



# 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**

*October 23rd, 2016*  
*Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary*



**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



Our **RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)** has already begun and we are glad to have three candidates and one catechumen this year who signified their intentions to go through the process to deepen their relationship with God and to know more about the Catholic faith.

*Journey through*  
**RCIA**  
THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

We may ask, what is this RCIA all about? RCIA is a process of helping those who want to know more about the Catholic faith and later seek to be part of the Catholic community.

They are called catechumens (one who was never baptized) or candidates (one who was baptized either from other denominations or from the Catholic Church but never been confirmed nor received communion). These catechumens and candidates start with the inquiry process in which, if they have initial questions, they can raise them to the RCIA team. After the inquiry period, the period of evangelization comes in which they are introduced into the process of preparations that includes catechism, study of scriptures, teachings of the Church, sacraments, liturgy and others that is related to faith enrichment. Then after sometime, they seek acceptance into the Order of the Catechumens, through the Rite of Acceptance and Welcome. During this rite, they stand amidst the parish community and state that they want to become a baptized member of the Catholic Church. The parish affirms this desire and they become catechumen or candidates.

### CATECHUMENATE

**The Period of the Catechumenate** can be either long or short depending on how they are growing in faith and how God leads them on this journey. During this time, the catechumens/candidates consider what God is saying to them in the Scriptures, what changes in their life they need to make to respond to God's inspiration, and what baptism in the Catholic Church means. When they believe that they are ready to make a faith commitment to Jesus in the Catholic Church, the next step is the request for baptism and the celebration of the Rite of Election. Even before the catechumens are baptized, they have a special relationship to the Church.



**The Rite of Election** includes the enrollment of names of all the catechumens seeking baptism at the coming Easter Vigil. Typically, on the first Sunday of Lent, the catechumens, their sponsors and families gather at the cathedral church. The catechumens publicly express their desire for baptism to the diocesan bishop. Their names are recorded in a book and they are called the Elect.



The days of Lent are the final **Period of Purification and Enlightenment** leading up to the Easter Vigil. Lent is a period of preparation marked by prayer, study, and spiritual direction for the Elect, and prayers for them by the parish communities. The celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation takes place during the Easter Vigil Liturgy on Holy Saturday when the Elect receives the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist. Now the person is fully initiated into the Catholic Church.



As a newly initiated Catholic, they continue their formation and education in the **Period of the Post Baptismal Catechesis**, which is also called **Mystagogy**. This period continues at least until Pentecost. During the period, the newly baptized members reflect on their experiences at the Easter Vigil and continue to learn more about the Scriptures, the Sacraments, and the teachings of the Catholic Church. In addition, they reflect on how they will serve Christ and help in the Church's mission and outreach activities.

So let us pray for **Lexi Baer, Lindsay O' Donnell, Macy Smolic** and **Cassie Smolic** that they will persevere and be helped with the grace of God as they continue their journey, not only to deepen their faith, but to become part of our parish community.



# PARISH NEWS

## CALENDAR of Events

<p><b>October 24th</b> <b>October 27th</b> <b>October 29th</b> <b>October 30th</b></p> <p><b>November 1st</b> <b>November 2nd</b> <b>November 3rd</b> <b>November 4th</b> <b>November 6th</b></p> <p><b>November 7th</b> <b>November 9th</b> <b>November 10th</b></p>	<p><b>Fall Card Party - 6:30—10:00 P.M.</b> <b>RCIA - 6:30 P.M. - Conference Center</b> <b>“Biking for God” - 9:00 A.M.</b> <b>Religious Education Classes - 9:30—10:35 A.M.</b> <b>Security Guard - “James Zollinger”</b> <b>Choir Practice - 9:45—10:45 A.M.; 11:00 A.M. Mass</b> <b>All Saints Day - Holyday of Obligation</b> <b>Mass of Remembrance - 7:00 P.M.</b> <b>RCIA - 6:30 P.M. - Conference Center</b> <b>First Friday Adoration</b> <b>Christian Mother’s Mass - 8:30 A.M.</b> <b>Teen Ministry Meeting - 9:25 A.M.</b> <b>Religious Education Classes - 9:30—10:35 A.M.</b> <b>Security Guard - “James Zollinger”</b> <b>Choir Practice - 9:45—10:45 A.M.; 11:00 A.M. Mass</b> <b>Baptism - “Prioletti” - within the 11:00 A.M. Mass</b> <b>Pie Orders are due</b> <b>Christian Mother’s Meeting - 7:00 P.M.</b> <b>1st Reconciliation Workshop - 7:00 P.M.</b> <b>RCIA - 6:30 P.M. - Conference Center</b></p>
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**Fall Card Party**  
Monday, October 24th  
6:30 to 10:00 P.M. in our  
Fellowship Hall  
Doors open at 6:00 P.M.  
Cost - \$10.00/person  
Sandwiches, Salad Buffet,  
Refreshments  
Door prizes—50/50 raffle  
Information/reservations  
call Carol Carson at  
**724-353-2641**  
Sponsored by  
St. Mary Christian Mothers

**Baby Bottle Campaign**  
Thank you to all who took home baby bottles last week. Please remember to return them to church next week. There are empty bottles available for those who did not receive one last week and would like to participate! Thank you!

St. Mary's Youth Group...  
↓ Growing Strong!!! ↓



St. Mary's Ministry is Pie Sale. help fund service and activities. Order forms are located at all of the church entrances. Deadline to submit forms is November 6th.



Teen having a Proceeds their projects

St. Mary's Youth Group meets on the first and third Sunday, from 9:25 to 10:25 A.M., during the months of September through May. If you are in grades 8th through 12th, why not consider becoming a part of this growing group of teens. They would love to have you!

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

 Do you like working outside? Our cemetery is in need of someone to help with the grass trimming and light labor work until the end of October and in 2017— one or two days a week from April to November. If you are interested, call our caretaker, Richard Bertino, at 724-295-3632 (home) or 724-602-5986 (cell). Clearances are required.

**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 collection is for World Mission Sunday. This collection will help missionaries offer the poor of these areas practical help as they share the mercy of God. It will ensure the development of local dioceses, and support the work of priests, religious and lay leaders who serve those on the margins and in most need. Extend your merciful witness to the whole world through your gift in today's collection for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith!



Plan to join Bishop Malesic as he reflects on God's Mercy as exemplified in the life of Mary, the Mother of Jesus, at the annual Diocesan Rosary Rally on Saturday, October 29th, at 11:00 A.M., at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg. If you would like additional information, please call Father William Lechnar at 724-837-0901, Ext. 1249.



The Diocese of Greensburg unveiled a new user experience on their website the week of October 3rd. After the diocese launched its new mobile friendly site back in October 2015, many Catholics shared their feedback. Throughout the past year, the Greensburg Diocese web team took note of that feedback and you'll now find a new streamlined look and feel to the home page, as well as improved navigation. The site still contains all the same great information, so please share the news. Help the diocese get the word out and visit: [www.dioceseofgreensburg.org](http://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org) to see what's new.



The closing of the Year of Mercy Pilgrimage Doors in local churches (diocesan) is Sunday, November 13th. Pope Francis will close the Year of Mercy at the Vatican on November 20th. But all *Doors of Mercy* in the Diocese of Greensburg will close, as prescribed in the Bull of Indiction, on Sunday, November 13th.



**Experience New York City for the Holidays** - Greensburg Central Catholic Cheer Boosters are sponsoring their Annual New York City Bus Trip on Saturday, December 3rd. The bus leaves on Saturday, December 3rd, at 12:01 A.M. and returns Sunday, December 4th at approximately 2:00 A.M. Cost is \$95.00 and is for transportation only. Your day in the city (8:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.) is entirely up to you! Limited Availability. Don't miss an opportunity to experience New York City this December. For additional information or to make reservations, please contact Toni Walter at 412-610-1906 or email: [toniwalter@comcast.net](mailto:toniwalter@comcast.net).

Greensburg Central Catholic Junior-Senior High School will host a Fall Fest Open House on Sunday, October 30th, from 12:00 Noon-3:00 P.M. for prospective students interested in attending GCC in grades 7th-12th. Pre-registration is not required. For all information or to schedule a personal visit, please visit: [www.gcchs.org](http://www.gcchs.org) or you can call 724-834-0310.

St. Clement Roman Catholic Church in Johnstown, PA is conducting its 5th Annual Super Ticket Sweepstakes with a Grand Prize of a *Trip for Two to the SUPER BOWL 51 in Houston, TX*— OR—\$10,000 in CASH. The PA Big-4 (January 1st, 2017 at 7:00 P.M.) Lottery based package includes 2 Super Bowl tickets, 3 nights at the Hyatt Place Houston Galleria, \$1,000.00 in transportation cash, admission to pre-game reception, Super Bowl memorabilia, and transport to/from stadium. Number above/below the winning ticket drawn on January 1st, 2017 pays \$1,000.00. Tickets are \$10.00/ea. For tickets/additional information, contact: Ticket Chair, 1625 Sunshine Avenue, Johnstown, PA 15905; call 814-243-9446, Email: [sccfunderzr@atlanticbnn.net](mailto:sccfunderzr@atlanticbnn.net). Make check payable to: St. Clement Church (please include name, telephone number, email (if you have) and home address, and stamped self-addressed envelope with your correspondence for ticket stub returns).

St. Joseph Parish will hold their  
**FREE From Thy Bounty** soup  
service from 11:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.  
on Thursday, October 27th, at  
St. Ladislaus Church Hall, 48 Spruce  
St., Natrona. Enjoy homemade soups  
and desserts, rolls from Vibo's Bakery  
and beverages. Open to the public!



### ATTENTION ALL HUNTERS! "Hunters Sharing the Harvest"

**CONSOL Energy is calling on all hunters to donate extra deer to this organization committed to feeding hungry families in Pennsylvania. A donated deer can feed up to 200 hungry people. To find participating processors (CONSOL Energy will pay the processing fee), you are asked to please visit: [www.sharedeer.org](http://www.sharedeer.org). You can also call 1-866-HSH-2141.**

*Bag a Buck - or a Doe - to Fight Hunger!*

### How to help victims of Hurricane Matthew

Hurricane Matthew has devastated many places in the Caribbean — especially Haiti — and the southeastern U.S. To help people in Haiti and the Caribbean, you can donate to Catholic Relief Services online at: [www.crs.org](http://www.crs.org) or by check to: Catholic Relief Services, 228 W. Lexington Street, Baltimore, MD 21201-3443. To help people in the United States, please donate to Catholic Charities USA online at: [www.catholiccharitiesusa.org](http://www.catholiccharitiesusa.org) or by check to: Catholic Charities USA, P.O. Box 17066, Baltimore, MD 21297-1066.

# MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR OCTOBER 29TH & 30TH, 2016

*Altar Servers*

*Extraordinary  
Ministers  
Of Holy Communion*

*Lector*

*Organist*

*Cantor*

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

Bill Girardi	Jackie DeFelice	Karen Savage	Verne Bergstrom	Alex Smith
Dave Brestensky	Patty Hughes			
Erica Brestensky	Deb Showers			

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

Breanna & Olivia Sutara	Laura Huth	Judy Bergstrom	Tom Koharchik	Tom Koharchik
Katie Huth	John Nemcek			
Eva DeMeno	Rose Check			

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

Marie Pelliccione	Lisa Isenberg	Pat Westerman	Dave Wesolosky	Choir
Megan & Garrett Rossey	Doree Rossey			
Mason DeMeno; Paige Liti	Marushka Steele			

**Mass Intentions** 

MASSES FOR THE 30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**SATURDAY:** October 22nd  
4:00 P.M. ✠William Jansen (Family)

**SUNDAY:** October 23rd  
8:30 A.M. ✠Bernadette Fearing-Kelly  
(Dave & Lois Posney & Family)  
11:00 A.M. St. Mary Parishioners

**MONDAY:** October 24th  
8:00 A.M. ✠Richard Bayne (The Policicchio's)

**TUESDAY:** October 25th  
8:00 A.M. ✠Rosemary Aiello (Brother—Fred)

**WEDNESDAY:** October 26th  
8:00 A.M. ✠Joseph Zanetti (Daughter—Marie & Husband—Rob)


**THURSDAY:** October 27th  
8:00 A.M. ✠Deceased Members of the DeBlasio Family  
(Betty Labiaux)

**FRIDAY:** October 28th  
8:00 A.M. ✠John Costantino (John & Brenda DeMeno)


MASSES FOR THE 31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**SATURDAY:** October 29th  
4:00 P.M. St. Mary Parishioners

**SUNDAY:** October 30th  
8:30 A.M. ✠Joseph Hager (Evelyn Cheerman)  
11:00 A.M. ✠Ellis "Bill" Cogley (Son)



The Altar Bread and Wine were donated for this week in loving memory of **JOHN E. GAILLOT, SR.**  
By **Mr. & Mrs. Edward Lepkowski, Children & Grandchildren**



In acknowledging the Real Presence of Christ, The Sanctuary Lamp (Candle) will burn this week in loving memory of **MARTHA KERR**  
By **Pat Westerman**


**Collections**

*Offertory Collection for October 16th, 2016*  
No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 591  
No. of Envelopes Received: 217  
Collection: Offertory - \$5,503.00  
Loose - \$338.00  
Children - \$18.50  
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