

# **February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024** 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

Fr. Henry Smolenaars frhenrys@gmail.com Fr. Henry Email: **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

902-742-8960 **Tabitha Centre:** 

Reconciliation/confession is held on Wednesday

after mass from 7:00-8:00

## MASS INTENTIONS - February 3rd - 11th, 2024

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

4 pm Parishioners Sat.

9am Albert & Sophie Bourque Sun.

11:15 am Gerald MacKenzie Sun.

6:30 pm Donald Rodgerson Tues.

6:30 pm Anniv. Marjorie DeViller Wed.

Thurs: 9 am NO MASS (Funeral Mass Ronnie Harris 10 am)

9 am Rosalind Marie Saulnier Fri.

4 pm Special Intentions Sat.

Sun. 9am Parishioners

11:15 am Howard & Emily LeBlanc Sun.

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

10 am February 4 Anniv. Bessie & Peter Thibeault Sun.

10 am February 11 Evelyn Pothier Sun.

**REFLECTION:** Enthralled by Jesus When it was evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were ill or possessed by demons. The whole town was gathered at the door. He cured many who were sick with various diseases, and he drove out many demons, not permitting them to speak because they knew him. Jesus was in the home of Simon Peter whose mother-in-law He had just cured. "The whole town gathered at the door" when evening

came. This was Jesus' first time being in Capernaum after beginning His public ministry, and already people were flocking to Him in droves. The next morning, Jesus got up before dawn and went away alone to pray. Soon, some of the disciples found Him and told Him that, once again, the whole town was looking for Him. The excitement was great. So many were amazed. And their amazement at Jesus was not simply a form of curiosity. It was an amazement fueled by faith, which is why Jesus was able to perform so many miracles there. The people quickly realized that Jesus was the One of Whom the prophets of old had spoken. He was the Messiah, and the people gave Him their full attention. This is a good image for us to ponder. As you think of the crowds and their unwavering desire to be near our Lord, consider your own desires pertaining to God. Do you regularly find yourself consumed with a desire to find our Lord, to be with Him, to listen to Him and to receive His grace and mercy? Or are you tempted to see Jesus and the practice of your faith as boring and uninteresting? One of the unfortunate effects of modern technology is that we easily become fascinated by and intrigued with many superficial things. Perhaps it's the latest short video on a mobile app, or the latest episode of a favorite television series, or a new post by a friend on social media. There are many things today that compete for our attention, intrigue us and even amaze us. Is Jesus one of those things in your life?

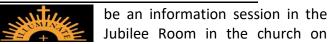
In our modern world of constant stimulation and entertainment, we need to understand the difference between being amazed at the latest pop trend and being amazed by the grace and divine actions of our Lord. When we come face-to-face with the power of God in our lives, we will be amazed in a way that fulfills and satisfies us on the deepest level. It will be a spiritual amazement, which is a gift of the Holy Spirit. And the satisfaction we receive from this form of amazement is transforming, deep and sustaining. But when we turn to lesser and more sensory "amazements" common within our world today, we will find that they last only for a moment, and we are quickly left dry and wanting for more. Reflect, today, upon the people in today's Gospel who were so enthralled by Jesus that they continually sought Him out. Consider their excitement, their hope and their

genuine joy at their discovery of the Messiah. As you think about them, consider whether you share in their excitement about Jesus. If that excitement is lacking, recommit yourself to seeking out our Lord. And where you see that excitement present, rejoice and give glory to God. -My Catholic Life.

#### **ROSARY AFTER 9:00 AM MASS THURSDAY AND**

**FRIDAY**: Come join us after 9 am mass on Thursday (currently) and Friday (starting Feb 16) to pray the rosary. Intentions for peace and conversion of hearts. Come and grow closer to God through the Blessed Virgin Mary.

# STEUBENVILLE ATLANTIC CONFERENCE: There will be an information session in the



Sunday February 11th following the 11:15 mass. This meeting is for youth going into high school in September and peer leaders ages 19 & 20 that would be interested in attending the Steubenville Atlantic High School Conference in Halifax this summer. This weekend conference is a chance to gather with your peers and experience your faith in a way you never have before. We hope to see you there! Please bring a \$50.00 down deposit if you are planning to attend.

# STATIONS OF THE CROSS will begin on Friday,



February 16<sup>th</sup> and will continue every Friday during Lent at St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral at 6:30pm. Each week, it will be led by a different group.

#### **KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS NEWS: Monthly Meeting:**



Tuesday February 13<sup>th</sup>, all members invited 6:00pm executive meeting and

7:30pm general meeting. Nova Scotia Knights of Columbus State Council Scholarship (value \$1000.00) Scholarships are available for Catholic students who will be attending first year University or Community College next year. Yarmouth Council 2181 will accept applications from students attending Yarmouth High, Par-en-Bas and Drumlin Heights. Students applying for a Nova Scotia State Scholarship will also be considered for a Council 2181 Scholarship (value \$500). Please consult your school guidance Councillor for application forms. Completed applications with supporting

documents must be received by Council 2181 Scholarship Chairman Philippe Doucet on or before Friday March 8, 2024. If you require more information, please call 742-2970 or 748-1592.

### SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER: Tuesday,



February 13<sup>th</sup> in the dining hall from 4:30-6pm, \$7.00 per person, \$5.00 for children 12 & under

Includes pancakes, sausages and tea or coffee

**SERIES ON DEATH AND DYING:** Sometimes we're confronted with a life changing diagnosis regarding our health or for someone who we love. Maybe a family member is approaching death, and decisions need to be made on how this happens. What decisions we make in these situations require moral discernment through the lens of our faith. We believe in the dignity and sacredness of human life at all stages, from conception to natural death. At the same time, our faith does not demand that life is to be sustained at all costs. As Catholics, our faith in Jesus Christ has much to teach us about living and dying well. Horizons of Hope is a series about this topic. If you want to learn about what the Church teaches on death and dying, join me (Fr. Henry) for 2 evenings (Thursday February 22nd and 29th) at 6:30 in the Jubilee Room.

FISH CHOWDER FRIDAYS: We will be offering take out fish chowder on the Fridays of Lent starting on February 16th. If you wish to purchase the chowder, we ask you to call the parish office to place your order. The cost is \$7.00 and it may be picked up at the Marian Hall doors between 4:00 and 5:00.



Our sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Ronald Joseph Harris Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him.