

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: Mr. Richard Kocyla

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



Some good news. "Let us rejoice and be glad." (Psalm 118) Earlier this month I received the following memo from Bishop Crosby.

Grace and peace in the Lord Jesus Christ.

In his New Year's message, the late Pope Francis spoke of our current Jubilee Year of Hope: *"May we seek the true peace that is granted by God to hearts disarmed; hearts not set on calculating what is mine and what is yours; hearts that turn selfishness into readiness to reach out to others; hearts that see themselves as indebted to God and thus prepared to forgive the debts that oppress others; hearts that replace anxiety about the future with the hope that every individual can be a resource for the building of a better world."*

Since the times of Leviticus and Deuteronomy, the forgiveness of debts has been a central pillar of the great tradition of Jubilee. In this same spirit and in the hopes of offering the hope of being set free from prohibitive debt, I am pleased to share with you that I have forgiven your Parish debt in the terms outlined below. \$266,366 of St. Joseph's \$296,492 Parish Cathedraticum owing to the Diocese has been forgiven. I ask you to share this information with your Parish community and that this may build the spirit of solidarity and fraternal communion contemplated by this Jubilee Year of Hope.

My hope is that this freedom from debt may further enable you to bring the hope of the Gospel to all of those entrusted to your care.

Sincerely in Christ and Mary Immaculate,
(Most Rev.) Douglas Crosby, OMI Bishop of Hamilton

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: "As we make all sorts of trips this summer, let's be sure that whatever our destination, we are making plans to meet up with [Jesus]." ~ Dan Cellucci

LAUGHTER GOOD FOR THE SOUL: How do you make God laugh? Tell God your plans. "Forgive, O Lord, my little jokes on Thee, and I'll forgive Thy great big joke on me." ~ Robert Frost:



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, July 29, 2025

7:00pm **Intentions of Police Officers and their Families** – Julie Speers

Wednesday, July 30, 2025

8:30am **Berney Sytsma** – Jack Benallick

Thursday, July 31, 2025

8:30am **Jean Dottori** – Eileen & Terrence Long

Friday, August 1, 2025

8:30am **Barb Abela**

Saturday, August 2, 2025

5:00pm **Berney Sytsma** – Peter & Carol Landoni
Ann Jaques – Tom & Lena Nudds
Gloria Sinclair McGinnis – Fr. Robert Hétu
Robert Masciangelo – Laura & Brian Downham

Sunday, August 3, 2025

9:00am **The Intentions of St. Joseph Church**
11:00am **Berney Sytsma** – Grace Robinson

No Weekday Masses August 4 – 8 inclusive

Saturday, August 9, 2025

5:00pm **Berney Sytsma** – Jean Martin
John Martin – Jean Martin & Family
Robert Masciangelo

Sunday, August 10, 2025

9:00am **The Intentions of St. Joseph Church**
11:00am **Monica Kelly** – Carol and All the Gilmurray Family

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time - July 27, 2025

"Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you." Try it! Then listen, look, and enter. Perhaps priesthood, diaconate or consecrated life awaits you. If God is calling you contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988. Email vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

Parish Offerings for July 12 & 13, 2025

Regular Collection	\$1,359.50
Building Fund	\$ 20.00

Parish Offerings for July 19 & 20, 2025

Regular Collection	\$1,714.85
Building Fund	\$ 2,025.00

Dear Parishioners,

Thank you so much for your wonderful support of our towel drive. We were able to donate 12 garbage bags of new and used towels to the shelters in Guelph - over 1500 towels from 6 SSVP parishes

The St. Vincent de Paul Society is very grateful to our church community who support us in our endeavors to make others' lives better.

If you would like to know more about our Society and the work we do please call Jane at 519-787-1961.

Pilgrimage for Young Adults (20s and 30s)

Frassati's Carabiners are excited to announce in this Year of Hope a day pilgrimage to the Holy Door at Immaculate Conception, Formosa, on Saturday August 23. The day will begin at 7:00am at the Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate, Guelph, and the bus will depart at 7:30am. Once we arrive at Sacred Heart, Mildmay, we will walk the remaining distance (~12 kms) to Formosa. Fr. Ian will be accompanying the group, hearing confessions and celebrating Mass at Formosa. Following Mass we will head to the beach, followed by a BBQ supper back at Immaculate Conception. The bus will return to the Basilica by 8:00pm. For more details and to RSVP, contact Elise (frassatiscarabiners@protonmail.com). The cost of the trip is \$40.00 per person.

Guelph and Area Right to Life

Sept. 20th Annual Memorial for the Pre-Born

All are invited to join us for a special time of prayer and remembrance of pre-born children whose lives were tragically ended through abortion. The Event will take place on September 30th at 3pm in the Garden of Grace, located at 26 Norfolk St. Guelph. For more information visit info@guelphforlife.com or call 519-836-6311

Jubilee Youth Pilgrimage Day

The Office of Youth Ministry is excited to welcome young people in grades 7-12 to join us for a Jubilee Youth Pilgrimage Day on August 3rd, 2025 hosted at the Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate in Guelph. The pilgrimage day will run from 1:00pm – 7:00 pm. Those interested in attending are encouraged to register with a parish group! For more information and to register please visit: <https://bit.ly/youthpilgrimage2025>

World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly

(WDGE) 2025 will be celebrated on this Sunday, July 27, 2025, close to the Feast of Saints Anne and Joachim, grandparents of Jesus (July 26). The theme is "Blessed are those who have not lost hope." (cf. Sirach 14:2). Let us take this opportunity to uplift grandparents and the elderly, cherishing them as blessings in our faith community!

Prayer for the Fifth World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly

How beautiful are these words of yours, Lord!
Help us to continue our pilgrimage through time,
animated by the hope that comes from You!
Help us in this divisive world,
to bring the hope of communion.
Help us in this world, wounded by wars,
to bring the hope of peace.
Help us in this world, which is dehumanizing,
to bring the beauty of an ancient smile.
Help us to be, for our grandchildren, for our loved ones and for everyone we meet,
the memory of your tenderness.
Help us to bring, in a world distracted from You,
the Hope of a new life that only You can give!
For in You, Lord, nothing is lost
For in You, Lord, everything begins again! Amen

ReSTART: Moving Forward

Our 10 week program offers education and support to anyone seeking to heal and move forward after divorce or separation. The sessions will run Tuesdays from Sept. 23 – Nov. 25 from 7-9 pm and are held at the Chancery Office at 700 King St. West in person. Cost is \$35 for materials, but no one is turned away. Registration online can be found by going to hamiltondiocese.com and looking under Upcoming Events, or contact Sarah at 905-528-7988 ext. 2249, e-mail familyministry@hamiltondiocese.com.

Upcoming Parish Events

August 2	Baptism Prep Class 9am
August 4-8	No Weekday Masses – Fr. Robert on Vacation
August 11-15	Church Office Closed - Vacation
August 13	Caressant Care Mass 10:30pm
August 18-22	No Weekday Masses – Fr. Robert attending Priest Retreat



Jubilee Year of Hope
July 2025

For Youth Ministers

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

Since the pandemic, accompanying young people has become an increasing priority across the Diocese of Hamilton. Many have stepped forward to walk with them in faith: parish priests, seminarians, youth ministers, parish staff, and dedicated volunteers. **It truly does take a community to accompany a young person in their pilgrimage of faith.**

The tireless work of these individuals often goes unnoticed, but these individuals always ensure there are opportunities for young people to engage with their community and encounter Christ. Through their mentorship and advocacy, they guide young people by witnessing to their faith. The faith of young people is nurtured in communities where they are seen, heard, and supported.



Youth in Parish Life

Our parish communities create spaces of welcome and encouragement by involving young people in the life of the parish. Young people infuse life and vibrancy into our parishes through youth led Masses, youth bands and choirs, and opportunities to be lectors, altar servers, and members of hospitality teams. The accompaniment of young people is unique to each parish shaped by the young people themselves and their needs. Many parishes have Children's Liturgy, Vacation Bible School, and Youth Groups. Young people participate in parish programs in preparation for First Communion and Confirmation.



"Anyone called to be a parent, pastor or guide to young people must have the farsightedness to appreciate the little flame that continues to burn, the fragile reed that is shaken but not broken (cf. Is 42:3). The ability to discern pathways where others only see walls, to recognize potential where others see only peril: that is how God the Father see things; he knows how to cherish and nurture the seeds of goodness sown in the hearts of the young. Each young person's heart should thus be considered 'holy ground'...."
(Christus Vivit paragraph 67)

"We are especially grateful to our parish priest for guiding us—not only as coordinators but as mentors helping to form the next generation of faith leaders. Watching our youth grow has filled us with pride. They are energetic, kind, eager to learn, and always ready to help."

- St. John the Baptist, Guelph Youth Ministry team



A Summer of Fun!



During the months of July and August, parishes and C.Y.O. Camps Brebeuf and Marydale embark on the important work of offering Vacation Bible Schools and summer camps. Dedicated staff and volunteers provide opportunities for young people to have fun with their faith and grow closer to Christ.

To learn more about the VBS camps running throughout the Diocese this summer, visit here.

A Ministry of Service

Young people participate in opportunities to encounter Christ in others and show God's love through service. From "Operation Service Camp" at St. Francis Xavier Parish in Stoney Creek to Young Vincentian groups around the Diocese, young people in our parishes hear the call "to love one another as I have loved you". This involves visiting local retirement homes, fundraising for their local St. Vincent de Paul Society and other local organizations, visiting and serving the poor, and participating in annual THINK FAST events.

"I feel like we are doing something good in our hearts. The retirement home, helping with the BBQ, washing cars. We are doing something that is actually helping!"

– **Sr. Youth Group Participant, Sacred Heart Parish, Paris**

Frassati Leadership - Building New Leadership

The Frassati Leadership Program is now in its fourth year. Young people in grade 10 join us for the year long program and gather four times, regularly checking in with their mentors between gatherings. They explore the foundations of our Catholic faith and how it informs leadership in our parish and school communities. They explore different societal issues and discern how to serve.

"For me, the youth group represents unity within our church community. At St. John the Baptist, I feel safe and free to be myself. Being surrounded by peers who share my faith gives me hope – reminding me that we are not alone, and together, we can make a positive impact on the world." – **Valerie, St. John the Baptist Parish, Guelph**



HEROES OF HOPE PRAYER FOR YOUTH MINISTERS

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 lead young people to encounter your Son in the community of the Church, through catechesis, the celebration of the sacraments, loving service to their brothers and sisters, and in the joy of shared experiences with one another.

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.

Learn more about Youth Ministry in the Diocese of Hamilton including a Jubilee event for young people!



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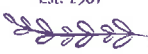
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