

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



In today's Gospel, Jesus declares: "*I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower.*" This declaration of Jesus reminded me of a story about an historical grapevine.

Donald Grey Barnhouse talks about a grapevine in Hampton Court near London that is around 1,000 years old. It has but one root, which is at least two feet thick. Some of the branches are 200 feet long. By virtue of skillful pruning and cutting, the vine produces several tons of grapes each year. Even though some of the smaller branches are some 200 feet from the main stem, they still bear much fruit because they are joined to the vine and the life of the vine flows through them.

If we, as branches, are not bearing much fruit it may be that we are not completely feeding as we ought upon the life-giving flow from "*the true vine.*" We need to abide in Jesus and let Jesus abide in us: All four Gospels teach us how to become a true disciple of Jesus and how to abide in him as a branch abides in the main trunk of "*the true vine,*" drawing our life from it. Personal and liturgical prayers, frequenting of the Sacraments of the Holy Eucharist and Reconciliation, daily meditative reading of the Bible, and the love and forgiveness of others enable us to abide in Jesus, "*the true vine,*" as good fruit-bearing branches.

The great truth that Jesus is trying to tell us is that if we want life in all its fullness, then we must be connected to "*the true vine,*" our very source of life. "*Abide in me as I abide in you,*" Jesus said. We undoubtedly must draw our life from Jesus our "*true vine*" with the loving care our Father the vine-grower and nourished by the life-giving water of the Holy Spirit.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: "Just as food is necessary to the life of the body, so good reading is necessary to the life of the soul." ~ St. John XXIII

LAUGHTER GOOD FOR THE SOUL: A farmer was driving along the road with a load of fertilizer. A little boy, playing in front of his house, saw him and called, "What've you got in your truck, Mr. Farmer?" "Fertilizer," the farmer replied. "What are you going to do with it?" asked the little boy. "Put it on strawberries," answered the farmer. "You ought to live here," the little boy advised him. "We put sugar and cream on ours."



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 30, 2024

7:00pm Intentions of the McCauley Family – John & Jean Paul
Intentions of Ann Reilly

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

8:30am Eldon Richard – Hilda Richard

Thursday, May 2, 2024

8:30am Sharon O'Shea – Fern & Marie Beaudry

Friday, May 3, 2024

8:30am Nancy Haid – Ralph Haid

9:20am St. Joseph School Mass & May Crowning

Saturday, May 4, 2024

5:00pm Chester Buczek – Mac & Gail Brown

Intentions of Ron & Audry Vollick – Don & Barbara Cassidy

Intentions of Claris Isabey – Fern & Marie Beaudry

Sunday, May 5, 2024

9:00am Intentions of those in Hospice and Palliative Care – CWL

11:00am Intentions of the Parish

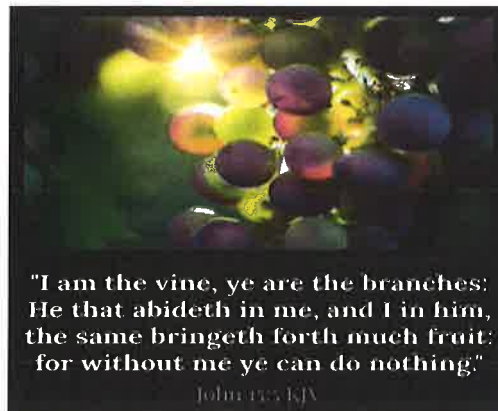
Fifth Sunday of Easter - April 28, 2024

Our second Scripture reading reminds us that we are to love, not in word and speech only, but in truth and action. If 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 or email vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

Parish Offerings

Your contributions for April 20 & 21, 2024:

Regular Offerings	\$2,085.15
Indigenous Reconciliation Fund	\$ 100.00
Building Fund	\$ 140.00
St. Vincent de Paul (April)	\$1,078.10



"I am the vine, ye are the branches:
He that abideth in me, and I in him,
the same bringeth forth much fruit:
for without me ye can do nothing."

John 15:5, 8, 12

Join Us To Pray The Rosary

The CWL will be praying the rosary 20 minutes before the 5:00 p.m. Mass on Tuesdays for the month of May. Please join us in honouring and seeking the intercession of Mary as the Mother of God and Mother of the Church.

Mothers, Daughters and Friends Tea

Saturday, May 11, 2024 at 1:00 hosted by the CWL in the Parish Hall. Tickets are selling quickly! Buy yours soon before they are all gone! Tickets available after Masses.

Our Lady of Good Counsel

The Catholic Women's League of Canada is sponsoring a **Mass in honour of Our Lady of Good Counsel** on Friday, April 26, 2024. Visit <https://dailytvmass.com> for more details.

Religious Articles

Our Parish has Religious Articles for sale in the Parish Narthex. First Communion, Confirmation and Baptism items are available as well as bibles, rosaries, prayer cards, necklaces and many more items. If you do not see something you want Please call Sherie @ 226-203-1653 or email psbowen@wightman.ca.

May 5 - 11, 2024

National Hospice Palliative Care Week

This week celebrates and highlights the incredible work to provide quality palliative care across the country. Palliative Care is a vital healthcare service for Canadians experiencing serious or life-limiting illness, emphasizing the dignity of patients, especially as they near the end of life. It is also an essential alternative to MAID (medical assistance in dying). On Sunday, May 5, the 9:00 a.m. Mass will be offered at the beginning of Hospice Palliative Care Week. We invite all members of the parish to offer one hour of prayer during this week to pray fervently that good palliative care be available to everyone. Your hour of prayer can be in church or in your own home. For more information and prayers that you might find helpful, visit www.cwl.paliativecare

A Note of Thanks

A note of thanks to the donor/donors of the book The Eucharist and the book, Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist. Thank you as well for the copies of the Advent and Lenten Magnificat and the Divine Mercy Novena and Chaplet. Lovely gifts to share with the parishioners of St. Joseph Fergus.

Bake Sale

Our lovely neighbours from St. Mary's Immaculate in Elora invite you to visit their upcoming Bake Sale on Saturday, May 4th from 8am to 12pm. The sale will take place in the Rectory's Garage at 267 Geddes St.

St. Joseph's 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 their 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.

St. Joseph's Parish, Guelph - Fun Family Bingo

Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Council 10631
Date: May 4, 2024

Where: St. Joseph's Parish Hall, Guelph
Information: Hall opens at 6:00 p.m. Bingo starts and doors close at 6:30 p.m. Please arrive early, and bring your own snacks, drinks, and bingo dabbers. Entrance fee is \$3.00. This is a no cash prize bingo, 6 cards per person. Bring your family and friends and join us for an evening of fun!

Basilica of Our Lady Golf Tournament

All golfers welcome! The Basilica of Our Lady annual golf tournament will take place on **Sunday June 2nd** at **Victoria Park Valley Golf Course**.

Cost: \$120.00 for golf and dinner (and prizes)

\$ 35.00 for 'Touch of Italian' meal only

Please contact the Basilica Office (519-824-3951) for tickets and additional details. Single golfers welcome!
Scramble format. 1:00pm tournament start time.

Upcoming Parish Events

April 28	In Honour of Our Lady of Good Counsel at 9am Mass
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 23	55+ Luncheon for men and women, noon
May 28	Knights of Columbus General Meeting 7:30pm

ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH
CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Food Drive

MAY 11-MAY 26

For Centre Wellington Food Bank

Most Needed Items:

Large soup (Chunky, Habitant), small soup (not tomato),, canned tuna, pasta sauce, canned pasta (ravioli, beefaroni), canned tomatoes, peanut butter, baked beans, toiletries such as deodorant, toothpaste, etc.

Thank-you for your generosity!



Mothers, Daughters and Friends Tea - Saturday, May 11, 2024 at 1:00 pm

All ladies and girls are invited to attend this tea party including sandwiches, salad, sweet treats, tea and lemonade! Music, games and prizes will add to the festive occasion! Tickets (\$10 and \$5 for a child under 12) are available after Masses until May 5th or until the event is sold out. **Please bring an item for the food bank!**

55+ Men and Women Free Luncheon - May 23, 2024 at noon in the Parish Hall

Limited spots available. Pick up a free ticket from a CWL member. Please bring an item for the food bank.



55+ MEN AND WOMEN OF
ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH ARE
INVITED TO A

LUNCHEON

*Thursday, May 23, 2024
12:00pm in the Parish Hall*

ALL MEN AND WOMEN (55+) OF THE PARISH
ARE WELCOME!

LUNCH IS PROVIDED BY
STUDENTS FROM ST. JOSEPH'S
CATHOLIC SCHOOL IN HONOUR
OF THE CATHOLIC WOMENS
LEAGUE'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

*Limited spaces available. Pick up a
free ticket to reserve your spot!
Tickets available from CWL members
after Masses*

More Events to Remember:

- May 25/26 - CWL Diocesan Convention at Doubletree by Hilton in Kitchener
- May 31 - deadline for registration for the CWL provincial convention in Sudbury
- June 2 - CWL Scholarship applications due
- The Catholic Women's League of Canada 77th Annual Ontario Provincial Convention July 7 - 10, 2024 at Holiday Inn Sudbury
- **Virtual Access to the 104th Annual National Convention of The Catholic Women's League of Canada** Join in from the comfort of your home to watch the proceedings at the 104th Annual National Convention of The Catholic Women's League of Canada. The \$20.00 cost of registration includes access to all plenary sessions and the annual meeting of members. In addition, you will receive a digital copy of the registration kit once it becomes available.

Save the date: Aug 12, 2024 8:00 AM CST
Register online at cwl.ca

Update on St. Joseph's Parish CWL Donations to Charities

After consulting with our members, the following donations were made:

- Elora House = \$500
- St. Joseph Building Fund = \$1000
- Canadian Food for Children = \$500
- Wellington Pregnancy Centre = \$500
- Right to Life = \$500



WE REMEMBER

Mary KleinGebbinck - Mary fulfilled her sense of adventure when she emigrated from the Netherlands in 1959 to begin a new life in Canada with her husband Ted. Their dream of owning their own dairy farm came true in Fergus in 1963. Mary was an integral part of growing a successful dairy operation. After spending many busy years raising four children, time permitted her to become more involved in community activities like being a member of the St. Joseph CWL and leading Shands 4-H clubs. After retiring from the dairy farm, Ted and Mary started a cash crop business, finally allowing them to travel. Mary was an accomplished 5-pin bowler, dancer and card player, and later on was active in lawn and carpet bowling and shuffleboard. Of all of her activities, what Mary enjoyed the most was being a mother to her four children and spending time with her eight grandchildren. (Excerpt from Obituary Graham Giddy Funeral Home)

May 5 - 11, 2024 is National Hospice Palliative Care Week

The Catholic Women's League at St. Joseph's Parish would like to encourage all members and parishioners to take one hour to pray for palliative care during this week. The hour of prayer can be done at home or in the Church.

Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) Information on Palliative Care (ccc.ca/faith-moral-issues/health-care/palliative-care/)

Palliative Care

As a comprehensive approach to end-of-life challenges, palliative care combines pain management with efforts to attend to a patient's psychological, emotional, social, and spiritual needs. Palliative care also attends to the practical, emotional, and pastoral needs of caregivers, both professional and patient-identified, to ensure they receive proper support as they journey with the patient through his or her illness as well as after the patient's death.

What Palliative Care Is Not

Despite its legalization in Canada and the support it has received among some segments of the population, the Catholic Church, drawing on the deepest sources of its tradition, remains strongly opposed to euthanasia and assisted suicide. While euthanasia and assisted suicide are also referred to as Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD), these are not to be admitted within the definition and practice of palliative care. Likewise, the World Health Organization (WHO) and many secular providers of palliative care in Canada exclude euthanasia and assisted suicide from the definition of palliative care. Palliative care is a means of accompanying someone who is extremely vulnerable and significantly (if not entirely) dependent on others for care. It can be seen as an expression of human solidarity, for we all face moments of vulnerability and dependency in varying degrees from birth to natural death. Finally, while palliative care can be (and is) offered by trained practitioners in healthcare facilities, it can be (and often is) delivered by patient identified caregivers in a number of settings, including the home. (Source: CCCB Submission to Health Canada, 2018).

Prayer intentions suggested for use during prayer.

For our community of faith and each of us in our personal responsibilities: that by visiting the ill and the suffering, and by encouraging those who live with disabilities or depression, we witness to the love of God and the beauty of human solidarity. Let us pray.

For doctors providing care to the dying and the severely ill: that they promote treatments which respect human dignity and are an expression of hope and love. Let us pray.

For those who see in euthanasia as an act of compassion: that the light of the Gospel transform their vision, allowing them to see the sacredness of all life from its beginning to its natural end. Let us pray.

For medical students: that, during the course of their formation, they meet courageous mentors who have the wisdom to educate and guide their consciences in truth. Let us pray.

For patients and their families who despair at the prospect of suffering and death: that the Holy Spirit open the eyes of their hearts to the meaning of suffering deeply united to that of Christ on the Cross. Let us pray.

For health workers and for all those who devote themselves to caring for the sick and the dying: that Christ strengthens their energy and fills them with love as they strive to love with His heart. Let us pray.

For legislators and judges whose decisions touch issues of life and death: that the Holy Spirit enlightens their minds and consciences by giving them the gift of discernment. Let us pray.

For those who work in the media: that they understand the full scope of the issues surrounding end of life care, and that the Holy Spirit enlightens their minds and consciences. Let us pray.

For those who impact the development of Canadian society and culture: that they open their hearts to the message of Christ and contribute to the development of a true culture of life. Let us pray.

Taken from "Life-Giving Love" A National Campaign for Palliative and Home Care: Against Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide from the Catholic Organization for Life and Family (COLF)

“If a person feels loved, then the shadow of euthanasia disappears.”

Pope Frances

Prayer for the Protection of Human Life

Heavenly Father, Lord and Maker of all that is good, fill our hearts with joy before the wonders of Your creation. Open our eyes to the presence of Your beloved Son Jesus| in all those we encounter and especially in the weakest and most vulnerable among us.

Where we see life threatened, at its beginning or at its end, or by poverty and deprivation, inspire us with love and mercy, so that, empowered by Your Holy Spirit, we may work together to defend human dignity. Help us to build a culture of life: a culture in which each and every person is loved and valued as Your child, from conception to natural death, and in every circumstance of life. Amen.

Mary, Mother of the living, pray for us!

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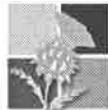
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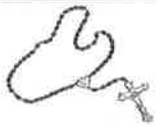
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