# St. Joseph Church

Location: 920 Wellington St. Port Elgin, ON



<u>Masses this week:</u> Wed. New Year's Day 11 a.m. Friday, 9:30 a.m. Saturday, 5 p.m. Sunday, 11 a.m.

# St. Patrick Church

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



<u>Masses this week:</u> Tue. New Year's Eve 5 p.m. Thursday, 9:30 a.m. Sunday, 9 a.m.

## **Knights of Columbus:**

meet every first Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. – Jubilee Hall. Contact: Jim LaBlance jimlablance@hotmail.com

Secular Franciscans: Bob Perrault 519-832-3525

SSVP Hot Line: 519-832-2207

# SAINT JOSEPH PARISH

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

Website: <u>www.stjospar.com</u> Email Address: <u>stjosephportelgin@hamiltondiocese.com</u> Visit our Facebook page <u>facebook.com/St-Josephs Parish</u>

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

# 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 <u>on our website</u> or at both churches.

# December 29<sup>th</sup> 2024



# Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?

Jesus is the Son of God, sent out of love to do the Father's will. Out of love, he obeys. Through the life and sacrifice of Jesus, we become children of God and heirs to the Kingdom, which in turn requires of us – in love – to keep his commandments and do what pleases him.

As Christ was meant to be in his Father's house, so, too, are we meant to join him: in worship here in this life and for eternity in the next.

We do this through love of God and one another,

with the help of the Spirit he gave us.

## Sacraments:

Baptism: Contact the parish office for information.
First Communion will take place on May 3 & 4, 2025
Confirmation: will take place on June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025
R.C.I.A.: Will gather on Saturdays at 10 a.m. in the Boardroom.

**Marriage:** Contact the parish office one year in advance.

<u>Communion to the Homebound</u>: arrangements can be made for you to receive Communion at home.

<u>Anointing of the sick:</u> If you are having a major surgery, have a terminal illness, or if you feel in danger of death, you can call the parish 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.

Liturgy of the Word for Children is running during the 11 a.m. Mass.

# December 29th, 2024

| The Octave of Christmas Liturgy |     |        |     |  |                  |  |
|---------------------------------|-----|--------|-----|--|------------------|--|
| Date                            | Day | Time   | +/* | Intention<br>+ Rest in Peace / * Intentions of | Requested by     | Diocese  |
| 30-Dec                          | Mon | -      | *   | Pastor's intentions                            | N/A              | Very Rev. Msgr. Cornelius O'Mahony               |
| 31-Dec                          | Tue | 5pm    | *   | Holy Souls in Purgatory                        | G. Dorzek        | Rev. Felix Nwatu                                 |
| 01-Jan                          | Wed | 11am   | *   | Dave & Mary Lepper                             | M. MacArthur     | The Solemnity of Mary,<br>The Holy Mother of God |
| 02-Jan                          | Thu | 9:30am | *   | Forgotten Souls in Purgatory                   | G. Dorzek        | Most Rev. Douglas Crosby, O.M.I.                 |
| 03-Jan                          | Fri | 9:30am | *   | Anita Peplow                                   | G. & R. Reinwald | Rev. Piotr Machnacki, S.A.C.                     |
| 04-Jan                          | Sat | 5pm    | *   | Michael Sebastian & Marjorie                   | G. Dorzek        | - Very Rev. Ranjan D'Sa, O.C.D.                  |
|                                 |     |        | *   | Bob Corp                                       | R. Corp          |  |
|                                 |     |        | *   | Edith Fries                                    | T. Cook          |  |
|                                 |     |        | +   | Maria Candiago                                 | G. Orsztynowicz  |  |
| 05-Jan                          | Sun | 9am    | *   | In thanksgiving for blessings                  | C. Hilbig        | Epiphany of the Lord                             |
|                                 |     | 11am   | *   | People of the Parish                           | N/A              |  |

Divine Mercy Candle - Heather & Josh Miller Divine Mercy Chaplet: After the 5 p.m. Mass on Saturdays

## Liturgy this week

<u>Mon. Dec. 30</u> – Octave of the Nativity <u>Tue. Dec. 31</u> – Octave of the Nativity / St. Sylvester I (OM) <u>Wed. Jan. 1</u> – The Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God <u>Thurs. Jan 2</u> – St. Basil the Great & St. Gregory Nazianzen (M) <u>Sun. Jan. 5</u> – Epiphany of the Lord



Jubilee Year of Hope The Year of Jubilee, also known as the Year of Pilgrims of Hope, is a time for renewal, hope, and spiritual focus. At our Parish, we celebrate 25 years of Jubilee Hall, named after the Jubilee year in 2000.

We are symbolically opening the Holy

Door to Jubilee Hall on December 29<sup>th</sup>, when the doors of the Lateran Basilica in Rome and other cathedrals will also be opened. Please join us after the 11 a.m. Mass to celebrate, along with the Universal Church. We will share a toast and appetizers. Great things are coming!

In the event of a severe winter conditions if you cannot attend for health reasons, the 5 p.m., and 11 a.m. Masses will be streamed on our YouTube channel: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/@stjosephparishsaugeensh">https://www.youtube.com/@stjosephparishsaugeensh</a> ore8308

St. Vincent de Paul Food Bank will be Closed December 24<sup>th</sup> to January 6<sup>th</sup> – "Wishing you a Merry Christmas & a Blessed New Year!" – Since the first Wednesday of the month is New Year's Day, the schedule will change slightly. Families in need of assistance are invited to visit the Food Bank in the downstairs hall at St. Joseph Church, as follows:

<u>Wednesday January 8<sup>th</sup></u> 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. <u>Wednesday, January 15<sup>th</sup></u> 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

SVP is collecting laundry detergent, dishwashing liquid, toothbrushes and toothpaste.

Please notice that the parish office will be closed for holidays and will reopen January 2nd.

## From January 6<sup>th</sup> to the 24<sup>th</sup>

Fr. Ian Duffy will celebrate the weekend Masses as per regular schedule.

Fr. Thomas Manninenezhath will celebrate the weekday Masses, they will <u>all be at St. Joseph Church</u>, but on an adjusted schedule:

Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. Fridays at 7 p.m.

Our appreciation goes to Fr. Duffy and Fr. Tomas for accepting the request to cover Fr. Francisco while he is on his very welldeserved vacations.

# The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph - Christmas

### AS ANOTHER YEAR GOES BY, WE WANT TO PRAISE GOD AND GIVE HIM THANKS FOR SOME OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF 2024 IN OUR PARISH:

#### Sacraments:

We welcomed new members to the Body of Christ: six infants, twelve children under 7, and one adult were baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

20 Grade 2 students received Jesus for the first time in Holy Communion on April 21<sup>st</sup>.

There was one convalidation of marriage and one wedding celebrated in our Parish.

"Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine; et lux perpetua luceat eis" to family members and friends who were called to His presence during 2024, including six funerals at the Church and one committal. May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen

Our data system shows 570 families registered, including those who come only for the sacraments.

#### Spiritual growth:

We are grateful to our Pastor, Fr. Francisco Sordo, who has working tirelessly for our spiritual growth:

Every First Friday the blessed Sacrament is exposed in Adoration after the 9:30 a.m. Mass.

Every Saturday after the 5 pm Mass, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy is prayed for the needs of our parishioners and the whole world.

Around 40 parishioners accepted Father's invitation to the second Bible Study "Matthew" for 24 weeks.

During Lent, to deepen our faith and enrich our spirit, he shared five video presentations.

Holy Week: In addition to the Paschal Triduum, our pastor prepared a meditation on the Passion of Christ called Tenebrae. It was well attended and allowed us to reflect on our redemption.

In July, five parishioners joined Father at Franciscan University Conferences (applied Biblical studies and Defending the Faith) in Steubenville Ohio.

Acts – The Spread of the Kingdom was the third Bible Study Father led.

In September, he guided us through the Vatican II and its constitutions to help us to understand our Church better.

Bruce County Pentecost pilgrimage. 10 participants joined David Starrs on a 3 day pilgrimage walk throughout Bruce County countryside to the Immaculate Conception Church in Formosa. They prayed for the needs of our parish and peace in the world.

#### Caring of the Sick:

We pray for our brothers and sisters in our families who are experiencing difficult times; we offer our prayers with the assurance that God is making them stronger each day.

Father anointed several people in their final days at the hospital, and many others who were going through surgery or medical treatments.

14 Ministers brought Holy Communion to 12 homebound, on a weekly schedule.

Every 11 weeks we visited Southampton Care Centre. We brought the Church to people who cannot physically come to church. On the last Sundays of each month, Father has celebrated Mass at Elgin Lodge.

#### Social & hospitality:

Hospitality is an important part in our Christian lives. Every last Sunday of the month, several volunteers hosted it. In May, we organized a Tour Around the Globe. 20 countries were represented and people learned about other cultures.

40 Agricultural seasonal workers were at Hi-Berry, as well as the dairy and honey farms. We hosted dinners from May to October, thanks to several volunteers who prepare the meals, served and offered fellowship.

In December, all our groups: The Society of St. Vincent de Paul, the Franciscans, the Knights of Columbus, and the ladies of the parish had their Christmas celebrations. Additionally, there was a parish potluck as a community.

With the celebration of the Jubilee Year of Hope, and to celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our Jubilee Hall named after the Jubilee in 2000, all parishioners were invited to the symbolical Opening of the Holy Doors, to mark the beginning of the Year of Hope in the Church.

#### Maintenance

A wall at the Rosary Garden was repaired, after several years of accumulating humidity behind the Grotto of Mary.

#### AS WE LOOK FORWARD IN HOPE FOR A NEW YEAR, WE WISH YOU ALL A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A BLESSED 2025!

