



# St. Mary, Mother of God Church

A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg  
A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust  
Roman Catholic Church  
608 High Street ~ Freeport, PA 16229



Established 1826

July 2nd, 2017

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**As St. Paul states:**

**“ Are you not aware that we who were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into His death?**

**Through the baptism into His death, we were buried with Him, so that just as Christ was raised from the dead, we too might live a new life.”**

**Rom 6:3-4**

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

Diane Grant—*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*



The fourth of July is coming and you probably have plans of celebrating with your family and friends either with a cook-out or going downtown to watch the parade and fireworks. But what is really the essence of celebrating the 4th of July? Is it just about a day of patriotic pageantry: flags, fireworks and festivities with family and friends? William Astore, a professor and retired colonel of the Air Force, said that the 4th of July is also a day to reflect on freedom: its high price, as well as its sacred meaning on how our troops have historically paid a high price to maintain our freedom, and the leaders who worked hard until independence was achieved on the 4th of July, 1776.

It is, therefore, good to offer a prayer of thanksgiving to God for the sense of freedom that we have experienced and continue to experience. We remember, also, all the people who have been instrumental in allowing us to have our freedom today, the freedom to express our beliefs, our opinions and the way we want to live so long as we respect and follow the law of God and the law of the land which is geared towards the common good, justice, order and peace.

Democracy can be a noble vehicle for life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness when checks and balances work properly, and when freedom is used responsibly to enhance the common good. The Fourth of July celebrates the signing of the Declaration of Independence. This is an appropriate time to remind ourselves of the final line of the Declaration of Independence: "And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor."

### **Independence Day Prayer**

*Lord, we stand today as our forefathers have stood before You in times gone by,  
Celebrating our history and reveling in all the great things that our country has achieved.*

*On this day, we rejoice in the favor you have graciously given us.*

*We thank you for the blessings of liberty, for this generation, and for the generations to come.*

*We thank you for our independence, peace and for all those who have bravely given their lives in the defense of  
freedom and justice.*

*We thank you that your gracious and provident hand has given us so much.*

*Yet as a nation and people, we have not always chosen the right way.*

*We ask you to forgive us for these times.*

*On this day, we commit ourselves to wholeheartedly honoring and serving you.*

*With everything that we are, we lay our lives before you.*

*Make us a generous people, a holy nation, a people set aside to love you forever*

*For the sake of the land of the brave and free, and the peoples and nations of this world.*

*Today, we do not presume your grace for our country. Our land is in need of you, our people are in need of you.*

*May we look only to you this Independence Day, dependent on you.*

*May your Holy Spirit inspire us to work together to meet the challenges of our times with faith, hope and trust in you.*

*We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.*






  
 Congratulations to  
**Daniel & Barbara Coyle**  
 who celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary  
 and renewed their vows on June 18th  
 (actual date of Anniversary was June 17th)



## Baptized in Christ



Congratulations to  
 the proud parents,  
**Kevin and Jennifer  
 Harding**  
 on the baptism of  
 their son, **Jackson  
 Alan**. He is a child  
 of God, heir to the  
 Kingdom!



Because of your treasures, our  
 steeple is completed! The steeple's  
 crown holds high the gold Cross  
 that is the focal point upon entry  
 into the borough of Freeport.  
 There will be a special blessing and  
 re-dedication of our steeple at the  
 closing of the 8:30 A.M. mass, July  
 2nd. Please remain after mass and  
 attend this special event as we  
 build upon the historic beauty of  
 our Catholic Church and faith.



### ***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

Please drop this form in the collection basket

## Calendar of Events

July 4th	Independence Day—Parish Office Closed
July 6th-16th	St. Mary's Pilgrimage to Spain
July 7th	First Friday Adoration
July 8th/9th	Donut & Beverage Social—After all weekend masses
July 9th	Vacation Bible Camp Meeting—9:45 A.M.
July 13th	Reciting the Holy Rosary in our Prayer Garden—6:00 P.M.
July 16th	Baptism—12:15 P.M. - "Mehall"
July 24th-28th	Vacation Bible Camp—5:30 - 8:30 P.M. - Fellowship Hall

## Donut Sunday

Our Donut and Beverage Social will be held in our Fellowship Hall next weekend immediately following all masses. Please take the time to stop in and extend a friendly hello to your fellow parishioners. Please remember to introduce yourself to any unfamiliar faces. They just may be new parishioners!

## FORMED

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If you have any questions, please contact Beth Macurdy at: [bmacurdy@ufcw.org](mailto:bmacurdy@ufcw.org) or call her at 724-295-9411.



This year's Vacation Bible Camp will be held the week of July 24th-28th, 5:30 to 8:30 P.M. This year's theme is *Barnyard Roundup—Jesus Gathers us Together*. Registration forms are located at all of the church entrances and on our parish website. If you would like to volunteer this year, there will be a meeting in our Conference Center on Sunday, July 9th, immediately following the 8:30 A.M. mass and our donut & beverage social. PLEASE NOTE: Anyone 18 years of age or older that would like to help with VBC MUST have all of their clearances and training—NO EXCEPTIONS! Questions? Please call Helen James at 724-295-4758 or Jennifer Svitek at 412-303-2650.

## ANNOUNCEMENT

With joy and thanksgiving to God, the Diocese of Greensburg announces that Bishop Edward C. Malesic has called Mr. Daniel E. Carr to the responsibility of the diaconate. The diaconate ordination will be celebrated on Saturday, July 15th, at 10:00 A.M., in Blessed Sacrament Cathedral in Greensburg. Please keep him in your prayers.



Retrouvaille has helped countless couples experiencing marital difficulty at all levels, including disillusionment and deep misery. The next weekend begins July 7th. Please call for confidential information at 412-277-3434.



St. Joseph High School will be having a basketball camp for boys and girls who will be entering grades 3-8, July 18th, 19th and 20th. The boys camp will run from 10:00 A.M. - 12 P.M. The girls camp will run from 5:00 - 7:00 P.M. Contact Jane Susa for more information at 724- 226-7877 or email: [jsusa@SaintJosephHS.com](mailto:jsusa@SaintJosephHS.com), or visit: [www.SaintJosephHS.com](http://www.SaintJosephHS.com).



Christ the King Parish, 125 Park Road, Leechburg, is sponsoring a spaghetti dinner to benefit the family of Michael Diebold, the Leechburg Police Chief recently injured in a fireworks accident on June 24th. The dinner will be held in the parish hall on Thursday, July 6th from 3:00 to 7:00 P.M., (the church and hall is located near the Leechburg Area Pool entrance). Tickets are \$8.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children under 12 years of age. Menu includes spaghetti, salad, roll, dessert & beverage. Take-outs will be available!

## Freeport Theatre Festival celebrates its 28th Season

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## FALLEN ANGELS

WRITTEN BY NOEL COWARD

Directed by Marushka Steele

2017 PERFORMANCE DATES:

July 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30

All performances begin at 7:00 p.m.

Jazz Age Revels with Joe Leger on the piano and accordion at 6:30 p.m.



## COME AND JOIN THE PARTY!



Jazz Age Revels with Joe Leger at 6:30 p.m. with dancing and faux-champagne.

Come in costume if you dare!

Prizes each night for originality!

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## General Information

### TICKET PRICES:

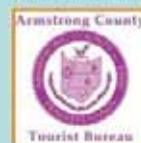
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(General Admission/Military/Seniors/Student)

### LOCATION:

The Steele Farm in Allegheny Township  
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off the .356 on White Cloud Road



### INFORMATION:

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

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# MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR JULY 8TH & 9TH, 2017

*Altar Servers*

*Extraordinary  
Ministers  
Of Holy Communion*

*Lector*

*Organist*

*Cantor*

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

Brandon & Zachary Bowser  
Kennedi & Lauren Clark

Stella Aul; Dave Valencic  
Deb Showers

Dave Brestensky

Verne Bergstrom

Jamie Phillips

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

Breanna & Olivia Sutara  
Ryan Sutara; Katie Huth

Carol Carson  
Pat Ralston  
Kim Holbein

John Nemcek

Tom Koharchik

Tom Koharchik

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

Celeste Beacom  
Victor & Olivia Svitek  
Mason DeMeno

Lisa Isenberg  
Doree Rossey  
Bill Cogley

Marushka Steele

Dave Wesolosky

Kathy Conley


**Mass Intentions**  
FOR THE WEEK

**MASSES FOR THE 13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

<b>SATURDAY:</b> 4:00 P.M.	<b>July 1st</b> ✦ Elva Berry (Denny & Patti Geary)
<b>SUNDAY:</b> 8:30 A.M. 11:00 A.M.	<b>July 2nd</b> St. Mary Parishioners ✦ Joseph H. Klaput, Sr. (Wife—Nannie)
<b>MONDAY:</b> 8:00 A.M.	<b>July 3rd</b> ✦ John Knoll (John & Betty Lou Nemcek)
<b>TUESDAY:</b> 9:00 A.M.	<b>July 4th</b> ✦ Domenic & Isabelle Canterna (Betty Canterna)
<b>WEDNESDAY:</b> 8:00 A.M.	<b>July 5th</b> ✦ Tony Ranieri (Cleatus & David Burk)
<b>THURSDAY:</b> 8:00 A.M.	<b>July 6th</b> ✦ Rose Pesci (Estate)
<b>FRIDAY:</b> 8:00 A.M.	<b>July 7th</b> ✦ Agnes Fisher (Mr. & Mrs. W. Schultenbrand, Jr.)

**MASSES FOR THE 14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

<b>SATURDAY:</b> 4:00 P.M.	<b>July 8th</b> ✦ Kevin Holbein (Carol Carson)
<b>SUNDAY:</b> 8:30 A.M. 11:00 A.M.	<b>July 9th</b> ✦ Russell & Carol Stewart (The Policicchio's) St. Mary Parishioners



The Altar Bread and Wine were donated for this week in loving memory of **ANTHONY ARVAY** By **The Lipniskis Family**




In acknowledging the Real Presence of Christ, The Sanctuary Lamp (Candle) will burn this week in loving memory of **FRANK "FUZZ" PALKO** By **Jay Staricek**

**Collections**

**Offertory Collection for June 25th, 2017**


No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 588  
No. of Envelopes Received: 196  
Collection: Offertory - \$4,251.00  
Electronic Payments (1) - \$30.00  
Loose - \$323.00  
Children - \$26.00  
Peter's Pence/Support the Holy See - \$593.00  
**THANK YOU!**



**Saturday, July 8th, 2017**  
**Jeannie Lepkowski and Mary Bertino**

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