



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 17th, 2017

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FORGIVENESS

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



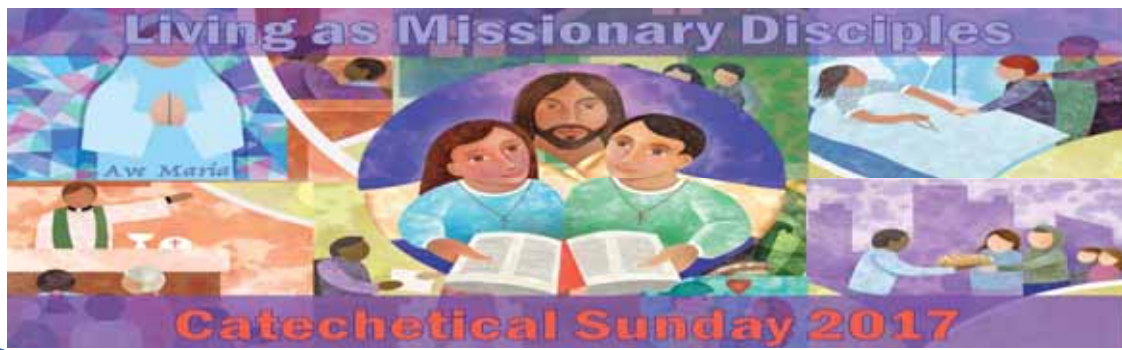
Thank you to all who made our parish picnic at Renshaw Farms successful and enjoyable. The beautiful place owned by the Renshaw Family just fit to the occasion. The weather was perfect. Lots of food was served including two pigs that were roasted. I think everybody was happy and got the opportunity to meet some of our new families and members of the parish. Overall, the parish picnic was well attended and great fellowship was enjoyed by all. Maybe we will do it again next year. Kudos to all of the volunteers, staff and some individuals who shared their time, talent and resources for this event.

This Sunday we celebrate Catechetical Sunday to acknowledge the importance of the Church's teaching ministry and to honor those who serve the Christian community as catechists. Those whom the community has designated to serve as catechists will be called forth to be commissioned for their ministry.

Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of faith.

If we take catechesis seriously, it actually begins at home. Parents are truly the primary catechists of their children. They prepare the soil and plant the first seeds of faith. They reecho the teachings of the Church and the gospel values to their children. And so, as we celebrate Catechetical Sunday, we not only highlight the work of catechists in parishes and schools, but we also commend parents and guardians and encourage them to take seriously their role of making their Catholic households a place where faith is passed on to the next generation. When we impart a strong faith foundation to our children, we can be assured that they will be good children in the future.

And so today we pray for all catechists, religious education teachers, parents, guardians and those involved in the ministry of teaching that God may bless them as they continue their selfless service in shaping the faith of our children. We pray also for our children as they begin their Religious Education.



FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK

The Trials of Saint Patrick

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PARISH APPRECIATION PICNIC

FOOD PREPARATION



Outdoor Mass at Renshaw Farms—September 10th, 2017—11:00 A.M.




Fellowship, food & fun



Calendar of Events

- September 20th *Biking for God—6:15 P.M. - Laneville (weather permitting)*
- September 23rd & 24th *Flu Shots immediately following mass - Fellowship Hall (Saturday) & the Conference Center (Sunday)*
- September 24th *Religious Education Classes—9:30 - 10:35 A.M.; Choir Practice - 9:45—10:45 A.M.; 11:00 A.M. Mass*
- September 24th *Baptism - "Hauff" - 12:15 P.M.*
- September 27th *Biking for God—6:15 P.M.*

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

 **Today's second collection** is being taken at all Masses to support Catholic relief efforts in the wake of Hurricane Harvey. **ALL** of the funds the diocese receives from the Hurricane Harvey relief collection will go directly to Catholic Charities USA for use in relief and rebuilding efforts in Texas and the Gulf Coast areas impacted by the storm and flooding that has followed.



Flu Shot Clinic

Courtesy of Giant Eagle Pharmacy

Saturday September 23rd Following the 4pm Mass

Sunday September 24th Following the 8:30am and 11am Masses

Given in the Parish Hall – No appointment needed

Ages 9 and older

Free for Medicare, UPMC and Highmark Patients

\$30.00 for all others - Exact Cash or Check

MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER 23RD & 24TH, 2017

Altar Servers

*Extraordinary
Ministers
Of Holy Communion*

Lector

Organist

Cantor

Saturday - 4:00 P.M.

Bill Girardi
Madison & Dawson Gaillot
Zach Showers

Dave Brestensky
Andrea Camerlo
Fred Walker

Tim Fogarty

Verne Bergstrom

Alex Smith

Sunday - 8:30 A.M.

Andrew Nigra; Luke Boylan
Madison & Austin Bachar
Alexandra Lasko

Judy Bergstrom
John Nemcek
Betty Lou Nemcek

Susan Shea

Tom Koharchik

Tom Koharchik

Sunday - 11:00 A.M.

Celeste Beacom
Jacob & Erin Schaeffer
Victor & Olivia Svitek

Lisa Isenberg
Doree Rossey
Melissa Schaeffer

Bill Cogley

Dave Wesolosky

Choir

Mass Intentions
FOR THE WEEK

MASSES FOR THE 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY: September 16th
4:00 P.M. ✦ Donna & Gene Nagy (Pat & Bill Davis)

SUNDAY: September 17th
8:30 A.M. ✦ Aaron Myers (Sheree Martinetti)
11:00 A.M. St. Mary Parishioners

MONDAY: September 18th
8:00 A.M. ✦ Andrew Sliwiak (Kymer Family)

TUESDAY: September 19th
8:00 A.M. ✦ Elva Berry (John & Cindy Logsolon)

WEDNESDAY: September 20th
8:00 A.M. ✦ Helen Murphy (Tom Showers Family)


THURSDAY: September 21st
8:00 A.M. ✦ Delores Gowetski (John & Betty Lou Nemcek)

FRIDAY: September 22nd
8:00 A.M. ✦ Paul Huth (Mom & Dad)

MASSES FOR THE 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY: September 23rd
4:00 P.M. Special Intention

SUNDAY: September 24th
8:30 A.M. ✦ Pauline Supik (John Supik)
11:00 A.M. ✦ St. Mary Parishioners



The Altar Bread and Wine were donated for this week in loving memory of **EDNA & REGIS BARR**
By *Family*




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*

Collections


Offertory Collection for September 10th, 2017

No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 596
No. of Envelopes Received: 181
Collection: Offertory - \$3,356.00
Electronic Payments (15) - \$935.00
Loose - \$336.00; Children - \$23.50; Candle Money - \$212.00
Total Collection - \$4,862.50
THANK YOU!



Saturday, September 23rd, 2017
Judy Policicchio and Joanne Colpo

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