



Jubilee Year of Hope
February 2025

Diocesan Ministries

HEROES OF HOPE



Heroes of Hope is a monthly newsletter from the Diocese of Hamilton, shining a light on the extraordinary individuals and ministries who inspire hope and transform lives in our communities.

#HEROESOFHOPE

Christian hope is rooted in Christ! Those who serve in the administrative and pastoral offices of the Diocese work closely with the bishop and pastors, as they strive together to respond to the material and spiritual needs of the people entrusted to their care. They provide wise counsel to the bishop and provide resources and training for pastors, parish ministers and volunteers who are on the front lines, bringing the hope-filled message of Christ to our parishes. These are some of the key diocesan ministries.

Consultative Advisory Committees

The bishop is supported by an **Episcopal Board** (a group of principal advisors) and the **Presbyteral Council** (representative priests) and a body of priest **Consultors**. A finance council, and committees for buildings and properties, cemeteries, the priest personnel board and safeguarding committee, also provide valuable counsel to assist the bishop in the governance of the diocese.

Administrative Offices

The **Finance and Insurance Offices** bring hope by promoting financial transparency, accountability and sustainability to parishes. Through strategic financial planning and risk management support, these offices ensure that parishes have the protection and resources necessary to thrive.

The **Human Resource Office** is dedicated to fostering a supportive work environment where all employees feel valued and empowered. This office supports diocesan and parish employees, offering guidance and resources to ensure they can carry out their duties effectively.

Works of Charity

The **Stewardship and Development Office** provides to pastors and lay leaders advice regarding best practices for stewardship and fundraising for current and future needs. The office provides resources to foster generosity which makes possible the worship of God in our parishes, supports the vital work of evangelization, and provides hope to the poor and marginalized.

Diocesan Charities oversees the charitable support to parishes, ministries and social service agencies both in the diocese and beyond. Funds received support Catholic dioceses and parishes in need, and a variety of apostolic works which promote human dignity and authentic human flourishing.

The **Mission Co-operative Program** coordinates the annual efforts of each parish to support our brothers and sisters in developing countries. Funds raised provide food, clean water, clothing, medical care, shelter and opportunities for education, as well as ongoing formation for missionaries and catechists.



Pastoral Offices

The **Office of Evangelization and Catechesis** supports the faith formation of adults and children in cooperation with parishes, our Catholic schools and catechists in the diocese. This office provides ministers in our parishes and schools to be bearers of hope through training, program materials and resources to form missionary disciples for the Church in the world.

The **Family Ministry Office** supports individuals, couples and families to grow strong, healthy and happy as they navigate the challenges of daily life, rooted in their Christian faith. A wide variety of resources and programs are made available to parishes and individuals in support of marriage and family life.

The **Office of Youth Ministry** strives to serve parish ministers, volunteers and high school chaplaincies in their ministry, so that they have the resources and formation needed to invite young people to encounter Christ and have an authentic relationship with him. The work of this office includes the formation of youth leaders in our parishes and schools.

The **Office of Refugees** is dedicated to bringing hope to those who have been forcibly displaced and are suffering in countries of asylum, desperately in need of safety and a new beginning. Working with Catholic stakeholders and parishes, and with the help of dedicated volunteers and family members, the office helps refugees to make a new home in our country.

The **Office of Justice and Peace** works collaboratively with other churches and religious groups to foster Indigenous Reconciliation and address the many social challenges related to homelessness, just wages, care for migrant workers, and the safeguarding of the environment, our common home.

The **Liturgy Office** coordinates all our diocesan liturgical celebrations, enabling us to keep our hope in Christ alive each time we gather for the liturgy. The office provides ongoing formation for all liturgical ministers, so that through their ministry they may be ministers of hope.

The **Communications Office** strives to share the good news of how our diocese and parishes nourish faith, foster hope and are engaged in works of charity. The office maintains our diocesan website, the use of social media, and the creation of promotional materials.



The **Bishop Farrell Library and Archives** is responsible for maintaining the record of long history as a diocese for future generations. More recently, the office has made *The Saint John's Bible* available to parishes, schools and other institutions, so that they might draw inspiration from the beautifully illustrated Word of God, the source of our hope, during this Jubilee year and always.



HEROES OF HOPE PRAYER FOR DIOCESAN MINISTRIES

Lord God, by the
grace of our baptism,
you have given us new life in Christ
and called us to serve
as pilgrims of hope.

We pray in thanksgiving
for those who have
responded to your call
to use their gifts in
the service of our Diocese,
working in union with our Bishop,
providing counsel to our Pastors
and to support their ministry
as coworkers in the vineyard of the Lord.

Through their varied ministries,
may they support the pastors of our Church,
and through their work in our Diocese
touch the hearts of all in our community
who long for the hope,
born of our Christian faith,
that never disappoints.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

