



St. Mary, Mother of God Church

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



Established 1826

October 29th, 2017

30th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God

with **ALL YOUR HEART** and

with **ALL YOUR SOUL** and

with **ALL YOUR MIND.**

This is the great and first commandment.

MATTHEW 22:37-38

Father Ronald Maquiñana—*Pastor*
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*
William Girardi, *Social Hall Coordinator*—412-719-7085
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

Diane Grant—*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

Parish Email Address: 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



Last Sunday, we were given a glimpse of what the interior of the church will look like once the painting is completed. I am glad that most of you appreciated the change. Hopefully, in a few weeks, we will see the totality of its transformation and beauty.

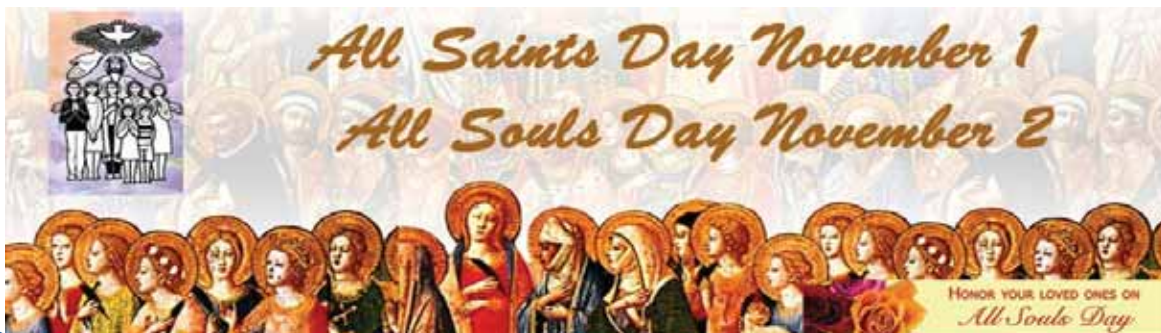
On the aspect of formation, our three Sundays *Forgiven* series regarding the Sacrament of Reconciliation have already started. The parents of our children preparing for first reconciliation have attended the first series in which their role as parents were emphasized in catechizing their children and how to build a culture of mercy and reconciliation in the family. However, the second and third series will not only be for parents but for anyone who would like to deepen their understanding of the sacrament of reconciliation, how this sacrament can be liberating and can provide healing for hurts, guilt and shame caused by past sins and wrongdoings of others. Beth Macurdy offers this series on Sunday, between masses, from 9:45 to 10:45 A.M. in the Fellowship Hall.

On a pastoral note, our neighborhood listening sessions are about to end. I would like to thank those who hosted and those who participated. Your time, your presence and your thoughts are appreciated as we prepare for our parish strategic planning next year. Those who missed it, we have the last neighborhood listening session at Renshaw Farms on November 5th, at 2:00 P.M.

Finally, this coming November 1st and 2nd is All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day. I know that on the eve of All Saints' Day, many of us celebrate Halloween, especially with children going trick or treat, wearing masks and other holiday traditions, but let us not forget that Halloween has a connection to the celebration of All Saints. Halloween comes from the word *All Hallow Eve* meaning the eve of All Saints' Day. Therefore, it will be more meaningful if we also attend mass on All Saints' Day, which is actually a holy day to celebrate the feast of all saints in heaven and all those holy people who have gone ahead of us. On the other hand, All Souls' Day is the day that we pray for all souls who have died and have not yet reached heaven.

Our masses for All Souls' Day on November 1st, being a holy day, will be at 8:00 A.M. and 7:00 P.M. The following day, November 2nd, we will have the *Mass of Remembrance* for all our departed loved ones at 7:00 P.M.

Let us give praise and thanksgiving for the saints who showed us the way to heaven by being holy; and for our departed loved ones, let us remember them in our prayers. We can do all of this in the celebration of the mass.



FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK

Contemporary Sainthood

by Mark Hart

Be the Saint God Created You To Be

In this inspiring double feature, Mark Hart boldly challenges and encourages you to be the saint God created you to be. As the Church gathers to celebrate the Solemnity of All Saints on November 1st, fuel your spiritual life with invaluable insights into unleashing the power of the Holy Spirit and the dangers of putting human expectations on our supreme God.

Listen on formed.org

FORMED THE CATHOLIC PATH. ONWARDS.

CONTEMPORARY
SAINTHOOD

MARK HART



"I enjoyed this very inspiring talk ... surrender will be my new motto. Thank you!"

—Sandy R, Columbia, MO

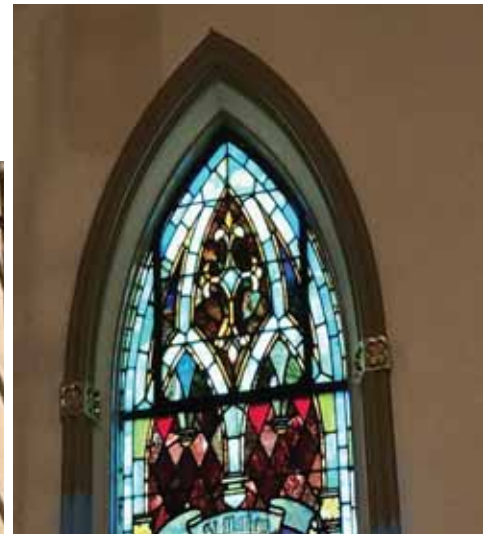


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Two weeks ago, several of the Christian Mothers visited St. Francis Convent in Millvale. The two pictures of the Blessed Mother wall are from a woman who traveled all over the world where Our Blessed Mother was appearing or was known in a special area with a certain statue to commentate her. Each statue has a different name. When the lady passed, she left all the statues to the motherhouse which is 150 years old and at one time was used to house over 700 nuns.



This past Saturday, several parishioners attended the filming of *Promise & Fulfillment* at St. Mary's in Sharpsburg. Dr. Scott Hahn was the speaker.



NEIGHBORHOOD Listening Sessions



Larry & Judy Lutz's Home



Tim & Bridget Fogarty's Home

FORGIVEN THE TRANSFORMING POWER OF CONFESSION

Week 3: November 5th

Session 2: An Encounter with Mercy

We are not defined by our mistakes. In Confession, Jesus invites us to encounter his mercy and be healed by his love. When he tells us "Go and sin no more," he also gives us the grace to do so!

Calendar of Events

- October 29th** "Forgiven"—9:30 - 10:40 A.M.—Fellowship Hall
Religious Ed. Classes—9:30 - 10:40 A.M.— Security Guard - "Brandon Showers"
Choir will sing at the 8:30 A.M. Mass; Choir Practice—9:45 - 10:45 A.M.
- October 30th** Christian Mother's Fall Game/Card Social—6:30-10:00 P.M. - Fellowship Hall
- November 1st** All Saint's Day—Holyday of Obligation; Parish Office Closed
- November 2nd** All Souls' Day—7:00 P.M. - Mass of Remembrance
- November 3rd** First Friday—6:30 P.M. - Benediction
- November 5th** Christian Mother's Mass—8:00 A.M.
Teen Ministry Meeting—9:25 A.M.; Deadline for all pie orders
"Forgiven"—9:30 - 10:40 A.M.—Fellowship Hall
Religious Ed. Classes—9:30 - 10:40 A.M.— Security Guard - "Brandon Showers"
Choir Practice—9:45 - 10:45 A.M.; 11:00 A.M. Mass
Final Neighborhood Listening Session—2:00 P.M. - Renshaw Farms
- November 6th** Christian Mother's Meeting—7:00 P.M. (members are to arrive at 6:30 P.M.)

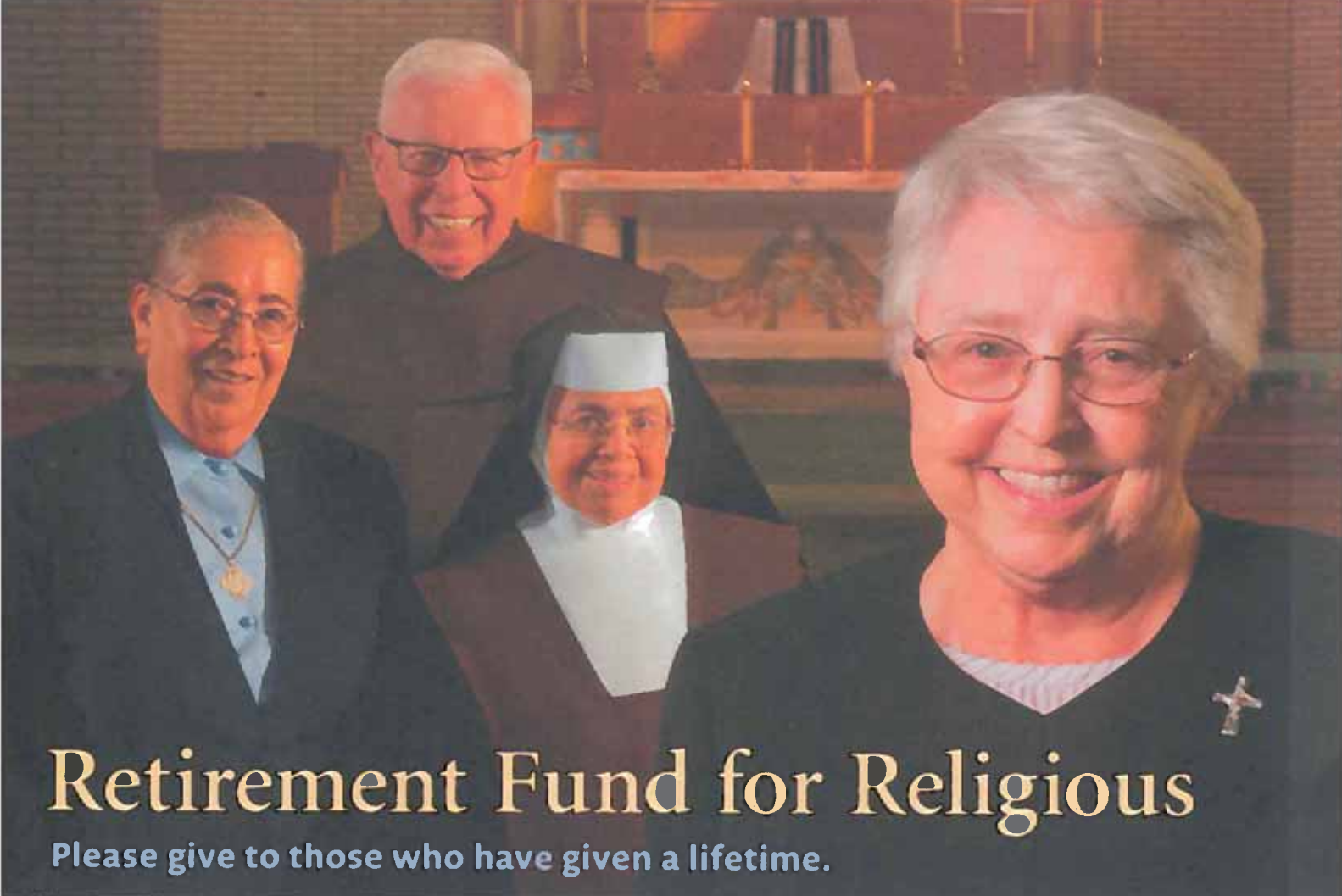
Game & Card Social—Monday, October 30th—6:30 to 10:00 P.M. Information/tickets — call Carol at 724-353-2641.

The Retirement Fund for Religious and Diocesan Priests appeal will be held next weekend. Please be generous.

Life Choices Baby Bottle Campaign begins October 28th/29th.

Quilt Making that Saw us Through World War II—St. Mary's Church Hall - November 5th, at 2:00 P.M. Details/tickets—call Bill at 724-845-2396.

Thank you to all the families that have made an appointment for our upcoming photography event. We look forward to seeing you! There are still prime appointment times available for those that need to sign up. The Friday and Saturday after Thanksgiving have been added as additional days to be photographed. Don't miss out! Be a part of our photo directory and stay connected. Sign up today at the photo table in the back of church or sign up online at our parish website: www.stmaryfreeport.com by clicking on the "Schedule your Photography Session" button.



Retirement Fund for Religious

Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

Elderly religious need your help. The religious pictured here represent more than 32,000 senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests living in the United States. Through prayer, love, and sacrifice, they established Catholic schools, hospitals, and more. Yet years of serving for little or no pay have left a shortage in retirement funding. Your gift helps their religious communities furnish necessities such as medications and nursing care. It also helps ensure younger members can continue the good works of their elders. Please be generous.

“My sister was to be a nun, and I was to be a mother,” says Notre Dame Sister Mary Ann Hanson (foreground), 79, “but God had other plans.” For 61 years, she has joyfully followed those plans. Today, she remains active by visiting the sick and knitting blankets for children rescued from human trafficking.

Roughly 94 percent of donations aid senior religious.
retiredreligious.org

To give at your parish: Make your check payable to your parish. (Write RFR on the memo line.)

To donate by mail: Make your check payable to Retirement Fund for Religious. Please do not mail cash.

Please check with your employer about matching gifts.

Amount: \$1,000 \$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 \$25 Other \$ _____

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National Religious Retirement Office
3211 Fourth Street NE
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Fax (202) 541-3053

Photo (from left): Sister Gloria Rodríguez, MGSpS, 80; Father Albert Bunsic, OCD, 81; Sister Alfonsina Sanchez, OCD, 96; Sister Mary Ann Hanson, SND, 79.
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MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER 1ST, 2ND, 4TH & 5TH, 2017

<i>Altar Servers</i>	<i>Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion</i>	<i>Lector</i>	<i>Greeters</i>	<i>Organist</i>	<i>Cantor</i>
All Saints' Day TBA—8:00 A.M. TBA—7:00 P.M.	TBA TBA	TBA TBA	TBA TBA	Corinna Neely Dave Wesolosky	Corinna Neely Choir
All Souls' Day—7:00 P.M. TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	Sue Myford	Jamie Phillips
Saturday - 4:00 P.M.					
Bill Girardi; Zach Showers Madison & Dawson Gaillot	Dave Brestensky Andrea Camerlo; Fred Walker	Karen Savage	Jim & Diana Talotta	Verne Bergstrom	Alex Smith
Sunday—8:30 A.M.					
Samuel, Jacob, David Kristine Ali & Ben Brestensky	Judy Bergstrom John & Betty Lou Nemcek	Susan Shea	Don & Jean Miller	Tom Koharchik	Tom Koharchik
Sunday—11:00 A.M.					
Celeste Beacom Jacob & Erin Schaeffer Victor & Olivia Svitek	Lisa Isenberg; Doree Rossey Melissa Schaeffer	Marushka Steele	Jill Zalewski	Dave Wesolosky	Choir

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

MASSES FOR THE 30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY: 4:00 P.M.	October 28th ✦Anita Rosato (Family)
SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. 11:00 A.M.	October 29th St. Mary Parishioners ✦Gowetski Family (Family)
MONDAY: 8:00 A.M.	October 30th ✦Joseph Klaput, Jr. (Karen & Rich Brestensky)
TUESDAY: 8:00 A.M.	October 31st ✦Leona Haines (Russell & Annalesia Stewart)
WEDNESDAY: 8:00 A.M. 7:00 P.M.	November 1st—All Saints' Day St. Mary Parishioners ✦Judith Polana (Fr. Ken Zaccagnini)
THURSDAY: 7:00 P.M.	November 2nd—All Souls' Day ✦All Souls' Intentions
FRIDAY: 8:00 A.M.	November 3rd—First Friday ✦All Souls' Intentions

MASSES FOR THE 31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY: 4:00 P.M.	November 4th ✦All Souls' Intentions
SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. 11:00 A.M.	November 5th ✦Christian Mother's—Deceased Members (Christian Mothers) ✦All Souls' Intentions & St. Mary Parishioners



Saturday, November 4th, 2017
Nancy Laux and Betty Lou Nemcek

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In acknowledging the Real Presence of Christ,
The Sanctuary Lamp (Candle) will burn this week in
loving memory of
THREE ANGELS
By
Grandma

Collections

Offertory Collection for October 22nd, 2017

No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 596
No. of Envelopes Received: 196
Collection: Offertory - \$3,831.00
Electronic Payments (5) - \$205.00
Loose - \$188.00; Children - \$40.75
World Mission Sunday Appeal - \$870.00

Total Collection - \$5,134.75

THANK YOU!



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