



August 2nd, 2026
18th Sunday of
Ordinary Time

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
Church email : stambrosemail@gmail.com
Bulletin email: stambrosebulletin1@gmail.com
Tabitha Centre: 902-742-8960
Confession/Adoration Wednesday 7:00-8:00

MASS INTENTIONS – Aug. 1st - 9th, 2026

St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral (Yarmouth):

Sat. 4 pm Anniversary Leo Mooney
Sun. 9 am Parishioners
Sun. 11:15 am Malcolm Surette
Tues. 6:30 pm Sandra m. Surette
Wed. 6:30 pm Leonard Surette
Thurs. 9 am Jules Comeau
Fri. 9 am Madelyn Doucette
Sat. 4 pm Peter Eldridge
Sun. 9 am Norman Moufawad
Sun. 11:15 am Parishioners

Our Lady of Lourdes (Melbourne):

Sun. 10 am August 2 Ina DeViller
Sun. 10 am August 9 Edith Mary LeBlanc

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BRING UP THE GIFTS in the offertory procession at a weekend Mass (if you are a family member of the person the Mass is for) please see the greeters **at least 20 minutes before Mass begins.**

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.

REFLECTION: **God’s Providential Care** *“Five loaves and two fish are all we have here.” Then he said, “Bring them here to me,” and he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and*

the two fish, and looking up to heaven, he said the blessing, broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, who in turn gave them to the crowds. They all ate and were satisfied, and they picked up the fragments left over—twelve wicker baskets full. [Matthew 14:17–20](#) In the Gospels of Matthew and Mark, there are two distinct miraculous feedings of large crowds. Today’s Gospel depicts the first one, given primarily to Jewish people near the Sea of Galilee. Five thousand men (not counting women and children) were fed from five loaves and two fish, resulting in twelve baskets left over. This feeding of the five thousand is notably the only miracle of Jesus recorded in all four Gospels, underscoring its significance. Matthew and Mark also recount a second miraculous feeding—this time of four thousand people—in the largely pagan region of the Decapolis, using seven loaves and a few fish, with seven baskets left over. This first miracle takes place within the context of Jesus’ sorrowful heart, as He mourns the death of His cousin, John the Baptist. Jesus knew that John’s death occurred for the Father’s glory and according to His permissive will. Yet this divine perspective did not eliminate His human sorrow. Holy sorrow is a profound expression of love in the face of suffering. Because Jesus’ love was perfect, His sorrow was genuine and deep. The depth of His sorrow is evident from His deliberate choice to withdraw by boat to be alone, to fully embrace His grief. It is beautiful to note that Jesus’ divinity does not overshadow or diminish His humanity. Rather, with divine love, He fully accepts John’s death, and with a genuinely human heart, He properly mourns. In Jesus, humanity and divinity intertwine perfectly. Upon disembarking, Jesus finds that a large crowd has followed Him on foot, anticipating His arrival, hungry for His teachings and miracles. Here we encounter a second revelation of Jesus’ divinity shining through His humanity. Seeing the crowd and perceiving their brokenness, sinfulness, and suffering, “his heart was moved with pity for them, and he cured their sick.” The Greek word translated here as “pity” indicates a deeply felt, visceral compassion. This compassion, divine in origin, flows perfectly through Jesus’ sacred humanity. His compassionate gaze vividly reveals God’s merciful love: Jesus does not merely sympathize; He acts decisively, healing the sick and alleviating their

suffering. His divine love compels Him to act for the good of His people. The miracle itself recalls God’s providential care for the Israelites during their forty years in the desert, when manna appeared each morning, providing sufficient food for each day. That miracle, coupled with today’s Gospel, teaches us a consistent truth: God always provides for us when we turn to Him, seeking Him earnestly as the crowd did. The multiplication of the loaves and fish also foreshadows the Eucharist, likely the reason it is recorded in all four Gospels. In the Eucharist, God provides abundantly for our spiritual nourishment. When received with faith and trust in God’s providence, Jesus’ Body and Blood nourishes every virtue within us, empowering us to flourish spiritually. The Eucharist prepares us for eternal life, where we anticipate sharing in the eternal Wedding Banquet of Heaven—a perfect, everlasting celebration free from all sin, sickness, and suffering. Reflect today on Jesus’ tender care. He looks upon your needs with the same compassion He showed to the crowds in the wilderness. Consider especially how He desires to feed you daily through the Most Holy Eucharist, the true Bread from Heaven. Bring to Him whatever you have, even if it seems small or insufficient—your struggles, weariness, prayers, and hopes—and trust that in His hands, they will be multiplied for the good of your soul and the souls of others. Let this miraculous feeding stir within you a deeper faith in God’s providence and a more fervent desire for the Eucharist, where Christ Himself is our sustenance, our healing, and our foretaste of eternal joy. -My Catholic Life

PICNIC BBQ THANK YOU: A BIG thank you to the Knights of Columbus who helped organize the event, cook the food and served everyone last Sunday, it was very much appreciated. Thank you to all of you who attended to make it a great day!

ULTREYA: The Yarmouth and Area Ultreya will be held on Thursday August 6th in Marian Hall at 7:00pm. We hope to see you there. DeColores!
95th Men’s Cursillo – October 15th- 18th, 2026. Cursillo is a Spanish word meaning “short course” in Christianity. It is a weekend that helps people to live as a Christian in normal everyday life and a desire to journey with Christ. Cursillo is not a retreat but an

encounter with oneself, with Christ and with others. If you or someone you know might be interested in learning more, please contact Larry Richard, 902-746-4256, jsll@persona.ca

WANT TO BECOME CATHOLIC? *Are you a non-Catholic interested in the Catholic faith? Are you thinking you might want to become Catholic? Are you a Catholic adult who never celebrated your 1st Communion and/or Confirmation?* Then RCIA is for you. RCIA will be starting this fall at St. Ambrose. If you are interested then please contact the office for a form you can fill out to sign up. Come and join us this fall!

FOOD BANK: This weekend, August 1st and 2nd 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

OFFICE CLOSED: The office will be closed on Monday August 3rd for Natal Day and reopen for Tuesday August 4th for regular hours of operation.

MATTHEW 18 RENEWAL MEETINGS: We take our name from the scripture Matthew 18:20 which states: "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." We meet every Monday night at 7pm in the Jubilee room, unless it is a holiday or storm, " If the schools are closed, due to storm, there is no meeting." **Who are we?** We part of the Catholic Renewal, approved by the last several Pope's, and have representatives in Rome who report to the Pope. **What to expect?** We open the meeting with an opening prayer, then we sing songs of praise and worship, inspired scripture readings or inspired word from God. There's a time for sharing how God is working in our lives, or maybe how a reading or song struck a core in us. We finish the evening with prayers of petitions and 3 structured prayers. All are welcome to join us at any time. Maybe we are the spiritual nourishment you are needing in your life at this time. If you have any questions about our group, you can contact one of the Core members: Lorraine Manser at 902-749-1903, or Cheryl Harding at 902-740-3816.