

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



The Battle of Milvian Bridge was fought between Roman Emperors Constantine I and Maxentius in AD 312. On the evening of October 27, with the armies preparing for battle, Constantine had a vision. A most marvellous sign appeared to him from heaven. The famous sign in the sky was a cross of light, with the inscription, 'Conquer By This.' At this sight he himself was struck with amazement, and his whole army also, which followed him on this expedition, and witnessed the miracle. Constantine placed the sign of the cross on the shields of his soldiers, and proceeded to battle, and his troops stood to arms. Maxentius was defeated in the battle, and Constantine was acknowledged as emperor by the senate and people of Rome. Constantine's victory brought relief to the Christians by ending persecution. 300 years before Constantine, God's sign appeared on the sky as a luminous star. It announced the Good News that a Saviour was born to free humanity from the clutches of evil. This sign was read by the wise men from the East. It led the wise men to Bethlehem and by God's grace, we know the rest of the story.

Like the wise men from the East, let us offer Jesus our gifts on this Feast of the Epiphany. Let us offer Jesus our gift of friendship with God in the form of wholehearted love and devotion; let us offer Jesus our gift of friendship with others by leading them to Jesus by our exemplary lives of Christian charity in action; let us offer Jesus our gift of reconciliation with God by daily asking God's pardon and forgiveness for our sins and giving unconditional forgiveness to those who offend us; let us offer Jesus our gift of peace by seeking God's peace in our own lives through prayer, the Sacramental life and daily meditation on the Word of God. A Blessed and Healthy 2024 to one and all

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

"Christ [is] the light at the heart of every kind of darkness." ~ Blessed John Cardinal Newman



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, January 9, 2024

7:00pm **Intentions of John Sytsma and Family** – Jean and John Paul

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

8:30am **Manuel Fagundes** – Maria Nunes

2:00pm **Caressant Care Mass**

Thursday, January 11, 2024

8:30am **Intentions of Diane Whelan** – Patrick & Carolynne O'Neil

Friday, January 12, 2024

8:30am **Souls in Purgatory**

Saturday, January 13, 2024

5:00pm **Dina Janssen** – Jane Thatcher

Intentions of Doug & Rosemary Blinkiron

Mike Dignard – Brigitte Quinke

Eldon Richard – Mary Epoch

Sunday, January 14, 2024

9:00am **Intentions of the Parish**

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

Epiphany of the Lord - January 7, 2024

The Son of God was first manifested to the world through the visit of the magi. Today, God's Son is brought into the world and is present to the world through His Church. If you think that God is calling you to be a priest, religious, or permanent deacon, call **Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988.**

email vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

Parish Offerings

Your contributions for the weekends of December 17, 24, 31 and January 7 will appear in next weekend's bulletin.

LAUGHTER GOOD FOR THE SOUL

A Jesuit, a Dominican, and a Franciscan were walking along an old road, debating the greatness of their orders. Suddenly, an apparition of the Holy Family appeared in front of them, with Jesus in a manger and Mary and Joseph praying over him. The Franciscan fell on his face, overcome with awe at the sight of God born in such poverty. The Dominican fell to his knees, adoring the beautiful reflection of the Trinity and the Holy Family. The Jesuit walked up to Joseph, put his arm around his shoulder, and said, "So, have you thought about where to send him to school?"

**TELL ALL SOULS ABOUT MY MERCY
Divine Mercy PowerPoint Presentation
By Nestor Buendia**

Divine Mercy Apostolate of Canada

“A great treasury of revelations, teachings, insights and prayers of the Devotion to the Divine Mercy”

At The Basilica of our Lady Immaculate, Guelph
On January 13, 2024, 9am to 3pm

RSVP not required

Please bring your own lunch

Please see the agenda for the Presentation
attached to this bulletin!

2024 Confirmation Parent & Candidate Meeting

Grade seven students and their parents are asked to attend an important meeting on **January 18, 2024** in St. Joseph Church at 7pm. Please mark this date in your calendars.

Adult Faith Formation Through VLCFF

The Diocese of Hamilton is proud to partner with Dayton University’s Virtual Learning Community for Adult Faith Formation (VLCFF) to offer certificate programs for ministry and enrichment for adult faith formation. Three and five week e-seminars are available at a discounted rate for all adults in the Diocese looking to further their learning. For more information about our programs, and how to register, visit us at www.hamiltondioceselearns.com

Sunday Of The Word Of God

The Third Sunday of Ordinary Time (January 21, 2024) marks the celebration of Bible Sunday in the Diocese of Hamilton. At the conclusion of the Year of Mercy, Pope Francis encouraged every Christian community to choose one Sunday a year to renew its efforts to make the Sacred Scriptures better known and widely diffused.

Our celebration of Bible Sunday is a call to listen to how #TheBibleSpeaks in our hearts and within our communities of faith. The Pastoral Offices of the Diocese of Hamilton have prepared a wide variety of resources for youth and adults in celebration of Bible Sunday 2024. Visit our website:

<https://hamiltondiocese.com/thebiblespeaks/>.

Want to Order A Bible?

The Diocese of Hamilton is currently taking orders for a **NRSV Green Soft Cover Bible** for \$17.50 or **The Catholic Family Connections Bible** for \$22.00. If you are interested in ordering one of these bibles, please pick up an order form in the Narthex and return to the Church Office along with your payment.

Smart Steps

Are you a parent or stepparent adjusting to blended family life? This program is designed to offer practical insights and suggestions on how to make the relationships work well for all. Sessions are held at Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate in Guelph, 28 Norfolk Street. TIME: 9:15AM - 3:30PM. PRICE: \$50 per person (includes lunch). DATE: Saturday, March 9, 2024. Register on line at hamiltondiocese.com and look under Upcoming Events. For more information, contact the Family Ministry Office at 905-528-7988 ext. 2249.

**The Pastoral Parish
In The Modern World**

The Office for Evangelization and Catechesis is happy to offer a three-workshop series entitled, *The Pastoral Parish in the Modern World*. This new handbook created by David Wells and Bill Huebsch provides a comprehensive outline of the new vocabulary of pastoral ministry, and how to enact it in your local setting. This workshop series is designed for anyone who is working or volunteering in parish life including pastoral teams, parish councils, and youth ministry leaders. Registration for this workshop series is now OPEN. You can register here: <https://bit.ly/pastoralparish>

The Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass

Are you celebrating your 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th, or 60+ Wedding Anniversary in the year 2024? If you are, you are cordially invited to join couples from across the Diocese of Hamilton for a Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, May 26, 2024 at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King in Hamilton at 1:30 pm. (Space allows room for Anniversary couples only - those married 60 years or more may bring one guest if you require assistance). Registration is now available online at hamiltondiocese.com.

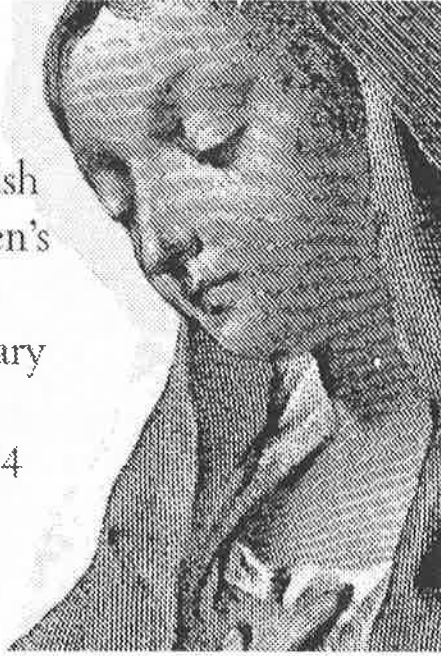
Upcoming Parish Events

January 7	Knights of Columbus Charity Breakfast
January 8	CWL Executive Meeting 10am
January 9	Knights of Columbus Exec. Meeting after 7pm Mass
January 18	Confirmation Parent & Candidate Meeting, St. Joseph 7pm
January 20 & 21	Bible Sunday
January 23	Knights of Columbus General Meeting after 7pm Mass
February 3	Baptismal Prep Class 9am to 11am
February 4	Knights of Columbus Charity Breakfast

St. Joseph's Parish Catholic Women's League News - January 2024

St. Joseph's Parish
Catholic Women's
League
100th Anniversary

March 14, 2024



This year is a very special year for St. Joseph's Parish, as the Catholic Women's League celebrates its 100th anniversary!

On this first weekend of January, we invite all ladies to consider joining the CWL. If you are already a member, please reach out to someone to join!

Contact a member listed below if you have questions or would like more information:

Sue Beatty (President) - sbeatty14@gmail.com

Judy Daniel (Past President) judy.h.daniel@gmail.com

Pat Rivett-Kitras (Vice President) 123fmoonflower123@gmail.com

Sherie Bowen (Secretary) psbowen@wightman.ca

Joanne Gregson (Treasurer) ferguscwl901@gmail.com

Rose Anne Sander (Co-chair of Faith) wrs.sander@gmail.com

Lena Nudds (Co-chair of Faith) lenanud74@gmail.com

Barbara Cassidy (Chairperson of Service) barbara.cassidy112373@gmail.com

Possible Catholic Women's League Initiatives and Activities

Promoting our Spiritual Development

Some ways in which we may help members deepen their faith through the League:

- Introduce members to a variety of forms of prayer, organize retreats, host evenings of reflection, develop spiritual programs, etc.
- Uphold sanctity of life through prayer, and service and social justice initiatives that the council is focusing on.
- Study Catholic teachings, especially those related to service and social justice initiatives that the council is focusing on.

St. Joseph's Parish Catholic Women's League News - January 2024

- Develop awareness of the role of laity in the church.
- Support and encourage participation in Catholic religious education programs for children, lay ministries, sacramental preparation programs, Rite of Christian Initiation programs, etc.
- Support Catholic education, where available.
- Support vocations (singlehood, marriage, priesthood, women religious, formation programs, youth ministries).
- Encourage engagement in ecumenical and interfaith endeavours (Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, World Day of Prayer).
- Organize/support a variety of faith services in parish (Way of the Cross, Advent retreat evening, living rosary, choir, etc.).

Service to Our Parish and Community

Some ways in which we may engage in service:

- Host events in support of the parish (communion breakfasts, clergy appreciation lunches, senior evenings, funeral receptions).
- Support/host/participate in events in service of the community (serving at food banks or soup kitchens, collecting winter clothing for shelters, visiting shut-ins, etc.).
- Support national or international initiatives by, for example, sponsoring a person through an organization such as Chalice, participating in events held by groups such as Development and Peace, etc.
- Develop/support services to help in the areas of homelessness, human trafficking, poverty, bullying, racism, etc.
- Educate members about charitable needs in local, national and international communities through guest speakers.
- Organize fundraisers for council initiatives.

Deepen Our Commitment to Social Justice

Some ways in which we may deepen our commitment to social justice:

- Encourage participation in activities that uphold the life and dignity of the human person. • Advocate for the complete inclusion in society and the church of the poor, vulnerable and marginalized.
- Advocate for the development of support services in the community.
- Promote stewardship for God's creation. • Initiate/participate in letter-writing campaigns to politicians on adopted League resolutions.
- Request to be placed on the email/ mailing lists of local, provincial and federal government representatives.
- Advocate for the dignity of work and the rights of workers.
- Recognize and uphold the principle that with rights come responsibilities.
- Encourage members to promote peace in parishes, communities, nationally and globally.
- Educate members about relevant social justice issues through guest speaker presentations.
- Study and implement the action plans of related adopted resolutions.
- Consider initiating a resolution on a topic of interest to the council (see Resolutions Handbook).
- Monitor legislation of social justice topics at various levels to keep abreast of ongoing changes in legislation.

Sew What?!



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



HARVEY'S
It's a beautiful thing.



**SWISS
HALET**



**Fergus
Fireplace**
WOOD & GAS 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


SorbaraLAW
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