

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 23rd, 2018

MARK

9:30-37



TWENTY-FIFTH 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



After sharing with you our parish mission statement last week and the core values that we want to promote, this Sunday you will be hearing from one of the members of the Parish Leadership Team who will speak about his experiences in the parish while seeing the presence of the different ministries that help the parish in carrying out her mission.

Talking about *St. Mary's as a caring and welcoming family* for example, we have the *ushers and greeters ministry* who welcome people in our parish, may it be in our place of worship or in our social fellowship. They make sure that all are welcomed and given equal attention. With regard to caring, we have the *homebound ministry* that cares for our homebound, elderly and sick who cannot come to Church for any of our special events and liturgical celebrations. They visit them regularly and take them communion. Each year, this ministry organizes a healing mass and dinner for the homebound in our parish and their families are also invited.

Then, talking about *commitment to building and strengthening a community of God*, our parish supports and values the importance of relationship with the family and community. We engage in *ecumenical gatherings* with the various churches in the area, especially during the Lenten Season. We participate in community events. We hold an *annual picnic* every September to commemorate our parish foundation day and strengthen our parish family. We have the *Christian Mothers Association* that devotes time drawing families closer to the Lord by their regular meetings and fervent prayer. The *catechists/volunteers/aides* who help the children form their Christian faith through religious education. Last Sunday, we commissioned them within the mass. We have twelve catechists/volunteers who will be teaching 150 children this year from Pre-K to 8th grade.

As to *reaching out as disciples of Jesus Christ*, we have the *St. Vincent de Paul Society*, who cares for the poor and those who are in need, may it be within our community or outside the community providing shelter, food, clothing or financial assistance. Our parish provides *blessing bags* to Freeport's food bank around the holidays. We sponsor the *baby bottle campaign* that promotes life, especially the baby. We have the *Teen Ministry* who sends out care packages to those in college and participates in the homeless project. The *children enrolled in our Religious Education program* reach out to the homebound by sending them cards and gifts during the Christmas season. The *Evangelization Ministry* provides opportunities to deepen our spirituality and relationship with the Lord through *FORMED*, an online program, and adult bible studies in the parish.

All of the above calls us to *service Freeport and beyond*, whether we are young or old. By virtue of baptism, we are called to service and engage in a mission.

Living OUR MISSION

FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK

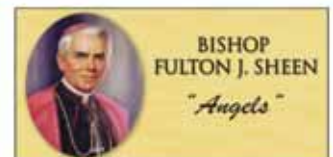
Angels

By Venerable Fulton Sheen

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With his ever-present humor, animated presentation, and captivating mode of speaking, the beloved Bishop Fulton Sheen explains the nature of angels and the meaningful role they play in our world.

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—Joyce S, VA



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CATECHETICAL SUNDAY



Commissioning of our Religious Education Teachers at the 11:00 A.M. Mass

Ready for the first day of Religious Education



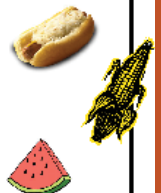
RESCHEDULED

**ST. MARY, MOTHER OF GOD
PARISH APPRECIATION PICNIC
OKTOBERFEST**

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14TH—12:00 Noon-4:00 P.M.
CHURCH GOUNDS

MENU

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



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, October 7th!

Calendar of Events

- September 23rd Religious Education Classes—9:30 - 10:40 A.M.
Choir Practice—9:45 - 10:45 A.M.; 11:00 A.M. Mass
- September 29th Wedding—McDermott/Himes—1:30 P.M.
- September 30th Religious Education Classes—9:30 - 10:40 A.M.
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 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.
Choir Practice—9:45 - 10:45 A.M.; 11:00 A.M. Mass



Don't forget *Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible* on Wednesday, September 26th, 6:30 to 8:00 P.M. If you forgot to sign up, please check with Beth Macurdy at: bmacurdy@ufcw.org; 724-295-9411

to see if there is still available space.



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". To place your order, please use the flyer that was in last weekend's bulletin. You can find additional flyers at all of the church entrances and the Administrative Office. If you would like additional information, please call Judy Bergstrom at 724-316-5352.



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.



Next weekend is the *Seminarian and Clergy Formation Collection* throughout the Diocese of Greensburg. Please prayerfully consider making a financial gift in support of our Seminarians, our men who are preparing for the

Permanent Diaconate, for the ongoing formation of our Clergy and for our International Priests serving throughout the Diocese of Greensburg. Please respond using the tear-off portion of the letter that was mailed to you, by using the special collection envelope in your envelope set from the parish, or the *Seminarian and Clergy Formation Collection* envelopes found online at: www.dioceseofgreensburg.org. We ask you to accompany the seminarians and clergy of our diocese by your prayerful support. Please know that your support is always appreciated, especially now, when they face the challenge of dealing with the difficult realities of this calling after the recent Grand Jury Report.

PILGRIM PRAYERS

Under the spiritual direction of Bishop Edward C. Malesic and led by Father William J. Lechnar, pilgrims from the Diocese of Greensburg will make a pilgrimage to the Holy Land October 1st-11th. You are invited to submit confidential prayer intentions which will be carried to and remembered at each holy site the group visits. Visit: www.dioceseofgreensburg.org/holyland to register your request via the diocesan extranet; email your requests to: pilgrimprayers@dioceseofgreensburg.org or you may mail your requests to: Pilgrim Prayers, Diocese of Greensburg, 723 East Pittsburgh Street, Greensburg, PA 15601. Pilgrimage prayer intentions are being accepted until Tuesday, September 25th.



THEOLOGY ON TAP IN THE A-K VALLEY
Calling ALL young adults (single, married, parents, etc.)! Join in for *Theology on Tap* in the A-K Valley on Thursday, September 27th, at 7:00 P.M. at Mogie's Irish Pub/Magill's Grill (3210 Leechburg Road, Lower Burrell).

The evening's speaker will be Fr. Ken Zaccagnini, Pastor at St. Margaret Mary Parish. Dinner will be provided and babies in carriers are welcome! Invite a friend! *Theology on Tap* is a program for Catholic Young Adults and their friends to meet together at local bars, cafes, and restaurants to listen to a speaker, share conversation and gain new insights into the faith. If you would like additional information, you are asked to please contact Ariel at: ASchroeder@dioceseofgreensburg.org or Katie at: KTylinski@dioceseofgreensburg.org or you can find them on Facebook at *Theology on Tap* in the A-K Valley (akvalleytot). No need to RSVP, just show up!

Freeport Theatre Festival celebrates its 29th Season

Autumn Sonata

An evening of poetry, live music, hot cider and spice cookies in celebration and remembrance of

Louisa Rockwell

Effulgent spirit, poet, director, choreographer, dancer, theatrical visionary and creator of FT's first Autumn Sonata.

SEPTEMBER 28, 29, 30
All performances begin at 7:00 p.m.

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Images inspired and photo-voiced by the poetry of Louisa Rockwell

Special appearance by Joe Lago on accordion, keyboard and voice.



General Information

TICKET PRICES:
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LOCATION:
The Steele Farm in Allegheny Township
Nested in the northern tip of the Laurel Highlands.
Two miles southeast of Freeport
off Rte. 356 on White Cloud Road




INFORMATION:
Marushka Steele at 724-295-1934
or www.freeporttheatrefestival.org

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"Come play with us."
If you have a secret wish to participate in the life of a theatrical production:

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40 DAYS FOR LIFE



From September 26 through November 4, you're invited to join other Christians for 40 Days for Life – 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. You're also invited to stand and peacefully pray during a 40-day vigil in the public right-of-way outside Planned Parenthood, 933 Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh, and also to help spread the word about this important community outreach. If you'd like more information – and especially if you'd like to volunteer to help, please contact: Nikki Bruni, 412-926-9413, nbruni@40daysforlifepgh.com www.40daysforlife.com/pittsburgh (or) www.40daysforlifepittsburgh.com

• 14,643 babies saved • 177 abortion workers converted • 96 abortion centers closed

Kick-Off Event Tuesday, September 25th, 7:00 pm – 8:30pm, Synod Hall Auditorium, Located at St. Paul Cathedral 125 N. Craig St., in Oakland. Speakers include Fr. Chris Donley, pastor of St. Raphael Church and Rev. Adam Stump, Pastor of Clarks Mills United Methodist Church. Worship music provided by Katy Blythe. **Come, be inspired!**

MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER 29TH & 30TH, 2018

Altar Servers	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Lector	Greeters	Organist	Cantor
Saturday - 4:00 P.M.					
Bill Girardi; Zach Showers Madison & Dawson Gaillot	Dave Brestensky Andrea Camerlo; Fred Walker	Jackie DeFelice	Sharon Mihalich	Verne Bergstrom	Alex Smith
Sunday—8:30 A.M.					
Evan McCrea Sarah & Hannah Shepherd Abby Koharchik	Betty Lou Nemcek Pat Ralston Lisa Boylan	John Nemcek	John Nemcek Betty Lou Nemcek	Tom Koharchik	Tom Koharchik
Sunday—11:00 A.M.					
Marie Pelliccione Mason DeMeno Paige Liti; Evan Giori	Helen James Andre Volek Bill Cogley	Rob Svitek	Jill Zalewski	Dave Wesolosky	Choir

Mass Intentions

MASSSES FOR THE 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY: 4:00 P.M.	September 22nd ✦ Jim Ebig (Maryelyn & Bill Bale)
SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. 11:00 A.M.	September 23rd ✦ Tony Ranieri (Dave & Cleatus Burk) St. Mary Parishioners
MONDAY: 8:00 A.M.	September 24th ✦ Family—Deceased Members (Tim & Bridget Fogarty)
TUESDAY: 8:00 A.M.	September 25th ✦ Joan Sliwiak (Kymer Family)
WEDNESDAY: 8:00 A.M.	September 26th Fr. Edward Volz (Bob & Judy Bergstrom)
THURSDAY: 8:00 A.M.	September 27th ✦ Margaret Rizzo (Betty Canterna)
FRIDAY: 8:00 A.M.	September 28th ✦ Edward & Berness Cribbs (Posney Family)

MASSSES FOR THE 26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY: 4:00 P.M.	September 29th ✦ Edward Sypulski (Ed & Lynn Friel)
SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. 11:00 A.M.	September 30th ✦ Alma Ebig (Bob & Judy Bergstrom) St. Mary Parishioners



The Altar Bread and Wine
were donated for this week
in loving memory of
JOHN & MARY LUCOVICH
By
Dan & Karen Lucovich

In acknowledging the Real Presence of Christ,
The Sanctuary Lamp (Candle) will burn this week in
loving memory of
DR. JOHN H. SHEEHAN
By
Marianne Sheehan



Collections

Offertory Collection for September 16th, 2018

No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 610
No. of Envelopes Received: 202
Collection: Offertory - \$4,065.55
Electronic Payments (18) - \$2,353.00
Loose - \$322.00; Children - \$22.75

Total Collection - \$6,763.30
THANK YOU!



Saturday, September 29th, 2018
Cindy Kaminski and Christine Bender

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