



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

May 2nd, 2021 – Fifth Sunday of Easter

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

Hamilton Diocese, as per the new government directives, has closed all Churches until further notice.

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

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

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.

Fifth Sunday of Easter

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

3-May-21	Mon	*	Pastor's Intentions	Rev. David Reilander
4-May-21	Tue	*	Jeanine Nantel	Rev. David Weise
5-May-21	Wed	*	The Murray Family	Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate (S.S.M.I.)
6-May-21	Thu	+	Mary S. Motz	Rev. Tom Moisan
7-May-21	Fri	+	Yvon Rancourt	Rev. Leszek Szczygiel
8-May-21	Sat	+	Yvon Rancourt	Rev. Pablito Labado
6th Sunday of Easter				
9-May-21	Sun	*	Parish & Pandemic Front-Line Workers	Hamilton Diocese

Dear Parish Families and Friends,

The escalating rise and surge in the infections from Covid-19 and its more dangerous variants of concern have given our Provincial Government and Diocese of Hamilton no choice but to enact further, more restrictive measures to curtail the spread of the virus, especially for the sake of our hospitals' ICUs, beds, and medical response personnel.

Thus, **stay-at-home orders** plus other restrictions to public mobility were broadcast by the Govt on Friday, 16th April, 2021 until a medical and governmental re-assessment of the severity of the situation takes place.

Therefore, as elsewhere in the province, Hamilton Diocese, as per the new government directives, has **closed all Churches until further notice**.

Meanwhile, our office will remain 'virtually' open, Tuesdays to Fridays, 10am to 3pm, with voicemail and email answered within 24 hours. Emergency calls will be responded to as soon as possible. In person appointments are discouraged, unless negotiated with pastor. The office will be closed on Mondays as usual.

For now, please keep well and safe, positive and cheerful. Jesus is always by our side. With God's grace and love for us, all will probably end sooner than we expected, and all will be forgotten except for important lessons in life and love and faith, learned from our challenges. Then, all of God's creation will renew itself with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Blessings of Peace, Hope and Joy in Christ Jesus. – Father Chris.

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

First Holy Communion Mass Celebrations
scheduled for April/May, 2021 have been
CANCELLED for now.

New Dates are still to be determined.

First Reconciliation and First Communion Milestones:



Fall 2020: Registration of children in Grades 2 & 3.

February 28, 2021: Our first 'virtual' preparation

March/April 2021: First Reconciliation completed

April 20, 2021: Zoom call was well attended and it gave us a chance to connect and share experiences. Parents play a primary, invaluable role in their children's Faith formation and Sacrament preparation.

Please **complete** and **save** your portfolios so that you can submit them at your First Communion Celebration when rescheduled.

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.

The existing program runs until June 30, 2021. Approx. 20 children are participating and have been writing back and forth to their pen pals and getting to know one another over the past few months. It's been a wonderful way to build connection throughout the pandemic. We are grateful to those families who chose to participate and engage in this initiative.

Ashley and Scott Clark manage the 'Pen Pal' Program.

Confirmation Celebrations will remain as scheduled in May/June, 2021 depending on our Government and Hamilton Diocese forthcoming assessments of the COVID-19 situation.

Sacrament of Confirmation Milestones:

Fall 2020: Registration of Children Grades 7 & 8.

February 2021: Our first 'virtual' preparation.

March 2021: A new website was launched to allow a more accessible domain to students from all boards. The Holy Spirit helps build a strong relationship with Jesus and deep knowledge to live as a true follower of Christ.



May 16, 2021: Please **complete** and **submit** your portfolio.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK is being celebrated across Ontario starting **Sunday, May 2, 2021**. The theme this year is *Catholic Education: Nurturing Hope*. The Ontario Catholic School Trustees Association (OCSTA) will be offering a livestreamed Provincial Mass on **Wednesday, May 5, 2021**, presided by His Eminence, Thomas Cardinal Collins. Catholic schools across the Province will be participating in this online Mass [link](#). Additionally, the Diocesan Office for Evangelization and Catechesis is preparing a message that will be sent to the School Boards in our Diocese and available on our website. Publically funded Catholic Education in the Province of Ontario is a rich blessing for our young people. We celebrate and give thanks!

For our **Catholic Education system**, may it nurture hope in our province and the world.

For **Catholic students**, may they nurture hope in themselves, their families, friends, school, and community.

For **Catholic educators**, may their work reveal the beauty of creation in their students.

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.

Donation of \$5 for 1 Ticket
\$10 for 3 - \$20 for 8

All proceeds go to Women's House of
Bruce and Canadian Catholic
Missions.

To be drawn on
Tuesday May 18, 2021.

Payment E-Transfer to
H-112@CWLHAMILTON.CA

Drop off in Parish Rectory Mail Box
or Text or call Deborah at 519-386-0384



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.

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

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](#).

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.

PARENTING TIP OF THE MONTH: COVID-19 continues to dominate and control much of our lives. All of this affects children, but since they take their cues from adults in their lives, we can help them to feel resilient. Remind them of how happy you are, despite all that is happening that you are together as a family. Remind them of the beauty of nature that is all around for them to see and enjoy, that technology lets them connect with other family and friends and that through all of this we can continue to pray and ask for God's blessings. When they hear anger and frustration, they feel worry and concern; when they hear optimism and calm, they too feel those emotions as well. Let us remind our children how much we love them; help keep them strong during the pandemic. From: Family Ministry Office.

UNDERSTANDING ANGER VIRTUAL WORKSHOP



Presented by: ANNA RACINE
Sat., May 8, 2021 10:00 to 3:00
Held Virtually on ZOOM Platform
Cost: \$40.00
Register at: annaracine.org@gmail.com
or (905) 351-8367

LEARNING TO FORGIVE VIRTUAL WORKSHOP



Presented by: ANNA RACINE
Sat., May 29, 2021 10:00 to 3:00
Held Virtually on ZOOM Platform
Cost: \$40.00
Register at: annaracine.org@gmail.com
or (905) 351-8367

THE IMPACT OF COVID 19 VIRTUAL WORKSHOP



Presented by: ANNA RACINE
Sat., June 19, 2021 10:00 to 3:00
Held Virtually on ZOOM Platform
Cost: \$40.00
Register at: annaracine.org@gmail.com
or (905) 351-8367



BISHOP OF HAMILTON

MESSAGE FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK

The theme of this year's Catholic Education Week is *"Nurturing Hope"*. We hear from the prophet Isaiah that *"those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength, they will run and not grow weary."* (Isaiah 40:31) As Christian people, we are called to embody and share the virtue of hope.

Hope has been essential as we continue to grapple with the effects of pandemic life. It can be difficult to express hopefulness in the face of continued restrictions and isolation from all that we know as normal. Our world is making history each day as we learn new ways of being and doing that protect one another and encourage solidarity even while apart. We have sacrificed so much in the past year, and yet, we still choose to give more to one another and to God in joyful praise, looking towards a hopeful tomorrow.

In the Catholic Education community in the Diocese of Hamilton, hope is nurtured and grown. From kindergarten to university, our Catholic Schools not only prioritize the academic vitality of students, but they also foster real and transformative relationships with Christ who is the source of our hope.

Students have been emboldened by hope and have offered strength and consolation to others in these dark days. Educators have gone above and beyond cultivating vibrant learning environments in times where we often felt limited. Students have encountered God in outdoor classrooms, and felt accompanied in both virtual and in-person classroom settings. Our schools have nurtured families and the domestic Church, finding new and creative ways to foster encounters with the living Lord. In spite of the limits, we have soared above despair, giving thanks in all things, celebrating our triumphs and outreach.

Throughout the pandemic, the Catholic Schools gave back to the community by producing and donating thousands of 3D printed face shields to front line workers. They raised funds for understocked social service agencies, and made countless sacrifices out of love for the vulnerable, even without knowing their names or faces.

Students in our Catholic Schools have discovered ways to dialogue about what it means to bring hope to other people and to pursue hope for our environment. Through our Catholic Social Teaching, young people acknowledge the priority of sustainable living, and care for the Earth. Our schools are environments where young people can learn, understand and examine the impact they and their communities have on our common home.

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Our schools have prioritized the compassionate care for one another during challenging times by offering mental health supports and resources for students and staff. They have advocated for the importance of mental health and reminded us that no one is alone no matter how much they may be struggling.

The Catholic Education Community has sustained the weary, comforted the fearful and shared with our world the bounty of God's love.

These moments have been transformative. The challenges we have faced this past year have afforded us the opportunity to learn how to creatively "lean in" and live the Gospel of hope. I am grateful to the priests of the diocese, pastoral workers, chaplaincy leaders, trustees, administrators, teachers, parents and all involved in the work of Catholic Education and for their leadership in our common mission.

Our hope gives us the strength we need to rise to the occasion, to shine the heart of Christ upon the world and to bring about a brighter tomorrow. Our efforts commit us to live for one another and now, more than ever, to put the needs of our brothers and sisters before our own. May we never return to the old "normal", but rather, rewrite the ways and means that we embody hope in our Catholic Learning Communities, and may this commitment strengthen our play, our learning and our prayer.

God bless you all!

(Most Rev.) Douglas Crosby, O.M.I.
Bishop of Hamilton
May 2, 2021

Grey-Bruce Vaccine Distribution Task Force Community Letter

Being at Our Best, Showing Unity Critical for Grey-Bruce Communities

This week, the Grey-Bruce Vaccine Distribution Task Force met for an update from Dr. Ian Arra and the health unit team on two pressing issues – the spread of COVID-19 and the progress on vaccine distribution. The Task Force is a team of public institutions, community partners, health providers, businesses, Indigenous communities, agricultural sector, and people committed to supporting the implementation of vaccinations in Grey-Bruce.

We are at a critical juncture in the pandemic. Stress, COVID-fatigue, and the many challenges people are faced with as a result of the pandemic are real. Small businesses are suffering, and people are out of work. Our public office holders at all levels are trying their best and our health system is stretched. Times are tough and we need to recognize this.

That's why we are sending this message, endorsed by the Grey-Bruce Vaccine Distribution Task Force. Being at our best and showing unity is how we will end the pandemic. There is a clear plan regarding the distribution of vaccines in Grey-Bruce – it's open and transparent. While there is lots of social media commentary, there are a number of key items we need to all reflect on in a unified manner as a community.

First, supplies are rapidly picking up and to date we have given nearly 50,000 doses of vaccine in Grey-Bruce and they are administered within days of being received. Within months, every resident in Grey-Bruce that's in the prioritization sequence will be able to be vaccinated based on the Provincial Government's ethical framework that works to best allocate vaccines based on the highest risk. To date, a third of adults in Ontario have received their first dose.

Public Health will allocate these vaccines based on these guidelines to meet the needs of Grey-Bruce. We need to show our support and confidence in Public Health to make the right decisions. Public Health only has one goal – protect people and end the pandemic.

Our local primary care and pharmacies are also playing a critical and important role. Based on Provincial arrangements they are safely and effectively administering the AstraZeneca vaccine to anyone over 40. Each participating pharmacy and clinic will have their own waiting list and process for booking vaccinations. Again, demand has outpaced supply locally and all of these providers will do more as supplies arrive.

We can be frustrated that there are many in our community who have not been able to be vaccinated but also recognize there is more demand than supply and officials are doing the best they can given the unprecedented circumstance. These organizations managing the rollout are often faced with changing circumstances given the challenges variants have presented and are making the best decisions they can. We believe being at our best and showing unity is critical at this time. Let's offer forgiveness to one another and demonstrate love, peace, and patience towards one another as we work towards a common goal of a better, healthier tomorrow. It's what Grey-Bruce has done throughout the pandemic, always does in tough times and will do in the days ahead.

Being at our best is also about doing whatever we can to stop the spread of COVID-19, so we have the time for vaccine to arrive and everyone to be vaccinated. We know what these are – distancing, mask wearing and following the rules in place. By focusing on this, we are giving our Health Care system a chance to fight more challenging variants and save people who contract the virus. These steps are also

imperative to ensuring the health unit team can continue to effectively and efficiently complete contact tracing to break the chains of transmission.

Showing unity is a recognition that we have more demand than supply for the vaccine and we will be patient and respectful of the organizations and people that are trying their best to cover everyone as quickly as possible. This is easier said than done given the fatigue and very real consequences from the pandemic, but this is how we will be successful.

This pandemic will end, and the task force is committed to working as hard as we can with Public Health and our institutions to advocate, support and enable as needed until everyone in Grey-Bruce who wants a vaccine can get one. Together we will beat this by being at our best and showing unity.

Craig Ambrose

Chief of Police
Owen Sound Police Service

Dr. Ian Arra

Medical Officer of Health and CEO
Grey Bruce Health Unit

David Baker

Lead Pastor
South Port Church

Doug Barfoot

Fire Chief
Owen Sound Fire

Dr. Lindsay Bowman

Family Physician
Brockton and Area Family Health
Team

Ashley Chapman

Vice President
Chapman's

Lori Di Castri

Chair of the Board
Bruce Grey Catholic District
School Board

Sheryl Elliott

Superintendent of Education
Bluewater District School Board

Ryan Fullerton

Pharmacist & Owner
Brown's Guardian Pharmacy &
Stewart's Pharmachoice

Steve Hammell

*Mayor, Municipality of Arran-
Elderslie & Agricultural
Representative*

Selwyn (Buck) Hicks

Warden
Grey County

Dana Howes

President and CEO
Hanover & District Hospital

Janice Jackson

Warden
Bruce County

Pamela Loughlean

Executive Director
Peninsula Family Health Team

Krista Miller

Inspector
South Bruce O.P.P.

Penny Pedlar

*Director of Clinical Services &
Nurse Practitioner*
South East Grey Community
Health Centre

Doran Ritchie

*Councillor & Chair of Health
Committee*
Saugeen First Nation

Nick Saunders

Councillor & Fire Chief
Chippewas of Nawash Unceded
First Nation

Steve Schaus

Director of Paramedic Services
Bruce County EMS

James Scongack

*Executive Vice President, Corporate
Affairs & Operational Services*
Bruce Power

Dr. Lizette van Zyl

Lead Physician
Owen Sound Family Health
Team