



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 21, 2021 – First Sunday of Lent

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 (starting February 27, 2021)

Sunday 9:00 AM PM (starting February 28, 2021)

(Online registration begins Saturday afternoon one week prior to the Mass)

During the Pandemic, only the priest and lector are visible in the 'on-line' Mass.

Weekday MASS

Wednesday 9:30 AM (starting February 24, 2021)

During the Pandemic, Weekday Masses (except Wed) are celebrated in private by Pastor, Fr. Chris.

Public Masses will resume on February 27, 2021 with limited capacity (30% of worship space) in accordance with COVID-19 Government and Hamilton Diocese Restrictions. Registration for Weekend Masses required via Website Home Page: www.stjospar.com

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.

First Sunday of Lent

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

22-Feb-21	Mon	*	Pastor's Intentions	Rev. Marian Gil, O.M.I.
23-Feb-21	Tue	+	Joshua George	Rev. Brendan McGrath
24-Feb-21	Wed	*	Mary Lou & Yvon Rancourt	Society of the Sacred Heart of Jesus (S.J.C.)
25-Feb-21	Thu	+	Pamela Nagle	Rev. Jason Kuntz
26-Feb-21	Fri	+	Arnaldo Salazar	Rev. Romelito Guillen
27-Feb-21	Sat	+	Pamela Nagle	Rev. Grayson Hope
28-Feb-21	Sun	*	Parish & Pandemic Front-Line Workers	Hamilton Diocese

Provincial COVID-19 Restrictions: Update

Churches in Hamilton Diocese are re-opening to welcome parishioners for worship, *but still at the required 30% capacity* required by the Ontario Board of Health. So, people may feel secure enough to return, parishes are following rigorously the protocols prepared by the Chancery according to Government restrictions. We aim to assure the safety and good health, physical, mental, and spiritual, of all parishioners. Like many parishes, our *office will still be operating 'virtually'*, with staff safe at home. *Meetings are by special appointment or performed on-line. Emergency and pastoral calls will have priority*, responded to with utmost care to observe Provincial health rulings. Meanwhile, please follow carefully the **3-Ws: Wear a Mask, Wash Hands, and Watch Your Distance (6')**. Stay home in your 'bubble' to repel this dangerous virus, especially as it mutates into more highly infectious, lethal cells, possibly immune to the new vaccines.

May God bless you, and keep you well and safe in his embrace. – Father Chris.

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

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.

Catholic Organizations:	
Catholic Women's League (CWL)	Lucie Debiens
Knights of Columbus	Harry Orsztynowicz
SJTW Secular Franciscans	Brenda Murray
Society of St. Vincent de Paul	Hot Line: 519-832-2207

Stations of the Cross for Lent - Fridays at 7:00 PM beginning February 19. For Zoom Link, please contact: tcarolan06@gmail.com.

Annual Lenten Journey - for 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 tcarolan06@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.

Upcoming Event links:

February 18: *Lenten Reflection Series for Catechists*

February 25: *Reel Justice Film Festival*

March 1: *Diving Deep into Fratelli Tutti*

March 13: *Ministers of Music Virtual Lenten Retreat*

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)

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-josephsst-patricks-conference-port-elgin/>.

First Reconciliation and First Communion:

Thank you for registering children in Grades 2 and 3. **** Please note: Children must be registered to allow parish to legally bless them with these sacraments. ****

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 and Grade 8 are eligible to receive the *Sacrament of Confirmation* in the Catholic Church. Through the Holy Spirit, your child will develop a strong relationship with Jesus and a proper understanding of how to live as a true follower of Christ.

**** Please note: Children must be registered to allow parish to legally bless them with this sacrament. ****

Preparation will take place 'virtually' beginning: **Sunday February 28, 2021.**

Confirmation will be celebrated in **May and June 2021** (**depending on COVID-19 Government Restrictions**).

THE FEAST OF THE CHAIR OF PETER is celebrated on Monday, February 22nd. "The cathedra is literally the seat of the bishop," said Pope Benedict XVI in 2006. "It is the symbol of his authority and, particularly, of his 'Magisterium,' in other words of the evangelical teaching that he, as successor the Apostles, is called to protect and transmit to the Christian community. To celebrate the 'Chair' of Peter means, then, giving it a strong spiritual significance, and recognizing therein a privileged sign of the love of God." (From Living With Christ, February 2021, pg.168)



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