

Welcome to St. Mary of the Purification Parish, Mt.Forest, Ont.

We are delighted you could join us for today's Mass

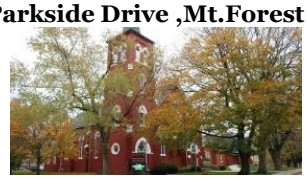
Please visit our website at **stmarymountforest.ca**

Tel: 519-323-1054

OFFICE HOURS: Closed Mondays Open Tuesday - Friday: 9:30am - 1:30pm

	Parish Staff	**Email:**
Pastor	*Rev. Michael Anderson, P.P.*	*manderson@hamiltondiocese.com*
Bookkeeper	*Annette Connolly*	*stmarybookkeeper@wightman.ca*
Secretary	*Dee Dee Eurig*	*stmarymountforest@hamiltondiocese.com*
Custodian	*Virginia & Dan McComiskey*	
Choir Dir.	*Rick Wildeman /Dale Williams*	
Organist	*Melissa Van Stavern*	

St. Mary of the Purification
310 Parkside Drive ,Mt.Forest N0G 2L0



St. Peter's Mission
943 Caroline St, Ayton N0G 1C0



St. Thomas the Apostle
#5800 Hwy 89, Harriston N0G 1Z0



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!

Email address for e-transfers:
stmarybookkeeper@wightman.ca

Please note: The deadline for Bulletin submission is Wednesday before noon.

November 29, 2026

First Sunday of Advent



Tue Dec 1 7:00 pm ✝ Katheryn Meyer Req'd by The Estate and ✝ Living & Deceased members of the Ricard Family Req'd by Florence Kreps

Wed Dec 2 9:00 am ✝ Lou & Marcella Williams Req'd by Dave & Donna Meyer

Thu Dec 3 9:00 am ✝ Father Gerald Mulhall Req'd by Tom Hale & Family

First Friday of the month Adoration after morning Mass

Fri Dec 4 9:00 am ✝ Deceased members of the Smolko,Zurav,Casek Families Req'd by Katarina & Pavlo Smolkova

First Saturday of the month

Sat Dec 5 9:00 am ✝ Paolo Galloro Req'd by Maria Galloro

4:00 pm People of the Parish

Sun Dec 6 9:00 am People of the Parish

Lectors

Sat Dec 5 Florence Kreps

Sun Dec 6 J. vonWesterholt

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 Dec 5 5:30 pm ✝ Mary & Francis Garvey,Jerome Lane,Ernie Sr. Dunlop Req'd by Dan & Virginia McComiskey and ✝ The Holy Souls in Purgatory Req'd by Mary Cain

ST. PETER'S, Ayton

Sun Dec 6 11:00 am ✝ Eileen Horrigan Req'd by The Estate and ✝ Jim & Loretta Murray Req'd by Dot Bourgeois

This Sunday's Reading:

First Reading

Isaiah 63:16b-17,19b;64:2-7

Isaiah prays for the Lord's forgiveness of the people.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 80:2-3,15-16,18-19

A prayer for the Lord's protection

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Paul gives thanks to God for the faith of the Corinthians.

Gospel Reading

Mark 13:33-37

Jesus warns his disciples to be watchful so that they will be ready when the Son of Man comes.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today we begin the season of Advent, which marks the start of a new liturgical year for the Church. The readings for Sunday Mass are arranged on a three-year cycle. Each year features a different Gospel—Matthew, Mark, or Luke. Readings from the Gospel of John are interspersed throughout all three years. With this year's first Sunday of Advent, we begin Cycle B of the Lectionary, which focuses our attention on the Gospel of Mark. This week and next week, our readings from Mark's Gospel present two important Advent themes: the Lord's return at the end of time and John the Baptist's preparation for Jesus.

Today's Gospel is taken from the end of Mark's Gospel, the chapter that immediately precedes Mark's account of Jesus' Passion. Having been questioned repeatedly by the scribes and the Pharisees, Jesus is now questioned by his disciples—Peter, James, John, and Andrew—who want details about his prediction of the destruction of the Temple. Jesus answers with many warnings about the difficulties that the disciples will face. Today's passage comes at the conclusion of Jesus' warnings to his disciples. Jesus emphasizes the need for watchfulness. The Son of Man will come without warning; only the Father knows the exact hour. The disciples must not be caught unprepared when this time comes.

Scholars believe that Mark's Gospel was written around the time of the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans in A.D. 70. Mark's audience consisted of Christians who were living in difficult social and political times, times of conflict. They were likely beginning to face persecution as followers of Jesus. In this difficult time, it helped to recall that Jesus had foretold of such difficulties. Early Christian communities took courage from Jesus' warning to remain alert and watchful, and they found in his words a way to persevere through suffering. Today's Gospel reminds us that Advent is about more than our preparation for the Church's

celebration of Christ's birth at Christmas. Advent is also about preparing ourselves for Christ's return in glory at the end of time. Like the disciples and the faithful in Mark's community, we must also stay alert and watchful. Our faithfulness to God, through the good times as well as the difficult times, shows us to be ready for the coming of the Son of Man.
www.loyolapress

Family Connection

In family life, we try to prepare ourselves for many future things: our next vacation, our children's education, our retirement. We are careful not to allow ourselves to be caught by surprise so that we can handle any challenges our family may face. Today's Gospel reminds us that we are called to be just as attentive and alert to the coming of the Son of Man so that it will not catch us unprepared. This means attending to our family's spiritual life as carefully as we attend to other important family matters.
As you gather as a family, talk about a time when you received surprise visitors at your house, perhaps a neighbor who stopped by or a relative who arrived unannounced. Was your household prepared to receive this unannounced guest? What might your family have done differently if you knew ahead of time that this visitor was going to arrive? Jesus told his disciples that no one knows when the Son of Man will return, except the Father. Read with your family what Jesus told his disciples in today's Gospel, Mark 13:33-37.

During Advent, we not only prepare ourselves to celebrate the birth of Jesus, we also check to see if we are doing all the things that will keep us ready to receive Jesus when he comes again. Talk about how your family can recommit to daily prayer, reading Scripture, and staying faithful to God's commandments. Pray together that through this Advent season your family will be more prepared to receive Jesus when he comes again. Read as a concluding prayer Paul's words to the Corinthians found in today's second reading, 1 Corinthians 1:3-9, or pray the Lord's Prayer. www.loyolapress/resources

Catechism classes
Thursdays at 7 pm - St. Mary of the Purification Parish hall
Topic for December 3 - ADVENT



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.

CWL News

1. The next CWL meeting will be our Annual Christmas dinner meeting on Tuesday December 15th at 5:00 pm. Cost is $15 per person, all the ladies of the parish are welcome to attend. Please use the sign up sheet located in the entry of the church.

2. CWL dues must be in by January 1st, 2027. The dues are $40. All ladies of the parish are welcome to join. The CWL is a Nation wide organization and there is great power in numbers.

St. Mary School Nutrition Program

The school nutrition program are in **urgent** need of volunteers to assist with preparation , clean up etc. Mondays and Thursdays 11 am. If you are available on either one of these days and interested in this much needed program, please contact stmarymfnutritionprog@gmail.com or call the school at 519-323-2586 . *School nutrition programs provide **comprehensive benefits**: they improve dietary quality, support healthy growth, enhance academic performance, reduce food insecurity, and strengthen community engagement. By ensuring children are well-nourished, these programs create a foundation for **lifelong health, learning, and social equity.***

2027 Offering Envelopes
Our 2027 Offering envelopes are now available for pickup . If you don't currently have envelopes and would like to use them, please call the church office at 519-323-1054 and we will happily provide you with a box. If you would like to make your donations to the church by EFT (electronic funds transfer), please call Annette, ext. 6. Thank you. **NEW!!** We are now able to receive e-transfers! Email address is: stmarybookkeeper@wightman.ca. (no security question required)

Sunday Missals are available for pickup. If you are currently registered to the Parish and receive offering envelopes, please kindly take **one missal**

home, located in the narthex, **one per household** please. If you wish additional copies, please contact the office. Thank you and God Bless!

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE



Christmas Eve - Thursday Dec 24
St. Thomas,Harriston 5:30 p.m.
St. Mary of the Purification,Mt. Forest 8:00 p.m.
Christmas Day- Friday Dec 25
St. Mary of the Purification, Mt. Forest 9:00 a.m.
St Peter's,Ayton 11:00 a.m.
New Years Eve –Thursday Dec 31
St. Thomas, Harriston 5:30 pm
St. Mary of the Purification,Mt. Forest 8:00 pm
New Years Day Friday Jan 1st
St. Mary of the Purification 9:00 am
St. Peter's,Ayton 11:00 am
HOPE-PEACE-JOY-LOVE

Sacrament of Reconciliation-Advent Season

During the season of Advent there will be more opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
St.Mary of the Purification Mt.Forest- Friday December 18th 9:30am-12:30pm; 1:30pm-4:30 pm; 5:30pm-9:30pm
Or by appointment.



Knox Conn Annual Nativity Display
Now consisting of over 800 Nativity Scenes, over 250 Angels, International Christmas Traditions, and a Collection of Nativity Christmas Cards.
From 12 pm to 4:30 pm on:
November 28th November 29th
December 5th December 6th
Free Admission – Donations accepted
Knox Conn Presbyterian Church
8015 Hwy. 89 Conn

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
This Advent season I will be exposing the Blessed Sacrament every Wednesday evening in the church from 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm on the following dates: December 2, 9, 16 & 23. I invite you to join me for Silent prayer with the Lord, readings from scripture and short reflections on the season of Advent. Hope to see you there!

Tim Kulakowsky,
Seminarian

DIOCESE OF HAMILTON

PALLIATIVE CARE INFORMATION

– Palliative Care alleviates the fears that often lead to a decision to consider MAID. Learn more about it on the Diocesan website at Palliative Care Information - Diocese of Hamilton: https://hamiltondiocese.com/office/pastoral-offices/family-ministry/pastoral-care-ministry-and-palliative-care-information/palliative-care-information/
We need to demand better access to palliative care, instead of expanding access to MAID. Bill C-41, the Medical Assistance in Dying Safeguards Act, which passed second reading, is now at the committee stage. The bill proposes significant changes to Canada's Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID) legislation and Catholics are encouraged to contact their Members of Parliament and urge them to maintain the mental illness exclusion and reject advance requests for euthanasia.

More information can be found on the Diocesan web page at CCCB urges Parliament to split Bill C-41 and reject advance requests for euthanasia: https://hamiltondiocese.com/news/2026/11/cccb-urges-parliament-to-split-bill-c-41-and-reject-advance-requests-for-euthanasia/