

St. Joseph Parish

Parish Dedicated June 24, 1894

260 Herkimer Street, Hamilton, Ontario L8P 2H9 905-528-0019

stjosephhamilton@hamiltondiocese.com

www.stjosephhamilton.church



WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE

Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Parish Staff

Monsignor Murray J. Kroetsch, PH, VG. – Pastor
mjkroetsch@hamiltondiocese.com

Reverend Paul Nwaokemele – Associate Pastor
pnaokemele@hamiltondiocese.com

Colin Cousins - Music Director

Sherri Currie – Administrative Assistant

Daniel Marchand – Custodian

Sunday Eucharist

Saturday 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 10:00 a.m.

Weekday Mass

Tuesday to Friday 8:00 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 4:00 - 4:30 p.m. or by appointment.

Sacrament of Baptism

Please call the parish office to arrange a meeting with one of the priests to make preparations for the baptism of your child.

First Communion and Confirmation

Preparation for these sacraments begins in the fall of the year. Watch the bulletin for further information.

Sacrament of Marriage

Please call the parish office one year prior to the desired wedding date to arrange a meeting with one of the priests to discuss the necessary arrangements to be made.

Interested in Becoming Catholic

Adults wishing to become Catholic are asked to call the parish office to arrange a meeting with one of the priests to discuss the necessary steps to be taken.

Religious Education for Children not in Catholic Schools

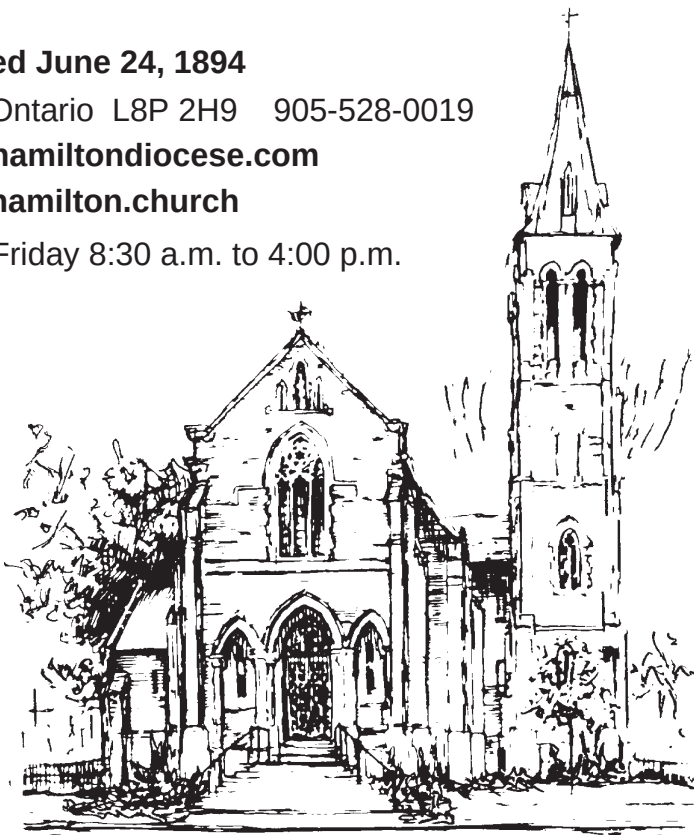
Contact the parish office for information on available catechetical programs.

Ministry to the Sick and Shut-ins

If you are unable to attend church, arrangements can be made for you to receive Holy Communion at home. Please contact the parish office. If you wish a pastoral visit to your home or to the hospital, or wish to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the sick, call the parish office.

Funerals

When a loved one has died, kindly advise the parish office. The priest who will preside will meet with you to prepare the Funeral Rites.



Stewardship: Ways to Give

Pre-Authorized Giving

This is the easiest method. Your chosen donation amount will automatically be withdrawn from your bank account at your chosen frequency. To set this up, pick up a form at the church, or the Parish Office or see the form on our parish website.

Parish Envelopes

Upon request, a box of envelopes can be prepared for you. Be sure to place these in the collection basket at Mass or mail them to the Parish Office, should you be unable to join us for Sunday Mass.

Credit Card Donations

Contact the Parish office for more information.

Thank you for your generosity and commitment to our Parish Community.

Remember your Parish

When estate planning, be sure to remember your Parish, your spiritual home here on earth, and make a contribution to the future faith life of our parish.

Vocations

For information on vocations to the Priesthood, and Consecrated Life, call the Diocesan Vocations Office 905-528-7988.

Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that the land we live, work and meet on are the traditional territories of the Haudenosaunee and Mississauga. The land is covered by the Dish with One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant.

Diocese of Hamilton: Website: www.hamiltondiocese.com



Mass Intentions

Tuesday, October 6, 2026

8:00 a.m. + Jose Moniz – Gloria Moniz

Wednesday, October 7, 2026

8:00 a.m. + Bernice & Joseph Clark – The Family

Thursday, October 8, 2026

8:00 a.m. + Joaquim Mendes – Maria Lopes

Friday, October 9, 2026

8:00 a.m. + Victoria Obando – Lorna Endaya & Family
+ Frank Farruggia – The Family

Saturday, October 10, 2026

5:00 p.m. For the Parish

Sunday, October 11, 2026

10:00 a.m. For the Parish

ARE YOU REGISTERED?

You may have been coming to St. Joseph Parish for many years and are not registered. We ask you to check with our parish office to make sure you are a registered parishioner. Parish registration is required to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, First Eucharist and Marriage.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

We are grateful to all who contribute their time, talent and treasure to support our parish community and our mission. We continue to count on your generosity.

September 27, 2026

Sunday Offerings: \$1,475.90

POPE'S OCTOBER PRAYER INTENTION

For mental health ministry – Let us pray that the mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illness.

GETTING MARRIED IN 2026-2027?

Couples planning on getting married at St. Joseph Parish this year or next are asked to contact the Parish Office as soon as possible to arrange a meeting with one of the priests. We look forward to celebrating with you.

COFFEE SUNDAY



Join us today for Coffee and treats following the 10:00 a.m. Mass. A wonderful time to connect with parishioners – old and new alike!

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament



Join us on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. for an hour of silent prayer in the presence of Christ, the Bread of Life. This is a longstanding devotional practice which leads us to deepen our union with Christ.

THE CHOSEN SEASON 3



The Chosen Season 3 Study Group series continues on **Monday evening this week in the Parish Hall from 6:15 – 8:15 p.m.** All parishioners and friends are invited to attend this 8-week group series, which brings to life the Biblical stories of the Gospels. As a group we will watch the videos and then discuss the authentic portrayal of Jesus and his disciples as they struggle with their humanity and desire to serve God. If you cannot commit to every Monday, come when you can.

PARISH BAZAAR

Saturday, November 21, 2026

We are seeking donations of New items, gift cards, or bottles for the raffles. Gently used items for Attic treasures— no clothing, Religious items, Books—no encyclopedias or magazines, Kids' toys and games, Plants/art/Christmas ornaments Crafts/knitting Jams/jellies Baked goods— we will need these for the day of the bazaar. 50/50 tickets will go on sale after Thanksgiving

Thanks so much for supporting this major fundraiser for our parish! Contact Colleen Francisci for more info Text 289-556-6681 or ctfrancisci@hotmail.com



The Month of October is dedicated to prayer for priestly vocations in the Diocese of Hamilton.

PREPARING FOR WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

“One in Christ” Today Jesus speaks of a vineyard entrusted to tenants (Mt 21:33-43). The Church is that vineyard. Pope Leo XIV’s theme for World Mission Sunday, two weeks away, begins here: we are one in Christ before we are sent. The Alleluia verse says, “I have chosen you from the world to go and bear fruit that will remain.” This week, pray for the unity of our parish and of the whole Church. Mission begins when Christ lives in us.

STRUGGLING IN YOUR MARRIAGE?

Find Hope with Retrouvaille – Retrouvaille is a marriage program that helps couples who are struggling to restore their marriage and rebuild a loving relationship. Retrouvaille helps to improve communication, build stronger marriages and aids couples to reconnect. Join us for our upcoming weekend **Oct. 16th (evening), 17th and 18th** because no marriage is beyond hope. For more information visit www.retrouvaille.org, email: hamilton@helpourmarriage.org, or call 905-664-5212.

OPEN HOUSE

Bishop Farrell Library & Archives

The Bishop Farrell Library & Archives invites you to an Open House, **Oct. 17th from 2:00pm–5:00pm and Oct. 18th from 10:00am–2:00pm**. We are located at 698 King St. West, on the beautiful grounds of the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King. Join us to view The Saint John’s Bible, learn about our services, and pick up a few good books! Open to All!

JUBILEE OF ST. FRANCIS

This year marks the 800th Anniversary of the death of St. Francis of Assisi. Pope Leo XIV has declared this a Jubilee Year. As we mark the Memorial of St. Francis on October 4th it is appropriate that we reflect on the Prayer of St. Francis.

Though written in simple language, the Peace Prayer provides rich material for spiritual reflection. The following are some of my thoughts on the **Peace Prayer** inspired by the lines (printed in bold type) of this prayer and by the example of St. Francis.

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Like that of Christ, our mission on earth is to bring to others God’s peace—God’s state of “perfect well-being” and completeness. *Shalom* is the Hebrew word for this rich concept of “peace.” Often used as a greeting of peace, *Shalom* is a wish that those so greeted will find healing and fullness of life.

Francis saw this as his mission, too. In Chapter 3 of his Rule of 1223, he advised his followers that in going about the world “they should not be quarrelsome or take part in disputes with words...or criticize others; but they should be gentle, peaceful and unassuming, courteous and humble, speaking respectfully to everyone....Whatever house they enter, they should first say, ‘Peace to this house’” (Cf. Luke 10:5). Surely, Francis was an instrument of peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love. In his 9th Admonition, called *Charity*, St. Francis tells his followers, “Our Lord says in the Gospel, *Love your enemies* (Matthew 5:44). A man really loves his enemy when he is not offended by the injury done to himself, but for love of God feels burning sorrow for the sin his enemy has brought on his own soul, and proves his love in a practical way.”

Where there is injury, pardon. During the violence-ridden Crusades, Francis discovered a path of peace, pardon and non-violence. The “little poor man” went to Egypt to engage in a peaceful dialogue with **Sultan Malik al-Kamil** (head of the Muslim forces), a meeting in which a spirit of forgiveness, respect and understanding prevailed. Francis would have the same message for those in our times who are so quick to see violence as the only cure for terrorism.

Where there is doubt, faith. When, as a young man, Francis found himself in a fog of doubt as to the nature of God’s care for him, he sought the face of God through prayer in solitary places. God opened Francis’ eyes of faith. The saint saw a vision of Christ gazing at him from the Cross with such a look of love that Francis’ “soul melted,” to use the words of his biographer, St. Bonaventure. The fog of doubt lifted for Francis, and he went through the world setting others free from their own burdens of doubt.

Where there is despair, hope/Where there is darkness, light. Think of St. Francis embracing lepers and lovingly washing their sores. Surely, many of those suffering souls felt an inner surge of hope and human dignity when they experienced Francis’ care.

And where there is sadness, joy. The secret of St. Francis’ joyful spirit was his vibrant belief in a God of overflowing goodness and love. St. Francis was so in love with God that at times he would pick up two sticks from the ground, tuck one under his chin like a violin and move the other over it like a bow. Then, in an ecstasy of joy, he would sing in French songs of love and praise to God. Francis used to say that he wanted his followers to go about the world like strolling minstrels, “to inspire the hearts of people and stir them to spiritual joy.” They give us an example to follow in our own day!

***O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love;
for it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.***

Francis of Assisi may not have *written* the words of the prayer attributed to him, but he certainly *lived* them. Everyone who is able to read and understand these words, moreover, readily sees that they communicate the heart of the Gospels and capture what is most essential in the world’s great religions.

Source: Jack Wintz, OFM, St. Anthony Messenger

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