# St. Joseph's Parish

760 St. David Street North, Fergus, Ontario N1M 2K9
Tel: 519-843-2006 Email: stjosephfergus@hamiltondiocese.com
Web Page: www.stjosephfergus.org



**PASTOR:** Fr. Robert Hétu

**DEACON:** Rev. Mr. Trevor Klein

**SECRETARY:** Mrs. Lori Cipparrone

**CUSTODIAN:** Mr. Kevin Shea

**SACRISTANS:** Brigitte Quinke & Catherine Cyr.

#### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Parish Secretary will be available Mon - Thurs 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

#### **SUNDAY MASSES**

Saturday 5:00 p.m. Sunday 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

#### WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday 7:00 p.m. Wednesday-Friday 8:30 a.m.

#### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Fridays from 8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Saturdays from 4:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

#### **EUCHARISTIC DEVOTIONS**

All week 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. in the chapel all day

#### PASTORAL CARE FOR THE SICK

If you know of a parishioner sick at home or in hospital, please contact the Parish Office.

#### **SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

Baptisms are celebrated on the 1st Sunday of the month at 12:30 p.m. Please speak with with Deacon Trevor Klein after Sunday Masses before setting date for Baptism. There are no baptisms during Lent.

#### PARISH MEMBERSHIP

We encourage everyone who regularly attends St. Joseph's to become a registered member. Please fill out a registration form found at the main door and deposit it in the collection basket.

Sunday offering envelopes are available on request.

Please inform the parish office of any changes of address or telephone number.

#### PRIESTHOOD/RELIGIOUS LIFE

If you think God may be calling you to the vocation of Priesthood or Religious Life, please feel free to speak with Father Ken Miskiewicz or contact our Diocesan Vocation Director at 1-905-528-7988.

#### **SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE**

The Diocese of Hamilton requires one year notice before a marriage date can be set.

A Marriage Preparation Weekend is also required.

## From the Pastor's Desk



Fr. Robert Hétu

This weekend, we celebrate the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. The Greek word Epiphany means 'appearance' or 'manifestation.' Our Gospel teaches us how Jesus enriches those who bring their hearts to him. The adoration of the Wise Men from the East fulfills the oracle of Isaiah, from our first reading, prophesying that the nations of the world would travel to the Holy City following a brilliant light and would bring gold and incense to contribute to the worship of God. Our Responsorial Psalm includes a verse about kings coming from foreign lands to pay homage to a just king in Israel. St. Paul's letter to the Church of Ephesus, today's second reading, expresses God's secret plan in clear terms: "The Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the Gospel."

Today's Gospel reminds us that if God permitted the Wise Men from the East—foreigners and pagans—to recognize and give Jesus proper respect as the King of Jews, we should know that there is nothing in our sinful lives that would keep God from bringing us to Jesus. There were three groups of people who reacted to the Epiphany of the Lord's birth. The first group, headed by King Herod the Great, tried to eliminate him; the second group, priests, and scribes, ignored him; and, the third group, represented by the shepherds and the Wise Men from the East, came to adore him. As the Christmas Season draws to a close, what group do we find ourselves in?

**FOOD FOR THOUGHT**: "Every time you do a good deed, you shine the light a little farther in the dark. And the thing is, when you're gone, that light is going to keep shining on, pushing the shadow back." ~ Charles de Lint

#### LAUGHTER GOOD FOR THE SOUL: Diet Resolutions:

2019: I will get my weight down below 200 pounds.

2020: I will follow my new diet religiously until I get

below 225 pounds.

2021: I will work out 3 days a week.

2022: I will develop a realistic attitude about my weight.

2023: I will try to drive past a gym at least once a week.



Welcome to St. Joseph's Parish

We extend a warm welcome to all.
We pray that you feel at home.
Please introduce yourself and
Consider becoming a member of
Our family of faith.

#### **PRAYER INTENTIONS**

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

7:00pm Intentions of Jim Gillen & Family – Knights of Columbus

Intentions of Julie Reidy - Brigitte Quinke

Wednesday, January 11, 2023

8:30am Intentions of Thomas Clerkin

Thursday, January 12, 2023

8:30am Intentions of Bill Lysyshyn - Tove Schmidt

Friday, January 13, 2023

8:30am Intentions of Margaret Kenny – The Reidy Family

Saturday, January 14, 2023

5:00pm Intentions of Pat Clerkin

Tony Deixeira - Maria Nunes

Intentions Wanda Nicowski - Jim & Diane

Robertson

Intentions of Olivia Gillen - Terri Wellstead

Sunday January 15, 2023

9:00am Intentions of the Parish

11:00am Intentions of Mary Sheridan

### Diocesan Prayer Calendar

January 9 Baptism of the Lord

January 10 Rev. Fernando Ferreira Pinto, C.S.Sp.

January 11 Sisters of St. John Baptist (C.S.J.B.)

January 12 Rev. Allen Varlaki

January 13 Rev. Jerzy Tomon

January 14 Rev. Aurimas Paulius Rudinskas

### The Epiphany of the Lord - January 8, 2023

"On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid Him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered Him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh." God asks us to give our lives. What treasures have been given to you to share with others in Christ's name? If God is calling you to be a priest, deacon, brother or sister or consecrated virgin, contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988. email vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

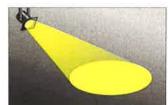


#### **Parent & Candidate Meeting for Confirmation**

Our Grade 7 students have begun their preparations for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Please note that there is a crucial Parent and Candidate meeting on January 18, 2023 at St. Joseph Church at 7:00pm. At this meeting, we will discuss times and dates for this celebration. Applications can only be picked up at this meeting or at one of the weekend parish Masses. Applications cannot be picked up for a friend. The cut off date to return these applications to the Church or school office is February 15, 2023. Fr. Robert is looking forward to meeting everyone at this meeting. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Parish Office at 519-843-2006 or email Fr. Robert directly at <a href="mailto:rhetu@hamiltondiocese.com">rhetu@hamiltondiocese.com</a> (be sure to include your telephone number!)

#### MASTERING YOUR MONEY: A Financial Wellness Presentation for the Diocese of Hamilton

Financial worries are the top source of stress for all Canadians, ranking above work concerns, health worries and even relationship struggles. The need for financial literacy has never been more pressing. Join us for this special zoom session on Tuesday, January 24, 2023 from 7-8:30 p.m., presented by Mr. Fred Masters, President & Founder of Masters Money Management Inc., and the author of the critically-acclaimed new book 'Lessons on Mastering Money'. He has delivered dozens and dozens of personal financial literacy presentations and is a sought-after media commentator on financial literacy. This is a free virtual event, but you must register at <a href="https://www.hamiltondiocese.com">www.hamiltondiocese.com</a> under Upcoming events, or call 905-528-7988 ext. 2249, to receive the Zoom link.



### Shine a Light: Saturday, Jan. 28, 2023 7-8 pm

Gather with your local pro-life community to pray and shine a light on the impact of abortion in Canada. On the anniversary of the 1988 Supreme Court decision that left preborn children with no protection in Canada, there will be a pro-life display in front of Guelph City Hall (1 Carden St.) showing the number of abortions that have happened in Canada. Registration is not required but is appreciated, contact the Guelph & Area Right to Life office to let us know you will be attending! Call 519-836-6311 or email info@guelphforlife.com.

#### Tree of Hope Success

Congratulations to everyone who contributed to the success of our Tree of Hope. We are pleased to advise that, with your help, we were able to give 7 local families with a blessed and joyful Christmas. Financial support was also given to Portage and The Hub, two local charities. St. Vincent de Paul and the Catholic Women's League look forward to doing this again at Christmas 2023. Thank you for your support.

#### Catholic Women's League General Meeting January 28th – Election Day

The Nominations and Elections Committee are pleased to announce that there are 7 candidates who have been nominated for various positions on the CWL Executive for the 2023/2024 term of office and have agreed to let their nominations stand. We encourage all of our active members to attend the January 28th General Meeting at 10:00 a.m. in our Parish Hall to meet and support these ladies as they are acclaimed and immediately begin their roles as your new CWL Executive. We will be accepting annual membership dues at this meeting from those who have not already paid in order to validate their voting privileges. New members are also welcome. The 2023 membership dues are \$38.00 payable to The Catholic Women's League.



# THE CATHOLIC DATE NIGHT - Hosted by Kathleen and Jesse LeBlanc of Found Together

Are date nights with your spouse (or future spouse!) turning into Netflix binge nights? Do you want to grow in faith and prayer together? Do you wish you had a community of Catholic couples to truly journey with? It's time to level up your marriage vocation with The Catholic Date Night! Enjoy the LIVE monthly date nights from the comfort of your own home. Subscribe at <a href="https://www.wearefoundtogether.com/datenights">www.wearefoundtogether.com/datenights</a> and follow them on Instagram @TheCatholicDateNight for date night inspiration and more!

#### **Upcoming Parish Events**

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January 8	Knights of Columbus Charity Breakfast
January 10	Knights of Columbus Executive Meeting
January 18	Parent & Candidate Meeting for
	Confirmation 7pm
January 24	Knights of Columbus General Meeting
January 25	St. Vincent de Paul Meeting 4:00pm
January 28	CWL General Meeting 10:00am
February 5	Knights of Columbus Charity Breakfast



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#### BISHOP OF HAMILTON

January 4, 2023

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

#### SYNOD ON SYNODALITY

Thirteen months ago, the Holy Father invited the whole Church, and indeed the whole world, to enter into a journey called the *Synod on Synodality*. This journey will culminate with the Synod of Bishops which will take place in October of 2023 and 2024. It is an opportunity for the Church to discern the voice of the Holy Spirit speaking through its members.

After the initial opening ceremony in Rome in October 2021, each Diocese also celebrated an opening ceremony followed by a listening process to hear the voice of the Holy Spirit. In the Diocese of Hamilton, our process involved some *in-person discussions*, however since Covid restrictions made in-person gatherings difficult, if not close to impossible, most of the input came through *an online survey*. We received just under 2,000 survey results. These results were analyzed and our *Diocesan Report* was produced. (This Report along with all the other reports on the Synod can be found on our Diocesan website.) This Report was combined with the eleven other Ontario Latin-rite Diocesan Reports and two Ontario Eastern Eparchial Reports to create the *Ontario Synod Report*. The Ontario Report was sent to the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops and together with the reports from the three other Canadian regions was used to create the *Canadian Report*, which was subsequently sent to Rome.

We are now at the *Continental Stage* of the Synod. The Vatican having received 112 Latin Rite Reports and 15 Oriental Church Reports, has produced a working document called, "*Enlarge the space of your tent*". This document will be discussed by the seven continental groups. Our group is the *North American group*, which consists of Canada and the United States of America. These final seven reports will be sent to the Vatican, and from these, the *Working Document for the Synod of Bishops* will be created.

#### FORWARD TOGETHER IN CHRIST

Inspired by the Synodal process, and aware that we needed a collective reflection on the life of our Diocese, we initiated a process called, *Forward Together in Christ*.

Our first step was to arrange discussions groups with our Priests, Permanent Deacons and Pastoral Ministers. These discussions have already provided greater insight to our Diocesan challenges and hopes. As we move into the Spring, we will expand our outreach by asking for the input of various Catholic groups and organizations. Next Fall, *Forward Together in Christ*, will move into the parish phase of our consultations. Priests and people of each parish in our Diocese will be invited to come together for discussion and wisdom sharing. It is by hearing the many voices of the Church, Clergy, Religious and Laity that we will be able to discern the voice of the Holy Spirit and move *Forward Together in Christ*. Over the next several months, the Diocese will produce three brochures: "What is Synodality", "The Synod", and "Forward Together in Christ". Hopefully, these brochures will assist all of us to better understand and participate in the Synodal process, for it is TOGETHER, moved by the Spirit, that we build the Kingdom of God.

Sincerely in Christ and Mary Immaculate,

+ Dauglas Crosby, OMI

(Most Rev.) Douglas Crosby, OMI Bishop of Hamilton.

+ W.L. Lobsinger

(Most Rev.) Wayne Lobsinger Auxiliary Bishop of Hamilton.

/cd