



Welcome to St. Mary of the Purification Parish

We are delighted you could join us for today's Mass

Please visit our website www.stmarymountforest.ca   Tel: 519-323-1054

OFFICE HOURS: Closed Monday Open Tuesday - Friday: 9:30am - 1:30pm

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, Mt. Forest NoG 2Lo



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 Wednesday before noon.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK



Tue Nov 25 7:00 pm † Jacobus Langenhuizen
Req'd by Angela Langenhuizen and † Katheryn
Meyer Req'd by The Estate

Wed Nov 26 9:00 am † Paul McCann Req'd by
Denise McCann

Thur Nov 27 9:00 am † Stefan & Alzbeta Zurav
Req'd by Katarina Smolkovo & Family

Fri Nov 28 9:00 am † Dec'd members of the
McNeil & McDonald Families Req'd by The Family

Sat Nov 29 4:00 pm † People of the Parish

Sun Nov 30 9:00 am † People of the Parish

Lectors

Sat Nov 29 Maxine Schmidt

Sun Nov 30 Debra Ross

RECONCILIATION: Tue. 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 Nov 29 5:30 pm † People of the Parish

ST. PETER'S, Ayton

Sun Nov 30 11:00 am † People of the Parish

This Sundays Reading:

First Reading

2 Samuel 5:1-3

David is anointed king.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 122:1-2,3-4,4-5

Enter the house of the Lord rejoicing.

Second Reading

Colossians 1:12-20

Hymn to Jesus as the first-born of all creation.

Gospel Reading

Luke 23:35-43

Jesus is crucified under the title King of the Jews.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today as a Church, we conclude our liturgical year and celebrate the Feast of Christ the King. The Gospel we proclaim shows the great mystery of our faith: In the moment of his crucifixion, Jesus is shown to be King and Savior of all.

Luke's Gospel has been loaded with surprises: the poor are rich, sinners find salvation, the Kingdom of God is found in our midst. Here we see the greatest surprise of all. We are confronted with the crucified Jesus, whom faith tells us is King and Savior of all. The irony is that the inscription placed on the cross, perhaps in mockery, contains the profoundest of truth. As the leaders jeer, the thief crucified by his side recognizes Jesus as Messiah and King, and finds salvation.

Jesus is King, but not the kind of king we might have imagined or expected. His kingship was hidden from many of his contemporaries, but those who had the eyes of faith were able to see. As modern disciples of Jesus, we, too, struggle at times to recognize Jesus as King. Today's Gospel invites us to make our own judgment. With eyes of faith, we, too, recognize that Jesus, the crucified One, is indeed King and Savior of all. www.loyolapress.com

Family Connection

Understanding today's Feast of Christ the King may be particularly challenging. While we may not have a direct experience of kings or royalty, we have some sense of what these mean. We know that royalty have sovereignty over their kingdom. We know that those who are subjects to royalty offer them allegiance and honor. Christ is King in a way that is different from traditional understandings of royalty. Christ's kingship extends to all places, all people, and all times. Christ manifests his kingship through his death on the Cross, in which he offers salvation to all.

Recall with your children stories that you may have read about royalty. Talk with your children about what they have learned from these stories about what it means to be a king. Talk about what they have learned from these stories about what it means to be a subject. Tell your children that this Sunday is the last Sunday in the Church Year, and on this Sunday, we celebrate a special feast called the Feast of Christ the King. Read today's Gospel, Luke 23:35-43. Reflect together on how the various people in this Gospel respond to Jesus on the Cross. Who in this Gospel recognizes Jesus as King? (the thief) What does Jesus promise the thief as a result? (The thief will be with Jesus in paradise.)

Talk about how your family will recognize and honor Christ the King. Pray together the Lord's Prayer and ask God to help your family to act in ways that show you recognize and honor Christ as King.

The Pope's Prayer Intention for November

For the prevention of suicide: Let us pray that those who are tempted to suicide might find the support, care and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life.



Join us every 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month after mass in the parish hall for coffee and fellowship. All are welcome!

2026 Offering Envelopes & Sunday Missals

Our 2026 Offering envelopes are now available for pickup at all 3 of our churches. If you don't currently have envelopes and would like to use them, please call the church office at 519-323-1054 and we will happily provide you with a box. Alternatively, if you would like to make your donations to the church by EFT (electronic funds transfer), please call Annette, ext. 6. She will then get the form ready for you and set up the automatic payments from your bank account. Monthly EFT payments to the church are a benefit to you – no more weekly envelopes to remember – and to the church by providing a predictable monthly donation. If you wish to cancel your EFT payments, a phone call or an email to Annette is all it takes to quickly arrange the cancellation.

Sunday Missals are also available for pickup. If you are registered to the Parish and receive offering envelopes, please take one missal home, one per household please. If you wish additional copies, please contact the office. Thank you

England Funeral Home Christmas Remembrance Service

Sunday December 7, 2025 at 2:00 pm in the Parish Hall at St. Mary of the Purification Church, Mount Forest.

This is a non-denominational service held in loving memory of those who have passed away. It is a time of reflection to honour the lives of those who have graciously touched ours. Everyone is welcome! Please RSVP by Thursday December 4th by visiting www.EnglandFuneralHome.com or by calling the funeral home at 519-323-2631

Lector Training

The Parish is offering training for anyone interested in serving as a Reader (Lector) at

Mass. Two sessions will be offered on Thursday November 27th, 2:00 pm and 7:00 pm at St. Mary of the Purification. Please attend the one most convenient for you. All are welcome! Those who are already reading, are encouraged to attend as well to refresh their skills.

Contributions for November 15/16

St. Mary of the Purification: \$1504.25

St. Peter Mission: \$280

St. Thomas Mission: \$175

Thank you for your continued donations. Your contributions are greatly appreciated as we seek to encourage all with God's Love and Word.

Knox Conn Annual Nativity Display

Now consisting of over 600 Nativity Scenes, over 250 Angels, International Christmas Traditions, and a Collection of Nativity Christmas Cards.

Saturday November 29th: noon – 4pm

Sunday November 30th: noon – 4pm

Saturday December 6th: noon – 4pm

Sunday December 7th: noon – 4pm

Free Admission – Donations accepted

Knox Conn Presbyterian Church
8015 Hwy. 89 Conn, Ontario

CWL NEWS

- Please note that CWL Dues are to be paid by January 15, 2026 \$40 per person
- St. Mary Auxilliary (HNS) meeting Wednesday December 3rd at 7 pm in the parish hall
- CWL Christmas dinner meeting Tuesday December 9th at 5:00 pm. A sign up sheet will be in the foyer. All ladies of the parish are welcome to attend. \$15 per person



DIOCESE OF HAMILTON

Mass on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

The Clergy, Consecrated Men & Women and the Lay faithful of Wellington Deanery are invited to join His Excellency Bishop Crosby for Mass on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception.

Monday December 8th at 7:00 pm at
The Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate,
28 Norfolk Street, Guelph ON

Novena of Masses for The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

Once again, this year you are welcome to celebrate a Novena (nine days) of Masses leading to the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception.

Novena Masses will be celebrated at the Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate in Guelph at 7:30 each morning from November 29th to December 7, with Novena Prayers each day. Please note that for the duration of the Novena, the 7:30 Novena Mass will be the only Mass at the Basilica on each weekday.

LECTURES IN CATHOLIC EXPERIENCE: Since 1982, the Lectures in Catholic Experience have brought leading scholars, activists, religious leaders and other professionals to St. Jerome's to offer opportunities to engage with the critical issues of our time, particularly as they intersect with faith and the life of the Church. This year's theme is *"Living Mission on the Margins."*

Each lecture is hosted in the Notre Dame Chapel on the St. Jerome's campus and is free and open to the community to attend. Lectures can be attended in-person, streamed live online or viewed in perpetuity on YouTube. The full list of lectures for the 2025-2026 academic year can be found here: www.sju.ca/lce



Saint Catherine of Alexandria Feast Day November 25th

She was about eighteen and her name was Catherine. She lived in the Egyptian city of Alexandria, the city that Antony the Great of Egypt had once visited and that was the home of Athanasius.

Catherine lived during the reign of the Roman emperor Maxentius and was famous throughout the city for her beauty. Despite this, she was the sort of person who liked to spend her time reading and studying. Indeed, she was just as famous for her intelligence as she was for her good looks.

Now it so happened that Emperor Maxentius made a visit to Alexandria, which was part of his empire. While he was there, he heard about Catherine's beauty and intelligence. He commanded his servants to bring her to meet him. As soon as he saw her, he decided he wanted to marry her. Immediately. But there was a problem.

Maxentius already had a wife.

Maxentius (who continued to worship the ancient Roman gods) didn't think this mattered at all. "Oh, don't worry," he said. "I'll have two wives at the same time. I'm the emperor, I can do what I like." Catherine was having none of this. She refused his proposal, saying that as a Christian she couldn't possibly agree to such a relationship.

Maxentius then gathered together a great number of teachers and professors who also believed in the Roman gods. He told them to persuade Catherine that her Christian faith was nonsense. She listened to them for a while and then started answering their points convincingly and persuasively. The result was that, far from getting Catherine to change her mind, these wise men began to change their own minds.

The emperor was not only angry; he was alarmed. What would happen if Rome gave up its worship of the old gods? He didn't want any of what he described as "this Christian nonsense."

So he gave orders that Catherine should be put to death in a particularly horrible way. He had a large wheel made, with sharp blades set into the outside rim. Then Catherine was to be tied around this edge, and the blades were intended to cut her to pieces as the wheel was rolled along. It didn't go according to plan. When Catherine was bound to the wheel, it broke and the blades flew off in all directions, flashing in the light and wounding the soldiers who were supposed to be putting her to death. Some people say all this was caused by lightning striking the wheel. Whether that is true or not, Catherine's executioners didn't try making another wheel. They beheaded her at once.

It is said that a flight of angels then descended from heaven and carried her body to Mount Sinai, where, centuries before, God had given the Ten Commandments to Moses. Even today there is a monastery named Saint Catherine's there.

People also remember the death of Saint Catherine with the firework that is named after her, which is supposed to spin around as her wheel did.