

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 30TH, 2018



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



Last Sunday, Tim Fogarty, one of the members of the Parish Leadership Team, shared information regarding the different ministries that we have in our parish. He gave examples how these ministries are interconnected in fulfilling our parish mission as 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.

Now what are the different ministries that we currently have in our parish where we can get involved and participate? Here is the partial list:

Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion – help distribute communion at masses, including funerals, and willing to take communion to our shut-ins.

Ministry of Lectors – assist in liturgical celebrations by proclaiming the Word of God.

Ministry of Altar Servers – serve at masses, weddings, funerals and special events.

Music Ministry – participate in our choir, cantor at mass and other liturgical celebrations, assisted by the organists.

Teen Ministry – coordinate our teens, 9th through 12th grade, with their spiritual and social activities, bible study and participate in diocesan and national youth conventions and retreats.

Children's Breaking Open the Word – assist at the 8:30 A.M. Sunday mass with children, ages three through first grade, for the children's liturgy of the word.

Greeters – families or individual parishioners, on a rotating basis, stand at each entrance of the church and welcome all who come to worship at our weekend masses.

Ushers – during weekend masses and holy days of obligation, assist in the seating of parishioners and the offertory collection during the service.

Evangelization Ministry – coordinate activities and social gatherings to welcome new parishioners and bring the parish family together.

RCIA Team (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) – provides support for adults seeking the Sacrament of Initiation into the Catholic Church.

Religious Education – provide religious education on Sunday mornings for Pre-K through 8th Grade, from September through May.

Altar Cleaning – help to clean the sanctuary, sacristy and church areas, usually by a team of two people on Fridays or Saturdays.

Altar Decorating – planning, decorating and the upkeep for seasonal and special events.

Sacristans – care for the altar linens, cloths, vestments and liturgical vessels used in the church and to keep the sacristy in order.

Homebound Ministry – volunteers visit and take Holy Communion to our home bound and parishioners in nursing homes.

Christian Mothers – promote and support spiritual growth for women and their children and provide a means to grow in service.

Hospitality – help with the preparation and serving of meals during parish festivities.

Mercy Meals – help prepare and serve food at the funeral luncheons.

Meals on Wheels – help coordinate delivery routes, prepare meals or make morning deliveries to shut-ins in our local community.

Society of Saint Vincent de Paul – members meet weekly to plan, collect and distribute clothing, furniture and related items to the less fortunate. Also, assist in operating the St. Vincent de Paul store in Apollo.

Prayer Chain – to pray in private for the needs of those who request prayers for any reason.

Moving forward, we want to introduce three new ministries in our parish and they are:

Helping Hands Ministry

Theology on Tap

Holy Name Society

More details regarding these ministries will be shared in the coming weeks.

Those who are interested in joining any of these ministries listed can approach either Bill Girardi or myself. You can also call the Administrative Office at **724-295-2281** or email: thechurch@stmaryfreeport.com. We will be more than willing to help you and be glad to have you share with us your talents, time and treasure.

May God bless you!



Brother Francis

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In this exciting Augustine Institute audio drama, follow the fun-loving son and soldier of Assisi as he is transformed by the Gospel. Captivated by Christ, Saint Francis trades wealth for poverty, embraces lepers, shakes hands with the Pope, debates a Sultan, and touches the lives of millions.

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Any questions? Please contact Beth Macurdy at: bmacurdy@ufcw.org or call her at 724-295-9411.



REST IN PEACE—In your charity of prayers, please remember the souls of *Florence Rager* and *Betty Rassau* who recently passed away. Welcome them and all who have gone before us into the joy of everlasting life and bring comfort and peace to their families.



→ **Sunday**
→ **October**
→ **14th**
→ **12:00**
→ **Noon till**
→ **4:00 P.M.**
→ **Church**
→ **Grounds**



Pig & Chicken Roast
Hot Dogs & Sauerkraut
Baked Beans
And much more

Sign-up sheets are located at all of the church entrances!

Calendar of Events

September 29th Wedding—McDermott/Himes—1:30 P.M.
September 30th Religious Education Classes—9:30 - 10:40 A.M.—Security Guard is Heather Koharchik
Choir Practice—9:45 - 10:45 A.M.; 11:00 A.M. Mass
October 1st Christian Mother's Meeting—7:00 P.M. - Christian Mother's Room
October 3rd "Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible"—6:30 P.M. - Fellowship Hall
October 5th First Friday Adoration—6:30 P.M. - Benediction
October 6th Wedding—DeMeno/Bargerstock - 1:30 P.M.
October 7th Religious Education Classes—9:30 - 10:40 A.M.—Security Guard is Jim Zollinger
Teen Ministry—9:35 - 10:45 A.M.
Choir Practice—9:45 - 10:45 A.M.; 11:00 A.M. Mass



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.

The Christian Mother's monthly meeting will be held on Monday, October 1st, 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.



First Friday Adoration will be October 5th, 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.



St. Mary Cemetery - All flowers and flags will be removed by cemetery personnel on October 1st. If arrangements, flowers or flags are wanted, the owners must remove them prior to September 30th.

MISSION COOPERATIVE PLAN

The Diocese of Bangued is located in Northern Philippines. Compared to other dioceses in the Philippines, Bangued is a small and young diocese. With twenty-three parishes, there are about 236,031 Catholics from the total population of 274,953. It was elevated as a diocese in 1982. At present, there are about forty-two local priests, some of them ministering in foreign lands and two of them are working in the Diocese of Greensburg. Next weekend, a second collection will be taken to support The Diocese of Bangued. Please use the attached green envelope in today's bulletin. Your kind welcome for Fr. Efen Ambre and generous support will be greatly appreciated. The mission appeal of the Diocese of Bangued is intended to go to the retirement fund of the local clergy. Thank you!



Today is the annual diocesan collection for our Seminarians, for men preparing for the Permanent Diaconate, for the ongoing formation of our clergy and for our International Priests serving in the Diocese of Greensburg.

If you forgot your envelope for this collection, there are additional envelopes at all of the church entrances. Please be generous in supporting the needs of our Seminarians and Clergy through this collection. In addition to your financial support, Bishop Malesic is asking for your prayers for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and the religious life. Let us all continue to pray for all vocations, so that those who are called may prayerfully respond to God's invitation. Please know that your support is always appreciated, but especially now, when they face the challenge of dealing with the difficult realities of this calling after the recent Grand Jury Report.



If you have any suspicion about the sexual abuse (or any other type of abuse) of a minor child by anyone — please contact PA Childline immediately at 1-800-932-0313. If the alleged abuser is functioning in a parish, school or diocesan position as clergy, religious, paid staff or volunteer you are also requested to contact the Bishop's Delegate for Matters of Sexual Misconduct after you have called the Childline number and made the report. The Bishop's Delegate may be reached at 724-837-0901, Ext. 1221.

Pro Life Prayer Breakfast

The Greensburg Diocesan Council of the National Council of Catholic Women is sponsoring the annual Interfaith Pro-Life Prayer Breakfast on Saturday, October 20th, at 10:00 A.M. at the Christ Our Shepherd Center, Route 30 east of Greensburg. The guest speaker will be Dr. Brian Clowes, Director of Education and Research for Human Life International. All seats are reserved. Tickets are \$20.00/person, \$10.00/students. **The registration deadline is October 8th.** For questions and information, call 724-537-2064 or email: rsvpf@hotmail.com.

LIFE CHAIN 2018



All are welcome to participate in *Life Chain 2018* on Sunday, October 7th, at 2:00 P.M. *Life Chain* is a visual statement of Christian solidarity that will take place throughout the United States and Canada. This will be a peaceful and prayerful display of those who want to end abortion. Please join the local *Life Chain* in silent prayer on Leechburg Road, Lower Burrell. Parking for those participating at Mogie's Restaurant. For additional information, please call Jerry or Jenny Lou at 724-339-2976 or Trudy at 724-339-1384.

NATURAL Family PLANNING

Natural Family Planning CM-BBT instruction will be October 15th at 6:00 P.M. in the Catholic Charities office in Greensburg. *Please call at least one week prior to the instruction date to preregister.* Contact Mary Ann Newhouse at Catholic Charities at 724-837-1840, Ext. 1658 for additional information or to register for this or an upcoming class. For more information about Natural Family Planning and the CM-BBT method, visit: www.ccharitiesgreensburg.org and link into Natural Family Planning under "Services."

Furniture & Book Sale St. Emma Monastery, Greensburg, will host a book and furniture sale on Saturday, October 6th, from 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.



Mother of Sorrows Church, Murrysville is seeking a Director of Liturgy and Music. The Director of Liturgy and Music oversees and coordinates liturgies and music for all parish celebrations and events in collaboration with the pastor and parish staff and will report to the Pastor of Mother of Sorrows Church. This is a full-time position and salary will be based on education and pastoral-liturgical experience. If interested, contact Msgr. James Gaston—4202 Old William Penn Highway, Murrysville, PA 15668; 724-733-8870; Email: jgaston@dioceseofgreensburg.org.

Student Visit Day Greensburg Central Catholic Junior-Senior High School will host a visit day for students currently in grades 8-11 to experience a day in the life of a GCC student. The event will be held Friday, October 12th, from 9:00 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. **The registration deadline is Monday, October 1st.** Please register at: www.gcchs.org/admissions or you may email Melissa Hughes at: MHughes@gcchs.org.

POLISH Platter Dinner

PIEROGI, GOLABKI, HALUSKI, KIELBASA, STRING BEANS POLONAISE, DINNER ROLL, BEVERAGE

Sunday, October 7

St. Mary R.C. Church

857 Kenneth Ave., New Kensington
Friendship Hall

NOON - 4 PM EAT-IN

11:00 AM - 3 PM TAKE-OUT

Dinner Price \$12

MORE INFO: 724-335-8212

MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR OCTOBER 6TH & 7TH, 2018

Altar Servers	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Lector	Greeters	Organist	Cantor
Saturday - 4:00 P.M.					
Fred Walker; Zach Showers Madison & Dawson Gaillot	Stella Aul; Deb Showers Dave Valencic	Janice Meola	Doug Scholl Mary Scholl	Verne Bergstrom	Alex Smith
Sunday—8:30 A.M.					
Luke Boylan Madison & Austin Bachar Alexandra Lasko	Kim Holbein Cindy Harbison Rose Check	Judy Bergstrom	Don Miller Jean Miller	Tom Koharchik	Tom Koharchik
Sunday—11:00 A.M.					
Celeste Beacom Jacob & Erin Schaeffer Victor & Olivia Svitek	Dan Lucovich Patty Hughes Marushka Steele	Jeff Jones	Rose Naughton	Dave Wesolosky	Choir

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

MASSES FOR THE 26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY: 4:00 P.M.	September 29th ✦ Edward Sypulski (Ed & Lynne Friel)
SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. 11:00 A.M.	September 30th ✦ Alma Ebig (Bob & Judy Bergstrom) St. Mary Parishioners
MONDAY: 8:00 A.M.	October 1st ✦ John Bono (Terry & Mark Beacom)
TUESDAY: 8:00 A.M.	October 2nd ✦ Joseph & Mary Krumenacker (Family)
WEDNESDAY: 8:00 A.M.	October 3rd ✦ Barbara Sliviak (Grant Family)
THURSDAY: 8:00 A.M.	October 4th ✦ Martin "Chip" Hoffman (Helen King)
FRIDAY: 8:00 A.M. 6:30 P.M.	October 5th—First Friday ✦ Families Affected by Alzheimer's (Baustert Family) Benediction

MASSES FOR THE 27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY: 4:00 P.M.	October 6th St. Mary Parishioners
SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. 11:00 A.M.	October 7th ✦ Deceased of the Policicchio Family (The Policicchio's) ✦ Rev. George Alderson (Friends)



Saturday, October 6th, 2018
Christine Kern and Connie Waltenbaugh

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In acknowledging the Real Presence of Christ,
The Sanctuary Lamp (Candle) will burn this week in
loving memory of
THE FAMILY OF R. & D. DICKEY



Collections

Offertory Collection for September 23rd, 2018

No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 610
No. of Envelopes Received: 189
Collection: Offertory - \$4,565.63
Electronic Payments (6) - \$668.00
Loose - \$264.25; Children - \$18.00
Candle Money—\$321.00

Total Collection - \$5,836.88
THANK YOU!

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We are truly appreciative of any gifts made to our parish. **Electronic Giving** is intended to be a convenient tool for you to contribute weekly or monthly or to make other donations to the church, electronically. This option allows you to easily setup recurring contributions, saving you time. Through electronic giving, this allows us to become more efficient and fiscally responsible. When signing up, please remember to provide your envelope number.

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