



## May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

**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 – May 2<sup>nd</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> 2026

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

**Sat. 4 pm** Parishioners  
**Sun. 9am** Special Intentions  
**Sun. 11:15 am** Antoinette Belliveau  
**Tues. 6:30 pm** Special Intentions  
**Wed. 6:30 pm** Anniversary George Cottreau  
**Thurs. 9 am** Anniversary Victor Boudreau  
**Fri. 9 am** Rebecca Frotten  
**Sat. 4 pm** Holy Souls in Purgatory  
**Sun. 9am** Parishioners  
**Sun. 11:15 am** Special Intentions

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

**Sun. 10 am May 3** Flossie Jacquard  
**Sun. 10 am May 10** Arthur Fitzgerald


### REFLECTION: The Way to the Father “Where I am

*going you know the way.” Thomas said to him, “Master, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”* In addition to His parables and moral teachings, Jesus revealed to His disciples’ deep mysteries in a direct way that they did not immediately comprehend, especially when He spoke to the Twelve in intimate settings, such as the


Last Supper, the context for today’s Gospel. In this discourse, Jesus explains, in veiled form, that He will soon ascend into Heaven where He will prepare a place for His followers. He explains that because they know Him, they know the way to where He is going—the way to the Father—because He Himself is that, Way. As Jesus spoke these mysterious truths, we can imagine the Twelve listening attentively, yet with confusion. Everything Jesus taught was true. His words, recorded in the Gospels, reveal to us the deepest divine mysteries. Within the Scriptures, we find all we need to know to attain perfect holiness and the eternal life of Heaven. Yet we cannot quickly digest Jesus’ words as we might an intriguing novel or history book. There are many layers of depth to what He says, and we can only understand those layers through prayer. As the conversation continued, “Philip said to him, ‘Master, show us the Father, and that will be enough for us.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Have I been with you for so long a time and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father?’” Jesus’ response likely surprised Philip and the other disciples because they did not understand what He was saying. Their intention was good—they wanted to understand—but Jesus’ words were more than they could comprehend at that moment. Despite this, Jesus gently rebuked Philip as a way of drawing him deeper into the mystery He was revealing. God often treats us the same way. There are many things that we do not understand. Why do innocent people suffer? Why doesn’t God heal my loved one in answer to my prayers? Why do my children no longer practice the faith? What am I supposed to do with my life? Just as Philip struggled to understand Jesus’ words, we, too, face moments of confusion when God’s ways seem beyond our grasp. God’s answer to life’s most challenging questions is rarely straightforward or immediate. Why? Because such an approach can never fully satisfy the depth of our hearts. Instead, God reveals a kernel of truth to us and then invites us to ponder it, revealing the divine mystery we seek to understand little by little, to the degree we are open. The answers we seek come only as we conform our wills to God’s, patiently opening ourselves to His Wisdom. Divine mysteries can only be understood through prayer and deep attentiveness to the truths in God’s mind. Jesus is

the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Only by uniting ourselves to Him in prayer will we discover the path we must walk, the truth we need to hear, and the life we are called to live. Reflect today on anything you struggle to understand. See yourself as one of the Twelve, listening to Jesus speak, but failing to comprehend. Do not be discouraged; instead, allow the fullness of Jesus’ divine Truth to sink in gradually. Spend time in prayer, read the Gospels, be open, and listen from the depths of your heart. Seek out His gentle voice and know that He is your Way, Truth, and Life. Let Him lead you and reveal to you the mysteries of His divine Wisdom so that you, too, know the way to the Father in Heaven. –My Catholic Life

### **CATHOLIC SUMMER CAMP: August 9<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup>** at

 Johnston Christian Park, South Range, Digby County. \$225.00 early bird fee by June 30<sup>th</sup>. After this it will be \$250.00. It’s for youth ages 10 to 14 and you can get a registration form at the Parish office or on the website. **SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY:** If you are able and would like to make a contribution to help, send a youth to camp, please submit your donation into the collection at Mass (with pertinent information) or stop by the parish office. Please mark that you are sponsoring for summer camp.

### **CURSILLO:** 96th Women’s will be held May 21 to

 24, 2026. Cursillo is a Spanish word meaning “short course” in Christianity. It 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 call Agnes Robicheau at 902-746-9881, [agnes.robicheau@yahoo.com](mailto:agnes.robicheau@yahoo.com) or if you would like further information about Cursillo contact <https://cursillocanada.org>.


### **WOMEN’S SPRING RETREAT:** Women After God’s

Own Heart: Prayerful, Faithful, Generous, Merciful, Sent. Retreat Leader: Fr. Toochukwu Okafor **Our Third Annual Women’s Retreat** will take place at St. Monica’s Church in Middleton on Friday evening May 15; Saturday, May 16 all day and evening; and Sunday morning May 17, including Holy Mass. Fr. Toochukwu will explore the meaning of our theme for our everyday lives, drawing on the inspiration of

women of the Bible and women saints. There will also be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet, and opportunities for Sacrament of Confession. Continental breakfasts, lunches (wraps\sandwiches), fruit & vegetable trays, and supper (homemade soup and chili) will be provided. This retreat is sponsored by St. Monica’s Catholic Women’s League. In order to make this spiritual refreshment accessible for all interested women, there is no registration fee. (Free Will offerings are welcomed and appreciated). Wheelchair/walker accessible; ample parking; no scents, please. You are warmly invited to come away for a while to pray with other women and be renewed in faith, hope, and joy!

To register, or for more information about the retreat and local accommodations, please contact: Mary Crooks at 902-825-6495 or [mtcrooks@hotmail.com](mailto:mtcrooks@hotmail.com).


### **CATHOLIC WOMEN’S LEAGUE:** Share a cup of Love-

 CWL members will be selling teacups filled with a variety of little plants as Mother’s Day gifts on May 9 & 10 - after masses in the Jubilee room for \$10. If you have some plant shoots you wish to donate, please call 902-749-7504 for pickup.


### **MEAL TRAIN FOR MOMS AND BABIES:** Are you

expecting a baby, or do you currently have a newborn? The ladies of St. Ambrose would like to bring you a few meals to ease your burden. We are also looking for people to join this initiative and cook for postpartum moms. Please email Leila at [leila.mcmann@gmail.com](mailto:leila.mcmann@gmail.com) or text 902-307-5966.

### **FOOD BANK:** This weekend, May 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</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.

### **QUOTE OF THE WEEK:** Let us be rooted and

 grounded in charity so that we may comprehend what is the length of eternity, the breadth of liberality, the height of majesty and the depth of discerning wisdom. – St. Bonaventure