

# St. Joseph's Parish

760 St. David Street North, Fergus, Ontario N1M 2K9  
Tel: 519-843-2006 Email: [stjosephfergus@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:stjosephfergus@hamiltondiocese.com)  
Web Page: [www.stjosephfergus.org](http://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



Several years ago, I was reading how it took Thomas Merton, the great monk, 20 years in a Trappist monastery, before he began to deal with his own inner violence. On August 21, 1962, he wrote in his journal: "Today I realized with urgency the absolute seriousness of my need to study and practice non-violence. Hitherto I have 'liked' non-violence, as an idea. I have 'approved' it, looked with benignity upon it, praised it even earnestly. But I have not practice it fully. My thoughts and words retaliate. I condemn and resist adversaries when I think I am unjustly treated. I revile them, even treat them with open (but polite) contempt to their face. The energy wasted in contempt, criticism and resentment is thus diverted from its true function—insistence on truth."

If such is the case with Thomas Merton, it is most likely the same with us. Our following the non-violent Jesus requires the daily inner work of deepening non-violence. What a better way than the season of Advent, as it approaches, to look deeply at what is going on inside us and, when we are violent, to repent and then offer ourselves mercy. The more we show compassion toward ourselves, the more we will show toward our neighbours.

Remember Jesus did not retaliate 'violence with violence.' Let us be true instruments of peace and non-violence rejoicing in the victory of the Cross.

This week let us take time to remember  
those who paid  
the ultimate price for our freedom and  
security.  
'Lest we forget'

**FOOD FOR THOUGHT:** "Sorrow looks back, worry looks around, but faith looks up." ~ Author Unknown

**LAUGHTER GOOD FOR THE SOUL:** "Have you been good?" the priest asked the little boy. The lad responded, "Yes, and I wanna be a priest just like you when I grow up!" "What inspired this decision?" the priest inquired. "It's a no-brainer! You only work one day a week!"



## 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, November 11, 2025

7:00pm **Margaret Shaws** – Jim & Peggy Sheehy

#### Wednesday, November 12, 2025

8:30am **Intentions of Ron & Audrey Vollick** –  
Fern & Marie Beaudry

10:30am **Caressant Care Mass**

#### Thursday, November 13, 2025

8:30am **Jacob Berschl** – Cellia Piller Berschl

#### Friday, November 14, 2025

8:30am **Sophia Tabsing**

#### Saturday, November 15, 2025

5:00pm **Intentions of Joseph DeGanuto**

**Leo Givens** - Mary Epoch

**Al Evans** – Rose Anne & Wally Sander

**Salvatore Gennaro**

#### Sunday, November 16, 2025

9:00am **The Intentions of St. Joseph Parish**

11:00am **Intentions of the Students & Staff of St. Joseph School** - CWL

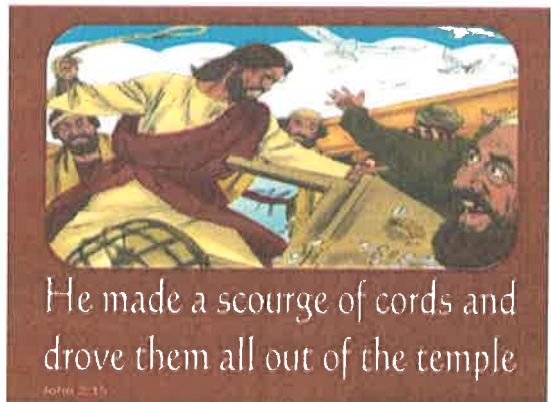
#### Parish Donations November 1 & 2, 2025

|                              |            |
|------------------------------|------------|
| Regular Offerings            | \$2,811.20 |
| World Mission Sunday         | \$ 470.00  |
| St. Mary-St. Joseph Cemetery | \$ 80.00   |
| Building Fund                | \$ 315.00  |

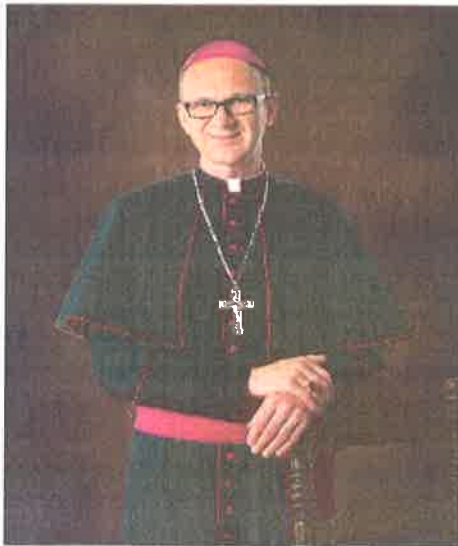
#### Dedication of the Lateran Basilica – Nov. 9, 2025

Our God is a God of the living not of the dead. Have you had an experience of this living God and want to share it with others? You may be called to the priesthood, diaconate, or religious life. If God is calling you contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988.

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



He made a scourge of cords and  
drove them all out of the temple



### **The Appointment of the 10<sup>th</sup> Bishop of Hamilton**

As many of you may have heard, the Diocese of Hamilton is getting a new Bishop – Bishop Joseph Dabrowski from the Diocese of Charlottetown and Bishop Crosby will ultimately be retiring. If you are interested in learning more about our new Bishop, who will take the reins on February 2, 2026, please visit our website ([stjosephfergus.org](http://stjosephfergus.org)) to see the announcement from Bishop Crosby, a letter from Bishop Dabrowski and an information sheet about our new Bishop.

### **CWL General Meeting – This Sunday**

A reminder to the ladies of the parish that the CWL will be holding a general meeting this Sunday after the 11am Mass. Also, the CWL Membership Renewals (\$40) were due October 26. You can find the renewal envelopes in your envelope boxes (large and small) and they can be dropped into the collection baskets at Mass or handed in at this meeting. Thank you.

### **The 9<sup>th</sup> World Day of the Poor**

This is an appropriate time to thank you our parishioners for your constant support of the poor in our community. The collection for the last two months from St. Joseph Church was \$2,410.00, St. Mary Church. Your donations purchased coats and snowsuits for children of our clients at a cost of \$1784. We will give all the families we have seen over the past year a voucher for \$150 for their Christmas groceries. You are welcome to attend our meetings and for information regarding our Society, please call Jane at 519-787-1961.

## ***Only 7 More Days Until the Bazaar!***

**Have you returned your  
Raffle tickets; donations  
for the Silent Auction or Toonie Table.**

### **Parenting Tip of the Month**

One of the most important components of positive mental health is a sense of belonging. Family is the first place we feel this sense and the stronger the ties the more secure we feel. Belonging comes when we play and work together and yes, pray together. These shared experiences help us bond and set the foundation for family traditions that unite us in common understandings and joys. So clean, cook and tidy together, play games, go for walks, build forts and houses from boxes and pray before meals, bed and at Mass on Sunday. This foundation of who we are and where we come from will contribute to healthy and happy children and families.

### **Marriage Tip of the Month**

Relationship experts often remind us of the importance of listening, really taking in what the other is saying. While this is vital to any good relationship, it is good now and then to listen to ourselves and ask if we are really conveying what we want or should be saying. Do I compliment or complain more often? Do I speak in an aggressive manner or in a loving voice that speaks the truth to see needed change? Do I repeat what I hear my spouse saying so they know I am indeed listening, or do I move on with the facts I want to share? Listen to yourself to be sure you are in fact listening to create a more loving relationship.

### **Upcoming Parish Events**

|             |                                      |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|
| November 8  | COR Meeting 10:00am                  |
| November 9  | CWL General Meeting 12:00pm          |
| November 12 | Caressant Care Mass 10:30am          |
| November 12 | RCIA Class 7:00pm                    |
| November 11 | Knights of Columbus Exec. Mtg 7:30pm |
| November 15 | Annual Parish Bazaar 10am – 2pm      |
| November 19 | RCIA Class 7:00pm                    |



## Jubilee Year of Hope Collection

As we approach the conclusion of this year of the Lord's favour, we are reminded of the prompting of Pope Francis, that debts be forgiven and assistance be given to the poorest among us.

The Episcopal Board has recommended that each Parish take up a special "Spirit of Hope Collection" to be used to assist the poor of our Parish. We will work with our St. Vincent de Paul Society to ensure proceeds are used to help the poor of our community.

The date for our **Special Collection** will be the weekend of **November 29 & 30, 2025**. Envelopes for the collection will be available in the Narthex on the weekend of Nov 15 & 16, 2025.

The celebration of the Closing Jubilee Mass will take place at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King on Sunday, December 28, 2025 at 3:00pm. It will be a fitting opportunity for us to give thanks to God for the blessings of the Jubilee Year.



# **FALL BAZAAR**

**St Joseph's Parish Church Hall  
760 St David St.N. Fergus**

**Saturday November 15  
10:00 am - 2:00pm**

**Bring the Whole Family, Friends  
and Neighbors to Enjoy**

|                     |                                  |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>BAKE SALE</b>    | <b>Silent Auction</b>            |
| <b>Cafe</b>         | <b>Local Vendors</b>             |
| <b>Toonie Table</b> | <b>Raffle 1st Prize \$750.00</b> |

**Knights of Columbus Lunch  
Dine In or Take out  
\$10.00**

**Pasta,Bun,Carrots & Dip, Dessert,Beverage**





## Jubilee Year of Hope November 2025

*For Ministers to the Dying  
and Bereaved*

## 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

**Life can be unpredictable and some situations, especially when a loved one is dying, require extra care and compassion.** There are many in our Diocese who have made it their vocation to care for others during these times. These heroes of hope are there in the most vulnerable of times and help both the dying person and their family and friends to manage the unwanted situation. Their calm presence restores hope and helps everyone cope.

### Palliative Care

Doctors and nurses who provide palliative care focus on relieving the symptoms and stress of serious illness. Their presence allows patients to live as fully and comfortably as possible until the end of life. They support not only those who are ill, but also the families and loved ones who share in the journey — true everyday heroes offering care and compassion when it is needed most.

“Hospice care not only helps people die with dignity, it helps them live out life with love.”

### Hospice Care

Direct support is offered to many through hospice care in our Diocese. These facilities provide a peaceful environment where patients and their loved ones can feel supported and cared for. They provide a space for people to experience their end-of-life journey with dignity and comfort in a place that feels like home. These facilities, such as **Emmanuel House, Margaret's Place, Stedman Community Hospice, Chapman House** and many others are supported by volunteer heroes from our Catholic community.

### Support for the Dying and their Families

Parish priests, deacons and extraordinary ministers of Communion make themselves available to bring comfort to those who are nearing the end of their earthly life. Whenever possible, they bring the sacrament of the Eucharist to those who are dying.

Priests celebrate the Anointing of the Sick, with prayer for strength and healing, and when possible, offer the “Last Rites” — *Viaticum* (Communion) food for the final journey. As the time of death approaches, priests, deacons and parish ministers may be invited to offer prayers for the dying, and at the time of death, the Church's prayer for the dead.

### At the Time of Death

Priests, deacons, and lay ministers often meet with families to prepare the most appropriate way to celebrate the Church's funeral rites. These may include a first visit at the funeral home, a Prayer Vigil in the form of a Liturgy of the Word, the Funeral Mass or Liturgy of the Word, and the Internment. The importance of gathering as a community for prayer at these moments to remember and pray for the deceased is a great source of comfort and peace for grieving families.



In many of our parishes, volunteers offer support to grieving families with food donations and following the funeral liturgy, hospitality in the form of a funeral reception. In addition, prayers for the deceased continue following the funeral liturgy and Masses are offered for the deceased.

## Support for Those Who Are Grieving

Grief is a natural response to loss. It's the emotional suffering people feel when something or someone they love is taken away. While loss affects people in different ways, many people find a need to find ways to help them deal with their grief.

In our Diocese, countless heroes of hope offer compassionate support to those in grief. Many parishes host the *When Life Changes* program, which combines educational guidance with a supportive group experience. Along with the Diocese, **St. Catherine of Siena Parish** in Hamilton, **St. Andrew's Parish** in Oakville and **St. Michael's Parish** in Waterloo serve as heroes of hope for the grieving.

"We can transform all of our suffering through the grace of Jesus Christ." – Pope Leo, XIV at the Jubilee of Consolation, Sept. 15, 2025

## Spiritual Care for the Grieving



**Parish Support** – Beyond formal grief programs, our parishes play a vital role in meeting the spiritual needs of those who are dying and those who mourn. Priests, deacons, lay ministers, and volunteers provide comfort and guidance in many ways, and continued pastoral care after a death. These acts of compassion, along with mourning rituals offered at the time of loss, bring solace and remind families that even in sorrow, they are not alone.



**Diocesan support** – Through the Family Ministry Office, the Diocese offers assistance to those caring for a loved one who is dying and to those grieving a loss. The office provides grief programs, referrals for complicated grief, and a variety of resources to support individuals and families. The office journeys, on behalf of the Diocese, with all those in need.



## HEROES OF HOPE PRAYER FOR MINISTERS TO THE DYING AND BEREAVED

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 provide compassionate care for our sisters and brothers as they reach the end their earthly life, and for those who accompany us with prayer and support in our times of grief, offering us the consolation of our faith and the hope of eternal life.

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.

"For those experiencing the loss of a loved one, the emotions and the changes can often be overwhelming. Helping them to learn about grief can impact them in ways that can help them move forward through their grief. Helping others process their grief with compassion and empathy is one of the gifts God has given me."

– Deacon Leonard Gallant





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