



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

**Tel: 519-323-1054 Fax: 519-323-0117 [www.stmarymountforest.ca](http://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](mailto:manderson@hamiltondiocese.com)**

**Bookkeeper: Annette Connolly**

**Email: [stmarybookkeeper@wightman.ca](mailto:stmarybookkeeper@wightman.ca)**

**Secretary: Dee Dee Eurig**

**Email: [stmarymtforest@wightman.ca](mailto: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](http://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](http://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*

## 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

**August 11, 2024**

**Tue. Aug 13 7:00 p.m.** Raymond & Theresa  
Horrigan Req'd by Pat & Diane Horrigan

**7:00 p.m.** Anna Marie Raftis Req'd  
by CWL

**Wed. Aug 14 9:00 a.m.** Jonathon Eurig Req'd by  
Dee Dee Eurig & Family

**Thu. Aug 15 9:00 a.m.** Stephan Zurav Req'd by  
The Family

**Fri. Aug 16 9:00 a.m.** Mary Doyle Req'd by  
Dan & Doris Tone

**Sat. Aug 17 4:00 p.m.** People of the Parish

**Sun. Aug 18 9:00 a.m.** People of the Parish

### Lectors

**Sat. Aug 17** Cesar Arruda

**Sun. Aug 18** J von Westerholt

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

Contributions: July 28 \$1,593.25, Maintenance \$70  
Aug. 4 - \$1,946.05; Maintenance \$465

### ST. THOMAS, Harriston

**Sat. Aug 17 5:30 p.m.** People of the Parish

Contributions: July 28 \$25; Aug 4 \$199

### ST. PETER'S, Ayton

**Sun. Aug 18 11:00 a.m.** People of the Parish

Contributions: Aug 4 \$545.75

### **This Sunday's Reading:**

#### **First Reading**

*1 Kings 19:4-8*

The Lord feeds Elijah, strengthening him for his journey to Horeb.

#### **Responsorial Psalm**

*Psalm 34:2-3,4-5,6-7,8-9*

A prayer of praise to God for his goodness

#### **Second Reading**

*Ephesians 4:30—5:2*

The Ephesians are encouraged to be imitators of Christ.

#### **Gospel Reading**

*John 6:41-51*

Jesus responds to the murmurs of the crowd, who wonders what he means when he says that he came down from heaven.

### **Background on the Gospel Reading**

On this Sunday, we continue to read from the "Bread of Life discourse" found in the sixth chapter of John's Gospel. Recall that we have been reading from this chapter for the past two weeks and will continue to read from it for another two. Last week, the crowd asked for a sign that would show that Jesus came from God. Jesus replied by saying that he is the sign and the bread of life sent by God. At this point, our Lectionary omits six verses in which Jesus predicts the unbelief of the crowd and further develops his connection with God the Father. In these verses, Jesus says that he was sent by God to do the Father's will. Jesus promises that those who look upon the Son with faith will find eternal life. Some of these themes are repeated in today's Gospel reading. Today's Gospel begins with a report that the Jews complained about Jesus' claims regarding his identity. They knew his family, and they knew he was the son of Joseph. They could not comprehend what Jesus meant when he said that he came down from heaven. Jesus responds to the complaints by saying that only those who are chosen by God will recognize him as the one that God sent. This is a recurring theme in John's Gospel, that God has chosen those who will have faith in Jesus.

In the verses that follow, Jesus talks more about his unity with the Father. He is the one who has seen the Father and, therefore, knows the Father. Those who listen to God will recognize that Jesus is the one sent from God. Those who believe will have eternal life. Jesus concludes with the central element of our eucharistic theology. He promises that the bread of life will bring eternal life to those who partake of it, and he tells us that the bread of life will be his own flesh, given for the life of the world. In today's reading, we hear Jesus say again, as he did in last week's Gospel, that he is the bread of life. We also hear Jesus add that he is the living bread. Both of these statements help us understand better the gift that Jesus gives us in the Eucharist. We celebrate this gift of Jesus each time we gather for Mass. We believe that receiving Jesus in the Eucharist will lead us to eternal life.

### **Family Connection**

Today's Gospel focuses our attention on our faith in Jesus' presence in the Eucharist. Jesus is the bread of life. He gives us his Body and Blood as bread so that we may have eternal life. When we receive the Body and Blood of Jesus in the Eucharist, our lives begin to reflect the reality that our communion with Jesus prepares in us. Our Eucharist leads us to live

as people of the promise, confident that we will one day share the fullness of life with God.

As you gather as a family, talk about our hope that one day we will share eternal life with God in heaven. This hope can transform the way we live our daily lives, calling us to be people of hope and expectation. In today's Gospel, Jesus promises us this gift of eternal life in the Eucharist. Read together today's Gospel, John 6:41-51. Observe that Jesus taught us that those who listen to God know that Jesus has been sent by God for the life of the world. Jesus fulfills this promise to us through his passion, death, and Resurrection. He gives us the gift of himself in the Eucharist, which is his Body and Blood, given so that we may have eternal life. Conclude in prayer together asking God to increase our faith in Jesus' presence in the Eucharist. Pray together the Act of Faith. [www.loyolapress.com](http://www.loyolapress.com)

### **The Pope's Prayer Intentions for August**

For political leaders: We pray that political leaders be at the service of their own people, working for integral human development and for the common good, especially caring for the poor and those who have lost their jobs.

### **The Month of August**

Dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary



O Immaculate Heart of Mary, refuge of sinners, I beg of you by the infinite merits of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and by the graces God has granted to you since your Immaculate Conception, the grace of never going astray again. Mother, keep me, a sinner, constantly bathed in the light of your Immaculate Heart. Amen.

### **Diocesan Calendar Aug. 11**

Mon- Rev. Mussie Keflezghi, M.C.C.J.	Thu –The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Tue – Rev. Vivek Trindade	Fri –Rev. Christopher Tracey
Wed – Legionaries of Christ (L.C.)	Sat- Rev. Raphael Ma, C.R.

### **Martyrs' Shrine Pilgrimage For Young Adults**

Frassati's Carabiners are excited to announce a day pilgrimage to the Shrine of the Canadian Martyrs in Midland on Saturday, August 17 for young adults in their 20s and 30s. The day will begin in prayer at 7:00 AM at the altar of the Canadian Martyrs (behind the high altar at the Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate), and the bus will depart for the Shrine at 7:30 AM. Once we arrive in Midland, we will spend the late morning and early afternoon walking to the site where Sts. Jean de Brebeuf and Gabriel Lalemant were martyred (approximately a 13 km hike); Fr. Ian will be accompanying us and will celebrate Mass at the outdoor altar at the martyrdom site. After Mass, we will return to the Shrine via bus. Pilgrims will have the chance to visit the Shrine, and we will have a picnic supper on the Shrine's beautiful grounds. The bus will return to the Basilica by 10:00 PM. Plan for a full day of wholesome and prayerful fun as we journey to one of the most holy sites in North America, consecrated by the blood of the martyrs!

To RSVP, please email Elise at [ecreidy@protonmail.com](mailto:ecreidy@protonmail.com). The cost of the trip is \$30/person, covering transportation, admission to the Shrine, and dinner. Pack your own lunch for the hike! Our bus seats forty pilgrims, so don't delay – sign up today!



### **The Assumption of Mary**

#### **Feast Day Aug 15**

One glance at a daily newspaper or a television news show will tell you that some people do not value human life. But this is not news. During the Holocaust of World War II, millions of people were tortured and killed. This terrible tragedy led many people to wonder about human life. How valuable is a single human life? How valuable are the lives of the elderly, the unborn, the terminally ill? Are their lives worth as much as those of people who are healthy and active, working, and raising families?

God creates human life and gives it value. And Jesus gave his life on the cross to redeem each individual human person. By doing this, Jesus said, "Your life is worth my dying to save you." Through

his own Resurrection, Jesus showed us the glory of our resurrection and of our living in the Holy Spirit. Jesus promised that the body and soul of a person, separated at death, will be joined together again in glory at the Last Judgment. The person will be whole for all eternity.

The feast of Mary's Assumption is a preview of what our lives will be. At the end of her earthly life, Mary was assumed, or taken up, into heaven body and soul. She did not have to wait for the end of the world, as we do. God granted her this special privilege because of her sinlessness and her fullness of grace.

The Church has always believed in Mary's assumption into heaven. But on November 1, 1950, Pope Pius XII focused the attention of the whole world on the Assumption of Mary as a dogma and mystery of our faith. This mystery shows us that God wants every human person, body and soul, to be in glory forever, just as Mary is now. This dogma shows how important every single human life is. Pope Plus XII hoped that by thinking about Mary's Assumption, people all over the world would develop a deeper respect for their own lives and their own bodies. He also hoped that people would grow in respect for the lives of others.  
[www.loyolapress.com](http://www.loyolapress.com)

### **COME RETREAT WITH LOYOLA HOUSE!**

Are you looking to break away and spend some time in silence? Interested in learning something new? See our website at [loyolahouse.com](http://loyolahouse.com) (under "Events") for more information on these upcoming retreats:

- **NEW! The Enneagram - A Practice for Accessing Your Divine Essence - Three evening sessions on September 10, 17, & 24**
- **NEW! Dining with Ignatius: The Saint's guidance for mindful eating - September 12**
- **Prayer Bead Pilgrimage - September 21**
- **NEW! Martha & Mary: Action & Contemplation - September 25**

Register online at [loyolahouse.com](http://loyolahouse.com) or contact [registration@ignatiusguelph.ca](mailto:registration@ignatiusguelph.ca) or by calling 519 824 1250 ext 266.



**DIOCESE OF HAMILTON**

### Reignite Hope: Youth Ministers' Retreat



**Event Date: September 27, 2024** Join us for our Annual Youth Ministers' Retreat for a time of fellowship, prayer, and retreat together! Cost per participant is \$225.00 for the weekend. Day option pricing is also available. For more information, please contact: [youthministry@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:youthministry@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 our posted on the website now.

Find our more at Preparation for Marriage - Diocese of Hamilton ([hamiltondiocese.com](http://hamiltondiocese.com))

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 x.2250)



