

# 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

## 17<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

July 29th, 2018

Jesus –  
The Bread of Life  
John 6

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*  
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](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*



First, I would like to thank those who have been involved in the Vacation Bible School - *Laura Huth, Helen James and all volunteers*. Thank you for your time and talent shared for and with the children. May God bless you!

This Sunday in my column, I would like to talk about the devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the graces that come from observing First Fridays since I noticed that only few come to the first Friday adoration and they are the same faces. Somebody commented that maybe I need to talk more about it so people will understand the significance regarding this special devotion. So what is so special about First Fridays?

Our parents grew up going to church every First Friday of the month and taking part in the Sacred Heart devotions, but in recent decades the pious practice has fallen out of practice. Why is this? One reason probably is rooted in the lack of understanding. People do not know what First Friday is all about. Families may not have adequately passed down their importance to the next generation.

Here are four things to know:

### **1. How did the First Friday Devotion begin?**

*While some saints talked about the Sacred Heart of Jesus in their writings even centuries earlier, in 1673, a French nun named Margaret Mary Alacoque had visions of Jesus, wherein He asked the Church to honor His Most Sacred Heart. In particular, Jesus asked the faithful to "receive Communion on the First Fridays for nine consecutive months". The request was connected to a specific promise made to all who venerate and promote the devotion to the Sacred Heart. After Margaret Mary's death, the First Friday practice steadily spread in the Church, endorsed by popes and promoted by saints, but it greatly increased in popularity when Margaret Mary was canonized as saint in 1920 by Pope Benedict XV.*

### **2. What am I supposed to do on First Fridays?**

*Go to Mass and receive Holy Communion with the intention of honoring Christ's Sacred Heart. If you are not in a state of grace and thus unable to receive, you will need to go to confession. If time permits, spend an hour in adoration to the Blessed Sacrament.*

### **3. What are the "promises" connected to this devotion?**

*Jesus made these promises to St. Margaret Mary for anybody who would devote his/her time on First Friday in honor of the Sacred Heart:*

- (1) I will give them all the graces necessary in their state of life.*
- (2) I will establish peace in their homes.*
- (3) I will comfort them in all their afflictions.*
- (4) I will be their secure refuge during life, and above all, in death.*
- (5) I will bestow abundant blessings upon all their undertakings.*
- (6) Sinners will find in my heart the source and infinite ocean of mercy.*
- (7) Lukewarm souls shall become fervent.*
- (8) Fervent souls shall quickly mount to high perfection.*
- (9) I will bless every place in which an image of my heart is exposed and honored.*
- (10) I will give to priests the gift of touching the most hardened hearts.*
- (11) Those who shall promote this devotion shall have their names written in my Heart.*
- (12) I promise you in the excessive mercy of my Heart that my all-powerful love will grant to all those who receive Holy Communion on the First Fridays in nine consecutive months the grace of final perseverance; they shall not die in my disgrace, nor without receiving their sacraments. My divine heart shall be their safe refuge in this last moment.*

### **4. What is the purpose of the First Friday devotion?**

*The entire purpose of this devotion is to draw us closer to the heart of Christ. If we fulfill these obligations with sincere faith, it is natural for us to be closer to God and better prepared for death. Jesus wants us to rest on His heart, like St. John, and the First Friday devotion is an opportunity for us to encounter Him more than just on Sundays and to deepen our love for Him.*

Coming to know, love and trust that we may take rest in the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and place our anxieties within, is what the First Fridays are all about.



FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK

True Reformers: St. Ignatius of Loyola

A Soldier by Trade, A Saint by God's Grace

In this episode of the True Reformers series, meet St. Ignatius of Loyola, a soldier in Spain whose conversion led him to found the Jesuit order and offer the Church a new spirituality of devoted service to Christ.

Watch on [formed.org](http://formed.org)



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Calendar of Events

- August 3rd First Friday—6:30 P.M. - Benediction
- August 12th Baptism—"Gardone" - Within the 11:00 A.M. Mass
- August 14th Parish Council Meeting—7:00 P.M.
- August 15th Holy day—Assumption of Mary - Parish Office Closed



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



All Altar Servers, Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Greeters are asked to pick up their new schedules in the Sacristy after today's mass. **Note - Please remember to find a replacement if you cannot serve your scheduled time.**



A Meal Train for the *Shipe Family* has been started. If you want to "get onboard" to help this St. Mary's family, click the link under *Helping Hands* on the parish home page: [www.stmaryfreeport.org](http://www.stmaryfreeport.org).



First Friday Adoration will be August 3rd, beginning at 8:45 A.M. Sign-up sheets are located at the church entrances and two people should be represented for each half hour. Please remember that if we do not get enough parishioners to commit their time, we will have to discontinue this Catholic tradition at our parish. **Join us as we adore our Lord Jesus!**



Freeport Theater Festival, has been presenting "Washington in the Ohio Country", written and directed by parishioner Rennick Steele. Remaining performance dates are July 28th & 29th. Curtain time is 7:00 P.M. Ticket prices are - \$15.00/General; \$12.00/Military/Seniors; and \$10.00/Student. Theater is located on The Steel Farm in Allegheny Township, two miles southeast of Freeport off Rt. 356 on 2498 White Cloud Road. Tickets/information/directions, call Marushka at 724-295-1934.



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, August 30th. The final class for 2018 will be held sometime in December. Call Mark or Melissa at 724-230-4450 or the Administrative Office at 724-295-2281 to register.



The Bishop Morrow Personal Care Home (located in Leechburg) now has a vacancy. If you are interested or you know of someone that is, please call them at 724-845-2828.

137th Annual Summer Festival

Sunday, July 29, 2018

12:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Lund Care Center Backyard, 154 Marwood Road, Cabot, PA 16023

Kid's Fishing Derby & Activities

River City Brass Band

Summer Picnic-Themed Menu

Haven Apartment Open House 1:30 p.m.

Worship Service at 4 p.m. featuring

Rev. Dr. Douglas Spittel, Senior Pastor, First Trinity Evan. Lutheran Church, Pittsburgh, CLM Board Member



# EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Geibel Catholic Junior-Senior High School, Connellsville, is seeking a full-time Assistant Principal. Applicants are requested to submit a letter of interest and current resume to Patricia Nickler, Principal, at: [pnickler@geibelcatholic.org](mailto:pnickler@geibelcatholic.org). Phone 724-628-5600. Applications will be reviewed as received.

Geibel Catholic is also seeking a part-time Director of Development and Advancement. Applicants are requested to submit a letter of interest and current resume to Dr. Maureen Marsteller, Superintendent for Catholic schools. Please email: [CatholicSchools@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:CatholicSchools@dioceseofgreensburg.org) or call 724-552-2594. Applications will be reviewed as received.

Greensburg Central Catholic Junior-Senior High School is seeking a full-time Director of Institutional Advancement. Applicants are requested to submit a letter of interest and current resume to Dr. Maureen Marsteller, Superintendent for Catholic schools. Please email: [CatholicSchools@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:CatholicSchools@dioceseofgreensburg.org) or call 724-552-2594. Applications will be reviewed as received.

Job descriptions are at Employment Opportunities on the diocesan website: [www.dioceseofgreensburg.org](http://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org).



Bishop Malesic invites all couples celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary during the calendar year 2018 to participate in a special Golden Jubilee Mass to be held at the Blessed Sacrament Cathedral on Sunday, September 23rd, at 3:00 P.M. The Jubilarians, their children, relatives or friends should contact the Administrative office to register couples for this celebration no later than Monday, 12:00 Noon. Even though they may not be able to attend the Mass, they will receive a scroll signed by the Bishop commemorating their anniversary.



"Always God's Children", the U.S. bishops' outreach ministry to LGBT people and their families, will be held August 9th, at 7:00 P.M., at The Grove in Latrobe. For additional information, please contact Alecia Moss at: [leashmo@hotmail.com](mailto:leashmo@hotmail.com) or call 724-433-1857.



The 17th annual Paul R. Smiy Memorial Golf Outing will be held August 10th at the Ligonier Country Club. The golf outing is one of three annual events hosted by Catholic Charities to raise funds for people in need. The day includes a variety of skill and raffle prizes and ends with a buffet dinner and winner's circle. For more information about sponsorships and registration, visit: [www.ccharitiesgreensburg.org/golf](http://www.ccharitiesgreensburg.org/golf) or contact Heather Rady at: [hrady@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:hrady@dioceseofgreensburg.org) or call her at 724-837-1840.



The Greensburg Diocesan Council of Catholic Women is sponsoring a night at the St. Vincent Summer Theatre for the comedy "Leading Ladies" on August 7th at 7:30 P.M. The night includes 50/50 chances on theme baskets and refreshments. For tickets, (\$20.00/ea.) or additional information, please call Millie Krinock at 724-537-2064 or Betty Nemchik at 724-668-7436.



St. Joseph High School is having a co-ed soccer camp July 30th-31st, from 6:00-8:00 P.M. at Freeport Community Park for students entering grades 5-8 in the fall. The cost is \$20.00/camper and all campers receive a t-shirt. Contact Jane Susa for additional information at 724-226-7877 or email: [jsusa@SaintJosephHS.com](mailto:jsusa@SaintJosephHS.com) or you can also visit: [www.SaintJosephHS.com](http://www.SaintJosephHS.com).

Summer Nutrition and Arts Program at Freeport UMC, 211 4th Street, Freeport. This Program will run through August 9th from 12:15 - 2:15 P.M. They offer a hot lunch and an arts program. Lunch is served from 12:30 - 1:30 P.M. for children 1-18 years old and arts from 1:30 - 2:15 P.M. Spread the news!

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### St. Andrew Dinner

**Friday, August 10, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.  
at Mother of Sorrows Church, Murrysville**

For more information or to make a reservation send your request to [vocations@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:vocations@dioceseofgreensburg.org)



For more information, call Freeport UMC at 724.295.2476.

The Blessings Closet  
Wednesdays  
1-3 pm

## MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST 4TH & 5TH, 2018

Altar Servers	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Lector	Greeters	Organist	Cantor
<b>Saturday - 4:00 P.M.</b>					
Bill Girardi; Zach Showers Madison & Dawson Gaillot	Stella Aul; Fred Walker Andrea Camerlo	Dave Brestensky	Dave Posney Lois Posney	Verne Bergstrom	Verne Bergstrom
<b>Sunday—8:30 A.M.</b>					
Evan McCrea Sarah & Hannah Shepherd Abby Koharchik	Kim Holbein Cindy Harbison Rose Check	Lisa Boylan	Diane Grant Janis Harbison	Tom Koharchik	Tom Koharchik
<b>Sunday—11:00 A.M.</b>					
Marie Pelliccione Mason DeMeno; Evan Giori Paige Liti	Dan Lucovich Patty Hughes Marushka Steele	Bill Cogley	Jill Zalewski	Dave Wesolosky	Kathy Conley


### Mass Intentions

#### MASSES FOR THE 17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME


<b>SATURDAY:</b> 4:00 P.M.	July 28th ✦ Jim Ebig (Betty Labiaux)
<b>SUNDAY:</b> 8:30 A.M. 11:00 A.M.	July 29th St. Mary Parishioners ✦ Henry & Stephanie Coyle (Dan & Barb Coyle)
<b>MONDAY:</b> 8:00 A.M.	July 30th ✦ Edward Sypulski (Michael & Maria Aftanas)
<b>TUESDAY:</b> 8:00 A.M.	July 31st ✦ George Varrato (Sheree Martinetti)
<b>WEDNESDAY:</b> 8:00 A.M.	August 1st <b>COMMUNION SERVICE</b> (Fr. Ron will take the mass intention for Fr. Dominick DeBlasio [Pam & Steve Hranica] with him)
<b>THURSDAY:</b> 8:00 A.M.	August 2nd <b>COMMUNION SERVICE</b> (Fr. Ron will take the mass intention for Sharon Glath [Family] with him)
<b>FRIDAY:</b> 8:00 A.M.	August 3rd - First Friday ✦ Martin Hoffman (Jeananne Postle)

#### MASSES FOR THE 18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

<b>SATURDAY:</b> 4:00 P.M.	August 4th ✦ Dorothy Rezak (Chelko Family)
<b>SUNDAY:</b> 8:30 A.M. 11:00 A.M.	August 5th ✦ Philip Bordonaro (Patty Hughes) St. Mary Parishioners



The Altar Bread and Wine were donated for this week in honor of **DOROTHY WYANT** By Family



In acknowledging the Real Presence of Christ, The Sanctuary Lamp (Candle) will burn this week in honor of **DOROTHY WYANT** By Family



**Offertory Collection for July 22nd, 2018**

No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 613  
 No. of Envelopes Received: 183  
 Collection: Offertory - \$3,532.00  
 Electronic Payments (0) - \$0.00  
 Loose - \$353.00; Children - \$22.00

**Total Collection - \$3,907.00**

**THANK YOU!**




**Saturday, August 4th, 2018**  
**Judy Policicchio and Mary Bertino**

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**ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK**

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"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! *Please remember to provide your envelope number.*

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