

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 Héту, P.P.

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.

EUCCHARISTIC 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 Fr. Robert Héту 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 Héту

As we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday, we proclaim, to all who are willing to listen, the infinite and divine mercy and love of God for every human being on the face of the earth. All we have to do is seek it. With St. Peter in our second reading let us praise God. *"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."*

In today's Gospel from St. John, we hear how Jesus appeared to the Apostles after they had locked themselves away in fear. When Jesus appeared, he began with these words, *"Peace be with you."* He then showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Risen Lord. Again, Jesus said, *"Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."* And with that he breathed on them and said, *"Receive the Holy Spirit."*

The story goes on to tell us that Thomas was not among the disciples gathered there and when the apostles told him they had seen the Lord he said, *"Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger the mark of the nails, and my hand in his side, I will not believe."*

About a week later Jesus appeared again to the apostles even though the doors were locked, and this time Thomas was with them, and Jesus began with the words, *"Peace be with you."* Then he said to Thomas, *"Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe."* To which Thomas replied, *"My Lord and my God!"*

Jesus then told Thomas, *"Have you believed because you have seen me?"* Followed by what I feel are extremely important words for us to keep in mind, *"Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believed."* We, who call ourselves Catholics and Christians, some 2000 plus years later, are told that we are blessed, because we have embraced the truth of Jesus and believe. May our prayer for ever be, *"My Lord and my God have mercy on me a sinner!"* Yes, Jesus is Risen! Alleluia! Alleluia!

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: "Love is mercy's second name. Love is like mercy in action." ~ Fr. Stan Fortuna, CFR



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 April 18, 2023

7:00pm **Intentions of David Gross** – Tove Schmidt
Joan Schnarr – Mac & Gail Brown

Wednesday, April 19, 2023

8:30am **Lil Ahrens** – Jim & Diane Robertson

Thursday, April 20, 2023

8:30am **Intentions of The Boehme Family** – Cam Schumacher

Intentions of Fr. Don Sanvido – Tove Schmidt

Friday, April 21, 2023

8:30am **Lorne & Joan Schumacher** – Cam Schumacher

Saturday April 22, 2023

5:00pm **John Brennan** – Tove Schmidt
Stasia Brohman – Mac & Gail Brown
Doreen O'Connell – Gord & Barbara Vandervoort
Intentions of Elizabeth Krekel – Mac & Gail Brown

Suzanne Bain – Carolyn Carere

Sunday, April 23, 2023

9:00am **Intentions of the Parish**
11:00am **Peter Rooyakker** – St. Joseph's 11am Choir
2:00pm **First Communion Mass**

Diocesan Prayer Calendar

April 17 St. Kateri Tekakwitha
April 18 Most Rev. Wayne Lobsinger
April 19 Jesuit Fathers
April 20 Rev. Joseph Gregory Michel
April 21 Rev. Wilson Andrade
April 22 Rev. Emmanuel Ralte

Second Sunday of Easter - April 16, 2023

"As the Father has sent me, so I send you." Will you respond to God's call to be sent as priest, deacon, sister or brother or consecrated virgin? If you feel God is calling you, contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988.
email vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

LAUGHTER GOOD FOR THE SOUL: The Gravestone Message: The following caption was found written on a gravestone..."As I am now, you soon shall be, so be content to follow me." Then someone taped the following note on that gravestone..."To follow you I'm not content, until I know, which way you went!"

Ex Corde Foundation Grant Received!!

The ExCorde Foundation, established by Bishop Douglas Crosby, has an investment fund of \$20,000,000. Twice annually, the Foundation is open to applications from Parishes and Catholic Charities to apply for grants to complete various goals. A committee reviews the applications based on a variety of factors. An amount of \$420,000.00 had been allotted for distribution this Spring, and requests totaling \$1,188,441.00 were received in total. When it came to light that we were going to have to replace the Church's fire panel, a costly repair, we submitted a request.

It is with great excitement that we can announce that we have been awarded a grant of \$10,000 to help offset a large part of the impending expense. We are appreciative of this assistance from the ExCorde Foundation.

Michael House – A Safe Haven for Life

St. Joseph's CWL and the St. Mary's/St. Joseph's Knights of Columbus are resuming their series of Respect for Life Presentations on **Saturday April 22 at 2:00 PM**. Karen Kamphuis, Executive Director of Michael House Pregnancy and Parenting Support Services, will be our Guest Speaker. Founded in 2001, Michael House provides Guelph and Wellington County's expectant and new mothers with shelter and an ever-increasing range of parenting and life support skills. Their support is targeted at providing an option to respond to the question most women coping with an unexpected pregnancy ask – "How can I possibly handle this on my own?" Learn about the latest programs they are offering to help mothers and their babies make the critical transition to independent living in the community. The presentation will be held at St. Joseph's Parish Hall at 760 St. David St. Fergus on Saturday April 22 at 2:00 PM. Wine, beer, cheese, crackers and fruit will be available. Free will offerings to support Michael House will be welcomed.

Knights of Columbus Guelph Easter Raffle

The Knights of Columbus of St. Joseph Parish (Guelph) will be visiting this weekend to complete their sale of tickets for their Easter Raffle. The draw is set to take place on Sat. April 22nd at their upcoming Pot Luck Dinner. Tickets will be available at our Parish after each Mass. If you have any questions regarding the Raffle or Pot Luck Dinner, please contact Raymond Bolton at raymondbolton402@yahoo.com or 519-261-1850. Proceeds will go towards support of the Ukraine Solidarity Fund.

Indigenous Reconciliation Fund

Attached to this bulletin please find a letter from Most Rev. Douglas Crosby concerning the Indigenous Reconciliation Fund and the special collection to be held next weekend (the Third Sunday of Easter, April 23, 2023). Envelopes will be available in the bulletin for next week's collection or in the Narthex.

CWL Annual General Meeting – April 22

The Catholic Women's League **Annual General Meeting** will be held on **April 22, 2023** in the Marian Room of the Church Hall at **1:30pm**. After this short meeting we will have the opportunity to join the Michael House presentation at 2:00pm. All ladies are welcome to attend!

Our Lady of Good Council Feast & Novena

Our Lady of Good Council is the patroness of The Catholic Women's League and her feast day is celebrated on April 26. The novena honouring Our Lady begins on April 17 and can be found at www.praymorenovenas.com

CWL Mother/Daughter/Friend Tea - May 13

All ladies of the parish are invited to join us at 12:30 for our Mom's Market in the Narthex. Then, at 1:00pm in the Church Hall, treat your mom, daughter, friend to a tea party complete with delicious food, live music, trivia and prizes! Joyce Cotter, President of the Diocesan Catholic Women's League, will be our guest speaker! Tickets are \$5.00 and they will be sold in the Narthex after Masses.

St. Joseph Lending Library

We are losing our volunteer Librarian, Pamela DaMaren, and are in need of someone who would be interested in taking over the tasking of managing our Lending Library. If you are interested, please contact the Church Office at 519-843-2006. Our thanks to Pamela for her wonderful work on this project and we wish her and her family well!

Upcoming Parish Events

April 15	Knights of Columbus Guelph Selling Raffle tickets for Fundraiser for Ukraine
April 18	Knights of Columbus General Meeting
April 22	CWL General Meeting 1:30pm
April 22	Michael House Presentations 2pm
April 23	First Communion Mass, 2pm
April 25	Confirmation with Bishop Crosby at 7pm (weekday Mass will be at 8:30am, not 7pm)
April 26	St. Vincent de Paul Meeting, 4pm
April 26	Thursday Club Luncheon, Noon

Sew What?!



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BISHOP OF HAMILTON

April 16, 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Risen Christ,

Next Sunday (the Third Sunday of Easter, April 23,) each Parish in our Diocese will hold a collection in support of the Indigenous Reconciliation Fund. This collection supports local initiatives of healing and reconciliation with our Indigenous brothers and sisters and forms part of the larger \$30 million national commitment made by dioceses across Canada.

In May of 2022, we held our first diocese-wide collection, asking for support that would add to the Diocese's original \$4 million commitment. Though the fund was new and had neither projects nor committee members, parishioners responded generously - contributing in excess of \$170,000.

Since this time, the Diocese has formed our local Indigenous Reconciliation Fund advisory council, whose members are tasked with the ultimate funding decisions for local reconciliation projects. This advisory council, comprised of four Indigenous and three Diocesan representatives, will be the main point of contact with those local Indigenous groups who will work toward the fund's four priorities: healing and reconciliation for communities and families; culture and language revitalization; education and community building; and dialogues for promoting Indigenous spirituality and culture. Information about our local efforts can be found by visiting hamiltondiocese.com/reconciliationfund/

When the Holy Father met with Canadian Indigenous representatives last year, he remarked that, "any truly effective process of healing requires concrete actions." Your generous support does exactly this: it makes real the Church's deep desire for authentic reconciliation and serves as a tangible sign of the Church's closeness and fraternity with all Indigenous peoples. While the steps we take on this journey of reconciliation may feel small, they move nonetheless in the right direction. May the Risen Lord Jesus, whose resurrection triumphed over sin and death, guide us on this journey from pain to the hope of new life.

Yours in Christ and Our Lady of Guadalupe,

+Douglas Crosby, OMI

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

/cd