



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 24th, 2016
Fifth Sunday of Easter



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*
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

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



After celebrating the World Day of Prayer for Vocations last Sunday which stressed the need for more vocations to the priesthood and diaconate who will continue to attend to our spiritual needs and our journey towards God, this Sunday we have two events that clearly tells us why ordained ministers are important in our parish community. We have the Mass with Anointing for the sick and the closing of our Religious Education Program for our children for the school year 2015- 2016. These events take place within the mass.

The mass with anointing for the sick is a celebration of sacrament within a sacrament that only ordained ministers can preside by virtue of his ordination. It is a celebration of sacrament within a sacrament because anointing of the sick is taking place within the celebration of the mass where we pray and ask the Lord to give the grace, especially of strength and healing, to our sick brothers and sisters. The anointing of the sick is not only given to those who are terminally ill or dying but to those who are in need of God's grace and healing. Sometimes we have to recognize that our sickness is not only due to bodily/physical problems that a doctor can treat in order for us to be cured, but it can also be spiritual due to our sins and shortcomings. And the only one that can give us that healing is no other than our God who works powerfully through the sacraments that Jesus Christ instituted.

Then we have the closing of our Religious Education Program for the School Year 2015-2016 which is very important in the faith formation of our children in order to become good Christians, not only in name, but also in living out our faith. Every year they go from one level to the next in order to progress in their understanding of faith. And for that we thank our dedicated and selfless teachers who continuously give their time, their effort and service freely all for the good of our children.

May God bless us all for what we do.

GOD BLESS US ALL!

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Paul and Barnabas continue their travels, spreading the faith and unifying the churches (Acts 14:21-27).

Psalm — I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God (Psalm 145).

Second Reading — John's vision of God dwelling with the human race (Revelation 21:1-5a).

Gospel — As Jesus has loved us, so we must love one another (John 13:31-33a, 34-35).

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fifth Sunday of Easter; Julian Calendar Palm Sunday
Monday: St. Mark
Wednesday: Administrative Professionals Day
Thursday: St. Peter Chanel; St. Louis Grignion de Montfort
Friday: St. Catherine of Siena; Arbor Day; Julian Calendar Good Friday
Saturday: St. Pius V

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14; Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17; Mk 16:15-20
Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28; Ps 145:10-13ab, 21; Jn 14:27-31a
Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6; Ps 122:1-5; Jn 15:1-8
Thursday: Acts 15:7-21; Ps 96:1-3, 10; Jn 15:9-11
Friday: Acts 15:22-31; Ps 57:8-10, 12; Jn 15:12-17
Saturday: Acts 16:1-10; Ps 100:1b-3, 5; Jn 15:18-21
Sunday: Acts 15:1-2, 22-29; Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8; Rv 21:10-14, 22-23; Jn 14:23-29

PARISH NEWS

Baptized in Christ



Congratulations to the proud parents,
Mark and Lynsey Lepkowski,
 on the baptism of their son,
Matthew William.
 He is a child of God, heir to
 the Kingdom!
 Baptism — A joyous and
 memorable celebration!

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



CALENDAR of Events

<i>April 25th</i>	<i>Spring Card Party - Edward P. Volz Fellowship Hall - 6:30 P.M.</i>
<i>April 27th</i>	<i>First Holy Communion Practice - Church - 7:00 P.M.</i>
<i>May 1st</i>	<i>Christian Mother's Mass/May Crowning - 8:30 A.M. Mass</i>
<i>May 1st</i>	<i>First Holy Communion - 11:00 A.M. Mass</i>
<i>May 2nd</i>	<i>Christian Mother's Meeting - 6:30 P.M.</i>
<i>May 6th</i>	<i>First Friday</i>
<i>May 7th & 8th</i>	<i>Donut & Beverage Social</i>
<i>May 14th</i>	<i>Dedication - Fr. Dom's Garden - 3:15 P.M.</i>



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 within the 11:00 A.M. Mass on Sunday, May 1st.*



Due to the lateness in the year, the Christian Mothers will not be mailing out their yearly calendars. They will be emailed to the members who have email accounts. If there are any members that do not have email accounts or do not have access to a computer, please call Jean Miller at 330-321-4646 and she will mail out a calendar to you.

All members and their families are asked to gather together in front of the Blessed Mother (please arrive at 8:00 A.M.) to recite the rosary and to attend morning Mass and May Crowning on Sunday, May 1st. The monthly meeting will be held on Monday, May 2nd, at 7:00 P.M. Members are asked to arrive at 6:30 P.M. This will be the last meeting for the Christian Mothers. They will break for the summer and meetings will resume in September.

DLA

Diocesan Target - \$45,043.00
 Parish Target - \$70,000.00
 Amount Pledged to Date - \$83,742.87
 Amount Collected - \$66,301.62
 Number of Donors - 298



DLA - Please wait until you receive your statement from the Diocese before sending in your next payment. Payments are to be sent in directly to the Diocese.

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

 Moving

 Change Address/Phone

MORE PARISH NEWS

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 _____

Pentecost is referred to as the celebration of the birth of the church. This was the day when the Holy Spirit descended upon the first disciples. Because the Holy Spirit is symbolized by the tongues of fire, the liturgical color for Pentecost is "red". It is a tradition here at St. Mary's to decorate the sanctuary of our church for Pentecost Sunday. Red Geranium forms are located in today's bulletin. Completed forms and money may be placed in a marked envelope (Geraniums) and placed in the collection basket or dropped off at the Administrative Center no later than 12:00 Noon, Monday, May 9th. Flowers may be taken home immediately following the 11:00 A.M. Mass on Pentecost Sunday, May 15th.



The Knights of Columbus - 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.

Around the Diocese and Beyond.....



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.



St. Joseph Parish in Natrona will host a Soup Service on Thursday, April 28th, from 11:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. at St. Ladislaus Church, 48 Spruce Street. They serve three kinds of homemade soup or chili, fresh rolls with butter from Vibo's Bakery, a variety of desserts, fresh hot coffee and tea and ice-cold bottled water. The service is free and open to everyone! Please join them for good food and great company!



The Saint Joseph High School \$20,000 raffle is underway. You can't beat these odds! Only 500 tickets will be sold at \$100.00 each. Prizes are as follows: 1 grand prize of \$20,000 and three runner-up prizes of \$1,000 each. Drawing will be held on Monday, June 13th during the Spartan Scramble: Golf, Dinner, Auction at Lenape Heights Golf Resort. Winner need not be present. Questions? Contact Ann Litz: (724) 224-4100, or email: alitz@saintjosephhs.com.



Softball Players Wanted—Co-ed: Singles - 21 & Over. Softball is played in Blawnox. Looking for a new way to meet people, make friends, and share good times with others? Check out the Catholic Alumni Club. The group offers parties, picnics, dances, hiking, volleyball, dinners, spirituality events, trips, and many other great events. For more information or an application, visit their website: www.cacpittsburgh.org, or contact: cac.softball@yahoo.com.

OLDIES DANCE

St. Edward Parish, 120 St. Edwards Lane, Herminie will sponsor an Oldies Dance with DJ Johnnie on Saturday, May 7th, from 7:30 – 11:30 P.M. in the church hall. Admission is \$10.00/person which includes Door Prizes, Snacks, Beer & Beverages. This is a BYOB & BYO Snacks. Raffle Baskets and a 50/50 drawing will also be featured. Must be 21 years of age for entry. Singles welcome! For information, tickets, or table reservations, please call Karen at 724-446-5336.

Your Community News

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.**

MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR APRIL 30TH & MAY 1ST, 2016

Altar Servers

*Extraordinary
Ministers
Of Holy Communion*

Lector

Organist

Cantor

Saturday - 4:00 P.M.

Brandon Bowser	Andrea Camerlo	Jackie DeFelice	Tom Misutka	Alex Smith
Zachary Bowser	Patty Hughes			
Kennedi Clark	Fred Walker			

Sunday - 8:30 A.M.

Andrew Nigra; Luke Boylan Madison & Austin Bachar Alexandra Lasko	Lisa Boylan Pat Ralston Kim Holbein	John Nemcek	Tom Koharchik	Tom Koharchik
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Sunday - 11:00 A.M.

Victor Svitek; Kennedi Clark Brianna & Olivia Sutara Sydney Shemanski Madison Gaillot	Andre Volek Dan Lucovich Helen James	Debbie Baustert	Dave Wesolosky	Choir
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MASSES FOR THE 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SATURDAY: April 23rd
4:00 P.M. St. Mary Parishioners

SUNDAY: April 24th
8:30 A.M. 90th Anniversary of the Natrona Knights of Columbus—
Living & Deceased Members (Knights of Columbus)
11:00 A.M. †Mary Cogley (Son)

MONDAY: April 25th
8:00 A.M. †Charmaine Macurdy (Carol Carson)

TUESDAY: April 26th
8:00 A.M. †Helen Murphy (Jeff & Donna Smith)

WEDNESDAY: April 27th
8:00 A.M. †Nadine Harding (Dennis & Cindy Beblo)

THURSDAY: April 28th
8:00 A.M. †Joseph Marietti (Fran & Cathy Moxie)

FRIDAY: April 29th
8:00 A.M. IHO Jim Huth [90th Birthday] (Wife & Children)

MASSES FOR THE 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SATURDAY: April 30th
4:00 P.M. †William Aiello (Family)

SUNDAY: May 1st
8:30 A.M. †Edward Donnelly (John & Brenda DeMeno)
11:00 A.M. St. Mary Parishioners



The Altar Bread and Wine
were donated for this week
in loving memory of
Nick Canterna and John Manzari
By
Linda Manzari



In acknowledging the Real Presence of Christ,
The Sanctuary Lamp (Candle) will burn this week in
loving memory of
Homer and Regina Gamble
By
Cindy and Jobe Harbison

Collections

Offertory Collection for April 17th, 2016

No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 579
No. of Envelopes Received: 240
Collection: Offertory - \$5,655.00
Loose - \$442.00
Children - \$26.25
THANK YOU!



Saturday, April 30th, 2016
Donna Smith and Deb Showers

Thanks to our advertisers who sponsor this bulletin.
Please support them with your business.

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK

"Donna's Corner"