



# 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**

*August 21st, 2016*  
*Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time*



**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*  
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



Thank you to each and every one of you who participated in the Mission Cooperative Plan last weekend. The generosity you have shared and extended will help out the Diocese of Daet, the recipient of this year's Mission Cooperative Plan, in their mission and evangelization.

Fr. Ben Cammayo, who represented the Diocese of Daet, shared with us that because the Diocese of Daet has only twenty-eight parishes and three quasi parishes serving the 93.5% Catholics of 583,000 population, many people who live in the villages have to walk several miles in order to attend Church for Sunday mass. Or the priest, assisted by the catechists, have to walk towards the village in order to celebrate mass, especially on their patronal feast. Mass baptisms are common during that celebration. The priest can have as many as sixty to one hundred infant baptisms in one day. So by the time the priest is finished with the mass baptisms, he is already exhausted and has to still walk back to the parish. He narrated that the priest has to bring an umbrella or a bamboo rattan as they walk towards the village in order to protect themselves from the snakes along the way. And because some parishes are in the coastal and remote

area, public transportations are not that many and the roads are not concrete. So the priest and the people have to walk or use boats as their mode of transportation. Most of the people are either fishermen or farmers.

And so, given that scenario, the assistance that we provide through the Mission Cooperative Plan will help the Diocese of Daet support their continuing efforts in their mission and evangelization, especially in constructing more worship sites in order to be more accessible for the people.

We may be far away from them, but our generosity makes a huge difference for them.

# THANK YOU.

## We Made A Difference.

### TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — Brothers and sisters of every race and language will be brought to Jerusalem (Isaiah 66:18-21).

**Psalm** — Go out to all the world and tell the Good News (Psalm 117).

**Second Reading** — Be strong and endure your trials as the “discipline” of a loving God, for it will result in the peaceful fruit of righteousness (Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13).

**Gospel** — People from east and west, north and south, recline at table in the kingdom of God (Luke 13:22-30).

### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Sunday:** Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time  
**Monday:** The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
**Tuesday:** St. Rose of Lima  
**Wednesday:** St. Bartholomew  
**Thursday:** St. Louis of France; St. Joseph Calasanz  
**Saturday:** St. Monica

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday:** 2 Thes 1:1-5, 11-12; Ps 96:1-5; Mt 23:13-22  
**Tuesday:** 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17; Ps 96:10-13; Mt 23:23-26  
**Wednesday:** Rv 21:9b-14; Ps 145:10-13, 17-18; Jn 1:45-51  
**Thursday:** 1 Cor 1:1-9; Ps 145:2-7; Mt 24:42-51  
**Friday:** 1 Cor 1:17-25; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11; Mt 25:1-13  
**Saturday:** 1 Cor 1:26-31; Ps 33:12-13, 18-21; Mt 25:14-30  
**Sunday:** Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29; Ps 68:4-7, 10-11; Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a; Lk 14:1, 7-14

### PARDON QUICKLY

*If you have anything to pardon, pardon quickly. Slow forgiveness is little better than no forgiveness. —Sir Arthur Pinero*



# PARISH NEWS

## Learning about Divine Mercy - Week 12



*Trust in the mercy of God...this gets us to the heart of the message of Divine Mercy! God wants us to know that the graces of His mercy are dependent upon our trust. The more we trust in Jesus, the more we will receive. "When a soul approaches Me with trust, I fill it with such an abundance of graces that it cannot contain them...but radiates them to other souls!" (Diary 1074) How to live out the message of Divine Mercy? Remember your "A-B-C's":*

*A—Ask for Mercy - "Souls that make an appeal to My mercy delight me."*

*B—Be Merciful - Mercy has two movements....heart and arms.*

*C—Completely Trust*

*Pope Saint John Paul II said, "Look at the image and hear what Faustina heard, 'Fear nothing, I am with you always' and if you respond with "Jesus I trust in you", you will find comfort in all your anxieties and fears." "There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear." 1 John 4:18b*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- August 19th-21st "Spirit of St. Mary's" - FTF- 7:00 P.M.
- August 24th Special Choir Practice - 6:00 P.M.  
Biking for God - 6:30 P.M.
- August 26-28th "Spirit of St. Mary's" - FTF- 7:00 P.M.
- August 28th Christian Mother's Family Picnic
- August 31st Biking for God - 6:30 P.M.
- September 2nd First Friday
- September 4th Christian Mother's Monthly Mass - 8:30 A.M.
- September 5th Labor Day—Parish Office Closed
- September 7th 190th Anniversary Mass - 6:00 P.M.
- September 10th Christian Mother's Holy Doors Pilgrimage
- September 12th Christian Mother's Meeting - 7:00 P.M.



To understand the importance of the Sacrament of Baptism and your obligation as parents, you are required to attend one baptismal class. These classes are held four times a year. The next class is scheduled for Thursday, September 15th. To register, you are asked to call the Administrative Center at 724-295-2281 or you can call Mark and Melissa at 724-230-4450.



RCIA is intended for any non-Catholic who is interested in learning about our faith or has a desire to become a member of the Catholic Church. It is also for Catholics who have been baptized but have not received the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist or Confirmation. Are you interested in becoming Catholic? Do you need to complete the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation)? If any of these situations apply to you, please call Fr. Ron or Bill Girardi at 724-295-2281. Our RCIA program will soon begin.



In preparation of our 190th Anniversary Mass on Wednesday, September 7th, there will be a mandatory choir practice on Wednesday, August 24th, at 6:00 P.M. for all choir members, vocalists and instrumentalists. Please mark your calendar and plan on attending this important practice!



**REST IN PEACE**—In your charity of prayers, please remember the soul of **Mark V. Fuhrman** who recently passed away. Welcome Mark and all who have gone before us into the joy of everlasting life and bring comfort and peace to their families.



**St. Mary's Christian Mothers** will hold their annual summer picnic on Sunday, August 28th, at 120 Ford City Road, (Harbison's). All members and their families are invited. Just bring your appetites and something yummy to share. *RSVP by August 22nd to Janis—724-295-4056.*

**Year of Mercy—Holy Door Pilgrimage** - A day trip sponsored by the Christian Mothers will be held on Saturday, September 10th. Carpooling from St. Mary Church parking lot at 7:00 A.M. and returning approximately at 2:00 P.M. All are welcome to participate. Please let Bridget know if you would like to attend by emailing her at: [momfogarty@gmail.com](mailto:momfogarty@gmail.com) or by calling her at 724-294-0089 no later than Tuesday, September 6th.

## 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



## Religious Education

**Registration** - If you have a child that will be attending pre-school or kindergarten in September or if there is anyone that has recently joined our parish and has to pre-register their children for Religious Education classes (Pre-School thru 8th grade), please call Helen James, Director of Religious Education, at 724-295-4758. **If your child attended our Religious Education program last year, there is no need to re-register this year!**



Do you like working outside? Our cemetery is in need of someone to help with the grass trimming and light labor work. One or two days a week from April to November. Interested? Call our caretaker, Richard Bertino, 724-295-3632 (home); 724-602-5986 (cell).

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



**Explore** a vocation to the Priesthood by joining Bishop Malesic for an evening of fellowship, a meal and a chance to hear his journey to priesthood. The St. Andrew Dinner is open to all young, single, Catholic men, high school-aged or older. There is one remaining opportunity to attend and that will be on Saturday, September 3rd, St. Rita Church in Connellsville. For more information or to make a reservation, send your request to: [vocations@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:vocations@dioceseofgreensburg.org).

## Protecting God's Children

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.



All are welcome! Saturday, August 27th: XLT-Adoration of Our Lord at 6:30 P.M. at St. James the Greater Parish—109 Owens View Road, Apollo. There will be music from their worship band, an inspiring talk by Rev. Tyler Bandura, Associate Director of the Office for Clergy Vocations and serves as Episcopal Master of Ceremonies and Chaplain at Greensburg Central Catholic High School. Fr. Bandura's topic will be "Vocations: God's Call to Holiness." There will be a time for silent adoration, Benediction and Confession followed by snacks and a time of fellowship in the church basement. Take a friend!

### Freeport Theatre Festival celebrates its 27th Season

*A new historical drama about the life of a church and its people during the best and worst of times: 1800-1904*

# Spirit of St. Mary's

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY  
RENNICK STEELE

**Performance Dates:** Friday, Saturday, Sunday  
August 12,13,14 19,20,21, 26,27,28 in 2016

**Curtain:** 7:00 p.m.

**Freeport Theater Footlights Gallery:**  
*Freeport Through the Looking Glass: Classic collectibles and the Lavender Tea Room*

Charis B. Howard in 1904

**No person is an iceberg** drifting on the ocean of history. Each one of us belongs to a great family in which we have our own place and our own role to play. In Rennick Steele's new historical drama, *Spirit of St. Mary's*, we follow the early family members of a church in a river town yet to be built.

Our story begins after the Revolutionary War, a period marked by the currents of liberty, conscience and self-determination; and, it continues through the Civil War and ends in 1904, a new century of possibilities and dangers unforeseen. A beloved saint wrote: "Life is a talent entrusted to us so that we can transform it and increase it, making it a gift to others." (St. John Paul II)

*Spirit of St. Mary's* is about that 190 year-old gift. Our story begins with a priest, in a canoe, and a lantern guiding him along the river—come and take that ride in the canoe with us and be touched by history.

### General Information

**Ticket Prices:**  
\$15/12/10  
(General Admission/Military/Seniors/Student)

**Location:**  
The Steele Farm in Allegheny Township  
Nestled in the northern tip of the Laurel Highlands

Two miles southeast of Freeport  
off Rte. 356 on White Cloud Road

**Information:**  
Marishka Steele at 724-295-1934  
or [www.freeporttheatrefestival.org](http://www.freeporttheatrefestival.org)

**Pre-Theatre Dinner:**  
River Forest Country Club  
Seating at 4:30 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.  
Reservations a must: 724-295-2298

Handicap Accessible Free Parking

"Come play with us."  
If you have a secret wish to participate in the life of a theatrical production:

**VOLUNTEER AT FTFF**

Follow us on Facebook

**YOU'RE INVITED!** All adults are invited to St. Joseph, Cabot on Tuesday, August 23rd, at 7:00 P.M. to their *Christlife* Get Together and Evangelization Night. They will present information on the New Evangelization and their fall *Discovering Christ* session as well as socialize, share some appetizers and drinks and play a few games. Questions? Contact Marian at 724-352-3443.



A one-day bus trip to the awe inspiring Sorrowful Mother Shrine, the oldest place of pilgrimage dedicated to the Blessed Mother in the Midwest. Departing from St. Joseph Church, Cabot, at 8:00 A.M., on Sunday, October 9th. Over 120 acres of wood and lawn make up the grounds. Paved walkways wind among the canopy of trees to the Stations of the Cross; replicas of Lourdes and Sepulcher Grottos along with over 25 other shrines and grottos as well as special memorials and quiet gardens ([www.sorrowfulmothershrine.org](http://www.sorrowfulmothershrine.org)). **Reservations and payment must be received no later than August 31st.** Contact person is Darlene Geibel at 724-352-3216.

# MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST 27TH & 28TH, 2016

*Altar Servers*

*Extraordinary  
Ministers  
Of Holy Communion*

*Lector*

*Organist*

*Cantor*

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

Dave Brestensky  
Bill Girardi  
Fred Walker

Jackie DeFelice  
Patty Hughes  
Deb Showers

Tim Fogarty

Verne Bergstrom

Jamie Phillips

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

Robert Kolish; Katie Huth  
Breanna & Olivia Sutara  
Eva DeMeno

Lisa Boylan  
Pat Ralston  
Kim Holbein

Susan Shea

Tom Koharchik

Tom Koharchik

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

Marie Pelliccione  
Megan & Garrett Rossey  
Mason DeMeno; Paige Liti

Bill Cogley  
Lisa Isenberg  
Marushka Steele

Rob Svitek

Dave Wesolosky

Joel Schaeffer

## Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK

**MASSES FOR THE 21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**SATURDAY:** August 20th  
4:00 P.M. ✦ Thomas Dowling (Wife—Betty)

**SUNDAY:** August 21st  
8:30 A.M. St. Mary Parishioners  
11:00 A.M. ✦ James F. Jordan (Ron & Nancy J. Snyder)

**MONDAY:** August 22nd  
8:00 A.M. ✦ Samuel Chiusano (Bill & Mary Fullerton)

**TUESDAY:** August 23rd  
8:00 A.M. ✦ Joseph Hager (Ken & Patty Hughes)

**WEDNESDAY:** August 24th  
8:00 A.M. ✦ Patricia Pflugh (Thomas Cramer)

**THURSDAY:** August 25th  
8:00 A.M. ✦ Gertrude Chahoy (Michael & Mariann Chahoy)

**FRIDAY:** August 26th  
8:00 A.M. ✦ Joseph A. Zanetti (Daughter—Marie & Husband—Rob)

**MASSES FOR THE 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**SATURDAY:** August 27th  
4:00 P.M. ✦ David Lutz (Larry & Judy Lutz)

**SUNDAY:** August 28th  
8:30 A.M. St. Mary Parishioners  
11:00 A.M. ✦ Joseph Marietti (Barb & Craig Barch)



The Altar Bread and Wine  
were donated for this week  
in loving memory of  
**WALTER & HANNAH KONKLE**  
By  
*Bill and Mary Fullerton*



In acknowledging the Real Presence of Christ,  
The Sanctuary Lamp (Candle) will burn this week in  
loving memory of  
**LEONARD, MARY AND  
HELEN SKYZINSKI**  
By  
Family

## Collections

**Offertory Collection for August 14th, 2016**

No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 589

No. of Envelopes Received: 211

Collection: Offertory - \$4,959.00

Loose - \$268.00

Children - \$20.45

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