



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

Choir Dir.

Rick Wildeman /Dale Williams

Organist

Melissa Van Stavern

Email:

manderson@hamiltondiocese.ca

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 of July 12, 2026

Tue July 14 7:00 pm † Marguerite Schmidt Req'd
by The CWL and † Katheryn Meyer Req'd by
The Estate

Wed July 15 9:00 am † John Stephen Req'd by
Verne & Pauline Mills

Thu July 16 9:00 am † Gabriel Zettler

Fri July 17 9:00 am † David Atkinson

Sat July 18 4:00 pm People of the Parish

Sun July 19 9:00 am People of the Parish

Lectors

Sat July 18 Cesar Arruda

Sun July 19 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 July 18 5:30 pm People of the Parish

ST. PETER'S, Ayton

Sun July 19 11:00 am People of the Parish

This Sunday's Reading:

First Reading

Isaiah 55:10-11

The Word of the Lord shall achieve its purpose.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 65:10-14

A prayer of praise to God for his abundance.

Second Reading

Romans 8:18-23

Together with all of creation, we await God's
redemption.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 13:1-23 (shorter form: Matthew 13:1-9)

Jesus teaches that the kingdom of heaven is like
seed that has been sown on good soil.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today's Gospel marks the beginning of the third
long discourse given by Jesus in the Gospel of
Matthew. Over the next few weeks, the Gospel
readings will consist of the entire 13th Chapter of
Matthew's Gospel, a lengthy teaching discourse.

Throughout this discourse, Jesus will offer several
parables to illustrate for his listeners what he means
by the kingdom of heaven. He begins with the
parable of the sower, which appears rather
straightforward—of course seeds grow best in good
soil. Seeds that miss the soil, are sown on rocky
ground, or are sown among other plants will not
grow. The surprise in the parable is the enormous
yield of the seed that is sown on good soil.

Jesus then explains his use of parables. Jesus seems
to suggest that he uses parables to teach because the
meanings of parables are not self-evident. The
hearer must engage in some degree of reflection in
order to comprehend the message of a parable. In
this way, the medium—the parable—models the
point of the parable of the sower. Those who are
willing to engage themselves in the effort to
understand will be rewarded by the discovery of the
message and will bear fruit.

To bring home the point, Jesus interprets the parable
of the sower to his disciples. The different types of
soil in which the seeds are sown are metaphors for
the disposition with which each individual hears the
teaching about the kingdom of heaven. Some will
be easily swayed away from the kingdom of heaven.
Some will receive it for a time but will lose it when
faced with difficulties. Some will hear the word but
will then permit other cares to choke it out. Yet
some will receive it well, and the seed will produce
abundant fruit.

Family Connection

Today's Gospel reminds us that in order for God's
Word to take root in us and produce abundant fruit,
we must endeavor to be like good soil. Families, in
particular, hold the responsibility for "preparing the
soil" so that the seeds of God's Word can grow
strong. There are many ways in which families do
this—family traditions in which faith is celebrated,
prayer and reading of Scripture, and instruction on
the faith. In these ways, parents fulfill the promises
they made at their child's Baptism.

Gather together as a family and reflect together on
the Sacrament of Baptism. Tell the story of the
Baptism of each child, showing any pictures that
were taken. If you have your child's Baptism candle
or gown, share these as well. Recall together that
one of the promises that parents make at their
child's Baptism is to bring them up in the practice
of our faith. Talk together about the importance of
this promise to your family. Then read together

today's Gospel, Matthew 13:1-23. Reflect together on the ways in which your family practices your faith (daily prayer, Mass attendance, religious instruction, etc.). Remind one another that we do these things as a family so that God's Word can take root in our lives and produce abundant fruit. Conclude in prayer together by praying today's Psalm, Psalm 65. www.loyolapress/resources

Diocesan Calendar- week of July 12
"Pray to the Lord of the Harvest"

Mon- Rev. Stephen Murrin	Thu- Rev. Jeff Bergsma
Tue- Rev. Michal Kruszewski, C.R.	Fri- Most Rev. Joseph A. Dabrowski, C.S.M.A.
Wed- Missionary Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Church, (M.S.M.M.C.)	Sat- Rev. Philip Reilly, C.R.



COFFEE SUNDAY

Please note that coffee Sunday will not take place during July & August, it will resume in September. If anyone is available to assist, we are looking For volunteers to help out. Thank you so much.

Food Donations

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all who donate non-perishable food items. Your generosity is a true blessing, helping us support those in need within our community. **Please remember that we can only accept non-perishable food items.** May God reward your kindness and continue to inspire us all to serve with love.



DIOCESE OF HAMILTON

ENHANCING SELF-ESTEEM Healthy self-esteem is linked to positive mental health outcomes, which is so important to each of us. Our program provides the opportunity to increase your self-awareness and to learn specific skills for building a positive self-esteem. Issues covered during the course include taking responsibility for your own thoughts and feelings, positive ways to behave assertively and setting realistic goals for your own future. The program will be offered from Tuesday

September 22 – November 24, 2026 at the Chancery Office at 700 King St. West Hamilton. Cost is \$35 for materials. Registration is online at <https://hamiltondiocese.com> and can be found under Upcoming Events, or contact Sarah at 905-528-7988 ext. 2249, or e-mail familyministry@hamiltondiocese.com.

CCYMN NATIONAL CONFERENCE The Canadian Catholic Youth Ministry Network is excited to announce that registration is NOW OPEN for the National Youth Leadership Conference, taking place October 2–4, 2026, in Winnipeg, Manitoba. All youth ministry leaders, volunteers, clergy and all those serving young people across Canada will gather for prayer, learning, networking and inspiration. More details and how to register can be found on their website: <https://www.ccymin.ca/national-conference.html>.

WALK WITH JESUS: Retreat for Parents Who Have Experienced the Death of a Child The loss of a child is a most challenging event in the life of any parent. This grief is acute and challenging. The Diocese of Hamilton invites you to join us for this healing day. Whether the loss is recent or some time ago, we know this day will help to restore your inner core. The retreat will be offered from 9 am to 4 pm on Saturday, October 10 or Saturday, November 7th. The \$20 fee includes lunch. Registration is required for set up and lunch. You can register on the Diocesan home page at <https://hamiltondiocese.com> under upcoming events (look for the date retreat of the date), or by calling the office at 905-528-7988 ext. 2249.

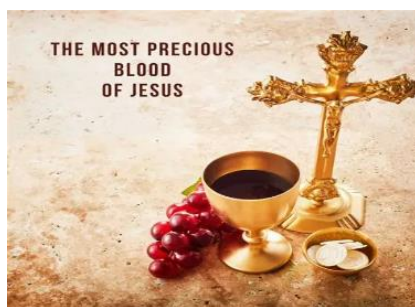
MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT Healthy marriages matter! Proven benefits include having a support system, learning to grow with another, having increased happiness levels and physical benefits, all proven in research. Keeping your marriage healthy and strong requires love, but also time spent fine tuning your marriage and reconnecting. Join us November 21st for a day to reconnect and spend time with the one you love! Registration can be found online at hamiltondiocese.com, under Upcoming Events, or contact Sarah at 905-528-7988 ext. 2249, or e-mail familyministry@hamiltondiocese.com

The World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly (WDGE) 2026 will be celebrated on Sunday, July 26, 2026, close to the Feast of Saints Joachim and Anne, grandparents of Jesus. The theme for this year is: “I will never forget you” (Is 49:15). Let us take this opportunity to honour grandparents and the elderly, recognizing them as a blessing and an important part of our faith communities.

**The Pope’s prayer intention for July,
For respect for human life**

“Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.”

July is dedicated to the Precious Blood of Jesus Christ



**Prayers to
Precious Blood
of Jesus**

**A Powerful
Prayer to be Said
Before Praying:**

“Almighty Father, I place the Precious Blood of Jesus before my lips before I pray, that my prayers may be purified before they ascend to Your divine altar.” – St. Mary Magdalen de Pazzi

The “Constant” Prayer of St. Catherine of Siena

Precious Blood, ocean of divine mercy: Flow upon us! Precious Blood, most pure offering: Procure us every grace! Precious Blood, hope and refuge of sinners: Atone for us! Precious Blood, delight of holy souls: Draw us! Amen.”

Summertime and Family Prayer

Throughout the summer many families are traveling. Before you begin a trip, you are invited to pray together the following: *Loving God, source of all life and joy, be with us as we travel, may we be respectful of those we meet, grateful for those who offer hospitality, patient and kind to one another, and alert to the wonders of your world. Remind us of your*

loving presence and bring us safely home. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

It is always appropriate to begin meals with prayer. The following prayer may be prayed in unison or lead by one person.

Loving God, we give you thanks for this food. Teach us to be grateful for your many gifts and give us strength to share what we have with others. Amen



Our Lady of Mount Carmel; Feast Day July 16

On one side of the mountaintop, the priests of Baal stood next to the stone altar dedicated to their false god. They had been praying aloud all day, but no god had answered them. On the other side, the prophet Elijah stood alone next to a stone altar dedicated to the Lord God, Yahweh. That day Yahweh sent fire from heaven onto the altar, proving that he, Yahweh, was the one true God. The Old Testament records this showdown on Mount Carmel in northern Palestine (1 Kings 18:16–39).

During the many centuries between that event and the year 1156, people who wanted a quiet place to pray and to live close to God began to come together on Mount Carmel. A large monastery was built there to honor the Mother of God. The members of the monastery were called Carmelites.

In 1251, according to the tradition of the Carmelites, the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to Simon Stock, the sixth general, or person in charge of the Carmelite Order, and gave him a scapular. The scapular was a long piece of cloth worn over the shoulders and hanging, in front and in back, down to the ankles. After that, all the members of that Carmelite community wore scapulars. Today some religious men and women still wear the full scapular. Some people wear a small scapular made of two small pieces of cloth connected by narrow cord or braid. It, too, is worn over the shoulders. Wearing a scapular medal or the shortened scapular is a way of honoring the Blessed Mother. July 16 is a major feast for all Carmelite priests and sisters.

“Lay all your cares about the future trustingly in God’s hands, and let yourself be guided by the Lord just like a little child.” – St. Francis de Sales