December 24 – St. Ambrose**  
 4:00 pm Children's Mass  
 7:00 pm **This Mass will be livestreamed**  
 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



Our sympathy is extended to the family and  
 friends of  
 Jeanne Marie Doucette,  
 Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord and let perpetual  
 light shine upon her.