



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

May 15th, 2016



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



This Saturday we blessed and dedicated a prayer garden in honor and memory of Fr. Dominick De Blasio whom we are grateful to for donating his property. Since his donation, we have converted this property into a prayer garden where anybody can go to pray and be in touch with nature. We hope that this garden will serve as a place of peace and refuge for those who seek solace and comfort, healing and love through God's presence in His creation. This is just another avenue where we can experience the presence of the Divine.

Thank you to David and Cleatus Burk for doing the landscaping. It looked manicured, colorful and beautiful because of the different plants, flowers, bushes and trees planted. The Christian Mothers donated a Japanese Maple tree. Thank you also to the Christian Mothers for leading the rosary with the community on the day of the blessing and dedication.

As mentioned from the previous bulletin, this garden is a work in progress in which we will be adding some benches and an image of the Blessed Virgin Mary to make it more comfortable and imbibe a prayerful atmosphere.

If anyone is interested in sponsoring these works in progress, please call the Administrative Office at 724-295-2281.

On the other hand, as we celebrate Pentecost Sunday, the Descent of the Holy Spirit, let us pray that we will always be guided by the Holy Spirit to do the right thing. We pray in a special way for our government leaders, that they will be enlightened to work for the common good of the people that God entrusted them to serve, and for us as well, that we may follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit in all that we do.



TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Filled with the Holy Spirit, the apostles begin to speak in tongues (Acts 2:1-11).

Psalm — Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth (Psalm 104).

Second Reading — In one Spirit we are baptized into one body and given to drink of one Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13) or Romans 8:8-17.

Gospel — Jesus Christ appears to the disciples and sends them on their mission with the power to forgive or retain sins through the Holy Spirit (John 20:19-23) or John 14:15-16, 23b-26.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday:** Jas 3:13-18; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mk 9:14-29
- Tuesday:** Jas 4:1-10; Ps 55:7-11a, 23; Mk 9:30-37
- Wednesday:** Jas 4:13-17; Ps 49:2-3, 6-11; Mk 9:38-40
- Thursday:** Jas 5:1-6; Ps 49:14-20; Mk 9:41-50
- Friday:** Jas 5:9-12; Ps 103:1-4, 8-9, 11-12; Mk 10:1-12
- Saturday:** Jas 5:13-20; Ps 141:1-3, 8; Mk 10:13-16
- Sunday:** Prv 8:22-31; Ps 8:4-9; Rom 5:1-5; Jn 16:12-15

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Sunday:** Pentecost Sunday
- Monday:** Seventh Week in Ordinary Time
- Wednesday:** St. John I
- Friday:** St. Bernardine of Siena
- Saturday:** St. Christopher Magallanes and Companions; Blessed Virgin Mary; Armed Forces Day

"The Holy Spirit would appear to create disorder in the Church, since he brings the diversity of charisms and gifts; yet all this, by his working, is a great source of wealth, for the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of unity, which does not mean uniformity, but which leads everything back to harmony." (Pope Francis, Pentecost Homily 2013)

PARISH NEWS

CALENDAR of Events

May 17th Parish Council Meeting - 7:00 P.M.
May 22nd Choir Practice - 9:30—10:45 A.M.
 Baptism - "Bender" - within the 11:00 A.M. Mass
May 25th Fr. Ron's Birthday
May 26th Wedding Rehearsal - 5:30 P.M.
May 27th Wedding - Amadee/Jaksec, Jr. - 3:30 P.M.
 Parish Office Closed
May 29th Corpus Christi Procession - 9:45 A.M.
May 30th Memorial Day Mass at Cemetery - 8:30 A.M.
 Parish Office Closed
June 5th Baccalaureate Mass - 8:30 A.M.
 Christian Mothers Mass - Rosary at 8:00 A.M.



Baccalaureate Service

Baccalaureate Mass will be held on Sunday, June 5th, at 8:30 A.M. Invitations along with registration forms have been mailed out to seniors that we have on our parish records, but we would also like to extend an invitation to any graduating seniors from new families who have joined our parish recently and possibly did not receive a personal invitation. Following Mass, the Christian Mothers will host a continental breakfast for the seniors and their families in our Fellowship Hall. If you plan to attend, place your registration form in the collection basket in an envelope marked "GRADUATION" or call the Administrative Office at 724-295-2281 no later than Tuesday, May 31st. Also, sign-up sheets are located at all church entrances. Your parish family here at St. Mary's wishes to extend to you congratulations on your accomplishment and will pray that God continues to guide you in your lives ahead.



Baptism Preparation

To understand the importance of the Sacrament of Baptism and your obligation as parents, you are required to attend one baptismal class. The next class scheduled for this year will be held on Thursday, June 9th. To register, please call Mark and Melissa at 724-294-9434 or the Administrative Office at 724-295-2281.



DIOCESAN LENTEN APPEAL

We are sincerely grateful to all who have responded to the DLA. To date, the total of pledges and gifts is \$86,057.87. If you haven't made your gift, please prayerfully consider pledging now and return your pledge card at Mass next weekend or return it to the Parish Office. As members of St. Mary's, we are the stewards who are responsible to maintain the church of today and tomorrow.

Sponsored by Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation and Westmoreland County Right to Life

PRO-LIFE TOWN HALL MEETING

Tuesday, May 17, 2016
7:00 P.M.—9:00 P.M.
The Ramada Inn
100 Ramada Inn Drive
Greensburg, PA

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

REGISTRATION NO REQUIRED

FEATURING



MICHAEL CICCOCIOPPO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
PA PRO LIFE FEDERATION



MATTHEW WAGNER
EDUCATION DIRECTOR
PA PRO LIFE FEDERATION



Contact for more information:
Shari Lewis
724-689-8967
lambchops711@wpa.net

TOPICS:

- ABORTION IN PA
- THE GOSNELL AFTERMATH
- PLANNED PARENTHOOD
- THE US SUPREME COURT
- ASSISTED SUICIDE
- THE PROLIFE GENERATION
- A QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION TO FOLLOW

PENNSYLVANIA PRO-LIFE FEDERATION
There's always a reason to choose life...

Spaghetti Dinner

Freeport Volunteer Fire Department #2016
May 22nd - 12:00 Noon—4:00 P.M.
Fire Station—2nd Floor Hall
Take-out dinners will be available as well as handicap seating!



Auditions! Freeport Theatre Festival is seeking actors and musicians for its 2016 summer season. Auditions are scheduled for Saturday, May 21st from 12:00 Noon - 2:00 P.M. and on Sunday, May 22nd, from 3:00 - 4:00 P.M. Please call Marushka at 724-295-1934 if you need any information (www.freeporttheatrefestival.org).

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.....



Today's Diocesan Collection will be for The Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC). Contributions help continue the work of communicating the Gospel at home and around the world. Please be generous!



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. Financial assistance from the Francis Fund is available.



If you have any suspicion about the sexual abuse (or any other type of abuse) of a minor child by anyone — please contact PA Childline immediately at 1-800-932-0313. If the alleged abuser is functioning in a parish, school or diocesan position as clergy, religious, paid staff or volunteer, you are also requested to contact the Bishop's Delegate for Matters of Sexual Misconduct after you have called the Childline number and made the report. The Bishop's Delegate may be reached at 724-837-0901, Ext. 1221.

You are invited to participate in CYO Athletics!

Student parishioners in the Diocese of Greensburg are invited to participate in the following sports programs that develop skills and sportsmanship:



- Girls Basketball (Fall)
- Co-Ed Cross Country (Fall)
- Boys Basketball (Winter)
- Girls Cheerleading (Winter)
- Girls Volleyball (Spring)
- Co-Ed Soccer (Spring)



For additional information, please call the CYO Athletics Coordinator at 724-552-2594.

Rachel's Vineyard Weekend Retreat

If you know someone who is struggling spiritually with the aftereffects of an abortion experience, whether in the near or distant past, please encourage them to attend the next Rachel's Vineyard Retreat which will be held in Pittsburgh from Friday, May 27th to Sunday, May 29th. For registration and details about the retreat, contact Toni Jester at 412-352-5348 or email her at: toniafj1@comcast.net. There is a registration fee for the retreat but the retreat organizers have been told that if anyone from the Diocese of Greensburg finds the cost prohibitive, Greensburg Catholic Charities will be able to help individuals by defraying some or all of the cost.



All are welcome! May 20th: XLT-Adoration of Our Lord at 6:30 P.M at St. James in Apollo (125 Park Road). They will have music from their worship band, an inspiring talk by Fr. Thomas More Sikora, a Benedictine from St. Vincent, a time for silent adoration, Benediction and Confession followed by snacks and a time of fellowship in the church basement. For more information call 724-212-6740. Bring a friend!



Everyone is invited to a Tri Chapter Event sponsored by the American Guild of Organists at the St. Vincent Basilica, Latrobe on Monday, May 23rd from 2:00 to 8:45 P.M. This event includes a special presentation, organ crawl by John-Paul Buzard, organ builder and recital by Principal Archabbey Organist Fr. Cyprian Constantine. Dinner reservations are required by May 16th. Please contact Marisa Cazden, Dean of SHU Chapter of the AGO at: mcazden@dioceseofgreensburg.org for additional information.

The New Evangelization and Higher Education: The Vision of Pope Francis

"May the Church be a place of God's mercy and hope, where all feel welcomed, loved, forgiven and encouraged..." —Pope Francis



May 23 - 25, 2016

Cardinal Donald Wuerl, S.T.D., Archbishop of Washington, will keynote a conference at St. Vincent College, Latrobe, "The New Evangelization and Higher Education: The Vision and Pope Francis," on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, May 23rd, 24th & 25th. Other speakers include Dr. Carolyn Woo, president & chief executive officer of Catholic Relief Services and Bishop Robert Barron, auxiliary bishop of Los Angeles, founder of Word on Fire Catholic Ministries. Registration fee of \$350.00 includes all presentations, two nights lodging on campus, meals and snacks. For more information or to register, please visit: www.stvincent.edu/newevangelization; 724-805-2177.



Freeport Jr./Sr. High Jazz Concert will be held at 7:00 P.M. on Tuesday, May 17th, in Riverside Park.

Freeport's Annual Memorial Day Observance will be held Monday, May 30th. Activities commence at 9:30 A.M. as the parade departs from the old Freeport Junior High for Riverside Drive. This year's parade route will turn right onto Buffalo Street to 5th Street to Market Street, then onto Riverside Drive. Riverfront Services will begin at 10:00 A.M. in front of Freeport High-Rise to honor those who have fought and died for our country's freedom. This year's guest speaker is Gary Glenn, U.S. Navy Veteran and 1973 graduate of Freeport High School. Ceremony participants include FHS Band and Choir, Freeport Fire and EMS Departments, 78th PA Volunteer Infantry, Sea Cadets, several local scout troops, as well as other community members. In the event of rain, Services will be held at St. Mary, Mother of God Catholic Church on High Street.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR MAY 21ST & 22ND, 2016

Altar Servers

*Extraordinary
Ministers
Of Holy Communion*

Lector

Organist

Cantor

Saturday - 4:00 P.M.

Erica Brestensky
Bill Girardi
Fred Walker

Jackie DeFelice
Dave Brestensky
Fred Walker

Tim Fogarty

Tom Misutka

Jamie Phillips

Sunday - 8:30 A.M.

Robert Kolish; Katie Huth
Brianna & Olivia Sutara
Eva DeMeno

Lisa Boylan
Pat Ralston
Kim Holbein

Laura Huth

Tom Koharchik

Tom Koharchik

Sunday - 11:00 A.M.

Marie Pelliccione
Megan & Garrett Rossey
Paige Liti

Andre Volek
Melissa Schaeffer
Doree Rossey

Marushka Steele

Dave Wesolosky

Choir


Mass Intentions

MASSES FOR PENTECOST SUNDAY


SATURDAY: 4:00 P.M.	May 14th ✦ Rev. Dominick DeBlasio (Bill & Mary Fullerton)
SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. 11:00 A.M.	May 15th ✦ Russell Stewart (The Policicchio's) St. Mary Parishioners
MONDAY: 8:00 A.M.	May 16th ✦ Don & Charmaine Macurdy (Shelly, Mike, Katie, Craig & Klaudia King)
TUESDAY: 8:00 A.M.	May 17th ✦ Kathy Dudek (Family)
WEDNESDAY: 8:00 A.M.	May 18th ✦ Harold Wyant (Wyant Family)
THURSDAY: 8:00 A.M.	May 19th ✦ Ambrose & Helen Gallagher (Ron & Linda Gallagher Family)
FRIDAY: 8:00 A.M.	May 20th ✦ Mary Ann Hoffman (Amy & Andrew Lesko)

MASSES FOR THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

SATURDAY: 4:00 P.M.	May 21st ✦ Joseph Hager (Martin & Silvia Sikora)
SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. 11:00 A.M.	May 22nd ✦ Stanley & Esther Smith (Daughter) St. Mary Parishioners




The Altar Bread and Wine were donated for this week in loving memory of *Harry Goodman* By *Helen Goodman*



In acknowledging the Real Presence of Christ, The Sanctuary Lamp (Candle) will burn this week in loving memory of *Cheryl Krzeminski* By *Mrs. Patricia Kriger Family*



Offertory Collection for May 8th, 2016
No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 578
No. of Envelopes Received: 227
Collection: Offertory - \$4,714.00
Loose - \$302.00
Children - \$17.90
Catholic Accent - \$401.00
Ascension Thursday - \$784.00
THANK YOU!



Saturday, May 21st, 2016
Charlene Becker

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