



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

March 28, 2021 – Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

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

(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 *(Cancelled on March 31, 2021 and April 7, 2021)*

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

Holy Week Schedule:

NOTE: ONLINE Registration ONLY

Palm Sunday	March 27, 2021	5:00 PM
	March 28, 2021	9:00 AM
Holy Thursday	April 1, 2021	7:00 PM
Good Friday	April 2, 2021	3:00 PM
Holy Saturday Easter Vigil	April 3, 2021	8:00 PM
Easter Sunday	April 4, 2021	9:00 AM

Public Masses have resumed with limited capacity (30% of worship space) in accordance with COVID-19 Government and Hamilton Diocese Restrictions.

Registration for Weekend Masses is required via Website Home Page: www.stjospar.com

MASS INTENTIONS

Request by Email at stjospar@bmts.com, regular mail, leaving phone message 519-832-2202 or dropping off in Sunday collection or Rectory letter box. Give your name, name(s) for intentions and if living or deceased and if a Mass card is required. Cost is \$10, please enclose cash or cheque in an envelope.

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

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

29-Mar-21	Mon	*	Pastor's Intentions	Rev. Ranjan D'Sa, O.C.D.
30-Mar-21	Tue	+	John E. Motz	Rev. Maria Joseph Ahilan Alphonse, C.R.S.P
31-Mar-21	Wed	+	Monique Charette	Sisters of St. Joseph of Canada (C.S.J.)
1-Apr-21	Thu	*	People of the Parish	<i>Holy Thursday</i>
2-Apr-21	Fri	*	People of the Parish	<i>Good Friday</i>
3-Apr-21	Sat	*	People of the Parish	<i>Holy Saturday</i>
Resurrection of the Lord		*	Parish & Pandemic Front-Line Workers	Easter Sunday
4-Apr-21	Sun			

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 \(hamiltondiocese.com\)](https://www.hamiltondiocese.com)

Stations of the Cross for Lent: Fridays at 7:00 PM
via [Zoom](#) Meeting ID: 854 3437 3391, Password: 762046

Annual Lenten Journey: For information and additional resources for celebrating Lent in pandemic times, please see our Diocesan website:

<https://hamiltondiocese.com/lent2021/>

Faith Programs: To participate, please request a ZOOM invitation link from tcarolan06@gmail.com:

- **Faith Sharing:** Wednesdays at 1:00 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.

Mass of Chrism: His Excellency, Bishop Crosby, will celebrate the Mass of Chrism on Monday, March 29th, 2021 in the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King, Hamilton. Due to COVID-19 restrictions and capacity limitations, **attendance will be limited to Priests only.**

First Reconciliation and First Communion:

Thank you for registering children in Grades 2 & 3.

****Please Note: Children must be registered to allow parish permission to perform sacrament.****

Our first 'virtual' preparation commenced on Sunday, February 28, 2021.

The **7 Weekly Lessons** will help Catholic and Public School parents play a primary, invaluable role in their children's Faith formation and Sacrament preparation.

First Reconciliation took place on March 21, 2021 and March 27, 2021.

The Sacrament of First Communion will be celebrated in **May 2021** ([depending on COVID-19 Government Restrictions](#)).

St. Joseph's 'Pen Pal' Program:

This *Parish Pastoral Council* program is to help families with children Grades 2-8, to accomplish three main goals:

- *To build community among youngest parish members.*
- *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 manage the 'Pen Pal' Program.

More information is on our parish website:

<https://www.stjospar.com/youth.html>

Sacrament of Confirmation:

Children Grades 7 & 8 are eligible to receive *Confirmation*. The Holy Spirit helps them build a strong relationship with Jesus and deep knowledge to live as a true follower of Christ.

A new website was launched this week for Confirmation preparation and to provide a user friendly and more accessible domain for students to access from all boards.

****Please Note: Children must be registered to allow parish permission to perform sacrament.****

Confirmation is planned for: **May / June 2021** ([depending on COVID-19 Government Restrictions](#)).

Diving Deeper into Fratelli Tutti - Fratelli Tutti is an Encyclical letter written by Pope Francis to "all people of good will." Let's dive a little deeper into its meaning and content over a five session series during Lent. Join us on Zoom for one or all of these 90-minute sessions: **Mondays, March 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29** (afternoon session 1:30-3:00pm or evening session 7:00-8:30pm) Registration is required.

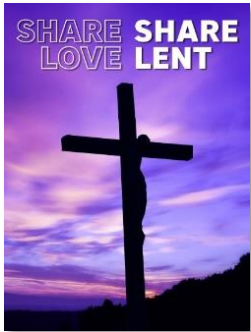
No charge to participate.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!

To sanitize pews and touch points for approximately 1/2 an hour following weekend Masses.
Please call or email the parish office.

Diocesan Collections – These funds are forwarded directly to the Diocese for their distribution to the charities. *Special collection envelopes are included in your quarterly package. If you do not have collection envelopes, you may use a blank envelope marked “Share Lent” with your name and address.*

Share Lent Collection – This has been a tradition in Canadian parishes since 1968. It was established to embody the two pillars of social action—charity and justice— which Pope Benedict XVI described as “not only social, but also spiritual actions, accomplished in the light of the Holy Spirit.”



This year, the campaign theme is *Share Love, Share Lent*. It is inspired by the message of social fraternity conveyed by Pope Francis in his latest encyclical, *Fratelli Tutti*. The Share Lent collection is an opportunity to find inspiration from the parable of the Good Samaritan which is at the centre of this encyclical.

Participating in Share Lent is a way of doing our part so, as the Holy Father hopes, that “every person lives with dignity and has sufficient opportunities for his or her integral development.”

Needs of the Church in the Holy Land - This Good Friday collection was originally initiated by Pope John Paul II for the support of the Church in the Holy Land.



Divine Mercy Sunday April 11th, 2021
The Divine Mercy Novena begins on Good Friday. It can be found at divinemercy.org.

Triduum

Paschal Fast: The Paschal Fast should be observed everywhere on Good Friday and continue on Holy Saturday. In this way the people of God will receive the joys of the Lord’s resurrection with uplifted and responsive hearts. Good Friday is a universal day of fasting and abstinence from meat.

THE SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM - The celebration is the high point of the Liturgical Year. It opens with the evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper (Holy Thursday), continues with the passion and death of our Lord Jesus Christ (Good Friday), and reaches its climax at the Easter Vigil (Holy Saturday).

Catholic Organizations:	
Catholic Women’s League (CWL)	Lucie Desbiens 519-832-6521 or Cell 519-706-0442
Knights of Columbus	Harry Orsztynowicz 519-832-9280
SJTW Secular Franciscans	Brenda Murray 519-832-6185
Society of St. Vincent de Paul	Hot Line: 519-832-2207

Please contact the Parish Office for the following:	
Baptism:	information and registration.
Marriage:	an appointment 1 year in advance of date.
First Communion:	Grades 2 & 3 April/May 2021.
Confirmation:	Students in Grades 7 & 8 May/June 2021.
R.C.I.A.:	Adults, and children in Grade 3 and up.
Care of the Sick:	Visits are not allowed due to COVID-19, but prayers by phone are available.

Canadian Food for Children is operating on reduced hours to ensure they can do the 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 family in a developing country in need can use to survive and support their children. As always, they are very grateful for your monetary donations. You can contact them at: (905) 274-9239. Or 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 wish to support St. Vincent de Paul, please send a cheque to the parish office via the rectory letterbox or donate on line via [CanadaHelps.org](https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/society-of-st-vincent-de-paul-st-josephsst-patricks-conference-port-elgin/) at: <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/society-of-st-vincent-de-paul-st-josephsst-patricks-conference-port-elgin/>.

Saint Joseph Parish

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Pastor: Rev. Fr. Christopher Tracey

March 14, 2021

Dear Friends,

As we reach the middle of our Lenten season, facing unusual and demanding challenges from the pandemic such as burdensome worry, fear, anger, discord, loneliness, sadness, fatigue – difficulties both physical and emotional such as we may have never experienced before, the pandemic should tell us in the core of our very being that clearly our suffering is bringing us closer to Christ's suffering perhaps more than we have ever experienced before.

We are being forced to recognize the stark reality of what human suffering is in a very distinct, authentic way. But, if we examine this bitter experience more closely, we will also realize how much *our personal strife is actually blessing us*, because it is bringing us to a better knowledge and appreciation of what our Lord, Jesus Christ, must have felt with every denial by his apostles, with every ingratitude of the crowd, with every blow to his body, with every thorn embedded in his head, with every sliver of the heavy cross in his hands, with every fall upon the rocky path stretching before him, with every indignity to his body stripped and exposed to the harsh elements, with the strike of every hammer blow, with the sting of vinegar upon his tongue, and with the pain in the eyes of his Mother, Mary, John, the beloved, and Mary Magdalene.

Our suffering in these past many months is a blessing, because the pains both small and great bring us into Christ's world, a world which is motivated and energized, not by physical strength and prowess, but by an intense, ambient love which consummated our birth at the beginning of life and time itself, *the making of us!* – God's most beloved miracle of all creation.

This Lenten season shall we be sorrowful and bitter for the hardships we are enduring, or will we be grateful to them for bringing us closer to Christ, our Saviour, who hears our cries in the wilderness and answers them with his sacrifice of love and promise of eternal joy and peace.

Our *Holy Week Masses* will be available for registration on: **Saturday, 20th March @ 12noon.**

Holy Week Mass Times are:

March 27, 2021: Palm / Passion Mass: Saturday – 5 pm

March 28, 2021: Palm / Passion Mass: Sunday – 9 am

April 1, 2021: Holy Thursday – 7 pm

April 2, 2021: Good Friday – 3 pm

April 3, 2021: Holy Saturday Vigil – 8 pm

April 4, 2021: Easter Sunday – 9 am

**** Please Note: Unfortunately, because of Govt and Diocesan protocols regarding Covid-19 ****

Among other restrictions, there will be no distribution of palms, no washing of feet, no processions, no lighting of candles at Vigil, nor blessing of food at 12noon Holy Saturday.

Keep Well and Safe in God's Embrace. Peace and Joy. – Father Chris.





DIOCESE OF HAMILTON

DECREE

EASTER DUTY DURING THE PANDEMIC

Whereas all the faithful are obligated to observe the Easter Duty, which requires all the faithful to Receive Holy Communion once a year during the Easter Season;

Whereas the Easter Duty does not require the reception of Penance once a year unless a person is in grave sin (CCC 1457, 2042);

Whereas, during the present pandemic it may not be possible for people to receive Holy Communion either because they cannot attend church or because of a delicate conscience relative to receiving Communion in the hand;

I hereby dispense the faithful of the Diocese of Hamilton from the Easter Duty this year, 2021.

Given on 8th day of March at the Chancery Office in Hamilton, Ontario.



(Most Rev.) Douglas Crosby, OMI
Bishop of Hamilton

Very Rev. Monsignor Murray J. Kroetsch, PH, VG
Chancellor

/cd



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