



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 18th, 2016
Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time



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*
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



Although I am home in the Philippines joining my family as I prepare in the presiding of my sister's wedding, I keep you in my daily prayers.

I also reflect on the past week (Wednesday, September 7th) as we gathered with our Bishop and former pastors to celebrate 190 years of deep faith here at St. Mary, Mother of God Parish. I was over-joyed in seeing so many attend this great celebration and honor those who came before us, marked with the sign of faith, and who built this most wonderful parish that we celebrate in today.

The Bishop made a special comment as to the love he felt in all of you, and even took a moment to post some pictures and his reflections on his Face Book page. Thank you, Bishop Malesic, for joining us in this memorable celebration!

I would be remiss if I did not mention the countless individuals who worked so hard in making our mass and dinner a huge success. First, may I thank the pastoral and finance councils, and the anniversary committee: Jeff Polana, Beth Macurdy, Bridget Fogarty, Marianne Sheehan, and Bill Girardi. Those who made the beautiful floral arrangements for the church and fellowship hall: Janice Harbison and Gail Cooper. Those who offered up donations for the programs, centerpieces, and flowers for the church and hall, including the cleaning of the church pews: Dorothy Dobransky, Mary Fullerton, Dave Posney, Bill Girardi and the Bender family. To the Christian mothers, special thanks for providing the appetizers prior to the dinner, and to Karen Brestensky for the beautiful Anniversary cake. Thanks so

much to all the volunteers who came and did a thorough cleaning of the church (you know who you are), including the church grounds of which are decorated so beautifully for the fall season!

And finally, to all those who enhanced our liturgy with such beautiful music: our church choir, Choir Director Tom Koharchik, Dave Wesolosky who played the piano, vocalist Jamie Phillips, and our guest organist Michael Heilman from Christ Prince of Peace Parish, Ford City along with our trumpeters Bob Skamai from St. Mary's, Yatesboro and Matt Crupie from St. Gertrude's, Vandergrift.

What a true blessing we have witnessed in all who made this 190th year of celebration a success. May God's blessings be upon all of you! —Fr. Ron

Thank you

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The Lord never forgets the sins of those who take advantage of the poor (Amos 8:4-7).

Psalm — Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor (Psalm 113).

Second Reading — Pray to the Lord, who wants everyone to be saved (1 Timothy 2:1-8).

Gospel — Be trustworthy in all things. Serve God, the only master, not mammon (Luke 16:1-13 [10-13]).

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time; Catechetical Sunday

Monday: St. Januarius

Tuesday: Ss. Andrew Kim Tae-gõn and Paul Chõng Ha-sang and Companions

Wednesday: St. Matthew

Thursday: Autumn begins

Friday: St. Pio of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio)

Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Prv 3:27-34; Ps 15:2-5; Lk 8:16-18

Tuesday: Prv 21:1-6, 10-13; Ps 119:1, 27, 30, 34, 35, 44; Lk 8:19-21

Wednesday: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13; Ps 19:2-5; Mt 9:9-13

Thursday: Eccl 1:2-11; Ps 90:3-6, 12-14, 17bc; Lk 9:7-9

Friday: Eccl 3:1-11; Ps 144:1b, 2abc, 3-4; Lk 9:18-22

Saturday: Eccl 11:9 — 12:8; Ps 90:3-6, 12-14, 17; Lk 9:43b-45

Sunday: Am 6:1a, 4-7; Ps 146:7-10; 1 Tm 6:11-16; Lk 16:19-31

RIPPLES

There is a ripple effect in all we do. What you do touches me; what I do touches you. —Anonymous



**Christian Mothers
 Year of Mercy
 Holy Door
 Pilgrimage**

**Saturday
 September 10th
 2016**



PARISH NEWS

<i>CALENDAR of Events</i>	
September 21st	<i>Biking for God - 6:30 P.M.</i>
September 22nd	<i>RCIA - Inquiry - 7:00 P.M. (Nemcek Residence)</i>
September 25th	<i>Religious Education Classes—9:30 - 10:35 A.M. Security Guard - "Lisa Boylan" Choir Practice - 9:45—10:45 A.M.; 11:00 A.M. Mass</i>
September 28th	<i>Biking for God - 6:30 P.M.</i>
October 2nd	<i>Christian Mother's Mass—8:30 A.M. Teen Ministry Meeting—9:25 A.M. Religious Education Classes—9:30 - 10:35 A.M. Security Guard - "Kera Cromer" Choir Practice - 9:45—10:45 A.M.; 11:00 A.M. Mass</i>
October 3rd	<i>Christian Mother's Meeting—6:30 P.M.</i>
October 7th	<i>First Friday Adoration</i>
October 8th & 9th	<i>Donut Social - Immediately following Mass</i>
October 9th	<i>Religious Education Classes—9:30 - 10:35 A.M. Security Guard - "Kera Cromer" Choir Practice - 9:45—10:45 A.M.; 11:00 A.M. Mass</i>

Religious Education

The third Sunday of September in the United States is celebrated as Catechetical Sunday in honor to acknowledge and commission those who are catechists. Today is Catechetical Sunday and this year, the Church will focus on the theme, *Prayer: The Faith Prayed*, which reminds catechists to nurture their prayer lives, which in turn allows for a deepening of their vocational call by attentively listening to God's voice dictating the grace of their lives.

St. Mary Cemetery - All flowers and flags will be removed by cemetery personnel on October 1st. If arrangements, flowers or flags are wanted, the owners must remove them prior to September 30th.

When leaving and arriving for Sunday morning mass, we ask that you be extra careful and have a watchful eye for children being picked up or dropped off for Religious Education classes. Thank you for your cooperation!

Today's second collection is being taken to help victims of last month's flooding in Louisiana and the August 28th flash flood in the Connellsville area in our diocese. A portion of this collection, a request by the USCCB to help Louisiana, will be used to meet needs in our diocese. Please be generous in your prayers and your response to these national and local needs.

In your charity of prayers, please remember the soul of **Agnes Fisher** who recently passed away. Welcome Agnes and all who have gone before us into the joy of everlasting life and bring comfort and peace to their families. Amen

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.....



Next weekend is the Called By Name appeal and the Seminarian and Clergy Formation Collection. You should have received a letter from Bishop Malesic in the mail about them. This week's Gospel reminds us that we should be good stewards of our blessings and that we cannot serve both God and material things. Let us be mindful of our blessings as we reflect on Bishop Malesic's request and pray about how we will respond. Also, please consider who in our families and parishes might be a candidate for the priesthood, diaconate or religious life. In addition, please pray for religious vocations in the Diocese of Greensburg.



Please join in welcoming Bishop Malesic as he celebrates mass at Christ Prince of Peace Church in Ford City on Wednesday, September 21st, at 11:00 A.M.



Greensburg Central Catholic High School Visit Day will be held September 23rd. Be a centurion for a day. Students currently in grades 8 and above are invited to attend from 9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. Spend the day with GCC students and meet faculty and staff to learn more about the high school's program. For all information or to schedule your visit, visit: www.gcchs.org or call 724-834-0310, Ext. 214.



The DCCW will celebrate its 55th anniversary on Saturday, September 24th, beginning with Mass at 8:00 A.M. at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg. Msgr. Raymond E. Riffle will lead a tour of the cathedral afterward. Light refreshments will be served in the social hall. RSVP to Millie Krinock at 724-537-2064 or email: rsvpf@hotmail.com. All women of the diocese are invited to the next DCCW Deanery IV meeting on Tuesday, September 27th, at St. John the Evangelist Parish, Latrobe. The evening will begin at 6:00 P.M. in the church with "Pray For Priests." The meeting will follow in the parish social hall.



"What is the meaning of life?" - There are answers. Why not go to the first experience in the *Christlife* series, *Discovering Christ* at St. Joseph Church, 315 Stoney Hollow Road, Cabot. This program is for everyone. From the baptized to those who have never entered a Church. Go and take a friend. The event will be on Tuesday evenings from September 28th to November 15th and includes a one day retreat on November 11th. The evenings will include dinner, prayer and a worship song, all new engaging video talk and small group discussion. Contact Marian in the Adult Faith Formation at 724-352-3443 or email: sjaff@zoominternet.net to register.



NET Ministry Retreats—NET Ministries challenges young Catholics to love Christ and embrace the life of the church. Every August, 150 young Catholics aged 18-28 leave behind their jobs, school, family, and friends to devote nine months to serving with the National Evangelization Teams. This year, they will be hosting three parish retreats in the Diocese. If you would like registration information, please visit: www.dioceseofgreensburg.org

The retreats are as follows:

- Christ the King Parish, Leechburg**
Wednesday, September 28th—5:00 - 9:00 P.M. (Dinner will be included) Sixth - Eighth Grade
- Greater Norwin Area Catholic Youth (Queen of Angels School)**
Saturday, October 1st—4:30 - 9:30 P.M. (Dinner will be included) Ninth - Twelfth Grade
- Mother of Sorrows Parish, Murrysville**
Sunday, October 2nd—11:30 A.M. - 5:30 P.M. (Mass will be at 11:30 A.M. and lunch will be included) - Ninth - Twelfth Grade



Seats are still available for the one-day bus trip on Sunday, October 9th to the Sorrowful Mother Shrine in Bellevue, OH sponsored by the Christian Mothers of St. Joseph Church, Cabot. Reservations and payment must be received by September 24th. Contact Darlene at 724-352-3216. For the story of the shrine, visit: www.sorrowfulmothershrine.org



Being a mom is a challenging and sometimes lonely job. MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) is a non-denominational, Christian international organization dedicated to meeting the needs of mothers with young children. Sarver MOPS extends an invitation to all mothers of a child or children, aged pregnancy through kindergarten, to enjoy some coffee and snacks and make connections with other moms in the same stage of motherhood. Childcare is provided. They meet twice monthly on Wednesdays from 9:15-11:30 A.M. beginning Wednesday, September 21st at Christ Community Fellowship in Sarver. Don't have small children at home? They still need you! They are looking for volunteers to care for their children during the meetings while the mothers find encouragement and build relationships with one another in Christ, as well as experienced moms to mentor and inspire this group of women. Questions or interest in helping or joining? Please email: sarvermops@gmail.com. For additional information, please check out sarvermops.wordpress.com or the Sarver MOPS Facebook page.



St. Margaret Mary Church will host a Flea Market on Thursday, September 22nd and Friday, September 23rd, from 8:30 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. and on Saturday, September 24th from 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon at the Parish Center, 3055 Leechburg Road, Lower Burrell. Great selection of items including furniture. Delicious food and beverages will also be available. Call 724-335-2336 for additional information.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER 24TH & 25TH, 2016

Altar Servers

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Ministers
Of Holy Communion*

Lector

Organist

Cantor

Saturday - 4:00 P.M.

Brandon Bowser	Andrea Camerlo	Karen Savage	Verne Bergstrom	Jamie Phillips
Zachary Bowser	Fred Walker			
Kennedi Clark	Dave Valencic			

Sunday - 8:30 A.M.

Evan McCrea; Akina Boynton	Lisa Boylan	Judy Bergstrom	Tom Koharchik	Tom Koharchik
Sarah & Hannah Shepherd	Pat Ralston			
Hadley Hellgren	Kim Holbein			

Sunday - 11:00 A.M.

Celeste Beacom	Bill Cogley	Marushka Steele	Dave Wesolosky	Choir
Victor Svitek; Evan Giori	Debbie Baustert			
Jacob & Erin Schaeffer	Melissa Schaeffer			

Mass Intentions
FOR THE WEEK

MASSES FOR THE 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY: September 17th
4:00 P.M. ✦ John & Mary Ellen Hrivnak
(Gary & Chris Miller & Family)

SUNDAY: September 18th
8:30 A.M. ✦ Andrew Sliwiak (Kymer Family)
11:00 A.M. St. Mary Parishioners

MONDAY: September 19th
8:00 A.M. ✦ Joseph Hager (Dick & Mary Bertino)

TUESDAY: September 20th
8:00 A.M. COMMUNION SERVICE

WEDNESDAY: September 21st
8:00 A.M. ✦ Joseph A. Zanetti (Daughter, Marie & Husband, Rob)


THURSDAY: September 22nd
8:00 A.M. COMMUNION SERVICE

FRIDAY: September 23rd
8:00 A.M. ✦ John Bono (Phil & Kathy Bordonaro)


MASSES FOR THE 26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY: September 24th
4:00 P.M. ✦ Pauline Supik (John Supik)

SUNDAY: September 25th
8:30 A.M. ✦ Joan Sliwiak (Kymer Family)
11:00 A.M. St. Mary Parishioners



The Altar Bread and Wine were donated for this week in honor of **GENO PERNAZZA** By **Children and Grandchildren**



In acknowledging the Real Presence of Christ, The Sanctuary Lamp (Candle) will burn this week in loving memory of **John & Mary Lucovich** By **Dan & Karen Lucovich & Family**

Collections


Offertory Collection for September 11th, 2016

No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 591
No. of Envelopes Received: 214
Collection: Offertory - \$4,918.00
Loose - \$215.00
Children - \$41.90
Candle Money - \$123.00
THANK YOU!

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