

4th Sunday of Lent – Mar 27, 2022

ST. MARY PARISH

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tues. Mar 29 - 7:00 p.m. Martin Sokol Req'd by Joan & John Jeffery
Wed. Mar 30 - 9:00 a.m. Alfried Riefter Req'd by Staff St. Mary School
Thur. Mar 31- 9:00 a.m. Martin Pronk Req'd by Corrie Pronk & family
Fri. April 1 - 9:00 a.m. Pat Dorgan Req'd by Dalla Costa Family
Fri. April 1 - 7:00 p.m. The Stations of the Cross
Sat. April 2 - 9:00 a.m. The People of the Parish
Sat. April 2 - 4:00 p.m. The People of the Parish
Sun. April 3 - 9:00 a.m. The People of the Parish

LECTORS

Sat. April 2 - 4:00 p.m. Maxine Schmidt
Sun. April 3 - 9:00 a.m. Marian Flanigan

CONFESSION only by appointment, call Fr. Mike at: 519-323-1054 ext. 7 and Tue's 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. and Fri's 5:00 p.m.- 7:00p.m. of Lent

ST. THOMAS, Harriston

Sat. April 2 - 5:30 p.m.- Gerald Stroeder Req'd by Bill & Mary Hammond

ST. PETER'S, Ayton

Sun. April 3 - 11:00 a.m. – Special intentions Req'd by a parishioner

Ukraine Humanitarian Crisis

On behalf of Mr. Francis Doyle, Vice-Chancellor (Temporal Affairs), please be advised that Parishioners wishing to make a donation to the Ukraine Humanitarian Crisis can do so online through Development & Peace at https://www.devp.org/en/wp_press_release/solidarity-prayers-and-support-for-ukraine-development-and-peace-joins-relief-efforts/ or by calling 1-888-664-3387.

A reminder to please be **careful** of texts or e-mails seeking donations to support Ukraine. If anyone wishes to make a donation it is better to do so through a reputable agency. **Do not click** on any links from unsolicited emails or texts. Make sure you are on the organization's secure website before sharing your financial information!

Passion, Death, and Resurrection, Christ has reconciled us with God and one another.

Our familiarity with today's parable risks dulling us to its tremendously powerful message. We call this the parable of the lost son or the prodigal son. Any focus on the younger son, however, must also be balanced by an examination of the unusual behavior of the father.

First we must imagine our first response to the audacity of a son who asks for his inheritance before his father has died. Indignation would certainly be a justifiable response to such a request. Yet the father in this parable agrees to honor the son's request and divides his property among his two sons. How might we describe such a father? Foolish comes to mind, but so does trusting. Without property of his own, the father must rely upon his sons to provide for his well-being.

The younger son takes his inheritance and leaves home. The older son remains, continuing to provide for the father and the household. Having been disgraced by the younger son, the father spends some time watching the road for the return of the lost son. When he eventually sees his wayward son returning, the father not only welcomes him but also runs out to greet him and then honors him with a party. We say that this father is loving and forgiving. Yet these adjectives only begin to describe the depth of love and mercy that characterize the father.

We find no surprise in the anger of the older son. Yet the father appears sad and even confused by the older son's indignation. He says in reply that they should celebrate because the lost son had returned. The father is filled with gratitude and love for the older son's faithfulness. This love is in no way diminished by the father's rejoicing at the return of the younger son. Yet the older son's jealousy reveals his limited understanding of the depth of his father's love.

<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/sunday>

Dear Parishioners,

I am happy at this time to announce that St. Mary of the Purification Parish has a one-year subscription to FORMED, a catholic streaming service. With is subscription all parishioners can access the service from their home computer or any other electronic device that can connect with the internet. Further more, because the Parish is providing this opportunity there is no cost to you, the parishioner.

To start using FORMED simply follow these instructions:

1. In your internet browser type in <https://formed.org/>
2. Click the SIGN UP button
3. Then click the SIGN UP AS A PARISHIONER button

4. Under the heading FIND YOUR PARISH or ORGANISATION type in "St. Mary of the Purification". In the box below our parish name as well as the address should appear. Click on the name and press next.
5. You will be asked to enter your name and an email address. Once this is done press the SIGN UP button and you should have full access to the service.

I am hoping to use this for future parish events as well as school visits (especially with the children preparing for Sacraments). Please make full use of this while we have it. In Christ,
Rev. Michael Anderson P.P.

The Year of the Family- Speaker series

A free monthly virtual event from the Diocese of Hamilton – 2nd session : April 26, 2022 from 7:00-8:30 p.m. The Real Me: Drawing Teens Out of the Shadows. **Presenter:** Roy Petitfils

Roy Petitfils is an internationally recognized expert in understanding and raising teenagers. He is a therapist at Pax Renewal Center in Lafayette, Louisiana. He holds a Masters in Mental Health and School Counseling from the University of Louisiana, Lafayette. Roy is an internationally sought after speaker who uses humor, passion, clinical and life experience to help adults connect with teens and teens to know, understand and love themselves.

To learn more & register for a session, visit: amorislaetitia.hamiltondiocese.com or contact the family ministry office: 905-528-7988 ext. 2249



Dear Jesus, as we approach the Easter season and the experience of your passion, death, and resurrection, we feel grief as well as peace. We feel grief knowing the suffering and death you endured for our sake. We feel peace in the knowledge that you offer us a life filled with love and hope. We are comforted to know that you are always with us, loving us and embracing us in spite of our failures. Thank you, Lord. Amen.

All blessings come to us through our Lord. He will teach us, for in beholding his life we find that he is the best example. –St. Teresa of Avila

Fr. Joe's Silver Jubilee Invitation

Dear Parishioners of Mount Forest/Ayton/Harriston
Please join me celebrate

The 25th anniversary of my Priestly Ordination

On Tuesday June 21, 2022 at 5:00 pm Holy Mass

At St. Patrick's Catholic Church,

53 Wellington Street, Cambridge, ON. N1R 3Y6

And afterwards the reception

At Paragon Banquet & Catering

15 International Village Dr. Cambridge, ON. N1R 7M5

You have all touched my heart and are dear to me.

I hope you will join me for this joyous event

Please Reply by: April 31, 2022 to Ms. Adell Mueller
1-519-323-6012 OR email: adellsbeautysalon@gmail.com

Sunday's Readings

First Reading: *Joshua 5:9a,10-12*

The Israelites celebrate the Passover in the promised land.

Responsorial Psalm: *Psalm 34:2-7*

A prayer of praise to God.

Second Reading: *2 Corinthians 5:17-21*

Paul preaches our reconciliation with Christ.

Gospel Reading: *Luke 15:1-3,11-32*

Jesus teaches about forgiveness in the parable of the Prodigal Son.

Background on the Gospel Reading

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is traditionally called Laetare Sunday. Laetare is a Latin word that means "rejoice." Today's Gospel describes the reason for our joy: God's great love for us has been revealed in Jesus. Through his