

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.

DEACON: Rev. Mr. Paul Mulligan

SECRETARY: Lori Cipparrone

CUSTODIAN: Richard Kocyla

SACRISTANS: Lise Stewart & 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

LORD'S DAY 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

Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Friday 9:00 a.m. - Noon

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 the church 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

Once again, this weekend we celebrate Pro Life Sunday. Every Christian is called to work tirelessly to promote the Gospel message of life. St. Teresa of Calcutta considered abortion "the greatest destroyer of peace" and the ultimate form of violence, believing it to be a profound poverty that threatened the love and life of a child and diminished the value of all human life.

On this Respect for Life Weekend, let us double our efforts to find our way back to God, the Father. We need to respect and protect all forms of human life from fertilization to natural death; we need to work and pray vigorously to end our nation's and our world's 'culture of death.'

We need to speak and act in support of life and against abortion in private and in public forums. Pope Francis boldly declared, "Defend the unborn against abortion even if they persecute you...set traps for you, take you to court or kill you."

We can expect to face much opposition from today's society, which promotes a selfish 'culture of death,' but we need not be afraid or ashamed. Instead, St. Paul invites us to join him in suffering for the sake of the Gospel. He reminds us in today's second reading, *"In everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."*

On Sunday, October 4th, I invite everyone to join me for our annual Life Chain witness. From 4-5pm, I will be giving silent witness, holding a sign in support of life, at the corners of Union/Belsyde/Elora streets. One hour of quiet prayer for life. Let us, *"Keep doing the things that you have learned and received and heard...and the God of peace will be with you."*

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: "May the strong wind of the Spirit come upon us and within us, open the borders of our hearts, grant us the grace of encounter with God, enlarge the horizons of our love and sustain our efforts to build a world in which peace reigns." ~ Pope Leo XIV

LAUGHTER GOOD FOR THE SOUL: Don't worry about getting older. You're still gonna do dumb stuff only slower.



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 6, 2026

7:00pm **Intentions of Mario & Carol Lopes** - Pat & Donna
Richard MacLeod – Bob MacLeod
Intentions of Brigid Reilly – Mary Connor-Brooks
Leo & Agnes Given – The Givens Family

Wednesday, October 7, 2026

8:30am **John Sytsma** – Brigitte Quinke

Thursday, October 8, 2026

8:30am **Thomas Clerkin** – Bob & Molly Myers

Friday, October 9, 2026

8:30am **Intentions of Brigid Reilly**
 9:15am **St. Joseph School Thanksgiving Mass**

Saturday, October 10, 2026

5:00pm **Irene & Edward Mulcahy** – The Family
John Sytsma – Marcie Fauteux
Corinne Daphne Bantleman – Brent Brooks and Mary Connor Brooks
Intentions of Bill Turnnidge – Michael Turnnidge

Sunday, October 11, 2026

9:00am **Helen Sheehy** – Jim & Peggy Sheehy
 11:00am **Intentions of the Families of St. Joseph Parish**

Monday, October 12, 2026

10:00am Thanksgiving Day Mass

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time – October 4, 2026

Listen for the voice of God. Are you being called to be a priest, deacon or religious? If you think God is calling you, contact Fr. John Ha, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988.
 email vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

Contributions for September 20, 2026

Regular Collection	\$1,919.80
Building Fund	\$1,580.00
Mission Co-op Collection	\$5,037.05

Contributions for September 27, 2026

Regular Collection	\$1,811.80
Needs of the Canadian Church	\$ 775.00
Cemetery Fund	\$ 7.00
Building Fund	\$ 295.00
St. Vincent de Paul – September	\$1,540.00

St. Vincent de Paul Notice

You may not be aware that the Society of St. Vincent de Paul purchases coats/showsuits for all the children of our clients who are under 18.

This year, we would like to ask your help by donating to the Church gently used clean winter books for the children. There will be a box available for them in the Narthex.

Our coat delivery will be the first week of November and we would like to have the boots at that time to enable parents to choose the size they require if available.

If you know of any family in need of assistance with food vouchers, please call – we are here to help. As always we are looking for volunteers to join this very rewarding Ministry. For more information, please call Jane at 519-787-1961

Knights of Columbus Bottle Drive

The Knights of Columbus are hosting a bottle drive, October 17th from 9:00am until noon, right here at St Joseph's. Knights of Columbus supports local charities. Bring your bottles and cans. We will unload your car for you.

Young Adults Night

Saturday, October 3 – Guelph

Fr. John Ha, our new Vocations Director, invites all young adults (ages 20s and 30s) of our diocese to attend an evening of prayer, fellowship and praise music in support of your vocations. The Young Adults Night includes a Holy Hour (6:30pm-7:30 pm), social with food (7:30pm-8:00pm), praise night with vocations testimony (8:00pm-9:00pm), and Compline (9:00pm) on Saturday, October 3rd at the Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate (28 Norfolk Street, Guelph).

Upcoming Bazaar Help Needed

The Annual Parish Bazaar is fast approaching on November 7th organized by the CWL. Currently we are looking for parishioners willing to sign up to help with contacting the businesses for donations for the Silent Auction. These have been split into five areas. Please sign up for the area you wish to assist with at the CWL table in the narthex. Further information will be provided to those who sign up.

Other Ways You Can Help:

Sign up to bring baked goods to sell; pick up Raffle tickets to sell; bring in donations for the Silent Auction and Toonie Table.

Thanksgiving Day Mass

Fr. Robert invites everyone to join him for a Mass of Thanksgiving on Monday, October 12th at 10:00am. Join us to give thanks for our many gifts.

Important Parents-Only Meeting For First Communion

Parents of children in Grade 2 who want their child to receive the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Communion are required to attend a **Parents Only Meeting** in the Church on Wednesday, October 14th at 7:00pm. Information regarding important dates will be discussed.

Parenting Tip Of The Month

October is the month in which we celebrate Thanksgiving, a chance to remember all that we are grateful for in our lives. It is a perfect time to have children focus on the good things in their lives: the people they love and care for and who love and care for them, their friends, the ability to go to school, having a place to live and food to eat, to name a few. It is also a time to remind them to thank God for their gift of life and faith.

Marriage Tip Of The Month

An attitude of gratitude has proven to bring more happiness and contentment to a person's life. Expressing gratitude to your spouse for their love and all they bring to your life has a two-fold benefit, it makes them feel respected and appreciated and it helps you see the goodness in your relationship. Sometimes we forget to recognize the many wonderful things our spouse brings to us, so take the time to do so and see how your relationship can flourish!

Upcoming Events

Oct. 3/26	Baptismal Prep Class 9 -11am
Oct. 4/26	Knights of Columbus Charity Breakfast
Oct. 10/26	Diocesan "Loss of A Child Retreat"
Oct. 12/26	Thanksgiving Day Mass 10:00am Office closed
Oct. 13/26	Knights Executive Meeting 7:30pm
Oct. 14/26	Office Closed – Diocesan Secretary Retreat
Oct. 14/26	Parents Only Meeting for First Communion 7:00pm
Oct. 17/26	Knights of Columbus Bottle Drive, 9am to Noon



Elora House
REST REBUILD RESTART

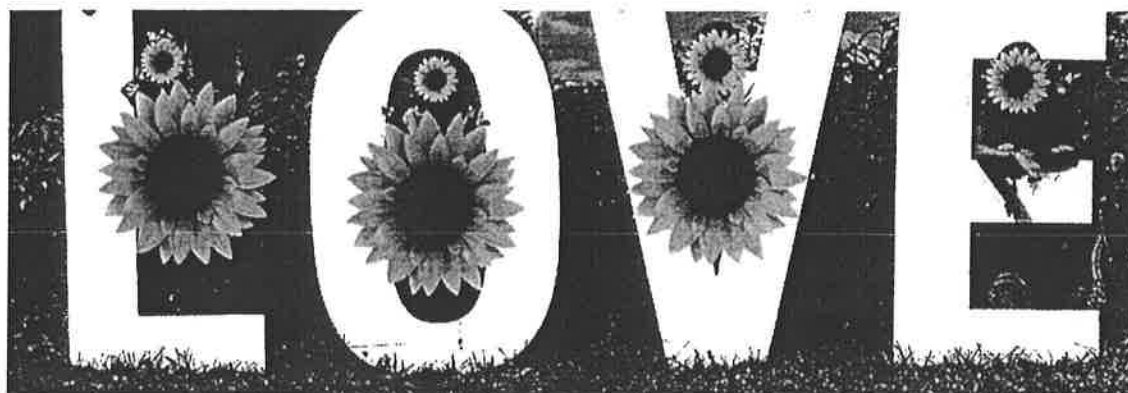
**We will learn more about Elora House
and their work in our community
after Masses on October 10 & 11**

Home

Sex Trafficking

Get involved

Contact



Our Mission

To provide safe housing and support for females who are victims of sexual exploitation and/or human trafficking.

At Elora House, we provide safe housing and loving support for females who are victims of sexual exploitation and/or human trafficking. Guided by our core values of communication, collaboration, ownership, balance, and gratitude, we focus on creating an environment where every individual can heal and grow.

In addition to safe housing and unwavering support, we prioritize helping residents build self-reliance, resilience, and overall well-being. Our approach emphasizes life-skills training and education, ensuring that these valuable resources are available to all who enter. At Elora House, we proudly offer unconditional kindness, protection, and freedom, empowering each resident on their journey toward emotional and physical strength.

Our Story

The Elora House story is one of *collaboration*,
it is the bedrock of who we are as an organization.

We recognize and aim to complement the many organizations and community partners currently doing the hard work to help combat sexual exploitation and human trafficking in our community, and beyond.



It all began when Elora House Founder, Luisa Krause, attended a local conference. She was so moved by what she learned at that time, that she almost immediately began the journey to working towards being able to provide safety for victims. The dreams quickly evolved into goals that included offering safe housing designed to inspire personal transformation and restoration, as well as supporting the victims with unconditional kindness, acceptance, and support, as they work to move beyond their experiences. Today, we all work together to help see the dream of ending Sexual Exploitation and Human Trafficking.

Our residents mainly come from Guelph/Wellington/Waterloo area but we do offer beds to victims from all over Ontario and other provinces as well.

Since opening our doors in March 2020, we have welcomed approximately 50 girls into our program with open arms.

During the time that we only ran Stage One (3-4month stay) we had a 30% success rate *success being measured by out of the lifestyle of sexual exploitation; living in their own home; in school, back with children etc.

In 2022 we were able to relocate to facilitate both Stage One & Stage Two with the ability for residents to stay longer (Approximately 1 year) and we are now running at a 80% success rate.

Today, we continue to work together to help see the dream of ending Sexual Exploitation and Human Trafficking.

OUR CARE TEAM

Our care team works together to support Elora House residents through a trauma informed and strengths based approach. Our goal is to coach each resident, role model our core values and walk alongside them as they navigate their healing journey.

Our 24/7 Frontline staff is made up of volunteers and paid staff. Together they support residents along with regular visits by registered educators, nurses, mental health workers, occupational therapists and spiritual/faith-based advisors, while offering supportive programming.

Executive Director- Luisa

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