



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 2nd, 2018

22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MARK

7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23



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



Hard to believe it is already September. In the Philippines, (I know you will laugh at me) but when we hear the beginning of the month that ends with *ber*, we believe it is the time to begin thinking of the celebration of Christmas. And so, you will hear people from homes, business establishments like shopping malls and restaurants, playing Christmas songs. Before December begins, you will see a lot of homes, parks and streets already decorated with Christmas decorations. Isn't that crazy? Personally, if you asked me how this idea began, I actually would have to tell you that I don't know. It's nice that here in America, we observe every season and holiday rightfully.

This first week of September we have three events that give us an opportunity to be with our family, to be with the Lord and to be with our parish community.

First, Monday, September 3rd, we will celebrate Labor Day. I am sure everybody is happy because it is a welcomed day off from work for those who work and a day off for those who attend school. Families can enjoy a day of bonding either at home or at some closer place ideal for this celebration.

Second, Friday, September 7th is First Friday. We have the regular schedule of the adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in honor of the devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed on the altar immediately following the morning mass, from 8:30 A.M. to 6:30 P.M. I invite all of you to spend time with the Lord, praying especially for the sanctification of the priests and the Church as we have been bombarded for the past few weeks with news and reports about sexual abuse and scandal in the Church. We pray that justice may be served and the truth may prevail, that the good may triumph over evil in this difficult and challenging time.

Third, as a parish family being grateful to our 192 years of parish existence and faithfully remembering our beginning, we are having a parish picnic on Sunday, September 9th, at the Renshaw Farm. Being Sunday, our 11:00 A.M. mass will be celebrated there. After mass, food will be served where we can enjoy each other's company and have fellowship. Also, it is the perfect time to welcome and get to know our new members in our parish community.

As a parish, we try to provide an avenue where we can build a strong family anchored in God and in our community for they are vital in our life's journey.

Celebrate

FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK

Who Am I to Judge?

Presented by Dr. Edward Sri

How can we stand up for truth in a world that says there is no truth?

How can we explain our moral convictions without being labeled "judgmental?" Join Dr. Edward Sri as he explores what the Church teaches about truth and learn how to better explain it without fear of being "intolerant."

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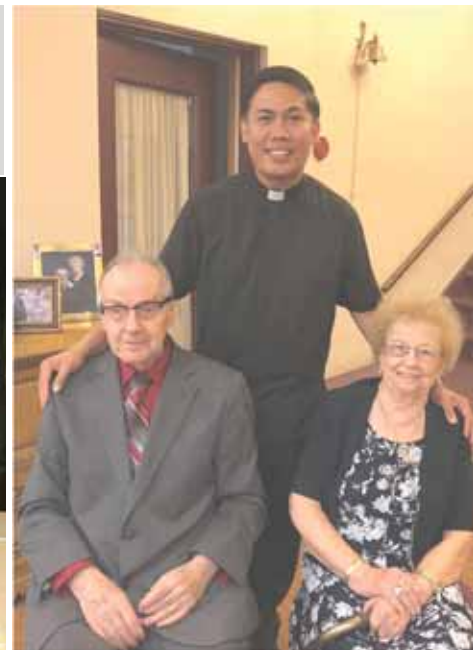
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If you have any questions, please contact Beth Macurdy at: bmacurdy@ufcw.org or call her at 724-295-9411.

*Celebrating
70 years
of marriage*

Congratulations to
Geno and Lillian Pernazza
~~August 20th, 2018~~



50 years of marriage

Congratulations to
Thomas and Martina Brestensky
~~August 24th, 2018~~



Calendar of Events

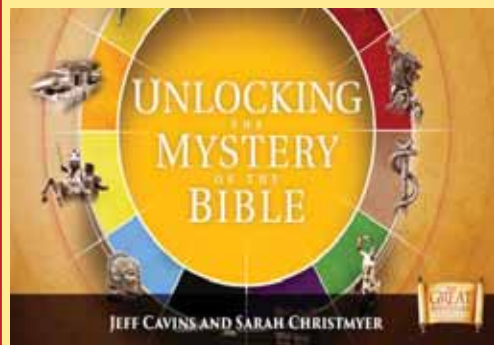
September 1st	Baptism "Mills" - 4:00 P.M.
September 3rd	Labor Day—Mass will be celebrated at 9:00 A.M.; Parish Office Closed
September 7th	First Friday—6:30 P.M. - Benediction
September 9th	Parish Appreciation Picnic at Renshaw Farm—11:00 A.M. - Outside Mass
September 10th	Christian Mothers Meeting—7:00 P.M. - Christian Mother's Room
September 16th	First Day of Religious Education Classes—9:30 - 10:40 A.M.; Choir Practice—9:45 - 10:45 A.M.; 11:00 A.M. Mass Catechetical Sunday

**REGISTER
TODAY!**



If you have a child that will be attending pre-school or kindergarten in September or if there is anyone that has recently joined our parish and has to pre-register their children for Religious Education classes (Pre-School thru 8th grade), please call Helen James, Director of Religious Education, at 724-295-4758. If your child attended our Religious Education program last year (1st thru 8th grade only), there is no need to re-register this year! **Those who attended pre-school or kindergarten last year must re-register again this year!**

First Friday Adoration will be September 7th, beginning at 8:30 A.M. Sign-up sheets are located at the church entrances. Please join us as we adore our Lord, Jesus!



Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible!

If you would like to have a deeper relationship with God and a better understanding of your faith, then join us for *Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible*. You will not only benefit personally from being part of this study; you will also help to bring about a profound renewal in our parish as we grow closer to Christ. St. Mary's will begin *Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible* on Wednesday, September 26th at 6:30 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall. The eight week study will run through November 14th. For additional information or to register, visit: <https://stmaryfreeport.com/unlockingbible>; contact Beth Macurdy at 724-295-9411; email: bmacurdy@ufcw.org. **Registration forms are also available at all the church entrances.** *Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible* helps you uncover the story woven through Scripture with its clever narrative

approach and ingenious color-coded Bible Timeline. It is a great way to get the "big picture" of the Bible and see how our Catholic Faith is rooted in Scripture. You'll see how the Bible reveals God's loving plan for your life, and you will learn helpful ways to put your faith into practice. The study includes a series of eight informative and engaging videos presented by Jeff Cavins. Each video will be followed by a lively group discussion. There is a \$20 fee to cover the cost of the study materials. You will receive a color-coded Bible Timeline Chart, a Bible study workbook, and the ability to stream the study videos online at your convenience.

ST. MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

PARISH APPRECIATION PICNIC

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9TH—12:00 Noon-4:00 P.M.
RENSHAW FARM

11:00 A.M. Mass will be held outside



Pig and Chicken Roast



MENU

Hot Dogs & Sauerkraut
Macaroni Salad
Coke Slaw
Baked Beans
Corn on the Cob
Desserts
Watermelon
Beverages (coffee/tea/soft drinks)



Picnic Games



We ask each family attending the picnic to bring a dessert and/or snacks. Thank you!



Sign-up sheets are available at all of the church entrances. You must sign up by Sunday, September 2nd!



Registration continues for Pathways 2018-19.

This is the 25th year of Pathways, the diocese's commitment to adult faith formation and nurturing mature discipleship. There are twelve evening sessions, three workshops and a closing retreat. Pathways will be held Wednesdays from 6:30-9:00 P.M. at St. Agnes Parish, North Huntingdon, and Thursdays from 6:30-9:00 P.M. at St. John the Evangelist Parish, Latrobe. To register, email: pathways@dioceseofgreensburg.org, call 724-552-2598; visit the Vocations section of: www.dioceseofgreensburg.org. Financial assistance is available. For additional information or to apply for a scholarship, please email: francisfund@dioceseofgreensburg.org or you can call 724-837-0901, Ext. 1249.



Clelian Heights will host its 21st annual

Wholey's Old-Fashioned Chicken BBQ fundraising dinner on Sunday, September 16th, from 1:00-5:00 P.M. at the school off Old Rte. 66 north of Greensburg. Eat in or take out. Pre-purchase tickets/\$13.00; at the door/\$15.00. The event includes basket raffle. Call 724-837-8120, Ext. 124 for additional information or to purchase your tickets.

Something for Everyone

RUMMAGE



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FRIDAY, SEPT. 7th

8 AM to 5 PM

SATURDAY, SEPT. 8th

8 AM to 1 PM

MEN'S CONFERENCE

St. Agnes Parish, North Huntingdon, will host "That Man is You!" beginning September 8th at 8:30 A.M., in Resurrection Hall at the parish. The event combines Scripture, research and fun to address the pressures and temptations facing men in the modern culture. For questions or to register, please call Ken Glick at 724-858-5598; Ray Takacs at 724-864-3554.



Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg, will host an organ recital with J. Christopher Pardini on Sunday, September 16th, at 3:00 P.M. Pardini is the diocesan organist and Director of music and liturgy at the cathedral parish.

The Freeport Renaissance Association is in need of volunteers to help with their fall festival, *September by the River*. If you could spare two-three hours on Saturday, September 15th or Sunday, September 16th, would you please call Sue Hunter at 724-295-2041. Thank you!



Are you married to a stranger? Do you feel alone? Do you argue or have you just stopped talking to each other? Do you dread the drive home? Does talking about it only make it worse? For confidential information about or to register for the program beginning with a weekend on September 7th, please contact Retrouvaille at 412-277-3434 or email: 3041@retrouvaille.org. More information is available at: www.retrouvailleofpittsburghinc.org.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER 8TH & 9TH, 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.					
Fred Walker; Zach Showers Lauren & Leah Clark	Stella Aul; Deb Showers Dave Valencic	Dave Brestensky	Dave Posney Lois Posney	Diane Pleva	Alex Smith
Sunday—8:30 A.M.					
Luke Boylan Madison & Austin Bachar Alexandra Lasko	Betty Lou Nemcek Pat Ralston Lisa Boylan	Judy Bergstrom	Diane Grant Janis Harbison	Tom Koharchik	Tom Koharchik
Sunday—11:00 A.M.					
Celeste Beacom Jacob & Erin Schaeffer Victor & Olivia Svitek	Helen James Andre Volek Bill Cogley	Marushka Steele	Rose Naughton	Dave Wesolosky	Choir

Mass Intentions

MASSES FOR THE 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY: 4:00 P.M.	September 1st ✦Helen Murphy (Eugene & Karol Mennow)
SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. 11:00 A.M.	September 2nd St. Mary Parishioners ✦Berness Cribbs (Shari Ramsey)
MONDAY: 9:00 A.M.	September 3rd ✦Andrew & Pauline Rezak (Posney Family)
TUESDAY: 8:00 A.M.	September 4th ✦Eunice Bergstrom (Bob & Judy Bergstrom)
WEDNESDAY: 8:00 A.M.	September 5th ✦Jovita Walker (Patty Hughes)
THURSDAY: 8:00 A.M.	September 6th ✦Sharon Glath (Family)
FRIDAY: 8:00 A.M.	September 7th—First Friday ✦John Bono (Kathy & Matt Williams)

MASSES FOR THE 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY: 4:00 P.M.	September 8th ✦Anita Rosato (Family)
SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. 11:00 A.M.	September 9th ✦Ray Ravotti (Bob & Diane Grant) ✦St. Mary Parishioners

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

In acknowledging the Real Presence of Christ, The Sanctuary Lamp (Candle) will burn this week in loving memory of
ANITA ROSATO
By
Children—Deborah, Barb, Pam, Greg

Collections

Offertory Collection for August 26th, 2018

No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 611
No. of Envelopes Received: 211
Collection: Offertory - \$4,101.25
Electronic Payments (15) - \$2,283.00
Loose - \$8.00; Children - \$20.00
Combined Catholic University/Catholic Schools Appeal - \$435.00

Total Collection - \$6,847.25

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