

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 discipline of Lent is once again upon us. St. Paul, in today's first letter to the Corinthians, reminds us: "*Do everything for the glory of God.*" (1 Corinthians 10:31)

Yes, Ash Wednesday is a very acceptable time to "*do everything for the glory of God.*" It is an acceptable time to hear again the solemn reminder that 'we are dust and unto dust we shall return'—that we will pass from this earthly life and our bodies and all our earthly possessions will become nothing more than a little bit of dust. Pope Francis reminds us that death "is a fact that affects everyone." It is the absolute and certain fate of all of us who dwell upon the earth.

Yes, Ash Wednesday is a very acceptable time to "*do everything for the glory of God*" and remind us to begin another forty-day journey to care for and develop the spiritual part of us that will not turn to dust—our souls. Daily spiritual reading, scripture study, Stations of the Cross, meditations, praying the Rosary, using the *Word Among us* Lenten devotional or participating more fully and more often at Mass are all good projects to consider. Perhaps it will mean returning to the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) after many months or even years. Maybe we have tried some of these tools and devotions without too much success in the past and feel discouraged. Yet, we need to try again, confident that by God's grace we will be victorious this time. Once again Pope Francis encourages us, "It is good to know the Lord takes on the burden of our fragilities and patiently gets us back on our feet with the strength to start over." Yes, Lent is a very acceptable time to "*do everything for the glory of God*" and renew our spiritual life.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: "Lent is a fitting time for self-denial; we would do well to ask ourselves what we can give up in order to help and enrich others by our own poverty." ~ Pope Francis

LAUGHTER GOOD FOR THE SOUL: A man is struck by a bus. Seriously injured, he gasps to on-lookers, "A priest. Somebody get me a priest!" A police officer checks the crowd--no priest, no nun, no Eucharistic minister or person of the cloth of any kind. "Please, any words of the church," the injured man cries. Out of the crowd steps a shabby old man. He says he's not Catholic, but he's slept behind Sacred Heart Church forty years and has heard the words of the priests so many times they are etched in his memory. Desperate, the injured man nods. The elderly homeless man kneels by him and solemnly intones, "B-9...I-19...N-38...G-54...O-69!"



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, February 13, 2024

7:00pm Intentions of Jack & Maria Nunes

Wednesday, February 14, 2024 **ASH WEDNESDAY**

8:30am Jacob Cornelisse – The Cornelisse Family

9:20am St. Joseph School Mass

7:00pm Joanne Myers – Bob & Molly Myers

Thursday, February 15, 2024

8:30am Mary Epoch

Friday, February 16, 2024

8:30am Anita Onyskiw – Robin Rogers

Saturday, February 17, 2024

5:00pm Sharon O'Shea – Peter & Carol Landoni

Steve Martin – Rose Wilke

Frances Kutcher – Mary Epoch

Grant Giesel – Ann Giesel

Sunday, February 18, 2024

9:00am Nancy Azzoparde – Jane Thatcher

11:00am Intentions of the Parish

Parish Offerings

Your contributions for February 3 & 4, 2024:

Regular Offerings	\$2,504.10
Initial Offerings	\$ 36.50
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 21.10
Seminary Appeal	\$1,525.00
Building Fund	\$ 365.00

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time - February 11, 2024

Today's Gospel says that "Jesus was moved with pity when He saw a leper". Are you moved with love and compassion when you see the outcasts of today's society? Today, Jesus continues to call forward men and women to minister as he did. If you think 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**

Stations of the Cross

Just a reminder that Lent begins, parishioners will have two opportunities weekly to participate in the Stations of the Cross until the end of Lent:

CWL Stations of the Cross – Mary's Way will begin Friday, February 16th at 2:00pm

Parish Stations of the Cross – will begin on Wednesday, February 21st at 7:00pm

St. Mary Immaculate Church, Elora
The Meaning of the Ceremonies of the Mass

On the first four Sundays of Lent (Feb. 18 & 25, Mar. 3 & 10), Fr. Hayden Starczala will give an explanation of the meaning of the ceremonies of the Mass. Each of the talks in this series will start at 2:00 PM. No registration required. No cost to participate. All are welcome. Bring a friend!

The Fine Art Of Being Happily Married

In his poem, *The Art of Marriage*, Wilfred A. Peterson writes, "A good marriage must be created" and creating something requires time and attention. We invite you to take the time, with your spouse, to find new and creative ways to increase your connection with each other, to discover fresh techniques for being in relationship and to deepen the love you already share. Join us on Saturday, May 4th from 9:30 – 3:00 pm at the Mount Mary Retreat Center in Ancaster. Cost is \$50 per couple and includes lunch. To register on the website go to hamiltondiocese.com and look under Upcoming Events, or contact Sarah at 905-528-7988 ext. 2249.



40 Days for Life is an annual event committed to ending the scourge of abortion through prayerful, peaceful, lawful vigils demonstrating truth, love and compassion. St. Mary Immaculate, Elora, is attempting to fill all of February 16's time slots with their and our parishioners. If you are interested in joining them, please contact Danielle Dawkins at danielle121217@hotmail.com. Their goal is to have at least two people in each slot for safety reasons. The vigil location is on the city sidewalk in front of the Guelph Cenotaph (across from Guelph CHC), Woolwich St & Eramosa Rd. Please use only the city sidewalk during the vigil. Please do not stand on the Guelph Cenotaph. Sign pickup available at Guelph and Area Right to Life at 26 Norfolk St., Guelph. Parking is available at the Basilica of Our Lady – approximately an 11-minute walk to the vigil site. If you are not available February 16th, please visit 40daysforlife.com/guelph for other times available as the entire event runs Feb. 14 to March 28.

On Tuesday, February 13 you are invited to join local pastors and church community members for a Candle Light Prayer Vigil to recognize the start of the vigil in Guelph. All are welcome.

First Communion
Registration Deadline

A reminder to parents that the deadline to register your child for First Communion in 2024 is February 18th. Please ensure forms are received at the Church office by that date to avoid disappointment

Parenting Tip Of The Month

Children love Valentine's Day because of the exchange of cards and little parties at school. It is a great time to talk to them about what real love is: giving, receiving, caring, thinking of the other before self and putting others needs above your own. Your children will develop deeper and healthier relationships with this understanding. They will especially know what to look for when they grow up and find someone to love in their future. Do not forget to remind them that God loves them completely and unconditionally, so they can and should pray and talk to him about their life anytime. (From: Teresa Hartnett, Family Ministry Office; 905-528-7988 ext. 2250)

Marriage Tip Of The Month

The month of February, known as the month of love, can sometimes create unrealistic expectations for couples. "Real" love supports their spouse when they have had a bad day, creates ways to spend time together, offers help without asking and is self-giving, not self-receiving. This month, take the time to look for ways to support the one you love and you will experience a deeper, more connected relationship. (From: Teresa Hartnett, Family Ministry Office, 905-528-7988 ext. 2250)

Upcoming Parish Events

February 11	CWL General Meeting, Noon
February 13	Knights of Columbus Pancake Supper 5-6:30pm
February 14	Ash Wednesday – Mass at 8:30am, St. Joseph School 9:20am, and 7:00pm
February 18	Deadline for First Communion and Confirmation Registration Forms
February 19	Family Day – Office Closed
February 21	St. Vincent de Paul Meeting 4pm
February 27	Knights of Columbus General Meeting
February 28	St. Vincent de Paul Meeting 4pm





BISHOP OF HAMILTON

LENTEN MESSAGE 2024

February 1, 2024

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Lent is upon us – a time to strengthen our relationship with Jesus Christ and seek inner transformation through fasting, prayer, and acts of generosity. The Church assists us by providing many supports. Throughout Lent we are invited to participate in community *celebration of the Holy Eucharist* – on Sundays and at daily Mass during the week. Reading and reflecting on *the Scripture passages of the day* is an excellent practice, as is *any reading* that guides you closer to the Lord.

Throughout Lent, the *Sacrament of Reconciliation* is offered in your Parishes. If you are unable to find a convenient time, contact your Parish Priest who will be happy to find a time suited to your schedule. Most Parishes pray the *Stations of the Cross* as a faith community. Or you can pray them privately at your Parish church. The *Holy Rosary* is always a prayer that promotes inner peace and closeness to the Lord.

The *Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace / Caritas Canada* provides a variety of ways to offer “alms” to brothers and sisters in need through the *Share Lent campaign*. *Create Hope* is the central theme of this campaign for the coming five years. The specific theme this year is *Reaping our Rights*, echoing Pope Francis’ recent reflections in *Laudate Deum*, “Everything is connected” and “no one is saved alone”! We are invited to uphold the rights of peasants, human rights, and environmental rights, ensuring respect for all.

The Cross traced on our forehead on Ash Wednesday reminds us that “*we are going to die*”! If we know we are going to die, we must decide “*how we choose to live*”! On Easter Sunday we renew our Baptismal Promises and are sprinkled with Easter water – washing away the ashes, and renewing the assurances of our faith! We choose to live by faith in Jesus Christ – who saves us and lifts us up!

We enter the Lenten Fast committed to make a difference in our own lives, in the lives of those we love, and in the lives of brothers and sisters in the Global South. Please be generous on *Solidarity Sunday*, March 17, 2024 – the Fifth Sunday of Lent. May God bless us all as we begin this sacred journey.

Sincerely in Christ and Mary Immaculate,

+Douglas Crosby, OMI

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

/cd

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



Celebrating 100 Years of the Catholic Women's League at St. Joseph's Parish, Fergus

A century of faith, service and social justice

The formation of the Catholic Women's League at St. Joseph's Parish began as early as 1908 according to Mrs. James B. Coffey, a lifetime member of St. Joseph's Parish. A great deal of discussion was held at first, after Church, then in each other's homes. Finally in 1911 the first Catholic Women's League meeting was held and a president and executive were elected. It was held in the home of Mrs. White. It was not an official organization until much later, but the women of the Parish were at least organized and did many charitable acts for their Pastor, their Church and their community. Books were not kept at first, thus without the remarkable memories of Mrs. Maizie Coffey and Mrs. Marie Sullivan, none of these details would be known. St. Joseph's Catholic Women's League formally became sub-division #141 in 1924.

March 14, 2024 - 100th Anniversary of the Catholic Women's League Celebration - 5:00 Mass - Main Celebrant: Bishop Crosby 6:00 Dinner Tickets are \$35 per person and are on sale after the Masses until February 28th.



February 22, 2024 is National Human Trafficking Awareness Day

Come and listen to Luisa Krause, from Elora House on Sunday, February 11, 2024 in our Parish Hall at 12:00. She will share information about human trafficking and their mission at Elora House. Light Lunch

March 1, 2024 - World Day of Prayer will be celebrated at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Fergus (325 George St. W.) at 2:00pm. Members of our Catholic Women's League will be participating in this global ecumenical movement that brings Christians of many traditions together to observe a



common day of prayer each year. A different participating country writes the service each year. This year's service has been prepared by the WDP Committee of Palestine.

Please join the CWL for the WDP service. Light refreshments will be provided. One of our members is making Palestinian cookies!

"I beg you....bear with one another in love."
Ephesians 4:1-3

More information:

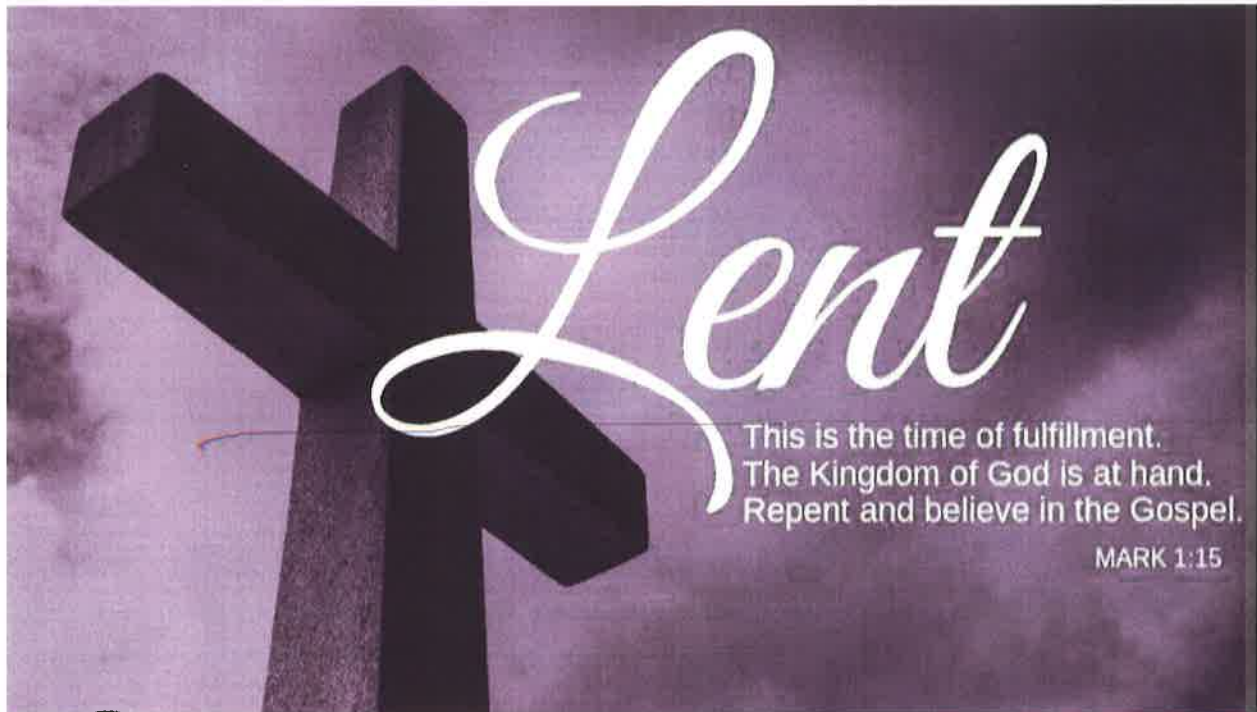
gwicc.org/world-day-of-prayer-2024-service-videos/

Annual CWL Membership Fee

Thank-you to members who have already submitted their fee of \$38 for your 2024 membership! We would encourage those members who have not yet paid, to please submit the fee as soon as possible. Thank-you for your support!

Service Opportunities - Can you help?

- We are in need of volunteers to coordinate the Silent Auction at the Fall Bazaar. Assistance will be provided. Contact Joanne at ferguscwl901@gmail.com
- We need an assistant for a PD day camp on Friday, April 19th 8:30am-4pm Contact Sue at sbeatty14@gmail.com
- Would you be interested in making Easter cards with a group of ladies? Cards would be given to seniors. Contact Joanne at ferguscwl901@gmail.com
- Are you able to help clean-up after the 100th Anniversary celebration dinner on March 14th? Contact Lena at lenanud74@gmail.com or 519-546-0390



Stations of the Cross - Mary's Way - Beginning Friday, February 16 at 2pm in the Church. All parishioners are welcome!

THE 104th ANNUAL CWL HAMILTON DIOCESAN CONVENTION - MAY 25/26
At DoubleTree by Hilton, 30 Fairway Road South in Kitchener



Hamilton Diocesan Council
of
The Catholic Women's League of Canada



*Here I am Lord, send me
Go Make A Difference!
Sharing His Promise, Love and Hope!*

My Dear Sisters in the League,

On behalf of Hamilton Diocesan Officers, it is my pleasure to invite you to the 104th Annual Hamilton Diocesan Convention of The Catholic Women's League of Canada at DoubleTree by Hilton, 30 Fairway Road South, Kitchener ON N2A 2N2. **The convention begins on Saturday May 25, 2024 to Sunday May 26, 2024.**

Your Diocesan Officers, Regional Executive, Convention Chairwomen Ana Sousa and Joan Schurter, Convention Registrar Joanne Gregson, will welcome you with open arms to this exciting convention. We will be celebrating 104 years of League sisterhood and service to God and Canada!

Some highlights and incentives to entice you to attend:

- **Each member who attends will receive an opportunity to win a "League Promotion" gift package!**
- Provincial representative will present a **workshop on "Goal Setting under the Three Pillars of Faith, Service & Social Justice"**
- Diocesan Resolutions Chair, Mary Helwig-Hall, will give a presentation at the "Resolutions Dialogue"
- Special Prayers throughout the convention including May Crowning and vigil prayer service Saturday evening
- **Keynote Speakers of Linda Staudt and National President, Shari Gulnta**
- entertainment Saturday evening
- Instructed Voting on Diocesan Elections
- Saturday evening banquet and presentation of special League Awards

And so much more!

On Saturday, the Opening Eucharistic celebration at 11:00 am with celebrant Diocesan Spiritual Advisor Father Ranjan D'Sa and host council St. Michael Council, Waterloo.

Our Sunday Closing Mass with **celebrant His Excellency Auxiliary Bishop Wayne Lobsinger, VG, EV** will be held at 3:00 pm at the St. Aloysius, 11 Traynor Ave., Kitchener ON N2C 1W1. An installation ceremony of the elected Diocesan Officers will be celebrated.

For more information and registration forms please see the Spectrum Newsletter that was sent out by email to members or contact Joanne at ferguscwl901@gmail.com

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