



SAINT JOSEPH PARISH

920 Wellington Street Port Elgin,
Ontario N0H 2C3
519-832-2202



stjospar@bmts.com - www.stjospar.com

St. Joseph Church

Location: 920 Wellington St. Port Elgin, ON

St. Patrick Church

Location: 36 Albert St. S. (Highway 21) Southampton, ON

February 14, 2021 – Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**The Church and Office are closed due to COVID-19 Government Restrictions
All Public Masses are Cancelled until Further Notice**

Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. Fr. Chris Tracey
Administrator: Rosalie Scarlett
Secretary/Receptionist: Kay Pyke-Mullen

Parish Office Hours:

Tuesday to Friday 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Weekend MASSES

Saturday 5:00 PM

Sunday 9:00 AM

During the Pandemic, only the priest and lector are visible in the streamed Mass.

Weekday MASS

Wednesday 9:30 AM

During the Pandemic, Weekday Masses are celebrated in private by Pastor, Fr. Chris Tracey

MASS INTENTIONS

Request by Email at stjospar@bmts.com / Regular Mail / Leave a Voice Message on the Parish Office Number: 519-832-2202 /
Drop a Note in the Rectory Front Door Letter Box / Use the [Mass Intention Button](#) on our website.

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

[Date: + Deceased or * Intention / Clergy, Hamilton Diocese]

15-Feb-21	Mon	*	Pastor's Intentions	Rev. Thomas Vermiglio, M.C.C.J.
16-Feb-21	Tue	+	Adam Coules	Rev. Stephen Murrin
17-Feb-21	Wed	+	Pamela Nagle	Ash Wednesday
18-Feb-21	Thu	*	Marie Melanson & her Son	Rev. Toby Collins C.R
19-Feb-21	Fri	*	End of COVID-19	Rev. Joseph de Viveiros, C.R.
20-Feb-21	Sat	+	Benno Spitzer	Rev. Jungheon (Francisco) Kwak
1 Sunday of Lent				
21-Feb-21	Sun	*	Parish & Pandemic Front-Line Workers	Hamilton Diocese

Provincial COVID-19 Restrictions

As per a directive from Bishop Crosby, on behalf of the Diocese of Hamilton, regarding the recent Provincial COVID-19 Restrictions, there will be NO Masses allowed until further notice from the Diocese. As in the March 2020 lockdown, the Church and Office will again be closed until advised by the Diocese. Therefore, all calls, texts, and emails will be addressed only when possible. However, Emergency and Pastoral calls will have priority. Please observe our Provincial health guidelines: by washing hands regularly, distancing and wearing masks in social situations, and staying at home and within your personal bubble to repel this dangerous virus. Further information is on Hamilton Diocese website:

<http://www.hamiltondiocese.com> As your Pastor, together with all your friends at Saint Joseph Parish, we wish everyone to be safe and well and at peace. May God bless you and keep you and your loved ones safe in his embrace. **Stay Safe Everyone – Father Chris**

Diocesan Links:

[Statement on the Use of COVID-19 Vaccines - Diocese of Hamilton \(hamiltondiocese.com\)](#)

[Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass - Diocese of Hamilton \(hamiltondiocese.com\)](#)

Scripture Readings

February 21st - First Sunday of Lent

First Reading: Genesis 9.8-15

Psalm: Ps 25.4-5a, 6+7b, 8-9 (R.10)

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3.18-22

Gospel: Mark 1.12-15

First Reconciliation and First Communion

Thank you for registering children in Grades 2 & 3.

Preparation will take place **virtually** beginning

Sunday February 28, 2021.

The Sacraments will be celebrated in **April 2021** for First Reconciliation and **May 2021** for First Communion (*depending on COVID-19 Government Restrictions*).

Parents are the primary teachers of the faith for their child. The seven entertaining weekly Catechism Lessons will help Catholic and Public School parents to play an invaluable role in their children's Faith formation and preparation for these two important Sacraments.

St. Joseph's Pen Pal Program

This initiative by our Parish Pastoral Council is designed to help families with children Grades 2-8, to accomplish three main goals:

- To build community among the youngest members of our Parish.
- To provide opportunities to support children's spiritual and social development from home.
- To practice reading and writing in a non-threatening, authentic environment.

Ashley and Scott Clark will manage the Pen Pal Program. More information can be found on the parish website: <https://www.stjospar.com/youth.html>

Sacrament of Confirmation

Children in Grade 7 & Grade 8 are eligible to receive the *Sacrament of Confirmation* in the Catholic Church.

Through the power of the Holy Spirit, your child will develop a strong relationship with Jesus and have a proper understanding of how to live as a true follower of Christ. Preparation will take place virtually, and the sacrament will be celebrated late spring (*depending on COVID-19 Government Restrictions*).

PARENTING TIP OF THE MONTH - Two kinds of love are on display in the month of February this year – one on Valentine's Day celebrating romantic love and one on Feb. 17th, Ash Wednesday, celebrating the infinite love of a merciful God. When we recognize the depth of God's love, so powerful that nothing can separate us from it, we feel secure that God is always with us. Both these loves are important and this is a great month to help children understand that God is responsible for both. Talk to them about how He created us to want to be in relationships, care about others and love important people in our lives. Help them to understand that the six weeks of Lent ends with the celebration Easter. Easter, the day we rejoice over Christ's resurrection and through his love, our ability to spend eternity in Heaven.

Please contact the Parish Office for the following:	
Baptism:	information and registration.
Marriage:	an appointment, one year in advance of the wedding date.
1st Communion:	if your child is in Grade 2 or 3.
Confirmation:	Students in Grade 7 or 8 to be held in 2021
R.C.I.A.:	Adults, and children Grade 3 and over, interested in becoming Catholics.
Care of the Sick:	Visits to the sick are not allowed due to COVID-19, but prayers on the phone will be offered.

ASH Wednesday, February 17th, 2021, begins the Holy Season of Lent. The Diocesan Office for Evangelization and Catechesis and the Diocesan Office for Liturgy have prepared an Ash Wednesday program that can be celebrated at home – with the Gospel proclamation and a brief reflection by His Excellency, Bishop Douglas Crosby. People may bless themselves and each other, as well as their children, by tracing the Sign of the Cross on their foreheads, marking the beginning of the annual Lenten journey. For more information and additional resources for celebrating Lent in pandemic times, please see our Diocesan website: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/lent2021/>

To participate in the following groups, please request a ZOOM invitation link from icarolan06@gmail.com:

Faith Sharing - Wednesdays at 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM to discuss up-coming Sunday readings.

Rosary - Tuesdays at 7:00 PM to share in our community prayer to Mother Mary.

Stations of the Cross - Fridays at 7:00 PM for Lent beginning February 19, 2021.

Canadian Food for Children is operating on reduced hours to ensure they can do what is best for their volunteers while providing essential goods to those they serve. While donations are genuinely needed and welcomed, they ask you to consider whether your item is something a mother in a developing country in need can use to survive and support her children. As always, they are grateful for your monetary donations. You can contact them at: (905) 274-9239. Mail cheques to: Canadian Food for Children 1258 Lakeshore Rd. E., Mississauga, ON L5E 1E9 Or donate online: [Donate Now - CANADIAN FOOD FOR CHILDREN \(canadahelps.org\)](https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/canadian-food-for-children/)

Society of St. Vincent de Paul: If you want to support St. Vincent de Paul, you can send a cheque to the parish office, drop in the mailbox at the rectory, or donate on line through CanadaHelps.org at <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/society-of-st-vincent-de-paul-st-josephst-patricks-conference-port-elgin/>.



Our Lenten Journey with Jesus

TIPS FOR CELEBRATING THE LENTEN SEASON
WITH YOUR FAMILY, FROM THE SAFETY OF YOUR HOME



1) CARVE OUT TIME

Together as a family try to schedule some intentional time for prayer and reflection each week as we draw closer to the great feast of Easter. When can you gather together to pray? Do you have a calendar in the home? Try counting down the 40 days of Lent with little footprints, stickers or stamps marking your journey towards the celebration of Holy Week. Remember to mark the Sacred Sundays during the Lenten Season in a special way as these are exclusive of the 40 days of preparation.

2) SET THE SCENE

Create an intentional space for prayer. Working together to create a prayer center in the home can be a lovely opportunity for the creativity of your family members to shine. Make sure the space you choose is comfortable and inviting for all children present. Think about utilizing signs and symbols from the Church to heighten awareness to the importance of this prayer time; candles, a Crucifix, a purple cloth, a Bible and signs and symbols of spring. If someone in the family is musical, the inclusion of music always elevates prayer.



3) KEEP IT SIMPLE

Engage in prayer and the Celebration of the Word throughout the Lenten season in ways that are simple and accessible for your family. Use the suggested liturgy guides and resources found on our website. Watch a live-streamed or recorded parish Mass and share with one another what you heard in the Sunday Gospel and Homily. Utilize your favourite prayer to root your family's daily routine.

4) EMBRACE LENTEN RITUALS

Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving are important Lenten rituals that help us strengthen our relationship with God. A prayer routine invites God into the day-to-day pulse of our homes. Fasting is the action of choosing to go without something we enjoy. Traditionally, most Christians refrain from eating meat on Friday. Try to schedule "Fish Friday" on the menu. Almsgiving is an important act of sacrifice during Lent. Almsgiving is not necessarily a financial sacrifice, but giving of time and talents to serve those in need. Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving help us give the best of ourselves for God's glory.



5) KEEP THE CONVERSATION GOING

Take time throughout the season of Lent to talk about the importance of preparing well for Easter. Consider these conversation starters in the home:

- God calls us to work hard to show our love for Him and for one another during Lent through prayer, fasting and sharing all that we have. How is God calling you to grow this Lent?
- Jesus sacrificed His life on the Cross out of love for us. Sometimes sacrifice is hard, but it can bring life to others. What have you sacrificed out of love for another today?
- How can our family continue to prepare for the joy of Easter?

COMPILED BY THE DIOCESE OF HAMILTON

www.hamiltondiocese.com/lent2021



Ash Wednesday at Home

AN OUTLINE FOR THE LITURGY OF THE WORD
WITHOUT THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES



AFTER THE FAMILY IS GATHERED, A PARENT BEGINS:

THE SIGN OF THE CROSS:

The parent(s) trace the Sign of the Cross while offering the following and encouraging the children, if necessary, to join them:

"Whenever we gather to pray, we gather in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

INVITATION TO PRAY:

The parent(s) may pray in these or similar words. Parents may ask the children questions or sharing with the children the purpose of Lent.

Ash Wednesday opens the liturgical season of Lent. In our ancient Christian tradition, it is a time of penance and fasting. We usually receive ashes on our foreheads at church or school. However, because of COVID-19, to protect everyone, we open Lent at home. Ashes symbolize the dust from which God made us. This year, we even fast from ashes.

The parent(s) then bless children and one another by making the Sign of the Cross on the forehead of the children and one another, saying the following words: **Repent, and believe in the Gospel.**

A LITANY FOR LENT

The parent may pray the litany below and let the children know that the response is: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pope Francis tells us that another name for God is "Mercy."

We thank God for Mercy. Our response today is "Lord, have Mercy" -

- Encourage us Lord to do penance, R
- Strengthen us Lord to resist, R
- Show us how to live forgiving lives, R.
- Help us to reject bullying, unfairness, and injustice, R.
- You accepted death to bring us to eternal life, R.



OPENING PRAYER

A parent prays on behalf of the family.

Loving God, you sent us Jesus to save us from our sins. Have mercy on us and help us fast, pray and give alms. Forgive our sins and help us to see your love. Amen.



GOSPEL PROCLAMATION AND REFLECTION:

The parent(s) then play the Gospel proclamation and reflection by His Excellency, Bishop Douglas Crosby.

The parent(s) are invited to discuss the video. Parents are encouraged to ask their children questions and/or share about their own understanding of Lent. Here are some guiding questions: What did Bishop Crosby say to us today in his message? What can you tell me about almsgiving? Why is fasting important? What can you fast from during Lent? How as a family can we pray together?



CLOSING PRAYER AND BLESSING:

The parent(s) may invite the children to pray together the Lord's Prayer, Hail Mary, Glory Be or another suitable prayer.

The parent(s) may then bless the children individually or collectively by tracing the Sign of the Cross on their foreheads while offering a prayer in these or similar words:

God, as we begin the discipline of Lent, make this season holy by our self-denial. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

