



Welcome to
St. Mary of the Purification Parish Mount Forest ON

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. Mary of the Purification
230 Queen St. E, Box 128 Mt. Forest



St. Peter's Mission
943 Caroline St, Ayton NOG 1Co



St. Thomas the Apostle
#5800 Hwy 89, Harriston NOG 1Zo



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



16TH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
YEAR B

July 21, 2024

Tue. July 23 7:00 p.m. Martin Pronk & Dec'd family members Req'd by Corrie Pronk

7:00 p.m. Margaret & Fred Dineen
Req'd by Dan & Doris Tone

Wed. July 24 9:00 a.m. Len Seifried Req'd by Bob McIntee

Thu. July 25 9:00 a.m. Ronald Auger Req'd by Phyllis McCormick & Family

Fri. July 26 9:00 a.m. Arnie & Jonathon Eurig
Req'd by Deedee & Aaron Eurig

Sat. July 27 4:00 p.m. People of the Parish

Sun. July 28 9:00 a.m. People of the Parish

Lectors

Sat. July 27 Cesar Arruda

Sun. July 28 J. von Westherholt

Contributions: Jul 14 \$1057.05

CONFESSION: Tue. 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. or call

Fr. Mike at 519-323-1054 ext. 7

ST. THOMAS, Harriston

Sat. July 27 5:30 p.m. People of the Parish

Contributions: Jul 14 \$170.00

ST. PETER'S, Ayton

Sun. July 28 11:00 a.m. People of the Parish

Contributions: Jul 14 \$145.00

This Sunday's Reading:

First Reading

Jeremiah 23:1-6

The Lord promises to shepherd his people Israel.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 23:1-3,3-4,5,6

The Lord is our shepherd.

Second Reading

Ephesians 2:13-18

Christ has reconciled us with God and united us in peace.

Gospel Reading

Mark 6:30-34

Jesus invites his disciples to rest after their ministry, and Jesus is moved with pity for the crowds who pursue them.

Background on the Gospel Reading

In this today's Gospel, we read the report of the return of the Twelve, who were sent by Jesus to preach repentance, heal the sick, and drive out demons. When the Twelve return to Jesus, he invites them to come away from the crowds and rest. But the crowds will not give them peace. As the Twelve have shared in Jesus' ministry, they now appear to share in his popularity. The crowds continue to approach them, and Mark reports that the disciples don't even have time to eat. In an effort to get away, Jesus and his disciples board a boat in hopes of finding a deserted place. But the crowds notice this and arrive ahead of them. The crowds are so persistent that Jesus and his disciples cannot find a place to be alone. Mark's Gospel tells us that Jesus is moved with pity and begins to teach the crowds. Our Gospel for today stops here, but Mark's report of the unyielding demands of the crowd continues in the verses that follow. If we were to continue reading from Mark's Gospel, we would hear Jesus instruct his disciples to feed the crowd in the familiar miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes. The work of Jesus and his disciples appears to be a round-the-clock job. In the next few weeks, we will hear the story of Jesus' feeding of the multitude, but our Lectionary will turn to the sixth chapter of the Gospel of John to report and reflect on this story.

In today's Gospel, we hear the Twelve referred to as "apostles." The word *apostle* is a Greek word meaning "one who is sent." Jesus chose twelve men from among his disciples whom he sent to share in his ministry of preaching and healing. The first report of this is found in the third chapter of Mark's Gospel, where the Twelve are also called apostles and the names of this select group are listed. We who are Jesus' disciples today have also been sent to share the Gospel with others. Perhaps our commitment to following Jesus as his disciple leaves us feeling tired and overwhelmed. In today's Gospel, we hear Jesus affirm the importance of times of rest and renewal. Jesus wanted his disciples to come away and spend time alone with him. This is what we seek and find in our life of prayer and in our celebration of the Eucharist.

Family Connection

Family demands can make us feel like Jesus and the twelve apostles. We wish for times of relaxation and renewal, but there are errands to do, household chores to keep up with, volunteer commitments to keep. These are all good things, but we can be left

feeling drained and tired as we try to keep up. Perhaps we might take the opportunity this week to give ourselves permission to find the rest and relaxation that Jesus seeks for his disciples in today's Gospel. One of the gifts we can give to one another in our family life is assistance in finding the time and space to renew ourselves through prayer.

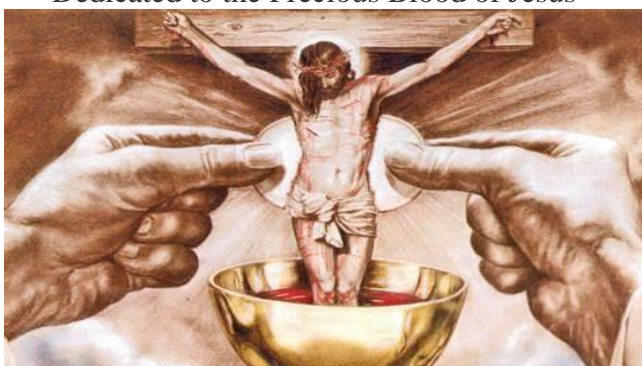
When you gather together as a family this week, bring your family calendar. Together review your family calendar and spend some time reflecting on your family activities. In particular, ask if your family has an appropriate amount of time for rest and relaxation. If not, discuss ways in which this time for renewal might be included in the week ahead. Read together today's Gospel, Mark 6:30-34. Notice how Jesus tried to find time and space for his disciples to rest and relax after they returned from their mission. Conclude in prayer together, asking God to help us find time to renew ourselves so that we might be better disciples of Jesus. Pray together the Lord's Prayer. <https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/>

The Pope's Prayer Intentions for July

For the pastoral care of the sick- We pray that the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick confer to those who receive it and their loved ones the power of the Lord and become every more a visible sign of compassion and hope for all.

The Month of July

Dedicated to the Precious Blood of Jesus



Diocesan Calendar

Mon- St.Mary Magdalene, Disciple of the Lord	Thu – Rev. Lukasz Kopaniak, S.A.C.
Tue – Rev. Peter Meyer	Fri – St. Anne & St.Joachim, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Wed – Society of Christ (S.Chri.)	Sat- Rev. Sam Restivo, C.R.

World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly

The World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly this year will be **July 28, 2024.**

The Pope challenges us: “On this Fourth World Day devoted to them, let us show our tender love for the grandparents and the elderly members of our families. Let us spend time with those who are disheartened and no longer hope in the possibility of a different future. In place of the self-centred attitude that leads to loneliness and abandonment, let us instead show the open heart and the joyful face of men and women who have the courage to say “I will not abandon you”, and to set out on a different path.” (Message from his Holiness Pope Francis for the Fourth World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, April 25, 2024)

Vocations: When the apostles were trying to reflect on their ministry, Jesus asked them to “Come away to a deserted place all by yourself and rest a while.” Listening to God in quiet prayer is very important in vocation discernment. Listen to God’s voice in an out of the way place. If you feel the call is genuine, call Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988
email vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

ADULT FAITH FORMATION THROUGH VLCFF

The Diocese of Hamilton is proud to partner with Dayton University’s Virtual Learning Community for Adult Faith Formation (VLCFF) 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 and 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

MARRIAGE TIP OF THE MONTH

Marriage Tip #140
Love is a choice and sometimes little choices can make for a more loving and contented relationship. A smile and kiss as a greeting, a thank you for something your spouse does for you or for the family, a little note of gratitude for their gifts and talents. Over time, we can forget that kind words,

compliments and seeing the good can change the way we interact. Choose to take these actions and watch your love grow.

(Teresa Hartnett, Family Ministry Office; 905-528-7988 ext. 2250)

ReSTART: Moving Forward – Our 10 week program offers education and support to anyone seeking to heal and move forward after divorce or separation. The sessions will begin again this fall and are held at the Chancery Office at 700 King St. West in person, or you are welcome to join our zoom classroom. Cost is \$35 for materials, but no one is turned away. Fall registration will be on line soon, so look to register at hamiltondiocese.com under Upcoming Events, or contact Sarah at 905-528-7988 ext.2249, or email familyministry@hamiltondiocese.com.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Are you getting married this fall or in the early part of 2025? Marriage preparation is an important way that the Church reaches out to support your relationship. Once you have spoken to the parish and booked your wedding, be sure to register for one of our upcoming courses, which run from January to December of each year. Fall 2024 dates are posted on the website now. Find out more at Preparation for Marriage - Diocese of Hamilton (hamiltondiocese.com)



Saint Mary Magdalene Feast Day July 22

Mary Magdalene was one of Christ's disciples. She has been identified with several Marys' in the Gospel: Mary, the sister of Martha and Lazarus; Mary, the sinner who washed Jesus' feet with her tears; Mary, a woman who cared for Jesus and his apostles on their journey. Today scholars believe that Mary Magdalene was not the sinful woman in Scripture although she has been confused with this unnamed woman for centuries.

Matthew, Mark, and John record that Mary of Magdala was present at the crucifixion of Jesus and that she was among the women who visited the tomb on Easter morning. Luke mentions her presence only at the tomb on Easter. According to John, Mary was privileged to see and speak to the risen Lord on Easter morning. She thought he was the gardener until he said her name.

So, Mary Magdalene was near Jesus in his darkest hour and again in his most glorious hour. Moreover,

she was an outstanding disciple of Jesus. Because Mary Magdalene was the one who brought the news of Jesus' resurrection to the apostles, she is called the Apostle to the Apostles. For centuries, St. Mary Magdalene has been considered a model of complete generosity and of sincere sorrow for sin.

Saints Joachim and Anne Feast Day July 26

You have probably heard the expression: The apple does not fall far from the tree. It means that children are often like their parents. Scripture does not tell us anything about the parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Tradition tells us that their names were Joachim and Anne. The name Anne means "grace," while Joachim means "the Lord will judge." Tradition also says that Joachim and Anne took their daughter to the Temple in Jerusalem when she was very young. They understood that Mary was a special child, so they dedicated her to God.

We do know that Joachim and Anne have been honoured in the Church from early Christian times. By looking at Mary, their child, we can figure out several things about them. They must have set the example that Mary followed to become the loving, gentle, faith-filled, courageous woman she was—the perfect woman to bear and raise the Son of God. Whether or not Joachim and Anne are the real names of Mary's parents, the couple were the holy, heroic ones who faithfully prepared for the coming of the Messiah.

Because Joachim and Anne were the grandparents of Jesus, they are the patrons of grandparents. St. Anne is venerated here in Canada, where there is a basilica in her honour in Quebec.



"What is not possible to us by nature, let us ask God to supply by the help of grace."

St. Benedict

