



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

Choir Dir.

Organist

Virginia & Dan McComiskey

Rick Wildeman /Dale Williams

Melissa Van Stavern

Email:

manderson@hamiltondiocese.com

stmarybookkeeper@wightman.ca

stmarymountforest@hamiltondiocese.com

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
hamiltondiocese.com/vocations

DIOCESAN

NEWSLETTER: Visit the
Diocese of Hamilton to
subscribe to the online
diocesan newsletter visit
hamiltondiocese.com

PARISH SCHOOL:

St. Mary Catholic School



Mount Forest

**Building Character
Through Christ**

390 Parkside Dr, Mt Forest 519-
323-2586
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

October 11, 2026

Tue Oct 13 7:00 pm † Eileen Murray Req'd by The CWL and † Kathryn Meyer Req'd by The Estate

Wed Oct 14 9:00 am † Gary Felsbourg Req'd by Kathleen Boone

Thu Oct 15 9:00 am † Deceased members of the McDonald & Staniewski families Req'd by The Family

Fri Oct 16 9:00 am † Corrie and Martin Pronk Req'd by Dan & Angela Seifried

Sat Oct 17 4:00 pm People of the Parish

Sun Oct 18 9:00 am People of the Parish

Lectors

Sat Oct 17 Maxine Schmidt

Sun Oct 18 Florence Kreps

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 Oct 17 5:30 pm People of the Parish

ST. PETER'S, Ayton

Sun Oct 18 11:00 am People of the Parish

This Sunday's Readings:

First Reading

Isaiah 25:6-10a

The Lord will provide richly for his people.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 23:1-6

The Lord is our shepherd.

Second Reading

Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20

Paul tells the Philippians that God provides whatever he needs.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 22:1-14 (shorter form Matthew 22:1-10)

Jesus compares the kingdom of heaven to a wedding feast.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Immediately after criticizing the religious leaders through the parable of the tenants in [last Sunday's Gospel](#), Jesus proceeded to tell another parable, again directed at the religious leaders. We hear this parable in today's Gospel.

In the parable of the wedding feast, Jesus offers an image of the kingdom of heaven using the symbol of a wedding banquet. In today's first reading from the prophet Isaiah and in today's psalm, the Lord's goodness is evident in the symbol of a feast of good food and wine. Jesus' listeners would have been familiar with the image of a wedding feast as a symbol for God's salvation. They would consider themselves to be the invited guests. Keeping this in mind helps us to understand the critique Jesus makes with this parable. The context for this parable is the growing tension between Jesus and the Jewish religious leaders in Jerusalem. This has been the case for the past two Sundays and will continue to be true for the next several weeks.

The parable Jesus tells is straightforward. The king dispatches his servants to invite the guests to the wedding feast that he is planning for his son. The listeners would have been surprised to learn that the first guests refused the invitation. Who would refuse the king's invitation? A second dispatch of servants follows. Again to the listeners' great surprise, some guests ignore the invitation. Some of the invited guests even go so far as to mistreat and kill the servants. The king invokes his retribution against these murderers by destroying them and burning their city. We might stop here for a moment. Why would some guests kill the servants sent to invite them to the king's wedding feast? It might be possible that the king was a tyrant, evidenced by the destruction of the city of those who refused his invitation. But if we follow this idea, then the allegory seems to be about something other than the kingdom of heaven. It is more likely that the destruction of the city would have been a powerful image corresponding to the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans in A.D. 70, which would have been an important event for Matthew's audience.

With the invited guests now deemed unworthy to attend the king's wedding feast, the servants are sent to invite whomever they can find. The guests arrive, but it appears that accepting the king's invitation brings certain obligations. The guest who failed to dress in the appropriate wedding attire is cast out of the feast. We are reminded that while many are invited to the kingdom of heaven, not all are able to meet its requirements. God invites us to his feast, giving us his salvation. Yet he asks us to repent for our sins.

Jesus' message in the parable cautions against exclusive beliefs about the kingdom of heaven. The

parable also teaches about humility. Those who assume that they are the invited guests may find that they have refused the invitation, and so others are invited in their place. To accept the invitation is also to accept its obligations. God wants our full conversion in complete acceptance of his mercy.

Family Connection

Today's Gospel reminds us that God invites all of us to his kingdom. How do we respond to this invitation? In theological terms, God has granted us free will to accept or reject salvation. The parable of the wedding feast reminds us that God desires our wholehearted acceptance of his invitation to salvation.

As you gather as a family, discuss what you consider appropriate attire for various occasions. For example, if your family were invited to a neighbor's barbecue, what would you wear? If you were planning to attend the symphony, what might you wear? If invited to an evening wedding, what might you wear? Discuss how our preparations for an event and our choice of attire indicates the importance and value we place on the occasion. In today's Gospel Jesus uses this metaphor to talk about the kingdom of heaven. Read Matthew 22:1-14. Discuss why the guest was thrown out of the wedding feast. What does Jesus expect of those who accept his invitation of salvation? What would be the evidence of our conversion to God's salvation? Pray together as a family that you will respond wholeheartedly to God's invitation to salvation. Pray together today's psalm, Psalm 23.

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CWL NEWS

1. CWL meeting will be held Tuesday October 13 at 1:00 pm
2. St. Mary Auxiliary meeting will be held Wed. October 14, 2026 at 7 pm



Transportation Volunteers Needed In Palmerston and Harriston area

VON Canada is a national health care organization and registered charity offering a wide range of home care and community support services. We are currently seeking volunteers in the transportation program. Our transportation services help seniors and adults with disabilities who have no access to transportation, so they can stay independent at home. We offer

transportation to medical appointments and activities of daily living, such as grocery shopping, banking, and hair appointments. As a transportation volunteer you choose when and where you would like to drive. It could be a trip to London, Hamilton, etc. or just around the corner to the grocery store! You can volunteer five days a week, one day per week or one day per month. The choice is yours! Our hours are Monday to Friday from 8:00am to approximately 4:30pm. We are closed weekends and statutory holidays. VON will reimburse mileage monthly. If you are interested in volunteering with VON WWD please email cathy.higdon@von.ca; call 226-449-8680 or go to www.von.ca/en/volunteer

The Pope's prayer intention for October

For mental health ministry

"Let us pray that the mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses."

Catechism classes

**Thursdays at 7 pm St. Mary of the Purification
Parish hall**

Topic for October 15: Baptism



CWL COFFEE SUNDAY

The CWL Coffee Sunday and Fellowship will be held on the last Sunday of every month in the Parish hall after mass, all are welcome! If you are interested in volunteering to assist with set up and/or clean up, please let us know. Thank you.

Please join us and Bishop Lobsinger for Mass

St. Mary of the Purification

Saturday October 17, 2026 at 4:00 pm

**Tim Kulakowsky, our Seminarian, will be installed
to the Ministry of Acolyte.**

***The Ministry of Acolyte in the Catholic Church is an
instituted, formal lay ministry dedicated to serving
at the altar and assisting the priest and deacon
during liturgical celebrations.***

**The CWL will be hosting a dinner after in the
Parish Hall. If you are interested in joining us,
please include your name on the sign up sheet
located in the narthex.**



DIOCESE OF HAMILTON



Saint Ignatius of Antioch Feast Day October 17

YOUNG ADULTS NIGHT Fr. John Ha, our Vocations Director, invites all young adults in their **20s and 30s** across the Diocese of Hamilton to an evening of prayer, fellowship, and praise music. Come meet other young adults and find encouragement as you discern and live out God's call. Join us at on **Saturday, November 7, 2026** from 6:30pm–9:00pm at **St. Francis Xavier Church** (304 Hwy 8, Stoney Creek, ON L8G 1E6). Bring a friend—all young adults are welcome! Sponsored by the **Vocations Office of the Diocese of Hamilton**. Visit hamiltondiocese.com/vocations. For more information, contact vocations@hamiltondiocese.com.

DISCOVERING NEW PATHS FOR YOUR MARRIED LIFE Healthy marriages matter and marriage enrichment helps keep them strong! Proven benefits include having a support system, learning to grow together, having increased happiness levels and better physical health; all proven in research! Keeping your marriage healthy and strong requires love, but also time spent fine tuning your relationship and reconnecting. Join us on Saturday, November 21st at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish in Waterdown for a day to reconnect, discover new ways to deepen your relationship and spend time with the one you love! Registration can be found online at hamiltondiocese.com, by looking for the date under Upcoming Events, or contact Sarah at 905-528-7988 ext. 2249, or e-mail familyministry@hamiltondiocese.com

Diocesan Calendar- week of October 11 *"Pray to the Lord of the Harvest"*

Mon- Rev. Archange Kebe	Thu- Rev. Franciso Sordo
Tue- Rev. Godwin Pinto, O.C.D.	Fri- Rev. Edward Hampson
Wed- Order of Preachers, (Dominican), O.P.	Sat- Rev. John Ha

Ignatius was a convert to Christianity. When he was named the second bishop of Antioch, Syria, Ignatius became a successor of Saint Peter. In 107, Emperor Trajan tried to force Christians to renounce their religion. Ignatius allowed soldiers to bind him in a rickety cart and lead him to Rome for martyrdom. As his cart rolled into towns, local bishops and Christians came to meet and encourage him. His friend Saint Polycarp, the bishop of Smyrna, received him with great honor, because he saw Ignatius's holiness.

On the journey, Ignatius wrote seven letters to the churches he left behind. The letters give insight into the growth of theology. Ignatius praised the love and support he experienced on his way to Rome. He insisted that the people obey their bishop and act only with his approval. "Wherever the bishop is, there let the people be, for there is the Catholic Church." (Letter to the Church at Smyrna 8.1–2) Ignatius wrote that Christ was present in the Church, in each member, and in the Blessed Sacrament. Of himself, he said, "I am the wheat of Christ, may I be ground by the teeth of beasts to become the immaculate bread of Christ." He asked his people to gather around the Eucharist and to care for "the widow, the orphan, the oppressed, as well as those in prison, the hungry and the thirsty." (Letter to the Church at Smyrna 6.2) He called himself "the bearer of God." Ignatius was devoured by wild beasts in the Roman amphitheater.

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Annual Fall Memorial Mass

Saturday October 31, 2026 11 a.m. Marymount Cemetery, Guelph

Principal Celebrant & Homilist: Most Reverend Wayne Lobsinger, Auxiliary Bishop of Hamilton