



# St. Mary, Mother of God

A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg  
A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust  
Roman Catholic Church  
608 High Street ~ Freeport, PA 16229



**Established 1826**

*September 11th, 2016*  
*Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time*



**Father Ronald Maquiñana—Pastor**  
[rmaquinana@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:rmaquinana@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

### Parish Staff

William Girardi, *Pastoral Associate—412-719-7085*  
Claudia Vertosick, *Business Manager/Parish Secretary*  
Helen James, *Religious Education Director*  
Thomas Koharchik, *Choir Director*  
Cynthia Harbison, *Social Hall Coordinator*  
David Valencic, *Parish Custodian*  
Richard Bertino, *Cemetery Caretaker*

### Ministries

Kristen Marhefka/Julie Polana Gardone—*Teen Ministry*  
Melissa Kristine/Beth Macurdy—*Evangelization*  
John Nemcek—*Homebound Ministry*

### Organizations

Jean Miller—*Christian Mothers*  
Ray Smetana/Mary Ellen Gray—*St. Vincent de Paul Society*

### Office Information

**Administrative Center Numbers & Hours :**  
724-295-2281 (Office) 724-295-3090 (Fax)  
Monday through Thursday - 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.  
Friday - 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

**Parish Website:** [www.stmaryfreeport.com](http://www.stmaryfreeport.com)

**Parish Email Address:** [thechurch@stmaryfreeport.com](mailto:thechurch@stmaryfreeport.com)

### Parish Information

**Saturday (Vigil):** 4:00 P.M.

**Sunday:** 8:30 & 11:00 A.M.

**Weekday Masses:** Monday through Friday—8:00 A.M.

**Holy Day of Obligation:** 8:00 A.M. & 7:00 P.M.

**Reconciliation:** Saturday - 3:00—3:45 P.M.

**Baptism:** Sundays within the 11:00 A.M. Mass (by appointment)

**Marriage:** Contact the Parish nine months in advance.

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults:** RCIA helps you to learn more about the Catholic faith. Pre-registration is required. Contact Fr. Ron or William Girardi at 724-295-2281.

**Hospital or Home Visit:** If you would like to receive Holy Communion or if you know someone who would like to have the priest visit, please call Fr. Ron at 724-295-2281.

**Anointing of the Sick:** Contact Fr. Ron at 724-295-2281.

**Holy Communion:** Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are available to bring the Eucharist to the sick and homebound. If you know of someone, please call the Administrative Center at 724-295-2281.

**Baptism:** To understand the importance of the Sacrament of Baptism and your obligation as parents, you are required to attend one baptismal class. To register for one of these classes, please call the Administrative Center at 724-295-2281.

## From the Pastor's Desk



190 years as a parish is a milestone in our faith journey. It is not a coincidence that on this Jubilee Year of Mercy, as declared by Pope Francis, we celebrate our 190th anniversary as a parish under the maternal guidance and protection of our Blessed Mother Mary, who happens to be our parish patroness under the title of Mary, Mother of God.

As we look back and see our faith journey, we can only express our gratitude to God, to our Blessed Mother, to our parents, grandparents, our ancestors, priests, nuns, and those who have been part of forming us and instilling in us the faith and Christian values that makes us who we are now.

We thank God for His countless blessings bestowed upon us and to our parish these many years. It is here that we have grown in faith together. It is here that we have encountered the living Christ through countless baptisms, the Eucharist, reconciliations, weddings, and funerals celebrated. It is here that we have offered acts of kindness to our brothers and sisters in need and served as a welcoming community to visitors from near and far.

Our spiritual ancestors built, sustained, and grew the parish with Christ-like dignity, determination and love. Although times change, Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Let us carry this torch of legacy into the future with their blessings. Let us pray with hope! Let us celebrate with joy! Let us

serve generosity!

May this 190th anniversary of our parish give us an opportunity to celebrate with gratitude and continue to enrich St. Mary, Mother of God Parish with our gifts of talent, time and treasure. Know that you are welcomed, valued and appreciated.

May Our Blessed Mother Mary continue to lead us to Jesus Christ her Son, and help us remain faithful in bringing Christ and His message to others.



### TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — Because Moses interceded, the Lord relented and did not punish the people (Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14).

**Psalm** — I will rise and go to my father (Psalm 51).

**Second Reading** — Paul expresses his gratitude for being appointed to the ministry (1 Timothy 1:12-17).

**Gospel** — There is great rejoicing in heaven when a sinner repents (Luke 15:1-32 [1-10]).

### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

**Sunday:** Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time; Patriot Day; Grandparents Day

**Monday:** The Most Holy Name of Mary

**Tuesday:** St. John Chrysostom

**Wednesday:** The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

**Thursday:** Our Lady of Sorrows

**Friday:** Ss. Cornelius and Cyprian

**Saturday:** St. Robert Bellarmine; Blessed Virgin Mary

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Monday:** 1 Cor 11:17-26, 33; Ps 40:7-10, 17; Lk 7:1-10

**Tuesday:** 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a; Ps 100:1-5; Lk 7:11-17

**Wednesday:** Nm 21:4b-9; Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-38; Phil 2:6-11; Jn 3:13-17

**Thursday:** 1 Cor 15:1-11; Ps 118:1b-2, 16ab-17, 28; Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 7:36-50

**Friday:** 1 Cor 15:12-20; Ps 17:1bcd, 6-8b, 15; Lk 8:1-3

**Saturday:** 1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49; Ps 56:10c-14; Lk 8:4-15

**Sunday:** Am 8:4-7; Ps 113:1-2, 4-8; 1 Tm 2:1-8; Lk 16:1-13 [10-13]

### HURTFUL SIN

*Sin is not hurtful because it is forbidden, but it is forbidden because it is hurtful.* —Benjamin Franklin

To help celebrate our 190th Anniversary, *Freeport Theatre Festival* presented "The Spirit of St. Mary's", a new historical drama about the life of a church and its people during the best and worst of times: 1800-1904. This play was written and directed by St. Mary parishioner, Rennick Steele, and was performed the last three weekends of August.

A special thank you to *Ren and Marushka* for all their time, work and talent in making this play possible!



***Becoming a Member of St. Mary, Mother of God Church***

Welcome! It is a great joy to welcome new members to our parish community. Please register as soon as possible in order to participate in our various programs, ministries and activities. Just drop this form in the collection basket and we will send you a detailed registration form. If you are already a member and have changed any of your personal information (address, phone number, name, etc.), please return the changes on the form below. It is important to keep our records up to date.

**St. Mary, Mother of God Membership Request / Change**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_

New Registration       Change Address/Phone  
 Moving

# Christian Mother's Family Picnic - Sunday, August 28th, 2016



- September 12th** Christian Mother's Meeting - 7:00 P.M.
- September 14th** Biking for God - 6:30 P.M.
- September 15th** Baptismal Preparation Class - 7:00 P.M.
- Sept. 17th/18th** Donut Social
- September 18th** Catechetical Sunday
- Teen Ministry Meet & Greet - Fellowship Hall**  
(Immediately following 8:30 A.M. Mass)
- September 21st** Biking for God - 6:30 P.M.
- September 28th** Biking for God - 6:30 P.M.



The family of GENO PERNAZZA invites you to an Open House celebrating his 90th birthday. This will be held in St. Mary's Fellowship Hall on Saturday, September 17th, from 5:00 (or immediately following the 4:00 P.M. Mass) to 8:00 P.M. Geno would be thrilled to have his church family stop by to say hello. Light refreshments will be served so in order to properly prepare, RSVP to the following if you are planning to attend: Cathy Singer - 412-889-5552 (call or text); email: [casinger@zoominternet.net](mailto:casinger@zoominternet.net); or sign the sheet provided at the church entrances no later than September 11th. There will be no formal invitations sent so please spread the word to anyone in the community that you think may want to attend.



The Teen Ministry leaders invite all of the teens, grades 8th – 12th, and their parents to attend a meet and greet to begin the school year. The meeting will be held in our Fellowship Hall on Sunday, September 18th, following the 8:30 A.M. Mass.

A special collection will be taken at Masses the weekend of September 17th-18th to help victims of last month's flooding in Louisiana and the August 28th flash flood in the Connellsville area in our diocese. A portion of this collection, a request by the USCCB to help Louisiana, will be used to meet needs in our diocese. Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Greensburg will distribute funds as needs are assessed and requests for assistance are received. Please be generous in your prayers and your response to these national and local needs.

# MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER 17TH & 18TH, 2016

*Altar Servers*

*Extraordinary  
Ministers  
Of Holy Communion*

*Lector*

*Organist*

*Cantor*

**Saturday - 4:00 P.M.**

Bill Girardi	Jackie DeFelice	Dave Brestensky	Verne Bergstrom	Alex Smith
Fred Walker	Patty Hughes			
Erica Brestensky	Deb Showers			

**Sunday - 8:30 A.M.**

Samuel & Jacob Kristine	Judy Bergstrom	Laura Huth	Tom Koharchik	Tom Koharchik
Ali Brestensky	John Nemcek			
Riley & Colton Otterman	Betty Lou Nemcek			

**Sunday - 11:00 A.M.**

Marie Pelliccione	Lisa Isenberg	Pat Westerman	Dave Wesolosky	Choir
Megan & Garrett Rossey	Doree Rossey			
Paige Liti; Mason DeMeno	Marushka Steele			

## Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK

**MASSES FOR THE 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**SATURDAY:** September 10th  
4:00 P.M. ✦ Edward Donnelly (Edna Barr)

**SUNDAY:** September 11th  
8:30 A.M. ✦ Don Macurdy (John & Brenda DeMeno)  
11:00 A.M. St. Mary Parishioners

**MONDAY:** September 12th  
8:00 A.M. ✦ Michael Chahoy (Michael and Mariann Chahoy)

**TUESDAY:** September 13th  
8:00 A.M. COMMUNION SERVICE

**WEDNESDAY:** September 14th  
8:00 A.M. ✦ John Costantino (Donna & Steve Gardiner)

**THURSDAY:** September 15th  
8:00 A.M. COMMUNION SERVICE

**FRIDAY:** September 16th  
8:00 A.M. ✦ Wilma & Gibson Kelly (Posney & Rezak Families)

**MASSES FOR THE 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**SATURDAY:** September 17th  
4:00 P.M. ✦ John & Mary Ellen Hrivnak  
(Gary & Chris Miller and Family)

**SUNDAY:** September 18th  
8:30 A.M. ✦ Andrew Sliwiak (Kymer Family)  
11:00 A.M. St. Mary Parishioners



The Altar Bread and Wine  
were donated for this week  
in loving memory of  
**DAWN HEILMAN**  
By  
*Rennick and Marushka Steele*



In acknowledging the Real Presence of Christ,  
The Sanctuary Lamp (Candle) will burn this week in  
loving memory of  
**PETER & FELICIA ORKWISEWSKI**  
By  
*The Kort Grandchildren*

## Collections

**Offertory Collection for September 4th, 2016**

No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 591  
No. of Envelopes Received: 224  
Collection: Offertory - \$6,029.00  
Loose - \$353.00  
Children - \$28.00  
Combined Catholic University/Catholic Schools - \$320.00  
**THANK YOU!**



Saturday, September 17th, 2016  
*Betty Canterna and Janice Meola*

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