# 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 Hétu, 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.

#### **EUCHARISTIC 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 Hétu 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 Hétu

I recently came across this beautiful story about values and character. Kenyan runner Abel Mutai was only a few meters from the finish line, but got confused with the signs and stopped, thinking he had finished the race. A Spanish man, Ivan Fernandez, was right behind him and, realizing what was going on, started shouting to the Kenyan to keep running. Mutai did not know Spanish and did not understand.

Realizing what was going on, Fernandez pushed Mutai to victory. A reporter asked Ivan, "Why did you do this?" Ivan replied, "My dream is that one day we can have some sort of community life where we push ourselves and help each other win." The reporter insisted, "But why did you let the Kenyan win?" Ivan replied, "I didn't let him win; he was going to win. The race was his."

The reporter insisted and asked again, "But you could have won!" Ivan looked at him and replied: "But what would be the merit of my victory? What would be the honour of this medal? What would my Mother think of it?"

What values do we teach through our example? Let's help each other to cross the finishing line. Let us pass on the beauty and humanity of a helping hand. Everyone can make a difference. One book, one pen, one child, and one teacher can change the world. One action can cause a ripple effect. Be the change you want to see. Be the one to start a positive change.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: "Prayer is not a spare wheel that you pull out when you are in trouble. Use it as a steering wheel that keeps you on the right path throughout your life." (Author Unknown)

**LAUGHTER GOOD FOR THE SOUL:** After having children, Adam and Eve started getting a lot of questions from their kids about why they no longer lived in Eden. Adam had a simple answer for this: "Your mother ate us out of house and home." [He helped too]

#### **Parish Offerings**

#### Your contributions for June 1 & 2, 2024:

Regular Offerings	\$ 1,661.10
Pope's Pastoral Works	\$ 25.00
Cura Pastorum	\$ 65.00
Building Fund	\$ 475.00



#### 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, June 11, 2024

Mary Doyle - Michael & Teresa Sims 7:00pm Chester Buczek - The O'Neil Family Intentions of Kris Hayes & Family - Brendan Linwood

Wednesday, June 12, 2024

8:30am Betty Kiley - Pat Ogborn

Thursday, June 13, 2024

8:30am Agathe Robichaud – Laurent & Joséphine Robichaud

Friday, June 14, 2024

8:30am Intentions of Autumn Rogers

9:20am Mary Doyle - St. Joseph School Staff & Students

Saturday, June 15, 2024

5:00pm Mary Doyle - Mary Epoch

Intentions of Fern & Marie Beaudry

Intentions of Pat Rivett-Kitras – St. Joseph

Catholic Women's League

Intentions of the Family of Flavio Schenkell -

Gord & Barb Vandervoort

Sunday, June 9, 2024

Jean Marie Hétu - Hétu 9:00am

Intentions of the Parish

11:00am Intentions of Deacon Trevor Klein - St. Vincent

de Paul

#### Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – June 9, 2024

"Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother". If you feel the inclination to be a priest, religious, or permanent deacon, call Fr. Mark Morley, **Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton** at 905-528-7988.



#### All Ladies Invited

Our CWL council will be taking a break during July and August. Our last gathering before the break will be on Tuesday, June 18th. We will begin with a Mass at 5:30 followed by a potluck dinner in the parish hall at 6:30. Ladies from St. Mary in Elora will be joining us. This is a great opportunity for all ladies to get together! Please join us!

#### Bringing the Eucharist to the Homebound

If you, or someone you know, would be interested in having the Eucharist brought to you at home, please contact the Church office at 519-843-2006

#### Summer Celebration for Young Adults

Frassati's Carabiners, the Wellington Deanery's newly-formed young adults' group, is holding an evening event on June 22 to celebrate the beginning of summer - and more hours of daylight!! The evening begins at 6:30 p.m. with Adoration at the Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate and a talk about Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati given by Bishop Ustrzycki. Following the hour of Adoration, there will be ultimate frisbee and lawn games at York Road Park (between the covered bridge and St. Mary's Ukrainian Church), and ice cream at The Boathouse. In the event of rain, we will enjoy board games and ice cream in the parish hall. Come out for a splendid social to start the summer! If you have any questions about the event or wish to become connected with the Carabiners, please contact Elise (ecreidy@protonmail.com).

#### To Inform, Encourage And Heal

June is Indigenous History Month in Canada. We invite you take time in this season to learn more about the Catholic Church's commitment to ongoing reconciliation efforts with Indigenous communities through a fourweek learning opportunity through the VLCFF (Virtual Learning Community for Adult Faith Formation). To learn more about this study, please visit us at <a href="https://www.hamiltondioceselearns.com">www.hamiltondioceselearns.com</a>.

#### Michael House is Looking for Two Volunteer Intentional Neighbours!

This is a live-in support role wo works with the Supportive Housing Manager to monitor activity in the apartment, ensuring the overall support and safety of mothers, infants and children. For more information, contact Michael House at <a href="mailto:office@michaelhouse.com">office@michaelhouse.com</a> or call 519-766-7675

#### **Parenting Tip Of The Month**

As summer approaches and we plan for holidays, camps and childcare, remember to ensure that family time makes a strong appearance in your calendar. These years with our children are about forming a foundation both for their futures and for our adult relationship with them. Don't let too many scheduled activities remove the most important one, time spent together as a family. In addition, remember that praying and attending Mass together are great bonding moments as well.

#### Alliance for Life Ontario Conference "With Every Woman – For Every Child & Society's Vulnerable Members" Saturday June 15<sup>th</sup> 2024

#### This conference addresses:

- Canadian society's abandonment of the majority of women unexpectedly pregnant who need our help – not abortion!
- It tackles the attack on hospice care in Canada revealing the price health professionals have to pay when they will not kill!
- It brings to light the fact that euthanasia may not be quite the peaceful death we have been told.
- It will open your eyes to the censorship and discrimination experienced by the pro-life movement in Ontario.
- It addresses the unprecedented cover-up regarding abortion pill reversal and the effects of medical abortion.

You really do not want to miss this conference! Guelph & Area Right To Life (519) 836-6311 or www.guelphforlife.com

#### Marriage Tip Of The Month

Our Catholic faith tells us that the vocation of marriage has a twofold purpose: the good of the spouses themselves and the transmission of life. It can seem challenging for each spouse to help their husband/wife to be the best person they can be, but when we love, we want the best for the other. It isn't about criticizing and demanding change, but about helping our spouse to grow in faith and maturity and to become the best person they can be. It is not an easy task, but one that brings great reward to each spouse, children and all those connected to us in any way.



#### Upcoming Parish Events

June 18	CWL Potluck Dinner <b>5:30pm</b> Mass, 6:30pm Dinner
June 22 & 23	Reception after each Mass for Deacon Trevor Klein
June 24	St. Joseph School Gr. 8 Graduation
July 1	Canada Day Mass 11am
July 1	Canada Day – Office Closed



## EXCERPT FROM MICHAEL HOUSE'S JUNE NEWSLETTER Do you Believe in Miracles?

Over the past couple of weeks, Michael House has been the recipient of a wonderful and unexpected miracle. I looked up to see the definition of a miracle and this is what I found...

The Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines a miracle as being "an extraordinary event manifesting divine intervention in human affairs."

Another definition is "a highly improbable or extraordinary event, development, or accomplishment that brings very welcome consequences," or, "a surprising and welcome event that is not explicable by natural or scientific laws and is therefore considered to be the work of a divine agency."

Why are we chatting about miracles this month, you may be asking? I want to share with you a story and happening from this month that we consider to be a miracle. You may not be aware, but since the dark days of winter, we have had significant boiler troubles at our Supportive Housing location. You may be thinking, well just get them repaired. Yes, we have tried that repeatedly and with a significant amount of money spent on trying to get them working so that our families here have heat and hot water. But this has been an ongoing challenge for many months. The latest report we received was that our two-boiler system at Michael House needs to be replaced and can no longer be patched up or repaired. And the cost is how much? \$20,000?!? GULP! But Spring is here, and we won't need to turn the heat on for a few months, I originally thought, so we have a bit of a reprieve and time to think and pray about how we are going to get this big job done.

We are so Blessed at Michael House to have amazing support from so many individuals, businesses, churches and friends, and it is through one of these connections that this miracle took place. A local church community got in touch with us saying they had someone in their congregation that had passed away, and part of their wishes was to Bless an organization with a gift of \$10,000 to be put towards a need that they could not otherwise cover.

When asked if we had any such need, my mind immediately went to our defunct boilers. Do you ever second-guess yourself? I was sitting thinking, who is going to want to put money towards replacing two boilers? It is not fun, not very visible, and frankly not so appealing. But needed? Oh, my YES! Having heat during the cold, winter months means our little families are snug, secure and warm in their apartments. It means after a long day of activities, our moms can turn on the tap and have hot water to bathe their children in. It means being able to wash their dishes with hot water instead of cold. These are real needs that our families have experienced over the past few months of boiler troubles here.

So, I decided to share our boiler need with this group acknowledging that it wasn't a fun project for them to fund. After emails back and forth regarding costs, quotes and needs, this congregation and leadership team decided that this was the project for them to align with and fund, but they wouldn't be giving us \$10,000 towards this BIG Need, they would be giving us \$20,000 to replace both boilers!

When I received this news, I cannot begin to tell you how overwhelmed by gratitude I felt. I sat in my office and cried by this huge gift to us. I honestly did not know how we were going to fund this need, but through divine intervention and the gift of this miracle we are now able to ensure our families will continue to live in a space that is able to provide heat and hot water!

We take having these things for granted and most days don't give thought to them until something happens and we don't have the ability to provide them. This Church congregation knows who they are and how very grateful we are for this indescribable gift to our Michael House families! For the woman who passed away and blessed us in this very incredible way, words cannot express our deep gratitude for this loving gift and support to Michael House.

There is a very famous quote by Albert Einstein that says... "There are only two ways to live: you can live as if nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle."

We don't often get to experience these kinds of larger-than-life happenings, but we can begin to look at life as though the beauty of each day, the gift of life, family and the ordinary, everyday happenings are all beautiful miracles to be celebrated!

Enjoy living in the realm of the miraculous in this beautiful month of June!

Grateful and Blessed,



Don't forget to return your baby bottles by Father's Day. Let's all be part of the miracle that is Michael House,

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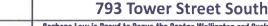
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