

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

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

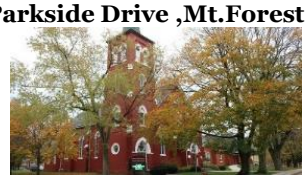
*Please visit our website at* **stmarymountforest.ca**

**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!

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

## MASS INTENTIONS

November 8, 2026 Thirty Second Sunday, Ordinary Time



**Tue Nov 10 7:00 pm** ✝ Catherine O'Donnell Req'd by The CWL and ✝ Katheryn Meyer Req'd by The Estate

**Wed Nov 11 9:00 am** ✝ Deceased members of the Ferritor & Costello Families Req'd by Betty Mogensen & Family

**Thu Nov 12 9:00 am** ✝ Deceased members of the McDonald,McNeill,Carriere,Staniewski & Goetz Families Req'd by The Family

**Fri Nov 13 9:00 am** ✝ Deceased members of the Smolko, Zurav & Casek Families Req'd by Katarina & Pavlo Smolkova

**Sat Nov 14 4:00 pm** People of the Parish

**Sun Nov 15 9:00 am** People of the Parish

**Lectors**

**Sat Nov 14** Maxine Schmidt

**Sun Nov 15** 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 Nov 14 5:30 pm** People of the Parish

**ST. PETER'S, Ayton**

**Sun Nov 15 11:00 am** People of the Parish

**This Sunday's Readings:**

**First Reading**

*Wisdom 6:12-16*

Wisdom will come to those who seek it.

**Responsorial Psalm**

*Psalm 63:2,3-4,5-6,7-8*

Our souls are thirsting for God.

**Second Reading**

*1 Thessalonians 4:13-18*

(shorter form: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-14)

God will raise all those who have died.

**Gospel Reading**

*Matthew 25:1-13*

Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish virgins, teaching his disciples the importance of being prepared to receive the Kingdom of Heaven.

**Background on the Gospel Reading**

In this week's Gospel, Jesus talks about what it means to be prepared to receive the Kingdom of Heaven. This week's reading follows a series of warnings and predictions by Jesus about the coming of the Son of Man. Jesus wants his disciples to understand that the exact day and time cannot be predicted. He teaches the disciples that they must remain vigilant so that they will not be caught unprepared.

When thinking about the parable of the wise and foolish virgins, it is important to consider the first-century wedding traditions of Palestine. Scholars tell us that it was the custom of the day for young maidens—friends and family members of the bride—to meet the bridegroom when he came to bring his bride to her new home.

As with many of Jesus' parables, several levels of interpretation are possible. In last week's Gospel, we heard Jesus warn against following the example of the Pharisees and scribes. If read in the context of early Christianity's struggle to define itself against Pharisaic Judaism, this parable is a continuing critique of Judaism. It suggests that the Jewish leaders were like the foolish virgins, unprepared to meet Jesus, the bridegroom of Israel.

In the chapter preceding this parable, however, Jesus warns about the destruction of Jerusalem, the tribulation of the end times, and the coming of the Son of Man. When read in this context, today's parable is a warning to the Christian community to remain vigilant and prepared to receive Jesus, the Son of Man who will return at the end of time. This interpretation is supported by the reference to the delay of the bridegroom. The Christian community for whom Matthew wrote this Gospel was coming to terms with the realization that the promise of Jesus' return would not be fulfilled within their lifetimes. The question remains for us to ask ourselves, Are we ready to receive Jesus? Will we be prepared to receive him?

**Family Connection**

In the daily activities of family life, we can easily find excuses for not attending to our spiritual lives. If not given top priority, prayer and reading Scripture risk becoming occasional activities rather than daily practices. In today's Gospel, Jesus reminds us that if we fail to give our spiritual life priority, we will find ourselves unprepared to receive Jesus. Daily prayer and spiritual practice

keeps us ready to receive Jesus. Gather together as a family and talk about some of the things our faith calls us to do every day and every week to keep God first in our lives. Talk about what might happen if we don't do these things regularly. Explain to your family that Jesus taught us that it is important to keep ourselves ready to receive him when he comes again. Tell them to listen as you read the parable that Jesus tells in today's Gospel. Read aloud Matthew 25:1-13. Talk with your family about why Jesus says that it is so important to remain ready to receive the Kingdom of Heaven. Pray together that your family will always keep God first in your lives so that you will all be prepared to receive Jesus when he comes. Pray together the Act of Hope. loyolapress/resources

**The Pope's prayer intention for November**

***"For the proper use of wealth"***

Let us pray for the proper use of wealth, that not succumbing to the temptation of selfishness, it may always be put at the service of the common good and solidarity of those who have less.

**CWL News**

- **Next meeting will be held Tuesday November 10th at 1:00 pm in the England Room**
- **St. Mary Auxiliary meetings will be cancelled for the rest of the year**

**Catechism classes**

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

***Topic for November 12th- Anointing***

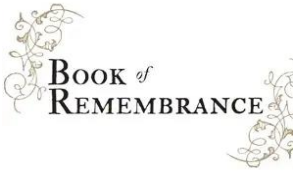


**FELLOWSHIP AND COFFEE**

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.

Auxiliary to Louise Marshal Hospital **" Annual Fall Bazaar and Luncheon"** . Saturday November 14th 11:30- 1:00 pm. Mount Forest and District Sports Complex, 850 Princess Street, Mount Forest. Hot lunch $20 , bake sale, gift shop items, draws, door prizes and Silent Auction!

**St. Mary School Nutrition Program** are looking for a couple of volunteers to assist with preparation , clean up etc. Mondays and Thursdays 11 am- 1 pm If you are interested, please contact stmarymfnutritionprog@gmail.com or call the school at 519-323-2586




In commemoration of all the Faithful Departed, during the month of November, we will have a Book of Remembrance at the back of the church. We invite all parishioners to record the names of your departed loved ones.

**INDULGENCES:** The faithful who devoutly visit a cemetery and pray for the deceased may obtain an indulgence that can only be used for souls in purgatory, once daily from November 1st to November 8th. You should meet the following conditions: Confession, Holy Communion, and prayer for the intention of the Holy Father. One Holy Confession is sufficient for all the days to obtain indulgences. However, it is necessary to remove all attachments to sin.

**Please note, we will not be celebrating Mass on the following week days: Tues Nov 17, Wed Nov 18, Thu Nov 19 and Fri Nov 20th. Mass will resume Sat. Nov. 21st.**
**Thank you and God Bless! The parish office will remain open .**




**Remembrance Day Ceremonies**

**Sunday Nov. 8th** Holstein Cenotaph 2:00 p.m.

**Wed Nov. 11th** Mount Forest - Parade at 10:40, Service at 11:00 am Mount Forest Cenotaph

## Operation Christmas Child is underway!

***Shoeboxes are available in the foyer.***

**HOW TO PACK YOUR SHOEBOX GIFT**: As you prayerfully prepare to pack your shoebox gift, please remember that your shoebox may be the only gift the child ever receives. So, plan to pack quality items that will last. * Select a quality "wow" toy * Other gifts * pray for the child who will receive your gift. * Include a personal note and photo to delight the heart of the child. * A donation of $12 per box is critical to cover shipping and other project costs. * Take your shoebox gift to Church. PLEASE PRAY FOR: BOYS AND GIRLS IN NEED AROUND THE WORLD Praise the Lord for the opportunity to bring great joy and the Good News of Jesus Christ to children through shoeboxes. Ask God to prepare their hearts to respond to His love through these simple treasures. Thankyou for praying! To learn more, visit SamaritansPurse.ca/occ . Don't forget to put the donation envelope inside the box and add the label on the outside on top**.** PLEASE DO **NOT PACK** FOOD, CANDY, LIQUIDS OR LOTIONS Please note – Your Shoe boxes need to be in the morning of Friday Nov.20th at St. Mary's Parish.

DIOCESE OF HAMILTON

### Permanent Deacon Information Session:

For anyone who is interested in the Diaconate and/or wants more information about what is required and what is involved in the Admission process and Formation program, are invited to either of two Information Sessions:

1. Nov. 22nd, 2026, at St. Catherine of Siena Parish, 620 Rymal Rd. E, Hamilton after 11am mass.
2. Dec 6th, 2026, at St. Anthony Daniel Parish, 29 Midland Dr., Kitchener after 11am mass.

You are welcome to attend the 11am Sunday Mass where Deacon Tom Vert, the Associate Director of the Deacon program will be preaching. Afterwards we will have the Information Session in the parish Hall. There will be a short presentation and then a question-and-answer session, with light refreshments. Also, we will be available for anyone wanting to speak privately. For more information about this session, feel free to contact:
Deacon Tom Vert, Associate Director Deacon Formation Program, tvert@hamiltondiocese.com
OR
Fr. Mark Gatto, Director of the Deacon Formation Program, mgatto@hamiltondiocese.com

**Contributions for October 25**

**St. Mary of the Purification:** $1726; Maintenance $170 ; PAR $3457 Maintenance $465
**St. Peter Mission**: $195
**St. Thomas Mission**: $135 : PAR $90
***Thank you for your continued donations. Your contributions are greatly appreciated as we seek to encourage all with God's Love and Word.***

