



## August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025 21<sup>st</sup> 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 – August 23<sup>rd</sup> -31<sup>st</sup>, 2025

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

**Sat. 4 pm Parishioners**  
**Sun. 9am Helen Muise**  
**Sun. 11:15 am Mariette Comeau**  
**Tues. 6:30 pm Cheryl Anne Muise**  
**Wed. 6:30 pm Anniv. Donald Parnell**  
**Thurs. 9 am Bill Rodgerson**  
**Fri. 9 am Caroline Babin**  
**Sat. 4 pm Anniv. Basil McGuigan**  
**Sun. 9am Parishioners**  
**Sun. 11:15 am Annette Maillet**

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

**Sat. 6 pm Aug. 23 Paulette Forbes**  
**Sun. 10 am Aug. 31 Anniv. Nicholas Clegg**

### REFLECTION: Perceiving the Dignity of Others



Jesus passed through towns and villages, teaching as he went and making his way to Jerusalem. Someone asked him, “Lord, will only a few people be saved?” He answered them, “Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough.” The context of this passage provides insight into Jesus’ mission and His concern for each

and every person. Note that Jesus was traveling toward the large and populous city of Jerusalem. But as He traveled, He passed through “towns and villages” and taught the people as He went. This might seem like a small detail, but it is also a significant one. A city like Jerusalem was large and often had wealthy, influential, and “important” people. The less-populated towns had borders and often some form of local government. Villages were much smaller rural areas, often made up of poorer, less educated, less influential, and simpler people. One historian, Josephus, wrote that there were about 240 villages throughout Galilee at the time Jesus lived. It’s interesting to note that Jesus wanted to teach everyone. He didn’t care if they were wealthy and powerful people in the large city or peasant farmers and shepherds from the countryside. His mission was to all. One thing this teaches us is that we, also, must have love and concern for everyone, regardless of their social status. Each and every person is equal in dignity. From the president of a large country, to the beggar in an alleyway, everyone deserves our respect and attention in an equal way. Our fallen human nature experiences various forms of temptation. Among them are temptations for riches, power and prestige. For that reason, we tend to admire those who have obtained worldly success because we want it for ourselves. As a result, we tend to show greater respect for those who have achieved what we covet and give less attention to those who do not have that success. This, of course, goes to the heart of the problem. When you think about the people whom you have encountered recently, what comes to mind? Perhaps your “encounter” was to read about someone’s great success in the financial world. Or perhaps it was to read about someone’s demise in another way. Perhaps a neighbor has done well and purchased a new car, or a friend got fired from a job. Whatever the case may be, it is important to consider the level of personal respect and love you show for each person. It must be equal. Worldly status cannot determine how we treat others. This is hard to avoid. The teaching that Jesus gave to those in the towns and villages was an exhortation to holiness. “Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough.” And at the end of today’s Gospel, Jesus says, “For

behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last.” The latter statement must have especially resonated with those who felt somewhat insignificant and unimportant in life. Those who felt like they were “last” would have received a certain hope. This tells us that God never measures us by our successes from a worldly standpoint. He measures us only on the level of our fidelity to His holy will. Reflect, today, upon how you look at all people. Do you see every person in the way that God sees them? Do you see everyone with equal dignity and worth? Or do you elevate those whom you envy and whose success you covet? Seek to eliminate all worldly ways of looking at others so that you will only look at others through the lens of their dignity and fidelity to the will of God. *Lord, as You journeyed through life, You looked only at the hearts of those You encountered. You treated each person with dignity and love. Please help me to shed all temptations to see others through the eyes of the world and to show full respect to all of Your sons and daughters. Jesus, I trust in You.* -My Catholic Life

**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!





**QUOTE OF THE WEEK:** - It was pride that changed angels into devils; it is humility that makes people as angels. – St. Augustine

**MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND:** Looking to strengthen your marriage? experience a marriage encounter weekend September 26-28, 2025 being held at Between The Hearts Renewal Centre, Amherst NS. A Marriage Encounter Weekend experience is a special opportunity for husbands and wives to reconnect, deepen their love, and rediscover the joy of being together. It’s not marriage counseling, a retreat, or a group therapy session - this is private time just for the two of you to grow as a couple. For more information, contact

Joanne or Ron Arsenault, 506-451-8489 or email [ron.joanne.arsenault@wwme.org](mailto:ron.joanne.arsenault@wwme.org)

**FR HENRY AWAY FOR A FEW WEEKS:** I am away for the next few weeks and will be back September 9<sup>th</sup>. If there is an emergency, call the number in the bulletin. You can also leave me a message at the office for when I get back.

**FOOD BANK:** the weekend of September 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>,  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 Yarmouth and Area Ultreya will be  held September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025 in Marian Hall at 7pm. We hope to see you then! De Colores!  
**Cursillo – 96th Women’s – Oct 2 – 5, 2025 and 95th Men’s – Nov 6 – 9, 2025** 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 either of the names: **Women’s** – Agnes Robicheau, 902-746-9881 [agnes.robicheau@yahoo.com](mailto:agnes.robicheau@yahoo.com) **Men’s** – Larry Richard, 902-746-4256 [jsll@persona.ca](mailto:jsll@persona.ca)

**THANK YOU:** On behalf of the Catholic Summer Camp, we would like to thank everyone who contributed to a very successful camp experience. A special thank you to Fr. Henry for making multiple trips to celebrate mass and reconciliation.



Our sympathy is extended to the family and friends of  
Paul Daniel Tufts and Jacinta Anne Doucette  
Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them.