

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 Hétu, 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.

EUCARISTIC 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 Hétu 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



On Ash Wednesday, many of us were signed with ashes. We were signed in the form of a cross—the sign of our salvation. The cross of ashes means that we are making a commitment to participate in this Lenten season of almsgiving, prayer and fasting. It also describes our human condition. It reminds us that we are broken, and need repair; that we are sinners and need redemption. Most importantly, it reminds us that as followers of Jesus we are called to carry our crosses.

We are invited during these forty days of Lent to affect a real conversion and renewal of life—to die to self, by true almsgiving, prayer, and fasting. By *almsgiving*, we highlight others as more important than ourselves and we give ourselves and of ourselves to others as Jesus did. By *prayer*, we highlight God as most important in our life; by *humbling* ourselves, we magnify God and try to come closer to the Lord. By *fasting*, we discover our personal self; by cutting, pruning and disciplining ourselves, we see who we really are. By doing all three of these sacrifices with joyful hearts and minds, we will prepare ourselves to rise with Jesus and to share in the new life of Easter'

As the *Word Among Us* devotional, several years ago, reminded us, "In the final analysis, Lent is far less about giving something up and far more about making ourselves more available to God. If all we do is avoid eating sweets or watching too much television—without taking the opportunity to seek out the Lord more deeply—we will have missed the point of this holy season." This Lent, let us die to sin and draw nearer to God. Let us 'remember that [we] are dust and unto dust [we] shall return.' May our prayer throughout Lent be: "Lord, draw us from the dark ashes of death to the light of new life."

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: "Apart from the cross, there is no other ladder by which we may get to heaven." ~ St. Rose of Lima

LAUGHTER GOOD FOR THE SOUL: "I'm giving up negativity for Lent. We'll see how long this lasts."



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, February 24, 2026

7:00pm The Sick of the Parish

Wednesday February 25, 2026

8:30am Intentions of Dolores Schmidt

10:30am Highland Manor Mass

7:00pm Stations of the Cross

Thursday, February 26, 2026

8:30am Intentions of Mary Epoch – Joanne Huber

9:00am Stations of Mary, Mother of Jesus

Friday, February 27, 2026

8:30am Intentions of Jay & Sharon Gross

Saturday, February 28, 2026

5:00pm Intentions of Judy Daniels – Sue Beatty

Sunday, February 29, 2026

9:00am Denis O'Conner - Brian & Scheli O'Connor

11:00am Intentions of the Parishioners of St. Joseph Parish

Contributions for February 15, 2026

Regular Collection	\$1,943.80
Seminary Appeal	\$ 30.00
Building Fund	\$ 115.00

First Sunday of Lent - February 22, 2026

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 serve him as a priest, deacon, brother or sister, contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988. email vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

LENT
WALKING WITH CHRIST

IMPORTANT REMINDER
First Communion
Registration Deadline
Sunday February 22nd

World Day of Prayer

Join Christians from our community at Melville United Church, 300 St. Andrews Street West, Fergus on Friday March 6 at 2 p.m. to pray for the women and children of Nigeria. This year the Theme is: "I will Give You Rest: Come". All are Welcome

Thank You for the Anointing of the Sick

Last week's Anointing of the Sick Mass was very well attended and parishioners would like to offer thanks to Fr. Robert and Fr. Ken for offering this important blessing to those who needed it. Thanks also to the CWL ladies for the wonderful lunch after Mass!

Lenten Gift

As in the past, a generous parishioner has donated copies of *The Magnificat Lenten Companion* for use during your Lenten preparations. A limited quantity of copies are available in the Narthex. Get one while quantities last.

Volunteer Opportunity:

The St. Vincent de Paul Particular Council of Guelph Social Justice Group is looking for volunteers to help in upcoming projects.

Social Justice is a key component of Society of St. Vincent de Paul where we examine the root causes of poverty, create strategies and advocate to change those structures that keep people in poverty. Our work follows the Ten Principles of Catholic Social Teaching. At present we are working with our students in high school to learn about Social Justice and engage in projects to address the needs of those we serve, supporting affordable housing initiatives and helping families to sign up for Canada Learning Bond. We are especially looking for retired teachers and others to assist with our work with youth and share their expertise in the area of Social Justice. If interested in learning more, please send contact information to socialjusticeclbguelph@gmail.com and someone from our committee will contact you to provide more detail.

Parenting Tip Of The Month

We are constantly teaching our kids by what we choose to make a priority. We encourage schoolwork to be done well, engage in extra-curricular activities for fun and development, pray and attend Mass so faith stays at the forefront of our family values. We are however, also teaching our children when we are not trying to teach them. In those moments we are silently saying, you matter and I love being with you, that family time to relax is vital to good mental health and that undertaking chores together connects us as a family. So, enjoy the non-teaching times because they matter more than you might think! (From: Teresa Hartnett, Family Ministry Office; 905-528-7988 ext. 2250)

Marriage Tip Of The Month

We communicate by using words, sometimes without thinking about their impact. Words can build someone up or tear them down. It is the same in our relationships, the words we choose to express ourselves can impact our relationship, even when there is an issue, positively or negatively. Severe words that criticize, words used in harsh tones, words that are not true, or worse, saying nothing at all but acting angry, all escalate sometimes small matters into a storm. Speaking the truth and expressing needs in ways that are not negative will resolve matters and do no harm, in fact, they will strengthen your love and bond. (From: Teresa Hartnett, Family Ministry Office; 905-528-7988 ext. 2250)

Upcoming Parish Events

February 22	1 st Communion Registration Deadline
February 24	St. Vincent de Paul Meeting 4pm
February 24	Knights of Columbus General Mtg 7:30pm
February 25	Highland Manor Mass 10:30am
February 25	Stations of the Cross 7:00pm
February 25	RCIA 7:30pm
March 1	Knights of Columbus Breakfast
March 4	Stations of the Cross 7pm
March 5	Stations of Mary, Mother of Jesus 9am
March 6	St. Joseph School Mass 9:15am
March 7	Baptismal Prep Class 9-11am
March 10	Knights of Columbus Exec. Mtg
March 11	Caressant Care Mass 10:30am
March 11	Stations of the Cross 7:00pm
March 12	Stations of Mary, Mother of Jesus 9am
March 14	COR Men's Meeting 10am



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