



## April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025 Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

**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 –April 12<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025

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

**Sat. 4 pm** Anniv. Marion Surette  
**Sun. 9am** Intentions of Anna Woodworth  
**Sun. 11:15am** Parishioners  
**Tues. 6:30 pm** No Mass, Chrism Mass in Halifax  
**Wed. 6:30 pm** Patricia Ann Ayer  
**Thurs: 6:30** Holy Souls in Purgatory  
**Fri. 3 pm** Good Friday Service  
**Sat. 8 pm** Parishioners  
**Sun. 9am** Special Intentions  
**Sun. 11:15am** Special Intentions

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

**Sun. 10 am Apr13** Emile Comeau  
**Thurs. 6:30 pm Apr 17** Gertrude DeViller  
**Fri. 3 pm** Good Friday Service  
**Sat. 8 pm Apr. 20** Nicholas Clegg

**REFLECTION:** Following Him to the Cross: “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord. Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.” Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples.” He said in reply, “I tell you, if they keep silent, the stones will cry out!” At the foot of the

Mount of Olives was the Garden of Gethsemane where Jesus agonized in prayer and was arrested. But several days before that happened, our Lord crossed over that hill next to the Mount of Olives with His Apostles and then approached the slope heading toward the Garden. As He descended, He encountered “the whole multitude of his disciples” who “began to praise God aloud with joy for all the mighty deeds they had seen.” They then cried out: “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord. Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.” They met Him within eyeshot of the gate of the city of Jerusalem. This must have left the Twelve in amazement. Among those who were amazed were the Pharisees. But they were not amazed with joy. Their amazement was caused by envy and led to condemnation. Jesus’ response was very clear: “I tell you, if they keep silent, the stones will cry out!” That begs the question: If these disciples had not offered our Lord this glorious welcome, would the stones truly have cried out? Most certainly they would have! They did so just several days later after Jesus had been abandoned by the crowds. Recall that when Jesus was crucified, almost every one of these disciples abandoned Him. They fled in fear. Even most of the Twelve ran and hid. Only our Blessed Mother, Saint John and a few others remained. Therefore, when Jesus died on the Cross, abandoned by the crowds, this prophecy of His came true. “And behold, the veil of the sanctuary was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth quaked, rocks were split, tombs were opened, and the bodies of many saints who had fallen asleep were raised”. We must never keep silent in praise and worship of God. There is an important lesson to learn from these two moments from that first Holy Week. At the beginning, as Jesus entered Jerusalem with much excitement, there were many who offered Him praise. It’s easy to give praise and glory to God when it is popular and when many others are doing so. Contrast this with the end of Holy Week when Jesus was persecuted and killed. Suddenly, praise and open acclamations were not that popular. Fear had the effect of silencing the crowds and ending their worship of our Lord. For that reason, the stones did cry out and the earth quaked. As we enter this Holy Week, consider whether you are more like the “whole multitude” of Jesus’ disciples who praised Him when it was easy

and popular, or whether you are more like our Blessed Mother and Saint John who remained faithful to Him when it was anything but popular to do so. Do you persevere in your praise and adoration of God during difficult times? Or do you allow fear of what others may say, fear of rejection and other forms of humiliation to deter you from your sacred calling? Reflect, today, upon these two contrasting moments of that first Holy Week. Join, today, with the crowds as they acclaim Jesus as King. As you do, turn your eyes to the King Whom you worship. Choose to follow Him to His betrayal, His suffering and His death. Commit yourself to fidelity, especially when it is hard to do so. Do not waver in your commitment. Look at the love in the heart of Jesus’ own mother and pray to her that you will have the courage she had to remain faithful to our Lord, lest the stones be forced to cry out in your place.  
-My Catholic Life

### GOOD FRIDAY FAST AND ABSTINENCE



**RULES:** Every person 14 years of age or older must abstain from (not eat) meat. Every person between the age of 18 and 59 must also fast on Good Friday meaning you can eat the equivalent of two meals that day. For example, you can choose to eat one normal meal and two other meals that add up to one meal

**GOOD FRIDAY FISH CHOWDER FUNDRAISER:** On Good Friday the fish chowder will be a dine in or take out from 2:00pm to 5:00pm at the Parish Centre dining room. Tickets can be purchased at the parish office in advance or at the door while quantities last.

**QUOTE OF THE WEEK:** With Christ I am nailed to the cross. I live now not with my own life, but Christ lives within me, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and sacrificed himself for me.  
-Galatians 2

**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY:** The first Sunday after Easter (**April 27<sup>th</sup>**) is Divine Mercy Sunday. We will be having a Divine Mercy Service at **3pm** at St. Ambrose Church. Christ appeared to a Polish nun, Sr. Maria Faustina Kowalska, in a series of visions that took place over almost eight years. Among those visions,

Christ revealed the prayer for Divine Mercy. Please come join us in praying this prayer.

### KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS NEWS: Monthly Meeting:



**4th Degree Meeting** will be held on April 15, 2025 at 7:00 pm. All Fourth-Degree members are urged to attend.

### THANK YOU: to all the people who came to help



with the pre-Easter church cleaning. It was greatly appreciated and a job well done!

**OFFICE CLOSED:** The office will be closed on Tuesday April 15<sup>th</sup> for staff to attend the Chrism Mass in Halifax and Friday April 18<sup>th</sup> for Good Friday.

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS: will happen Good Friday



at St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral at 6:30pm. This week’s special performance will be led by a Confirmation class.

### HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SCHEDULE:

#### St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral

**Tues., Apr. 15-----Chrism Mass**  
12pm (St. Mary’s Basilica)  
**Wed., Apr. 16----- Mass**  
6:30pm Wednesday  
**Thur., Apr. 17----- Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord’s Supper**  
6:30pm (St. Ambrose)  
**Fri., Apr. 18----- Good Friday Service**  
3pm (St. Ambrose)  
**6:30pm Stations of the Cross**  
**Sat., Apr. 19----- Easter Vigil**  
8pm (St. Ambrose)  
**Sun., Apr.20-----Easter Sunday**  
9am & 11:15 am (St. Ambrose)

#### Our Lady of Lourdes Melbourne

**Thur., Apr. 17----- Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord’s Supper**  
6:30pm (Melbourne)  
**Fri., Apr. 18----- Good Friday Service**  
3pm (Melbourne)  
**Sat., Apr. 19----- Easter Vigil**  
8pm (Melbourne)