



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

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.

May 4th, 2025
Third Sunday of Easter

ST. MARY OF THE PURIFICATION, Mt. Forest

Tue May 6 7:00 pm † Dan McDonald Req'd by
Bill & Mary Hammond & Family and
† Kathleen, Harold &

Kenneth Lehman Req'd by The Estate

Wed May 7 9:00 am † Stella McCabe Req'd by
Helen & Bert Moore

Thur May 8 9:00 am † Private Intention

Fri May 9 9:00 am † Lou DeSheplo Req'd by
Mel & Jane Seniuk

Sat May 10 4:00 pm † People of the Parish

Sun May 11 9:00 am † People of the Parish

Lectors

Sat May 10 Laura Cherry

Sun May 11 Colleen Dalla Costa

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 10 5:30 pm † People of the Parish

ST. PETER'S, Ayton

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

This Sunday's Reading:

First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 5:27-32,40b-41

The apostles are brought before the Sanhedrin and ordered to stop speaking in Jesus' name.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 30:2,4,5-6,11-12,13

A song of praise to God who rescues us.

Second Reading

Revelation 5:11-14

John describes his vision of the praises that will be sung to the Lamb by every creature on heaven and earth.

Gospel Reading

John 21:1-19 (short form: *John 21:1-14*)

Jesus appears to the disciples for a third time after his Resurrection and shares a meal with them.

Background on the Gospel Reading

In Lectionary Cycle C, our Sunday Gospels are usually taken from the Gospel of Luke. The Gospels for the Easter Season, however, are taken from the Gospel of John. Today's Gospel is one of the post-

Resurrection appearances reported by John. Recall that in John's Gospel, Jesus appears first to Mary of Magdala, second to all of the disciples except Thomas, and finally to Thomas and the disciples (which we heard last Sunday). After those appearances, John's Gospel seems to conclude with a reference to other signs that Jesus gave after his Resurrection, which have not been recorded.

Because it follows this apparent conclusion, most scholars believe today's Gospel passage (and all of John 21) to have been an addition to John's original text. Because there are significant differences between this report and the other appearances described in John's Gospel, it is quite likely that this story is from a different source. There are details in the story that recall Jesus' call to Simon Peter and the other fishermen as well as the miraculous catch of fish (found in the Gospel of Luke, with parallels in the other Synoptic Gospels). The end of the chapter, where Jesus asks Peter three times whether he loves him, most likely is meant to represent the reconciliation that occurred between the community represented by John's Gospel with the larger Christian community represented by Peter. This Gospel reading is a rich and textured story that speaks of Jesus' presence in the Eucharist and our commission to serve others as Jesus did.

Last week we heard that Jesus appeared to the gathered disciples in a locked room, probably in Jerusalem. In today's Gospel, the disciples are no longer in Jerusalem; they are in Galilee, returning to their work of fishing. Simon Peter is still presented in the role of leader: when he announces that he is going fishing, the other disciples follow. They spend the night fishing but are unsuccessful.

Jesus calls to them from the shore, but just as when Jesus first appeared to Mary of Magdala, the disciples do not recognize him immediately. Still, they follow the stranger's instructions and bring in a large haul of fish. It is at this point that one of the disciples (the "disciple whom Jesus loved") realizes that Jesus is appearing to them. Upon hearing this news, Simon Peter leads the way again, jumping from the boat and swimming to shore. The other disciples follow in the boat, dragging the fish.

The disciples have brought to shore a tremendous catch of fish that Jesus has directed them to find. But once on the shore, they see that Jesus has already prepared fish and bread on a charcoal fire. Jesus directs the disciples to bring their catch of fish as well. Jesus is host at the meal that follows, feeding the disciples the bread and fish. In this

detail we see allusions to the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and the fishes told in **John 6**.

There are also allusions in the Gospel to our gathering for the celebration of the Mass. In the Eucharist, we too are fed by Jesus in the bread and wine that have become his very Body and Blood. We also find in this story insight about the Presentation of the Gifts at Mass. The gifts we bring to the altar, bread and wine, are made from gifts that God gave first to us: grain and grapes, the fruit of the earth. God has no need of anything further. Yet God accepts the offering we bring—bread and wine, “the work of human hands”—and transforms our offering into the gift of his very presence.

After the meal, Jesus directs himself to Simon Peter. The community of John's Gospel probably looked down on Peter because of his denial of Jesus. This dialogue with Simon Peter is a reversal of Peter's three denials. Peter is forgiven. Having been restored to friendship with Jesus, Simon Peter is sent on a mission. “Feed my lambs . . . Tend my sheep . . . Feed my sheep.” These commands indicate that Peter is to be as Jesus, even unto sacrificing for the flock. As Jesus has fed Peter in this meal and as Jesus feeds us in the Eucharist, so he also sends us to follow him, asking that we offer our lives in service and sacrifice. www.loyolapress.com

Family Connection

Today's Gospel describes what we can easily imagine as a picnic on the beach. Just as Jesus' miracle at the wedding feast at Cana blesses the love between man and woman celebrated in the sacrament of marriage, Jesus' attentiveness to food and mealtimes raises the possibility that our meal gatherings can be sacred times. In families, the domestic church, our meals together are everyday opportunities to gather and recall Jesus' presence with us. As in the Eucharist, we bring the gifts that God has given us, which have been prepared especially for our Mass, and at our family meals we share gifts that God has given to us and that we have worked together to prepare. This includes the food on the table and also the people who gather around the table. We ask God to bless these gifts and to be present among us in all of our interactions.

Consider a recent family meal: What food was served? Where did the food come from? Who prepared the food? Who served the food? Was mealtime a happy time? Why or why not? Observe that today's Gospel tells about a meal that Jesus shared with his disciples after his Resurrection.

Read aloud today's Gospel, John 21:1-14. Reflect on the Gospel reading using the questions above. Talk about ways in which this meal that Jesus shared with his disciples might remind us of the meal we share at the Eucharist. You might choose to plan a special meal together as a family, encouraging each person to participate in the meal preparation. Pray together that Jesus will make his loving presence known in your family life. Pray together the Lord's Prayer. www.loyolapress.com

The Month of May is dedicated to The Blessed Virgin Mary



HAIL MARY
Full of Grace
The Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou amongst
women, and blessed is the
fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our
death. Amen.

 Catholic Fortress
facebook.com/thecatholicfortress

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.

CWL News

- The next CWL meeting will be held Tuesday May 13th at 1:00 pm. All the Ladies of the Parish are welcome to attend.
- St. Mary Auxiliary meeting (formerly Holy Name Society) will have a meeting on Wednesday May 14th at 7:00 pm



COFFEE SUNDAY

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



Thank you to St. Paul's Anglican Church for the beautiful flower arrangement in honour on the passing of Pope Francis. It is sitting at the back of the church for your viewing.

Contributions

St. Mary of the Purification: Easter \$4,272;

Maintenance \$60

St. Peter Mission: Easter \$8,975

St. Thomas Mission: Easter \$295

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! **

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 stmarymtforest@wightman.ca*



DIOCESE OF HAMILTON

LECTURES IN CATHOLIC EXPERIENCE St. Jerome's University, Waterloo hosts a series of public lectures each year on a variety of important and prevalent topics within Catholic life. On Thursday, May 15, Father Greg Boyle, SJ will be speaking on the power of love through his experiences of ministry at "Homeboy Industries". For more information on the Lectures in Catholic Experience and to explore recordings of previous lectures, you are invited to explore the St. Jerome's Website: <https://www.sju.ca/LCE>

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.hamiltondioceselearns.com

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.

RESTART: Refresh, Renew, Revive Support Group – 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 familyministry@hamiltondiocese.com, or 905-528-7988 ext. 2249 if you plan to attend in person and for the zoom link if joining online. We look forward to seeing you!

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/>