



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  

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:

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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

DIOCESAN

NEWSLETTER: Visit the Diocese of Hamilton to subscribe to the online diocesan newsletter visit 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

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.

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 26, 2025

Tue. Jan 28 7:00 pm † Victor Ruffolo Req'd by
The Family and

† Kathleen, Harold &

Kenneth Lehman Req'd by The Estate

Wed. Jan 29 9:00 am † Maria Arruda Req'd by
Luis Arruda

Thu. Jan 30 9:00 am † **MASS CANCELLED**

Fri. Jan 31 9:00 am † Joe McCann Req'd by
Denise McCann

Sat. Feb 1 **FIRST SATURDAY**

9:00 am † Intentions of Lorraine
Dupuis (80th birthday) Req'd by Florence Ricard

4:00 pm † People of the Parish

Sun. Feb 2 9:00 am † People of the Parish

Lectors

Sat. Feb 1 Cesar Arruda

Sun. Feb 2 Debra Ross

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

ST. THOMAS, Harriston

Sat. Feb 1 5:30 pm † Mary & Francis Garvey,
Jerome Lane, Ernie Dunlop Sr. Req'd by Gail &
Isobel Dunlop and † Aidan Felsbourg Req'd by
Kathleen Boone

ST. PETER'S, Ayton

Sun. Feb 2 11:00 am † Anna Marie Raftis Req'd by
The Estate and

† Eileen Horrigan Req'd by

The Estate

This Sunday's Reading

First Reading

Nehemiah 8:2-4a,5-6,8-10

Ezra reads from the book of the Law and interprets
it for all to understand.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 19:8,9,10,15

A song in praise of the Law of the Lord

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 12:12-30 (or shorter form, *1
Corinthians 12:12-14,27*)

Paul explains that all were baptized into the one
body of Christ.

Gospel Reading

Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21

In the synagogue at Nazareth, Jesus reads aloud
from the scroll of the prophet Isaiah and announces
that this Scripture is now fulfilled.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today's Gospel reading combines two separate
passages taken from the Gospel of Luke. First we
hear the opening verses where Luke establishes the
purpose of his Gospel. His style is typical of
polished Greek and Roman literature. In this
passage, we learn that Luke may have written to a
specific person, Theophilus; but the word
Theophilus may also be a general reference,
functioning as the phrase "Dear Reader" might in
contemporary writing. In Greek, the word
Theophilus translates as "lover of God."

Today's Gospel reading then skips several chapters
in which one would find the Infancy Narratives,
Jesus' baptism by John, the temptations Jesus faced
in the desert, and the beginning of Jesus' public
ministry. In chapter four of Luke's Gospel, we hear
that Jesus is in his hometown of Nazareth, attending
the synagogue on the Sabbath, which is said to be
his custom. In this account, we find another
important clue that Jesus lived as a faithful,
observant Jew. We will continue to read from
Luke's Gospel in sequence for the next two
Sundays. As Jesus stands in the synagogue, he
reads from the scroll handed to him; it contains the
words of the prophet Isaiah. At this early moment in
his ministry, Jesus announces his mission in
continuity with Israel's prophetic tradition. This
reading from Isaiah defines Jesus' ministry. We will
find more evidence of this as we continue to read
from Luke's Gospel throughout the year. Jesus'
ministry will include bringing glad tidings to the
poor, liberty to captives, healing to the sick,
freedom to the oppressed, and proclaiming a year
acceptable to the Lord.

Through this text from Isaiah, Jesus announces
God's salvation. The "year acceptable to the Lord"
is a reference to the Jewish tradition of Sabbath
years and jubilee. The Sabbath year was observed
every seventh year. It was a year of rest when land
was left fallow and food stores were to be shared
equally with all. A year of Jubilee was celebrated
every fiftieth year, the conclusion of seven cycles of
Sabbath years. It was a year of renewal in which
debts were forgiven and slaves were freed.

This tradition of Jubilee is the framework for God's
promise of salvation. And yet in Jesus, something
new begins. Jesus not only announces God's
salvation, he brings this salvation about in his
person. Jesus is Yahweh's Anointed One, filled with
the Spirit of God. The Kingdom of God is now at
hand. It is made present in Jesus, in his life, death,
and Resurrection. Jesus will send the Holy Spirit so
that the Kingdom of God can be fulfilled.

The Holy Spirit is Jesus' gift to the Church. The Holy Spirit enables the Church to continue the mission of Jesus. When we do what Jesus did—bring glad tidings to the poor, liberty to captives, healing to the sick, and freedom to the oppressed—we serve the Kingdom of God.

Family Connection

Jesus was the one sent by God to bring salvation to the world. Jesus announced that mission using the framework we hear in today's Gospel from the prophet Isaiah: glad tidings will be brought to the poor, liberty to captives, recovery of sight for the blind, and freedom for the oppressed. Jesus inaugurates the Kingdom of God in his person—through his life, death, and Resurrection. We are charged with the task of continuing the mission that Jesus began. Jesus set the framework for all of us when he announced his ministry in today's Gospel. Jesus also gave us the helper we would need to enable us to participate in his mission. The Holy Spirit has been given to us so that we, the Church, might serve the Kingdom of God.

Gather with your family and suggest that they try to picture the vision that Jesus describes using the words of the prophet Isaiah as you read today's Gospel, Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21. Think about your neighborhood, your community. What are the situations and who are the people who most need to see this vision fulfilled? What steps would be necessary to make the vision a reality for them? Make a family commitment to pray for the Kingdom of God and to take a particular action that will address a need you see in your community. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you by praying the Prayer to the Holy Spirit. www.lovolapress.com

1. No CWL meeting in January. The next meeting is Feb. 11, 2025 at 1 pm in the England Room.
2. No Auxiliary (HNS) meeting in January.
3. The CWL North Regional Meeting is on Saturday March 29, 2025 at 9 am. More details to follow.



COFFEE SUNDAY

Please join us in the TD Smith Parish hall following mass on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of every month. All are welcome !

Diocesan Calendar-January

"Pray to the Lord of the Harvest"

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| Mon-Rev. Ralph Diodati | Thu-Rev. Robert Sims |
| Tue-Rev. David Lewis | Fri-St. John Bosco, Priest |
| Wed- Carmelites of Mary Immaculate, C.M.I. | |



Warning! Ice and snowy conditions. Please exercise caution when using the Church's walkways and parking lots. These areas may be covered with ice or snow. We do our best to keep all areas clear from snow and ice, and apply salt and sand but as we all know, the weather can be intense at times, so PLEASE BE EXTRA CAUTIOUS.

January 2025 Pope Francis Prayer Intention
For the right to an education: Let us pray for migrants, refugees and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

***The Month of January.....
Dedicated to the Holy Name of Jesus***



DIOCESE OF HAMILTON

BLESSED CARLOS ACUTIS WILL BE CANONIZED on April 27, 2025 in Rome. Blessed Pier Giorgio Michelangelo Frassati will be canonized on August 3, 2025, in Rome. Both events will be part of the **Jubilee Year of Hope** celebrations. The Jubilee for Teenagers in Rome takes place April 25-27 and the Jubilee for Youth (young adults aged 18-35) takes place July 28-August 3. The Diocese of Hamilton is not

sponsoring pilgrimages to Rome for these events, however, parishes may wish to mark the canonization of these two remarkable young men in their parishes. Blessed Carlos will be the first “millennial saint”!

YOUNG ADULTS NIGHT 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 on Saturday, February 1st. 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, February 1st at the St. Michael’s Church** (80 University Avenue West, Waterloo, ON). Sponsored by the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Hamilton: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/> For more information, please contact: vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

RESTART: Refresh, Renew, Revive – Struggling after divorce or separation? Join us for learning, support and fun on a Friday evenings. Held the 2nd & 3rd Fridays of each month. These get-togethers offer continual support and insights for people as they journey through the divorce/separation process and beyond. Join in-person (700 King St. West, Hamilton), or by ZOOM. Register for the sessions here: <https://sites.google.com/view/hamilton-restart/home>, or contact Sarah at 905-528-7988 ext. 2249 or familyministry@hamiltondiocese.com, or if you plan to attend in person and for the zoom link if joining online. We look forward to seeing you!

SUPPORT FOR YOUR MARRIAGE – Does your marriage feel like it is more trouble than joy, does it feel stagnant or disconnected? Is it causing you constant stress? The solution is Retrouvaille – whose one purpose is to help couples restore their marriage and rebuild a loving relationship. This is a practical program, where sharing is not required except between the couple themselves. It is designed to improve communication, build stronger marriages, and help couples reconnect. For struggling couples, including those who may be considering separation or divorce. The next Retrouvaille weekend is March 7-9, 2025. For more information call 905-664-5212 or email 1013r@helpourmarriage.org.

THE CATHOLIC CHILDREN’S AID SOCIETY OF HAMILTON has been selected One of Hamilton-Niagara’s Top Employers for the second time! The announcement was published earlier this week in The Hamilton Spectator. Congratulations to CCASH for

this recognition. Your good work of saving lives is well known and respected!



SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS FEAST DAY JANUARY 28TH

Thomas Aquinas came from a wealthy Italian ruling family in the 13th century. At age five, he was sent to a Benedictine monastery at Monte Cassino in hopes that someday he would be abbot. But King Frederick III sent his troops to occupy the monastery as a fortress. Thomas then transferred to the University of Naples, where he came into contact with the Dominicans. Their life of prayer and study fascinated him, and he was determined to join them. His family was shocked that Thomas would join a group of poor friars. His mother sent his brothers after him. They kidnapped and imprisoned him for more than a year at a family castle. Nothing would shake his resolution to enter the Dominicans. Finally, Thomas’s family gave up on discouraging him from becoming a priest, and in 1244, he joined the order. Thomas studied under Albert the Great. In class, his silence during discussions and his large size earned him the nickname “the dumb ox.” Thomas became well known for his writings in philosophy and theology. His most famous work, the Summa Theologiae, contains five volumes of thought on all the Christian mysteries. It is said that no one has equaled the depth of understanding and clear reasoning that Thomas showed. His love for Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament led him to write prayers and hymns that are still used to honor the Eucharist. But this brilliant man was very humble. He knew that all his gifts came from God. While celebrating Mass on December 6, 1273, he received a revelation from God. After that, he stopped writing. He said that all he had written was so much straw after what he had seen in the revelation. Thomas died at age 49 on his way to the Council of Lyons, France. Pope Gregory X had asked him to come. Saint Thomas Aquinas is a Doctor of the Church and patron of Catholic schools.



