

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
Music Dir. Rick Wildeman
Organist Melissa Van Stavern

Email:

manderson@hamiltondiocese.com
stmarybookkeeper@wightman.ca
stmarymtforest@wightman.ca

SEASON OF LENT: Let us Journey Together

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:

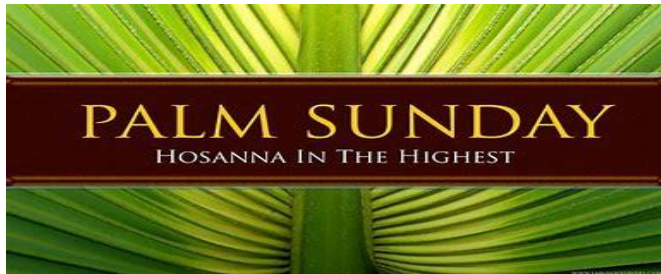
Keep love for your parish alive in your Will & expression of sympathy.

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

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

Week of

April 13, 2025



St. MARY OF THE PURIFICATION, Mt.Forest



Thu. Apr 17 7:00 pm Lord's Supper Mass
Fri. Apr 18 3:00 pm Passion of the Lord
7:00 pm Stations of the Cross
Sat. Apr 19 8:00 pm Easter Vigil
Sun. Apr 20 9:00 am Resurrection of The Lord

Lectors

Holy Thur. Apr 17 Melissa Reid
Good Fri. Apr 18 J.vonWesterholt/Laura C.
Holy Sat. Apr 19 Cesar Arruda/Florence K.
Easter Sun. Apr 20 Debra Ross

CONFESSION: Cancelled this week Tue. 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm or call Fr Mike at 519-323-1054 ext.

ST.THOMAS, Harriston

Sat. Apr 19 5:30 pm NO MASS
ST. PETER'S, Ayton Easter Sunday
Sun. Apr 20 11:00 am Resurrection of the Lord

PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

Gospel at the Procession with Palms

Luke 19:28-40

Jesus sends his disciples for a colt and then rides into Jerusalem.

First Reading

Isaiah 50:4-7

The Lord's Servant will stand firm, even when persecuted.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 22:8-9,17-20,23-24

A cry for help to the Lord in the face of evildoers.

Second Reading

Philippians 2:6-11

Christ was obedient even to death, but God has exalted him.

Gospel Reading

Luke 22:14—23:56 (shorter form: *Luke 23:1-49*)

From the cross, Jesus speaks words of forgiveness

and promises that the good thief will be with him in paradise.

Background on the Gospel Reading

This Sunday, called Palm or Passion Sunday, is the first day of Holy Week. Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday are called the Triduum, three days that are the highlight of the Church year. There are two Gospels proclaimed at today's Mass. The first Gospel, proclaimed before the procession with palms, tells of Jesus' triumphant entrance into Jerusalem. Riding on a borrowed colt, Jesus was hailed by the crowds as they shouted blessings and praise to God. This event is reported in each of the four Gospels.

Luke's Gospel is the only one to report the exchange between Jesus and the Pharisees as Jesus enters Jerusalem. Jesus' response shows that this event, and those yet to come, are part of a divine plan. We hear this echoed again in Luke's description of the Last Supper when Jesus speaks of Judas' betrayal, saying that the Son of Man "goes as has been determined." At the Liturgy of the Word on this Sunday, the events of Jesus' passion are proclaimed in their entirety. In Lectionary Cycle C, we read the passion of Jesus as found in the Gospel of Luke. We will hear these events proclaimed again during the Triduum when we read the passion of Jesus from the Gospel of John. Throughout Luke's Gospel we see that Jesus' words and actions proclaim the Kingdom of God. This motif continues throughout Luke's passion narrative. Jesus appears to be in total command of events at the Passover meal as he hands over the kingdom to his disciples. He welcomes them to the Passover meal announcing that this will be his last until the Kingdom of God is fulfilled.

As throughout Luke's Gospel, however, the disciples show little understanding of this kingdom that Jesus often announces. Following the meal, the disciples argue about who is the greatest. Jesus takes the opportunity to distinguish the meaning of leadership in the Kingdom of God from the forms of leadership seen in the world. Jesus initiates a conversation with Simon and predicts his denial. Jesus then instructs his disciples to prepare themselves for the events that will follow. His words reveal an awareness of the challenges that all of them will face in the days ahead. As the disciples and Jesus enter the Mount of Olives, Jesus indicates the importance of the disciples' time in prayer, telling them that through prayer they will be able to face the challenges ahead. As he prays, Jesus is

tested. In the garden, an angel is sent to strengthen him and to prepare him for the events ahead. After this moment, Jesus is again in charge of the events and circumstances. In Luke's Gospel, Jesus is portrayed as active and vocal throughout his passion. When one of the disciples strikes the high priest's servant, Jesus heals the man, an event reported only in the Gospel of Luke. Jesus stops the disciples' protest against his arrest by noting that this is the "time for the power of darkness." Jesus engages and responds when brought before the Sanhedrin; his words speak about the "power of God" that will bring about the reign of the Son of Man. When questioned by Pilate, Jesus responds with just one phrase; yet before Herod, Jesus refuses to speak. When Luke describes the Way of the Cross and Jesus' crucifixion, he calls to our attention many events that are not reported in the other Gospels. Throughout his Gospel, Luke has paid heed to the women who accompanied Jesus. Now, on the road to Calvary, Jesus speaks to the women who walk with him. Only Luke reports Jesus' words of forgiveness spoken from the cross. And only Luke reports the dialogue between Jesus and the good thief. Finally, in contrast with the Gospels of Mark and Matthew, Luke reports no words of abandonment spoken by Jesus on the cross. Instead, Jesus, in full command until his death, commends his spirit to his Father and takes his final breath. Throughout Holy Week, we will continue to reflect on the events of Jesus' passion and death. As we meditate on the cross, we ask again and anew what it means to make the statement of faith that Jesus, in his obedient suffering and dying, revealed himself to us as God's Son and brought to fulfillment the Kingdom of God.

www.loyolapress.com

Family Connection Palm Sunday, also called Passion Sunday, marks the beginning of Holy Week. During this week, we prepare ourselves for Easter by prayerful reflection upon the events of Jesus' passion and death. During this week, your family might display a crucifix in a prominent place as reminder of salvation Christ won for us. This can also serve as the focal point for family prayer during Holy Week. Because of the length and complexity of the passion narrative, it is difficult for children to remain attentive when it is proclaimed in its entirety. Families can make it a tradition to read a portion of this Sunday's Gospel each day of Holy Week, providing ample opportunity for children to ask questions and respond to the events described there. In this way, the entire week can become a "way of the cross." Each day during Holy Week,

the family can gather in a prayerful space with a crucifix as its focal point. www.loyolapress.com

Pope Francis prayer intention for April

For the use of new technologies

"Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times."

The Month of April

Dedicated to the Holy Eucharist & Holy Spirit



➡ CWL News

Join us for *Spring Soup and Sandwich!*

St. Mary of the Purification, 310 Parkside Drive

Saturday April 26, 2025 11 am- 1 pm

\$15 p/p Pay at the door

NEEDED ! If you are an Extraordinary Minister of Communion, please contact the Parish office 519-323-1054 or email Father Mike at manderson@hamiltondiocese.com Thank you and God Bless!



COFFEE SUNDAY

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

➡ LOUISE MARSHALL HOSPITAL AUXILIARY

Friday May 2, 2025 11 – 1 pm . Mt.Forest Sports Complex \$20 pp. Meat Pie/salad/cake & icecream.

Contributions

St. Mary of the Purification: Mar 16 \$1839.25; Mar 23 \$1391; Mar 30 \$1671 Apr 6 \$2278

St. Peter Mission: Mar 16 \$235; Mar 30 \$205; Apr 6 \$300

St. Thomas Mission: Mar 16 \$240; Mar 23 \$335; Mar 30 \$115; Apr 6 \$165 *Thank you for your continued donations. Your contributions are greatly appreciated as we seek to encourage all with God's Love and Word. ** If you are interested in being a Usher , please contact Father Mike ,email manderson@hamiltondiocese.com Thank you! ***

Reconciliation

St. Mary of the Purification

By appointment only, please call the Parish office 519-323-1054

St. John's, Arthur

Confession is available after 9 am daily mass and first Friday of every month, and Saturdays from 2:30-3:00

Sacred Heart, Kenilworth

First Sunday of each month

St. Peter's, Durham

Tuesday 6:00 pm and Thursdays 8:45 before mass



DIocese of HAMILTON

Struggling with the impact of divorce or separation? You're not alone! Join the award-winning Critical Mass for an inspiring two-day retreat, where music, testimonies, and faith-filled discussions will guide you toward hope and healing. Don't miss this chance to reconnect with your faith and find strength in community—space is limited to 25 participants, so register early! We are offering a choice of two retreat weekends: Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Waterloo on May 23/24 or St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Hamilton on May 30/31. Friday evening from 6:45- 9:30 PM and Saturday from 8:45 – 4:00 PM. Register now by emailing davefromcm@gmail.com or calling 519-572-6962 or visiting <https://www.criticalmassmusic.org/tour-dates>. Cost is \$130 and includes materials, snacks and lunch; early bird special by April 30th of \$100.

THE REEL JUSTICE FILM FESTIVAL explores the risks of global food insecurity with the powerful documentary *The Grab* on **April 24, 2025, 7:00 – 9:00 PM**. Quietly, governments, private investors and mercenaries are working to seize food and water resources at the expense of entire populations. The future world powers will be those who control not oil, but food. Global food prices have hit an all-time high and by 2030, the demand for freshwater is projected to outpace supply by 40 percent. It has become the greatest threat facing the planet, surpassing nuclear war, terrorism and climate change, according to security experts. *The Grab* unfolds a remarkable story of greed and fear at the dawn of the 21st century. **Register and view our full schedule at:** <https://hamiltondiocese.com/reel-justice-film-festival/>

THE DIOCESAN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS – REGISTER NOW! Are you celebrating your 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th, or 60+ Wedding Anniversary in the

year 2025? You are cordially invited to join Bishop Crosby and couples from across the Diocese of Hamilton for a Wedding Anniversary Mass on **Sunday, June 1, 2025** at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King in Hamilton at 1:30 pm. Register at Upcoming Events at hamiltondiocese.com.

WEBINAR FOR CATECHISTS: SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION FOR DIVERSE LEARNING NEEDS Join us on **Tuesday, April 29, 2025 (7:00pm – 8:30pm)** for a conversation about the Church's call to hospitality and support of diverse learners in preparation for Sacraments of Initiation. Current research and catechetical tools will be offered to all those who accompany their local communities in Sacramental Preparation. All are welcome. Registration can be made here: www.hamiltondiocese.com/events.

Prayer for Paschal Triduum

Lord, Glory and praise to your risen Savior You bring light to our darkness and happiness to our sadness.

You fill our hearts full of love and now you have conquered all sin and evil.

From your Resurrection we have been set free.

Please Lord, fill our hearts with light and grace through this Easter Triduum.

Amen



