



# 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**

*September 4th, 2016*  
*Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time*

## The Cost Of being Committed to Christ

**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



In a few days, the 7th of September, 2016 at 6:00 P.M., we will be celebrating our 190th Parish Anniversary through a mass of thanksgiving, to be presided by our kind bishop, Most Rev. Edward C. Malesic, Bishop of Greensburg.

We are honored because apart from the Bishop, we will have twenty-six priests who will be concelebrating and that includes former pastors and administrators of our parish, Msgr. Thomas Klinzing, son of our parish and now serving as Judicial Vicar at the Diocese of West Palm Beach in Florida, eleven Filipino priests, and other priests. Two deacons will also be in attendance - Rev. Deacon Dan Frescura from the Diocese of Greensburg and Rev. Deacon Patrick Wood from the Diocese of Pittsburgh. They will be assisting the bishop in the concelebrated mass. This will be a great celebration.

I encourage you and your family to attend and be a part of our mass of thanksgiving as we celebrate our 190th parish anniversary.

We thank God for this momentous event and our Blessed Mother as the patroness of our parish because even if we are an old parish, we are still growing and we are blessed through the many pastors who shepherd us in our life's journey.

I also would like to thank those who have been part of the preparation for this big celebration, especially the Pastoral Council, Finance Council, staff and some individuals who rendered their time and assistance generously.

May God, through the intercession of our Blessed Mother Mary, continue to bless our parish community and bring us to holiness where God wants us to be.

# "Mass of Thanksgiving"

### TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — Who can ever know God's counsel unless God gives wisdom and sends the Holy Spirit from on high? (Wisdom 9:13-18b).

**Psalm** — In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge (Psalm 90).

**Second Reading** — Paul asks Philemon to accept back his slave Onesimus, not as a slave but as a brother (Philemon 9-10, 12-17).

**Gospel** — To be a disciple of Jesus one must carry one's own cross and renounce all possessions (Luke 14:25-33).

### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

**Sunday:** Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Monday:** Labor Day

**Thursday:** The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

**Friday:** St. Peter Claver

**Saturday:** Blessed Virgin Mary

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Monday:** 1 Cor 5:1-8; Ps 5:5-7, 12; Lk 6:6-11, or, for Labor Day, any readings from the Mass "For the Blessings of Human Labor," nos. 907-911

**Tuesday:** 1 Cor 6:1-11; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b; Lk 6:12-19

**Wednesday:** 1 Cor 7:25-31; Ps 45:11-12, 14-17; Lk 6:20-26

**Thursday:** Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30; Ps 13:6; Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 [18-23]

**Friday:** 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22b-27; Ps 84:3-6, 12; Lk 6:39-42

**Saturday:** 1 Cor 10:14-22; Ps 116:12-13, 17-18; Lk 6:43-49

**Sunday:** Ex 32:7-11, 13-14; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 17, 19; 1 Tm 1:12-17; Lk 15:1-32 [1-10]

### FOLLOW YOUR PATH

*You have to do your own growing no matter how tall your grandfather was. —Abraham Lincoln*

# PARISH NEWS



The family of GENO PERNAZZA invites you to an Open House celebrating his 90th birthday. This will be held in St. Mary's Fellowship Hall on Saturday, September 17th, from 5:00 (or immediately following the 4:00 P.M. Mass) to 8:00 P.M. Geno would be thrilled to have his church family stop by to say hello. Light refreshments will be served so in order to properly prepare, RSVP to the following if you are planning to attend: Cathy Singer - 412-889-5552 (call or text); email: [casinger@zoominternet.net](mailto:casinger@zoominternet.net); or sign the sheet provided at the church entrances no later than September 10th. There will be no formal invitations sent so please spread the word to anyone in the community that you think may want to attend.

**HAPPY LABOR DAY** The Administrative Center will be closed on Monday, September 5th, in observance of the Labor Day Holiday.



All Altar Servers, Lectors, and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are asked to pick up their new schedules in the Sacristy after today's mass. **Note - Please remember to find a replacement if you cannot serve your scheduled time.**



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, please call the Administrative Center at 724-295-2281 or Mark and Melissa at 724-230-4450.

## YOUTH AND TEENS FOR CHRIST

The Teen Ministry leaders invite all of the teens, grades 8th – 12th, and their parents to attend a meet and greet to begin the school year. The meeting will be held in our Fellowship Hall on Sunday, September 18th, following the 8:30 A.M. Mass.



**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. Email or call Bridget at: [momfogarty@gmail.com](mailto:momfogarty@gmail.com); 724-294-0089 if you would like to attend no later than Tuesday, September 6th. The **monthly meetings** will resume on Monday, September 12th, at 7:00 P.M., in the Christian Mother's Room. The rosary will be prayed at 6:30 P.M. *The Christian Mothers extend an invitation to any Catholic woman interested in learning more about the organization. You are invited to attend their monthly gathering and prayerfully consider joining this special group of ladies.*

## 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 classes last year, there is no need to re-register this year!**

### CALENDAR of Events

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>September 5th</b><br/><b>September 7th</b><br/><b>September 10th</b><br/><b>Sept. 10th/11th</b><br/><b>September 11th</b><br/><b>September 12th</b><br/><b>September 14th</b><br/><b>September 15th</b><br/><b>September 18th</b></p> | <p><b>Labor Day—Parish Office Closed</b><br/><b>190th Anniversary Mass - 6:00 P.M.</b><br/><b>Christian Mother's Holy Doors Pilgrimage</b><br/><b>Donut Social</b><br/><b>1st Day of Religious Education</b><br/><b>Christian Mother's Meeting - 7:00 P.M.</b><br/><b>Biking for God - 6:30 P.M.</b><br/><b>Baptismal Preparation Class - 7:00 P.M.</b><br/><b>Catechetical Sunday</b><br/><b>Teen Ministry Meet &amp; Greet - Fellowship Hall (Immediately following 8:30 A.M. Mass)</b><br/><b>Biking for God - 6:30 P.M.</b><br/><b>Biking for God - 6:30 P.M.</b></p> |
|---|---|

### 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: \_\_\_\_\_

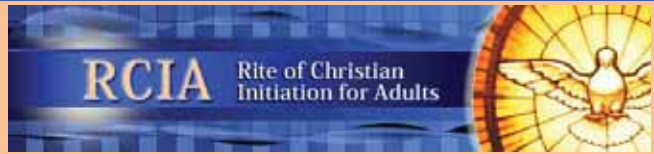
Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_

New Registration

Change Address/Phone

Moving



The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the process used to add members to our faith community. Generally, every September, a new group gathers and prepares for Baptism, Confirmation, or First Eucharist. Anyone is able to investigate the Catholic faith by attending these sessions. Do you know someone who is thinking of becoming Catholic or, at least, wants to know more about our religion? Maybe you know someone who was baptized in the Faith, but was never educated in the faith nor received First Communion or Confirmation. The RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is a journey of faith, spread over several months, that the Church uses to bring these people into the Catholic faith. If you would like to get started, please call Father Ron or Bill Girardi at 724-295-2281 or email: [thechurch@stmaryfreeport.com](mailto:thechurch@stmaryfreeport.com).

Around the Diocese and Beyond.....



At the moment of baptism, we are called by God to follow Jesus and to a life of holiness. Our response to this event continues throughout the rest of our lives. This year, join Pathways and explore what it means to dynamically live your identity as Catholic Christians. Each session is an opportunity to grow in faith; to awaken your mind and refresh your spirit so that together we are better able to share in the mission of Jesus Christ. The host sites are St. Edward Church, Herminie on Wednesday evenings and Christ the King Church, Leechburg on Thursday evenings. For additional information or to register online, please visit: <http://goo.gl/ddf0ak> or contact the Office for Lay Ecclesial Ministry at: [pathways@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:pathways@dioceseofgreensburg.org); 724-552-2598. Financial assistance from the Francis Fund is available. Registration for Pathways closes September 16th.



A diocesan-organized *Day of Mercy* will be held in Indiana County on Saturday, September 17th. The *Day of Mercy* — the second of four that will be held during the Jubilee Year of Mercy — is designed to encourage participants to gather in prayer, serve others by engaging in a corporal or spiritual work of mercy, then celebrate Mass and have a light dinner with Bishop Edward C. Malesic. The Mass will be September 17th at 5:00 P.M., at Ss. Simon and Jude Parish, Blairsville, one of the designated *Year of Mercy* Pilgrimage Churches in the diocese. Dinner will follow in the parish center. Participants are asked to identify and then engage in a work of mercy or service project. The diocese has identified a few unique service projects to be held September 17th. Multiple volunteers are needed. Please check the diocesan website for a listing of agencies accepting volunteers on September 17th and the need of each agency. To register for the *Day of Mercy*, visit: [www.dioceseofgreensburg.org](http://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org) and link into the rotating panel or search for “Days of Mercy,” or call 724-837-0901, Ext. 1244. The registration deadline is September 12th. Additional Days of Mercy will be held in Armstrong and Westmoreland counties in October.



The Sisters of Reparation to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus ([www.sistersofreparation.org](http://www.sistersofreparation.org)) are offering a Parish Mission on September 10th-12th at St. Edward, Herminie and Seven Dolors, Yukon. The Sisters will speak at all the masses on September 10th & 11th. They will present “A Message of Divine Mercy” on Sunday at 2:00 P.M. (at Seven Dolors) and 7:00 P.M. (at St. Edward) and “Behold this Heart” on Monday at 9:15 A.M. (at St. Edward’s). The Mission will include: Exposition and Benediction, Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Veneration of Relic of St. Faustina and Confessions. For Mass times or additional information, please contact Seven Dolors at 724-722-3141 ([www.sevendolors.org](http://www.sevendolors.org)) or Saint Edward’s at 724-446-5197 ([www.saint-edward.org](http://www.saint-edward.org)).



Knights of Columbus #2602 - A Pancake & Sausage Breakfast will be held on Sunday, September 11th, 9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. at the council home located at 28 Garfield Street, Natrona. Cost is \$6.00/Adults; \$3.00/Children under 6. Everyone welcome!

The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual St. Lawrence Church Festival (Cadogan)  
**Saturday, September 10, 2016— 11:00 AM—8:00 PM**  
 There will be delicious food, a fantastic basket raffle, games for all ages, and much more.



Bring the Family!

christ the king church  
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**FRIDAY, SEPT. 9th**  
**8 AM to 4 PM**  
**SATURDAY, SEPT. 10th**  
**8 AM to 7 PM**

# MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER 10TH & 11TH, 2016

*Altar Servers*

*Extraordinary  
Ministers  
Of Holy Communion*

*Lector*

*Organist*

*Cantor*

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

Brandon Bowser	Maryellyn Bale	Jackie DeFelice	Verne Bergstrom	Jamie Phillips
Zachary Bowser	Bill Girardi			
Kennedi Clark	Dave Brestensky			

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

Andrew Nigra; Luke Boylan	Laura Huth	John Nemcek	Tom Koharchik	Tom Koharchik
Madison & Austin Bachar	Carol Carson			
Alexandra Lasko	Rose Check			

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

Celeste Beacom	Helen James	Debbie Baustert	Dave Wesolosky	Choir
Victor Svitek; Evan Giori	Andre Volek			
Jacob & Erin Schaeffer	Dan Lucovich			

**Mass Intentions**  
FOR THE WEEK 

**MASSES FOR THE 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**SATURDAY:** September 3rd  
4:00 P.M. ✦ Eunice Bergstrom (Bob & Judy Bergstrom)

**SUNDAY:** September 4th  
8:30 A.M. ✦ Gerald & Josephine Holmes (Rebecca Benton)  
11:00 A.M. ✦ Aaron Myers (John & Betty Lou Nemcek)

**MONDAY:** September 5th  
9:00 A.M. ✦ Don Macurdy (Bob & Judy Bergstrom)

**TUESDAY:** September 6th  
8:00 A.M. ✦ Andrew & Pauline Rezak (Posney & Rezak Families)

**WEDNESDAY:** September 7th  
6:00 P.M. Mass of Thanksgiving for 190 years of Catholic Faith St. Mary Parishioners—Living and Deceased


**THURSDAY:** September 8th  
8:00 A.M. ✦ Anita Rosato (Family)

**FRIDAY:** September 9th  
8:00 A.M. COMMUNION SERVICE


**MASSES FOR THE 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**SATURDAY:** September 10th  
4:00 P.M. ✦ Edward Donnelly (Edna Barr)

**SUNDAY:** September 11th  
8:30 A.M. ✦ Don Macurdy (John & Brenda DeMeno)  
11:00 A.M. ✦ St. Mary Parishioners



The Altar Bread and Wine were donated for this week in loving memory of **JOHN & BETTY VALARIK**  
By **Beth & Ken Reeves**  
(Daughter & Son-in-law)



In acknowledging the Real Presence of Christ, The Sanctuary Lamp (Candle) will burn this week in loving memory of **EUNICE BERGSTROM**  
By **Bob & Judy Bergstrom**




**Collections**  
*Offertory Collection for August 28th, 2016*  
No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 589  
No. of Envelopes Received: 202  
Collection: Offertory - \$4,026.00  
Loose - \$246.00  
Children - \$38.50  
Catholic Accent - \$294.00  
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