



On the first day of the week

March 31st, 2024 Easter Sunday

Fr. Henry Email: frhenrys@gmail.com
Hospital Chaplain: Fr. Wieslaw Papuga
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Office hours: Monday to Friday from 9:30 am to 1:00 pm
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Reconciliation/confession is held on Wednesday after mass from 7:00-8:00

MASS INTENTIONS – March 30th- April 7th, 2024

St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral (Yarmouth):

Sat. 8 pm Easter Vigil Special Intentions
Sun. 9am Special Intentions
Sun. 11:15 am Parishioners
Tues. 6:30 pm Bob LeFave
Wed. 6:30 pm Mariette Comeau
Thurs: 9am Patricia Ann Ayer
Fri. 9 am Bernard Paul Vacon
Sat. 4 pm Parishioners
Sun. 9am Jamie McDonnell
Sun. 11:15 am Rose Deveau

Our Lady of Lourdes (Melbourne):

Sat. 8 pm March 30 Easter Vigil Eric Saulnier
Sun. 10 am April 7 Pauline Cottreau

REFLECTION: Glory Beyond Imagination! “Do not be afraid! I know that you are seeking Jesus the crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has been raised from the dead, and he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him.’ Behold, I have told you.” The Lord has truly risen! Alleluia! Sin and death have been destroyed, and new life has been

offered to all who cling to the Savior in faith. What a glorious day we celebrate today! Matthew’s Gospel, quoted above, is read at the Easter Vigil Mass. Prior to the reading of this Gospel are seven Old Testament readings, each followed by a psalm, as well as a New Testament reading, another psalm and the Gospel. There are seventeen readings in all at the Easter Vigil! For that reason, the Easter Vigil is called “the mother of all vigils.” Though many people have not had the opportunity to participate in the Easter Vigil, it is helpful to understand it, because its structure and length reflect the awe and wonder we must have at the Resurrection of Christ. The Vigil Mass begins in darkness, after the sun sets, with all the lights out in the Church. Outside, a new “blazing fire” is lit and blessed that symbolizes the Light of Christ that dispels all darkness. From that fire, the Easter candle and other candles held by the faithful in the church are lit, and the new light illuminates the church. The procession into the church with the candles is followed by the singing of the ancient hymn the *Exultat*. That hymn is the Church’s announcement of the Resurrection of Christ and is filled with profound theology, presented with youthful excitement and amazement. The tabernacle remains empty as a way of inviting the faithful to anticipate the celebration of the Eucharist once again. The lengthy Liturgy of the Word follows, as it recounts the history of God’s plan of salvation. Finally, the Sacraments of Initiation are celebrated within the Mass that culminates with the celebration of the Most Holy Eucharist. Why is so much solemnity given to this celebration? Because Easter is worth it! Nothing ever has been and nothing ever will be more glorious than the triumph of the Son of God over sin and death. Easter must fill us with awe and wonder. Because of His death and Resurrection, our lives are changed forever. Therefore, even if you are not able to participate in the “mother of all vigils,” try to learn the lessons this vigil teaches. Among the many lessons we can learn from the Easter Vigil is that God’s glorious plan of salvation unfolds over time and then culminates with glory beyond imagination. This is especially depicted through the many readings in the Liturgy of the Word. The first reading for that Mass comes from Genesis and recounts the six days of creation. We then read the

story of Abraham, our father in faith, and how his trust in God was tested when he was told to offer his son Isaac as a sacrifice, in a prefiguration of the Father in Heaven offering His only Son for us all. We then read the story of Moses leading the people out of Egypt from slavery through the Red Sea. The waters of the Red Sea are a symbol of Baptism that crushes sin and leads us to freedom. Readings from the prophets Isaiah, Baruch and Ezekiel follow, revealing the unfolding of God’s promise of the gift of salvation to come. At times in life, we can become impatient. We tend to want what we want when we want it. But the lesson of the Holy Scriptures is that God’s plan is not only perfect but is also fulfilled only in accord with God’s timing. This is His perfect wisdom. It’s a wisdom that we cannot always comprehend. In the end, if we embrace the perfect plan of God in our lives, we will share in the Resurrection of Christ. Nothing could ever be better than this. There is nothing that this world can offer us that even comes close to the glorious reward of sharing in the Resurrection of Christ. As we celebrate the great Solemnity of Easter, reflect, today, upon the fact that God’s plan for your life is perfect. It’s a plan that God wants to unfold for you one step at a time. The end result is the glory of the Resurrection! It’s a life of perfection with Him in Heaven when every tear will be wiped away. It’s a plan that removes every sin, sorrow and suffering, and leads you to the fullness of joy. The way to embrace that plan is to take one step at a time as God leads. Little by little, God wants to change you, free you, forgive you, strengthen you and set you on the path to glory. Believe in the most awe-inspiring glory that you could ever share in. Believe in the promise of the Resurrection. Make sharing in it your one and only goal in life, and let God lead you down that path, one step at a time. *-My Catholic Life*

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY: Sunday April 7th is Divine



Mercy Sunday. Starting at 1:30 pm in the Jubilee Room, I will be showing a video called *The Face of Mercy* narrated by Jim Caviezel. It "explores the history and relevance of Divine Mercy in our turbulent times". Right after the video, we will be going upstairs to the church to pray the Divine Mercy chaplet. If you don't wish to watch the video, you can still come to pray with us at 3:00 pm. Fr. Henry

OFFICE CLOSED: The office and church will be closed on Monday April 1st. We will reopen Tuesday April 2nd for regular office hours.

ULTREYA: The Yarmouth and Area Ultreya will be



held April 4th, 2024 in Marian Hall at 7pm. We hope to see you then! De Colores!

CATHOLIC WOMEN’S LEAGUE: Current and past members of the Catholic Women’s League are invited to a get-together on Thursday, April 4th at 7pm in the Jubilee Room. Join us for a spiritual program, social time and planning some activities for Spring.

EASTER MESSAGE FROM FR. HENRY: The Easter message can be summed up as being a message of JOY ... the same joy of the disciples who encountered the Lord after His resurrection. We can imagine the incredible joy Mary Magdalene, the apostles, and the disciples at Emmaus must have felt when they encountered the Risen Lord. They couldn’t believe it at first after the heart-breaking tragedy just a couple of days earlier. Just when they had given up all hope on Jesus whom they believed to be the Messiah and their liberator, rumors were around that the Lord was risen! News they received with skepticism. But this soon turned into joy when they found it to be true. This is what we are called to do this Easter – to find the Risen Lord, not in the darkness of our tombs but where we are. He is alive in our midst, even though we can sometimes not feel this way because of circumstances in our own lives. Lord, we know that despair and failure are not the last words, or even death. As we enter into the Easter season, like the disciples, help us to experience your resurrection in a new and powerful way. Alleluia, Happy Easter!



Our sympathy is extended to the family and friends of
Robert Kenneth Thibeau
 Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him.