

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 Héту



The Venerable Archbishop Fulton Sheen had often suggested that there is a new dirty word in Christianity. This new dirty word does not have four letters but five. Sadly, the word is C R O S S ! I am sure that there are many who would prefer the idea of Jesus and no cross. Yet, Jesus took this absurd symbol of the cross, put himself on it, and solved the mystery of life and death. Paradoxically, Jesus solved death by making the cross a condition of life, the crown of thorns a condition for a royal crown of victory, and the scourged body a condition for a glorified body. In simple words, Jesus conquered pain and death by using them as a means of attaining glory and eternal life. We must die with Jesus if we want to rise with Jesus. Writer Paula D'Arcy reminds us that, "The power of love is greater than the power of pain."

Avoiding the cross is the essence of the demonic. It is the heart of the devil's trap and the devil's greatest temptation. So, the challenge for us is to "take up our cross daily and follow him." Yes. Good Friday with the Cross is a necessary condition for Easter Sunday. Did you ever wonder why we call the day that remember the death of Jesus—Good Friday? It is because, by God's grace, the cross and death of Jesus is good for us since we know the ending of the story; the gift of the Resurrection and his/our Easter victory. This Lent, along side Jesus, let us claim his/our victory over Satan. In this *Jubilee Year of Hope*, let us all become God's instruments of hope and "Lift high the cross."

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: Marquee Saying for Lent:

"Try Jesus. If you don't like Him, the devil will always take you back."

LAUGHTER GOOD FOR THE SOUL: Johnson opened the morning newspaper and was dumbfound to read in the local obituaries that not only had he died but also that the parish has already schedules his funeral Mass. He quickly phoned his best friend MacDonald. "Did you see the paper?" asked Johnson. "They say I died!" "Sure and I saw it!" replied MacDonald. "By the way, where are you calling from? Up or down?"



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, March 11, 2025

7:00pm **Intentions of Martin Saunders – The Reidy Family**

Wednesday, March 12, 2025

8:30am **Pope Francis**
10:30am Caressant Care Mass
7:00pm Stations of the Cross

Thursday, March 13, 2025

8:30am **Jim Gibbons**

Friday, March 14, 2025

8:30am **Souls in Purgatory**

Saturday, March 15, 2025

5:00pm **Maria Jose Gravito – Berta Costa**
Luigia Padovan – Lisa & Bob, Gord & Barb
Paul Rivett – Pat Rivett

Sunday, March 16, 2025

9:00am **Intentions of the Parish**
11:00am **Intentions of Elaine Lynch – Dolores Schmidt**

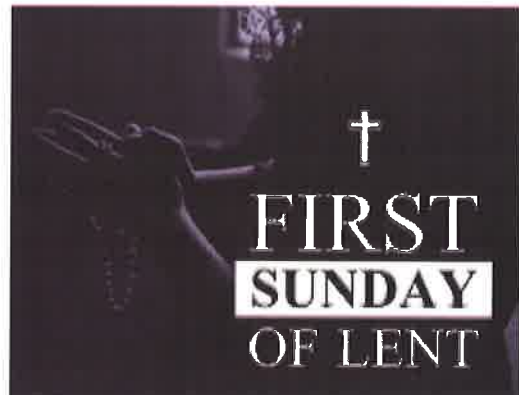
Parish Offerings for March 1 & 2, 2025

Regular Collection	\$ 1,885.95
Building Fund	\$ 180.00

First Sunday of Lent - March 9, 2025

Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit into the desert for forty days of prayer and fasting. Are you open to being led by the Holy Spirit into the life-commitment God has prepared for you? If God is calling you, to be a priest, religious or deacon, contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988.

Email vocations@hamiltondiocese.com





**Interested in Learning More
About the Knights of Columbus?**

There will be a Knights of Columbus membership drive after every mass, the weekend of March 15th and 16th. It will be a great time to talk with individual Knights and get your questions answered!

Stations of the Cross

As part of your Lenten preparation, you are invited to join fellow parishioners for Stations of the Cross each Wednesday evening during Lent, March 12th – April 16th, at 7:00 pm

**Praying the Stations With
Mary, The Mother of Jesus**

Tuesday afternoons in Lent, starting March 11 at 2 pm, you are invited to join the Catholic Women's League in praying the Stations of the Cross, using the booklet Praying the Stations with Mary the Mother of Jesus by Richard Furey. Please join us in offering this beautiful Lenten observance of our Lord's Passion.

The Magnificat Lenten Companion

Our thanks to a generous parishioner who has once again donated copies of the Magnificat Lenten Companion to assist parishioners with their Lenten reflections. Copies are available in the Narthex while quantities last.

Forty Hours Devotion This Lent

As part of the ongoing Eucharistic revival in Wellington Deanery you are encouraged to participate in the Forty Hours Devotion this Lent. This year's Devotion, which is rather like a Parish Mission with a special focus on the Eucharist, will be preached by His Eminence, Thomas Cardinal Collins, at the Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate from March 10-13, 2025. There will be Mass at 7:00pm each evening, and forty hours of semi-continuous Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament throughout these days (hence the name "Forty Hours Devotion"). The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for Adoration at the Basilica from 7:30am until 10:00pm on March 11 and 12, and from 7:30am until 6:30pm on March 13. There will be a reception in the Basilica Parish Hall following the evening Mass on March 13. The complete schedule for the Forty Hours Devotion is on the website of the Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate.

Parenting Tip Of The Month

Parents are the most influential people in their children's lives. They watch every move, take in every word and see how you navigate the world - then they become the mini version of you, their parents. All the traits they take in become part of who they are for life! Help them to be the best people they can be by looking inward and asking yourself if you are doing enough to raise them to be the adult you would like them to be. If not, change how you interact and help them grow strong in mind, body and spirit. (Family Ministry Office)

Marriage Tip Of The Month

March is the start of Lent, a time when we reflect on our faith and our commitment to living as we are called to as disciples of Jesus. It is a perfect time to discuss as a couple how your marriage, considered both a Sacrament and Vocation by the Church, is fulfilling its mandate to be the visible sign of God's invisible love. Do you strive always to treat each other as God loves, in total self-giving, with mercy and forgiveness acting as strong pillars of your marriage? This Lent, make your Lenten journey a time to pray together and to work as a couple to strengthen one of the most important parts of your life, your marriage. (Family Ministry Office; 905-528-7988 ext. 2250)

Virtual Learning with the Diocese of Hamilton

The Diocese of Hamilton is proud to partner with Dayton University's Virtual Learning Community for Adult Faith Formation (VLCFF) to offer certificate programs for ministry and enrichment for adult faith formation. Interested in learning more about our programs? Have questions about the structure, course content and fees? Join us for a brief information session hosted by the VLCFF Coordination Team for the Diocese of Hamilton on **Wednesday, March 26, 2025 @ 7pm**. Registration: <https://bit.ly/VLCFFInfo>.

Upcoming Parish Events

March 9	Knights Charity Breakfast
March 11	Knights Executive Meeting 7:30pm
March 12	Caressant Care Mass 10:30am
March 12	Stations of the Cross 2pm & 7pm
March 19	Mass for the Feast of St. Joseph, followed by Stations of the Cross

Let Us Confidently Walk Towards Easter

(Inspired by Pope Francis on Twitter)

With God's forgiveness
let us confidently walk towards Easter
Because with the Father
Jesus intercedes for us

We have the certainty that God
can forgive all sins
We have the certainty that with Jesus
there is always a place for us

With Jesus it is never over
it is never too late
With God, we can always
come back to life

Let us look at the Crucified One and His wounds
through them forgiveness of our sins flow
Look at Jesus on the Cross
we have never received such a tender look

God does not divide us
into good and bad
To the Father we are all
His beloved children

The peace of the Lord follows
the way of the Cross
This is how Jesus freed us
from our sins and our death

Since Jesus forever intercedes
with the Father for us
We are assured in God's forgiveness
so, let us confidently walk towards Easter

Fr. Robert Héту

February 27, 2023

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