

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



November 4th, 2018

And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God
with **ALL YOUR HEART** and
with **ALL YOUR SOUL** and
with **ALL YOUR MIND.**
This is the great and first commandment.

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

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 Office 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 Office at 724-295-2281.

MISSION STATEMENT—St. Mary's is a caring and welcoming family committed to building and strengthening a community of God, reaching out as disciples of Jesus Christ to Freeport and beyond.

From the Pastor's Desk



This coming November 6th, it will be time again to exercise our freedom to vote for our leaders in congress. Since our last national election, we have seen growing political divides and increasing instances of bigotry, hate, and violence often done in the name of patriotism. At the same time, we have seen communities across the country come together in support of the values of our faith and our nation.

As Catholics, we are called to carefully consider the many critical issues facing our nation. Pope Francis reminds us, "We cannot uphold an ideal of holiness that would ignore injustice in a world where some revel, spend with abandon and live only for the latest consumer goods, even as others look on from afar, living their entire lives in abject poverty."

This election, we have a choice to make. Catholic Social Teaching directs us to participate in public life and exercise our civic duty. Let us engage ourselves this election and choose the path of the common good, to seek a better life for everyone.

Below is a prayer that we can use before the election.

Lord God, as the election approaches, we seek to better understand the issues and concerns that confront our city/state/country, and how the Gospel compels us to respond as faithful citizens in our community.

We ask for eyes that are free from blindness so that we might see each other as brothers and sisters, one and equal in dignity, especially those who are victims of abuse and violence, deceit and poverty.

We ask for ears that will hear the cries of children unborn and those abandoned; men and women oppressed because of race or creed, religion or gender.

We ask for minds & hearts that are open to hearing the voice of leaders who will bring us closer to your Kingdom.

We pray for discernment so that we may choose leaders who hear your Word, live your love, and keep in the ways of your truth as they follow in the steps of Jesus and his Apostles and guide us to your Kingdom of justice and peace.

We ask this in the name of your Son Jesus Christ and through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen. (Excerpt taken from United States Conference of Catholic Bishops prayer and worship.)

It's time to VOTE!

FORMED PICK

Lectio: Peter

Episode 9: Peter Bar Jonah

To What Kind of Love Are You Called?

Few people know nor remember a man named Cornelius, though he plays a significant role in the life of Peter and of Church history. In this session, Dr. Tim Gray shows us how the life of Cornelius intersects with Peter's and redirects the New Covenant in a remarkable way. Crossing traditional lines that separate people and cultures, Peter points the Church to an all-encompassing love.

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—Monica F. Sidney, NE



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Calendar of Events

November 4th	Religious Education Classes—9:30 - 10:40 A.M.—Security Guard is Mike Ostrowski Teen Ministry—9:35 - 10:45 A.M.; Pie Orders Due Choir Practice—9:45 - 10:45 A.M.; 11:00 A.M. Mass
November 5th	Christian Mothers' Meeting—7:00 P.M. - Christian Mother's Room
November 6th	RCIA—6:30 P.M. - Conference Center
November 7th	Bible Study—6:30 P.M. - Fellowship Hall
November 8th	Theology on Tap—7:00 P.M. - Cooper Station
November 10th/11th	Donut Social—Immediately following all weekend masses - Fellowship Hall
November 11th	Religious Education Classes—9:30 - 10:40 A.M.—Security Guard is Mike Ostrowski Choir Practice—9:45 - 10:45 A.M.; 11:00 A.M. Mass
November 13th	RCIA—6:30 P.M. - Conference Center
November 14th	Pie Pick-up—4:30 to 7:00 P.M. - Conference Center Bible Study—6:30 P.M. - Fellowship Hall
November 16th	Confirmation—7:00 P.M. - Christ the King Church, Leechburg
November 18th	Religious Education Classes—9:30 - 10:40 A.M.—Security Guard is Christina Kapinskis Teen Ministry—9:35 - 10:45 A.M. Choir Practice—9:45 - 10:45 A.M.; 11:00 A.M. Mass



Pie Orders are due Sunday, November 4th. Pick-up date for pies is Wednesday, November 14th, 4:30 to 7:00 P.M., Conference Center



The Christian Mother's monthly meeting will be held on Monday, November 5th, at 7:00 P.M., in the Christian Mother's Room. The rosary will be prayed at 6:30 P.M. All members are asked and encouraged to attend.



Christmas Basket Raffle - Raffle tickets were attached in last weekend's bulletin. Ticket stubs and money may be put in the envelope and placed in the collection basket, mailed in, dropped off at the Administrative Center, or given to any Christian Mother. Tickets are only \$1.00/each. This is the main fundraiser for the Christian Mothers and your support will be greatly appreciated!



The Leadership Team is selling t-shirts and sweatshirts. T-shirts are available in short sleeve, baseball sleeve and long sleeve. Both adult and youth sizes are available. Samples can be found at the main entrance. Order forms are located at all entrances and can also be found on the parish website. Please note the form is double sided because two logo formats are available.



To understand the importance of the Sacrament of Baptism and your obligation as parents, you are required to attend one baptismal class. The final class for this year will be held on Thursday, December 13th. To register for this class, call Mark and Melissa at 724-230-4450; Parish Office at 724-295-2281.



Come join us for *Theology on Tap*, a program for young adults who want to explore the role of faith in their daily lives. In this casual atmosphere, you'll hear straight talk and honest answers to your deepest questions about faith, love, work and other real life experiences. *Theology on Tap* provides an opportunity to not only learn about your faith but also meet like-minded people, make new friends and enjoy an evening out. *Theology on Tap* is open to all young adults in their 20's, 30's and 40's, singles and couples, regardless of religious affiliation. A speaker will begin the evening followed by an open discussion. Join us Thursday, November 8th, 7:00 P.M., at Cooper Station on Route 356 where we will explore "Living a Holy Life in an Unholy World." Appetizers will be provided with dinner and drinks available for purchase. Please contact Natalie at: kolishn@gmail.com, Chris at: cmwhite929@gmail.com, or Gen at: gennifersvitek@comcast.net with any questions. We hope to see you there!



Donut Social

November 10th & 11th
Fellowship Hall
(immediately following all masses)



Thank you to all who took home baby bottles last weekend. Please remember to return them to church next week. There are empty bottles available for those who did not receive one last week and would like to participate! Thank you!

DISCIPLES

- Follower of Christ who spreads the Gospel
- Become like Jesus



Mission in Action

- St Vincent DePaul
- Teen Ministry
- Blessing Bags
- Baby Bottle Campaign
- Answering God's call in our lives
- Truly present for prayer, Mass and time to act



The Christian Mothers are beautifying our St. Mary's Prayer Garden with new landscaping and a sign. Parishioners and members of the community can be a part of this project! They will be replacing the rosary steps with beautiful granite stones and building a new brick walkway. You can order a stone or brick to be engraved to honor or memorialize a loved one or recognize a group. Some examples could be "In Memory of Ray Ravotti by His Children", "In Honor of All Christian Mothers" or "Presented by St. Mary's 2018 Teen Ministry". Order forms may be found at all of the church entrances, the Administrative Office and on the home page of our parish website: www.stmaryfreeport.com. If you would like additional information, please call Judy Bergstrom at 724-316-5352.



Mass Intention Requests are now being accepted for the year 2019. What a wonderful way to remember your loved ones. Mass requests will be taken at the Administrative Office during normal office hours. **Please note that if a mass is requested and a Communion Service needs to be scheduled, Father Ron will take the mass intention with him.**



Weekly Intentions for *The Sanctuary Candle* and *Altar Bread & Wine* will be available next weekend - donation is \$20.00 for the week. **Please note that your donation is due at the time of your request. Envelopes are not to be taken home with you.** Assistance will be provided for those who need help with filling out these envelopes.



The Office for Priestly Vocations is hosting vocations discernment sessions, *Jeremiah Days*, for boys in grades 6-8 and their parents, November 10th, February 9th and April 13th, from 9:30-11:30 A.M. at St. Barbara Parish, Harrison City. Contact: vocations@dioceseofgreensburg.org to register.



Opportunity to Pray for Vocations—

The first full week of November is designated as *National Vocation Awareness Week*. Please join Catholics from around the diocese on Thursday, November 8th, for an opportunity to pray for vocations. The Office for Priestly Vocations is sponsoring a *Diocesan Day of Prayer for Vocations* at St. Paul Church in Greensburg. Eucharistic Adoration will begin at 11:00 A.M. and continue through the day, concluding at 6:00 P.M. with sung evening prayer and benediction. Please stop in throughout the day to pray for our seminarians and those discerning God's call.



The Melchizedek Project evenings for young men to discern a vocation to the priesthood will be held November 11th and 25th and December 9th at 6:30 P.M. in the rectory at Holy Family Parish, Latrobe. Contact Father Daniel Mahoney at: dmahoney@dioceseofgreensburg.org to register. The Melchizedek Project days for young men in grades 9-12 will be held at Greensburg Central Catholic Junior-Senior High School from 6:30-8:00 P.M. November 18th, December 9th, February 17th, March 10th, April 14th and May 12th. Contact: vocations@dioceseofgreensburg.org to register.

With joy and thanksgiving to God, the Diocese of Greensburg announces that Bishop Edward C. Malesic has called Mr. Christopher J. Pujol to be admitted to Candidacy to Holy Orders. Archbishop Charles J. Chaput will confer the Rite of Admission to Candidacy within Mass at 12:00 Noon on Sunday, November 4th, in the Saint Martin Chapel at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary, Wynnewood, Pennsylvania.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

St. Joseph/St. Mary Churches, New Kensington are seeking a Youth Minister and Coordinator of Catechesis. This is a part-time position in which the candidate must be a practicing Catholic with a strong commitment to Catholic faith formation. Must be energetic and organized with excellent communication skills. Applicant must also be computer-literate (MS Office, email and social media). Candidate may possess a Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience in Religious Education and/or completed the Pathways Program. Applicant must be willing to acquire and/or continue necessary catechetical training. The position will be responsible for planning, organizing and coordinating all aspects of the religious education program (Catechesis of the Good Shepherd) and youth group. Applicants should submit their resumes by email only: sgracey@dioceseofgreensburg.org. Clearances required.



Bishop Malesic has called for a second collection to be taken in all parishes of the Diocese of Greensburg the weekend of November 10th-11th to help individuals and families recover from the flooding that hit areas in the Greensburg Diocese on September 10th. The proceeds will first go to Catholic Charities' relief efforts in that community. Remaining contributions will be placed in a Diocesan Disaster Fund to help meet future needs. Over ten homes were destroyed and many others were significantly damaged as a result of the storm. Thank you for your generosity, and please pray for the people who have suffered losses.

PANCAKE & SAUSAGE BREAKFAST



The Knights of Columbus #2602 will sponsor a Pancake & Sausage Breakfast on Sunday, November 11th, 9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M., at the council home located at 28 Garfield Street, Natrona. Cost is \$6.00/adults and \$3.00/children under 6. Take your family and friends! Everyone is welcome!

MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER 10TH & 11TH, 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	Dave Brestensky Andrea Camerlo; Fred Walker	Janice Meola	Dave Posney Lois Posney	Diane Pleva	Alex Smith
Sunday—8:30 A.M.					
Evan McCrea Sarah & Hannah Shepherd Abby Koharchik	Carol Carson Judy Bergstrom John Nemcek	Lisa Boylan	John Nemcek Betty Lou Nemcek	Tom Koharchik	Tom Koharchik
Sunday—11:00 A.M.					
Marie Pelliccione Mason DeMeno Paige Liti; Evan Giori	Lisa Isenberg Debbie Baustert Melissa Schaeffer	Rob Svitek	Jill Zalewski	Dave Wesolosky	Choir

Mass Intentions



FOR THE WEEK

MASSES FOR THE 31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME


SATURDAY: 4:00 P.M.	November 3rd ✦ All Souls' Intentions
SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. 11:00 A.M.	November 4th ✦ Christian Mothers—Deceased Members (Christian Mothers) ✦ All Souls' Intentions & St. Mary Parishioners
MONDAY: 8:00 A.M.	November 5th ✦ All Souls' Intentions
TUESDAY: 8:00 A.M.	November 6th ✦ All Souls' Intentions
WEDNESDAY: 8:00 A.M.	November 7th ✦ All Souls' Intentions
THURSDAY: 8:00 A.M.	November 8th ✦ All Souls' Intentions
FRIDAY: 8:00 A.M.	November 9th ✦ All Souls' Intentions

MASSES FOR THE 32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY: 4:00 P.M.	November 10th ✦ All Souls' Intentions
SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. 11:00 A.M.	November 11th ✦ Domenic & Isabelle Canterna (Betty Canterna) St. Mary Parishioners



The Altar Bread and Wine were donated for this week
in loving memory of
JUDY POLANA
By
Family



In acknowledging the Real Presence of Christ,
The Sanctuary Lamp (Candle) will burn this week in
loving memory of
ALBERTA & JOE HAGER
By
Barbara & Dan Coyle



Collections

Offertory Collection for October 28th, 2018

No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 613
No. of Envelopes Received: 185
Collection: Offertory - \$4,090.00
Electronic Payments (16) - \$1,211.00
Loose - \$396.00; Children - \$23.00
Additional Funds for World Mission Sunday - \$10.00
Additional Funds for the Seminarian Appeal - \$20.00

Total Collection - \$5,750.00

THANK YOU!




Saturday, November 10th, 2018
Diane Grant

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