



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 19, 2026

Tue July 21 7:00 pm † Kathryn Meyer Req'd
by the Estate and † Gabriel Zettler

Wed July 22 9:00 am † John Stephen Req'd by
Ron & Marian Flanigan

Thu July 23 9:00 am Intentions of Vivian Obarle
Req'd by Kevin Gorman

Fri July 24 9:00 am † John Stephen Req'd by
Dan & Doris Tone

Sat July 25 4:00 pm People of the Parish

Sun July 26 9:00 am People of the Parish

Lectors

Sat July 25 Maxine Schmidt

Sun July 26 Melissa Reid

RECONCILIATION: 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 July 25 5:30 pm People of the Parish

ST. PETER'S, Ayton

Sun July 26 11:00 am People of the Parish

This Sunday's Reading:

First Reading

Wisdom 12:13,16-19

God has shown himself to be a God of justice and
mercy.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 86:5-6,9-10,15-16

A prayer to God for mercy.

Second Reading

Romans 8:26-27

The Spirit intercedes for us with God.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 13:24-43 (shorter form: Matthew 13:24-30)

Jesus offers parables about the Kingdom of Heaven
and explains them to his disciples.

Background on the Gospel Reading

In today's Gospel, Jesus offers three parables to
describe the Kingdom of Heaven. He also explains
why he speaks to the crowds in parables and
interprets the parable of the sower for the disciples.

This reading is a continuation of Jesus' discourse
that we began reading last Sunday.

All three parables use commonplace experiences to
describe aspects of the Kingdom of Heaven. The
first parable is longer and more detailed than the
next two, and it alerts us to the two-fold reality of
the Kingdom of Heaven. The beginnings of the
Kingdom of Heaven can be found in this world. The
fruition of the Kingdom of Heaven, however, will
not be realized until the final judgment. In the
meantime, as Jesus' explanation to the disciples
cautions, any effort to judge the progress of the
Kingdom of Heaven is premature. Only God, in the
final judgment, will distinguish the fruit of the
Kingdom of Heaven and offer its reward.

The second and third parables call to our attention
the abundance that will result from the small
beginnings of the Kingdom of Heaven. Just as a
mustard seed—the smallest of all seeds—will
become a large bush, so too God will bring his
Kingdom to full bloom. As a small amount of yeast
will leaven the entire batch of bread, so too God
will bring about the expansion of his Kingdom. In
each case the image is of the superabundance that
God brings out of even the smallest of signs of the
Kingdom. Contained within these parables are
words of caution as well as words of consolation. In
the parable of the sower we are warned against
judging others. To judge and uproot the "weeds"
prematurely will harm the wheat; final judgment
rests with God. In the parables of the mustard seed
and the yeast, we are consoled by the message that
God can work wonders and produce abundance
from even the smallest beginnings of the Kingdom
of Heaven.

Family Connection

Taken together, the parables found in today's
Gospel offer both a sobering reminder about the
Kingdom of God and words of encouragement. As
the wheat and the weeds must grow together until
the harvest, so we may not know whether our
actions contribute to God's Kingdom until God's
final judgment. With this word of caution in mind,
we act always in prayer that our actions will be
consistent with God's plans. In the parables of the
mustard seed and the yeast, we hear words of
encouragement. God can bring the Kingdom of
Heaven from even the smallest of beginnings. Thus,
we ask God to work through us for the sake of the
Kingdom of Heaven.

Set aside some time this week to make bread with your family. Show the amount of yeast that is required to raise an entire batch of bread. Observe that little things can go a long way. After the bread has been baked, gather together as a family. Read together today's Gospel, Matthew 13:24-43. Reflect together on what Jesus means when he teaches that the Kingdom of Heaven is like a mustard seed and like yeast. In these parables, Jesus is teaching us that God can work wonders from even the smallest beginnings of the Kingdom of God. This means that even the little things that we do can make a big difference in the lives of others. What are some of the little things that we can do in our family that help to make things better for others? Decide on one action to take together. Pray that God will use your action to make a difference in the world. Pray together the Lord's Prayer. www.loyolapress/resources

Diocesan Calendar- week of July 19

"Pray to the Lord of the Harvest"

Mon- Rev. Pawel Jamroz	Thu- Rev. Hayden Starczala
Tue- Rev. Stephen Gilbert	Fri- Rev. Gordian Okpuruka
Wed- Legionaries of Christ, L.C.	Sat- Rev. Robert Hetu



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

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.

CATECHETICAL CORRESPONDENCE PROGRAM

Children in our parishes benefit from the Catechetical Correspondence Program each year for ongoing religious education and preparation for the Sacraments. We need volunteers to support the program! If you are willing to accompany these children in their learning journey, please reach out to the Office for Evangelization and Catechesis at catechesis@hamiltondiocese.com. To learn more about the Catechetical Correspondence Program, please visit: <https://bit.ly/DOHCCC>.

PROJECT RACHEL Struggling After an Abortion? Either your own, or someone else's? Do you feel alone, emotional, or angry and in need of support? Project Rachel is available to help. This confidential service allows people to work through their feelings on an individual basis, with a trained counsellor, to find hope and healing. Please contact us at 905-526-1999 or toll free at 1-888-385-3850.

RESTART: Refresh, Renew, Revive Support Group Struggling after divorce or separation — as others are? Join us for learning, support and fun on 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. For summer sessions or gatherings, register here: <https://sites.google.com/view/hamilton-restart/home>, or contact Sarah at familyministry@hamiltondiocese.com, or 905-528-7988 ext. 2249. We look forward to seeing you!

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>.

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



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

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



Saints Joachim and Ann Feast Day July 26

You have probably heard the expression: The apple does not fall far from the tree. It means that children

are often like their parents. Scripture does not tell us anything about the parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Tradition tells us that their names were Joachim and Ann. The name Ann means "grace," while Joachim means "the Lord will judge." Tradition also says that Joachim and Ann took their daughter to the Temple in Jerusalem when she was very young. They understood that Mary was a special child, so they dedicated her to God.

We do know that Joachim and Ann have been honored in the Church from early Christian times. By looking at Mary, their child, we can figure out several things about them. They must have set the example that Mary followed to become the loving, gentle, faith-filled, courageous woman she was—the perfect woman to bear and raise the Son of God.

Whether or not Joachim and Ann are the real names of Mary's parents, the couple were the holy, heroic ones who faithfully prepared for the coming of the Messiah. Because Joachim and Ann were the grandparents of Jesus, they are the patrons of grandparents. St. Ann is venerated in Canada, where there is a basilica in her honor in Quebec.

Prayer for the 6th World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly

Holy Father Who watches over every person Watch over me too when I am elderly. You have revealed your name to me in Christ, And You were not discouraged by my frailties. You hold me tenderly in your hands, And You caress my lines. You will never forget me! (see Is 49:15). Grant that I may not fear my weakness; Help me learn to love it Just as You love it. Help me learn to listen to it Just as You listen to it. Help me embrace it Just as You have chosen it – You who, though all-powerful, clothed yourself in humility. May growing old strip away all our pride and all division So that we may live these years united in You. You will never forget us! Amen.

