

St. Joseph Church

Location: 920 Wellington St.
Port Elgin, ON



Masses this week:

Tuesday, 7 p.m.
Wednesday, 9:30 a.m.
Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, 3 p.m.
Saturday, 8 p.m.
Sunday, 11 a.m.

St. Patrick Church

Location: 36 Albert St. S. (Hwy 21)
Southampton, ON



Masses this week:

Sunday, 9 a.m.

Stations of the Cross

Friday, 7 p.m.

Parish Office Hours:

Tuesday to Friday
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Divine Mercy Chaplet

After the 5 p.m. Mass on
Saturdays

Knights of Columbus:

Dave Kinsman
kinsman@bmts.com

Secular Franciscans:

Bob Perrault
519-832-3525

SSVP Hot Line:

519-832-2207

SAINT JOSEPH PARISH

920 Wellington Street, Port Elgin, Ontario N0H 2C3 519-832-2202

Website: www.stjospar.com

Email Address: stjosephportelgin@hamiltondiocese.com

Visit our Facebook page facebook.com/St-Josephs Parish

Parish Staff

Pastor: Fr. Francisco J. Sordo
Administrator: Rosalie Scarlett
Secretary: Gloria Villamil

Welcome to St. Joseph Parish!

If you are new in the area, we invite you to register with the parish office.
Please find the registration form [on our website](#).

March 24th,
2024

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion



Christ became obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

During his journey to Golgotha, Jesus goes from hailed hero to crucified criminal. He surrenders out of obedience to his Father and love for us. As followers of Jesus, we, too, can face loss and sacrifice. Jesus knows what it means to sacrifice out of love. We journey together through loss, never alone, but always united with Jesus.

Sacraments:

Baptism: Contact the parish office for registration and information.

First Communion: The third preparation session is on Friday, March 22nd at 6:30 p.m.

Confirmation: Next Confirmation will take place in 2025.

R.C.I.A.: Adults wishing to become Catholic are asked to call the parish office to arrange a meeting with the pastor to discuss the necessary steps to be taken.

Marriage: Contact the parish office one year in advance.

Care of the Sick: If you are unable to attend church, arrangements can be made for you to receive Holy Communion at home. 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, contact the office

Catholic Funerals: Please call the Funeral Home or the Parish at time of need. It is customary to celebrate a Funeral Mass in the church.

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals are offered in Spanish upon request.

The Liturgy of the Word for Children

Sundays at the 11 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph Church

Children 3-9 are welcome!

HOLY WEEK

Holy Week is the week which precedes the great Feast of the Resurrection on easter Sunday: it includes the last days of Lent and the beginning of the Easter Triduum. During Holy Week, the Church celebrates the mysteries of salvation accomplished by Christ in the last days of his life on earth, beginning with his messianic entrance into Jerusalem.

MARCH 24, 2024

Liturgy for Holy Week

Date	Day	Time	+ / *	Intention <small>+ Rest in Peace / * Intentions of</small>	Requested by	Diocese
25-Mar	Mon	No	*	Pastor's Intentions	N/A	Most Rev. Matthew Ustrzycki
26-Mar	Tue	7pm	+	Alicia Cook	Sharon Neale	Rev. Gerald Mulhall (C.S.J.)
27-Mar	Wed	9:30am	*	Norah Maguire	Joe & Mairead Keely	Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada
28-Mar	Thurs	7:30pm	*	People of the Parish	N/A	Holy Thursday
29-Mar	Fri	3pm	*	People of the Parish	N/A	Friday of the Passion of the Lord
30-Mar	Sat	8pm	*	People of the Parish	N/A	Holy Saturday - Easter Vigil
31-Mar	Sun	9am	+	Alicia Cook	Julia Vidotto	Resurrection of the Lord
		11am	*	Brenda Murray	Jerry & Gaetane Orsztynowicz	

Divine Mercy Candle – Rosalie Scarlett

Divine Mercy Novena is to be started on Good Friday, and ends on Divine Mercy Sunday, April 7th. Please take a pamphlet at the back of the church. Join us on Divine Mercy Sunday for a service at 3 p.m. at St. Joseph Church.

March Prayers request for:

Intentions: Mark Preston on his 100th birthday, Linda Martin, Gary Walker.

Church Collections this week Regular contributions were \$2307, PAR \$1764/week.

Canadian Food for Children CFFC accepts all food donations. Any items are welcome. Pasta and tomato paste are requested for March.

St. Vincent de Paul Food Bank is offering families in need of assistance to visit the Food Bank, twice a month, in the downstairs hall at St. Joseph Church, as follows:

First Wednesday from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Third Wednesday from 3 p.m. - 6 p.m.

SVP is collecting flaked canned ham, jam and cookies during the month of March.

Vocations - Blessed are those who come in the Name of the Lord! Blessed are they who live their lives in the Name of the Lord! If you feel God is giving you the blessing of a call to be a priest, religious, or permanent deacon, call Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, 905-528-7988. Email vocations@hamiltondiocese.com hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/

Practice for Tenebrae: Tuesday after the 7 pm Mass
Altar Servers Practice: Thursday 3:30 p.m., Friday 10 a.m., and Saturday 10:30 a.m.

A Meditation of the Passion of Christ



Spy Wednesday
 March 27 – 8 p.m.
 St. Joseph Church

THE SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM

(The celebration of the Easter Triduum opens with the Thursday evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, followed by Good Friday, then reaches its climax in the Easter Vigil, closing with Easter Sunday)

Mar. 28

HOLY THURSDAY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

– 7:30 p.m. St. Joseph Church



The Washing of Feet represents the service and charity of Christ. The procession with the gifts includes gifts for the poor. This Mass is followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in Jubilee Hall until 10 p.m.

Mar. 29

GOOD FRIDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

– 3 p.m. St. Joseph Church



Celebration of the Lord's Passion with Adoration of the Cross and Holy Communion

Special Collection for the Needs of the Church in the Holy Land

(Universal day of fasting and abstinence)

Stations of the Cross – 7 p.m. St. Patrick Church

Mar. 30

HOLY SATURDAY

Blessing of Baskets of Easter Food

– 10 a.m. St. Joseph Church



THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

– EASTER VIGIL – 8 p.m. St. Joseph Church

During this night, the people of God keep watch as they await the resurrection of the Lord and further celebrate it in the Sacraments of Initiation.

Did Judas Receive the Eucharist at the Last Supper?

Catholic doctrine clearly teaches that a person in a state of mortal sin must not receive Holy Communion. (CCC 1395). This principle is itself rooted in the New Testament, drawing on the Apostle Paul's injunction to the Corinthian church: "**Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of the Lord**" (1 Cor 11:28).

But this presents a conundrum for faithful Catholics when considering the case of Judas Iscariot. Although some of the Gospel accounts are ambiguous, the Gospel of Luke seems to indicate that **Judas received**. [Lk 22:19-22]

¹⁹ And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "**This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.**" ²⁰ And likewise the cup after supper, saying, "**This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.**" ²¹ But behold the hand of him who betrays me is with me on the table. ²² For the Son of man goes as it has been determined; but woe to that man by whom he is betrayed!"

Judas was apparently still at the table following the institution of the Eucharist, and so we can presume that he received the Sacrament along with the other disciples. But **if** (as seems likely) **Judas received the Eucharist in an unworthy manner, why then did Jesus do nothing to prevent it?**

1. Over the centuries there have been several different approaches to this question. The first, favored by Church Fathers like *St. Hilary of Poitiers* and *St. Ephraim the Syrian*, is to attempt to read the Gospel accounts in such a way as to argue that **Judas did not in fact receive the Eucharist**. The problem with this approach, as we have seen, is that it seems to contradict a straightforward reading of Luke's Gospel.
2. Another possible solution has been to concede that **Judas received the Eucharist**, but propose that he did so legitimately **because he had already repented of his betrayal in his heart**. Proponents of this view point to Matthew 27:3-5, where we are told that **Judas repented and returned the thirty pieces of silver** to the priests and elders, before going off to hang himself. An obvious problem with this interpretation, however, is that Matthew's Gospel clearly describes **Judas's repentance as occurring after the Last Supper** had taken place. In fact, Judas travels directly from the Upper Room to meet up with Jesus's arrestors, so it is hard to argue that he experienced any real remorse during the Last Supper.

3. That leaves one final explanation, defended by the likes of *St. Augustine of Hippo*, *St. John Chrysostom*, and *St. Thomas Aquinas*. For these thinkers, the correct understanding is that **Judas did receive the Eucharist** at the Last Supper, and this was something **which Jesus allowed because the betrayer's sin was not yet public**. As Aquinas explains in the *Summa theologiae*, "[I]t was not in keeping with His teaching authority to sever Judas, a hidden sinner, from Communion with the others without an accuser and evident proof" (ST III.81.2).


For Aquinas, **the important principle** here is that **priests cannot read souls**, and it would be unjust of them to publicly "out" a secret sinner by denying Holy Communion. Certainly, the priest could try to dialogue with that person behind closed doors, but **in the case of private or hidden sins, the individual's decision to receive the Sacrament remains** (to some extent) **between them and God**.

Jesus could read souls of course, but His purpose at the Last Supper, according to Aquinas, was to provide an example for how ordinary priests are supposed to act: "Consequently, Christ did not repel Judas from Communion; so as to furnish an example that such secret sinners are not to be repelled by other priests." So, it seems that Judas did receive the Eucharist at the Last Supper, and Jesus tolerated it because Judas' sin had not yet been made public.

This underlines an important point, which is that in cases where individuals are living in a public state of grave sin—for example, when a Catholic politician repeatedly and publicly expresses support for abortion—then the Church is obliged to deny them Holy Communion until they have repented of their actions (see Code of Canon Law #915). In a situation such as this, the priest administering Holy Communion is not attempting to read the person's soul or somehow expose them as unworthy; rather, the priest is denying them the Sacrament on the basis of their public misdeeds, in order to safeguard the Church's teachings and avoid scandalizing his flock.

The tragic case of Judas should serve as a cautionary tale to all of us in the way we approach the Holy Eucharist. It was the Bread of Life discourse at Capernaum which first caused Judas to falter in his faith (see Jn 6:66-71), **and it was right after he received the Eucharist unworthily that Satan entered into him** (see Jn 13:27). We should therefore pray earnestly for the gift of faith that enables us to embrace this mystery more fully, and to approach the Sacrament with all due reverence and humility.

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Just for tonight
I will find a safe, comfortable place to lie down and close my eyes. I will remind myself I am both deserving and in need of rest. I will look forward to awakening to the new day, feeling rested and ready to follow God's guidance.



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