

## PASTOR'S EASTER MESSAGE 2025

*My Dear Parishioners,*

*Each year at Easter, we celebrate the reason why we are Christians as St Paul rightly puts it; If Christ has not been raised, then empty is our preaching; empty too, your faith in Christ Jesus, (I Cor. 15.12-19).*

*This clearly explains why the Easter celebration is at the centre of our Christian life and faith. At Easter, we do not only celebrate that Christ is risen, but we also celebrate the triumph of life over death, light over darkness, goodness and righteousness over evil and wickedness, truth over falsehood. At Easter, Christ had made good his promise; "Destroy this temple and in three days, I will raise it up again" Jn 2:19. Our Lord has indeed conquered sin and death for all eternity, the reason we also shout the great ALLELUIA at Easter!*

*This Easter, we as a parish rejoice and are glad to welcome into our fold and parish community those who have gone through the RCIA course and will be welcomed into full communion with the Church, especially Ashley, Michelle and Natasha who have been going through the adult faith program this year and will be celebrating the sacraments on Easter Vigil. We congratulate them and are glad to welcome them into our parish and faith community and wish them well in their future faith journey.*

*As we celebrate Easter this year, let us be renewed and strengthened once again, to make bold and go out there to announce to the whole world that Christ is indeed Risen as he said, Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*His Excellency, Bishop William McGrattan, the CCCB president has also served us with a well thought out Easter message, and I hope we shall find some time to read through and enjoy this Easter message and blessings.*

*Wishing everyone a very happy and blessed Easter celebration!*

**Father Gordian**



## BISHOP'S EASTER MESSAGE 2025

*Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, As President of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, I extend to you the ancient Orthodox Easter greeting: "Christ is Risen!"*

*Truly, He is Risen!" Each of the Gospel accounts of that first Easter morning presents us with the testimony of Mary Magdalene, Peter, and the Beloved Disciple, who encountered the astonishing reality of Christ's Resurrection. Their despair, sorrow, and sense of loss gave way to newfound hope. The seeds of these Gospel events continue to be sown in our lives today, serving as a sure sign of the Risen Lord's presence and the power of His Resurrection at work in our world.*

*In this Jubilee Year of Hope, Pope Francis calls upon all the baptized, each with their unique gifts and ministries, to take co-responsibility in ensuring that the many signs of hope bear witness to God's presence. Each year, our Holy Week celebrations lead us through the proclamation of the Word into the sacramental presence of Christ. This rich spiritual journey invites us to embrace the mysteries of our salvation with renewed faith and devotion. We walk the path of Christ's Passion and death on the Cross, enter the silence of Holy Saturday, and then rejoice in the hope awakened within us as we renew our baptismal faith at Easter—professing our belief in Christ's victory over death and the promise of eternal life.*

*This is the enduring presence of the Risen Christ in the life of the pilgrim Church—a presence illuminated by the Holy Spirit with the light of hope. It is a flame that burns continuously, "like an ever-burning lamp, to sustain and invigorate our lives" (Spes Non Confundit, no. 3).*

*May this light of hope, peace, and new life shine through our witness of Easter faith in the ordinary moments of family life, our parishes, schools, and workplaces. In this Jubilee Year of Hope, may we proclaim with renewed boldness: "Christ is Risen! Truly, He is Risen!" Easter 2025*

*Message for Easter 2025 by Bishop William T. McGrattan, Bishop of Calgary and President of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops*

## **St. John Brébeuf Parish**

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

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

### **Pastor**

Rev. Gordian Okpuruka

Tel: 519-833-9738

### **Parish Office**

**Hours:** Thursday & Friday, 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 519-833-7838.

### **Music Ministry**

Jean Gravelle

519-833-9552

### **Knights of Columbus**

Tim O'Brien, Grand Knight

519-829-8050