

St. Mary of the Purification Parish



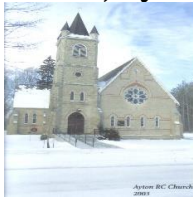
230 Queen Street East, P.O. Box 128, Mount Forest, ON N0G 2L0
Tel: 519-323-1054 Fax: 519-323-0117 www.stmarymountforest.ca
OFFICE HOURS: Monday - Closed, Tuesday - Friday: 9:30 am - 1:30 pm

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

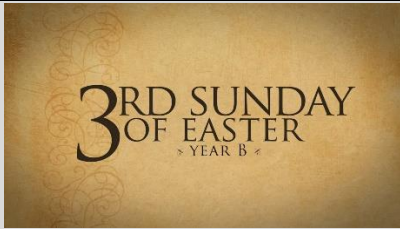
SCHOOL:

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



April 14, 2024

Tue. Apr. 16 7:00 p.m. Paul Krisko Req'd by Smolko Family

7:00 p.m. Leonard Seifried Req'd by Betty Mogensen and Family

Wed. Apr. 17 9:00 a.m. Stephen Zurav Req'd by the Family

Thur. Apr. 18 9:00 a.m. William Amell Req'd by Marcella Williams

Fri. April 19 9:00 a.m. Jackie Galea Req'd by Myrtle Gorman

Sat. April 20 4:00 p.m. The People of the Parish

Sun. April 21 9:00 a.m. The People of the Parish

Lectors

Sat. April 20 – Laura Cherrey

Sun. April 21 – Melissa Reid

Contributions: PAR-\$4437.00; Mar 24-\$1952.55; Mar 31-\$4969.25; Apr 7-\$1452.50; Maintenance-\$350.00

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

ST. THOMAS, Harriston

Sat. Apr 20 5:30 pm. Mary Garvey Req'd by the Estate

Contributions: PAR-\$70.00; Mar 24-\$155.00; Mar 31-\$85.00; Apr 7-\$150.00

ST. PETER'S, Ayton

Sun. Apr. 21- 11:00 a.m. Stephen Zurav Req'd by the Family

Contributions: Mar 24-\$325.00; Mar 31-\$245.00

This Sunday's reading :

First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 3:13-15,17-19

Peter preaches that Jesus has been raised from the dead and calls upon the people to repent.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 4:2,4,7-8,9

A prayer seeking God's favor

Second Reading

1 John 2:1-5a

Those who know God keep his commandments.

Gospel Reading

Luke 24:35-48

Jesus appears again to his disciples and shares a meal with them.

Background on the Gospel Reading

On the third Sunday of Easter, we continue to hear Gospel accounts of Jesus' appearances to his disciples following his Resurrection. Today's reading, taken from the Gospel of Luke, follows immediately after the report of Jesus' appearance to his disciples on the road to Emmaus. This is the event being recounted by the disciples in the opening verse of today's Gospel.

Consistently in the reports of Jesus' post-Resurrection appearances, Jesus greets his disciples with the words, "Peace be with you." This is a most appropriate greeting. The disciples have witnessed the death of someone they loved, and they now fear for their own lives as well. Peace is what they need more than anything else. Jesus often connects this greeting of peace with another gift—forgiveness. In today's Gospel, this connection is made in the final verses.

Even as they hear Jesus' greeting of peace, the disciples are startled and terrified. They are uncertain about what to make of the figure before them and, quite understandably, they mistake Jesus for a ghost. Yet the figure before them is not a ghost; Jesus invites them to experience his resurrected body with their senses, to look and to touch. The figure before them is flesh and bone, still bearing the marks of crucifixion. Although the disciples cannot forget his suffering and death, peace begins to take root in their hearts, as their fears turn to joy and amazement.

As further proof of his identity and of his resurrected body, Jesus eats with his disciples. The disciples have known Jesus best through the meals that he has shared with them. Descriptions of these meals are a defining element of Luke's Gospel. By eating with his disciples after his Resurrection, Jesus recalls all these meals, and most importantly, he recalls the Last Supper. Luke's report of the Last Supper and the meals that Jesus shared after his Resurrection unveil for us the significance of the Eucharist. Having shared a meal with his disciples, Jesus now uncovers for them the significance of what was written about him in the Scriptures. So, too, our celebration of the Mass is an encounter with Jesus, through the Word and the Sacrament of

the Eucharist. As Jesus commissions his disciples to be witnesses to what Scriptures foretold, our celebration of the Eucharist commissions us. Like the disciples, we are sent to announce the good news of Jesus' forgiveness of sins.

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

Family Connection - Family life is strengthened through storytelling and shared meal times. In a similar way, Christian life is sustained by God's word in Scripture and by Christ's presence in the Eucharist. We are especially sustained in our faith through our weekly celebration of Mass. Today's Gospel reading reminds us that the Scripture and the Eucharist are given to us so that our acts of bearing witness to Christ might be strengthened. As you gather as a family, ask each person to share their favorite story about your family. Talk about the importance of these memories about your family life and the importance of the meals you have shared together as a family. Recall that these stories and meals strengthen the love you share. In a similar way, our Christian life is strengthened by sharing God's Word and the Eucharist at Mass. Read together today's Gospel, Luke 24:35-48. Discuss the mission that Jesus gave to his disciples after their shared meal. The Eucharist also sends us to be Christ's witnesses in the world today. Conclude by praying together that we will be strengthened by God's word and by Jesus' presence in the Eucharist to be witnesses to Christ. Pray together *Tantum Ergo* or today's psalm, Psalm 4.

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

CWL

The meeting for April has been cancelled. The next one is scheduled for Tuesday May 14th at 1:00 pm



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

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 Mount Forest, and who has reached the age of discernment, please contact the parish office for registration. 519-323-1054 or email stmarymtforest@wightman.ca

350th Anniversary Pilgrimage to Quebec

This year marks the 350th Anniversary of the founding of the Catholic Church in Canada, with the establishment of the Archdiocese of Quebec. To mark this occasion, a Diocesan pilgrimage has been planned to take place from July 13-July 17, 2024. The pilgrimage will include a visit to the Cathedral Basilica of Notre Dame in Quebec City and the Holy Door, visits to the sites made famous by the saintly founders of the Canadian Church, visits to St.Anne de Beaupre, Notre-Dame-du-Cap in Trois Rivieres, Notre Dame Basilica and St.Joseph's Oratory in Montreal.

The five day pilgrimage will include guided tours exploring Quebec's religious and cultural heritage and will be led by Monsignor Murray Kroetsch, Vicar General and Chancellor of the Diocese of Hamilton. **Registration deadline is April 30th,2024** For more information, please contact Matthew Trafford at the Office for Evangelization and Catechesis. Phone 905-528-7988 ext. 2339 catechesis@hamiltondiocese.com [Pilgrimage to Québec: July 2024 \(hamiltondiocese.com\)](https://www.hamiltondiocese.com/pilgrimage-to-quebec-july-2024)

Would you like to help change the lives of persons in need?



The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul is a lay Catholic organization whose mission it is: **to serve Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice, hope and joy**, and to help shape a more just and compassionate society.

Because of the changing needs in our community, we would like to form a Saint Vincent de Paul Society in our Parish. **If you would like more information** please contact Father Mike or Phyllis McCormick at St. Mary of the Purification email : manderson@hamiltondiocese.com Telephone 519-323-1054

Coffee Sunday

April 7 & April 21

Please join us for fellowship and treats!

ADULT FAITH FORMATION THROUGH VLCCFF

The Diocese of Hamilton is proud to partner with Dayton University's Virtual Learning Community for Adult Faith Formation (VLCCFF) to offer certificate programs for ministry and enrichment for adult faith

formation. We are currently taking enrollment for the Youth Ministry Certification Program and the Catechist Formation Program for the Diocese of Hamilton, which begins in September 2024. Three & five week e-seminars are also available at a discounted rate for all adults in the Diocese looking to further their learning. For more information about our programs, and how to register, visit us at www.hamiltondioceselearns.com

REEL JUSTICE FILM FESTIVAL APRIL 25th Join us from 7:00 – 9:00 pm. for the screening of **Bigger Than Us**. The films follows youth activist Melati Wijsen as she travels the world to meet other young activists like herself, striving to make the world a better place. Guest speaker Peter Mahfouz from Caritas Lebanon will speak to his work supporting youth initiatives in Lebanon and the strength of young people in supporting their communities. **The screening and discussion will be hosted online via Zoom. Register at:**

<https://reeljustice.hamiltondiocese.com/> A partnership between the Bishop Farrell Library & Archives and Development and Peace, the Reel Justice Film Festival shines a spotlight on issues of social, political, and economic injustices.

MARRIAGE TIP OF THE MONTH When we marry, we gain a spouse and his or her family. It is essential that we agree to ensure that we, as a couple, have the most important connection and that we remain united as a family unit when stresses with extended family arise. This means coming to agreement with each other on items such as how to celebrate holidays and traditions, the raising of children and other areas that directly impact us as a couple, even when family wants to have input. Our families can provide wonderful support to our marriage, but we must remember that the essential relationship is between our spouse and ourselves.

Ramoth House – Volunteer Opportunities available

Looking for individuals who are willing to provide clients with hands on skills for the following: sewing, baking , gardening, crafts, self defense. Please contact 519-323-3751 or email office@ramoth.ca



SAINT MARTIN 1 Feast Day - April 13

Pope Martin I had been a lector and deacon in his youth. He was elected pope in 649 when a heresy called Monothelism was causing confusion in the

Church. This doctrine held that there was one nature in Christ—the divine nature—and that Christ had only one will. It therefore denied that Christ was like us in all things but sin and so denied our redemption. Because this group was slowly splitting the Eastern Empire, many eastern Catholics attempted to compromise. In an edict called the Typos, Emperor Constans II practically accepted the heretical doctrine by forbidding discussion of the matter. Pope Martin called a council at the Lateran. One hundred five bishops attended the council, which condemned Typos and published an explanation of the doctrine of the two natures in Christ. The council emphasized that the emperor had been misguided by his advisors. The council angered the emperor, who had Martin arrested and taken on a long, difficult voyage from Rome to Constantinople. The pope was given little food, was forbidden for 47 days to wash, and was denied all help. When Martin arrived in Constantinople, he was insulted by the people and accused in an unjust trial, not for defending the faith but for being a traitor. Publicly, the emperor had Martin stripped of his episcopal robes, which were ripped from top to bottom. Then Martin was condemned to death. The Church elected a new pope. Martin, exiled and neglected, wrote that he prayed for the safety of the faithful in Rome and especially for their new pastor. The pope wrote to a friend that he had been abandoned by all, even by the Church in Rome. The verdict of death was changed when the repentant, dying patriarch of Constantinople interceded for Martin. Martin was then exiled to Crimea, where he died forgotten.

<https://www.loyolapress.com>

The Month of April is dedicated to the Holy Spirit

Breathe in me, O Holy Spirit, that all my thoughts may all be holy. Act in me, O Holy Spirit, that my work, too, may be holy. Draw me near, O Holy Spirit, that I may love but what is holy. Strengthen me, O Holy Spirit, to defend all that is holy. Guard me, then, O Holy Spirit, that I always may be holy. Amen. “All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit!



The Spirit of the Lord hath filled the whole earth, alleluia.