



*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

**24th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**September 15, 2024**

**Tue. Sept 17 7:00 pm** –Martin Pronk & Dec'd family members Req'd by Corrie Pronk

**7:00 pm** – Kathleen, Harold & Kenneth Lehman Req'd by Estate of Kay Lehman

**Wed. Sept 18 9:00 am**- Ludger Stachelscheid Req'd by Werner & Maxine Schmidt

**Thu. Sept 19 9:00 am**- Leonard Seifried Req'd by Lorne & Florence Moyer

**Fri. Sept. 20 9:00 am** – Living & Deceased members of the Barry McCormick Family Req'd by Phyllis McCormick & Family

**Sat. Sept. 21 4:00 pm** - People of the Parish

**Sun. Sept 22 9:00 am** - People of the Parish

**Lectors**

**Sat. Sept. 21** Maxine Schmidt

**Sun. Sept. 22** Melissa Reid

Contributions: Sep 1 -\$1,298.55; Maintenance - \$10,030; Sep 8 - \$2,046; Maintenance-\$245

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

**ST. THOMAS, Harriston**

**Sat. Sept. 21 5:30 p.m.** People of the Parish

Contributions: Sep 1-\$255; Sep 8-\$130

**ST. PETER'S, Ayton**

**Sun. Sept. 22 11:00 a.m.** People of the Parish

Contributions: Sep 1-\$670; Sep 8-\$140

**This Sunday's Reading:**

**First Reading**

*Isaiah 50:5-9a*

The suffering servant of Yahweh is assured of God's help.

**Responsorial Psalm**

*Psalm 116:1-2,3-4,5-6,8-9*

A prayer of praise to God for his salvation

**Second Reading**

*James 2:14-18*

James teaches that faith must be demonstrated in one's works.

**Gospel Reading**

*Mark 8:27-35*

Peter declares that Jesus is the Christ, and Jesus teaches that those who would follow him must take up his or her cross.

**Background on the Gospel Reading**

Today's reading is the turning point in Mark's Gospel. In the presentation of the life and ministry of Jesus found in the Gospel of Mark, the deeds of

Jesus have shown Jesus to be the Son of God. Yet many, including Jesus' disciples, have not yet realized his identity. In today's Gospel, Jesus asks the disciples for a field report by asking what others say about him. He then turns the question directly to the disciples and asks what they believe. Peter speaks for all of them when he announces that they believe Jesus to be the Christ.

The word *Christ* is the Greek translation of the Hebrew word for Messiah, which means "the anointed one." At the time of Jesus, the image of the Messiah was laden with popular expectations, most of which looked for a political leader who would free the Jewish people from Roman occupation. Jesus does not appear to have used this term for himself. As we see in today's reading, Jesus refers to himself instead as the Son of Man, a term derived from the Jewish Scriptures, found in the Book of Daniel and in other apocryphal writings. Many scholars suggest that the phrase Son of Man is best understood to mean "human being."

Now that the disciples have acknowledged Jesus as the Christ, Jesus confides in them the outcome of his ministry: he will be rejected, must suffer and die, and will rise after three days. Peter rejects this prediction, and Jesus rebukes him severely. The image of Christ that Jesus is giving is not the image of the Messiah that Peter was expecting. Jesus then teaches the crowd and the disciples about the path of discipleship: To be Christ's disciple is to follow in the way of the cross.

We can easily miss the fear that Jesus' words must have evoked in his disciples. Death by crucifixion was all too familiar as a method of execution in Roman-occupied territories. It was also an omnipresent danger to the Christian community for whom Mark wrote. The path that Jesus was inviting his disciples to share meant tremendous suffering and death. This is the kind of radical commitment and sacrifice that Jesus calls us to adopt for the sake of the Gospel.

[www.loyolapress.com](http://www.loyolapress.com)

**Family Connection**

Peter had expectations about what it meant to call Jesus the Messiah, the Christ. Jesus was indeed the Messiah, but his life and death would show a different understanding of what it means to be the Messiah. We, too, have expectations of God and our own ideas about what we think God ought to be doing in our world. Like Peter, however, we may risk limiting our image of God by thinking only in human ways. God's plan is always more that we can ever imagine.

As you gather as a family, talk about what we expect God to be doing in our world and in our family life. Then read today's Gospel, Mark 8:31-35. Why do you think Peter was so upset by what Jesus was saying? Notice how Jesus reprimands Peter. Do we sometimes forget to let God be God for us? That is, do we sometimes get discouraged because God doesn't act in our world in the ways that we expect? Pray together that we will remember that God is always working for the world's salvation in ways that are beyond our imagination. Conclude by praying together today's psalm, Psalm 116. [www.loyolapress.com](http://www.loyolapress.com)

vocation, call Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988 or email: [vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com)



## DIocese of Hamilton

**September 30:** National Truth and Reconciliation Day Each year, September 30 marks the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. The day honours the children who never returned home and survivors of residential schools, as well as their families and communities. Public commemoration of the tragic and painful history and ongoing impacts of residential schools is a vital component of the reconciliation process. Many wear orange on September 30th to mark this commemoration. The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops has collated a variety of materials to help us better understand the Church's involvement with this painful history and how we are called to actively engage in reconciliation efforts within the context of our faith. For more information, please visit the CCCB's webpage [www.cccb.ca](http://www.cccb.ca)

### The Pope's Monthly Intention

#### *September – "For the cry of the Earth"*

"We pray that each one of us will hear and take to heart the cry of the Earth and of victims of natural disasters and climactic change, and that all will undertake to personally care for the world in which we live."

### THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER

#### DEDICATED TO THE SEVEN SORROWS OF MARY



*Thou Mother, dying in so many ways, pierced by such dreadful sorrows, didst not die*

### Diocesan Calendar

Mon- Rev. Michael Kruszewski, C.R.	Thu –Rev. Philip Reilly, C.R.
Tue – Very Rev. Aleksander Mazur, S.A.C.	Fri –Rev. Pawel Jamroz
Wed –Missionary Sisters of Christ the King M.ChR.	Sat- Rev. Stephen Gilbert

**Vocations** –"Who do people say that I am?" Who do you think Jesus is? The depth of our faith is rooted in our answer. Is God calling you to be a priest, religious, or deacon? If you feel you have such a

**Jubilee 2025:** Pilgrims of Hope The Jubilee of Hope will begin with the opening of the Holy Door in Rome on Christmas Eve, December 24, 2024. The year will conclude with the closing of the Holy Door on the Feast of the Epiphany, January 6, 2026. This special year will be marked by thousands of pilgrims visiting Rome to enter through the Holy Doors and experience moments of grace. Our own Diocese will participate with different events and formation experiences to help mark the celebrations. We encourage you to keep a close eye on the Diocesan Website for more updates as they come: [www.hamiltondiocese.com](http://www.hamiltondiocese.com)

**MINISTERS OF THE WORD** The Diocese of Hamilton provides formation for Ministers of the Word each year as they exercise a very important ministry at Mass. In this workshop, participants receive formation in *Liturgy and Ministry, Techniques to Proclaim the Word of God, and an opportunity to practice*. It is ideal for both parishioners new to this ministry or considering it and a good refresher for experienced Ministers of the

Word. Participants receive a mandate from the Bishop of Hamilton. There is always good participant sharing. The cost is \$30 and includes lunch. **First Workshop**

*Saturday, September 21, 2024, Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate, Guelph, ON, 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.*

### **Second Workshop**

*Saturday, November 9, 2024, St. Catherine of Siena Parish, Hamilton, ON, 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.*

Participants register through the Diocese of Hamilton website under Upcoming Events/Workshops.

<https://hamiltondiocese.com/events/2024/02/minister-of-the-word-formation-workshop-2/>

**HEARTACHE TO HEALING - GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP AT ST. MICHAEL PARISH, WATERLOO** - Grief support provides companionship on the long journey through the grief process. Our support group follows the process developed by Dr. Bill Webster, an experienced leader in grief counselling. All who have suffered a loss are welcome, regardless of how much time has passed since your loss. **A monthly informal drop-in support** is available at St. Michael Parish on the 2nd Wednesday of the month; 7pm in the Parish Resource Centre/Library. **The 6- week Program-theory and sharing** runs Wednesday evenings (6 consecutive weeks) from October 16th to November 20th at St. Michael Parish, Waterloo. Registration is required by October 1st for this program by contacting our Parish office 519-884-9311, or email [parish@stmichaelw.ca](mailto:parish@stmichaelw.ca).

### **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:

- Prayer Bead Pilgrimage – September 21
- NEW! Martha & Mary: Action & Contemplation – September 23
- From Field to Feast: One-day Food Retreat – September 25
- NEW! Living with Soul in the Second Half of Life – October 31 to November 3 and January 23 to 26

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



### **Saint Matthew Feast Day September 21**

Matthew must have been surprised when Jesus walked up to him and said, “Follow me.” He probably fell off the stool in his customs booth!

Matthew, also known as Levi, was a tax collector in the town of Capernaum. Most tax collectors were hated by the Jews because they worked for the Romans, who had conquered the land. A tax collector could use his position honestly or dishonestly. The temptation to use the position to become rich was great. Now do you think the choice of Matthew was surprising? Yet Jesus chose a tax collector to follow him, to learn from him, and to go out and spread the Good News to others. The call from Jesus was more powerful than the call of wealth. Matthew left his work as tax collector. He invited Jesus to a dinner where other tax collectors (publicans) and sinners were gathered. The Pharisees were upset when they saw this, and they said to the disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” Jesus heard them and replied, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice.’ For I have come to call not the righteous, but sinners.” (See Matthew 9:9–13.) We know nothing other than that about Matthew from the Scriptures, but we do know that Matthew preached the Good News of Christ, and at least part of the Gospel attributed to him was first written for the Jewish converts in Palestine. There is some uncertainty about where Matthew preached and where and how he died. Some say Matthew went to Persia; some say Syria and Greece, while others say Ethiopia. Yet we can learn much from Matthew. He was a man who knew quite well the power of money. He knew the comfort it could ensure, the recreation it could buy, the luxury it could provide. But he was wise enough to know what it could not do. Money could never give him that sense of peace deep inside. It could never befriend him when he was lonely or give him the strength and courage to go on when all else seemed lost. Money could never buy him forgiveness or love. But the love of Christ could do all this and more.

