



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 18, 2026

Tue Oct 20 7:00 pm † Kathryn Meyer Req'd
by The Estate and † Marie Givlin Req'd by
The Estate

Wed Oct 21 9:00 am † Jonathon Eurig Req'd by
The Family

Thu Oct 22 9:00 am † Deceased members of
the Tone & Dinneen Families Req'd by Dan &
Doris Tone

Fri Oct 23 9:00 am † Denis Menard Req'd by
Allen Schiedel

Sat Oct 24 4:00 pm People of the Parish

Sun Oct 25 9:00 am People of the Parish

Lectors

Sat Oct 24 Florence Kreps

Sun Oct 25 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 Oct 24 5:30 pm People of the Parish

ST. PETER'S, Ayton

Sun Oct 25 11:00 am People of the Parish

This Sunday's Reading:

First Reading

Isaiah 45:1,4-6

The Lord chooses Cyrus to subdue the nations for
the sake of Israel.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 96:1,3-10

Sing praise to the Lord.

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 1:1-5b

Paul greets the Thessalonians, recalling the Gospel
they received.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 22:15-21

The Pharisees send their disciples to test Jesus with
a question about taxes.

Background on the Gospel Reading

In today's Gospel Jesus and the religious leaders in
Jerusalem continue their tense exchange of
questions and challenges. At this point the disciples
of the Pharisees, together with the Herodians, try to
entrap Jesus by their question about the payment of
taxes.

Matthew sets up an unusual partnership between the
Pharisees and the Herodians. The Herodians were
supporters of Herod Antipas, a Jewish political
leader who collaborated with the Romans. Such
collaboration would have required a compromised
observance of the Mosaic Law. The Pharisees, on
the other hand, taught scrupulous observance of the
Mosaic Law and opposed Roman occupation.
Herodians favored the payment of taxes; the
Pharisees opposed it. The Herodians and the
Pharisees approach Jesus, asking that he take sides
in their dispute. If Jesus answers with the Pharisees,
he shows himself to be an enemy of Rome. If he
answers with the Herodians, he offends popular
Jewish religious sensibilities.

Jesus' response to this attempt to trap him exposes
the guile of his questioners. From his first words to
them, Jesus shows that he is very much aware of
what they are trying to do. He asks to see a Roman
coin, which is readily provided to him. It may have
come from the hand of a Herodian, but the
Pharisees show themselves to be quite willing to
accept this compromise. Jesus has already exposed
the Pharisees as hypocrites. Jesus takes his response
one step further. He asks that his questioners
examine the coin. Agreeing that it is Caesar's image
on the coin, Jesus tells them that it must belong to
Caesar. Avoiding the question of lawfulness
altogether, Jesus answers their question with simple
logic. Then, going further still, Jesus tells them that
their obligation is to pay to God that which belongs
to God.

Jesus' response to the Herodians and Pharisees
suggests the ethic that Christians ought to adopt. It
reminds us of the importance of keeping things in
their proper perspective. Do we attach ourselves to
worldly things at the expense of the love and honor
that we owe to God? www.loyolapress/resources

Family Connection

Payment of taxes is unlikely to be a disputed issue
in your family. Yet families can still learn
something from this Gospel reading. Jesus' answer
to the Herodians and Pharisees redirects their
question to focus on the issue of greatest
importance: loving and honoring God. Taking this
perspective can help us make good judgments about
the competing issues of importance in our lives.

As your family gathers, make a list of the activities
that your family spends time doing together, such as
household tasks, jobs, academics, and recreational
activities. Talk about the importance of each of

these activities. Ask what would happen if there were an imbalance in our attention to these activities and we spent too much time on one activity at the expense of another.

In today's Gospel Jesus reminds us of the necessity of giving things their proper importance. Read Matthew 22:15-21. The Herodians and Pharisees were giving too much importance to the issue of the payment of taxes. Jesus reminds them that loving and honoring God is of greater importance. In family life we do many important things, but we remember that God is of the greatest importance in our lives. Pray together that your family will learn to keep things in proper perspective, remembering to keep God first in your lives. Pray together today's psalm, Psalm 96.

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 21 - Confirmation



FELLOWSHIP AND COFFEE

Coffee Sunday Fellowship will take place on the last Sunday of each month following Mass. The CWL is happy to assist with providing snacks, however, we will warmly welcome donations of baked goods! We are also in need of two to three volunteers each month to help with set up and cleanup and will prepare a schedule for each month. Your help is greatly appreciated in making Coffee Sunday a welcoming time of fellowship for our parish community. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Colleen at 519-321-9888. Please note that Coffee Sunday may need to be cancelled if volunteers are not available.



The Knights of Columbus Council 8192 is hosting a **FISH FRY** on Friday, October 23, 2026 at **St. Teresa of Avila Parish Hall, 19 Flamingo Drive, Elmira**. There will be continuous

seating from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Take-out will be from 4:30 – 5:00 p.m. Please bring your own take-out bag as we are trying to save the environment. Purchase your tickets at the Parish Office between 9 a.m. and 1

p.m. (Tuesday to Friday), or call 519-669-3387. The cost is Adults \$22.00; Children (aged 6 to 12 years) \$16.00; Children (aged 5 and under) Free. Take-out is \$22.00. Don't miss out on this popular annual dinner. Proceeds go to support the parish.



Auxiliary to Louise Marshall Hospital

"Annual Fall Bazaar and Luncheon"

Saturday November 14th from 11:30 to 1:00

At the Mount Forest and District Sports Complex,
850 Princess Street, Mt. Forest

Hot lunch \$20, bake sale, Gift shop items for sale, draws, door prizes and Silent Auction!



St. Peter's, Ayton – Dearest Parishioners ,Thank you very much for your donations toward the Harriston Food Bank. The items will certainly be put to good use.

From the Harriston Food Bank Volunteers!

Weekly contributions:

Sept 2

St. Mary of the Purification	\$2,350
Maintenance	\$70
St. Peter	\$105
St. Thomas	\$220

Sept. 20 PAR

St. Mary of the Purification	\$4,062
St. Thomas	\$90

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

Diocesan Calendar- week of October 18

"Pray to the Lord of the Harvest"

Mon- Rev. Joseph Gregory Michel	Thu- Rev. Pat Aiello,C.R.
Tue- Rev. Wilson Andrade, C.S.C.	Fri- Rev. Luc Payette
Wed- Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer, C.S.R.	Sat- Rev.Emmanuel Ralte, C.S.C.



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



St. John Paul II Feast Day October 22

Karol Józef Wojtyła, known as John Paul II since his October 1978 election to the papacy, was born in Wadowice, a small city fifty kilometers from Kraków, on May 18, 1920. He was the second of two sons born to Karol Wojtyła and Emilia Kaczorowska. His mother died in 1929. His eldest brother Edmund, a doctor, died in 1932. His father, a noncommissioned army officer, died in 1941. He made his first Holy Communion at age nine and was confirmed at eighteen. Upon graduation from Marcin Wadowita high school in Wadowice, he enrolled in Kraków's Jagiellonian University and in a school for drama in 1938. The Nazi occupation forces closed the university in 1939, and young Karol had to work in a quarry (from 1940-1944), and then in the Solvay chemical factory to earn his living and to avoid being deported to Germany. In 1942, aware of his call to the priesthood, he began courses in the clandestine seminary of Kraków run by Cardinal Adam Stefan Sapieha, archbishop of Kraków. At the same time, Karol Wojtyła was one of the pioneers of the "Rhapsodic Theatre," also clandestine.

After the Second World War, he continued his studies in the major seminary of Kraków, once it had reopened, and in the faculty of theology of the Jagiellonian University, until his priestly ordination in Kraków on November 1, 1946.

Soon after, Cardinal Sapieha sent him to Rome, where he worked under the guidance of the French Dominican Garrigou-Lagrange. He finished his doctorate in theology in 1948 with a thesis on the topic of faith in the works of St. John of the Cross. At that time, during his vacations, he exercised his pastoral ministry among the Polish immigrants of France, Belgium, and Holland.

In 1948, he returned to Poland and was vicar of various parishes in Kraków as well as chaplain for the university students until 1951, when he took up again his studies on philosophy and theology. In 1953, he defended a thesis on "Evaluation of the Possibility of Founding a Catholic Ethic on the Ethical System of Max Scheler" at Lublin Catholic University. Later, he became professor of moral theology and social ethics in the major seminary of Kraków and in the faculty of theology of Lublin.

On July 4, 1958, he was appointed auxiliary bishop of Kraków by Pope Pius XII, and was consecrated September 28, 1958, in Wawel Cathedral, Kraków, by Archbishop Baziak.

On January 13, 1964, he was nominated archbishop of Kraków by Pope Paul VI, who made him a cardinal June 26, 1967.

Besides taking part in Vatican Council II, including an important contribution to the elaboration of the Constitution *Gaudium et spes*, Cardinal Wojtyła participated in all the assemblies of the Synod of Bishops.

Since the start of his pontificate on October 16, 1978, Pope John Paul II completed more than 200 pastoral visits. His principal documents include thirteen encyclicals, thirteen apostolic exhortations, eleven apostolic constitutions, and forty-one apostolic letters. He also published two books: *Crossing the Threshold of Hope* (October 1994) and *Gift and Mystery: On the Fiftieth Anniversary of My Priestly Ordination* (November 1996).

John Paul II presided at dozens of beatification and canonization ceremonies (almost 1,300 Blesseds proclaimed and more than 450 Saints) during his pontificate.

No other pope has encountered as many individuals as John Paul II did: more than 16 million pilgrims participated in the general audiences held on Wednesdays (more than one thousand). This figure does not include all other special audiences and religious ceremonies held (more than eight million pilgrims during the Great Jubilee of the Year 2000 alone) and the millions of faithful met during pastoral visits made in Italy and throughout the world. In addition, there were the numerous government personalities encountered during official visits, and in the audiences and meetings held with heads of state and with prime ministers.

"The Rosary is my favorite prayer. A marvelous prayer! Marvelous in its simplicity and its depth." Pope John Paul II