

# 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 Hétu



In the last years of his life, the great cellist and conductor Pablo Casals suffered greatly from rheumatoid arthritis. At 90, he was badly stooped and his head pitched forward; his breathing was laboured. He needed the help of his wife, Marta, to get dressed in the morning. Marta would then help him shuffle into his studio where he would, with great difficulty, arrange himself on the piano bench. Casals would then manage to raise his swollen, clenched fingers above the keyboard. A visitor describes what he saw next one particular morning: "I was not prepared for the miracle that was about to happen. The fingers slowly unlocked and reached toward the keys like the buds of a plant toward the sunlight. His back straightened. He seemed to breathe more freely. Now his fingers settled on the keys. Then came the opening bars of *Bach's Well-tempered Clavier*, played with great sensitivity and control. He hummed as he played, then said that Bach 'spoke to him here' – and he placed his hand over his heart. Then he plunged into a Brahms concerto and his fingers, now agile and powerful, raced across the keyboard with dazzling speed. His entire body seemed fused with the music; it was no longer stiff and shrunken but supple and graceful and completely freed of its arthritic coils. Having finished the piece, he stood up by himself, far straighter and taller than when he had come into the room. He walked to the breakfast table with no trace of a shuffle, ate heartily, talked animatedly, finished the meal, and then went for a walk on the beach." (*Anatomy of an Illness as Perceived by the Patient: Reflections on Healing and Regeneration* - Norman Cousins.)

Like music that inspires and exhilarates, the Spirit of God is the melody that energizes the Church, uniting our many different voices into the song of the love of God. God has formed us into a community, an instrument for bringing God's life and love into our world. Yet, what makes our Church more than just a gathering of good people? It is the 'breath' of the Spirit infusing the Church with grace.

Today, on the Solemnity of Pentecost, we celebrate that presence. The same Spirit, who Jesus, breath on the apostles that first Easter night, continues to 'blow' through the Church today giving life and direction to our mission and ministry of preaching the Gospel to every nation, which immerse all of humanity into the music of God's love and the symphony of the Resurrection.



**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 May 30, 2023**

7:00pm **Souls in Purgatory**

**Wednesday, May 31, 2023**

8:30am **Harold Folmeg** – Gord & Barb Vandervoort

**Thursday June 1, 2023**

8:30am **Mary Lunny** - McCarney

**Friday, June 2, 2023**

8:30am **The Sick of the Parish and their Families**

**Saturday, June 3, 2023**

5:00pm **Aurelia Fagundes** – Maria F. Nunes

**Intentions of Fr. Robert Hétu** – Terri Wellstead

**Gino Tonin** – Wayne & Joanne England

**Brien McBride**

**Sunday June 4, 2023**

9:00am **Olivia Gillen** – Gord & Barb Vandervoort

**Doug Nichlasson** – Laurie Landoni

11:00am **Intentions of the Parish**

### Diocesan Prayer Calendar

May 29	Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church
May 30	Rev. Ken Miskiewicz
May 31	The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
June 1	Rev. Msgr. Dennis Noon
June 2	Rev. Emmanuel Azike, O.P.
June 3	Rev. Fidelis Umukoro, O.P.

### Pentecost Sunday - May 28, 2023

"Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love." Send forth workers into your vineyard. If God is calling you to the priesthood, diaconate, religious and consecrated life, contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988.

**email** [vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com)

**FOOD FOR THOUGHT:** "When you strip it of everything else, Pentecost stands for power and life. That's what came into the church when the Holy Spirit came down on the day of Pentecost." ~ David Wilkerson

**LAUGHTER GOOD FOR THE SOUL:** How do we know the Apostles drove a Honda? "When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one accord."



### **Chalice Weekend**

Chalice is coming to St. Joseph Parish! At the June 10-11 Masses, Canada's largest Catholic Child Sponsorship organization will provide you the opportunity to begin a relationship with a child in the developing world through the benefits of Child Sponsorship. It is a powerful way to reveal God's love for those most in need. Please visit [chalice.ca](http://chalice.ca) for more information about Chalice and its mission.

### **CWL June 17th General Meeting**

All members of the CWL are encouraged to participate in the June meeting at which time a presentation mandated by the National Council entitled "**Unity Outreach**" will be presented. This is your chance to give your input for **future Strategic Planning**. Every voice counts, so come out and give your opinions. Mark your calendars for June 17th at 11 am in the Parish Hall. Bring along your favourite dish for the Potluck to follow. Hope to see you there.

### **Catholic Women's League of St. Joseph Council 2023 Scholarship**

Are you entering the first year of an accredited college, trade school or university? Applications for this scholarship are available in the Narthex, and are being accepted until June 4, 2023.

### **St. Joseph Parish Bazaar hosted by the CWL Exciting News- Save the date**

St Joseph Catholic Women's League Fall Bazaar will be held on **November 4, 2023**. Please reserve this date to attend and or volunteer at the Bazaar, More announcements will be forthcoming in the coming months regarding donations, vendors, drop-offs, volunteering, draws, etc. We look forward to seeing everyone at the bazaar.

### **Spring Cleaning?**

Are you spring cleaning and found that unopened gift and unsure what to do with it. Please consider donating to the Catholic Women's League Bazaar for our Silent Auction or Penny Table. Your contributions are greatly appreciated. Please contact Sherie Bazaar Lead Convener @226-203-1653.

### **Knights of Columbia Bottle Drive**

Reminder that the Knights will be holding a bottle drive on **Saturday June 3<sup>rd</sup> from 10am to 2pm** to raise funds for the charity endeavours.

### **The Blessing of Priestly Ordination**

The priestly ordination of Carlos Diaz, John Ha, Paul Niesiobedzki, and Jonathan Reitzel took place on May 6, at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King. The Mass was presided by His Excellency, Bishop Douglas Crosby, OMI, joined by Bishop Wayne Lobsinger, Bishop Matthew Ustrzycki, Bishop Joseph Nguyen from the Diocese of Kamloops (and Uncle to Father John Ha), and concelebrating priests. During the ceremony, all four men were anointed with Sacred Chrism to be like Christ, the Anointed One, the Eternal Priest, the Good Shepherd. All four priests are now appointed to serve as Associate Pastors in Parishes in the Diocese. Similarly, on Saturday, May 13 His Grace, the Most Rev. Francis Leo, Archbishop of Toronto, ordained Sávio Bruto da Costa, Sean Jacob, Mirko Ljuba, Carlos Marquez, Cole Powers, John Wang and Matthew Wang with the Sacrament of Holy Orders as they become priests to the Archdiocese of Toronto.

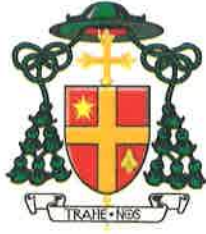
We ask you to pray for them that their ministry will be a blessing. We congratulate all eleven Fathers, and wish them God's richest blessings!

### **Prayer for Vocations**

God, the source of creation and love, you invite each of us to serve you through the life which is your gift. May your grace encourage men and women to heights of holiness through service to the Church as married couples, priests, consecrated virgins, sisters, brothers and lay ministers. Make me an instrument to encourage others to give of themselves and challenge me to do the same. Amen

### **Upcoming Parish Events**

May 31	St. Vincent de Paul Meeting, 4pm
June 3	Knights of Columbus Bottle Drive 10am-2pm
June 4	Knights of Columbus Charity Breakfast
June 4	CWL Scholarship Application Deadline
June 11	Chalice Sponsorship Weekend – At all Masses
June 13	Knights of Columbus Executive Meeting 7:30pm
June 14	Caressant Care Mass 2pm
June 16	No Weekday Mass
June 17	CWL General Meeting 10am
June 22	St. Joseph School Closing Mass 9:20am
June 27	Knights of Columbus General Meeting 7:30pm



## BISHOP OF HAMILTON

### *Let us return with Joy!*

May 24, 2023

Dear Friends:

For the past three years, the world has been shaken by the Covid-19 virus, and our lives have been changed as we sought to observe the many protocols which were established for our health and safety. These included frequent periods when we were unable to come together to celebrate our faith and be nourished by the Sacraments. On several occasions our churches were closed, and we were unable to celebrate the Sunday Eucharist, which is so fundamental to our Catholic way of life.

Since we foresaw occasions when we would be prevented from participating in Sunday Mass, and we were fearful of gathering as long as Covid-19 and its variants were spreading and threatening the health of so many people, on March 16, 2020, I dispensed the faithful of our Diocese from the obligation to participate in the Sunday Eucharist.

During the pandemic, several Parishes in our Diocese provided livestreaming, so that even though parishioners could not be physically present and participate fully in the Sunday Mass, they were able to at least hear the Word of God proclaimed and witness the celebration of Mass broadcast from their Parish. I am grateful for all the ways that our Priests sought to provide spiritual support to their parishioners during those difficult years!

In recent months, we have been able to resume most of our former activities. It has been a great joy to gather again with our families and friends, and especially with our Parish communities. At the beginning of this month, the World Health Organization declared that the Covid-19 virus is an on-going health issue; however, it no longer constitutes a public health emergency of international concern. Furthermore, all Covid-related restrictions have been removed in our Province. For this reason, I am removing the dispensation from the obligation to participate at Sunday Mass, effective on the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi), June 11, 2023.

I understand that some members of the faithful, for reasons of health, may not feel able to return to Mass. However, it has always been the teaching of the Church, that those who are impeded from participating at Sunday Mass because of ill health, or care for the sick, or some other grave reason, are not bound by the obligation to participate in the Sunday Eucharist.



Those who are now able to resume their regular activities and enjoy good health are obliged to participate at Sunday Mass. “Virtual Masses” online and on television, while spiritually helpful, do not fulfill the Sunday obligation for those who are able to attend Mass in person.

Today, on this Solemnity of Pentecost, we mark the conclusion of the Easter Season and celebrate the birthday of the Church. From the earliest days of the Church, Christians have come together on Sunday, the Lord’s Day, to celebrate the Eucharist. And so, I take this opportunity to invite all the faithful of our Diocese, if they have not already done so, to return with joy to the Sunday Mass.

May our faithful celebration of the Sunday Eucharist and our reception of the Body and Blood of our Risen Lord Jesus Christ in Holy Communion never cease to nourish our faith and strengthen us to be missionary disciples.

Sincerely in Christ and Mary Immaculate,

*+ Douglas Crosby*, OMI

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

/vo



# DIOCESE OF HAMILTON

700 King Street West, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada L8P 1C7

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

## MEMORANDUM

To: Parish Priests

From: Monsignor Murray J. Kroetsch, PH, VG, Chancellor

Date: 24 May 2023

Re: Removal of Dispensation from the Obligation to participate at Sunday Mass.

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Upon the recommendation of the Presbyteral Council and at the request of His Excellency Bishop Douglas Crosby, OMI, I am pleased to forward to you Bishop Crosby's Pastoral Letter for the Solemnity of Pentecost, "*Let us return with joy!*" which is to be read at all Sunday Masses in the Diocese of Hamilton on May 27-28, 2023. It may also be posted on parish websites and in parish bulletins.

I am also pleased to provide you with an update on the removal of all the COVID-19 protocols which have restricted our celebrations of the Mass and other sacraments during the pandemic.

Finally, included in this memorandum are some catechetical notes which can be fittingly incorporated into the homily on the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) when the Dispensation from the Obligation to participate at Sunday Mass is removed.

### Removal of COVID-19 Liturgical Protocols

All Covid-19 restrictions and associated protocols and guidelines related to the Liturgy are no longer to be observed. Therefore:

- The use of masks and hand sanitizers are no longer mandatory.
- Seating restrictions are no longer required.
- All liturgical ministers (greeters/ushers, altar servers, lectors, extraordinary ministers of Communion, musicians) are to resume their service in the manner described in our liturgical books.
- The practice of ushers taking up collection during the offertory is resumed.
- The use of the credence table (away from the altar) is resumed; presidential prayers are to be said at the chair, and not the altar.



- The privilege of the faithful receiving Communion from the Chalice is now permitted, where this is desirable and sufficient ministers are available.
- Both Communion in the hand and on the tongue is permitted.
- Deacons are to receive Communion from the Chalice, as prior to Covid.
- Communal celebrations of Baptism are now possible.

### **Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ – Homiletic Catechesis**

In addition to preaching on the Lectionary texts and reminding the faithful of Christ’s inestimable gift of his Body and Blood in the Sacrament of the Eucharist – his real presence, it is fitting to remind the faithful that actual participation in the Eucharist by eating his Body and drinking his Blood is the pledge of eternal life. Such participation and Communion cannot be accomplished by “virtual Mass”, but requires our physical presence, with the community at Sunday Mass.

The Solemnity of Corpus Christi is also a fitting occasion to provide a brief catechesis on how to receive Holy Communion:

- Our communion with the Lord is also an expression of our communion with all those who have gathered for the celebration, and indeed, with all members of the Church. Therefore, the reception of Holy Communion is not a personal devotion, but an act of communion with the entire Body of Christ, head and members.
- The hymn we sing during the Communion Procession is “intended to express the spiritual communion of the communicants by means of the unity of their voices, to show gladness of heart, and to bring out more clearly the communitarian character of the procession to receive the Eucharist” (GIRM 86). We are encouraged to sing the refrain as we approach the minister.
- When approaching the priest or minister, the communicant makes a simple bow of the head (not a profound bow or genuflection). Common gestures express common faith.
- In Canada, the common posture for receiving Communion is standing. Common postures express common faith. Kneeling at this time expresses one’s private devotion and can be dangerous for those coming to Communion next.
- When receiving in the hand, the communicant extends both hands, palms up, with one hand under the other (to make a throne for the King) and upon receiving the Sacred Host, responds: “Amen”. The communicant immediately consumes the Body of the Lord.
- When receiving on the tongue, the communicant after saying “Amen” sticks out their tongue so that the priest or minister can place the Body of Christ on the tongue.
- We do not genuflect to the altar or the empty tabernacle after receiving Communion, since we have just consumed the Body of the Lord.
- After receiving Communion and returning to one’s place, it is fitting to join in the singing of the Communion hymn.
- After all have received Communion, it is appropriate to observe a period of silent prayer.

**Sew What?!**



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