

# 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



Danish theologian and philosopher Søren Kierkegaard once told a story about a circus that caught fire. The flames from the circus fire spread to the fields surrounding the circus grounds and began to burn toward the village below. The circus master convinced that the village would be destroyed, and the people killed unless they were warned, asked if there was anybody who could go to the village and warn the people. The clown, dressed in full costume, jumped on a bicycle, and sped down the hill to the village below.

"Run for your lives! Run for your lives! A fire is coming, and the village is going to burn!" he shouted as he rode up and down the streets of the village. "The village is going to burn! Run for your lives!" Curious, the villagers came out of their houses and shops and stood along the sidewalks. They shouted back to the clown, laughing and applauding his performance. The more desperately the clown shouted, the more the villagers cheered. The village burned to the ground and the loss of life was great because no one took the clown seriously. After all, he was just a clown! From Soren Kierkegaard, *Parables of Kierkegaard* (Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press 1978.)

It's startling the amount of influence we do not have when we look like clowns and do not live like Jesus and when we do not live our faith. We are startled when our faith is challenged or when it comes under attack, even though Jesus said this would be normal for Christians who truly lived their faith. However, the most startling thing of all is that this startling Saviour, Jesus, still reaches out in startling encounters and changes people's lives. Perhaps in the future, on a Cursillo Weekend, Jesus might reach out in startling encounter and change your life. It is never too late to take a 'short course in Christianity.' Next Men's Weekend April 25-28. Next Women's Weekend May 30-31/June 1-2.

Let us not be clowns, but faith filled 'fools for Christ!'

**FOOD FOR THOUGHT:** "Faith is not belief without proof, but trust without reservation." ~ D. Elton Trueblood



## 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, April 16, 2024

7:00pm Eldon Richard – Hilda Richard

### Wednesday, April 17, 2024

8:30am Barbara Perez – Pat Ogden

### Thursday, April 18, 2024

8:30am Zilda, Avila and Thomas

### Friday, April 19, 2024

8:30am Sharon O'Shea – The Reidy Family

### Saturday, April 20, 2024

5:00pm Mary KleinGebbinck – Joanne & Wayne Gregson

Stacey Leith – Mary Epoch

Intentions of St. Joseph Choir – CWL

Josef Krekel – Elisabeth Krekel

### Sunday, April 21, 2024

First Communion

9:00am Intentions of the St. Joseph Choir – CWL

11:00am Intentions of the Parish

## Third Sunday of Easter - April 14, 2024

What could convince someone to turn to God? The story that God became human? The story that Jesus cured the sick? The story that Jesus forgave sin? The story that Jesus rose from the dead? Or, perhaps, the story of the witness of your own life! If you have the continuing inclination that God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, call **Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988. Emailvocations@hamiltondiocese.com**

## Parish Offerings

### Your contributions for April 6 & 7, 2024:

Regular Offerings	\$ 1,685.75
Initial Offering	\$ 10.00
Easter Offering	\$ 195.00
Needs of the Canadian Church	\$ 5.00
Building Fund	\$ 70.00

**LAUGHTER GOOD FOR THE SOUL:** For the umpteenth time Mrs. Lightstone came to her pastor to tell him, "I'm so scared! Joe says he's going to kill me if I continue to come to your church." "Yes, yes, my child," replied the pastor, more than a little tired of hearing this over and over. "I will continue to pray for you, Mrs. Lightstone. Have faith - the Lord will watch over you." "Oh yes, he has kept me safe thus far, only..." "Only what, my child?" "Well, now he says if I keep coming to your church, he's going to kill YOU!" "Well, now," said the pastor, "Perhaps, it's time to check out that little church on the other side of town."

### Parish Financial Report

Enclosed with this weekend's bulletin you will find a copy of the Parish's 2023 Financial Statements. Should you have any questions, please let us know.

### HELP – Gardeners Needed

Unfortunately, the time has come for our trusted gardening volunteers to retire, and the Church beds are in need of some immediate attention. If you would be able to offer some help in tidying up the beds (weeding, trimming, etc. – no heavy lifting) please contact the Church office at 519-843-2006.

### Mothers, Daughters and Friends Tea - Saturday, May 11 - 1:00pm

All ladies and girls are welcome to join in on a fun tea party hosted by the Catholic Women's League in the Parish Hall. Enjoy sandwiches, salad, sweet treats, tea and lemonade, games, prizes, and live music! Tickets (\$10 each, \$5 for girls under 12 years old) are available after Masses until May 5th. Please bring a donation for the food bank.

### St. Joseph's Parish CWL Scholarship Award for 2024

Applications for the CWL annual scholarship award are now available in the narthex of the Church for students from our parish entering the first year of studies at an accredited college, trade school or university. See the application for more details. The deadline for applications is June 2, 2024

### Next CWL Gathering April 24 at 7:00pm in the Parish Hall

Thank-you to everyone who responded to our invitation to participate in the "Our Lady of Good Counsel Retreat". Prior to the retreat we will vote on nominees for the diocesan election and the provincial election. More information about this will be sent to members by email. Please ensure that we have your current email address, so as not to miss out on important information.

### Invitation from St. Joseph CWL, Guelph

St. Joseph's CWL would like to invite other league members to join them for the Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel celebration on Friday April 26th. Mass will be at 7pm at St. Joseph's Church, Guelph, followed by a reception in the Parish Hall. Numerous healings and miracles have been attributed to the intercession of Our Lady of Good Counsel. All are welcome.

### 350<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Pilgrimage to Quebec

This year marks the 350<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of the Catholic Church in Canada, with the establishment of the Archdiocese of Quebec. To mark this occasion, a Diocesan pilgrimage has been planned to take place from July 13-17, 2024. It will include a visit to the Cathedral Basilica of Notre Dame in Quebec City, St. Anne de Beaupré, Notre Dame-du-Cap in Trois Rivieres, Notre Dame Basilica, St. Joseph's Oratory in Montreal, and more. The five-day pilgrimage will be lead by Monsignor Murray Kroetsch, Vicar General and Chancellor of the Diocese of the Diocese of Hamilton. Registration deadline is April 30<sup>th</sup>. For more information, contact Matthew Trafford at the Office for Evangelization and Catechesis – Tel 905-528-7988, ext. 2339 or email [catechesis@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:catechesis@hamiltondiocese.com).

### Reel Justice Film Festival April 25

Join us from 7:00 – 9:00 pm. for the screening of **Bigger Than Us**. The films follows youth activist Melati Wijsen as she travels the world to meet other young activists like herself, striving to make the world a better place. Guest speaker Peter Mahfouz from Caritas Lebanon will speak to his work supporting youth initiatives in Lebanon and the strength of young people in supporting their communities. **The screening and discussion will be hosted online via Zoom. Register at: <https://reeljustice.hamiltondiocese.com/>** A partnership between the Bishop Farrell Library & Archives and Development and Peace, the Reel Justice Film Festival shines a spotlight on issues of social, political, and economic injustices.

### Upcoming Parish Events

April 23	Knights of Columbus Executive Meeting 7:30pm
April 24	St. Vincent de Paul Meeting, 4pm
April 24	CWL General Meeting & Mini Retreat with Deacon Trevor Klein 7pm
May 3	St. Joseph School Mass – May Crowning 9:20am
May 5	Knights of Columbus Charity Breakfast
May 8	Caressant Care Mass, 2pm
May 11	Mothers, Daughters and Friends Tea 1pm
May 14	Knights of Columbus Executive Meeting 7:30pm
May 28	Knights of Columbus General Meeting 7:30pm



April 11, 2024

Dear Parishioners:

Attached please find the Financial Report for the Parish for the period ending December 31, 2023.

In addition to the standard report of revenue and expenses, we have also included details on the status of the funds available to the Parish through the One Heart One Soul campaign. As you will recall, at the outset of the campaign the parish had to select projects that the Church would complete with the use of the funds raised for the parish. The selections were:

1. Blinds for St. Joseph Hall;
2. Repaving the Church Parking lot; and
3. Debt repayment - Loan from the Diocese

The final installation of the blinds will take place on April 30<sup>th</sup>. All necessary electrical work has already been completed and was able to be done above the drop ceiling. We are grateful for the work of a dedicated group of parishioners who sat through numerous presentations, collected numerous quotes and helped us select the appropriate supplier. The parking lot cannot be repaved until construction finishes at the school, currently anticipated to be January 2025. Any remaining funds will be used to pay down the building loan from the Diocese.

The Parish has done a great job of paying down the loan to the Diocese, from \$3,387,286.66 to \$1,397,287.98. In an effort to assist our efforts the Bishop has extended a two year period of no interest. We will have to work together in the coming years to maximize the benefit of this generous offer.

Sincerely in Jesus' service,

Fr. Robert Héту  
Pastor  
St. Joseph Church  
Fergus

60 St. David St. North, Fergus, ON N1M 2K9 519-843-2006 email:  
[stjosephfergus@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:stjosephfergus@hamiltondiocese.com)

## St. Joseph (Fergus) Statement of Income and Expenses

As at December 31, 2023

### Revenue

Regular Offers	\$	247,733.01
Building Fund		88,796.38
Gifts in Kind Donations		15,889.52
Income from Weddings and Funerals		3,700.00
Donations from Parish Societies & Outside Organizations		1,564.06
Sale of Religious Articles		370.00
Interest from all Sources		11,388.68
Rental Income		4,950.00
HST Rebates, Insurance Rebates, Recovery of Expenses		25,406.98
Other Authorized Collection (St Mary/St. Joseph Cemetery)		1,480.70
Miscellaneous Revenue, Course Fees, Sale of Books		5,910.28
Revenue from Mass Intentions		<u>6,103.20</u>
	\$	413,292.81
Authorized Diocesan Collections		<u>30,498.20</u>
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u>443,791.01</u></b>

### Expenditures

Church (Regular Utilities, Maintenance, Insurance, etc.)	\$	126,696.75
Rectory (Regular Utilities, Maintenance, Insurance, etc.)		28,201.12
Salaries – Clergy & Laity		122,086.88
Payroll Costs – Clergy & Laity		25,688.29
Sanctuary, Choir, Missals & Hymnals		9,094.92
Office Expenses		16,354.89
Parish Committees & Fellowship Activities		212.66
Retreats, Seminars & Education Costs		7,119.29
Charitable Works of the Parish		5,965.70
Interest Charges, Capital Loss		12,338.87
Cathedraticum Expense		27,250.63
HST/GST Unrefundable Portion		5,216.44
Miscellaneous Expenses		751.14
Masses Intentions Expense		<u>5,280.00</u>
	\$	392,257.58
Authorized Diocesan Collections Paid		<u>30,498.20</u>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u>422,755.78</u></b>

### Revenue Over Expenditures

**\$ 21,035.23**

## Balance Sheet

### Assets

Cash on hand and in Banks	\$ 182,745.28
Other Assets (GST Receivable, Prepaid Expenses, Other AR)	<u>21,058.52</u>
	<u>\$ 203,803.80</u>

### Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$ 7,707.17
Cathedraticum Payable	293,456.50
Loan from Chancery	1,397,287.98
Equity	<u>(1,494,647.85)</u>
	<u>\$ 203,647.85</u>

### One Heart One Soul – St. Joseph Parish (Fergus)

Amount Pledged by St. Joseph Parishioners: \$371,553.00

Pledges paid as of March 15, 2024 \$357,368.00

Funds available to the Parish \$273,763.00 – 16,249.07 = \$257,513.93

For the following projects:

#### **Blinds for the Parish Hall**

This project is well underway. The electrical work has been completed  
And we are awaiting completion of the custom binds and installation.

Cost: 16,249.07 tax included  
(3 quotes were obtained before selecting a supplier)

#### **Repaving Church Parking Lot**

This project cannot effectively be done until construction on the school is complete.

#### **Payment towards loan from the Diocese**

**For building of our new Church**

**TBD**



**Date:** Saturday, April 27

**Time:**

- doors open at 6:30 – come early to check out the loaded prize table!!
- game begins at 7:00

**Who's invited:** young adults in their 20s and 30s

**What to Bring:**

- \$5.00 cash for admission
- snacks and drinks to enjoy and share

**What to Expect:**

- fantastic prizes
- a short intro to Bl Pier Giorgio Frassati, patron of young adults
- GROUP NAME REVEAL along with free associated stuff!

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