

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

July 21st, 2019—SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SERVE

What is God calling you to do?

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*
Cindi Harbison, *Social Hall Coordinator*—724-272-7744
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*
Gina Jones—*Helping Hands*—724-448-9251;
ginaj1904@gmail.com

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
Facebook: Saint Mary, Mother of God - Freeport
Send Information to share: stmarysocialmedia@yahoo.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



The past week we had beautiful weather. Some of you may have enjoyed outdoor activities and continue to plan for more vacation time with your family and friends. Well, that is good to have a break from your daily routine and relax. It contributes to our healthy living.

However, there are times when we feel that God is not fair to us. We complain. We get frustrated and disappointed because we were not able to get what we wanted or what we think we deserve. But let us take a look at our gospel this Sunday. Maybe it can help us to see what we fail to grasp sometimes.

First, the gospel tells us of the visit of Jesus to the home of Martha and Mary. It must have brought joy and excitement to both sisters. They welcomed him in a most loving and hospitable gesture, but each in a different way. Martha kept herself busy in the kitchen by preparing good food while Mary remained at the feet of Jesus to listen to Him in their living room. But Martha complained to Jesus in the middle of her preparing the food because she was burdened with much serving. She said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me by myself to do the serving? Tell her to help me." The Lord said in reply, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things. There is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part and it will not be taken from her."

Martha was probably surprised to hear this from Jesus. But what was the point of Jesus? Was he saying that what Martha did was not appreciated as compared to what Mary, her sister did? I think Jesus is driving a very important lesson to learn in our daily lives. And what is that? Living a balanced life. And what is balanced life? A life that is not solely focused on work and leisure, but also includes having time with God to nourish our spiritual life. That is what Martha and Mary symbolizes.

Martha embodies the active part of working while Mary represents the spiritual need of our being. Both are important, but there are times when we are carried much by worries and anxieties in our daily life which some of them may not be essential.

We need to combine both aspects in our everyday life. Our prayer life must give direction and energy to our actions. Prayer is essential for living our Christian vocation. Pope Paul VI once said: "To live it is necessary to pray." Food is nourishment to our physical life what prayer is to our spiritual life. We need to realize that prayer isn't just a duty, 'it's a necessity'.



FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK

Ode to Saint Cecilia

The Story of a Holy Muse

Meet an inspiring woman with fierce courage and unwavering faith, willing to follow the path of beauty and truth—no matter the cost. Saint Cecilia's remarkable story will come to life in Augustine Institute Radio Theatre's audio drama featuring award-winning actors and cinematic sound and music.

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The parish family of St. Mary's warmly welcomes all the players, coaches, parents and family members who will be with us this week for the *Freeport International Baseball Invitational*, and who just might be celebrating Mass with us this weekend. Have a good week and if your schedule permits, please visit us next weekend before departing for home.

Calendar of Events

July 21st Initial Men's Group Meeting - 9:30 A.M.—Fellowship Hall; Baptism - 12:15 P.M.—“Pebler”
July 30th Finance Council Meeting - 7:00 P.M.—Conference Center
August 2nd First Friday - 6:30 P.M.—Benediction
August 15th Holyday—Feast of the Assumption - Parish Office Closed
August 16th Rehearsal - 5:30 P.M.—Jones/Pijanowski
August 17th Wedding - 1:30 P.M.—Jones/Pijanowski

Upcoming DATES

August 26th—7:00 P.M. - Parish Council (Picnic Planning Meeting) - All council members are to attend—Administrative Center
September 8th—12:00 Noon-3:00 P.M. - Parish Picnic—Renshaw Farms
October 12th—Parish Leadership



St. Mary's Prayer Garden—Have you visited our beautiful prayer garden? Many of the granite rosary stones for the prayer garden have been engraved and can be viewed at each of the church entrances. Only Hail Mary stones are still available for sale at \$300.00 each. If you are interested in honoring a loved one, order forms are located at each of the church entrances or you can contact Judy Bergstrom at 724-316-5352.

Your D L A contributions at work!





Bishop Malesic invites all couples celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary in 2019 to participate in the Golden Jubilee Mass at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral on Sunday, September 22nd at 3:00 P.M. Jubilarians, their children, relatives or friends should contact the parish office (724-295-2281) to register couples for this celebration. All registered couples, even those unable to attend the Mass, will receive a scroll signed by the bishop to commemorate this anniversary. **Deadline to submit names is Friday, August 2nd.**

PATHWAYS Registration is open for *Pathways*, which is 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 Thursdays from 6:30-9:00 P.M. at St. Barbara Parish, Harrison City. Visit: www.dioceseofgreensburg.org/pathways to register on line or email: pathways@dioceseofgreensburg.org; or call the Office of Faith, Family and Discipleship at 724-552-2598. Financial assistance is available from the Francis Fund. For information or to apply for a scholarship, call 724-837-0901, Ext. 1249.

Magnificat — A Ministry to Catholic Women will hold a breakfast on Saturday, July 27th, from 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon at the Ramada Hotel and Conference Center, Greensburg. Guest speaker Bonnie Engstrom will talk about her son's stillbirth and recovery, which is the miracle accepted by the Vatican for the sainthood cause of Venerable Fulton Sheen. The cost is \$20.00/ea.; students are \$15.00/ea. Registration forms at: www.magnificatgreensburg.com, or call Brenda Concannon, by July 22nd, at 724-836-2094.

FESTIVAL **St. Edward Church Festival** will take place in Herminie (120 St. Edwards Lane) on Sunday, July 28th from 12:00 Noon – 7:00 P.M. All are welcome to stop by for a fun day of Game Booths, Kids Games, Bingo, Cash Raffles, Raffle Baskets, "Free" Hayrides, Homemade Foods, Funnel Cakes, Desserts, Soft Serve Ice Cream, Sno-Cones, Beer & Wine, Soft Drinks, and Entertainment by DJ Brenda Lynn.

BECOME A HOST FAMILY!!! St. Joseph High School offers Chinese at all grade levels through a special partnership with the University of Pittsburgh Confucius Institute. Currently, SJHS is seeking a host family for its 2019-20 teacher (approximately early August through early June). The host family would serve as a secondary support system for the teacher as he or she adjusts to life in the United States during the first few weeks. Additionally, the host family would provide a room and bathroom, along with an exchange of language, cuisines, and cultures. If you have questions or are interested in serving as the host family, please contact Ann Litz at SJHS: alitz@SaintJosephHS.com or call 724-224-5552 for details.



St. Paul Parish, Greensburg, will be hosting a 12-week, video-based Bible study, "Genesis to Jesus", beginning Tuesday, September 10th. Registration will be held August 10th thru the 18th. Call 724-838-1607.



Catholic Charities' 18th annual Paul R. Smiy Memorial Golf Outing will be held Friday, August 9th at Ligonier Country Club. Registration will be at 8:30 A.M.; shotgun starts at 10:00. \$150.00/per golfer includes food, prizes and dinner. Register online at: ccharitiesgreensburg.org. For sponsorship packages and other information, please call Heather Rady at 724-837-1840 or email: hrady@dioceseofgreensburg.org.



The Summer Lunch and Arts Program at Freeport United Methodist Church, 211 4th Street, Freeport will run through Thursday, August 8th. The program will run weekly on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:15 A.M. to 1:15 P.M. There are no income requirements for children to attend.

Freeport Theatre Festival celebrates its 30th Season

A historical drama about brave immigrants coming to America via Ellis Island to work in the new steel mill in Vandergrift, Pennsylvania - a "worker's paradise." Of course there are obstacles to reaching "paradise" of any kind.

CAULDRON OF STEEL

"Cauldron" reflects the willingness of people to sacrifice everything in search of a better life for their families and pays homage to these immigrants.

Written and Directed by Rennick Steele

2019 PERFORMANCE DATES:
Friday, Saturday, Sunday
JULY 12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28
All performances begin at 7:00 p.m.

FOOTLIGHTS GALLERY
Victorian Vandergrift Museum and Historical Society

Pre-show *Festa Italiana*: 6:30 p.m.
With Joe Lege on the Accordion

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

General Information

TICKET PRICES:
\$15/12/10
(General Admission/Military/Seniors/Student)

LOCATION:
The Steele Farm in Allegheny Township
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CONTACT INFORMATION:
Marushka Steele at 724-295-1934 or
www.freeporttheatrefestival.org

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MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR JULY 27TH & 28TH, 2019

Altar Servers	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Lector	Greeters	Organist	Cantor
Saturday - 4:00 P.M.					
Fred Walker Lauren & Leah Clark	Sharon Mihalich Arlene Miller; Bridget Fogarty	Karen Savage	Jim Talotta Diana Talotta	Sue Myford	Alex Smith
Sunday—8:30 A.M.					
Brianna/Olivia/Ryan Sutara Ali & Ben Brestensky Nicolette Zollinger	Rose Check Patty Hughes Cindy Harbison	Lisa Boylan	Karen Nigra	Tom Koharchik	Tom Koharchik
Sunday—11:00 A.M.					
Jacob & Erin Schaeffer Paige Liti Evan Giori	Helen James Bill Cogley Lisa Isenberg	Rob Svitek	Karen Fennell Jenn Liti	Dave Wesolosky	Dan Ullrich


Mass Intentions

MASSES FOR THE 16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME


SATURDAY: 4:00 P.M.	July 20th ✦ Jovita Walker (Family)	
SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. 11:00 A.M.	July 21st ✦ David Robert Shipe (The Policicchio's) St. Mary Parishioners	
MONDAY: 8:00 A.M.	July 22nd ✦ Mark Shearer (Friend)	
TUESDAY: 8:00 A.M.	July 23rd With Gratitude to God for 40 years (G. & C.)	
WEDNESDAY: 8:00 A.M.	July 24th IHO John Kartsonas (Friend)	
THURSDAY: 8:00 A.M.	July 25th ✦ Jacob & Catherine Smith (Gary & Chris Miller & Family)	
FRIDAY: 8:00 A.M.	July 26th ✦ Edna Barr (Mr. & Mrs. Mike Safranyas)	

MASSES FOR THE 17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY: 4:00 P.M.	July 27th St. Mary Parishioners
SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. 11:00 A.M.	July 28th IHO Fr. John Euker (Jeff & Gina Jones) ✦ Ralph Westerman III (Pat Westerman)



The Altar Bread and Wine were donated for this week in loving memory of
HENRY AND AGNES LAUX
By
James and Nancy Laux




In acknowledging the Real Presence of Christ, The Sanctuary Lamp (Candle) will burn this week in loving memory of
**STEPHANIE AND HENRY COYLE
MARY AND FRANK PALKO**
By
Dan and Barbara Coyle




Offertory Collection for July 14th, 2019

No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 597
No. of Envelopes Received: 169
Collection: Offertory - \$4,834.00
Electronic Payments (7) - \$170.00
Loose - \$271.00; Children - \$12.00
Total Collection - \$5,287.00
THANK YOU!



Saturday, July 27th, 2019
Connie Cornman and Linda Ullrich



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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