



Welcome to St. Mary of the Purification Parish, Mt. Forest, Ont.

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
310 Parkside Drive ,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

March 29, 2026 **PALM SUNDAY**



Tue Mar 31 7:00 pm † David Atkinson and
Katheryn Meyer Req'd by The Estate
Wed Apr 1 9:00 am † Laurie Moyer Req'd by
Brian Moyer
Thu Apr 2 7:00 pm † Lord's Supper Mass
Fri Apr 3 3:00 pm † Passion Of Our Lord
7:00 pm *Stations of the Cross*
Sat Apr 4 8:00 pm † Easter Vigil Mass
Sun Apr 5 9:00 am † Easter Sunday
Resurrection of Our Lord

Lectors

Sat Apr 4 Cheryl Kieffer/Florence Kreps
Sun Apr 5 Debra Ross/C. Dalla Costa

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 Apr 4 No Mass

ST. PETER'S, Ayton

Sun Apr 5 11:00 am † Easter Sunday
Resurrection of Our Lord

This Sunday's Reading:

Gospel at the Procession with Palms

Matthew 21:1-11

Jesus enters Jerusalem as the crowd waves palm
branches and shouts, "Hosanna!"

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, and God has
exalted him.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 26:14—27:66

Jesus is crucified, and his body is placed in the
tomb. (shorter form: Matthew 27:11-54)

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today we begin Holy Week, the days during which
we journey with Jesus on his way of the cross and
anticipate his Resurrection on Easter. Today's
liturgy begins with the procession with palms to
remind us of Jesus' triumphant entrance into
Jerusalem.

The events of Jesus' Passion are proclaimed in their
entirety in today's Liturgy of the Word. Those
events will be proclaimed again when we celebrate
the liturgies of the Triduum—Holy Thursday's
Mass of the Lord's Supper, the Good Friday of the
Lord's Passion, and the Easter Vigil. In
communities that celebrate the Sacraments of
Initiation with catechumens, these liturgies take on
special importance because they invite the
catechumens and the community to enter together
into the central mysteries of our faith. These days
are indeed profound and holy.

In Cycle A, we read the Passion of Jesus as found in
the Gospel of Matthew on Palm, or Passion,
Sunday. (On Good Friday, we will read the Passion
of Jesus from the Gospel of John). The story of
Jesus' Passion and death in Matthew's Gospel
focuses particularly on the obedience of Jesus to the
will of his Father. As Jesus sends his disciples to
prepare for Passover, he indicates that the events to
come are the will of the Father (Matthew 26:18). In
Jesus' prayer in the garden, he prays three times to
the Father to take away the cup of suffering, but
each time, Jesus concludes by affirming his
obedience to the Father's will (Matthew 26:39-44).
Even Matthew's description of Jesus' death shows
Jesus' obedience to the Father.

Another theme of Matthew's Gospel is to show
Jesus as the fulfillment of Scripture. Throughout the
Passion narrative, Matthew cites and alludes to
Scripture to show that the events of Jesus' Passion
and death are in accordance with all that was
foretold. And if the events were foretold, then God
is in control. In addition, Matthew is particularly
concerned that the reader does not miss the fact that
Jesus is the Suffering Servant of the Old Testament.

Jesus acts in obedience to the Father even in death,
so that sins may be forgiven. Matthew makes this
clear in the story of the Lord's Supper. As Jesus
blesses the chalice, he says: ". . . for this is my

blood of the covenant, which will be shed on behalf of many for the forgiveness of sins.” (Matthew 26:2

While the Gospels of Matthew and Mark have many parallels in their narrative of the Passion, there are a few details worth noting that are unique to Matthew. Only Matthew indicates the price paid to Judas for betraying Jesus. The story of Judas’s death is also found only in Matthew, as is the detail that Pilate’s wife received a warning in a dream and that Pilate washed his hands of Jesus’ death.

Finally, Matthew’s Gospel alone mentions the earthquakes and other phenomena that happened after Jesus’ death. Matthew places the responsibility for Jesus’ death on the Sanhedrin, the chief priests and elders who were responsible for the Temple. However, the animosity that those Jewish leaders and the Jewish people demonstrate toward Jesus is not to be interpreted in ways that blame the Jewish people for Jesus’ death.

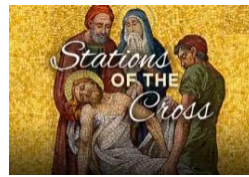
Throughout Matthew’s Gospel, the narrative reflects the tension that probably existed between the early Christian community and their Jewish contemporaries. At the Second Vatican Council, the Council Fathers made clear that all sinners share responsibility for the suffering and death of Jesus and that it is wrong to place blame for Jesus’ Passion on the Jewish contemporaries of Jesus or on Jewish people today.

There are many vantage points from which to engage in Jesus’ Passion. In the characters of Matthew’s Gospel, we find reflections of ourselves and the many ways in which we sometimes respond to Jesus. Sometimes we are like Judas, who betrays Jesus and comes to regret it. We are sometimes like Peter, who denies him, or like the disciples, who fell asleep during Jesus’ darkest hour but then act rashly and violently at his arrest. Sometimes we are like Simon, who is pressed into service to help Jesus carry his cross. Sometimes we are like the leaders who fear Jesus or like Pontius Pilate, who washed his hands of the whole affair.

Jesus dies so that our sins will be forgiven.

The events of Jesus’ Passion, death, and Resurrection are called the Paschal Mystery. No amount of study will exhaust or explain the depth of love that Jesus showed in offering this sacrifice for us. After we have examined and studied the stories we have received about these events, we are left with one final task—to meditate on these events and on the forgiveness that Jesus’ obedience won for us.

www.loyolapress/resources



Stations of the Cross Fridays at 7:00 pm during Lent

CWL News

1. St. Mary Auxiliary meeting is Wednesday April 8, 2026 at 7:00pm. All parishioners are welcome.
2. CWL meeting is Tuesday, April 14, 2026 at 1:00pm.

All ladies are welcome to attend and find out about the CWL.



St. Mary of the Purification, Mt. Forest

Sacrament of Confirmation Sunday, May 24, 2026 at 3:00 pm. **Deadline for registration is May 1, 2026.**

Sacrament of First Holy Communion Sunday, June 7, 2026. Mass being celebrated at 3:00 pm. **Deadline for registration is March 27th, 2026.**

Please note : If you have a child who does not attend St. Mary’s School in Mt. Forest, and who has reached the age of discernment, please contact the parish office for registration. 519-323-1054 or email stmarymtforest@wightman.ca registration forms can also be picked up at the entrance of the church.

Contributions

St. Mary of the Purification: March 15 \$1987 ;
March 22 \$1979

St. Peter Mission: March 22 \$180

St. Thomas Mission: March 15 \$275; March 22 \$285

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



Holy Week Mass Schedule

St. Mary of the Purification, Mt. Forest

Holy Thursday Mass of the Lords Supper

April 2 7:00 pm

Good Friday Passion of the Lord

April 3 3:00 pm

Holy Saturday Easter Vigil Mass

April 4 8:00 pm

Easter Sunday Resurrection of the Lord

April 5 9:00 am

St. Thomas, Harriston

(No Mass April 4th Holy Saturday Vigil)

St. Peter's , Ayton

Easter Sunday Resurrection of the Lord

April 5 11:00 am



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



Saint Francis of Paola Feast Day April 2

When Francis was 13, around the year 1429, he made a pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi with his parents. He was so impressed that he eventually became a hermit in a cave overlooking the sea. Other men joined him. They took the name Hermits of Saint Francis of Assisi and followed the practices of the Franciscans, or the Franciscan Minim Friars. Minim meant they were “the least in the household of God.” To the vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience, Francis added a fourth vow: a perpetual Lenten feast. This order attracted many candidates.

Francis later felt God calling him to defend those who were poor and oppressed. He scolded King Ferdinand of Naples and his sons for their wrongdoing. In 1482, when King Louis XI of France was dying, he begged that Francis come to cure him. Francis at first refused, but Pope Sixtus IV ordered him to care for the king and prepare him for death. When the king saw Francis, he pleaded for a miracle. Francis rebuked him, saying that the lives of kings are in the hands of God. Francis restored peace between France and Great Britain and between France and Spain.

Francis died in the French court. Though his miracles were numerous, he was canonized for his humility and discernment in blending the contemplative life with the active one. www.loyolapress

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PASCHAL TRIDUUM:

The Easter Triduum which begins with the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Maundy Thursday, reaching its high point in the Easter Vigil, and closes with Evening Prayer on Easter Sunday, is the summit of the Liturgical Year.

It commemorates Christ's Paschal Mystery, The **PASSION, DEATH** and **RESURRECTION** of Jesus.

PASSION **DEATH** **RESURRECTION**