

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

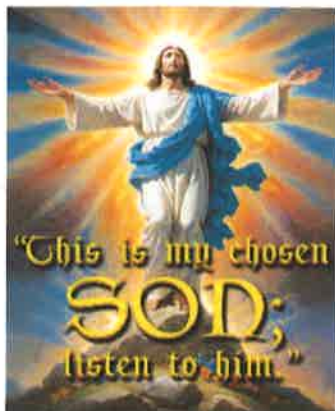
Fr. Robert Héту



The early desert fathers have a story about a young monk who asked an older one, "Why is it that so many people set out to be good, and so many people come here to join the monastery, but after some time they leave again or give up the effort?" The old monk thought for a while and then answered. "Sometimes as you stand here in front of the monastery you will see a rabbit pass by pursued by the village dogs, barking and howling. After some time, the rabbit comes back but there are only one or two dogs in pursuit. These are the dogs that actually saw the rabbit—the others were only following the barking. Likewise, if we are to persevere in our pursuit we must have had a glimpse of the rabbit—the Lord—and not just following the barking." The Transfiguration is one of these moments of seeing the rabbit—the Lord Jesus, for his disciples and for us.

The disciples got a glimpse of God—a glimpse of glory, at the Transfiguration and that was to sustain them through the disgrace of the death of Jesus and through their own failure. Sometimes early on in prayer the Lord can give us a glimpse of 'Godself'—a moment of closeness, a feeling of certainty about God's presence, a call to commitment to the work of prayer and of greater openness in our relationship with God. Then that becomes a memory, which will later sustain us in the bustle of everyday life and in the dryness of distracted prayer periods. The big temptation is that of Peter to want to build a tent, a monument—to freeze the moment of presence.

The poet William Blake said, "One who binds oneself to a joy, does the winged life destroy, but one who kisses the joy as it flies, lives in eternity's sunrise." This Lent, alongside Jesus, let us claim His/our victory over Satan, sin and death. In this *Jubilee Year of Hope*, let us all become God's instruments of hope and boldly 'light high the cross.'



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 18, 2025

7:00pm **Henryk Rebizak** – Grazyna Waynarowicz

Wednesday, March 19, 2025 Feast of St. Joseph

8:30am **Sharyn Snider**

7:00pm **Josef Krekel & Katie Campbell** – Elisabeth Krekel

8:00pm **Stations of the Cross**

Thursday, March 20, 2025

8:30am **Intentions of Richard Héту** – The Family

Friday, March 21, 2025

8:30am **Intentions of Avila Taverner**

Saturday, March 22, 2025

5:00pm **Mary Jo Marshall** – Paul & Cathy Goetz

Neil Brown – Berta Costa

Harry O'Connell – **Barb & Gord Vandervoort**

Sunday, March 23, 2025

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

11:00am **Intentions of Fr. Robert** – The Family
Dolores Schmidt

Parish Offerings for March 8 & 9, 2025

Regular Collection \$ 1,900.15

Building Fund \$ 90.00

Second Sunday of Lent – March 16, 2025

Peter, John and James had a mountaintop experience with Jesus by witnessing His transfiguration. We too can have a mountaintop experience when we open our minds and hearts to following God's Will for our lives. 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

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: Marquee Saying for Lent:
"Christians keep the faith...but not from others."

LAUGHTER GOOD FOR THE SOUL: Little Suzy was watching her father, a permanent deacon, write a homily. "How do you know what to say?" she asked her dad. "Well, God tells me" he responded. "Then why do you keep crossing things out?"



March 15 – 21, 2025

The candles at the Shrine of St. Joseph burn for the repose of the souls of **Josef Krekel and Katie Campbell.**

Wellington Deanery Jubilee Mass

You are all very welcome to join His Excellency, Bishop Lobsinger, in celebrating a Mass for the Jubilee Year for the faithful of Wellington Deanery on the Solemnity of the Annunciation, Tuesday, March 25 at 7:00pm at the Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate. The Jubilee Indulgence will be granted, under the usual conditions, to the faithful who participate in this Mass. You may also have your Jubilee Booklet stamped if you wish. May Our Blessed Lady, Our Life, Our Sweetness and Our Hope, guide us through this Jubilee of Hope and draw us close to Her Son.



Thank You from the Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus would like to give a heartfelt thankyou to all those that attended the free Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner. With your generosity with the free will offerings, we are able to donate \$800 to Michael House. God Bless all of you

Interested in Learning More About the Knights of Columbus?

There will be a Knights of Columbus membership drive after every mass, this weekend. It will be a great time to talk with individual Knights and get any questions you might have answered!

Lent



Liturgical Ministers Of Hope

During Lent this year, the Liturgy Office invites all Liturgical Ministers to gather for a Lenten retreat on the theme of Liturgical Ministers of Hope. Saturday, **March 22, 2025**, Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate, Guelph, ON, 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. or Saturday, **March 29, 2025**, St. Matthew Parish, Oakville, ON, 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. or Saturday, **April 5, 2025**, Annunciation of our Lord Parish, Hamilton, ON, 10:00 to 12:30 p.m.

Changes at the Pregnancy Care Centre

The Executive Director of the Centre, Joanne Pronk, has announced that she is retiring. She has worked closely with the Board of Directors to create a smooth succession plan, and they are now seeking someone who would be interested in taking on this role. If you or someone you know are interested please contact the Centre directly at 519-362-4167 or email:

director@wellingtonpregnancycentre.ca



Calling All Moms!

Guelph Catholic Moms Group

Free, Fun, Faith Filled Afternoon
Every First Wednesday of the Month

Topic: Lent & Fasting

Kids are Welcome at the Catholic Craft Table

Wednesday, April 2, 2025

4:30pm - 6:00pm (Use Rear Entrance)

email: st.johnbaptistmg@catholicmomsgroup.com

St. John the Baptist

45 Victoria Rd. North, Guelph

Upcoming Parish Events

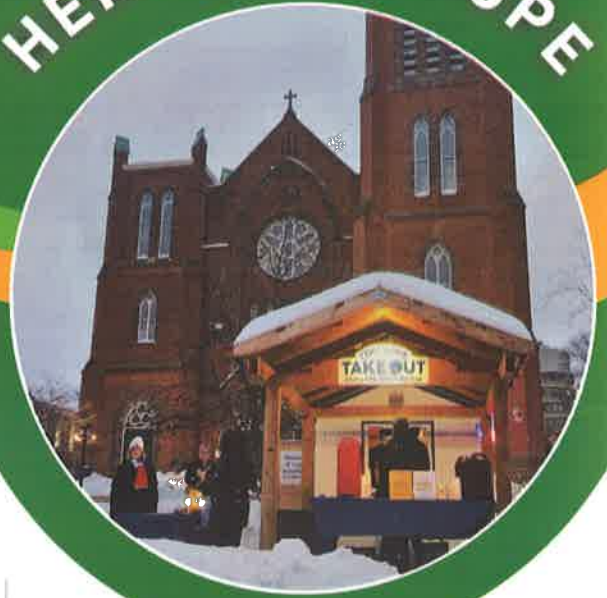
March 18	Stations of the Cross with Mary, 2pm
March 19	Mass for the Feast of St. Joseph 7pm
March 19	Stations of the Cross 8pm
March 25	Stations of the Cross with Mary 2pm
March 25	Knights of Columbus General Meeting after evening Mass
March 26	St. Vincent de Paul Meeting 4pm
March 26	Stations of the Cross 7pm
April 5	Baptismal Prep Class 9am-11am
April 13	CWL General Meeting - Noon
May 10	Men's Cor Meeting 10am-12am
May 10	Mother's Day Tea Info TBA



Jubilee Year of Hope
March 2025

Those Who Care for the Poor

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

Through a commitment to justice and peace, many in our Diocese become beacons of hope, offering hospitality and compassionate care to those most in need. This hope is rooted in the belief that God's justice and peace are achievable goals, made possible through our united efforts, big and small, to build a more equitable world. Those engaged in social ministries remind us that each act of charity, each moment of love and kindness, sows seeds of hope that accompany us into an uncertain future.

Outreach Ministries



Outreach centres such as the **De Mazenod Door** in Hamilton and **Tiny Home Takeout** in Kitchener, work diligently to provide support to local residents in need throughout the year. In the face of rising demand, an increasingly harsh climate and economy, these Centres, their staff and volunteers provide hundreds of meals each day and ensure crucial assistance programs are delivered in a way that preserves the dignity of every person.



Parishes and schools provide the platforms and outlets to meaningfully engage with their communities and the issues that impact them most. We see youth driving change and having the opportunity to shape the causes they care about through their school initiatives, local organizations, and volunteer hours.

Catholic Service Organizations

Parish groups such as **St. Vincent De Paul**, **Catholic Women's League** and **Knights of Columbus** offer fellowship, volunteer engagement and foster supportive relationships within the community. These parish groups offer a framework through which we can explore our faith and share our individual gifts with those in need.

Good Shepherd Ministries, The Working Centre

Catholic service organizations that operate on the frontlines such as **Good Shepherd Ministries** in Hamilton and the **Working Centre** in Kitchener help us understand the landscape of need within our communities and how to navigate it. They provide life saving care to residents in crisis, and access to basic needs. They accompany residents in finding next steps through training and skill development and create pathways for those on the margins to re-integrate into their community. Their staff and volunteers work tirelessly to provide shelter and create some of the only spaces and moments of respite that residents on the margins ever receive.



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