



# 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**

**Email:**

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

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



## 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.**

*The Solemnity of Our Lord  
Jesus Christ the King  
34th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024*

**Tue. Nov 26 7:00 pm** † Martin Pronk & Dec'd  
Family Members Req'd by Corrie Pronk and  
† Mary Garvey Req'd by

Virginia McComiskey

**Wed. Nov 27 9:00 am** † Stephan Zurav Req'd  
by The Family

**Thu. Nov 28 9:00 am** † Lou & Marcella  
Williams Req'd by Dave & Donna Meyers

**Fri. Nov 29 9:00 am** † Ron Stroeder Req'd by  
Lorne & Florence Moyer

**Sat. Nov 30 4:00 pm** † People of the Parish

**Sun. Dec 1 9:00 am** † People of the Parish  
Contributions: Nov 17 \$970; Maintenance \$405

**Lectors**

**Sat. Nov 30** Laura Cherry

**Sun. Dec 1** Debra Ross

**CONFESSION:** Tue. 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm or call  
Father Mike at 519-323-1054 ext. 7

**ST. THOMAS, Harriston**

**Sat. Nov 30 5:30 pm** † People of the Parish  
Contributions: Nov 17 \$105

**ST. PETER'S, Ayton**

**Sun. Dec 1 11:00 am** **First Sunday of Advent**  
† Repose of the Soul of  
Eileen Horrigan Req'd by Estate of Eileen Horrigan  
and † Jim & Loretta Murphy  
Req'd by Dot Bourgeois  
Contributions: Nov 17 \$135

**Christ The King**



**Alleluia, Alleluia. Blessed is the coming  
Kingdom of Our Father David;  
Blessed is the one who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Alleluia.**

**This Sunday's Reading**

**First Reading**

*Daniel 7:13-14*

Daniel prophesies about the coming of the Son of Man.

**Responsorial Psalm**

*Psalm 93:1,1-2,5*

A prayer of praise to God our king

**Second Reading**

*Revelation 1:5-8*

Jesus is the firstborn of the dead and the ruler of all.

**Gospel Reading**

*John 18:33b-37*

Jesus is questioned by Pilate about the charge brought against him that he is "King of the Jews."

**Background on the Gospel Reading**

This Sunday is the last Sunday of the Church's liturgical year. On this Sunday we celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King. Each year we set aside this Sunday to reflect upon this title that we have given to Jesus. In Lectionary Cycle C, we read a portion of the passion from the Gospel of John, which is also part of the Gospel reading proclaimed each year on Good Friday.

In John's Gospel, Pilate is shown in a more favorable light than in the other Gospels. In today's reading, we hear one of two dialogues between Jesus and Pilate that are reported in John's Gospel. Pilate questions Jesus about the charges brought against him. Caiaphas and the high priests have charged Jesus with a political crime, one that would require a punishment of death. Pilate distances himself from the Jewish leaders who accuse Jesus; he is not a Jew, and he seems to want little to do with this Jewish affair. In his responses to Pilate's questions, Jesus distinguishes his kingdom from the political powers of this world. King and kingdom may be appropriate terms for Jesus' mission and promise, but only by analogy. Jesus is king, but not the kind of king we imagine or expect. He was certainly not the kind of king Pilate feared he might be. Jesus refers to a kingdom that does not belong to this world. This has been mentioned earlier in John's Gospel. Recall that in his prayer during the Last Supper discourse (see John 17:6-18), Jesus prayed for his disciples who are in the world but do not belong to the world. Yet like Jesus, they are sent into the world for the world's salvation. In today's reading, we see Jesus identify the final proof that his kingdom is not of this world: If his kingdom were of this world, then there would be people fighting to save him. Again we hear echoes of John's theme—salvation is worked out through a cosmic battle. It is helpful to return to the first chapter of John's Gospel to understand the context for Jesus' words to Pilate. Jesus came into the world, but the world did not know him. In John's

language, the world prefers the darkness, and yet the light will not be overcome by the darkness. Truth has been another important theme in John's Gospel. We see it emphasized in the conclusion of the dialogue between Jesus and Pilate. Those who know the truth will recognize Jesus as king and will know how to interpret this insight. Yet Jesus' kingship was hidden from many of his contemporaries. Only those chosen, those who have the eyes of faith, are able to see. As modern disciples of Jesus, we also struggle at times to recognize Jesus as king. Today's Gospel invites us to see with eyes of faith that we might recognize that Jesus, through his crucifixion and death, is indeed king and Savior of all. [www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources](http://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources)

### **Family Connection**

Understanding today's feast of Christ the King may be particularly challenging. While most of us do not have direct experience with kings or royalty, we have a sense of who they are. We know that royalty have sovereignty over their kingdoms. We know that those who are subjects to royalty offer them allegiance and honor. To understand how Christ is our king, we extend and magnify what we know to be true of the best of human royalty. Christ's kingship extends to all places, all people, and all times. Christ manifests his kingship through his death on the cross in which he offered salvation to everyone. Those who can see with eyes of faith recognize Jesus to be our heavenly king.

As you gather as a family, recall that this Sunday is the last Sunday in the Church year and on this Sunday we celebrate the feast of Christ the King. Talk together about what it means to be a king or queen. How do those who are subjects behave toward royalty? Invite children to role-play what one does in the presence of royalty. Read today's Gospel, John 18:33b-37. Ask your family to discuss these questions: Does Pilate treat Jesus like royalty? (No.) What does Jesus say about his kingdom? (It is not of this world.) Talk about how your family shows honor and obedience to Christ our King. Pray together the Lord's Prayer and ask God to help your family act in ways that show you recognize and honor Christ as King. [www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources](http://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources)

### **2025 Offering Envelopes and Sunday Missals**

Our 2025 offering envelopes will be available for pickup beginning November 30<sup>th</sup> / December 1<sup>st</sup> for each of our three churches. If you don't currently have envelopes and would like to use them, please call the church office at (519) 323-1054 and we will

happily provide you with a box. Alternatively, if you would like to make your donations to the church by EFT (electronic fund transfer), call Annette at the same number, ext 6. She will get the form ready for you and set up the automatic payments from your bank account. Monthly EFT payments to the church are a benefit to you – no more weekly envelopes to remember – and to the church by providing a predictable monthly donation. If you wish to cancel your EFT payments, a phone call or an email to Annette is all it takes to quickly arrange the cancellation.

**Sunday Missals** will also be available at that time. If you are registered with the Parish and receive offering envelopes, please take one home. We kindly ask you take only one missal per household. If you require any further, please contact the office. Thank you.

### **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



### **Christmas Cantata**

Come join us for this year's Christmas Cantata. Directed by Derek Moore, Sunday Dec. 22 at 2:30 Mt. Forest United Church and Monday Dec. 23 at 7:30 pm at St. John the Evangelist Church in Arthur.

### **Knox Conn Annual Nativity Display Presents Over 500 Nativities**



Come and get in the Christmas spirit. Enjoy a wonderful display of nativities. Also includes a collection of Nativity Christmas cards, angels, and International Traditions and have a cup of apple cider. Knox Conn Presbyterian Church, 8015 Hwy 89, **Friday December 6th 5-8 pm**  
**Saturday December 7th 10 am – 4 pm**  
**Sunday December 8<sup>th</sup> 1-4 pm**

## Christmas Remembrance Service

**Saturday December 14, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. at Mount Forest United Church, hosted by England Funeral Home.** This is a non-denominational service held in loving memory of those who have passed away. It is a time of reflection to honour the lives of those who have graciously touched ours. Everyone is welcome. Please RSVP by Thursday Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> by calling 519-323-2631 or visit [www.EnglandFuneralHome.com](http://www.EnglandFuneralHome.com)



**Operation Christmas Child is now done for this year. Please don't forget to leave your shoebox in the foyer following today's mass. Thank you for your generosity!**



**DIOCESE OF HAMILTON**

**MOUNT MARY OPEN HOUSE** All are welcome to the annual Come Home for Christmas Festival at Mount Mary Immaculate Retreat Centre on Sunday December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 from 1:00 am – 4:00 pm. There will be activities for children including cookie decorating, face painting, and ornament making. We will also have refreshments and local vendors selling small items. There is no entry fee; however, we are accepting donations of unused socks, gloves, hats, scarves and soap for the DeMazenod Door Outreach Centre. For more information please visit [www.mountmary.ca](http://www.mountmary.ca). We look forward to seeing you there!

**WORLD YOUTH DAY** On Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 we celebrate World Youth Day! The theme young people are called to reflect on is: "those who hope in the Lord will run and not be weary". In his message addressed to young people the Holy Father, invites young people to set out on the pilgrimage of life before them, in joy and in hope! To see how others are celebrating world youth day around the Diocese and resources to celebrate yourself please visit: [www.wyd.hamiltondiocese.com](http://www.wyd.hamiltondiocese.com)

**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

**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 at 7pm in the Parish Resource Centre/Library.



### **Saint Andrew Feast Day November 30<sup>th</sup>**

St. Andrew was a fisherman who lived in Galilee during the time of Jesus. He often followed John the Baptist and listened to his teachings. One day, John saw Jesus walking along the road. John said to his followers, "Behold the Lamb of God." He told his followers to go and talk to Jesus. He wanted them to know that Jesus was the One for whom they had been waiting. Andrew and another disciple followed Jesus and spent an afternoon with him. Early the next day Andrew found Simon Peter, his older brother, and told him, "We have found the Messiah." Both men gave up their work as fishermen to become apostles of Jesus. Andrew was one of the first to be called. He seemed to take delight in bringing others to Jesus. Andrew was the one who told Jesus about the little boy who had the loaves of bread and the fish, the beginning of a meal that fed more than five thousand people. It was Andrew and Philip whom the Greeks approached when they wanted to see Jesus. These events indicate that Andrew was a man who was easy to approach, a man you could trust. Like the other apostles, Andrew became a missionary. He preached about Jesus in the area around the Black Sea. Tradition tells us he preached in northern Greece, Turkey, and Scythia (now the southern part of Russia). Andrew died as a martyr. Tradition says that in Patras in Greece he was tied to a cross shaped like the letter X. Ever since then, a cross in the shape of an X has been called St. Andrew's cross. The name "Andrew" is a Greek name meaning "courageous" or "manly." St. Andrew lived up to his name. [www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/saints/](http://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/saints/)

