November 1st, 2026
All Saints Day

Pastor: Fr. Henry Smolenaars
Fr. Henry Email: frhenrys@gmail.com
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
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Tabitha Centre: 902-742-8960
Confession/Adoration Wednesday 7:00-8:00

MASS INTENTIONS – October 31st - Nov. 8th, 2026

St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral (Yarmouth):

Sat. **4 pm** Lucille Deveau
Sun. **9 am** Nicole Murphy
Sun. **11:15 am Parishioners**
Tues. **6:30 pm All souls Day**
Wed. **6:30 pm** Special Intentions
Thurs. **9 am** Fred Charles
Fri. **9 am** Anniversary Albani DeViller
Sat. **4 pm Parishioners**
Sun. **9 am** Raymond and Eleanor
Sun. **11:15 am** Anniversary Jadon Robinson

Our Lady of Lourdes (Melbourne):

Sun. **10 am November 1** All departed Souls
Sun. **10 am November 8** David McGonigle

REFLECTION: Few Walk It—Will You? *When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him. He began to teach them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven…"* Do you want to get to Heaven? Most would instinctively respond, "Yes." But imagine an angel appearing to you today and saying, "The Most High God will be taking you to Heaven this very day." How would you react? Would your heart leap with joy? Or would a wave of fear wash over you as you realized everything in this world would be left behind? In truth, many struggle to look forward to Heaven with genuine longing. We may think of it from time to time, perhaps smile when recalling loved ones who have gone before us, presuming they are "in a better place." Yet few of us live with a desire that eagerly awaits Heaven as our true home. Today, on the Solemnity of All Saints, the Church invites us to lift our eyes to the glorious communion of saints and angels. In Heaven, they behold the Beatific Vision, gazing with awe and love upon the Most Holy Trinity. They are fulfilled. Their hearts are open, receiving God's love in its fullness and returning it with perfect charity. This eternal exchange of love deepens their union with God in an everlasting ascent of glory. By God's mercy, if we are counted among the "few" who enter through the narrow gate, by walking the constricted road that leads to life, then, when this life is ended, we will immediately know that every act of prayer, sacrifice, and surrender was worth it. The beatific gaze upon God will fill us with such radiant joy that all earthly attachments will dissolve. We will see clearly how foolish it was to cling to the vanities of this world and will be eternally grateful that we strived to overcome them with diligence. Riches, possessions, honors, and status will be gone. None of it will matter. All we will carry into eternity is the love we lived—our love that was purified through suffering, tested by obedience, and offered as a sacrifice. This is divine charity, and its fruit will forever remain with us. All selfish love will be stripped away. Only what is of God will remain. Talk of Heaven can be jarring to some. We often become so consumed with the present moment that we see only this present moment, seeking immediate satisfaction or resenting current struggles. Living as if this life were all we have is self-deception. It blinds us to eternity, which will be spent either in Heaven or in hell. The path to Heaven challenges our natural instincts. Grace must elevate them, guiding us by divine wisdom rather than human reasoning. Today's Gospel reveals that wisdom: The truly blessed are the poor in spirit, those who mourn, the meek, those who hunger for righteousness, the merciful, the pure of heart, the peacemakers, and those persecuted for Christ. Do you desire this life of beatitude? Or do you desire a life of riches, fun, pride, judgment, condemnation, an indulgent heart, self-righteousness, and freedom from all suffering and persecution? If you struggle with desiring a life of true beatitude, then fall to your knees in prayer today. Beg God to open your heart to the truth of the Beatitudes that leads to heavenly glory. The path is narrow and few walk it. Resolve to be among those few. Reflect today on the saints in Heaven. They were not perfect on earth, but they were faithful. They allowed divine charity to take root in their hearts and persevered through trial. Read the Beatitudes slowly and ask, "Do I truly want to be counted among them?" If the answer is "Yes," then live today—and every day—with Heaven as your only goal. -My Catholic Life

FOOD BANK: This weekend October 31st and November 1st is our turn to support the Yarmouth Food Bank. Non-perishable goods and monetary donations are appreciated.

CHURCH CLEANING: Please join us on Monday November 9th at 9:00am if you are able. Bring a bucket and gloves. Many hands make light work. Fr. Henry

NOVA SCOTIANS UNITED FOR LIFE: invite you to join us at the 5th Annual Pro-Life Conference, November 14, St. Thomas More Church, 15 Caledonia Rd. Dartmouth NS. This event features dynamic speakers, practical tools, and encouragement for anyone seeking to promote the dignity of life at all stages, in a positive and life-affirming way. See the flyer on the bulletin board or visit nsul-pr.com for more details. **PS:** In addition to our advocacy, Nova Scotians United for Life supports the confidential healing ministry **Project Rachel**, which provides compassionate care and support to women and men experiencing emotional and spiritual pain following abortion. (projectrachel.ca)

THE SAINTS WHO SURROUND US: This 285-page book written by Mary Helen Murphy describes the stained-glass windows of Saint Ambrose Co-Cathedral. Each window is described, along with a short biography of the Saint, and information on the person in whose memory the window was dedicated. Available for purchase for $20 (cash only) at the coffee social following all the Masses on November 14th and 15th.

ULTREYA: The Yarmouth and Area Ultreya will be held on Thursday, November 5th, 2026 in Marian Hall at 7:00 pm. We hope to see you there. DeColores!

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE: At the start of November, our Book of Remembrance will be in the church for you to write the names of your deceased loved ones. They will be prayed for throughout the month of November.

IN REMEMBRANCE: On November 7th the Legionares will be placing flags on the graves of the Vetrans at Pinkney's Point Cemetery at 9:30am, Melbourne Cemetery at 10:15am and Comeau's Hill cemetery 11:00. With a service and lunch following. Everyone is welcome to come out.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE: Annual dues of $35 are being collected. November meeting is on Saturday, November 7, 2026 at 2:30-3:30 p.m. with sweets and tea and a presentation by board member Anne on the youth services and needs of SHYFT.

INVITATION: Parishioners are invited to join the CWL the weekend of November 14 & 15, 2026 by bringing new winter hats, mitts, socks, pajamas, facecloths, for youths, children, and adults to be donated to residents of Shyft and Juniper House. Place your donation of items in the container provided at the entrance of the church on that weekend. For pickup call 902-749-7504

Please welcome into our Christian community Neve Gernelle Caldez and Elizabeth Zoey Sasot Narciso who were baptised on Sunday October 25th, 2026.

Please keep Neve, Elizabeth and their families in your prayers.