



May 14th, 2023
6th 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)
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 held on Wednesday
after mass from 7:00-8:00

MASS INTENTIONS –May 13th – 21st 2023

St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral (Yarmouth):

Sat. 4 pm Parishioners
Sun. 9am Fr. Henry Smolenaars Anniversary of Ordination
Sun. 11:15 am Arnold & Marylon Muise
Tues. 6:30 pm Peter Dow
Wed. 6:30 pm Jennifer Crosby
Thurs: 9 am Jean Bourque
Fri. 9 am Sarah Lyons
Sat. 4 pm Anniv. Johnnie O’Connell
Sun. 9 am Parishioners
Sun. 11:15 am Richard Robicheau

Our Lady of Lourdes (Melbourne):

Sun. 10 am May 14 Elize Saulnier
Sat. 6 pm May 20 Charmaine Saulnier

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: Faith has to do with things that are not seen, and hope with things that are not at hand. -St. Thomas Aquinas




REFLECTION: Obedience, Truth and Freedom “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always, the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot accept, because it neither sees nor knows him. But you know him, because he

remains with you, and will be in you.” Imagine a spouse or a friend saying to you, “If you love me, you will keep my commandments.” Such a statement might cause you to react with surprise. Ordinarily, we do not see obedience to another as a sign that we love them. However, what if a parent were to say to a child, “If you love me, you will be obedient.” That statement is easier to accept because of the unique role of a parent to their children. In regard to our love of God, obedience to His divine will is the greatest act of love we can offer. This is because God’s will is perfect. It’s exactly what we need in life. It’s what we were made for. And it is the one and only way to achieve the human fulfillment that we seek. Only God can say such a thing to us because only God is God. Jesus followed up His call to obedience by saying that obedience to Him will result in Jesus and His Father bestowing the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Truth upon you. The Holy Spirit will remain “with you, and will be in you.” This is such a profound statement from our Lord. In fact, so much of what He says within this sermon given at the Last Supper is profound beyond comprehension. One clear thing this tells us is that obedience to God leads to a discovery of the Truth. And as Jesus says elsewhere, “If you remain in my word, you will truly be my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free” Obedience leads to Truth. Truth leads to freedom. This begs the question: Do you want to be free? Clearly you do. We cannot not want to be free. Meaning, we are obliged to want freedom, just as we are obliged to want happiness. Why? Because the desire for freedom and happiness is written upon our very nature. It is a desire that we cannot escape. It’s how we are wired. However, it is quite possible to become confused about the way we achieve these desires. For many, obedience is not always understood as the pathway to that desired freedom and happiness. Consider, again, a child. Imagine a parent telling that child not to eat a certain wild berry that grows behind their house because the parent knows the berry is poisonous and will cause the child to become sick. If the child disobeys and eats the berry anyway, he will learn the important lesson that he should have been obedient. Or if the child were to get in a fight with his brother and was angry and crying, the parent may tell him to say he’s

sorry and reconcile with his brother. If the child refuses, he will remain angry and crying. But if he obeys, then he and his brother will once again be able to have fun together. On a grand scale, this is what God does for us. He is the perfect Father Who always knows what is best for us. For that reason, we must not only conform to His will, we must desire it, seek it out and desire to be obedient to the greatest degree. This is the path to Truth. It is the path to freedom. It is the path to the happiness we desire. Reflect, today, upon your own level of obedience to the will of God and your understanding of the importance of that obedience. Do you realize that God’s will is perfect? Perhaps you do intellectually, but how about practically? When you read through the Scriptures and hear Jesus’ commands of love, do you seek to follow them without hesitation? For example, do you forgive those who seem undeserving? Can you say, with our Lord from the Cross, “Father, forgive them, they know not what they do?” Reflect upon anything this past year that was difficult for you to embrace from God. Ponder it, pray over it and seek to obey whatever He has revealed to you. Doing so will be the first step toward the fulfillment of your deepest desires in life. - My Catholic Faith

TAIZE PRAYER SERVICE: Everyone is welcome to attend an ecumenical Taize service at Holy Trinity church on Ascension Day, May 18th at 7pm. For more information contact Julie Chandler at 902-774-3340 or email jamesdauntchandler@gmail.com



Our sympathy is extended to the family and friends of
Victor Joseph Boudreau, Marion Frances Boudreau and Daniel Nazaire Vacon
Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them.

CURSILLO SEAFOOD CHOWDER: Yarmouth Area Cursillo Takeout Seafood Chowder Fundraiser Tickets are \$10 for chowder, homemade roll, and dessert. The tickets can be purchased from St. Ambrose Parish Office or from Kay Muise (902-653-0329), Liz Richard (902-307-6456) or Midge Rodgers (902-742-4475) Pick up for the chowder May 27th between 3:30-5:30 at the Marian Hall.

KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS NEWS: 4th Degree meeting Tuesday May 16th at 7:00pm **Community breakfast** May 28th 9:00 to 12:00 cost is \$10.00 Adults and 12 and under \$7.00. Take outs are also available.

COFFEE SOCIALS: Sunday, May 20th & 21st, the coffee socials will be held after all the masses in the Jubilee Room Come join us for a cup.

CATHOLIC SUMMER CAMP: We are happy to say Catholic Summer Camp is on for **August 13th - 18th** at Johnston Christian Park, South Range, Digby County. \$200.00 early bird fee if registered by June 30th. After this registration will be \$225.00. You can get a registration form at the entrance of the church, the parish office or on the website.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY: Every summer, we run a Summer Camp for the youth. Some of the youth struggle to find financial resources to participate in this activity. 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.

WHAT NAME DO YOU PUT ON YOUR DONATION CHECK? Just a reminder that St. Ambrose Parish should be the name written on any check submitted regardless who it is meant for. We are down to one account for everything including all churches and cemeteries. Please put a note on the memo line with the intent in which the check is written for and the office will direct it to the proper place.