



## St. John Brébeuf Parish

24 Millwood Road, Box 269, Erin, ON N0B 1T0

[www.stjohnbrebeuferin.org](http://www.stjohnbrebeuferin.org)

Email: [stjohnnerin@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:stjohnnerin@hamiltondiocese.com)

### Pastor

Rev. Gordian Okpuruka

Tel: 519-833-9738; Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

### Parish Office

**Hours:** Tuesday and Thursday, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Tel:** 519-278-0125

**Email:** [stjohnnerin@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:stjohnnerin@hamiltondiocese.com)

### Weekend Mass Schedule

#### **St. John Brébeuf Parish**

- Saturday 5:00 p.m.
- Sunday 9:00 a.m.

#### **St. Peter's Mission, Oustic**

- Sunday 11:00 a.m.

### Weekday Mass Schedule

Please check the schedule on the bulletin board at the back of the Church, the bulletin and/or the Parish website: [www.stjohnbrebeuferin.org](http://www.stjohnbrebeuferin.org)

### New Registrants

We gladly welcome new Parishioners! Please come by the Church, Parish Office or contact us via email/phone to receive a registration form.

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

- Saturday - St. John Brébeuf Parish, Erin: 4:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.
- Sunday – St. Peter's Mission, Oustic: Following the 11:00 a.m. Mass
- By appointment: Please call Fr. Gordian – 519-833-9738

### Sacraments of Baptism, First Holy Communion, Confirmation, Marriage

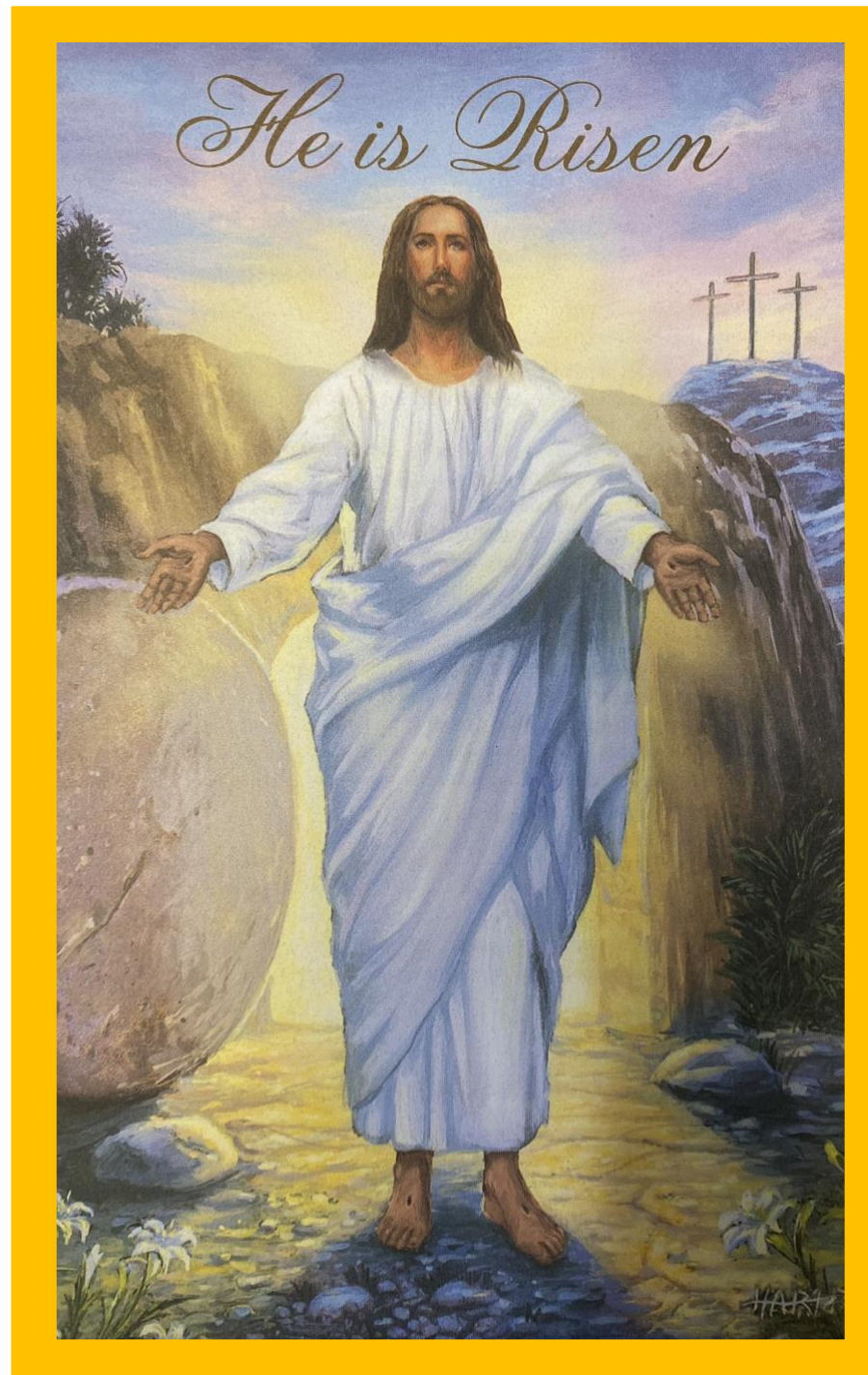
For information, please contact the Parish Office at 519-278-0125.

Please note, marriage arrangements should be made at least 6 months in advance.

Please contact Fr. Gordian if anyone is ill or in hospital and would like to receive Holy Communion or the Sacrament of the Sick.

### Catechetical Correspondence Courses

Please contact Fr. Gordian at 519-833-9738





## PASTOR'S EASTER MESSAGE 2023

*My Dear Parishioners,*

At Easter we recall that Christ has forever conquered sin and death and so the reason we shout the great **"Alleluia"** on Easter day. Easter celebration is, therefore, at the centre of our Christian life and faith, for at Easter, we not only celebrate that Christ has risen from the dead as he said, but we also celebrate the triumph of life over death, light over darkness, goodness over evil, righteousness over wickedness, truth over falsehood, for it was for this reason that Christ died and rose again to life.

The central message of Easter is that of renewed life, hope, and strength in the face of all the pain and suffering that may confront us in life. There are struggles, difficulties, pain, and lack we deal with as individuals, community, society, and on the global stage but in all of these, Easter reminds us that we are never alone but to know that Jesus did not die on the Cross to take away our pains, but to fill our pains with his loving presence.

The reason Jesus came to suffer, die, and rise from the dead is to establish God's kingdom of peace, justice, and truth and we have all been called by virtue of our baptism to be agents of God's peace, justice, and light in our society and in our world.

The Easter message reminds us that if we fix our eyes and faith on God, we can be sure of victory in the end for we are meant not to only focus our minds on the pains of Good Friday, but on the joys of the Resurrection morning - Easter Sunday.

I send Easter blessings to everyone as we celebrate the very reason we are Christians. St. Paul writes, "If Christ has not been raised then empty is our preaching, empty too, your faith in Christ Jesus." (1Cor.15: 14)

We pray that the celebration of Easter in these times will continue to offer us all renewed hope, strength, and new life which we celebrate at Easter and beyond. Happy Easter and may God continue to bless and keep us all in His love and peace, Amen!

**Father Gordian**

*Pastor, St. John Brebeuf Parish*



## BISHOP'S EASTER MESSAGE 2023

*Dear Friends,*

*As we gather to celebrate the Easter feasts this year, I offer my greetings and good wishes. It has been encouraging to see such large numbers of faithful gather once again for the Holy Week celebrations! The gatherings of so many at the Cathedral for the celebration of this year's Chrism Mass is a sure sign that COVID restrictions are behind us and that fear no longer inhibits us from coming together as a community of faith to give thanks to God for blessings showered upon us.*

*Following the Holy Thursday and Good Friday remembrance, we gather for the Easter Vigil, hearing the scriptures, singing the psalms, and praying the prayers in anticipation of our Easter "ALLELUIA"! The lighting of the Easter candle is a powerful reminder that even a flickering flame makes a huge difference in a darkened room. Our faith, as tentative and fragile as it might seem, can make the world of difference for our children, our families, our friends, and our neighbours. And when we act as Christ teaches, our faith can mean everything for the little one who experiences the generosity of our love.*

*After weeks of fasting and deprivation, we now experience the joy of Easter feasting! We remember all too clearly that many still experience the pain of hunger and thirst, the misery of war and destruction, and the sorrow of hatred and rejection. As we sing our Easter Alleluias in the light of the Easter candle, we offer our greetings and goodness to those who live on the edges of darkness – praying that they, too, might know HIS LIGHT, and ours.*

*May you be richly blessed this Easter! And through you, may many know the love that God showers upon us by letting us be called "His children" – "for that is what we are" (1 Jn.).*

*Happy Easter to all!*

*Sincerely in the Risen Christ and Mary Immaculate,*

**+Douglas Crosby, OMI**

**(Most Rev.) Douglas Crosby, OMI**

**Bishop of Hamilton**