

St. Mary of the Purification Parish



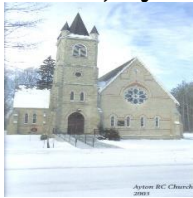
230 Queen Street East, P.O. Box 128, Mount Forest, ON N0G 2L0
Tel: 519-323-1054 Fax: 519-323-0117 www.stmarymountforest.ca
OFFICE HOURS: Monday - Closed, Tuesday - Friday: 9:30 am - 1:30 pm

Pastor: Rev. Michael Anderson, P.P. Email: manderson@hamiltondiocese.com

Bookkeeper: Annette Connolly Email: stmarybookkeeper@wightman.ca

Secretary: Dee Dee Eurig Email: stmarymtforest@wightman.ca

St. Peter's Mission,
943 Caroline Street, Ayton ON N0G 1C0



St. Thomas the Apostle,
#5800 Hwy 89, Harriston ON N0G 1Z0



New Parishioners - WELCOME! - Please introduce yourself to the priest.

LORD'S DAY LITURGIES

SATURDAY:

St. Mary: 4:00 pm Mass
St. Thomas: 5:30 pm Mass

SUNDAY:

St. Mary: 9:00 am Mass
St. Peter: 11:00 am Mass

WEEKDAY LITURGIES:

Please refer to schedule inside.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Tuesday: 5:30 pm-6:30 pm or by appointment.

MARRIAGE: Please notify the Pastor at least 6 months in advance.

Please note: The deadline for Bulletin submission is Wed. a.m.

SACRAMENT OF

BAPTISM: Please contact the parish office.

PASTORAL CARE NEEDS:

Please contact the Parish Office for :

-A priest to administer the Sacrament of the sick (please call at the onset of illness)

-Holy Communion to the sick.

-Home, hospital and nursing home visits.

FUNERAL:

When death occurs in the family, please contact the parish office.

PRIESTHOOD &

RELIGIOUS LIFE: For information or assistance, see www.hamiltonvocations.com

DIOCESAN

NEWSLETTER: For information about home activities & events of interest in the Diocese of Hamilton, subscribe to the online diocesan newsletter at: www.hamiltondiocese.com

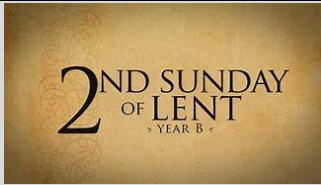
SCHOOL:

St. Mary Catholic Elementary School, 390 Parkside Drive, Mount Forest ON NOG 2L3
Telephone: 519-323-2586
Fax: 519-323-9446

PARISH REQUESTS:

Keep your love for parish alive in your will & expression of sympathy.

"Prayer is the soul of hope"
~ Pope Francis



February 25, 2024

Tue. Feb. 27 – 7:00 p.m Special Intention for Dave Dinneen Req’d by Kevin & Joyce Dinneen - 7:00 p.m. Rita Ricard & Monique Monahan Req’d by Florence Ricard

Wed. Feb. 28– 9:00 a.m. Courtney Seniuk Req’d by Jane & Melvin Seniuk -9:00 a.m. Victor Ruffolo Req’d by Ron and Marian Flanigan

Thur. Feb. 29 – 9:00 a.m. Eileen Murray Req’d by David Doyle

Fri. Mar 1– 1st Fri. every mo. Adoration immediately following mass

9:00 a.m. Margaret Terpstra Req’d by Tilly & Gerald Gorman

7:00 p.m. STATIONS OF THE CROSS Fridays during Lent

Sat. Mar.2 - 1st Sat of every mo. 9 am mass

9:00 a.m. – Mary, Arthur & John McDonald Req’d by The Family

4:00 p.m. The People of the Parish

Sun. Mar. 3 - 9:00 a.m. The People of the Parish

Contributions: Feb. 11 \$1,305.25; Feb. 18 \$1,042.25; P.A.R \$3,912.00; Maintenance \$525.00

Lectors

Sat. Mar.2 - Susan Thurston

Sun. Mar 3 - Colleen Dalla Costa

CONFESSION: Tue. 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. or call Fr. Mike at 519-323-1054 ext. 7

ST. THOMAS, Harriston

Sat. Mar 2 – 5:30 p.m. Lloyd Watts & Debra Zilke Req’d by Irene Watts & Family

Contributions: Feb. 10 \$140.00 ; Feb. 18 \$180.00; P.A.R \$70.00

ST. PETER’S, Ayton

Sun. Mar.3– 11:00 a.m. Jim & Loretta Murphy Req’d by Dot Bourgeois

Contributions: Feb. 11 \$281.00 ; Feb. 18 \$50.00

****STATIONS OF THE CROSS EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT AT 7:00 pm DURING LENT****

This Sunday’s Reading:

First Reading

Genesis 22:1-2,9a,10-13,15-18

Abraham obeyed God and prepared to offer his son, Isaac, as a sacrifice.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 116:10,15,16-17,18-19

A prayer of faithfulness to God

Second Reading

Romans 8:31b-34

God’s faithfulness is shown in his offering of his own Son for our salvation.

Gospel Reading

Mark 9:2-10

Jesus is transfigured in the presence of Peter, James, and John.

Background on the Gospel Reading

On the second Sunday of Lent in each Lectionary cycle, the Gospel reading proclaims the story of Jesus’ Transfiguration. This event is reported in each of the Synoptic Gospels—Matthew, Mark, and Luke. This year, in Lectionary Cycle B, we hear Mark’s report of this event.

The context for Mark’s Transfiguration story is similar to that found in both Matthew’s and Luke’s Gospel. The Transfiguration occurs after Peter’s confession that Jesus is the Messiah and Jesus’ prediction about his passion. After this, in each of these Gospels, there is also a discussion of the cost of discipleship. In each case, Jesus takes three of his disciples—Peter, James, and John—to a high mountain. While they are there, Elijah and Moses appear with Jesus. In Matthew’s and Mark’s Gospel, there is reference to a conversation among Jesus, Elijah, and Moses, but only Luke’s Gospel includes the detail that this conversation is about what Jesus will accomplish in Jerusalem. Elijah and Moses are significant figures in the history of Israel. Moses led the Israelites from slavery in Egypt and received from Yahweh the Ten Commandments. In appearing with Jesus at his Transfiguration, Moses represents the Law that guides the lives of the Jewish people. Elijah is remembered as one of the most important prophets of Israel who helped the Israelites stay faithful to Yahweh. Some Jews believed that Elijah’s return would signal the coming of the Messiah for the Jewish people. This belief is evidenced in the question posed by Jesus’ disciples after they have witnessed the Transfiguration. The appearance of these two

important figures from Israel's history with Jesus signifies Jesus' continuity with the Law and with the prophets and that Jesus is the fulfillment of all that was promised to the people of Israel.

On seeing Jesus with Elijah and Moses and having witnessed his Transfiguration, Peter offers to construct three tents for them. Mark reports that the disciples are terrified by what they have witnessed and that Peter's offer is made out of confusion. We also notice that Peter has reverted from his earlier confession that Jesus is the Messiah, calling Jesus rabbi instead. As if in reply to Peter's confusion, a voice from heaven speaks, affirming Jesus as God's Son and commanding the disciples to obey him. This voice from heaven recalls the voice that was heard at Jesus' baptism.

In his Transfiguration, we see an anticipation of the glory of Jesus' Resurrection. In each of the reports of the Transfiguration, Jesus instructs the disciples to keep secret what they have seen until after the Son of Man has risen from the dead. The disciples' confusion continues as they wonder what Jesus means by rising from the dead. The disciples cannot possibly understand Jesus' Transfiguration until they also witness his passion and death. We hear the story of Jesus' Transfiguration early in Lent, but we have the benefit of hindsight. In our hearing of it, we anticipate Jesus' Resurrection, even as we prepare to remember Jesus' passion and death.

Family Connection

Every family has special moments that they remember and share again and again. In sharing these stories, the meaning and importance of these events develop and deepen over time. This is how it was with the disciples' remembrance of Jesus' Transfiguration. The full significance of what they had seen and experienced could only be understood after Jesus' death and Resurrection. As they told other believers about this event and recorded the story for us in the Bible, our understanding of what it means to call Jesus God's own Son has also deepened.

As you gather as a family, think about some special family memories that your family tells over and over again. Talk about why these memories are important to you. Recall that in the Bible we find many important memories about Jesus that have been recorded for us so that we can believe that Jesus is God's Son. Read today's Gospel, Mark 9:2-10. What do we learn about Jesus from this Gospel?

(He fulfills the promises God made to Israel through the Law and the prophets. God glorified Jesus in his Resurrection. Jesus is God's Son.) Conclude in prayer together that as we continue to read the Bible, we will deepen our understanding of and our love for Jesus. Pray together the Lord's Prayer.

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

The next CWL meeting will be held on Tuesday March 12th, 2024 at 1pm.



First Holy Communion and Confirmation

Sunday April 14 at 3:00 pm we will celebrate the **Sacrament of Confirmation**

On Sunday June 2, 2024, we will celebrate First Holy Communion with a special Mass being held at 3:00 p.m.

If you have a child who **does not** attend St.Mary's School in Mt. Forest, and who has reached the age of discernment, please contact the parish office for registration. 519-323-1054 or email stmarymforest@wightman.ca

Bible Study for 10 weeks – The Book of Esther Wednesdays -Beginning February 21- 7:00 pm.

St.Peter's Church, Ayton

Thursdays- Beginning February 22- 3:00 pm and 7:00 pm St.Mary of the Purification , Mt.Forest .

Please contact the Parish office for registration 519-323-1054 email stmarymforest@wightman.ca.

Registration will remain open throughout the Bible study.

The Month of February
Dedicated to the Holy Family

Lenten Confession Schedule

St.Peter's, Ayton

Friday March 8 : 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm

St.Thomas, Harriston

Friday March 15: 5:00 pm-6:30 pm

St.Mary of the Purification

Friday March 22: 9:30 am – 6:30 pm

Coffee Sundays - 1st & 3rd Sunday of every month

Please join us for fellowship and treats! All Welcome!



Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King in Hamilton at 1:30 pm. (Space allows room for Anniversary couples only - those married 60 years or more may bring one guest if you require assistance). Registration is now available online at hamiltondiocese.com.



Saint Ethelbert Feast Day: February 25

Pope Gregory decided he must send someone to spread the Christian message to England. The man he chose was Augustine, who set off from Rome with 40 companions in the year 596. The Romans no longer ruled Europe. Much of the North was overrun with brigands, robbers, and barbarians. On his journey through France, Augustine became fearful and went back to Rome. But Gregory wasn't going to let him give up so easily. He ordered Augustine to complete his journey north. Augustine and his monks landed in Kent, in southeast England in 597, again afraid. What might the pagan king do to them? They were in for a surprise. King Ethelbert of Kent rode out to make them welcome. True, he did refuse to meet them indoors because his own pagan priests had warned him that these Romans might practice magic on him once they got indoors. But he listened to what they had to say and then gave them permission to enter his capital city, Canterbury, and to talk to people about Jesus. He also gave them somewhere to live, free of charge.

There was yet another surprise awaiting Augustine. The king's wife, Queen Bertha, was already a Christian. She was originally French and had become a Christian before marrying Ethelbert. He had allowed her to have a small Christian church in Canterbury, and that became Augustine's first base for his mission to the Angles. Many of the Kentish people became Christians, including King Ethelbert himself, who later gave Augustine land on which (in time) was built the great Canterbury Cathedral.

HIRING – RAMOTH HOUSE

Position: Support staff

Qualifications: Encouraging, Mentoring, Loving, Supporting our moms in their parenting potential. Join our amazing Support Team. Night, evening and weekend shifts available

office@ramoth.ca or 519-323-3751

Diocese of Hamilton Did you know.....?

The Diocese of Hamilton was established on **February 29, 1856 by Pope Pius IX** as a division of the Archdiocese of Toronto. The first Bishop was the Right Reverend John Farrell; installed on May 24, 1856. The Hamilton Diocese has grown to become the second largest English-speaking Roman Catholic Diocese in Canada, encompassing the Counties of Brant, Bruce, Grey, Halton, Waterloo, Wellington, and four Townships in the County of Dufferin. There are currently 126 parishes in the Diocese, with the inspiring Christ the King Basilica, built in 1933, as the Cathedral. The Diocese of Hamilton has flourished through the leadership of its Bishops and the faith of its clergy, religious communities, and dedicated parishioners. The Diocese is proud to celebrate its rich history and cultural diversity.

Text adapted from "A Short History of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Hamilton" by Rev. Edward J.R. Jackman, o.p.

THE DIOCESAN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

Are you celebrating your 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th, or 60+ Wedding Anniversary in the year 2024? If you are, you are cordially invited to join couples from across the Diocese of Hamilton for a Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, May 26, 2024 at the



PRAYER-FASTING-ALMSGIVING