



## 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent March 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021

**Pastor:** Fr. Henry Smolenaars  
**Hospital Chaplain:** Fr. Wieslaw Papuga 902-746-8233  
**Parish Deacon:** Rev. Mr. Stephen Bourque  
**Fr. Henry Email:** frhenrys@gmail.com  
**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

**Reconciliation/confession** is available by appointment only at this time please call the office or email Fr. Henry directly for an appointment.

### MASS INTENTIONS---March 20<sup>th</sup> -28<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**Sat. Mar.20 4pm** Anniv. Randy Patten and Freddie Blanchard  
**Mar .21 9am Parishioners**  
**Sun. Mar.21 10am (Melbourne)** Sarah Theriault  
**Mar.21 11am** Jane Muise and Rita d'Entremont  
**Wed. Mar. 24 9am** Family Members and Anniv. Cecile Surette  
**Sat. Mar.27 4pm** Sharon Boudreau and Andrew Deveau  
**Sun. Mar. 28 9am** Gary d'Eon and Deacon Finlay Chisholm  
**Mar. 28 10am (Melbourne)** Anniv. Robert Doucette  
**Mar. 28 11am Parishioners**

Please note we will not be carrying the gifts for the offertory until further notice.

*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.

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS:



began on Friday, February 19 and will continue every Friday during Lent at St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral at 6:30pm. Each week, it will be led by a different group. We will be following safety protocols so it will be a first come first served basis. Please note we will record the first week and it will be available on our website for the duration of Lent.

**LIVE STREAM MASS AT ST. AMBROSE:** We live stream mass every Wednesday at 9:00 am and on the weekend at the Saturday 4:00 pm, Sunday at 9:00 am or 11:00 am mass on a rotating basis. The next scheduled mass is always posted on our website's main page. If you want to watch, go to our web site at [www.stambroseyarmouth.ca](http://www.stambroseyarmouth.ca) or go to our YouTube channel [www.youtube.com/c/SaintAmbroseParish/videos?view=57](http://www.youtube.com/c/SaintAmbroseParish/videos?view=57)

**EMAIL TRANSFERS:** are available. Please send to [stambrosemail@gmail.com](mailto:stambrosemail@gmail.com) Please add your envelope number or personal information for income tax purposes.

### QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

Give something however small, to the one in need. For it is not small to the one who has nothing. Neither is it small to God, if we have given what we could. -St. Gregory Nazianzen



### REFLECTION: The Call to Die



"Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit."

Death does not necessarily sound all that inviting to most people. So, how should we look at death? First of all, death, literally speaking, is a passing from this world to the next. When our time comes in accord with the will of God, we should welcome it and anticipate our full immersion into the life of God. But this Scripture passage speaks of death on another level. We should see ourselves represented by the grain of wheat that achieves its potential only by falling to the ground and dying. In that natural act, it is planted in the fertile soil and grows, producing an abundance of good fruit. How should we see ourselves represented in this natural action? We do so by embracing death to self so that we can be planted in the fertile soil of the grace of God and produce an abundance of good fruit. Dying to oneself means that we let go of all selfishness in life. First, all intentional acts of selfishness must be let go, but then even unintended selfishness must be let go. What is "unintended selfishness?" Unintended selfishness is a way of referring to everything in life that you

hold on to and cling to simply because you want it for yourself. This could include even good things such as a loving relationship. It's not that we should do away with good things in life, such as loving relationships; rather, we must not cling to anything, even good things, for selfish motives. Love, when it is authentic love inspired by God, always is detached and selfless, looking only toward the good of the other. This is the most pure death to self that we can live. When this level of love is lived, that of complete selfless detachment, God enters into our lives and into each particular situation of our lives bringing forth an abundance of good fruit. This is a gift that is more powerful than anything we can do on our own, because it is the fruit of a total death to self, transformed by God into new life. Reflect, today, upon your calling to die. First, reflect upon the literal death from this world that you will one day experience. Do not fear that moment; rather, see it as a glorious transition into the fullness of life. Second, look for ways that you can die to yourself, here and now. Identify practical and concrete ways that God is calling you to this form of death. Know that, in this act, glorious gifts of new life await. Lord, I give myself to You and Your holy will in a total and sacrificial way. I choose to die to self so that You can bring forth new life from this act of selfless surrender. Take me, dear Lord, and do with me as You will. Jesus, I trust in You. -My Catholic Life

### FOOD BANK:

The weekend of April 3<sup>rd</sup>- 4<sup>th</sup> is our turn to support the Yarmouth Food Bank. Non-perishable goods and monetary donations are appreciated. Someone will be on hand before all the masses to receive your donations. Thank you!



### CANDLES IN THE CHURCH:

Many have been asking if they are able to light candles in the church. Due to COVID 19 we are trying to minimize traffic and contact in the church so we have not been lighting them. If you wish to have candles lit you can place the payment with the number of candles you want to have lit in an envelope. It can be dropped off to the parish office or placed in the collection basket and on each Friday we will light them for you.



### ST. AMBROSE EASTER TRIDUUM SCHEDULE:

Below is the schedule for Holy Week from Holy Thursday to Easter Sunday.

**Holy Thursday: Mass of the Lord's Supper April 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30**

**Good Friday Service: April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 3:00pm**

**Holy Saturday Easter Vigil: April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 8:00pm**

**Easter Sunday Masses: April 4 at 8:00 am, 9:30am, and 11:00am**

Please note that this is not a regular weekend on the mass schedule, you need to call in if you want to attend one of them. Because of the COVID restrictions placed on us, you can attend just one of these celebrations and we have to once more limit attendance to those who are now registered for weekends. To Register, call St. Ambrose office (902-742-7151) starting on March 22<sup>nd</sup> until March 25<sup>th</sup> from 1:00pm to 3:00pm. **Please do not call early.** Who gets to come to what will be based on who called first to register. Those who are not signed up may call in to be put on a waiting list. Please note: Everything will be Live Streamed on our website so please join us if you cannot be there in person.

### DEVELOPMENT & PEACE:

Archbishop Dunn is encouraging parishes to promote Solidarity Sunday and is asking the faithful to contribute as they are able. May we remember our vulnerable brothers and sisters in the developing world and find ways to help provide for their basic needs. For more information on D&P's 2021 Share Lent campaign and to donate to their work go to [www.dev.org/en/campaign/sharelove](http://www.dev.org/en/campaign/sharelove)

### RECONCILIATION SERVICE:

Because of COVID, once again there is no scheduled confession service for lent. But don't let this stop you from going to Confession. You can call the office or send an email to me (Fr. Henry) to set up a time for us to meet, or you can ask to go to confession with one of the other priests (Fr. Pat or Fr. Wieslaw) who are often around.



### INCOME TAX RECEIPTS:

2020 income tax receipts can be picked up at the Parish Centre Office Monday to Friday between the hours of 9:30-1:00.