



# 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](http://www.stmarymountforest.ca)



Tel: 519-323-1054

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

## Parish Staff

<b>Pastor</b>	<b>Rev. Michael Anderson, P.P.</b>
<b>Bookkeeper</b>	<b>Annette Connolly</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Dee Dee Eurig</b>
	<b>Custodian</b>
	<b>Music Dir.</b>
	<b>Organist</b>

## Email:

<b>manderson@hamiltondiocese.com</b>
<b>stmarybookkeeper@wightman.ca</b>
<b>stmarymtforest@wightman.ca</b>

<b>Virginia McComiskey</b>
<b>Rick Wildeman</b>
<b>Melissa Van Stavern</b>

### 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](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 Wednesday before noon.**

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

May 24, 2026

*Pentecost Sunday*



Tue May 26 7:00 pm NO MASS TODAY  
Wed May 27 9:00 am For Peace in the World  
Req'd by Bill & Mary Hammond  
Thu May 28 9:00 am NO MASS TODAY  
Fri May 29 9:00 am † David Atkinson  
Sat May 30 4:00 pm † People of the Parish  
Sun May 31 9:00 am † People of the Parish

### Lectors

Sat May 30 Florence Kreps  
Sun May 31 Cheryl Kieffer

**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 May 30 5:30 pm † People of the Parish

### ST. PETER'S, Ayton

Sun May 31 11:00 am † People of the Parish

## **This Sunday's Readings:**

### **First Reading**

*Acts of the Apostles 2:1-11*

The Holy Spirit descends upon the apostles gathered in Jerusalem.

### **Responsorial Psalm**

*Psalm 104:1,24,29-31,34*

God's Spirit renews the earth.

### **Second Reading**

*1 Corinthians 12:3b-7,12-13*

We are all one in Christ Jesus.

### **Gospel Reading**

*John 20:19-23*

Jesus appears to his disciples and gives them the gift of the Holy Spirit.

### **Background on the Gospel Reading**

The Season of Easter concludes with today's celebration, the Feast of Pentecost. On Pentecost we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles gathered in the upper room in Jerusalem; this event marks the beginning of the Church. The story of Pentecost is found in the Acts of the Apostles, today's first reading. The account in

today's Gospel, John 20:19-23, also recounts how Jesus gave the gift of the Holy Spirit to his disciples. Yet the event in John's Gospel takes place on Easter Sunday. There is no need to try to reconcile these two accounts. It is enough that we know that after his death, Jesus fulfilled his promise to send to his disciples a helper, an advocate, who would enable them to be his witnesses throughout the world.

We already heard today's Gospel proclaimed on the Second Sunday of Easter this year (Lectionary Cycle A). That Gospel passage, however, also included the description of Jesus' appearance to Thomas. In that context, we were led reflect on belief and unbelief.

In the context of the Feast of Pentecost, John 20:19-23 reminds us about the integral connection between the gifts of peace and forgiveness and the action of the Holy Spirit. Jesus greets his disciples with the gift of peace. Jesus then commissions his disciples to continue the work that he has begun, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." He breathes the Holy Spirit upon the disciples and sends them to continue his work of reconciliation through the forgiveness of sins. Jesus' act of breathing the Holy Spirit mirrors God's act of breathing life into Adam at the time of Creation. In fact, both the Greek and Hebrew words for "spirit" can also be translated as "breath."

This Gospel reminds us that the Church is called to be a reconciling presence in the world. The reconciling presence of Christ is celebrated in the Church's sacramental life. In the Sacrament of Baptism, we are cleansed of sin and become a new creation in Christ. In the Sacrament of Penance, the Church celebrates the mercy of God through the forgiving of sins. This reconciling presence is also to be a way of life for Christians. In situations of conflict, we are to be agents of peace and harmony among people.

### **Family Connection**

Pentecost is sometimes called the birthday of the Church. The Gospel for Pentecost reminds us that the Church begins with the command to forgive. Within the family, the domestic Church, we learn how to forgive and how to accept forgiveness. The gift of the Holy Spirit enables us to do both. Today is a fitting time to share a family celebration of reconciliation.

As you gather together as a family, sit quietly for a few minutes, inviting everyone to reflect upon their

need to forgive and to receive forgiveness. If there is a situation or an issue within the family that needs attention, spend some time reflecting on how your family might address it. Read together today's Gospel, John 20:19-23. Talk together about how Jesus gave us the gift of the Holy Spirit to help us in the work of forgiveness and to bring us peace. Pray together today's Psalm or the Prayer to the Holy Spirit, asking that the Holy Spirit help your family. Share with one another a Sign of Peace.

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



## St. Mary of the Purification, Mt. Forest

### Sacrament of Confirmation

Congratulations to all students who are receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation at St. Mary's of the Purification, today at 3 pm.

### **Prayer to the Holy Spirit for Guidance**

Holy Spirit, Spirit of truth and love,  
be my light and my strength.  
Grant me wisdom to know God's will,  
courage to follow it,  
and love to share it with others.  
Help me to live the faith I have received in Confirmation  
and to bear witness to Christ in all I do. Amen.

### Sacrament of First Holy Communion

Sunday, June 7, 2026. Mass being celebrated at 3:00 pm.



**DIOCESE OF HAMILTON**

**YOUNG ADULTS NIGHT** Fr. Mark Morley invites all young adults (ages 20s and 30s) of our diocese to attend an evening of prayer, fellowship and praise music in support of your vocations. The Young Adults Night includes a Holy Hour (6:00pm-7:00 pm), social with food (7:00pm-8:00pm), vocations testimony and praise music (8:00pm-9:00pm), and Compline (9:00pm) on Saturday, **June 6th** at the Saint Clement's Church (745 Duke Street, Cambridge, ON). Sponsored by the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Hamilton: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/> For more information, please contact: [vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com).

### **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL TRAINING DAY**

Many of our parishes are blessed to have teens and young adults involved in the preparation and leadership of Vacation Bible School experiences. The Office for Youth Ministry and the Office for Evangelization and Catechesis warmly welcome all VBS coordinators and youth leaders to a day of formation and training on Saturday, May 9th, 2026. For more information, and to register please visit:



## 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!

### ➔ CWL News

- **The CWL meeting in June will be on MONDAY June 15, 2026 at 1:00pm. We are planning to have a potluck luncheon. Again, all ladies of the parish are welcome. A signup sheet will be out in the foyer.**

*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](https://facebook.com/thecatholicfortress)

<http://bit.ly/419nh7w>. For all other questions regarding VBS, reach out to us at: [youthministry@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:youthministry@hamiltondiocese.com).

**FRASSATI LEADERSHIP PROGRAM** Calling all those entering Grade 10 in September 2026! Are you looking to grow in your faith? Do you want to explore what it means to be a Catholic leader? **The Frassati Leadership Program** may be for you.

Join other Grade 10 Catholic leaders as we reflect on the foundations of Catholic leadership and foster opportunities for you to grow in your own faith and leadership skills. For more information and to register please visit:

<https://hamiltondiocese.com/office/pastoral-offices/youth-ministry/frassati/>

**WORLD YOUTH DAY SEOUL 2027** Bishop Dabrowski is sending a delegation of young adults (aged 18-35) to World Youth Day in the summer of 2027 in Seoul, South Korea. World Youth Day (WYD) is the gathering of young people from all over the world with the Pope. It is also a pilgrimage, a celebration of youth, an expression of the universal Church and an intense moment of evangelization for the world. For more information about WYD and how to join our delegation please visit: <https://wyd.hamiltondiocese.com/>.

**RESTART: REFRESH, RENEW, REVIVE SUPPORT GROUP** Struggling after divorce or separation? Join us for learning, support and fun on Friday evenings, held the 2nd & 3rd Friday of each month. These get-togethers offer continual support and insights for people as they journey through the divorce/separation process and beyond. Register here: <https://sites.google.com/view/hamilton-restart/home> anytime the week of the session, or contact Sarah at [familymistry@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:familymistry@hamiltondiocese.com), or 905-528-7988 ext. 2249. We look forward to seeing you!



**Michael House Annual Baby bottle Campaign-** Don't forget to pick up your baby bottle, they are located in the foyer of the church. The campaign runs until Father's Day (June 21) 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/>

### The Pope's prayer intention for May That everyone might have food.

*Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.*



### Why Is Pentecost Sunday Important in the Catholic Faith?

For Catholics, Pentecost Sunday is not merely a historical commemoration. It's a great liturgical celebration, memorializing the day on which Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to inaugurate and ignite the Church's public mission:

"You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you" (Acts 1:8).

Furthermore, Pentecost marks the day the Holy Spirit empowers the Church to act boldly in Jesus' name. Liturgically, it also concludes the Easter season. During Pentecost Mass, the Church celebrates with rich substance and symbolism. For example, when the sacrament of confirmation is conferred, it strengthens today's disciples *in the present day* to bear faithful witness. Additionally, priests wear red vestments to recall the tongues of fire that rested on the apostles. Moreover, the Church prays for the gifts of the Holy Spirit to be poured out once again. In some Catholic traditions, rose petals even fall from the ceiling to represent the descent of the Holy Spirit.



*Our Lady of the Rosary,  
pray for us!*