



# 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 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025**  
**Sixth Sunday of Easter**

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

**Tue May 27th 7:00 pm** † Doris Burke Req'd by  
Norm & Janet Freiburger and

† Paul MacMillan Req'd

by Patricia Corrigan

**Wed May 28th 9:00 am** † Intentions of Ron &  
Marian Flanigan on the occasion of their 65<sup>th</sup>  
Wedding Anniversary Req'd by Ron & Marian  
Flanigan

**Thu May 29th 9:00 am** † Amber Ghent Req'd by  
Dave & Donna Meyer

**Fri May 30th 9:00 am** † Theresa Wells Req'd  
by Rosemary Wells & The Wells Family

**Sat May 31st 4:00 pm** † People of the Parish

**Sun June 1st 9:00 am** † People of the Parish

**Lectors**

**Sat May 31** Susan Thurston

**Sun June 1st** Emma Westendorp

**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 31st 5:30 pm** † People of the Parish

**ST. PETER'S, Ayton**

**Sun. June 1st 11:00 am** † People of the Parish

**This Sunday's Reading :**

**First Reading**

*Acts of the Apostles 15:1-2,22-29*

*The early Church community determines, with the  
help of the Holy Spirit, not to impose the  
requirement of circumcision on Gentile Christians.*

**Responsorial Psalm**

*Psalm 67:2-3,5,6,8*

A prayer that all the nations sing praise to God.

**Second Reading**

*Revelation 21:10-14,22-23*

The vision of the splendor of the heavenly  
Jerusalem is described.

**Gospel Reading**

*John 14:23-29*

Jesus promises his disciples that the Father will  
send the Advocate, the Holy Spirit.

**Background on the Gospel Reading**

This portion of John's Gospel comes near the end of  
the first of four chapters that make up Jesus' long  
farewell discourse at the Last Supper. This section  
of chapter 14 actually sums up the themes of the  
opening of the discourse: the Christian's life is not  
shaped by Jesus' absence but by God's abiding  
presence; God's presence overcomes anxiety about  
God's absence; and the present holds in it the seeds  
of a fresh future shaped by love, not fear.

These verses also contain a glimpse of some of the  
other themes of the farewell discourse: Jesus'  
relationship with the Father and the disciples'  
relationship to Jesus connect the disciples to the  
Father as well. Jesus promises to send an Advocate  
or intercessor who will remind the disciples of  
everything that Jesus taught them and bring them  
peace.

Jesus is preparing his disciples in advance for his  
absence so that they will continue to believe in him  
and not feel all alone after his return to the Father.  
After the initial excitement of his Easter  
appearances, Jesus will remain with his followers in  
a very different way throughout the centuries.

As our celebration of the Easter season is coming to  
an end, the liturgy reminds us that Jesus remains  
with us through the Holy Spirit, who teaches us  
everything we need to know, reminds us of all that  
Jesus taught, and brings us peace.

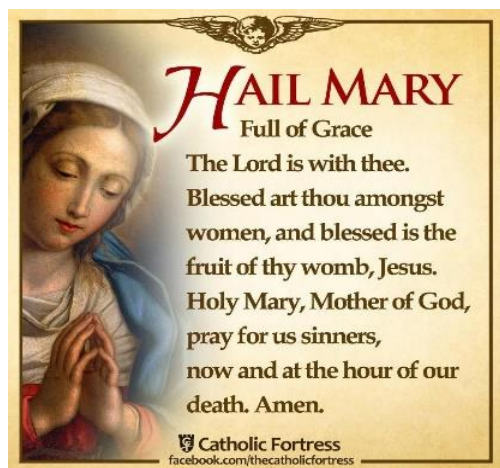
**Family Connection**

Parents are always helping their children prepare for  
something, whether that consists of getting ready  
for school, preparing for an exam, or making  
preparations to go on vacation. In today's Gospel,  
Jesus prepares his disciples for his Passion, death,  
and Resurrection. He promises his Holy Spirit,  
gives them the gift of his peace, and tells them not  
to be troubled. As a family, talk about the kinds of  
events that you have prepared for together;  
surgeries, funerals, vacations, and first days of  
school are some examples. Talk about why it is  
important to prepare for important events in our  
lives. Then read aloud this Sunday's Gospel: John  
14:23-29. Talk about how Jesus prepared his  
disciples for his Death and Resurrection and how he  
wanted them to be prepared for what would happen  
so that they would be able to believe.

Talk about how, as a family, you can prepare for  
Pentecost (only 2 weeks away), when we celebrate  
the coming of the Holy Spirit, our Advocate.

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

**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.



**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)*



**CWL News**

- The next CWL meeting will be held June 10 at 1 pm
- St. Mary Auxiliary (formerly HNS) will hold a meeting June 11<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. All members are encouraged to attend.

**Strawberry Supper**

Knights of Columbus Hall, between Walkerton and Mildmay. **Sunday June 22, 4:30-6:00 pm.** Advance ticket sales at Holst Office Supplies and Browns Drug Store in Walkerton until June 15<sup>th</sup>. Tickets may also be purchased by calling Wayne at 519-881-3342 or Pat at 519-881-2374. Adults \$25, children 4-10yrs \$8.00, under 4 yrs. free.

**Looking for volunteers!**

Knights of Columbus, Holy Family Parish in Hanover, are seeking volunteers to assist with a community breakfast which is looking to raise funds that will be donated **Ayton's Cemetery Cross project for the Corpus and INRI marker.** This event will take place on June 1<sup>st</sup> 10 am to 12:30 pm at the Holy Family Lenhard Room, Hanover. For more information or if interested, Please contact Wilfried Boerkamp, Grand Knight 519-377-2303.

**Contributions**

**St. Mary of the Purification:** May 3/4 \$1379; May 10/11 \$1248, Maintenance \$285  
**St. Peter Mission:** May 4 \$185; May 11 \$640  
**St. Thomas Mission:** May 3 \$185; May 10 \$245  
***Thank you for your continued donations. Your contributions are greatly appreciated as we seek to encourage all with God's Love and Word***

**Feast of Corpus Christi - Altar Servers needed**

Organized through the Wellington Deanery Eucharistic Procession, they are appealing for the support and participation of local parish's team of altar servers. Taking place Sunday June 22 at the Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate. If you are interested and require more information please call the parish office 519-323-1054



**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/>



## 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).

### What’s Wrong with MAiD?

The concept of MAiD, whether new to you or not, is a growing part of healthcare that deserves more attention from the faith community. Learn how policies in Nova Scotia may affect you, your loved ones, and the overall healthcare system. We’ll take a look at this important subject from the Christian perspective, with history, insights and testimonials on the increasing impact of MAiD. Find out which provinces have the most restrictive policies and why change is needed to advocate for dignity-affirming healthcare.

Join us on Wednesday, June 4, starting at 7:00 PM at Basilica of Our Lady of the Immaculate Church Hall (28 Norfolk St, Guelph, ON N1H 4H8). Please RSVP at: <https://cmdacanada.org/event/whats-wrong-with-maid-guelph/>

This event is sponsored by Alliance for Life Ontario **RSVP It's not required, but it will allow the host venue to better prepare and ensure that you get follow-up information about the presentation.**

## YOUTH MINISTRY CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

We are currently accepting enrollment for the Youth Ministry Certification Program, which begins in September 2025. Join us as we explore the Practical strategies for youth ministry and the accompaniment of young people in our diocesan community. To review a full course list and for more information, please visit: [www.hamiltondiocesearns.com](http://www.hamiltondiocesearns.com)

**JOURNEY OF ENCOUNTER, Pilgrims of Hope Embracing Synodality!** A remarkable gathering will take place from June 15-18 at St. Jerome’s University, Waterloo. The synodal-style event is being coordinated by Concerned Lay Catholics. The Steering Committee, made up of Catholic leaders from various parts of the Church, is guiding the planning with special advisors who were in Rome for the Synod on Synodality. It promises to be an interesting, informative, and inspirational event! For more information and to register click [here](#).



Bernard of Montjoux      Feast Day May 28<sup>th</sup>

You probably know that cities are sometimes named after saints: St. Louis, St. Paul, San Francisco, San Antonio, to name a few. You know that people and parishes are given the names of patron saints. But did you know that Saint Bernard dogs are named for a real saint? Bernard was a priest in the Northern Italian region of Aosta. This is a mountainous area where the Alps cross Italy, France, and Switzerland. For more than 40 years, he traveled throughout his diocese, visiting every mountainside village and valley. He celebrated Eucharist and Reconciliation with the people, gave instructions in the faith, built churches, and started schools. Everywhere he went he heard stories of travelers who had been lost in the mountains and frozen to death or been ambushed by robbers.

Today you can fly over the Alps or travel smoothly by rail or car. But back in the 11th century, people traveled on foot, on horseback, or in carts. Bernard saw a need, and he decided to do something about it. Bernard built two hospices for travelers where they could not find only shelter from the weather and safety from robbers, but a place to rest and eat. These hospices were located along two of the most frequently used routes, which were eventually named for Bernard—the Great St. Bernard Pass and the Little St. Bernard Pass. He brought Augustinian monks to run the hospices, and they built a monastery in the mountains. Every morning a patrol went out to look for travelers who were lost or injured and brought them back to the hospital. It was the monks who eventually bred the large, furry dogs—now called Saint Bernards—to help them find and rescue lost travelers. In 1923 Pope Pius XI named Saint Bernard the patron of Alpinists and mountain climbers, and he is also claimed by skiers.