



# 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**

*April 17th, 2016*  
*Fourth Sunday in Easter*

## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS



**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*  
Melissa Smock, *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



Last Sunday I said we celebrated World Day of Prayer for Vocations, but I was mistaken. It is actually this Sunday that we celebrate the **53rd World Day of Prayer for Vocations**. Bishop Malesic said this is a special day designed to help raise awareness of the important need to remember in our prayers the intentions of vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life. It is also a wonderful opportunity to be united with the Universal Church as we offer together our prayers for church vocations. So I ask you to remember in your prayers this particular intention, not only today but every day to have more vocations, especially in the Diocese of Greensburg, so there will be more priests, deacons and religious men and women who will continue to guide us and shepherd us in our spiritual life and journey to God. To help us in our prayer, below is the Diocesan Prayer for Religious Vocations that we can use as approved by the Bishop Emeritus, Most Rev. Lawrence Brandt.

## Prayer for Religious Vocations

Heavenly Father

Your loving providence accompanies us on our life's journey.

Thank you for the many gifts you have given us.

We ask that you continue to call sons and daughters from our families and parishes to serve as priests, deacons and consecrated men and women in the Diocese of Greensburg.

Send your Spirit upon us so that many will respond with great love to your call

to service and leadership in your Church.

Give to those you have chosen the faith of the apostle, the vision of the prophet, and the courage of the martyr.

Through the intercession of our Diocesan patroness,

Our Lady of the Assumption,

help us to be faithful disciples of your Son by following the example of Mary.

Make us generous in sharing ourselves and our talents

for the sake of your Kingdom on earth.

Also coming April 23rd, we will have the Mass with Anointing at 4:00 in the afternoon for our sick members whether in their homes or nursing homes. Dinner will be served for them immediately following mass in our Fellowship Hall. Other members of the families are also welcome to join them for this dinner. Just let us know how many of you will be attending. For those who will have a problem with transportation, let us know by Wednesday, April 20th to arrange for your transportation. Please call the office at 724-295-2281 or John Nemcek, our Homebound Ministry Coordinator, at 724-226-1357.



## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — The Jews angrily reject Paul and Barnabas' preaching. They then turn their energies to the Gentiles (Acts 13:14, 43-52).

**Psalm** — We are his people, the sheep of his flock. (Psalm 100).

**Second Reading** — John envisions a great white-robed multitude standing before the throne and before the Lamb. (Revelation 7:9, 14b-17).

**Gospel** — My sheep hear my voice; they follow me. I give them eternal life (John 10:27-30).

## SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

**Sunday:** Fourth Sunday of Easter;  
World Day of Prayer for Vocations  
**Thursday:** St. Anselm  
**Friday:** Earth Day; Passover begins  
**Saturday:** St. George; St. Adalbert

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Monday:** Acts 11:1-18; Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4;  
Jn 10:11-18  
**Tuesday:** Acts 11:19-26; Ps 87:1b-7; Jn 10:22-30  
**Wednesday:** Acts 12:24 — 13:5a; Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8;  
Jn 12:44-50  
**Thursday:** Acts 13:13-25; Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25, 27;  
Jn 13:16-20  
**Friday:** Acts 13:26-33; Ps 2:6-11ab; Jn 14:1-6  
**Saturday:** Acts 13:44-52; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 14:7-14  
**Sunday:** Acts 14:21-27; Ps 145:8-13; Rv 21:1-5a;  
Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35

# PARISH NEWS

## CALENDAR of Events

**April 23rd** Homebound Mass/Dinner - 4:00 P.M.  
**April 24th** Religious Education Classes - 9:30—10:35 A.M.  
 Choir Practice - 9:30—10:45 A.M.  
**April 25th** Spring Card Party - Edward P. Volz Fellowship Hall - 6:30 P.M.  
**April 27th** First Holy Communion Practice - Church - 7:00 P.M.  
**May 1st** Christian Mother's Mass/May Crowning - 8:30 A.M. Mass  
**May 1st** First Holy Communion - 11:00 A.M. Mass  
**May 2nd** Christian Mother's Meeting - 6:30 P.M.  
**May 6th** First Friday  
**May 7th & 8th** Donut & Beverage Social  
**May 14th** Dedication - Fr. Dom's Garden - 3:15 P.M.

## Spring Card Party



**Monday, April 25th**  
**6:30 - 10:00 P.M.**  
**Reverend Edward P. Volz Fellowship Hall**  
**608 High Street—Freeport**

**\$10.00/person**

Salad Bar  
 50/50 Raffle  
 Door/Table Prizes



**Information/Tickets - Contact**  
**Carol Carson— 724-353-2641**

## Salad Bar



## Save The Date

### VACATION BIBLE CAMP

July 18th, 2016 -- July 22nd, 2016  
 5:30 P.M.—8:30 P.M.

St. Mary's Fellowship Hall

All children Preschool thru 6th grade



We are in need of anyone with PA State Criminal & Child Abuse clearances to help with Bible Camp. We CANNOT have Bible Camp without your help.

If you are able help and bring your children, please fill out and return to the church or call:

Gennifer Svitek at 412-303-2650 or Helen James at 724-295-4758

I WILL HELP AT VACATION BIBLE CAMP

Name (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_

# of children I will be bringing \_\_\_\_\_

DLA

Diocesan Target - \$45,043.00  
 Parish Target - \$70,000.00  
 Amount Pledged to Date - \$81,367.87  
 Amount Collected - \$62,786.12

The Knights of Columbus will be having their 90th Anniversary Memorial Mass here at St. Mary's on Sunday, April 24th, at 8:30 A.M. Any Catholic man 18 years or older is welcome to join the Knights of Columbus. Please call Dick Bertino at 724-295-3632 or Gary Miller at 724-226-0498 for information.

### Religious Education

On Wednesday, April 27th, there will be First Holy Communion practice in church from 7:00 to 8:00 P.M. **All children must attend.**

**First Holy Communion will be celebrated at the 11:00 A.M. Mass on Sunday, May 1st.**

The last class will be this Sunday, **April 24th.** Students must attend the 11:00 A.M. Mass. The Security Guard will be *Lisa Boylan.*

*At this time we would like to say thank you to our dedicated parents. Your commitment is appreciated. We are also grateful for our teachers/aides/volunteers in our program. May God continue to strengthen and bless each and everyone of you.*

### 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

## Around the Diocese and Beyond.....



Please join Catholic Charities in their ongoing commitment to help those most in need by participating in the eighteenth annual Communities of Salt and Light Award Dinner on Thursday, April 21st, at Stratigos Banquet Centre in North Huntingdon. Recipients being honored at this year's event are: Detective Jeffrey Kuntz-Humanitarian, George and Sally Caric-Philanthropy and the Crosskeys Human Services, Inc.-Outstanding Human Service Organization. For information on the Communities of Salt and Light Award Dinner or ways to purchase tickets, please call Heather Rady at Catholic Charities—724-837-1840, Ext. 1504. Festivities begin at 6:00 P.M. with a social hour and auctions, followed by dinner and award presentations.



CM-BBT is a medically based, scientifically researched and highly effective NFP method that can be used with no harmful side effects to avoid, postpone, plan or achieve pregnancy. The next Natural Family Planning CM-BBT Method INSTRUCTION is scheduled for Monday, May 2nd, beginning at 6:00 P.M. at the Catholic Charities office, Greensburg. Participants are required to attend only ONE session. The instruction, continued support and follow-up are provided by a medically certified CM-BBT Professional. Please call at least one week prior to instruction date to PRE-register. Contact Mary Ann Newhouse at Catholic Charities at 724-837-1840, Ext. 1658 for additional information or to register for this or an upcoming class. For more information about Natural Family Planning and the CM-BBT Method, please visit: [www.ccharitiesgreensburg.org](http://www.ccharitiesgreensburg.org) and link into Natural Family Planning under "Services".



**The Greensburg Chapter of Magnificat**—A Ministry to Catholic Women is holding a breakfast at the Ramada Hotel and Convention Center, Rt. 30 East, Greensburg on Saturday, April 30th, from 9:00 A.M. – 12:00 Noon. Guest speaker will be author and radio host Kathleen Beckman whose story relates God's triumph over evil in her life. Cost is \$20.00, student rate is \$15.00. To register, please call Brenda by April 22nd at 724-836-2094 or please visit: [www.magnificatgreensburg.com](http://www.magnificatgreensburg.com) to download a registration form. Please note that there is no online registration.



Spring Breakfast, Bake Sale and Lottery Ticket Raffle will be held on Sunday, April 24th, from 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 Noon at St. James Social Hall, New Alexandria. Menu: Ham, Sausage, Pancakes, Eggs, Potatoes, Beverages. Prices: Adults/ \$7.00; Child (Ages 6 - 12 years)/ \$4.00; Children under six/free.



**Father William Kiel** will celebrate Mass with prayers and blessings for healing at St. John the Evangelist Church in Uniontown on Tuesday, April 19th, at 6:30 P.M. Please join them for this special time of grace. Everyone is welcome.



**St. Edward Parish**, 120 St. Edwards Lane, Herminie, will offer an eight week journey through salvation history, from God's merciful promises to Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses, and David, to the prophets' call to renewal, to the fulfillment of God's promises in Christ. During this Jubilee Year of Mercy, explore how God makes His Mercy present to you, in ordinary and extraordinary ways. The journey will begin on Wednesday, April 20th from 9:30 A.M. – 11:30 A.M., in the church hall and continue through June 8th on Wednesday mornings. The cost is \$20.00 for a study guide. Please call Kitty at 724-446-5381 to register.



**Roast Beef Dinner**—St. Sylvester Church, 3028 Rte. 819, Slickville, on Sunday, April 17th, from 11:30 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. Meal includes roast beef, mashed potatoes & gravy, vegetable, salad, rolls, beverage and dessert. Price: Adults/\$12.50 & Children/\$6.00. Everyone welcome!



Freeport Area Meals on wheels will sponsor a Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon on Thursday, May 19th, 12:00 Noon at the Trinity Lutheran Church, 323 Fifth Street, Freeport. All current and past volunteers are invited to attend. To make your reservation, contact Chris Bender at 724-272-1995 no later than May 12th.



**Freeport Community Yard Sale** will be held on Saturday, April 23rd, from 8:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. Lots of activities all day long. Freeport Library New to You Sale - Lots of great items, collectibles, estate items, jewelry, sports memorabilia and more, and a bake sale. Vendor spots will be available in the Fire Department parking lot for \$5.00/space; you must reserve prior to April 23rd by calling 412-580-9831. Refreshments and food will be sold during the yard sale in front of the station. FRA table will be at the History & Community Center. Everyone is welcome!



ARE YOU INTERESTED IN COMMUNITY SERVICE? JOIN AN ORGANIZATION AT THE FAIR! On Saturday, April 23, Trinity Lutheran Church in Freeport will be hosting a "Volunteer Fair". The purpose of the fair is to provide an opportunity for people who are interested in voluntary community service to meet representatives of numerous organizations and hear about their activities in the local four-county area. They are hopeful that people at the fair can find a way to serve the community in ways that match their interests and skills. This will be held on the same day as the Freeport Community Garage Sale event. The Volunteer Fair will be held in Trinity's Fellowship Hall between 9:00 A.M.—3:00 P.M., with organizations setting up tables beginning at 8:00 A.M. If you know of a charitable organization that would like to participate in the fair, please let Pastor Jocelyn Johnston know as soon as possible at: [jxjohnston2010@gmail.com](mailto:jxjohnston2010@gmail.com).

# MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR APRIL 23RD & 24TH, 2016

*Altar Servers*

*Extraordinary  
Ministers  
Of Holy Communion*

*Lector*

*Organist*

*Cantor*

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

Erica Brestensky  
Bill Girardi  
Fred Walker

Maryellyn Bale  
Dave Brestensky  
Dave Valencic

Tim Fogarty

Tom Misutka

Jamie Phillips

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

Robert Kolish; Katie Huth  
Brianna & Olivia Sutara  
Eva DeMeno

John Nemcek  
Carol Carson  
Rose Check

Laura Huth

Tom Koharchik

Tom Koharchik

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

Marie Pelliccione  
Mason DeMeno; Paige Liti  
Megan & Garrett Rossey

Bill Cogley  
Helen James  
Dan Lucovich

CCD—Last Class

Dave Wesolosky

Choir



**MASSES FOR THE 4TH SUNDAY IN EASTER**

**SATURDAY:**  
4:00 P.M.

**April 16th**  
✦ William Jansen (Family)

**SUNDAY:**  
8:30 A.M.  
11:00 A.M.

**April 17th**  
✦ Rinaldo Policchio (The Policchio's)  
St. Mary Parishioners

**MONDAY:**  
8:00 A.M.

**April 18th**  
✦ Mary Ellen Hrivnak (Ralph & Paula McDermott)

**TUESDAY:**  
8:00 A.M.

**April 19th**  
✦ Anita Rosato (Husband—George)

**WEDNESDAY:**  
8:00 A.M.

**April 20th**  
✦ Rev. Dominick DeBlasio (James & Nancy Laux)

**THURSDAY:**  
8:00 A.M.

**April 21st**  
✦ Joanie Slanders (Mary Skyzinski)

**FRIDAY:**  
8:00 A.M.

**April 22nd**  
✦ Thomas E. Cornman, Sr.  
(John Limborg & Sue & Kevin Tack)

**MASSES FOR THE 5TH SUNDAY IN EASTER**

**SATURDAY:**  
4:00 P.M.

**April 23rd**  
St. Mary Parishioners

**SUNDAY:**  
8:30 A.M.  
11:00 A.M.

**April 24th**  
90th Anniversary of the Natrona Knights of Columbus—  
Living & Deceased Members (Knights of Columbus)  
✦ Mary Cogley (Son)



The Altar Bread and Wine  
were donated for this week  
in loving memory of  
*Rinaldo Policchio*  
By  
*The Policchio's*



In acknowledging the Real Presence of Christ,  
The Sanctuary Lamp (Candle) will burn this week in  
loving memory of  
*Charles B. Huth*  
By  
*Dan & Karen Lucovich*

**Collections**

**Offertory Collection for April 10th, 2016**  
No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 579  
No. of Envelopes Received: 248  
Collection: Offertory - \$5,543.00  
Loose - \$265.00  
Children - \$36.75  
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