



# St. Mary, Mother of God Church

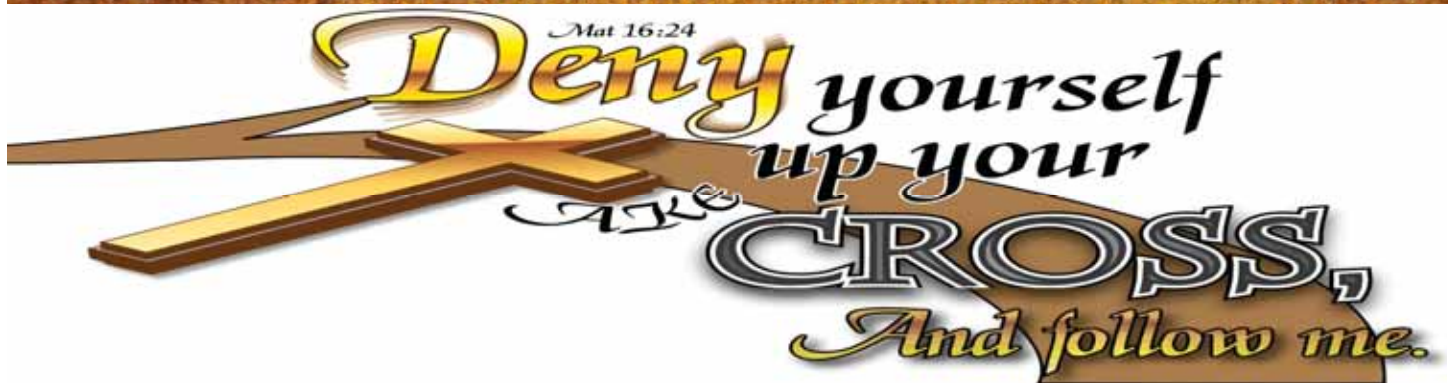
A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg  
A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust  
Roman Catholic Church  
608 High Street ~ Freeport, PA 16229



Established 1826

September 3rd, 2017

## 22<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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



## ***A Blessing Box in front of Freeport Historical Church***

Last Tuesday, when I was on my way to Redmond Funeral Home to do the prayer service for +John Rassau, I saw a Blessing Box in front of the Freeport Historical Church. Perhaps some of you also saw it and you are curious to know what this Blessing Box is all about. Well, I can tell you that this Blessing Box is one of the efforts of the Ministerium in Freeport.

Ministerium is an association of clergy from various denominations who come together to accomplish a specific purpose, often to build collegiality and to meet or address socioeconomic needs in the community. And that means St. Mary, Mother of God Catholic Church, the Lutheran Church, the Presbyterian Church, the Methodist Church, the Baptist Church and Sower's Chapel in Sarver are the composition of Freeport's Ministerium who meet once a month.

The idea of a Blessing Box was proposed and discussed at one of our Ministerium meetings and all churches, through its pastor, agreed with its cause.

This Blessing Box is a miniature food pantry where people leave donated goods from non-perishable food to toiletries for others to pick up anonymously. There is no lock on the Blessing Box. It is available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. These donated essentials can help fulfill short-term basic needs for those who don't always have access to them or who may be struggling to make ends meet and get through the day.

So the idea is to be a self-sustaining resource in the community to help people through a temporary, short term situation and struggling with homelessness and hunger. It is not a substitute for the local Food Bank.

If you are blessed enough, you can share your blessings to our less fortunate by providing non-perishable food and toiletries at the Blessing Box. In doing so, we remember what Jesus said in the gospel: *"For I was hungry, you gave me something to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink..... Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.* (Matthew 25:35-40)



*Blessings*  
COUNT THEM ONE BY ONE



## FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK

### **The Face of God**

*By St. Mother Teresa*

**Listen to the Saint that inspired the world!**

In her very own words, hear Saint Mother Teresa's simple, beautiful, and truthful message about the dignity of every life, the gift of the Eucharist, and our God-given purpose to love and be loved.

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*"What a blessing to hear the voice and teaching of Mother Teresa! I hung on her words, her wisdom—about the true value of every life."*

—Ann, Niagara Falls, NY

**FORMED**

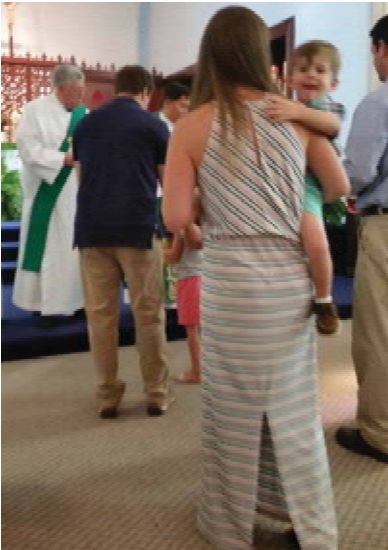
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*Congratulations*  
*David and Audrey Krzeminski*  
*25th Wedding Anniversary (May 28th)*

May your marriage be blessed with love, joy and companionship!  
A very *Happy Wedding Anniversary* to you!



## Calendar of Events

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| September 4th  | Labor Day—Mass will be celebrated at 9:00 A.M.; Parish Office Closed   |
| September 6th  | Biking for God—6:15 P.M. - Laneville                                   |
| September 8th  | Rehearsal for Smith/Runac Wedding - 6:00 P.M.                          |
| September 9th  | Wedding—Smith/Runac - 1:00 P.M.  |
| September 10th | Parish Appreciation Picnic—Renshaw Farms - 11:00 A.M. - Outside Mass   |
| September 11th | Christian Mother's Meeting—7:00 P.M. - Christian Mother's Room         |
| September 13th | Rosary in Prayer Garden—6:00 P.M.                                      |
| September 14th | Rehearsal for Stiokis/Morrison Wedding - 5:00 P.M.                     |
| September 16th | Baptismal Preparation Class—7:00 P.M. - Mark & Melissa Kristine's Home |
| September 17th | Wedding—Stiokis/Morrison - 2:00 P.M.                                   |
| September 20th | Catechetical Sunday; First Day of Religious Education                  |
|                | Baptism—12:15 - "Kapinskis"  |
|                | Biking for God—6:15 P.M. - Laneville                                   |

**B**aptism  
**P**reparation

To understand the importance of the Sacrament of Baptism and your obligation as parents, you are required to attend one baptismal class. The next class scheduled for this year will be held Thursday, September 14th. Please call Mark or Melissa—724-230-4450 or the Administrative Office at 724-295-2281 to register.

### ST. MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

#### PARISH APPRECIATION PICNIC

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH—12:00 Noon-5:00 P.M.  
RENSHAW FARM

11:00 A.M. Mass will be held outside

#### PIG ROAST



| MENU                               |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Hot Dogs & Sauerkraut              |  |
| Kielbasa                           |  |
| Macaroni Salad                     |  |
| Cole Slaw                          |  |
| Baked Beans                        |  |
| Corn on the Cob                    |  |
| Desserts                           |  |
| Watermelon                         |  |
| Beverages (coffee/tea/soft drinks) |  |
| Craft Beer will be sold            |  |



#### Picnic Games



We ask each family attending the picnic to bring a dessert and/or snack. Thank you!



Sign-up sheets are available at all of the church entrances.  
You must sign-up by Sunday, September 3rd!



If you have a child that will be attending pre-school or kindergarten this 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 our Religious Education program last year, there is no need to re-register this year!



**VIRTUS** All parish volunteers that have or may have contact with children are required by law to obtain clearances. For those who are still in need of the VIRTUS (Protecting God's Children) clearance...a session is being offered at St. Margaret Mary Church (Lower Burrell) on Tuesday, September 12, at 6:30 P.M., in the Sullivan Room. You are requested to RSVP by calling their parish office at 724-335-2336 so that they may prepare accordingly.



Do you have a prayer request or intention? Would you like to join St. Mary's group that prays for these requests? If so, please contact Barb Coyle at 724-295-2607 or email her at: [coyle@zoominternet.net](mailto:coyle@zoominternet.net). She will email or phone you with the prayer requests each week as they are received. Prayer intentions may be entered in the green binder in the back of church. You may also request them online at: <http://www.stmaryfreeport.com/prayer-request>.

Huge Trash to Treasure Sale - Christ the King Church, 125 Park Road, Leechburg. Friday, September 8th, - 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. and Saturday, September 9th, - 8:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. Rain or Shine—the sale will be held in a large air-conditioned hall. Food/beverages will also be available for purchase.



The diocese will host two listening sessions for people ages 16-29 in preparation for the 2018 Synod, "Young People, the Faith, and Vocational Discernment." The sessions will be held: Tuesday, September 5th, 6:30-8:00 P.M. at St. Sebastian Parish, Belle Vernon; Thursday, September 7th, 6:30-8:00 P.M., St. Thomas More University Parish, Indiana. If you are interested in attending, please register at: [www.dioceseofgreensburg.org/synod](http://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org/synod).



Is someone you love in a troubled marriage? You might suggest that they consider Retrouvaille. Retrouvaille has helped tens of thousands; it can also help them. For confidential information about or to register for the program beginning with a weekend on September 8th, contact Retrouvaille at 412-277-343. More information is available at: [www.retrouvailleofpittsburghinc.org](http://www.retrouvailleofpittsburghinc.org)

### Reminder

Just a little reminder that the FRA meetings are held on the first Thursday of every month at 7:00 P.M., at the Borough Building, 414 Market Street. You are welcome to attend and please invite others to join you!!!



**Pathways**—Discover how this process of prayer, learning, and reflection strengthens your ability to know and share the Good News of Jesus Christ. Sites are St. Mary (Nativity) Parish, Uniontown, on Wednesday evenings and St. Bernard of Clairvaux Parish, Indiana, on Thursday evenings. The opening workshop is September 23rd. Brochures are available at the parish office. For more information or to register online, visit: [www.dioceseofgreensburg.org/pathways](http://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org/pathways) or contact the Office for Lay Ecclesial Ministry, 724-552-2598; [pathways@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:pathways@dioceseofgreensburg.org). Financial assistance is available. **Pathways registration closes September 11th.**



# MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER 9TH & 10TH, 2017

*Altar Servers*

*Extraordinary  
Ministers  
Of Holy Communion*

*Lector*

*Organist*

*Cantor*

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

Bill Giardi  
Madison & Dawson Gaillot  
Zach Showers

Dave Brestensky  
Andrea Camerlo  
Fred Walker

Janice Meola

Verne Bergstrom

Alex Smith

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

Samuel & Jacob Kristine  
David Kristine  
Ali & Ben Brestensky

Carol Carson  
Pat Ralston  
Lisa Boylan

John Nemcek

Tom Koharchik

Tom Koharchik

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

Celeste Beacom  
Jacob & Erin Schaeffer  
Victor & Olivia Svitek

Dan Lucovich  
Patty Hughes  
Marushka Steele

Rob Svitek

Dave Wesolosky

TBA

**Mass Intentions**  
FOR THE WEEK

**MASSES FOR THE 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**SATURDAY:** September 2nd  
4:00 P.M. ✦ Elva Berry (Nannie Klaput)

**SUNDAY:** September 3rd  
8:30 A.M. ✦ Eunice Bergstrom (Bob & Judy Bergstrom)  
11:00 A.M. St. Mary Parishioners

**MONDAY:** September 4th  
9:00 A.M. ✦ John Bono (Wife—Lola)

**TUESDAY:** September 5th  
8:00 A.M. ✦ Joey Klaput, Jr. (Sheree Martinetti)

**WEDNESDAY:** September 6th  
8:00 A.M. ✦ Birdie Posney (Bill & Mary Fullerton)


**THURSDAY:** September 7th  
8:00 A.M. ✦ Millie Rezak (Millie Phillippi & Anna Mae Lesko)

**FRIDAY:** September 8th  
8:00 A.M. ✦ Ray Ravotti


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

**SATURDAY:** September 9th  
4:00 P.M. ✦ Anita Rosato (Family)

**SUNDAY:** September 10th  
8:30 A.M. St. Mary Parishioners  
11:00 A.M. ✦ Dawn Heilman (Ren & Marushka Steele)




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 27th, 2017**  
No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 600  
No. of Envelopes Received: 196  
Collection: Offertory - \$3,854.25  
Electronic Payments (6) - \$170.00; Catholic Accent - \$170.00  
Catholic University - \$441.00; Loose - \$405.00; Children - \$21.25  
**Total Collection - \$5,061.50**  
**THANK YOU!**



**Saturday, September 9th, 2017**  
**Christine Kern and Connie Waltenbaugh**

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**ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK**  
**"James R. Antoniono, Esq.**  
**Timothy R. Miller, Esq."**

**Online Giving**

"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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