

# 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



Saint Mother Teresa once said, "Any country that accepts abortion is not teaching its people to love, but to use violence to get what they want." On this **Respect for Life Sunday**, let us double our efforts to find our way back to the Father. We need to respect and protect all forms of human life from fertilization to natural death; we need to work and pray vigorously to end our nation's and our world's 'culture of death.' We need to speak and act against abortion in private and public forums. Our Holy Father, Pope Francis boldly declared, "Defend the unborn against abortion even if they persecute you...set traps for you, take you to court or kill you."

Protecting human life is not just a religious question, but a civil and human rights issue, because all rights depend on life, the right to life is the most fundamental right of all; if that right is eliminated, eventually all rights will follow. We need to work to have the government enact anti-abortion, anti-euthanasia, and anti-doctor-assisted suicide laws because these killings violate justice, and therefore the command of God to love one another.

We need to give real care, support, and assistance to mothers with unwanted pregnancies contemplating abortion. Helping a woman choose life affirms and empowers her. We need to teach the Church's doctrines on abortion. The Church opposes abortion, but embraces with mercy those who have made this mistake. We need to remind people that the Church cares about the women who have had abortions, forgives them, wants to heal them, and bring them peace with God, with their lost children and with themselves. The Church reminds us that abortion is a serious or mortal sin, but promises any woman (or man or doctor or nurse) who has had (or been involved in) an abortion that if she (they) truly repents of her (their) sin, she (they) will find welcome, forgiveness and peace. (The same for those involved with euthanasia and doctor-assisted suicide.) Let us cherish the sacred gift of life.

Please join me and other parishioners for **Life Chain**—Tower Street at Belsyde Avenue starting at 4 p.m. for one hour. A silent and prayerful witness to the sacredness of life and the grace of God's forgiveness. Come one come all!

### FOOD FOR THOUGHT:

"When we respect life, God's grace, peace, mercy and love will bring true fulfillment to our lives." ~ Fr. Robert Héту



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.

### MASS INTENTIONS

#### Tuesday October 3, 2023

7:00pm **Kelvin Martin** – Jean Martin & Family

#### Wednesday, October 4, 2023

7:00pm\* **Stuart Robson** – \*NOTE: TIME CHANGE  
Jocelyne Donaldson

#### Thursday, October 5, 2023

8:30am **Rita Da Maren**

#### Friday, October 6, 2023

8:30am **Bernie MacDonald** – Mary Epoch

#### Saturday, October 7, 2023

5:00pm **Marietta Maniezzo** – Maria Cinira Emidio

**Agnes Givens** – Leo Givens

**Josef Krekel & Katie Campbell** – Elisabeth Krekel

#### Sunday October 8, 2023

9:00am **Cynthia Monkhouse** – Ted & Marlene Buczek  
**Intentions of Trevor Klein** – Mac & Gail Brown

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

#### Monday, October 9, 2023 - Thanksgiving

11:00am **Intentions of St. Joseph Parish**

#### 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – October 1, 2023

The invitation to serve often comes more than once; are you prepared with your answer? Consider ministry as a priest, deacon, religious or consecrated virgin. Are you being invited? Contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988.  
email [vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com)

### Parish Offerings

#### Your Contributions for September 24, 2023:

Not available at time of print – See next week's bulletin.

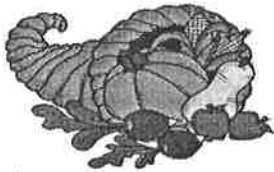
One candle at the **Shrine of the Blessed Virgin Mary** and one at the **Shrine of St. Joseph** burn for the repose of the soul of **Josef Krekel and Katie Campbell**

#### LAUGHTER GOOD FOR THE SOUL:

At the start of the homily one Sunday, a parishioner in a loud baritone voice, said to the priest: "Now remember Father if after five minutes you don't strike oil; stop boring."



It is with great sadness that we must inform you that Fr. Terry Sehl died suddenly and peacefully on Monday September 25<sup>th</sup>. In your charity, please pray for him, that he may receive the reward of a faithful servant of the Lord, and for the consolation of his family and the parishioners whom he served.



**Thanksgiving Day Mass**

Fr. Robert invites you to join him for Mass to celebrate Thanksgiving on Monday, October 9<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am.

**St Joseph's Parish Bazaar**

To be hosted by the CWL Saturday November 4, 2023 St Joseph's Catholic Women's League Fall Annual Bazaar will be held on November 4, 2023 from 10:00a.m to 2:00p.m in the Parish Hall. We are so fortunate and blessed here at St Joseph Parish to have very active volunteers and parishioners who help make all things possible at the Parish. Your help keeps the Parish a vital and inviting place of community and worship. Please consider donating to our Silent Auction, Toonie Table and closer to the event Bake Table. Please remember you do not have to be a member of the Catholic Women's League to volunteer or donate. This is your Parish event. If you are new to the Parish its a great way to meet fellow parishioners. Its a great opportunity for students to earn some volunteer hours. Please come out and meet your fellow parishioners and lets make this a successful event and don't forget to pick up your raffle tickets after all Masses before they are all gone. All cash prizes \$5.00 per ticket.

**Thursday Club**

After much discussion and 25 years of enjoying the monthly gatherings, the Thursday Club Committee has decided to terminate the monthly luncheons. Thank you for your support and participation through all these years. Remaining funds will be donated to the Building Fund.

**Join Us to Pray the Rosary on Wednesday Evenings**

Every Wednesday at 6:00pm, a small group of parishioners gather at the church to pray the Rosary. They are praying for peace in our homes, towns, provinces, nation and the world, entrusting the chaos, discord and the world's evils to the Holy Mother of God, believing that she will triumph over these ills with her Immaculate Heart. If you would like to participate, simply come to the church on Wednesday evening, entering through the front door. If praying the Rosary is new to you, do not be deterred; it is quite simple and you will learn by doing it. Also, there are many good resources to assist you. For more information call 519-787-0443.

**Morning Rosary for the Month of October**

During the month of October, parishioners will gather at 8:10am, just before the 8:30am Mass to pray the Rosary. All are welcomed to join them.

**2023 – 2024 Sunday Missal**

The new *Sunday Missals* are now available in the Narthex at a cost of \$5 each. We begin using the new missals on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Be sure to get your copy while quantities are available. Please print your name in your copy so we can return to you if it gets left behind.

**Maryhill Card Parties**

St. Boniface Parish in Maryhill would like to invite you to join their weekly card parties. Eucre or solo. They meet every Wednesday at 1:30pm at the Maryhill Heritage Park Community Centre, 58 St. Charles St. E. Maryhill. If you are a card lover, why not join in.

**Upcoming Parish Events**

September 30	Baptismal Prep Class 9-11am
September 30	CWL General Meeting, 10am
October 1	Groves Fundraiser featuring the Windjammers 7:00pm
October 8	Knights of Columbus Breakfast
October 9	Thanksgiving Day Mass, 11am
October 9	Thanksgiving – Office Closed
October 14	Extraordinary Ministers of Communion
October 19	Parents Meeting for 1 <sup>st</sup> Reconciliation and 1 <sup>st</sup> Communion 7:00pm
October 20	St. Joseph School Mass 9:20am



## **What is Synodality in the Catholic Church?**

*A reflection and summary by Fr. Robert Héту based mostly on Fr. Thomas Rosica's presentation at our most recent priests' seminar.*

Synodality means journeying together as the People of God. It indicates a way of listening to each individual person as a member of the Church to understand how God, through the Holy Spirit, might be speaking to all of us.

In Roman Catholic usage, synod and council are theoretically synonymous as they are of Greek and Latin origins, respectively, both meaning an authoritative meeting of bishops for the purpose of church administration in the areas of teaching (faith and morals) or governance (church discipline or law).

So, synodality is not new in the Church and its roots can be traced back as far as the Old Testament. Read Nehemiah 8: 1-12. The community gathers around God's Word. As seen in this text, Fr. Thomas Rosica, CSB, notes that: "All of Israel willingly participated in the gathering. No one was excluded. The Synodal process is also a journey that welcomes everyone to participate." (p.4)

Fr. Rosica reminds us that Pentecost (Acts 2:1-11) was the humble, yet powerful beginning of a new age. We know the story well. The Apostles and Mary are gathered together inside the upper room. They receive the Holy Spirit through tongues of fire. The scene quickly shifts to the streets of Jerusalem outside. "The first gift of the Holy Spirit is the gift of speech in different languages." (p.7)

Pope Francis in his Pentecost homily (2023) shared that: "Without the Holy Spirit, the Church is lifeless, faith is mere doctrine, morality mere duty, pastoral work mere toil. [With the Holy Spirit], on the other hand, faith is life, the love of the Lord convinces us, and hope is reborn. Let us put the Holy Spirit back at the centre of the Church...The Holy Spirit frees us from the prisons of fear...Let us invoke the Holy Spirit for us, for the Church and the whole world." (p.9)

"The presence and the action of the Spirit of God is what underpins the journeying together of the People of God. The Spirit prepares the Church 'to listen' to the voice of God guiding and shaping it." (p.13) (Vatican Synod Secretariat, March 2022)

The Council of Jerusalem (Acts 15) is said to be the first synod in the Catholic Church. Like today, the early Church community in Jerusalem was not without its factions and problems. "In Jerusalem, the Apostles and elders gathered for deliberation and came to an agreement with the Mother Church at Jerusalem that the Mosaic laws were not required, nor the many traditions of the rabbis...The Council of Jerusalem...is a watershed moment in the life and history of the Church...The final decision about the minimum requirements for Gentile Christians

is not a pragmatic one. They are about fidelity to the one God of Jesus Christ. They seem more designed to secure a real unity within the Church communities [between Jewish and Gentile Christians]...It is not as if the Council believes itself to be on equal footing with God! Rather, that the Church is God's work and not purely human construction." (pp .16-18)

The last great gathering of the Church was the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965). Sr. Joan Chittester, a Benedictine Sister, wrote in the ***National Catholic Reporter*** that: "The Vatican documents of 1965 oozed theological life. They were clearly meant to dispense with the church of the Middle Ages, to bring the church into the modern world rooted in Scripture and the model of Jesus."

The 2018 Theological Commission's document reminds us that: ""**Synodality** is the Life and Mission of the Church." Therefore, let us pray for a continued openness to the Holy Spirit in the upcoming ***Synod on Synodality***, taking place in Rome, the first session beginning October 4, 2023.

Here is the official prayer for the ***Synod on Synodality***. This prayer is attributed to Saint Isidore of Seville (c. 560 - 4 April 636) and has been used throughout the history of the Church at gatherings, councils, and synods. Notably, it was prayed before each session of the Second Vatican Council.

### ***Adsumnus, Sancte Spiritus***

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name.

With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts;

Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder.

Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.

All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, for ever and ever.

Amen.

This short reflection is based mostly on Fr. Thomas Rosica's presentation to the priests of the Diocese of Hamilton. ***Biblical Roots of Synodality: Reflections for Annual Priests' Seminar of the Diocese of Hamilton, September 6-8, 2023.*** Page numbers refer to the presentation booklet.

**Sew What?!**



204 St. Andrew St. W. 519-787-6618



**HARVEY'S**  
It's a beautiful thing.



**SWISS  
HALET**



**Fergus  
Fireplace**  
WOODGAS SPECIALISTS  
Free Estimates  
Specializing in Wood & Gas  
www.fergusfireplace.com  
967 St. David St. N. 519-843-4845



A Family Business since 1986  
**FERGUS  
MONUMENTS**  
tel: 519-787-1771  
375 St. Andrew St. W.



your pet • your store  
900 Tower St. S. 519-843-7997  
www.petvalu.com

Sorbara Law is Proud to Serve the Centre Wellington and Guelph Communities  
Waterloo Region Record 2019, 2020 & 2021 Readers' Choice Diamond Winner

**Sorbara LAW**  
Sorbara, Schumacher, McCann LLP  
Waterloo Guelph Fergus Markham  
519-843-4400 www.sorbaralaw.com

**RON WILKIN**  
*Jewellers*

Jewellery - Watches - Repairs - Crystal - China - Fine Gifts  
109 St. Andrew St. W. 519-843-1225  
www.ronwilkinjewellers.com



**Highland Manor**  
ASSISTED & INDEPENDENT LIVING  
"Living and Caring with Distinction and Style"  
110 Belsyde Avenue East, Fergus  
519-843-6694  
www.HighlandManorFergus.ca



**GRAHAM A.  
GIDDY**  
FUNERAL HOMES LTD.  
www.grahamgiddyfh.com  
FERGUS CHAPEL  
Rob Giddy, Scott Giddy  
Funeral Directors  
280 St. David St. S. 519.843.3100  
ELORA CHAPEL  
Graham A. Giddy  
Funeral Director  
37 Church St. E. 519.846.5352

**Fergus  
Veterinary  
Hospital**



"All creatures have the same source as we have.  
Not to hurt our humble brethren is our first duty."  
St. Francis  
FergusVeterinaryHospital.com  
519-787-2000

**Remember...**

Let our advertisers know  
you saw their ad here.




Religious Articles, Bibles, Crucifixes  
Rosaries, Gifts for Baptism  
First Communion & Confirmation  
519-843-2006  
Proceeds support the work of our CWL



**CRYSTAL DENTAL**  
Crafting smiles with care  
New Patients & Emergencies Welcome  
Implants & Implant Supported overdentures  
Denturist available  
226-897-1016 • care@crystal-dental.ca

**THE PERFECT SPOT TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS!**



TO ADVERTISE IN THIS SPACE PLEASE CALL 1-800-268-2637

**IT'S  
WISE to  
ADVERTISE!**

**REAL ESTATE AT YOUR SERVICE.**

**KRIS BUTLER**

REALTOR®  
226-383-9484  
Kris@mvrealestategroup.ca



**WE DO MORE TO SELL YOUR HOME**  
COMPLETE HOME STAGING - HANDYMAN REPAIRS - PROFESSIONAL PHOTOS  
ONLINE FLOOR PLANS - VIRTUAL HOME TOURS  
INCLUDED AT NO EXTRA COST



**Shopping Locally Saves Gas!**

**GrandRiver  
PHARMACY**



Free Prescription Delivery • Seniors Discount  
**Care That Never Quits**  
519-843-1100

**DR. Maura  
McKeown  
AND ASSOCIATES**



**Family Dentistry**  
New Patients Always Welcome!  
519-787-0024  
reception@drmauramckeown.ca  
www.drmauramckeown.ca

**Total Room Solutions For The Lifestyle You Deserve!**  
superior quality | exceptional value | comfort & style | great selection | reliable service



**Free Layaway!  
Free Delivery!  
Free Set-Up!  
Free Removal!**

**John Thomson & Son Furniture Ltd.**  
157 St. Andrew St. W., Fergus  
Phone: 519-843-1502  
Hours: Mon, Tues, Wed & Sat: 12-7  
Thurs & Fri: 12-8; Sun: By Appt.

www.johnthomsonfurniture.com