



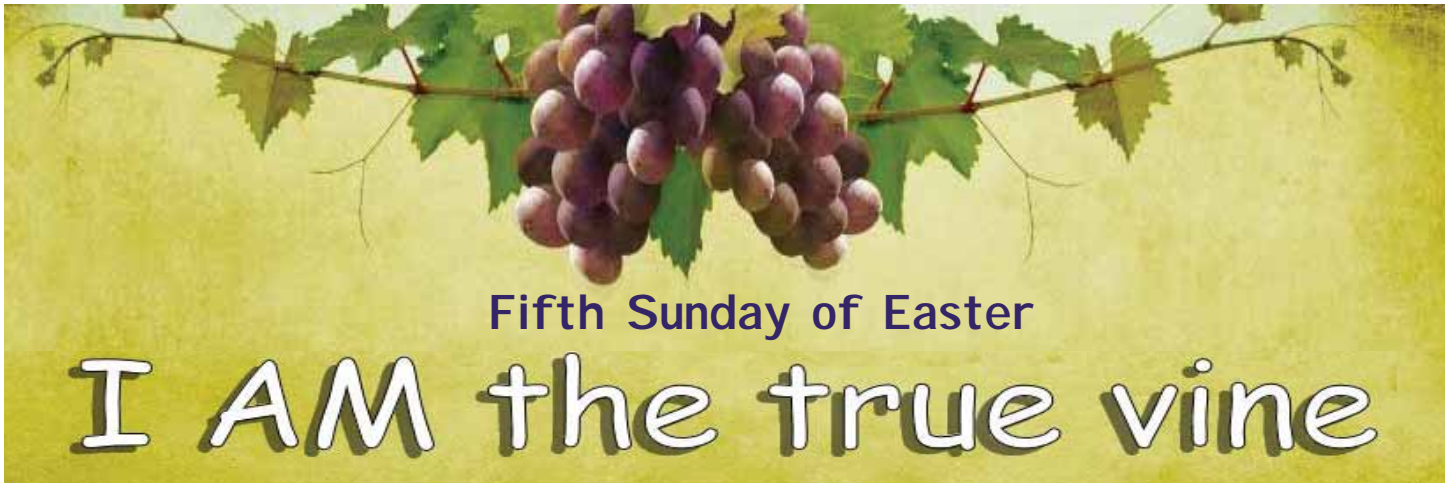
St. Mary, Mother of God Church

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



Established 1826

April 29th, 2018



Fifth Sunday of Easter

I AM the true vine

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*
William Girardi, *Social Hall Coordinator—412-719-7085*
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



As you enter the church this week, perhaps you will notice two things - the pews are different and underneath them there no longer is carpet but vinyl flooring. You are right!

I must share with you how happy and impressed I am with how things unfolded so fast. Last Sunday, after performing a baptism at 12:15 P.M., a group of volunteers arrived with some bringing their tools. They were ready to help take out the pews. Lo and behold, in an hour, all the pews in the church were gone! The church was empty with just carpet on the floor. The pews did not stay outside long because those who requested to have one or two picked them up on that same day. I was just so amazed by the quick turn of events with lots of volunteers showing up and how things worked out so well, as if it was coordinated - even the weather. The sky was blue. The sun was shining and providing a nice temperature. It was just perfect. Then the following day, the Superior Interior men installed the vinyl flooring on the area where the pews were to be positioned. It was

beautiful. The type of vinyl and the color matched the interior of the church. Tuesday was the day that again, a group of volunteers went to Monessen to pick-up all 47 pews from the Epiphany Church. It was a great team—from haulers, laborers, lifters, all working for one goal, to pick-up the pews carefully and transport them to St. Mary's. The succeeding days, until Saturday, volunteers spent their time installing these pews inside the church.

With all these things accomplished, I can say that St. Mary Parish is not only generous with their time, talent and treasure, but the spirit of volunteerism is very much alive. And I thank you all for being one with us in this great endeavor!

I am sure God is happy in what we have done because we showed our love and care for His dwelling place and our place of worship. Our Blessed Mother, Mary, whom our church is dedicated, must also be smiling for us because we thought of preserving our church historicity and perpetuity for the next generation.

I do believe that God is with us. He blesses us in everything that we do because we do it out of love for Him and for our church. The gospel this fifth Sunday of Easter is so fitting to remember, *"If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you"*.

The secret of God's blessing is always being connected with Him and doing His will.

WORKING TOGETHER

FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK

St Joseph: Patron of the Universal Church

The Forgotten Guardian of Jesus

Draw closer to the humble, faithful father entrusted not only with the paramount mission of protecting Jesus and Mary, but also to us as an important and powerful intercessor. In this captivating talk, Dr. Mark Miravalle explores Saint Joseph's hidden life, powerful witness, and continued influence in the world today.

Listen on formed.org

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—Mary K.

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Disassembling and removing the church pews

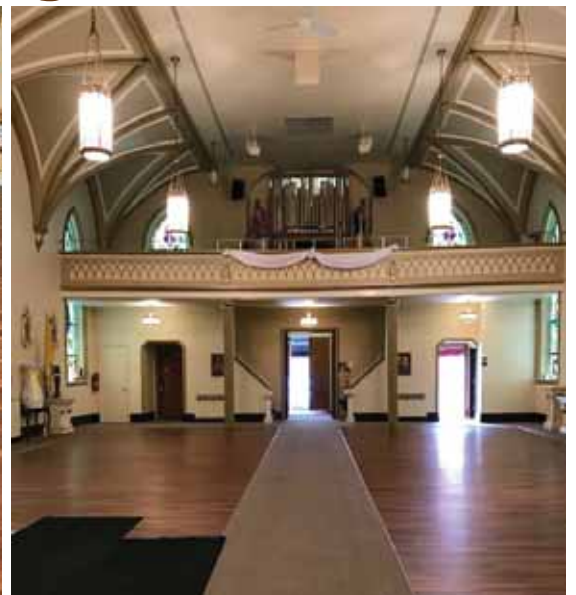


Finished!



Thank you to our many volunteers!

New Vinyl Flooring Installed



Picking up the new pews in Monessen



Calendar of Events


April 29th Religious Education Classes (Last one for the year)—9:30 - 10:40 A.M. - Security Guard - "Trina Champagne"
 Choir Practice—9:45 - 10:45 A.M.; 11:00 A.M. Mass; Baptism (Korbeck)—12:15 P.M.
April 30th Spring Card Party—6:30 P.M. - Fellowship Hall
May 2nd 1st Holy Communion Practice in Church—7:00 P.M.
May 4th First Friday Adoration—6:30 P.M. - Benediction
May 6th First Holy Communion—11:00 A.M.

Parish Religious Education Program

Sunday, April 29th - Final class - students must attend the 11:00 A.M. Mass
Wednesday, May 2nd - Candle Service followed by 1st Holy Communion practice in church—7:00 P.M. **All children must attend.**
May 6th - 1st Holy Communion will be celebrated at the 11:00 A.M. Mass. Children to assemble in the Conference Room at 10:30.

Board Game/Card Party - Monday, April 30th
 6:30 - 10:00 P.M.—Fellowship Hall—\$10.00/person
 Salad Bar 50/50 Raffle Door/Table Prizes
 Information/Tickets - Call Carol at 724-353-2641

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 OF THE SPIRIT THROUGH THE BOND OF PEACE.

MAY 3, 2018
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NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER
RIVERSIDE PARK GAZEBO
FREEPORT, PA
10am - 11am

Diocesan Lenten Appeal



Diocesan Target - \$39,816.68
 Parish Target - \$30,183.32
 Combined Target - \$70,000.00
 Pledges to Date - \$104,651.00
 Paid to Date - \$72,834.65
 Number of Donors - 292

Diocesan & Parish Targets Achieved!!!

THANK YOU



Have a wonderful day!

Happy Birthday to parishioner

James Huth!

Jim's Birthday is Sunday,

April 29th and he will be 92 years young!



Do you like working outside? Our cemetery is in need of someone to help with the grass trimming and light labor work. One or two days a week from April to November. If interested, please call our caretaker, Richard Bertino, at 724-295-3632 (home) or on his cell at 724-602-5986.

Religious Emblems

Bishop Malesic will celebrate the annual Catholic Scouting Family Convocation Mass and awarding of Boy Scout and Girl Scout religious emblems on Sunday, May 6th at 3:00 P.M., at St. Joseph Chapel at the Bishop Connare Center. Please respond by May 1st by emailing: tmoores@dioceseofgreensburg.org.

St. Mary Church 608 High Street - Freeport, PA 16229



"RED GERANIUM FLOWERS FOR PENTECOST"



To celebrate Pentecost on Sunday, May 20th, we would like to decorate the sanctuary here at St. Mary's with beautiful red geraniums — brilliant red— like the fire of the Holy Spirit.

Pentecost is the birthday of the Christian Church, and following our Masses on May 20th, those flowers designated for the church will be planted around the church grounds and will continue to adorn the area throughout the summer as a reminder of the Holy Spirit's presence. What a beautiful way to celebrate the Church's birthday and, at the same time, beautify our church grounds all summer long. In lieu of geraniums, you may also make a monetary donation towards additional Pentecost decorations. It is our joyful intention to "splash" the church in a flood of "red" in celebration of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples and in doing so, the birth of the Christian Church. As usual, we will acknowledge all plants donated in memory of... in honor of... or, to the glory of God... in the church bulletin. ***As an added note, you will have your geraniums in time to plant at the cemetery for Memorial Day!***

If you would like to make a contribution, please complete the form below and either drop it in the collection basket, or send it to the Parish Office **no later than Tuesday, May 15th.**



"RED GERANIUMS FOR PENTECOST" ORDER FORM

_____ RED GERANIUMS..... AT \$2.50 EACH..... = \$ _____

In honor of _____ by _____

In honor of _____ by _____

In memory of _____ by _____

In memory of _____ by _____

To the glory of God by _____

Ordered by: _____ Phone _____

_____ I would like to take my geraniums home (immediately following the 11:00 A.M. Mass).

_____ I would like to leave my plants to be planted on the church grounds.

_____ In lieu of sponsoring geraniums, I would like to make a donation towards additional Pentecost decorations - \$ _____

Please enclose this form with your donation in an envelope marked "Pentecost Flowers", and place in the collection basket or drop it off at the Parish Office **no later than Tuesday, May 15th.**

NOTE: If you want to take your geraniums home, please pick them up immediately following the 11:00 A.M. Mass on Pentecost Sunday (May 20th).



MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR MAY 5TH & 6TH, 2018

<i>Altar Servers</i>	<i>Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion</i>	<i>Lector</i>	<i>Greeters</i>	<i>Organist</i>	<i>Cantor</i>
Saturday - 4:00 P.M.					
Bill Girardi; Zach Showers Madison & Dawson Gaillot	Stella Aul; Deb Showers David Valencic	Dave Brestensky	Jim & Diana Talotta	Verne Bergstrom	Alex Smith
Sunday—8:30 A.M.					
Samuel & Jacob Kristine David Kristine Evan McCrea	Betty Lou Nemcek John Nemcek Rose Check	Lisa Boylan	Carol Carson Dave Kradel	Tom Koharchik	Tom Koharchik
Sunday—11:00 A.M.					
Luke Boylan Sarah & Hannah Shepherd Ali & Ben Brestensky	Helen James Judy Bergstrom Bill Cogley	1st Communion Parents	Jill Zalewski	Dave Wesolosky	Choir

Mass Intentions

MASSES FOR THE 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SATURDAY: April 28th
4:00 P.M. ✦ Daniel B. Hastings, Jr. (Fred Walker & Family)

SUNDAY: April 29th
8:30 A.M. St. Mary Parishioners
11:00 A.M. ✦ Aaron Myers (Myers Family)

MONDAY: April 30th
8:00 A.M. ✦ Mary Ellen Gallagher (Bill & Mary Fullerton)

TUESDAY: May 1st
8:00 A.M. ✦ Edna Barr (Nannie Klaput)

WEDNESDAY: May 2nd
8:00 A.M. ✦ Jarod Bennis (Patty Hughes & Family)

THURSDAY: May 3rd
8:00 A.M. ✦ Captain James F. Jordan (Jordan Family)

FRIDAY: May 4th
8:00 A.M. ✦ Dorothy Rezak (Sue Lepkowski)
1st Friday Adoration

MASSES FOR THE 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SATURDAY: May 5th
4:00 P.M. ✦ Margaret Rizzo (Bill & Maryellyn Bale)

SUNDAY: May 6th
8:30 A.M. ✦ Mary Ellen Lang (St. Mary Parishioners)
11:00 A.M. St. Mary Parishioners



The Altar Bread and Wine
were donated for this week
in loving memory of
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In acknowledging the Real Presence of Christ,
The Sanctuary Lamp (Candle) will burn this week in
loving memory of
HEROLD WYANT
By
Family



Collections

Offertory Collection for April 22nd, 2018

No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 608
No. of Envelopes Received: 224
Collection: Offertory - \$4,264.00
Electronic Payments (20) - \$2,976.00
Loose - \$371.00; Children - \$37.00
Total Collection - \$7,648.00

THANK YOU!



Saturday, May 5th, 2018
Christine Kern and Connie Waltenbaugh

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