

# Blessings

## IN THE MIDST OF TRIAL



DIocese of HAMILTON

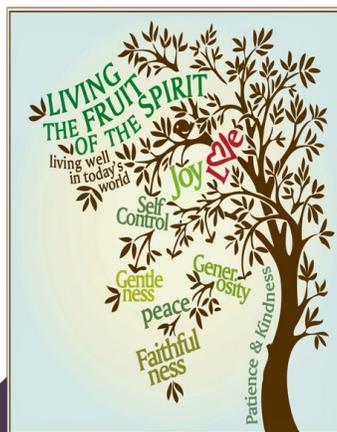
The pandemic hasn't halted the good work of the Church. The Stewardship and Development Office asked for examples, and parishes provided a wealth of them. A few are here, and more are to come! [See the previous fliers at hamiltondiocese.com/news.](https://www.hamiltondiocese.com/news)

### TREES BRING THE HOPE OF 'NEW LIFE' TO ST. TERESA'S IN KITCHENER

As St. Teresa Parish in Kitchener prepared for Pentecost, nine cedars were planted along the church to symbolize the nine Fruits of the Holy Spirit. In front of each tree, the parish will post a plaque with a passage from Scripture to create an inspirational and educational path. In the parish bulletin, Fr. Marian Gil, pastor of St. Teresa, said:

*"Even though we are isolated, the Holy Spirit is able to renew our faith and relationship with Jesus – to make our life more meaningful and filled with a tremendous joy and new life. I trust that these evergreens will continue to remind us that we are sent to the world to make a difference and bring new life."*

St. Teresa also maintained a relationship with the parish community through Zoom and the live-streaming of Mass and devotions such as the rosary, Divine Mercy, novenas and exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. After each Mass and devotion, parishioners shared their faith, their experiences and how they are dealing with challenges. After one of the devotions, a parishioner said: "I am very grateful to God that I can see your faces, because I feel very lonely and isolated. Praying with you and seeing your faces gives me hope and strength. But I'm missing you very much and the physical contact with the Mystical Body of Christ." Brought to tears, he continued: "Now I appreciate even more the grace of parish community and Mass and going to Confession."



#### ST. JOSEPH, GUELPH

The Home Visiting Team at St. Joseph in Guelph kept in touch with shut-ins from the Parish, and the priests provided Sunday Masses online as well as adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Parishioners also have been very generous to the St. Vincent de Paul Society, which directly serves those in need.

#### NOTRE-DAME-DU-PERPÉTUEL-SECOURS

A group of devoted women (members of l'Artisanat) has worked for many years making handmade items to raise funds for Notre-Dame. Always ready to act when help is needed, these women responded to news of the pandemic and the church's closing by exchanging patterns and providing friends and families with handmade masks.

- Some grandparents at Notre-Dame felt bad they could not offer to help with their little ones during the pandemic. So they got busy cooking, baking and delivering food (safely left on the porch) to ease the burden of young parents working at home and supervising school-age children at the same time. These thoughtful gestures of support will be remembered for years to come.

