



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

August 6th, 2017



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

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

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



On July 24th-28th, we had our Vacation Bible Camp for the children, in our Fellowship Hall, from 6:30 to 8:00 P.M. There were approximately fifty children who attended and it was successful. Thank you to Gennifer Svitek as she once again spear-headed VBC this year with the supervision of Helen James and the help of some volunteers, like Melissa Kristine who did the teaching everyday, Laura Huth who taught the crafts for the children, Tom Koharchik for the music, the Teen Ministry for games and all the other individuals who helped prepare the snacks and lend a helping hand with the other activities. Thank you to all! You inspired the children to engage and participate in all the activities of VBC with this year's theme, "Barnyard Roundup". At the end of the VBC, they learned something about God, music and crafts. They also enjoyed the various games, activities and the little snacks served daily.

Now, on August 13th, we will have the recitation of the holy rosary at Fr. Dom's prayer garden at 6:00 P.M. as we continue to observe the 100th Year Anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima Apparition. I invite all of you to join us. Afterwards, those who will be joining for the Intergenerational Family Night can go to the Fellowship Hall. Bill Cogley will be the presenter. The topic will be about Mary and the

Saints: Our Spiritual Mother and the Communion of Saints. The presentation will be from 6:30 to 8:00 P.M. I encourage you to attend as this can be an opportunity for you to learn about our Blessed Mother and the saints which can deepen your faith and your spiritual life.

Planning ahead, you can save the dates for the following:

September 10th, 2017 at 11:00 A.M. - Mass and Parish Family Picnic at Renshaw Farms

November 14th-18th - Pictorials for Parish Directory Update

November 20th-21st - Pictorials continues

THANK YOU
Volunteers!
We couldn't do it without you

FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK



Religionless Spirituality

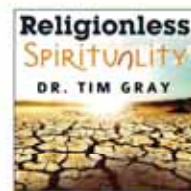
By Dr. Tim Gray

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"Dr. Tim Gray is easy to listen to and has an amazing presentation here on why we do not want to discard the church!"

—MaryRuth K, Loudon, TN

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VBC 2017



INTERGENERATIONAL

St. Mary's Intergenerational Family Night—Sunday, August 13th - 6:30—8:00 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall

The evening will be based on Symbolon Knowing the Faith—Session 9: Mary and the Saints: Our Spiritual Mother and the Communion of Saints. Symbolon is found under Study Faith Formation on FORMED.org. Don't worry if you don't have Internet access to watch the session before coming. What do we think of Mary, the Mother of Jesus, and how does our relationship with her impact our relationship with her Son? What is the connection between our understanding of Mary and the rest of the saints? Why do we ask Mary and other "dead people" to pray for us? The answers to these questions serve to give us a framework for the Catholic Church's teachings on life after death and what we call "The Communion of the Saints."

REGISTER by August 9th. You can register online at: www.stmaryfreeport.com or registration forms can be found at the church entrances.

All are welcome ... families, singles, empty nesters, grandparents.

Calendar of Events

- August 12th *Baptism - "Snyder" - 5:15 P.M.*
- August 12th/13th *Donut & Beverage Social—Immediately following all weekend masses*
- August 13th *Rosary in Fr. Dom's Prayer Garden—6:00 P.M.*
Intergenerational Family Night—6:30 - 8:30 P.M. - Fellowship Hall
- August 15th *Holyday—The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Mass will be at 8:00 A.M. & 7:00 P.M.; Parish Office Closed*
- August 17th *Religious Education Teachers Meeting—7:00 P.M. - Fellowship Hall*
- August 19th *Wedding - Grant/Flick—1:00 P.M.*

The Christian Mothers will recite the Rosary in Fr. Dom's Prayer Garden, at 6:00 P.M., on Sunday, August 13th. In case of rain, the Rosary will be recited in our Church. Everyone is invited to participate!



Teen Ministry Fall Kick-Off

Everything **into place** when we put **God first.**

You are invited!!!

Sunday, August 27th
5:30 - 8:30 PM

Youth (7th-12th grade) & parents are invited for a movie night, food, fellowship, and worship.

Sponsored by Saint Mary's Teen Ministry
Father Edward Volz Fellowship Hall
608 High Street Freeport, PA

Kristen Hughes-Marhefka (724) 448-5090 khughesmpt@yahoo.com
Julie Polana Gardone (724) 591-3237 juliegardone@gmail.com

Teen Ministry Fall Kick-Off! It is that time of year again! Please join us on Sunday, August 27th from 5:30 - 8:30 PM as we begin our school year! We will be viewing *God's Not Dead*, snacks and drinks will be provided. Parents are invited to join us as well. For more information please contact Kristen or Julie.



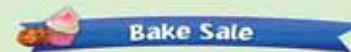
A Public Card Party, sponsored by the Christian Mothers of St. Joseph Church, Cabot, will be held at 12:00 Noon on Monday, August 14th. A donation of \$5.00 includes lunch followed by the card party. EVERYONE WELCOME! Also available for sale will be USA-made RADA cutlery and BUTLER Flavorings (White & Dark Vanilla and Maple & Almond flavorings).



Bishop Malesic continues to lead drug education and prayer service evenings—The Summer Diocesan Drug Education and Prayer Service Evenings, which Bishop Edward C. Malesic announced in "A Pastoral Letter on the Drug Abuse Crisis: From Death and Despair to Life and Hope," continues Tuesday, August 8th, St. Mary, Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, Kittanning; Thursday, August 10th, Mary Queen of Apostles School, Greenwald Site, New Kensington; and Wednesday, August 16th, St. Thomas More University Parish, Indiana. The sessions all begin at 7:00 P.M. and are open to the public. There will be an educational presentation about the opioid epidemic in the region, a question-and-answer session and a prayer service led by Bishop Malesic.



The Sisters of Charity of Seton Hill will sponsor two back-to-school cash raffle tickets in September — one ticket based on the 1:00 P.M. and the other one on the 7:00 P.M. Pennsylvania 3-digit lottery. One thousand tickets are available for each drawing at \$10.00 per ticket. No prizes will be awarded on Sundays. Call Sister of Charity Agnes Steedle at 724-836-0406, Ext. 6646, to order tickets and for payment information. All proceeds benefit the Sisters of Charity. Tickets and money must be returned by August 26th.



Christ the King Church, 125 Park Road, Leechburg, is holding a "Summer Bake Sale" on Saturday, August 26th from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. in the parish hall. Delicious home-baked fruit pastries, cinnamon rolls, bread sticks, buns and cookies will be available for purchase! (Sorry, no pre-orders!)

Bishop Malesic invites all couples celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary during the calendar year 2017 to participate in a special Golden Jubilee Mass to be held at the Blessed Sacrament Cathedral on Sunday, October 15th, 2017 at 3:00 P.M. The Jubilarians, their children, relatives or friends should contact the parish office to register couples for this celebration. Even though they may not be able to attend the Mass, they will receive a scroll signed by the Bishop commemorating their anniversary. **Deadline to submit names is Friday, August 18th.**

MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST 12TH & 13TH, 2017

Altar Servers

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Lector

Organist

Cantor

Saturday - 4:00 P.M.

Bill Girardi
Fred Walker
Dawson Gaillot

Dave Brestensky
Andrea Camerlo
Fred Walker

Jackie DeFelice

Verne Bergstrom

Alex Smith

Sunday - 8:30 A.M.

Samuel & Jacob Kristine
Ali & Ben Brestensky

Judy Bergstrom
John Nemcek
Betty Nemcek

Lisa Boylan

Sue Myford

Sue Myford

Sunday - 11:00 A.M.

Jacob & Erin Schaeffer
Megan Rossey
Paige Liti; Evan Giori

Helen James
Andre Volek
Dan Lucovich

Bill Cogley

Dave Wesolosky

Joel Schaeffer

Mass Intentions
FOR THE WEEK

MASSES FOR THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

SATURDAY: August 5th
4:00 P.M. ✦Bernadette Fearing Kelly (Betty Ann & Rich Casale)

SUNDAY: August 6th
8:30 A.M. ✦Andrew & Pauline Rezak (Posney & Rezak Families)
11:00 A.M. St. Mary Parishioners

MONDAY: August 7th
8:00 A.M. ✦Mark Fuhrman (Jody Nurrick)

TUESDAY: August 8th
8:00 A.M. *COMMUNION SERVICE*

WEDNESDAY: August 9th
8:00 A.M. *COMMUNION SERVICE*

THURSDAY: August 10th
8:00 A.M. ✦Kenneth Hughes (The Policicchio's)

FRIDAY: August 11th
8:00 A.M. ✦Frank & Delores Kristine (Mark & Melissa & Children)

MASSES FOR THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY: August 12th
4:00 P.M. ✦Marcella Adams (Pat & Bill Davis)

SUNDAY: August 13th
8:30 A.M. St. Mary Parishioners
11:00 A.M. ✦Dawn Heilman (Family)



The Altar Bread and Wine were donated for this week in loving memory of **ANGELA MORRELL** By **Diana & James Talotta**



In acknowledging the Real Presence of Christ, The Sanctuary Lamp (Candle) will burn this week in loving memory of **MARTIN/SORICE/CRUMLEY FAMILIES** By **George & Mary Martin**

Collections

Offertory Collection for July 30th, 2017

No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 598
No. of Envelopes Received: 210
Collection: Offertory - \$4,899.00
Electronic Payments (5) - \$155.00
Loose - \$241.00; Children - \$22.00
Candle Money - \$102.00

THANK YOU!



Saturday, August 12th, 2017
Nancy Laux and Betty Lou Nemcek

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ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK

"Dr. Anne Adam" / "Dr. Larry Adam"



"Summertime and the living is easy." That's what the favorite old song says. The **living** may be easy, but often the **giving** is not. Summer collections often drop significantly because of vacation travel, sports schedules and other activities that cause parishioners to attend Mass in other parishes. If you would like to make your giving easy and consistent this summer, please consider on-line Banking. Currently, twenty parish families are using this simple and secure way to make and track their parish giving. It's simple and safe! When signing up, please remember to provide your envelope number.

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