



# Welcome to St. Mary of the Purification Parish

We are delighted you could join us for today's Mass

Tel: 519-323-1054 [www.stmarymountforest.ca](http://www.stmarymountforest.ca)  

**OFFICE HOURS: Closed Monday Open Tuesday - Friday: 9:30 am - 1:30 pm**

## **Parish Staff**

**Pastor** Rev. Michael Anderson, P.P.  
**Bookkeeper** Annette Connolly  
**Secretary** Dee Dee Eurig  
**Custodian** Virginia McComiskey

## **Email:**

[manderson@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:manderson@hamiltondiocese.com)  
[stmarybookkeeper@wightman.ca](mailto:stmarybookkeeper@wightman.ca)  
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**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



## **OUR 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 page 2 of the bulletin

## **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:**

Tuesday: 5:30 pm-6:30 pm or by appointment. Kindly contact the parish office.

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

## **SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:**

Please contact the parish office.

## **PASTORAL CARE NEEDS:**

Please contact the parish office if you require:  
- 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 of a loved one occurs in the family, please contact the parish office.

**VOCATIONS & RELIGIOUS LIFE:** For information or assistance, see [www.hamiltonvocations.com](http://www.hamiltonvocations.com)

## **DIOCESAN**

**NEWSLETTER:** Visit the Diocese of Hamilton to subscribe to the online diocesan newsletter visit [www.hamiltondiocese.com](http://www.hamiltondiocese.com)

## **PARISH SCHOOL:**

**St. Mary Catholic School**



**Mount Forest**

Building Character Through Christ

390 Parkside Dr, Mt Forest 519-323-2586  
[www.stmarymountforest.wellingtoncdsb.ca](http://www.stmarymountforest.wellingtoncdsb.ca)

## **PARISH REQUESTS:**

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

**ADORATION:** 1st Friday every month after Mass. All are welcome!

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

**33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**November 17, 2024**

**Tue. Nov 19 NO MASS**

**Wed. Nov 20 NO MASS**

**Thu. Nov 21 9:00 am † Paul McCann Req'd by Denise McCann**

**Fri. Nov 22 9:00 am † Dec'd members of the McNeill & McDonald families**

**Sat. Nov 23 4:00 pm † People of the Parish**

**Sun. Nov 24 9:00 am † People of the Parish**  
Contributions: Nov.10 \$1,575 ; Maint.\$180

**Lectors**

**Sat. Nov 23 Maxine Schmidt**

**Sun. Nov 24 Melissa Reid**

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

**ST. THOMAS, Harriston**

**Sat. Nov 23 5:30 pm † People of the Parish**  
Contributions: Nov 10 \$330

**ST. PETER'S, Ayton**

**Sun. Nov 24 11:00 am † People of the Parish**  
Contributions: Nov 10 \$80

**This Sunday's Reading**

**First Reading**

*Daniel 12:1-3*

Daniel prophesies about the judgment of the last days.

**Responsorial Psalm**

*Psalm 16:5,8,9-10,11*

God protects us and shows us the path of life.

**Second Reading**

*Hebrews 10:11-14,18*

Jesus' offering for sin has made all to be consecrated perfect forever.

**Gospel Reading**

*Mark 13:24-32*

Jesus teaches about the signs of the coming of the Son of Man.

**Background on the Gospel Reading**

This Sunday is the second to last Sunday of our liturgical year. As we approach the end of the Church year, our Gospel invites us to consider Jesus' predictions and teaching about the end of the world. In the context of Mark's Gospel, Jesus' words about this are spoken to his disciples as he prepares them for his passion and death.

Before we consider Jesus' words, it is important to note the political backdrop against which many think Mark's Gospel was written. Most scholars concur that Mark wrote his Gospel for Christians living in or near Rome about 30 to 40 years after the death of Jesus. This was a time of political turmoil in Rome. Some Christians experienced persecution by the Romans during the reign of the emperor Nero (about 64 A.D.). Jewish revolutionaries rebelled against the Romans, which led the Romans to destroy the Temple in Jerusalem in 70 A.D. In this time of political turmoil and persecution, many in Mark's community might have wondered if the end times predicted by Jesus were in fact quite near.

Last Sunday we heard Jesus' observation about the contributions being made to the temple treasury and the example of sacrificial giving that he saw in the poor widow's offering. If we had been reading Mark's Gospel continuously, we would have heard Jesus predict the destruction of the Temple, his teaching about the costs of discipleship, and the woes that will accompany the end times. Finally, we would have heard Jesus instruct his disciples about the need for watchfulness so that they will not be caught unprepared for this final day of judgement.

In today's Gospel, Jesus continues this teaching by offering his disciples signs to look for that will indicate that the coming of the Son of Man is near. His words and images draw upon Old Testament imagery, especially images found in the Book of Daniel. Next, Jesus offers the lesson of the fig tree, a parable that teaches that if one knows how to read the signs, one can be prepared for the end times. Jesus also teaches, however, that no one knows when the end time will come, except the Father. In the verses that follow this reading in Mark's Gospel, Jesus continues to warn his disciples to be on watch for this end time.

Jesus' words are not spoken to frighten his disciples, nor should they frighten us. Rather, they are offered to prepare us for the changes we will experience during our lifetimes and at the end times. Our consolation and hope is found in the lasting nature of Jesus' words and God's never-ending love for us.

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

**Family Connection**

Many things in our lives and in our world are subject to change. Yet all of us find security in relationships and values that endure. Foremost among these are our family relationships. We can confidently accept change if we know that we will

continue to be loved by our family and by God. We help impart this sense of trust and confidence in our children with our daily assurances to them that nothing can change our love for them.

As you gather as a family, look through several family photo albums. Observe and talk about things that have changed in your family life over the years. Talk also about the things that have stayed the same. We do not need to fear changes in our family life because we know that the most important aspects of our family life do not change, such as our love for one another. The same is true with God and God's love for us. Read today's Gospel, Mark 13:24-32. Jesus teaches us that things in our world will change and that the world itself will one day end. We don't need to be fearful because God's love for us will never end. Conclude in prayer together thanking God his never-ending love for us. Pray together the Glory Be to the Father.

### **Pope Francis - Monthly Intention**

#### ***November—For anyone who has lost a child***

“We pray that all parents who mourn the loss of a son or daughter find support in their community and receive peace and consolation from the Holy Spirit.”

[www.livingwithchrist.ca](http://www.livingwithchrist.ca)

### **The Month of November**

#### **Dedicated to the Holy Souls in Purgatory**

*Eternal Father, I offer Thee the Most Precious Blood of Thy Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the masses said throughout the world today, for all the holy souls in purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal church, those in my own home and within my family. Amen*

### **Book of Remembrance**

In commemoration of all the Faithful Departed, during the month of November, we have placed a **Book of Remembrance** at the back of the church. We invite all parishioners to record the names of your departed loved ones.



### **COFFEE SUNDAY TODAY**



**Please Join us after Mass  
EVERYBODY WELCOME!**

If you are available, we are in need of volunteers to help with set up and clean up. Thank you and God Bless!



## **Operation Christmas Child is underway! Shoeboxes are available in the foyer.**

**HOW TO PACK YOUR SHOEBOX GIFT:** As you prayerfully prepare to pack your shoebox gift, please remember that your shoebox may be the only gift the child ever receives. So, plan to pack quality items that will last. \* Select a quality “wow” toy \* Other gifts \* pray for the child who will receive your gift. \* Include a personal note and photo to delight the heart of the child. \* A donation of \$12 per box is critical to cover shipping and other project costs. \* Take your shoebox gift to Church. PLEASE PRAY FOR: BOYS AND GIRLS IN NEED AROUND THE WORLD Praise the Lord for the opportunity to bring great joy and the Good News of Jesus Christ to children through shoeboxes. Ask God to prepare their hearts to respond to His love through these simple treasures. Thankyou for praying! To learn more, visit [SamaritansPurse.ca/occ](http://SamaritansPurse.ca/occ) Please remember to put the donation envelope inside the box and add the label on the outside on top. **Please note , the Shoe Box needs to be in the morning of Sunday Nov.24th at St. Mary's Parish!**

➔ ***Congratulations to Emma Westendorp who recently received a VIP Award from Wellington Catholic District School Board which noted her academic excellence, participation in many extra-curricular activities and peer support. Emma attends St. James Catholic High School and serves as a Lector here at St. Mary of the Purification.***

### **Do you love to sing?**

Bring more harmony, fun and musical company into your life! Come on out and take part in this year's **Christmas Cantata**. Being held on Sunday, December 22 at 2:30 p.m. Mount Forest United Church and Monday, December 23 at 7:30 p.m. at St. John The Evangelist Roman Catholic Church in Arthur

***Choir rehearsals are Sundays at 2:00 p.m. at Grace Anglican Church in Arthur beginning November 10***

## Extra Times for the Sacrament of Reconciliation

During the season of Advent there will be more opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Please come to the place and at the time most convenient for you:

**St. Thomas Harriston**- Thursday December 12<sup>th</sup>  
5:30pm-7:30pm

**St. Peter Ayton**-Wednesday December 18<sup>th</sup>  
5:30pm-7:30pm

**St. Mary of the Purification Mt. Forest**- Friday  
December 20<sup>th</sup> 9:30am-12:30pm; 1:30pm-4:30 pm;  
5:30pm-9:30pm



## DIOCESE OF HAMILTON

**PREPARING FOR THE JUBILEE:** Msgr. Kroetsch and Christina Mines will be hosting preparation sessions for Adult Faith Formation Leaders in anticipation of the Jubilee of Hope beginning on December 24, 2024. This is an important moment in the life of the Church! Four brief sessions will be offered around the Diocese of Hamilton throughout the month of November to equip pastoral leaders for adult programming initiatives throughout the Jubilee year. All are welcome to participate. For registration and more information contact: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/events/2024/10/preparing-for-the-jubilee-a-planning-day-for-pastoral-leaders/>.

**ADVENT HYMN FESTIVAL** To begin the Advent season, the Diocesan Choir is pleased to announce an Advent Hymn Festival at St. Joseph Parish, 260 Herkimer Street, Hamilton, ON, on **Sunday, December 1, 2024, at 7 p.m.** Registration is not required, and there is no charge—however, a goodwill offering will go to St. Joseph's Parish Neighbours in Need Program. Please see the Upcoming events on the Diocese of Hamilton web page.

**YOUNG ADULTS NIGHT - SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7TH – BRANTFORD** During the Advent Season, Fr. Mark Morley invites all young adults (ages 20s and 30s) of our diocese to attend an evening of prayer, fellowship and praise music in support of your vocations. The Young Adults Night includes a Holy Hour (6:30pm-7:30 pm), social with food (7:30pm-8:00pm), praise night with vocations testimony (8:00pm-9:00pm), and Compline (9:00pm) on Saturday, December 7th at St.

Basil's Church (50 Palace Street, Brantford). Sponsored by the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Hamilton: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/> For information, please contact: [vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com).



## **Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

**November 21st**

When Mary was asked to be the mother of the Savior, she was completely free to accept or reject the offer. Her response, "Let it be done to me," was a great act of faith. Because she did not understand what was happening, she must have known that there would be difficulties ahead.

She replied yes to the angel's announcement and agreed to become the mother of Jesus, and the Church has declared Mary to be the Mother of God. Because she was the first to say yes to the Messiah, the Church has declared her to be the Mother of the Church.



The feast of the presentation of Mary dates back to the 6th century in the East and the 15th century in the West. It is based on an ancient tradition that says Mary was taken to the temple in Jerusalem when she was 3-years-old and dedicated to God. What we celebrate on this day is the fact that God chose to dwell in Mary in a very special way. In response, Mary placed her whole self at the service of God. Every moment since your Baptism, God invites you to be open to his grace and dedicate yourself to him, as Mary did.



