



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 at **stmarymountforest.ca**



Tel: 519-323-1054

OFFICE HOURS: Closed Mondays 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 August 9, 2026

Tue Aug 11 7:00 pm † Maria Rede Req'd by the CWL

Wed Aug 12 9:00 am † John Stephen Req'd by Dan & Angela Seifried

Thu Aug 13 9:00 am † Jonathon Eurig Req'd by the Family

Fri Aug 14 9:00 am NO MASS TODAY

Sat Aug 15 4:00 pm People of the Parish

Sun Aug 16 9:00 am People of the Parish

Lectors

Sat Aug 15 Cesar Arruda

Sun Aug 16 Cheryl Kieffer

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 Aug 15 5:30 pm People of the Parish

ST. PETER'S, Ayton

Sun Aug 16 11:00 am People of the Parish

This Sunday's Readings:

First Reading

1 Kings 19:9a,11-13a

The Lord appears to Elijah in a whisper.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 85:9-14

The Lord is the source of salvation.

Second Reading

Romans 9:1-5

Paul speaks of the blessings that have come to the Israelites.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 14:22-33

Jesus walks on water, and the disciples acknowledge him as the Son of God.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today's Gospel directly follows last week's account of Jesus feeding a crowd of more than 5,000 people with just five loaves of bread and two fish. For the sake of the crowds, Jesus had postponed his time of solitude. Now, at last, Jesus finds some time for quiet and prayer. He sends his disciples ahead of him by boat, dismisses the crowds, and then withdraws to the mountain to pray.

The disciples do not fare well. They struggle to weather the wind and waves, making little progress in their journey. We are reminded of a previous story in Chapter 8 of Matthew's Gospel, when Jesus calms the seas. This time, however, Jesus does not calm the seas, and the disciples do not express fear until they see Jesus walking toward them on the water. In this story it is not the storm that is feared but the sight of Jesus before them, whom they mistake for a ghost.

Clues like these suggest that this story is about the disciples' growing understanding of the identity of Jesus. In continuity with last week's Gospel about the feeding of the multitude, today's Gospel is also about what the disciples' faith in Jesus will enable them to do. In last week's Gospel, when the disciples see the crowds, they ask Jesus to send the crowds away. Jesus turns the situation around, telling the disciples to feed the crowd with the provisions that they have. Both of these Gospels tell us much about ministry.

Jesus calls to the disciples and calms their fears. He is not a ghost. The impulsive Peter seeks proof that the person is indeed Jesus. He asks Jesus to call him out onto the water, and Jesus grants this request. Peter's fear and doubt overtake him, however, once he is walking on the water. Jesus reaches out to Peter and saves him. When Jesus and Peter enter the boat, Matthew reports that the wind ceases, and the disciples confess that Jesus is the Son of God.

Faith in Jesus will enable the disciples to do the work that Jesus has done. Peter walks on water. The five loaves and two fish feed a multitude of people. The disciples can and will participate in the work of the kingdom of heaven. When Peter fears and doubts the person of Jesus, however, he falters. Peter's example teaches us that true Christian ministry emerges from the faith that Jesus is the Messiah, God's only Son.

Family Connection

The mission of the Church is to continue the work of Jesus. The family, the domestic church, participates in this mission too.

Talk about how your family participates in the mission of the Church. Discuss ways in which you seek to reach out to your neighbors and people in need through acts of kindness, mercy, and justice. Then read together today's Gospel, Matthew 14:22-33. Talk about how Peter wanted to be like Jesus, to walk on water like Jesus did. Note that Peter was

successful for a time, but then he doubted Jesus, and he began to sink into the water. Talk about how your family's acts of mercy and justice are rooted in your faith in Jesus. Pray together that Jesus will continue to work through your family to prepare the kingdom of heaven. Pray together the Morning Offering or the Lord's Prayer. loyolapress/resources.com



COFFEE SUNDAY

Please note that coffee Sunday will not take place during July & August, it will resume in September. We are also in need of volunteers to assist with set up and clean up. If you are interested, please contact the office. Thank you so very much and God Bless!

Contributions July 25/26

St. Mary of the Purification: \$1214; Maintenance \$70

St. Peter Mission: \$90

St. Thomas Mission: \$125

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



DIocese of HAMILTON

Embrace Motherhood Workshop

Are you a new mom or soon to be mom? Have you heard about the five phases of motherhood? Join the St. Benedict Milton Catholic Moms Group on Saturday, Aug. 22nd from 9 – 12 PM at the parish (300 Yates Dr. Milton) for an informative workshop to learn more. Join other moms in the same phase of motherhood. Learn strategies for your motherhood journey, meet new moms, enjoy a delicious light breakfast and hear about the changes motherhood brings. All of this for the low registration cost of \$10. To register e-transfer, including your name, parish and cell number to stbenedictsh@catholicmomsgroup.com. The workshop is based on the publication, ***Your Life is Going to Change***, by Dorothy Pilarski (available on Amazon).

PARENTING TIP OF THE MONTH The expression “the family that prays together stays together” is one that most people have heard. Popular

sayings make sense when we see the truth in them, but this one is backed up by research! When we pray together at home (before meals, before bed, in the morning) and attend Mass, we are connecting on a deep level that helps a family have increased unity. So, enjoy the more relaxed summer days and holidays, but don't let prayer and attending Mass take a holiday because their benefits are a wonderful addition to this great season!

MARRIAGE TIP OF THE MONTH Couples are so busy today with their jobs, taking care of children and sometimes looking after elderly parents that time is very precious. Often what gets put on the back burner is time to focus on their marriage. All these responsibilities are much better managed with a healthy relationship, so taking time together has a positive impact all around. Schedule time for a coffee, a short or long walk, a chat at the end of the day, prayer, or dinner for two, anything that is just for the two of you. Your marriage matters — don't let making it a priority take a backseat to everything else on the to-do list!

The Pope's prayer intention for August

For evangelization in the city

“Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.”

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

August is dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary



O Most Blessed Mother,
heart of love, heart of mercy,
ever listening, caring,
consoling, hear our prayer.

As your children,
we implore your intercession
with Jesus your Son.

Receive with understanding
and compassion the petitions
we place before you today,
especially (state your petitions).

We are comforted in knowing
your heart is ever open to those
who ask for your prayer.

We trust to your gentle care
and intercession,
those whom we love and
who are sick or lonely or hurting.

Help all of us, Holy Mother,
to bear our burdens in this life until
we may share eternal life
and peace with God forever.

Amen.



Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Feast Day August 15

One glance at a daily newspaper or a television news show will tell you that some people do not value human life. But this is not news. During the Holocaust of World War II, millions of people were tortured and killed. This terrible tragedy led many people to wonder about human life. How valuable is a single human life? How valuable are the lives of the elderly, the unborn, the terminally ill? Are their lives worth as much as those of people who are healthy and active, working, and raising families?

God creates human life and gives it value. And Jesus gave his life on the cross to redeem each individual human person. By doing this, Jesus said, "Your life is worth my dying to save you." Through his own Resurrection, Jesus showed us the glory of

our resurrection and of our living in the Holy Spirit. Jesus promised that the body and soul of a person, separated at death, will be joined together again in glory at the Last Judgment. The person will be whole for all eternity.

The feast of Mary's Assumption is a preview of what our lives will be. At the end of her earthly life, Mary was assumed, or taken up, into heaven body and soul. She did not have to wait for the end of the world, as we do. God granted her this special privilege because of her sinlessness and her fullness of grace.

The Church has always believed in Mary's assumption into heaven. But on November 1, 1950, Pope Pius XII focused the attention of the whole world on the Assumption of Mary as a dogma and mystery of our faith. This mystery shows us that God wants every human person, body and soul, to be in glory forever, just as Mary is now. This dogma shows how important every single human life is. Pope Plus XII hoped that by thinking about Mary's Assumption, people all over the world would develop a deeper respect for their own lives and their own bodies. He also hoped that people would grow in respect for the lives of others.



Our Lady of the Rosary, pray for us !

