



# 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  
**Music Dir.** Rick Wildeman  
**Organist** Melissa Van Stavern

[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.**

**May 18th, 2025**  
**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**ST. MARY OF THE PURIFICATION, Mt. Forest**

**Tue May 20 7:00 pm †** Kathleen, Harold & Kenneth Lehman Req'd by the Estate and  
† Theresa Wells Req'd by

Doris Tone

**Wed May 21 9:00 am †** Repose of the soul of Guido Gardin Req'd by Florence & Bill Kreps

**Thur May 22 9:00 am †** Intentions of Jakob & Nyomi Langhenhuizen Req'd by Angela Langhenhuizen

**Fri May 23 9:00 am †** Anita Mulhall Req'd by Katrina Mogensen & Family

**Sat May 24 4:00 pm †** People of the Parish

**Sun May 25 9:00 am †** People of the Parish

**Lectors**

**Sat May 24** Cesar Arruda

**Sun May 25** J. vonWesterholt

**CONFESSION:** Tuesday evenings 5:30 – 6:30 pm or by appointment, please call Fr. Mike at the Parish office 519-323-1054 ext.7

**ST. THOMAS, Harriston**

**Sat. May 24 5:30 pm †** People of the Parish

**ST. PETER'S, Ayton**

**Sun. May 25 11:00 am †** People of the Parish

**This Sunday's Reading:**

**First Reading**

*Acts of the Apostles 14:21-27*

Paul and Barnabas proclaim the good news in many places.

**Responsorial Psalm**

*Psalm 145:8-9,10-11,12-13*

A song of praise to God.

**Second Reading**

*Revelation 21:1-5a*

John describes his vision of a new heaven and a new earth.

**Gospel Reading**

*John 13:31-33a,34-35*

Jesus gives his disciples a new commandment: love one another.

**Background on the Gospel Reading**

Today's Gospel again comes from the Gospel of John. Like last week, today we hear words spoken

by Jesus before his death and Resurrection. Jesus is teaching at the Last Supper.

John's Gospel does not include an institution of the Eucharist narrative; instead, Jesus washes his disciples' feet. Immediately after, Jesus predicts his betrayal by Judas. Today's Gospel follows that prediction. It can be read as a continuing explanation of Jesus' act of washing his disciples' feet. It begins with the announcement that this is the moment when the Son of Man will be glorified. This theme continues throughout John's Passion. Jesus will be glorified in his death on the cross and in his Resurrection, and the disciples will glorify Jesus in the love they show.

John's Gospel does not present a sentimental view of love. This is a type of love that is shown in service and sacrifice. It is difficult to choose to love when faced with hatred and anger. Jesus tells the disciples that all will know that they are his disciples because of the love they show for one another. This description of the early Christian community will be repeated in the Acts of the Apostles: "See how they love one another." Christian love is the hallmark of Christianity. We see it lived in the witness of the martyrs. We see it in the example of the lives of the saints. We see it in the holy women and men who live and love daily, making small and large sacrifices for others.

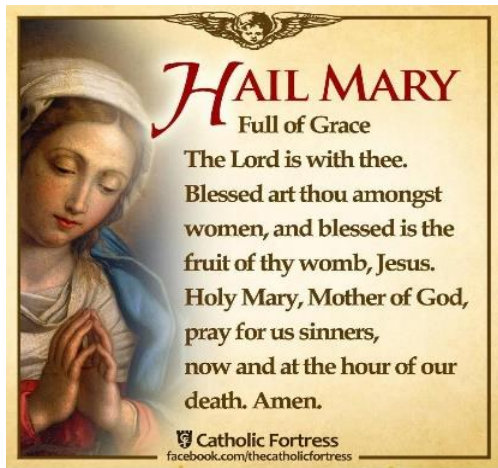
**Family Connection**

Is love the first word your family members use to describe their interactions? Love is difficult. Jesus' sacrifice for us is an example of this. Yet because of love, the glory of God is fully revealed in Jesus. God's glory is revealed in us when we act as the Body of Christ, as individuals and as a community. In the love we have for one another—difficult, challenging, sacrificial love—we find Jesus.

Choose one or two occasions when your family was together during the week. Describe the family's interactions from an outsider's perspective. When is it less difficult to show love to family members? When is it more difficult? When love is difficult, what do we do?

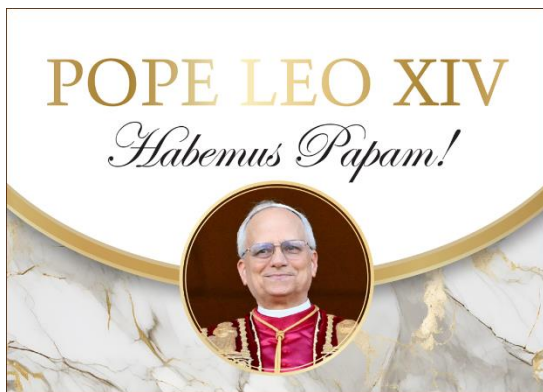
Jesus didn't just tell us to love one another. He showed us how to love one another. In what ways did Jesus show us how to love? (in his acts of healing and forgiving; at the Last Supper as he washed his disciples' feet; in the gift of the Eucharist; through his death on the Cross)

**The Month of May is dedicated to  
The Blessed Virgin Mary**



**The Pope's Prayer Intention for May**

For working conditions: Let us pray that through work, each person might find fulfillment, families might be sustained in dignity, and that society might be humanized. Amen.



We pray that our new shepherd, Pope Leo XIV, be blessed with the wisdom and compassion needed to guide the Church. May he, in communion with his fellow bishops, serve you and your people with dedication and joy, deep compassion, and profound faith, hope, and charity so that the light of the Risen Christ will continue to dispel the darkness of this world. Saint Peter, to whom were given the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven, pray for us.

www.loyolapress.com



**COFFEE SUNDAY**

Please join us in the parish hall for coffee and refreshments every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Mass. All are welcome!

**First Holy Communion and Confirmation**  
Sunday, June 8, 2025 at 3:00 pm we will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation

Sunday, June 22, 2025, we will celebrate **First Holy Communion** with a special Mass being held at 3:00 p.m.

**Deadline for registration is May 30, 2025**

If you have a child who **does not** attend St. Mary's School in Mount Forest, and who has reached the age of discernment, please contact the parish office for registration. 519-323-1054 or email [stmarymforest@wightman.ca](mailto:stmarymforest@wightman.ca)



**Join us for Michael House's 20th Annual Baby Bottle Campaign!** Since 2005, our community has come together each spring to support vulnerable mothers and babies through this simple but powerful campaign. Over the years, together we've raised more than **\$513,000 — one bottle at a time**. Pick up a baby bottle and from **Mother's Day (May 11) to Father's Day (June 15)** fill it with **coins, bills, cheques — and love**. Every bottle filled helps Michael House provide shelter, care, and a fresh start to families in need.

To donate online or learn more, visit

<https://www.michaelhouse.ca/event/baby-bottle-campaign/>



**DIocese of HAMILTON**

**HEARTACHE TO HEALING GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP**

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 the parish on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7pm in the Parish Resource Centre/Library. St. Michael's is also offering a more detailed 6 week program, **When Life Changes (Part 1)**, which will run on Wednesday evenings (6 consecutive weeks) from - May 14 - June 18 2025. Registration is required by early May for this

program by contacting our Parish office 519-884-9311, or email [parish@stmichaelw.ca](mailto:parish@stmichaelw.ca)

## ABOUT THE SPIRITUALITY OF CHILDHOOD

Holy Rosary Parish in Guelph is hosting the first of a two-part Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Level One Formation Course **July 7-12, 2025**. This retreat-like experience immerses the adult in scripture, liturgy, theology, prayer, the needs and capacities of children, and making materials the child works with to internalize the Christian message. Catechists formed in this method usually go on to work with 3–6-year-olds in a parish or school, or are involved in ministries such as RCIA, Children’s Liturgy of the Word, and preparation for the sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion. For more information: [www.cgsac.ca /Courses/Level One](http://www.cgsac.ca/Courses/Level One) or contact the course registrar: [therese.wright8591@gmail.com](mailto:therese.wright8591@gmail.com).

## ACT II (SEPARATED & DIVORCED SUPPORT GROUP) WATERLOO

Our Act II monthly informal support group will continue to meet on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7:30pm at St. Michael Parish, Waterloo. With the support of others you can begin to heal the emotional, social and spiritual devastation of divorce. Join us when you can. Visit the website ([www.stmichaelw.ca/separated-and-divorced](http://www.stmichaelw.ca/separated-and-divorced)), or contact our Parish office 519-884-9311, or email [parish@stmichaelw.ca](mailto:parish@stmichaelw.ca) for more information.



### Jubilee 2025 Pilgrims of Hope

## WALKING PILGRIMAGE TO MIDLAND: AUG 2-9, 2025

### WALKING PILGRIMAGE IS ABOUT:

- ✚ nourishing your spirituality
- ✚ enjoying the great outdoors
- ✚ getting great exercise: 20+km per day
- ✚ having fun and enjoying good company

Those who walk the Guelph-to-Midland pilgrimage find it to be a unique and grace-filled experience. For eight days pilgrims pray, sing, laugh, and share stories with others as they journey. Join us, as we cast off routine for eight days and acquiesce to a community of higher purpose. **Participate for 1 day, a weekend or the full 8 days!** Cost \$400 for 8 days or \$75 per day. We carry your gear, provide 3 meals and snacks daily, and cover entry and camping fees. You bring your tent, chair and

personal gear/clothing in a duffle bag. To register or for more information go to [www.ignatiusguelph.ca](http://www.ignatiusguelph.ca) (under programs - Guelph Walking Pilgrimage) **NOTE registration deadline June 30 2025.**



## Saint Constantine Feast Day May 21

The reason Constantine was going to do battle the next day was to decide once and for all who should be the ruler of the Roman empire.

When his father, Constantius, had died six years earlier, he'd been proclaimed emperor. There was no doubt about that. The problem was that one of his generals, General Maxentius, had other ideas. He thought he should be emperor, and now that the matter was going to be settled by a battle close to a bridge that crossed the River Tiber near Rome.

The night before the battle, Constantine had a dream. Jesus appeared to him in the dream and said that he must make the cross his own symbol and have it placed on all the imperial flags and standards.

The next morning, October 28 in the year 312, the battle began. As in the army of General Maxentius began to advance across the bridge; it collapsed, flinging many of his soldiers into the river. Constantine won easily [www.loyolapress.com](http://www.loyolapress.com)



**Queen Victoria** was born on May 24, 1819 and came to the throne in 1837 when she was 18 years old. She reigned for 63 years and 7 months, making her the second longest reigning monarch after the current queen, Elizabeth II. Victoria’s rule saw vast changes in society, politics, and industry, and she became Empress of India.

**May God bless you with a beautiful and safe Victoria Day Weekend !**

