



January 1st, 2023 Mary the Holy Mother of God

Pastor: Fr. Henry Smolenaars
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Reconciliation/confession is held on Wednesday
 after mass from 7:00-8:00

MASS INTENTIONS — Dec. 31st-January 8th 2023

St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral (Yarmouth):

Sat. 4 pm Linda Lusk and Mildred Frost
Sun. 9am Stella Cunningham and Yvonne Eldridge
Sun. 11:15 am Parishioners
Tues. 6:30pm Anniv. May Deveau and Anniv. Lillian Deveau
Wed. 6:30 pm Ruth Blades and Anne Marie Beaulieu
Thurs: 9 am Marie Ann Moody and Rita Beltrami
Fri. 9 am Anniv. Stanley Bishara Sr. and Lottie Nickerson
Sat. 4 pm Parishioners
Sun. 9 am William Cottreau and Raymond Cottreau
Sun. 11:15 am Laura Deveau and Neri Deveau

Our Lady of Lourdes (Melbourne):

Sat. 5 pm Dec. 31 Ernest DeViller
Sat. 6 pm Jan. 7 Roland Surette

REFLECTION: The Mother of Jesus is the Mother of God, And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart. Today, January 1, we complete our octave celebration of Christmas Day. It's an often-overlooked liturgical fact that we celebrate Christmas Day for eight straight days. We do this also with Easter Day, which concludes with the great celebration of Divine Mercy Sunday. On this, the eighth day of the Octave of Christmas, we turn our focus to the unique and beautiful fact

that God chose to enter our world through a human mother. Mary is called the "Mother of God" for the simple fact that her Son is God. She was not the mother of her Son's flesh alone, nor the mother only of His human nature. This is because the Person of Jesus, the Son of God, is one Person. And that one Person took on flesh within the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Though becoming the Mother of God was a pure gift from Heaven and not something that Mother Mary merited on her own, there was one particular quality that she had that made her uniquely qualified to fulfill this role. That quality was her immaculate nature.

First, Mother Mary was preserved from all sin when she was conceived within the womb of her mother, Saint Anne. This special grace was a grace that was imparted to her from the future life, death and resurrection of her Son. It was the grace of salvation, but God chose to take that gift of grace and transcend time to impart it to her at the moment of her conception, thus making her the perfect and pure instrument necessary to bring forth God into the world.

Second, Mother Mary remained faithful to this gift of grace throughout her life, never choosing to sin, never wavering, never turning from God. She remained immaculate throughout her life. Interestingly, it is this choice of hers, to forever remain obedient to the will of God in every way, that makes her more fully the Mother of God than the simple act of bearing Him within her womb. Her act of perfect unity with the will of God throughout her life makes her, also, the perfect mother of divine grace and mercy and perpetually the spiritual Mother of God, continually and perfectly bringing Him into our world.

Reflect, today, upon these most solemn mysteries of our faith. This eighth day of the Octave of Christmas is a solemn celebration, a celebration worthy of our pondering. The Scripture above reveals not only how our blessed Mother approached this mystery but also how we are to approach it. She "kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart." Ponder these mysteries, also, in your own heart and allow the grace of this holy celebration to fill you with joy and gratitude.

Dearest Mother Mary, you were graced with a grace beyond any other. You were preserved from all sin

and remained perfectly obedient to the will of God throughout your life. As a result, you became the perfect instrument of the Savior of the World by becoming His mother, the Mother of God. Pray for me that I may ponder this great mystery of our faith this day and ever more deeply rejoice in the incomprehensible beauty of your motherly soul. Mother Mary, the Mother of God, pray for us. Jesus, I trust in You. -My Catholic Life

ADORATION CHAPEL: There is a very special place



where Jesus actually resides where you can go and be alone with him. Quiet your soul in prayer or in silence with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. He is literally waiting for you in our little Adoration Chapel.

If you want a radical change in your life, this may be what you are looking for. This is an opportunity to be still and hear the voice of God.

If interested, please call Debbie Murphy-Payie at 902-740-2005

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: The family is called to be the



temple or house of prayer: a simple prayer, full of effort and tenderness. A prayer that makes life so that life becomes prayer. -St. John Paul II

FOOD BANK: This weekend December 31st &



January 1st is our turn to support the Yarmouth Food Bank. Non-perishable goods and monetary donations are appreciated. Members of the Knights of Columbus will be on hand before all the masses to receive the donations.

ULTREYA: The next Yarmouth Area Ultreya will be



January 5th at 7pm in the Marian Hall at St. Ambrose. Welcome to all!

THANK YOU! Just a word of thanks to all those who put in hard work in the different ministries to make Christmas a joyous occasion. All your (often unseen) hard work helps to make Christmas season a blessed and prayerful time. Also, thank you for your well wishes, cards, gifts. May the New Year through the grace of God bring you good health, comfort and Peace. Fr. Henry

KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS NEWS: Monthly Meeting:



Tuesday January 10th, all members invited 6:00pm executive meeting (No Supper) 7:00pm general meeting

PARISH LIBRARY: Did you know we have a parish



library in the Parish Center? We have many good books to choose from. Books on saints, spirituality, biographies and many other topics. Come and check out what we have and borrow one!

Coffee Socials: On the 3rd Sunday of the month,



January 14th & 15th, the coffee socials will be held after all the masses in the Jubilee Room. Come join us for a cup.

OFFICE CLOSED: The office will be closed on Monday January 2nd and will re-open Tuesday January 3 for regular hours of operation.

NEW YEAR'S SCHEDULE:



December 31 – St. Ambrose

4:00 pm

December 31 – Our Lady of Lourdes

6:00 pm

January 1 – St. Ambrose

9:00 am

11:15 pm



Our sympathy is extended to the family and friends of
 Pauline Anna Cottreau, Marjorie Elizabeth Smith
 and Gertrude Mary Robicheau
 Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual
 light shine upon them.