

# St. Joseph's Parish

760 St. David Street North, Fergus, Ontario N1M 2K9  
Tel: 519-843-2006 Email: [stjosephfergus@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:stjosephfergus@hamiltondiocese.com)  
Web Page: [www.stjosephfergus.org](http://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

After a discussion about family celebrations, the teacher notices one of his preschool students raising her had into the air. With a serious tone of voice, she said: "My family believes in a special time of year called Lent. You know that fuzzy stuff in your dryer."

So, what is Lent for you? Is it that fuzzy, unclear, or merely routine thing we do every year? I hope not! Lent is a graced opportunity to get our life centered on what really matters most. Lent is a graced opportunity to get our act together. We are so easily sidetracked. If we improve just one area in our life, even a small one, we would be well on the road to a better life, here and beyond.

*The New York Times* once told of a young lady who was in New York's Grand Central Station on her way to visit a friend in Connecticut. She had never taken the trip before and was wondering if she needed to switch trains in Stamford. Heading to the train she spotted a conductor and asked, "Do I need to change?" "No," the conductor replied. "You're fine just the way you are. Your bags match, your shoes and earrings are the same colour as your outfit. Very coordinated."

If we really think about it, we do not like change. We are at home with our old habits, our old routines, and our old lifestyle. We protect them and resist the new and different. We convince ourselves that we are just fine, we know of others who are in worse shape than us. After all, we have gone this far in life and have managed, so why bother to change now?

Unfortunately, we have made peace with our weaknesses, our shortcomings, our sins. The effort needed to change seems overwhelming. We may have tried to change with little or no results. Even if we succeeded, we soon fell back to our old ways. Before too long, we give up and try to convince ourselves that we are as good as we can be.

The discipline of Lent tells us that will not do. God challenges us to change, not merely externally, but internally—in our hearts. Today, let us begin in earnest. By God's grace, we can become a better version of ourselves. Let us take one step. Let us work on one area or one bad habit. We will be surprised what we can do with God's grace.

**FOOD FOR THOUGHT:** "Only in the silence of prayer can you learn to listen to the voice of God." ~ Pope Francis



### 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 20, 2024

7:00pm **Steve Martin** – Mary Epoch  
**Michael Kenny** – The Reidy Family

#### Wednesday, February 21, 2024

8:30am **The Sick and Homebound of our Parish**

7:00pm **Stations of the Cross**

#### Thursday, February 22, 2024

8:30am **Souls in Purgatory**

#### Friday, February 23, 2024

8:30am **Intentions of Fr. Robert Héту** – The Parish

2:00pm **CWL Stations of the Cross – Mary's Way**

#### Saturday, February 24, 2024

5:00pm **Stasia Brohman** – The Family

#### Sunday, February 25, 2024

9:00am **Intentions of Dolores Schmidt** – Tove Schmidt

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

#### Parish Offerings

#### **Your contributions for February 10 & 11, 2024:**

Regular Offerings	\$1,669.00
Seminary Appeal	\$ 20.00

#### First Sunday of Lent - February 18, 2024

Lent: the springtime of the soul...is a time to make a new covenant with God, develop new signs of our relationship with our Creator. Go into your own desert and discover what God is asking of you. If you think God could be 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](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com)

**LAUGHTER GOOD FOR THE SOUL:** Jamie, "God, how long is a million years to you?" God, "It is but a second Jamie." Jamie, "God, how much is a million dollars to you?" God, "It is but a nickel to me." Jamie, "God can I have a nickel?" God, "Just a second Jamie!"



### Stations of the Cross

The Catholic Women's League WELCOME ALL PARISHIONERS as we walk the STATIONS MARY'S WAY OF THE CROSS on Fridays @ 2pm beginning Feb. 16 continuing through Lent to March 22.

You are also invited to join fellow parishioners for Stations of the Cross which will begin on Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00pm and will continue throughout Lent, ending March 27.

### 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!

### Handmade Easter Cards for the Shut-ins

The CWL is interested in getting together to make handmade Easter Cards to distribute shut-ins in the parish. If you would be interested in joining them, please call Joanne Gregson at 519-843-4489 or email [ferguscwl901@gmail.com](mailto:ferguscwl901@gmail.com). Joanne will contact you with more details.



### Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada 2024 World Day of Prayer

The WICC Annual World Day of Prayer will take place on Friday, March 1, 2024 at 2pm and will be hosted locally by St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church at 325 St. George St. East, Fergus. This year's service has been prepared by the World Day of Prayer Committee of Palestine. Everyone is welcome. For more information, contact St. Andrew's Church at 519-843-3565 or Judy Daniel of our Parish at [judy.h.daniel@gmail.com](mailto:judy.h.daniel@gmail.com)

### Become Equipped to Engage in Meaningful and Compassionate Dialogue about Abortion!

Gain skills and confidence to navigate your way through tough conversations so that when under pressure and opposition you can defend life without compromise. This session will be an *introduction* to abortion dialogue and will be offered in a small group setting with opportunity to ask questions and engage in practice conversations. Free to attend! Let us know you will be participating no later than Monday, February 26 at noon.

#### Dialogue Training: Abortion

Date: Monday, February 26, 2024

Time: 7 - 8 pm

Location: GARTL office - 26 Norfolk St, Guelph

Open to all adults and teens in grade 9 and up!

### Guelph & Area Right to Life Annual General Meeting

This year's AGM will be held in person and online via video conference. We encourage all members to be a part! Planning to attend? **RSVP by Friday, March 15th.**

Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Time: 7 pm

Location: GARTL office - 26 Norfolk St, Guelph  
Doors open at 6:40 pm. Light refreshments provided

If you are joining online a meeting link will be sent out closer to the date.

To renew your membership, or to become a member, visit [guelphforlife.com/getinvolved](http://guelphforlife.com/getinvolved) or contact us at 519-836-6311.

### Upcoming Parish Events

February 19	Family Day – Office Closed
February 20	Knights of Columbus General Meeting
February 21	St. Vincent de Paul Meeting 4pm
February 21	Stations of the Cross, 7pm
February 23	CWL Station of the Cross-Mary's Way 2pm
February 28	Stations of the Cross, 7pm
March 1	CWL Stations of the Cross
March 1	WICC World Day of Prayer
March 3	Knights of Columbus Charity Breakfast
March 6	Stations of the Cross, 7pm
March 8	CWL Stations of the Cross 2pm
March 14	CWL 100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass with Bishop Crosby, 5pm followed by Dinner. Tickets on sale after weekend Masses

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