

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



Have you been to **St. Joseph Oratory** in Montréal? After celebrating Canadian Thanksgiving, Brother André came to mind. Can you believe it that is has been already fifteen years since he was canonized? Frère André—A friend—A brother—A saint.

Brother André, né Alfred Bessette, was born on August 8, 1845. At his birth he was so weak that his parents baptized him. At nine, his father died in a forestry accident. Three years later, his mother died of tuberculosis. He and his nine siblings were dispersed. At 12, he was forced to leave school to learn a trade and to look for work.

In 1870, Alfred presented himself as a candidate, at the novitiate of the Congregation of the Holy Cross in Montréal. Due to his uncertain health, his superiors had doubts concerning his religious vocation. Finally, he was accepted and given the name Brother André. He was made porter of Notre-Dame College and was known to say, "When I entered the community, my superiors showed me the door, and I remained there for 40 years without leaving." He also washed floors and windows, cleaned lamps, brought in firewood, and worked as a messenger.

Soon, Brother André started to welcome the sick and broken-hearted. He invited them to pray to St. Joseph to obtain favours. Before too long their prayers were being answered. Thus began the humble beginnings of the now world-famous St. Joseph Oratory in Montréal. If you have the opportunity, it is worth the drive to Montréal.

Here, at St. Joseph's Parish in Fergus, St. André Bessette continues to welcome us at the Blessed Sacrament Adoration Chapel, named in his honour. St. André Bessette, pray for us.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: "Our Lord is our Big Brother, and we are the little brothers [and sisters]."

Consequently, we should love one another as members of the same family." ~ St. André Bessette

LAUGHTER GOOD FOR THE SOUL: Two priests were fishing on the side of the road. They held a sign saying, "De End Is Near! Turn Yourself Around Now Before It Is Too Late!" and showed it to each passing car. This one car did not appreciate the sign and shouted, "Leave us alone you religious freaks!" Suddenly, they heard a big splash, looked at each other and said, "Do you think we should just put up a sign that says "Bridge Out" instead?"



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, October 21, 2025

7:00pm **Intentions of Cameron Schumacher –**
Knights of Columbus

Wednesday, October 22, 2025

8:30am **Robert Rogers – Robin Rogers**

10:30am **Highland Manor Mass**

Thursday, October 23, 2025

8:30am **Tony Ogborn – Pat Ogborn**

Friday, October 24, 2025

8:30am **Al Evans – Fern & Marie Beaudry**

Saturday, October 25, 2025

5:00pm **Intentions of Philiss & Wayne Sanford –**
Bev Rock

Pat Rafferty – Dave, Paula Kells & Family

Leo Givens – Elaine Taylor

Sunday, October 26, 2025

9:00am **Vince Merry – Yvonne & Leighton**
Spradbrow

11:00am **The Intentions of St. Joseph Parish**

Parish Donations - October 11 & 12, 2025

Regular Offerings	\$2,018.30
Building Fund	\$ 673.20
Needs of the Canadian Church	\$ 110.00
St. Mary and St. Joseph Cemetery	\$ 190.00

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time - October 19, 2025

God will answer the prayers of those who cry out.
Ask for men and women to respond to the call to
service as priests, deacons, religious brothers and
sisters. If God is calling you contact
Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of
Hamilton at 905-528-7988.

Email vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

Financial Reports

Enclosed with this week's bulletin you will find a copy of the Church's Financial Statements for 2024, with notations of important changes that have occurred in 2025. An updated Financial Statement for 2025 will be distributed next Spring.

A Walk with Jesus Retreat Day for Grieving Parents

The loss of a child is a most challenging event in the life of any parent. This grief is acute and challenging and never truly leaves us. The Diocese of Hamilton invites you to join us as we welcome Deacon Henry DeMena from North Carolina to join us in facilitating a retreat day for parents who have lost a child through death. Whether the loss is recent or some time ago, we invite you to join us for this day of healing and support. The retreat will be offered at the **Church of Our Lady Basilica in Guelph from 9 am to 4 pm on November 22nd** (lunch is included). Registration is required so we know how many to set up for and how much lunch to order. You can register on the Diocesan home page at hamiltondiocese.com under upcoming events (look for the title of the retreat or the date), or by calling the office at 905-528-7988 ext. 2249.

Children's All Saints Day Party

Save the date! On Saturday, November 1, the Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate in conjunction with Frassati's Carabiners, is hosting an All Saints Day Party for the children of the deanery from 1:00 to 3:00pm (drop in). The activities are geared to children aged 4-10, but all children are welcome! The cost is \$2/child, and children are encouraged to dress as their favourite saint. The party includes a selection of fifteen activity stations, ranging from crafts to bowling, Eucharistic Adoration to three-legged races and snacks! To RSVP, please email Elise at frassaticarabiners@protonmail.com before Saturday, Oct 25. Please include your family's surname and the number of children participating. It's going to be a fantastic afternoon for the whole family, filled with fun, faith-based activities. We look forward to seeing many of you there!

Children's Liturgy Of The Word Workshop

Children's Liturgy of the Word is a rite which takes place during Mass and is a way to help children participate in the liturgy meaningfully. This age-appropriate liturgical experience prepares children to participate fully in Mass especially after receiving their First Communion. The cost is \$35.00. It is offered on **Saturday, November 8, 2025**, St. Matthew Parish, Oakville, ON, 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Participants register through the Diocese of Hamilton website under Upcoming Events/Workshops.

Silent Auction & Toonie Table Reminder

A reminder that we are currently collecting new items to include in the Silent Auction and Toonie Table which takes place at the Annual Bazaar (Nov. 15th this year). If you have any items you would like to donate, please drop them off at the Church Office. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Parenting Tip Of The Month As the leaves change and the weather turns colder (and often wetter!), we tend to spend more time indoors. This is a perfect season for quality family time. Instead of everyone being on social media and playing online games, try an old-fashioned board game, working together to put a puzzle together, having a family book club, or watching a movie on TV together and pausing now and then to discuss what is going on and/or what might happen next. Interaction is the key and when we do so we build bonds and relationships. Children talk to us and tell us things when they are ready, so the more time we spend together, the greater the chance we will hear about their concerns, joys, struggles and questions about the world. And don't forget, praying together each day and attending Mass as a family is another perfect way to bond.

Marriage Tip Of The Month October is the month in which we celebrate Thanksgiving and a perfect time to stop and think with gratitude about our relationship with our spouse. An attitude of gratitude has the proven benefit of having our brain find the good in any situation, so what better way to see the positives your spouse brings into your life than having an attitude of gratitude for them. It is easy to focus on the challenging moments but stop and contemplate what is good. Tell your spouse in person, or in a handwritten note. Think of all the moments you share, your children, your shared home, your faith – when you pause to focus on the good, there will be so much to be thankful for, and you will feel greater love for the one you love!

Upcoming Parish Events

October 22	Highland Manor Mass 10:30am
October 28	St. Vincent de Paul Meeting 4pm
October 28	Knights of Columbus General Meeting
November 1	Baptismal Prep Class 9am-11am
November 8	COR Meeting 10:00am
November 9	CWL General Meeting 12:00 noon
November 15	Annual Parish Bazaar

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH (FERGUS) 2024

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES

REVENUE

Regular Offerings, Building Fund Collections, and Gifts in Kind	\$ 390,395.73
Income from Weddings and Funerals	5,885.00
Legacies & Bequests	-
Donations from Parish Societies and Outside Organizations	-
Sale of Religious Articles	45.00
Interest From All Sources	8,973.78
Fund Raising - Gross Value	-
Rental Income - Gross Value	1,700.00
HST Rebates, Insurance Rebates, Recovery of Expenses	19,803.39
Income from Fellowship Activities	-
Sale of Equipment and Furnishings	-
Other Authorized Collections	2,550.00
Miscellaneous Revenue, Course Fees, Sale of History Books	-
Revenue from Mass Intentions	4,620.00

\$ 433,972.90

Authorized Diocesan Collections

32,813.20

TOTAL REVENUE

\$ 466,786.10

EXPENDITURES

Church	\$ 110,832.56
Rectory	24,927.75
Other Buildings	-
Salaries - Clergy & Laity	106,997.62
Payroll Costs - Clergy & Laity	23,875.55
Sanctuary, Choir, Missals & Hymnals	13,056.29
Office Expenses	15,824.26
Parish Committees & Fellowship Activities	655.61
Retreats, Seminars & Education Costs	3,193.07
Charitable Works of the Parish	9,280.70
Bank & Interest Charges, Capital Loss on Investments	2,602.69
Cathedraticum Expense	30,155.02
HST/GST Unrefundable Portion	4,855.61
Fund Raising Expenses	-
All Donated Gifts Used in Charitable Programs	-
Major Improvements & Building Costs	-
Miscellaneous Expenses	3,153.75
Mass Intentions Expense	4,680.00

\$ 354,090.48

Authorized Diocesan Collections Paid

32,813.20

TOTAL EXPENDITURES

\$ 386,903.68

REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES

\$ 79,882.42

Turn Over

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH (FERGUS) 2024

BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS

Cash on Hand and in Banks	\$ 163,464.50
Funds On Deposit at the Chancery	
Other Investments	
Other Assets (GST Receivable, Prepaid Expenses, Other AR)	<u>17,196.56</u>
	<u>\$ 180,661.06</u>

LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable	\$ 9,626.30
Cathedraticum Payable	296,361.43 • Reduced to 30,000.00 by Bishop Crosby
Loan From the Chancery	1,297,287.98 • \$300,000 Payment made in 2025 –
Other Borrowings	- Balance Currently \$997,287.98
Deferred Revenue	
Equity	<u>(1,422,614.65)</u>
	<u>\$ 180,661.06</u>



Jubilee Year of Hope October 2025

*For those who Promote
Human Life and Dignity*

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

The Catholic faith sees the dignity of the human person as a profound truth that must influence all our relationships and actions. Many in our Diocese work tirelessly to ensure that every person is treated with the respect and dignity deserved as children of God. In Saint John Paul II's *Evangelium Vitae*, he reminds us that we must be especially attentive to the most vulnerable in our society, those who are poor, the elderly, the marginalized, the sick and the unborn.

"The dignity of the human person is rooted in his creation in the image and likeness of God" (CCC 1700).

Ministries of Care

In our Diocese there are numerous organizations and ministries who work tirelessly to ensure that human dignity is at the center of all they do. Many you have met in previous *Heroes of Hope* publications. In their work they seek out those who are most vulnerable and offer care, compassion and hope. **Outreach ministries** of all kinds provide care for the poor, sick, homeless, migrant workers, those with mental health issues, support to the Indigenous through the reconciliation fund and international development around the world. (see *March Heroes of Hope Edition*)

Just as Jesus did, we hope to bring compassionate care in the form of companionship for those who require support." –
Dave, Compassionate Care Ministry at St. Augustine's Parish

Ministry of Care in Parishes

In our parishes numerous ministries exist to support those in need, including **St. Vincent de Paul, Catholic Women's League, Knights of Columbus**, as well as ministries to support those that are grieving or suffering from mental health issues. Through the care of these ministries, hope is constantly renewed and faith shared with those in need. These compassionate care ministries remind each person of their dignity and that they are cared for by their parish community.

St. Augustine's Parish in Dundas is just one of our parishes with an active Compassionate Care Ministry offering a variety of supports to those in need. Our parishes are living their role as heroes of hope to the many they support.



Promotion of Respect for Life

At the heart of our faith teachings is a profound respect for life from conception until natural death. In our Diocese there are heroes of hope that work tirelessly to promote the value of every human person.

Right to Life Organizations provide their time and talent to help educate people on why we defend all life. Alliance for Life, Brant, KW, Hamilton, Walkerton and District Right to Life Organizations and Halton Alive are some of those heroes of hope.

Loneliness is one of the greatest challenges facing seniors today. Halton Alive's Inspire Hope program seeks to remind our elderly neighbours that their lives matter, their stories are valued, and their presence is a blessing.

– Elea H., Halton Alive

Social service organizations, such as **Birthright in Hamilton, Sanctuary Outreach in Guelph, Marillac House in Kitchener, Good Shepherd in Hamilton** and so many more provide care and support to pregnant women and their unborn and born children.

40 Days for Life groups in our Diocese give silent witness and prayer for forty days in the fall and spring to ask God to change hearts and minds and protect our most vulnerable.



Many of our Catholic schools have **Culture of Life** clubs where students provide educational events for their peers, support many charities and visit nursing homes to remind the elderly they are not forgotten.



The Diocesan Family Ministry Office provides support to all these organizations and assistance to those who have experienced the pain of abortion through **Project Rachel**. Feel free to call the office for more information on any of the groups mentioned **(905-528-7988 ext. 2250)**.



HEROES OF HOPE PRAYER FOR THOSE WHO PROMOTE HUMAN LIFE AND DIGNITY

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 work to promote respect for the sanctity of human life from conception to natural death, and defend the rights of every person, especially the most vulnerable, that they might live in freedom as your beloved sons and daughters.

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.

We invite you to visit the **Family Ministry Office** for resources, workshops, and support.





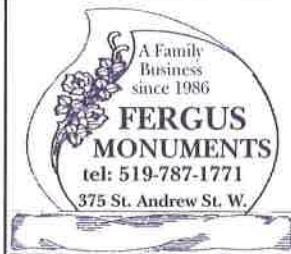
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