

St. Joseph Catholic Parish

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PARISH STAFF

Reverend Jeff Bergsma, Pastor
Tracy Bolzon, Office Administrator
Zofia Gadzinska, Bookkeeper



He is Risen!
Alleluia, Alleluia

EASTER SUNDAY – THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD



TUESDAY, April 22nd

8:00am + Donald De Genova
+ Peter Phung Tran

WEDNESDAY, April 23rd

8:00am + Anna Ruggiero
8:30am to 11:00am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
7:00pm + Jim and Steven Power
+ Luigi DiGravio
+ Ken Hills

THURSDAY, April 24th

7:00pm + Dave and Joan Ireland

FRIDAY, April 25th

8:00am + Vang Lon
7:00pm + Catherine Mesich

SATURDAY, April 26th

9:00am + Tranquillo Monico
5:00pm Intentions of Thomas Tran

SUNDAY, April 27th – Divine Mercy

8:30am + Antonio Finoro
10:15am Intentions of Maria Louisa Rao-Galletta
and Sonia Bot
12noon All Parishioners
1:30pm Divine Mercy
3:00pm + Gerrit Kistemaker



May God's peace be with those who have recently died, and those being persecuted for their faith & race, and those killed in natural disasters & their families. Please remember our parishioners who are sick and homebound and those in our Prayer Network in your prayers.

Second Sunday of Easter – Divine Mercy April 20, 2025

Thomas believed because he saw Jesus. What will it take for you to respond to God's Call to priesthood, diaconate, or consecrated life? If God is calling you contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988 or email vocations@hamiltondiocese.com.

SANCTUARY CANDLES

Week of April 20, 2025

Candle #1 – INTS of JOSIE DiPAOLO and FAMILY

Candle #2 – INTS of THERESA JOHN MESSY

Please use the envelopes provided request intentions for the Sanctuary Lamps, which are lit at the tabernacle. The requested offering is \$10 each. You may place the envelope in the collection or drop it in the Parish Office.



COLLECTIONS FOR THE PAST WEEK

Sunday Offering April 12/13	\$4,865.15
Loose Collection	\$2,425.05
Easter Flowers	\$30.00
Share Lent	\$490.00

Thank you for your contribution and God Bless!

If you would like a receipt for your contribution, we need your name & full address. If you would like envelopes or to sign up for Pre-Authorized Donations, please call the Parish Office at 519-822-4614.

EASTER MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

"The light of Christ...Thanks be to God" is sung as the Paschal candle enters the darkened Church. Its light breaks through the darkness of the Church. After the third signing of the verse, all the people's candles receive the flame from this candle, and the Church is dark no more, lit up by all holding the light of Christ in their hands. This is one of my favorite parts of the Easter vigil Mass; the light from all the candles held up by the people of God shows how when we all accept the light of the Risen in our lives, we can overcome the darkness of division, sin, self-centeredness, suffering and illness that plagues the world. It is through our embracing of the life of the Risen Lord, which was poured into our souls at baptism, that we can live out Jesus' life in our own life. The uniting of our life to the light of the Risen Lord will allow us to live in unity, not division; to overcome temptation and sin by receiving the grace and strength of Jesus; to move away from self and care for others. When we rejoice in the risen Lord, our Easter faith allows us to see the graces God offers us in our daily lives, giving us joy in knowing that we have been given eternal life through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. On behalf of Tracy, Zofia, and Fr. Don, may you all have a Blessed and grace-filled Easter.

"If this mission may sometimes seem difficult, call to mind the words of the Risen Lord: 'I am with you always, to the close of the age' (Matthew 28:20). Certain of his presence, you shall fear no difficulty and no obstacle. His word will enlighten you; his Body and his Blood will nourish you and sustain you on your daily journey to eternity." — St. John Paul II, 2004

SUNDAY REFLECTION

What happens when you witness something that can't be explained? Sometimes you tell others the story as you know it. Others listen and see for themselves and perhaps discover something new – or, as is the case in the reading from the Gospel of John, they will confirm what they've already been told. Sometimes you simply stay put because you cannot yet move. The hold of love, of connection, of mystery, asks you to wait, to open heart and mind and spirit, and to hope in faith. There is simply too much happening inside to leave.

Because Mary Magdalene stayed, she heard her name spoken in a voice that told her all she needed to know. The One whom she loved more than all others was alive. And she knew it through the sound of a voice – the sound of someone who knew her, who loved her. Death did not have the final say. Because she stayed, she learned the story by heart. And then she told others. It is what we are called to do. Be the voice of love. Tell the story – live the story – of an astonishing love so powerful that it stays – so that it lives within someone else and gets passed along and gets told over and over again. Live the story, tell the story – of a love that does not die. *Excerpt from Living with Christ.*

NOVENA OF THE DIVINE MERCY

The nine-day Novena of the Divine Mercy starting Good Friday April 18. **For each of the nine days, our Lord gave Saint Faustina a different intention:** All mankind, especially sinners; the souls of priests and religious; all devout and faithful souls; those who do not believe in God and those who do not yet know Jesus; the souls who have separated themselves from the Church; the meek and humble souls and the souls of little children; the souls who especially venerate and glorify His mercy; the souls detained in purgatory; and souls who have become lukewarm. **"I desire that during these nine days you bring souls to the fountain of My mercy, that they may draw therefrom strength and refreshment and whatever grace they have need of in the hardships of life, and especially at the hour of death"** (Diary, 1209). All are welcome to join.

SCHEDULE FOR NOVENA

DAY 4 - APRIL 21 MONDAY	6:00 PM
DAY 5 - APRIL 22 TUESDAY	6:00 PM
DAY 6 - APRIL 23 WEDNESDAY	7:30 PM
DAY 7 - APRIL 24 THURSDAY	6:30 PM
DAY 8 - APRIL 25 FRIDAY	7:30 PM
DAY 9 - APRIL 26 SATURDAY	3:00 PM
APRIL 27 "FEAST THE DIVINE MERCY"	
1:30 PM - 2:00 PM ADORATION – QUIET TIME WITH THE LORD:	
2:00 PM - 2:50 PM HOLY ROSARY, CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY, QUIET TIME:	
3:00 PM HOLY MASS - "FEAST OF THE DIVINE MERCY"	

You're Invited: Vietnamese Community Mass & Potluck

We warmly invite you to join our Vietnamese community for a special celebration of the Holy Mass on **Sunday, April 27 at 6:00 PM** at **St. Joseph's Parish in Guelph**, in honor of the **Feast of Divine Mercy**. The Mass will be celebrated by **Father Tran Van Hanh**, and we look forward to coming together in faith and fellowship. Following the Mass, we will gather in the church hall for a **potluck-style reception**. We encourage everyone to bring and share a favorite dish with the community! **For questions or more information, please contact Minh or Trang Le at 519-241-8111 or c3minh@gmail.com.** We hope to see you there!

ST VINCENT de PAUL – RED BAG SUNDAY

Thank you for the \$490.80 collected in March. It alone allowed us to help three additional families in our parish. If you can find it in your heart, please support SVDP's Red Bag Collection again on April 26/27 after all Masses. We will be at the church exits with our Reg Bags. God Bless all of you for your assistance. **"Whoever is kind to the poor, lends to the Lord and will be paid in full."** Proverbs 19:17.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION NIGHT

Once again, we wish to thank our very supportive and committed volunteers. This is our first night to celebrate our volunteers since COVID and we hope that you will all attend. St Joseph Parish has over 200

volunteers. Please plan on attending our event on **Saturday, May 24th starting with Mass at 5pm** followed by reception. Lights snacks and refreshments provided. Join us so we can celebrate you!

KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS BOTTLE DRIVE – SAVE THE DATE

Recycle your empty beer cans, bottles, wine & liquor bottles for St Joseph Knights of Columbus Charities Fundraiser. Start saving your empties, notify your neighbours and friends to drop their empties at St Joseph Parish back parking lot **on May 24th, 2 from 9:00am to 2:00pm**. More details to come closer to the date

WALK WITH MARY to JESUS PROCESSION

The annual Marian procession, crowning and devotion will take place this year on Sunday, May 11, at 2:30 PM. Please join us to honour Mary and ask her to intercede with her Son for our country, province and city. With the new advances of the *Culture of Death*, it becomes more obvious that we need to publicly acknowledge our faith and pray for the establishment of the *Culture of Life*. Please meet at the Basilica of Our Lady front steps at 2:15 PM and dress for the weather. For more information, please call Stella Mott, 519-763-9991. . Shuttle service back to Our Lady's for **drivers only** will be provided.

PARISH LIFE COMMITTEE – CALENDAR OF EVENTS
MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW for the following upcoming initiatives:

May 24th - Knights of Columbus Bottle Drive: 9am to 2pm in parking lot beside the rectory.

May 24th - Volunteer Appreciation Evening: After 5pm Mass

May 25th – Knights of Columbus Breakfast: after all Sunday Masses.

June 21st and 22nd - Good bye celebration for Fr Bergsma. All are welcome to come down after every Mass on the weekend to wish Fr Bergsma many blessings in his new assignment at St Anne's in Kitchener and to thank him for all the blessings he has given us over the 7years at St Joseph Parish.

June 29th - Pasta Dinner Fundraiser: Join us for a fabulous dinner at the Italian Canadian Club, Guelph. Tickets for the dinner will be \$70 – this covers the cost of food and you will also receive a **\$35 tax receipt**. The dinner will also include a silent auction, music, door prizes and more. These added touches will enhance the evening of fellowship and we can't forget the great tasting food that will be provided.

July 19, 2025 - Blue Jays Game: Come join us for a fabulous day at the ball park! Blue Jays vs San Francisco Giants. Tickets are \$120 (includes admission and bus).

SEPARATED or DIVORCED?

Struggling with the impact of divorce or separation? You're not alone! Join the award-winning Critical Mass for an inspiring two-day retreat, where music, testimonies, and faith-filled discussions will guide you toward hope and healing. Don't miss this chance to reconnect with your faith and find strength in community—space is limited to 25 participants, so register early! We are offering a choice of two retreat weekends: Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Waterloo on May 23/24 **or** St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Hamilton on May 30/31. Friday evening from 6:45- 9:30 PM and Saturday from 8:45 – 4:00 PM. Register now by emailing davefromcm@gmail.com or calling 519-572-6962 or visiting <https://www.criticalmassmusic.org/tour-dates>. Cost is \$130 and includes materials, snacks and lunch; early bird special by April 30th of \$100.



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