

# 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.

**SECRETARY:** Mrs. Lori Cipparrone

**CUSTODIAN:**

**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.  
Fri 9:00 a.m. - noon

## **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 normally celebrated on the 1st Sunday of the month at 1:00pm (max. four families). They are also normally celebrated on the third Saturday of the month at the 5pm mass and/or the third Sunday at the 11am Mass (one family per Mass only). Baptisms are not done during Lent. Parents are required to attend a Baptismal Prep class. For more information, please contact Fr. Robert to set up a meeting.

## **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 Hétu



In expanding the Rosary with the introduction of the Luminous Mysteries (or the Mysteries of Light), St. John Paul II included as the second Luminous Mystery a meditation on the Wedding at Cana. (Last Sunday, we reflected on the First Luminous Mystery—the Baptism of our Lord.) When meditating on the occasion of the first miracle of Jesus, the Wedding at Cana, perhaps we may find it helpful to look at a picture of the event or listen to some uplifting music.

As our Gospel today recalls, Jesus, his Mother and his disciples were invited to a wedding in Cana. During the wedding feast the wine ran out. Mary turned to Jesus: *"They have no wine."* Jesus replied: *"What concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come."* Mary said to the servants: *"Do whatever he tells you."* There were six stone water jars, each holding about a hundred litres. So, Jesus bids the servants to fill the jars with water, and then draw some out and take it to the chief steward. The chief steward said to the groom: *"Everyone serves the good wine first...but you have kept the good wine until now."* At his mother's request, Jesus worked his first miracle and it *"revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him."*

The Bible begins with one wedding, that of Adam and Eve in the garden (Genesis 2:23-24), and ends with another, the marriage supper of the Lamb (Revelation 19:9, 21:9, 22:17). Throughout the Bible, marriage is the symbol of the Covenant relationship between God and the chosen people. God is the faithful Groom and humanity is the beloved bride.

By the presence of Jesus and the working of his first miracle at Cana, Christian marriage was raised to the dignity of a Sacrament. Let us continually pray for God's daily miracles among Christian married couples and in our families.

**FOOD FOR THOUGHT:** "Ladies, a real man does more than pay for you, he prays for you." ~ Jarrid Wilson

**LAUGHTER GOOD FOR THE SOUL:** A man who had been a husband for ten years was consulting a marriage counselor. "When I was first married I was very happy. When I came home from a hard day at the shop, my little dog would race around barking and my wife would bring me my slippers with a heart-warming smile. Now after all these years everything is changed. Now when I come home, my dog brings me my slippers and my wife barks at me." "I don't know what you are complaining about," said the counselor. "You are still getting the same service."



## 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 faith family.

### Tuesday, January 21, 2025

7:00pm **Doreen Newark** – The Eng Family

### Wednesday, January 22, 2025

8:30am **Joseph Hiscock** – Robin Rogers

### Thursday, January 23, 2025

8:30am **Nicholas Law** – Mary Epoch

### Friday, January 24, 2025

8:30am **Intentions of Mario & Carol Lopes** – Jane Thatcher

### Saturday, January 25, 2025

5:00pm **Deacon Ken Baldwin** - A Friend

**Nicholas Law** – The Fry Family

**Peter VanderVoort** – Gord & Barb VanderVoort

**Intentions of Berney & Gwen Sytsma** – Mac & Gail Brown

### Sunday, January 26, 2025

9:00am **Intentions of the Parish**

11:00am **Nicholas Law** - Pat & Gary Grosicki

### Parish Offerings for January 12, 2025

Regular Collection	\$ 1,662.50
Initial Offerings	\$ 75.00
Solemnity of Mary/New Year's Day	\$ 105.00

### Second Sunday in Ordinary Time - January 19, 2025

Pray to know how God wants to use your talents and abilities. Could it be He is calling you to consider priesthood, diaconate, or religious life? If He is contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988.

Email [vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com)



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### The Word Among Us

We are pleased to advise that the January 2025 edition of the Word Among Us has finally arrived – copies can be found in the Narthex.

### Catholic Women's League News

St. Joseph's Catholic Women's League held their Annual General Meeting on January 12th. Thanks to the support of members of the parish and community, donations have been made to the following: Groves Memorial Hospital Fund - \$2500; St. Joseph's Building Fund - \$2500; Canadian Food For Children - \$1000; Wellington Care Pregnancy Centre - \$700; Development & Peace - \$700; Centre Wellington Food Bank - \$600; Seminarian Fund - \$500 and the Michael House - \$500. Election of officers was held with Sue - Beatty - Past President/Historian; Joanne Gregson - President; Vice-President (vacant); Secretary - Sherri Bowen; Treasurer (vacant); Sandra Whyte - Chair of Service; Barbara Cassidy - Chair of Faith; Pat Rivet-Kitras - Chair of Social Justice, Fr. Robert Hetu - Spiritual Advisor. Anyone still wishing to join the CWL is more than welcome, currently have 61 members. Thank you to the members that have renewed their membership.

### Men's Cor Gathering

On behalf of the Knights of Columbus, we would like to thank Fr Hayden Starczala for his presentation on the topic of: 8 Simple Rules for Reading the Bible, this past Saturday at the men's Cor gathering. Fr also led us in Ignatius meditation. We would also like to thank all of those that were in attendance, especially the new men that joined us.



### The Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass – Save The Date!

Are you celebrating your 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th, or 60+ Wedding Anniversary in the year 2025? Then you are cordially invited to join Bishop Crosby and couples from across the Diocese of Hamilton for a Wedding Anniversary Mass on **Sunday, June 1, 2025**, at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King in Hamilton at 1:30 pm. (Space allows room for Anniversary couples only - those married 60 years or more may bring one guest if you require assistance). Registration will be available online in January at [hamiltondiocese.com](http://hamiltondiocese.com).

### Ecumenical Prayer Service

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins this weekend, and ends on Saturday, January 25<sup>th</sup>. You are invited to join Fr. Robert, and others from local Christian Churches for an Ecumenical Service. The service will take place at **St. Joseph Church on Friday, January 24<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am**. Everyone is welcome.

### Anointing of the Sick Mass

In honour of World Day of the Sick, an Anointing of the Sick Mass will be held here on February 11<sup>th</sup> at 11am. Following Mass, we will gather for lunch. Registration forms will be available in the Narthex and are required to attend. We would encourage anyone who has been diagnosed with a serious illness or injury to attend (you do not need to be in imminent danger of death).

### Come Retreat With Loyola House!

Are you looking to break away and spend some time in silence? Interested in learning something new? See our website at [loyolahouse.com](http://loyolahouse.com) (under "Events") for more information on these upcoming retreats:

- Praying with Hope Weekend Retreat - January 31-February 2
- Contemplative Activism Retreat - January 31-February 2
- Let Us Dream: The Path to a Better Future One-Day Retreat - February 7
- Directed Prayer Weekend - February 7-9
- Finding Your Way: Weekend of Discernment - February 7-9
- Film & Spirituality Day Retreat - February 12
- Introduction to Discernment - March 3
- Pope Francis and the Way of the Heart Weekend Retreat - March 6-9
- Seeds of Rest & Renewal - A Retreat for Spiritual Directors - March 11-13

Register online at [loyolahouse.com](http://loyolahouse.com) or contact [registration@ignatiusquelfh.ca](mailto:registration@ignatiusquelfh.ca) or by calling 519 824 1250 ext 266.

### Upcoming Parish Events

January 24	Christian Unity Service 10:30am
January 28	Knights of Columbus General Meeting
January 29	St. Vincent de Paul Meeting 4pm
February 2	Knights of Columbus Breakfast
February 8	Men's Cor Meeting 10am – 12pm
February 11	Anointing of the Sick Mass and Luncheon



Jubilee Year of Hope  
January 2025

Parish Ministries

# HEROES OF HOPE

**Heroes of Hope** is a monthly newsletter from the Diocese of Hamilton, shining a light on the extraordinary individuals and ministries who inspire hope and transform lives in our communities.

#HEROESOFHOPE

**Christian hope is rooted in Christ!** Those engaged in **parish ministries** are heroes of hope for their local communities. They breathe life into their local parishes and foster hope in those who turn to the Church, seeking an encounter with Christ and encouragement and strength for their journey of faith. Parish ministries are many and varied, and are essential to the Church's mission to bring hope to our world. Here we highlight some of these parish ministries.



## Catechists and Evangelists

Many of our parishes are blessed with gifted volunteers who share their Catholic faith with youth and adults alike. Our **catechists** prepare parents for the baptism of their children and support the foundational work of our Catholic schools by preparing young children to celebrate their First Communion and Confirmation.

Others participate as guides to adults and children of catechetical age who seek membership in the Church either by celebrating the *Sacraments of Christian Initiation (RCIA)* or by being received into the full communion of the Catholic Church. By announcing the good news of our salvation in Christ and the hope of eternal life, these parish volunteers lead people to understand our faith and learn to live the faith we share by participating in the Church's mission: **to bring to our world the gift of hope, which does not disappoint.**



## Parish Outreach Ministries

In many parishes, volunteers provide hope to those in need, creating safe spaces for healing from separation, divorce, grief, and for parents looking for support as they face the challenges of their vocations.

In recent years, many parishes have expanded their efforts to include children and young adults, fostering environments where they can encounter Jesus Christ. **Youth ministers** guide young people in developing a lasting relationship with Christ and the Church, equipping them to face life's challenges with confidence, perseverance, and hope.

Additionally, dedicated parishioners from groups such as the **Catholic Women's League, Knights of Columbus, and St. Vincent de Paul Society** contribute countless hours to their communities. They raise awareness and funds to meet basic human needs, offering welcome and hope to those struggling with life's hardships. Through their active charity, they significantly impact the lives of those they serve.



## Liturgical Ministries

When parishioners gather for Sunday Mass and celebrate the Sacraments, many liturgical ministers are engaged to ensure that Christ is encountered in the Word proclaimed, in the praise and thanksgiving offered by all, and in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.

**Ministers of hospitality** welcome us each Sunday, assuring us that we are not lone pilgrims on the journey of life, but members of a family who in Baptism have received a share in Christ's Death and his victorious Resurrection, the very reason for our hope.

**Parish lectors** faithfully proclaim the Word of God, week in and week out, and together with the priest or deacon, providing us with a sure guide to living as disciples of Jesus on our journey to our heavenly home.

**Cantors, choirs and instrumentalists** help us to respond to God's word and unite us in song as we seek to give praise and thanksgiving to God. Through their ministry they assist us to grow in holiness.



Our dedicated **sacristans** prepare and decorate the church to create a fitting environment for our worship. **Altar servers** assist the priest at the altar, so that he can reverently lead us in our common prayer.



Finally, our **Extraordinary Ministers of Communion** assist us to receive the Eucharist prayerfully and ensure that those who are unable to be present at Mass are united in communion with us.

In many of our parishes, catechists and leaders of **children's liturgy** accompany young children during Mass to hear and celebrate the Word of God. This is such an important ministry to ensure that children are initiated into the liturgical life of the Church.



## HEROES OF HOPE PRAYER FOR PARISH MINISTRIES

Lord God,  
by the grace of our baptism,  
you have given us new life in Christ  
and called us to serve as  
pilgrims of hope.

We pray in thanksgiving  
for those who have responded to your call  
to be leaders in our parish community  
and for the volunteers  
who dedicate their gifts  
for the building up of your Church  
and the service of  
their sisters and brothers.

Through their varied ministries,  
may they touch the hearts  
of all in our community  
who long for the hope  
born of our Christian faith,  
that never disappoints.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.



**Consider becoming a  
Minister of Hope in your  
Parish Community!**



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