

# *St. Mary, Mother of God Church*

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



*Sunday, May 8th, 2016  
Happy Mother's Day!*

## From the Pastor's Desk



This Sunday we celebrate Mother's Day, a way of recognizing all mothers in the world for all they do for us. They love us and take care of all our needs. Everything they do to make us happy like waking up early in the morning to prepare our meals, cleaning the house to put things in order, going to work so they can provide us with our basic needs, and all the other many things they do for us is why we can say that our mom is the best mom in the world—she provides us with all our needs.

Now having experienced all this from our moms, what do we do in return to show our appreciation and gratitude for what they do for us? Should we not treat them special, especially on Mother's Day?

How? Maybe by giving her flowers, gifts, cards or taking her out to dinner. Then we can hug and kiss her as a way of saying thank you. These are all good expressions of love and appreciation. And our moms certainly deserve that. However, I think more than these acts of love and appreciation, our mothers deserve the following to be given not only on Mother's Day, but everyday:

**Obedience** - In his letter to the Ephesians, St. Paul said: "children, obey your parents in the Lord for this is right." (Ephesians 6:1) Even Jesus obeyed his mother. In obedience comes blessing.

**Respect** - Again, St. Paul said: Honor your father and mother, which is the first commandment, with a promise that it may go well with you and that you may have a long life on earth. (Eph 6:2) When we give respect and honor to our parents, what we receive in return is again a blessing – long life.

**Affection** - Elisha demonstrated the affection properly due to her parents. She kissed her mother and father goodbye before she followed Elijah (1King 19:20). And why not when they gave us so much affection as children, don't they deserve affection in return? Such affection can be given in words ("I love you, Mom!"), hugs, gifts, etc.

**Care** - Parents, especially widowed mothers, deserve our care. St. Paul said if a widow has children and grandchildren, let these first learn to perform their religious duty to their own family and to make recompense to their parents for this is pleasing to God – (1 Tim. 5:4)

Indeed, children have to take care of their parents. They deserve the best care we can afford to give them after they took care of us. Some may require professional and medical care, but we should not simply drop them off at nursing homes just for our convenience.

*Question: Do we give our mothers the OBEDIENCE, RESPECT, AFFECTION and CARE they deserve?*



### TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — Because Stephen professes his faith in the Son of Man, he is stoned to death (Acts 7:55-60).

**Psalm** — The Lord is king, the most high over all the earth (Psalm 97).

**Second Reading** — I, the Alpha and the Omega, am coming soon (Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20).

**Gospel** — Father, I pray that they may all be one, as you and I are one, that they may be brought to perfection (John 17:20-26).

### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

**Sunday:** Seventh Sunday of Easter; Mother's Day; World Communications Day

**Tuesday:** St. Damien de Veuster

**Thursday:** Ss. Nereus and Achilleus; St. Pancras

**Friday:** Our Lady of Fatima

**Saturday:** St. Matthias

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Monday:** Acts 19:1-8; Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab; Jn 16:29-33

**Tuesday:** Acts 20:17-27; Ps 68:10-11, 20-21; Jn 17:1-11a

**Wednesday:** Acts 20:28-38; Ps 68:29-30, 33-36ab; Jn 17:11b-19

**Thursday:** Acts 22:30; 23:6-11; Ps 16:1-2a, 5, 7-11; Jn 17:20-26

**Friday:** Acts 25:13b-21; Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab; Jn 21:15-19

**Saturday:** Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; Ps 113:1-8; Jn 15:9-17

**Sunday:** Vigil: Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5; Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-30; Rom 8:22-27; Jn 7:37-39

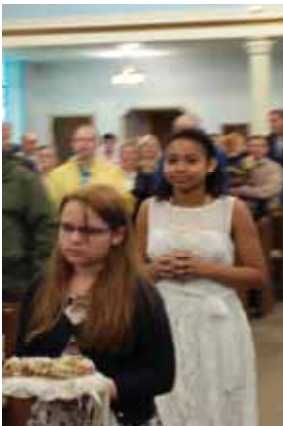
Day: Acts 2:1-11; Ps 104:1, 24, 29-31, 34; 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Rom 8:8-17; Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 14:15-16, 23b-26

Congratulations to our First Holy Communicants—May 1st, 2016

PARISH NEWS



May Crowning - May 1st, 2016



CALENDAR of Events

- May 14th Dedication - Fr. Dom's Prayer Garden - 3:15 P.M.
- May 15th Choir Practice - 9:30—10:45 A.M.
- May 22nd Choir Practice - 9:30—10:45 A.M.
- Baptism - "Bender" - within the 11:00 A.M. Mass
- May 27th Wedding - Amadee/Jaksec, Jr. - 3:30 P.M.
- May 29th Corpus Christi Procession - 9:45 A.M.

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.

 Pentecost Sunday is next Sunday, May 15th and 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". **In honor of this celebration, we invite all parishioners to wear their "red" next weekend.** It is also a tradition here at St. Mary's to decorate the sanctuary of our church for Pentecost Sunday. Red Geranium forms are located at all the church entrances. 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.



DEDICATION

A new addition to our church property will soon be dedicated. Father Dominick A. DeBlasio, a native son of St. Mary's Parish family who passed away on November 10th, 2014 at the age of 101, generously bequeathed our parish his property that is in near proximity to our church property. The house that was on the property was in poor condition and was demolished in November of last year. The detached garage is in the process of being spruced up and the property has been backfilled and is now being beautified to become the "Father Dom Prayer Garden". We hope to utilize this "green space" as a reflective area for our CCD students, our teen ministry, our Christian Mothers and various other groups in the parish. It is still a work in process, but we wish to thank David and Cleatus Burk for their generous donation of their time in planting various bushes, trees and plants and offering to maintain these various gardens in the future. We also wish to thank the Christian Mothers for the donation of the Japanese Maple tree as well as many others who have donated both plants and monetary donations. Please plan on joining us this coming Saturday, May 14th as we plan to dedicate this very special addition to our parish campus. At 3:15 in the afternoon, the Christian Mothers will gather to recite the rosary, and they invite the parish to join them. And at 3:45, Father Ron will formally bless the prayer garden and invite those in attendance to the 4:00 Mass.

# Around the Diocese and Beyond.....



**The Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC)** collection will be taken at Masses next weekend. Half of the proceeds from this collection stay in the Diocese of Greensburg to support local communications efforts, including *The Catholic Accent* newspaper and diocesan website. Contributions help continue the work of communicating the Gospel at home and around the world. For more information about the CCC and other projects funded by the collection, please visit: [www.usccb.org/ccc](http://www.usccb.org/ccc).



**St. Matthew Church Altar Rosary Society**, Saltsburg, will hold a Recollection Honoring the Blessed Mother on Wednesday, May 11th, from 10:30 AM. – 2:20 P.M., with lunch at noon. Benediction will follow with Holy Hour and Confessions. Speaker will be Fr. Alvin Cabungcal. This is a free event but please RSVP today. Please call Elvia at 724-639-9410 or you can text Barb at 724-553-6476.



**St. Edward Parish**, 120 St. Edward Lane, Herminie will sponsor a Flea Market on Saturday, May 21st, from 8:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M., in the church hall. A pre-sale will be held on Friday, May 20th from 6:00 - 8:00 P.M. (A \$5.00 entry fee will be charged for the pre-sale on Friday only). Donated items will be accepted in the church hall from May 16th-19th. For all information, please call the church office at 724-446-5197.



**La Roche College Host AAUW North Hills Pittsburgh's Tech Savvy Conference** - For current 6th-9th Grade Girls, 7:30 A.M. – 4:00 P.M., May 14th. Cost \$10.00 per student and \$5.00 per adult and includes breakfast, lunch and t-shirt for student. Girls that attend are required to bring a parent/adult. Tech Savvy is a one day Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) career conference designed to develop the interest of girls in STEM fields and provide information to their parents and educational professionals on STEM educational opportunities. Registration: <http://northhills-pa.aauw.net/tech-savvy/>. For information, contact Peggy Schmiedecke, 412-536-1274 or: [peggy.schmiedecke@laroche.edu](mailto:peggy.schmiedecke@laroche.edu).

## Pastoral Ministry

**The Certificate in Pastoral Ministry:** Information Session at St. Joseph Church, Uniontown—The Certificate in Pastoral Ministry program focuses on preparing well-informed and well-formed persons for ministry. Applications for admission to the eighth cohort of students are being accepted. Coursework and formation events begin in the Fall 2016. Admission closes July 25th. Adults interested in learning more about what the program offers to those interested in lay ecclesial ministry or the permanent diaconate are asked to attend the Information Session scheduled for May 9th, 6:00 P.M., at St. Joseph Church, Uniontown. You can learn more at: [gbgvocations.org](http://gbgvocations.org). Direct questions about lay ministry and the certificate program to Marsha Kable at 724-837-0901; email: [mkable@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:mkable@dioceseofgreensburg.org). Direct questions about the permanent diaconate to Fr. Jonathan Wisneski - [jwisneski@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:jwisneski@dioceseofgreensburg.org). To register for the information session, contact Sherry McQuaide at 724-837-0901, Ext. 1240; email: [smcquaide@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:smcquaide@dioceseofgreensburg.org).



## Pathways to Ministry

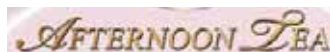
**Registration for Pathways 2016-2017** is open. "We need to be faithful to the Spirit, to proclaim Jesus with our lives, through our witness and words." Pope Francis calls this "a great responsibility." Ask yourself: "How well prepared am I for this responsibility?" "How can I do this in my busy life?" Ignite your imagination about what it means to follow Jesus Christ. Join Pathways and discover how together we are called and gifted by God for others. The host sites are St. Edward Church, Herminie, on Wednesday evenings and Christ the King Church, Leechburg, on Thursday evenings. Brochures are available at the church entrances and the parish office. For more information or to register online, visit: <http://goo.gl/ddf0ak> or contact the Office for Lay Ecclesial Ministry at 724-552-2598; [pathways@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:pathways@dioceseofgreensburg.org). Financial assistance from the Francis Fund is available.



**Greensburg DCCW IV** will host an information meeting on Leadership Training and Human Trafficking on Wednesday, May 11th, at Our Lady of Grace Parish, Greensburg beginning at 6:00 P.M. with "Prayer for Priests Rosary" followed by the informational meeting. All ladies of the diocese are invited to attend. For necessary preparation to be made, please contact the following to let them know you will be attending: Millie Krinock at 724-537-2064 or Mary Repko at 724-537-2083.



**A Public Card Party** sponsored by the Christian Mothers of St. Joseph Church in Cabot will be held at 12:00 Noon on Monday, May 9th. A donation of \$5.00 includes lunch followed by the card party. Also for sale will be USA-made RADA cutlery, plus Butler Flavorings (dark & clear vanilla; maple and almond). All invited!



The Christian Mothers of St. Joseph Church will host an Afternoon Tea from 2:00 to 4:00 P.M. on Saturday, May 14th, at St. Joseph Hall on the church campus, 315 Stoney Hollow Road, Cabot. "Holidays Throughout the Year" is the theme of the tea with each table uniquely decorated in a specific holiday. As a traditional Afternoon Tea, tea sandwiches as well as a variety of teas and other sweet delights will be served. There will be Gift Basket Raffles and Door Prizes to highlight the afternoon. Call Rosalyn Hyek at 724-353-1190.



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 MAY 14TH & 15TH, 2016

*Altar Servers*

*Extraordinary  
Ministers  
Of Holy Communion*

*Lector*

*Organist*

*Cantor*

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

Brandon Bowser	Maryellyn Bale	Dave Brestensky	Tom Misutka	Alex Smith
Zachary Bowser	Patty Hughes			
Kennedi Clark	Dave Valencic			

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

Evan McCrea; Akina Boynton	John Nemcek	Susan Shea	Tom Koharchik	Tom Koharchik
Sarah & Hannah Shepherd	Carol Carson			
Hadley Hellgren	Rose Check			

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

Celeste Beacom	Bill Cogley	Rob Svitek	Dave Wesolosky	Choir
Victor Svitek; Evan Giori	Helen James			
Jacob & Erin Schaeffer	Dan Lucovich			



**MASSES FOR THE 7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**SATURDAY:** May 7th  
4:00 P.M. ✦ All Mother's—Living & Deceased

**SUNDAY:** May 8th  
8:30 A.M. ✦ Christian Mothers—Living Members (Christian Mothers)  
11:00 A.M. St. Mary Parishioners & All Mothers—Living & Deceased

**MONDAY:** May 9th  
8:00 A.M. ✦ Fr. George Alderson (Friends)

**TUESDAY:** May 10th  
8:00 A.M. ✦ Dawn Heilman (Bob & Diane Grant)

**WEDNESDAY:** May 11th  
8:00 A.M. ✦ Mary Brestensky (Dolores Watt)


**THURSDAY:** May 12th  
8:00 A.M. ✦ Josephine Holmes (Rose & Dave Check)

**FRIDAY:** May 13th  
8:00 A.M. ✦ William R. Burk (Marthann Larkin)


**MASSES FOR PENTECOST SUNDAY**

**SATURDAY:** May 14th  
4:00 P.M. ✦ Rev. Dominick DeBlasio (Bill & Mary Fullerton)

**SUNDAY:** May 15th  
8:30 A.M. ✦ Russell Stewart (The Policicchio's)  
11:00 A.M. St. Mary Parishioners



The Altar Bread and Wine were donated for this week in loving memory of  
*John Costantino*  
By  
*Wife—Clare and Daughters—Susie, Becky & Beth*



In acknowledging the Real Presence of Christ, The Sanctuary Lamp (Candle) will burn this week in loving memory of  
*Bill Kolish*  
By  
*Wife and Children*




**Offertory Collection for May 1st, 2016**  
No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 578  
No. of Envelopes Received: 241  
Collection: Offertory - \$5,904.00  
Loose - \$658.00  
Children - \$25.25  
Candle Money - \$189.00  
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