

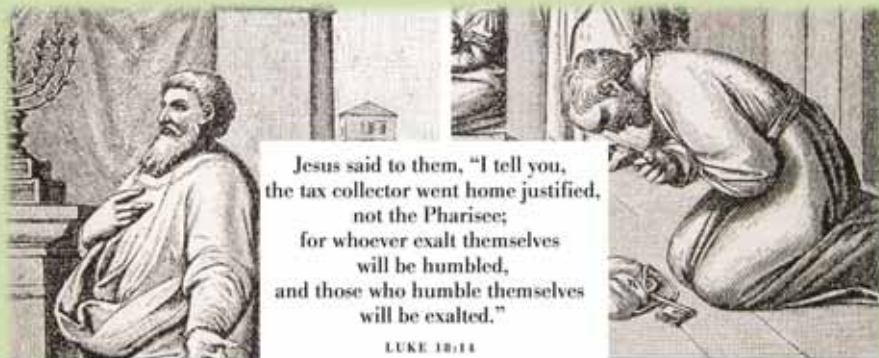
# St. Mary, Mother of God Church



Roman Catholic Church  
608 High Street ~ Freeport, PA 16229  
*A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg*  
*A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust*



Established 1826



**T H I R T I E T H**  
**SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**October 27, 2019**

**Father Ronald Maquignana—Pastor**  
[rmaquinana@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:rmaquinana@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

## 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.

## 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*

**Jennifer Liti/David Valencic**

*Parish Custodians*

**Richard Bertino, Cemetery Caretaker**

*724-295-3632 (home); 724-602-5986 (cell)*

## 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](mailto:ginaj1904@gmail.com)*

## Organizations

**Diane Grant—Christian Mothers**

**Ray Smetana/Mary Ellen Gray**

*St. Vincent de Paul Society*

**Tim Fogarty—Men's Group**

## 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](http://www.stmaryfreeport.com)

Parish Email Address:

[thechurch@stmaryfreeport.com](mailto:thechurch@stmaryfreeport.com)

Facebook: Saint Mary, Mother of God - Freeport

Send Information to share:

[stmarysocialmedia@yahoo.com](mailto:stmarysocialmedia@yahoo.com)

**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.**

# Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

†=(in memory of) ♥=(IHO/special intention/parishioners)

## MASSES FOR THE 30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

<b>SATURDAY:</b>	<b>October 26th</b>
4:00 P.M.	†Raymond Ravotti (Alfred & Marlene Brown)
<b>SUNDAY:</b>	<b>October 27th</b>
8:30 A.M.	†Judy Polana (Family)
11:00 A.M.	♥St. Mary Parishioners
<b>MONDAY:</b>	<b>October 28th</b>
8:00 A.M.	†Ted James (Karol Mennow)
<b>TUESDAY:</b>	<b>October 29th</b>
8:00 A.M.	†Gowetski Family (Baustert Family)
<b>WEDNESDAY:</b>	<b>October 30th</b>
8:00 A.M.	†Special Intention (Mary Fullerton)
<b>THURSDAY:</b>	<b>October 31st</b>
8:00 A.M.	†Tony Ranieri (David & Cleatus Burk)
<b>FRIDAY:</b>	<b>November 1st—All Saints Day</b>
	<b>First Friday</b>
8:00 A.M.	†Ted Savage (Wife & Friends)
7:00 P.M.	♥St. Mary Parishioners

## MASSES FOR THE 31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

<b>SATURDAY:</b>	<b>November 2nd</b>
4:00 P.M.	†All Souls' Intentions/Mass of Remembrance
<b>SUNDAY:</b>	<b>November 3rd</b>
8:30 A.M.	†Christian Mothers—Deceased Members (Christian Mothers)
11:00 A.M.	♥St. Mary Parishioners/†All Souls' Intentions

## Readings for the Week

<b>Monday:</b>	<i>Eph 2:19-22; Ps 19:2-5; Lk 6:12-16</i>
<b>Tuesday:</b>	<i>Rom 8:18-25; Ps 126:1b-6; Lk 13:18-21</i>
<b>Wednesday:</b>	<i>Rom 8:26-30; Ps 13:4-6; Lk 13:22-30</i>
<b>Thursday:</b>	<i>Rom 8:31b-39; Ps 109:21-22, 26-27, 30-31; Lk 13:31-35</i>
<b>Friday:</b>	<i>Rv 7:2-4, 9-14; Ps 24:1-6; 1 Jn 3:1-3; Mt 5:1-12a</i>
<b>Saturday:</b>	<i>Wis 3:1-9; Ps 23:1-6; Rom 5:5-11 or 6:3-9; Jn 6:37-40, or any readings from no. 668 or from the Masses for the Dead, nos. 1011-1016</i>
<b>Sunday:</b>	<i>Wis 11:22 — 12:2; Ps 145:1-2, 8-11, 13-14; 2 Thes 1:11 — 2:2; Lk 19:1-10</i>



## Ministry Schedule

### November 1st, 2nd & 3rd 2019

#### ALTAR SERVERS:

<i>Friday, 7:00 P.M.</i>	TBA
<i>Saturday, 4:00 P.M.</i>	Fred Walker; Lauren & Leah Clark
<i>Sunday, 8:30 A.M.</i>	Alexandra Lasko; Sarah, Hannah & Emma Shepherd; Abby Koharchik
<i>Sunday, 11:00 A.M.</i>	Victor & Olivia Svitek; Michael & William Speers

#### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION:

<i>Friday, 7:00 P.M.</i>	TBA
<i>Saturday, 4:00 P.M.</i>	Stella Aul; Nancy Forbeck; Dave Brestensky
<i>Sunday, 8:30 A.M.</i>	Tom Brestensky; Karen Nigra; Carol Carson
<i>Sunday, 11:00 A.M.</i>	Andre Volek; Melissa Schaeffer; Debbie Baustert

#### LECTORS:

<i>Friday, 7:00 P.M.</i>	TBA
<i>Saturday, 4:00 P.M.</i>	Janice Meola
<i>Sunday, 8:30 A.M.</i>	John Nemcek
<i>Sunday, 11:00 A.M.</i>	Pat Westerman

#### GREETERS:

<i>Friday, 7:00 P.M.</i>	TBA
<i>Saturday, 4:00 P.M.</i>	Gary & Arlene Miller
<i>Sunday, 8:30 A.M.</i>	Betty Lou Nemcek
<i>Sunday, 11:00 A.M.</i>	Rose Naughton

#### ORGANIST:

<i>Friday, 7:00 P.M.</i>	Dave Wesolosky
<i>Saturday, 4:00 P.M.</i>	Diane Pleva
<i>Sunday, 8:30 A.M.</i>	Tom Koharchik
<i>Sunday, 11:00 A.M.</i>	Dave Wesolosky

#### CANTOR:

<i>Friday, 7:00 P.M.</i>	Choir
<i>Saturday, 4:00 P.M.</i>	Stephanie Bragiel
<i>Sunday, 8:30 A.M.</i>	Tom Koharchik
<i>Sunday, 11:00 A.M.</i>	Choir

#### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

<b>Sunday:</b>	Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time; Priesthood Sunday
<b>Monday:</b>	Ss. Simon and Jude
<b>Thursday:</b>	Halloween
<b>Friday:</b>	All Saints; First Friday
<b>Saturday:</b>	The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls Day); First Saturday



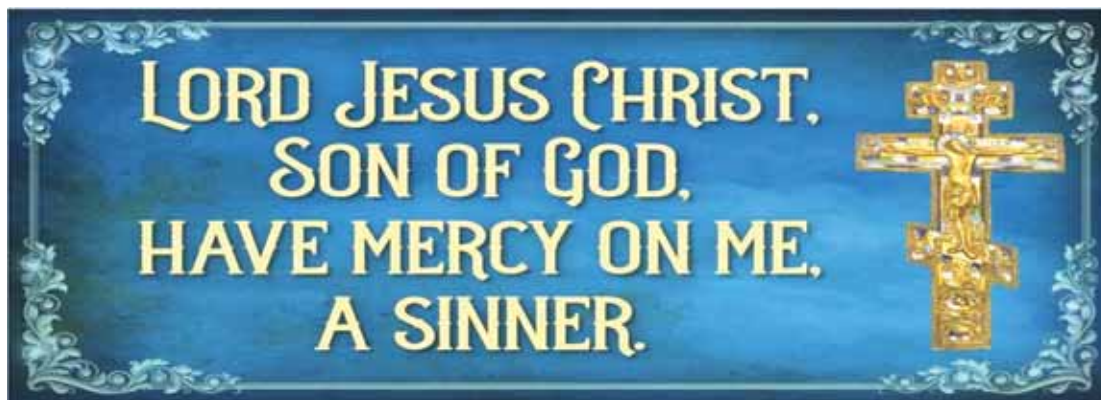
## From the Pastor's Desk

Our gospel this 30th Sunday is a story of two believers - a Pharisee and a tax collector. Both of them were believers in the same God; they belonged to the same religion; they worshipped in the same temple. However, the gospel says that at the end of the worship, one of them went home at peace with God but the other did not. What happened then? Why only did one go home justified and the other was not?

I think we can identify the answer if we go back to the gospel and see how each of them prayed. The Pharisee, in spite of being a very disciplined and devout man, prayerful, and intensely committed to the religious traditions and laws, was arrogant and proud. That was his downfall. However, the tax collector, who was regarded as a man of low moral standards because he worked for the pagan Romans and constantly handled their unclean money and was a public sinner, was so humble that he could not even raise his eyes to heaven. He beat his breast and prayed, "O God be merciful to me, a sinner". Because of this, Jesus said, he went home justified and received grace.

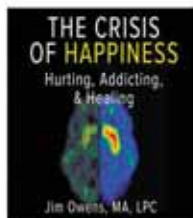
Like the Pharisee and the tax collector, we too have come to God's house to offer worship and prayers. Like them, we too hope to go home at the end of this service, reconciled and at peace with God. Let us then learn from the tax collector the secret of worshipping in a manner that is acceptable to God. Firstly, we should not listen to other people when they look down on us, making us feel so bad that we are a sinner and they are holy. Secondly, we must humble ourselves and acknowledge our sinfulness, believing that the mercy of God is bigger than any sins we might have committed. Finally, let us never look down on our fellow sinners but help them in their search for God, just as the tax collector is helping us today in our search for God. Remember, God always opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

On a side note, every year we do the *Mass of Remembrance* for the deceased members in our parish on November 2nd, normally at 7:00 P.M. However, because this year November 2nd falls on Saturday, we will incorporate it into our regular 4:00 P.M. mass. Having said that, our liturgy will be a little bit longer as we will do the ritual of presenting a candle for the deceased members of our parish who passed away November 2nd, 2018 through November 1st of this year.



## The Crisis of Happiness

by Jim Owens, MA, LPC



### Find Answers to Today's Happiness Crisis

Jim Owens gives scientific evidence about how addictions and distractions are hurting us and practical advice for how to overcome our wounds.

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—Martin P., Tallahassee, FL

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If you are new to the area, we invite you to share fully in our parish life. Your presence brings vitality and new gifts to the community. Please take a moment to register. Forms are available at all of the church entrances or by calling the Administrative Office at 724-295-2281.

## Calendar of Events/Meetings

October 26th	Baptism—"O'Donnell" - 5:15 P.M.
October 27th	Religious Education - 9:30-10:40 A.M.—Administrative Building; Choir Practice - 9:45-10:45 A.M.—Church; 11:00 A.M. Mass; Christian Mother's—Theme Baskets Due
October 28th	Board Game/Card Party - 6:30-10:00 P.M.—Fellowship Hall
October 30th	The Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation - 9:00-10:30 A.M.—Fellowship Hall RCIA - 6:30 P.M.—Conference Center
October 31st	The Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation - 6:30-8:00 P.M.—Fellowship Hall
November 1st	First Friday - 6:30 P.M.—Benediction; Parish Office Closed; All Saints' Day—Holyday of Obligation
November 2nd	All Souls' Day - 4:00 P.M.—Mass of Remembrance
November 3rd	Religious Education - 9:30-10:40 A.M.—Administrative Building; Teen Ministry - 9:35 - 10:45 A.M.—Administrative Building; Choir Practice - 9:45-10:45 A.M.—Church; 11:00 A.M. Mass
November 3rd-15th	Pilgrimage
November 6th	RCIA - 6:30 P.M.—Conference Center

## Parish Events/Information



Friday, November 1st, is *All Saints' Day*, a holyday of obligation. We will celebrate two masses that day - 8:00 A.M. and 7:00 P.M. Also, please note that the parish office will be closed on this day.



**First Friday** falls on *All Saints' Day*. Mass will be celebrated at 8:00 A.M. followed with all day adoration and with Benediction at 6:30 P.M., followed by the 7:00 P.M. Mass. Sign-up sheets for adoration are located at the church entrances. Two people should be represented for each half hour.

### Annual Mass of Remembrance



St. Mary, Mother of God will remember our deceased loved ones with our *Annual Mass of Remembrance* on Saturday, November 2nd at 4:00 P.M., in Church. This year, because November 2nd falls on a Saturday, the *Mass of Remembrance* will be incorporated into our regular 4:00 P.M. mass. During this mass, we will pray for and remember the souls of the faithful departed and especially the souls of our beloved parishioners who died between November 2nd, 2018 and November 1st, 2019. Everyone is invited to this beautiful liturgy honoring those who have gone before us.



In your charity, please remember the souls of those who passed away, especially *Henry "Mike" Michelini*. We ask God to welcome *Henry* and all who have gone before us into the joy of everlasting life and bring comfort and peace to their families.

## WINDOW REPLACEMENTS

Final DLA project for the year  
Preparing for the Window Replacement in the Conference Center and the Administration Office



In order to meet our weekly deadline, please note that all bulletin announcements/information must be received in writing or by email no later than 10:00 A.M. on Mondays. Thank you!

## News/Activities from Our Ministries/Organizations



**Theme Baskets** - If anyone would like to donate a theme basket or items for a theme basket, you may drop them off at the Administrative Office on Monday during normal office hours. Also, if anyone would like to donate gift cards for the *Gift Card Theme Basket*, please drop them off at the Administrative Office on Monday during normal business hours or place them in today's collection basket in an envelope marked "Gift Cards". **All Christian Mother's** who are making theme baskets or donating gift cards for these baskets for the Christmas Basket Raffle are to do so by Monday, October 28th.

**Next Sunday**, November 3rd, at 8:30 A.M., the Christian Mother's monthly mass will be offered in honor of all deceased members of the Confraternity of Christian Mothers. All members and their families are asked to sit in front of the Blessed Mother, pray, and receive Communion together. Members are reminded to arrive at church at 8:15 A.M. Because of the pilgrimage, the monthly meeting will be held on **Monday, November 11th**, at 7:00 P.M., in the Christian Mother's Room. Prayer Service will be held prior to the meeting at 6:30 P.M. †



**The First Reading** - To properly understand how the church selects this *first reading*, we must look at the gospel for that day. Sunday scriptures are on a three-year cycle while the daily mass readings follow a two-year cycle. *The first reading* is specifically chosen so that it is a companion to the gospel reading. If we compare the Liturgy of the Word to a song, then the relationship between *the first reading* and the Gospel is considered the harmony. *The first reading* is always taken from the Old Testament (OT) scriptures, except during the Easter season. The OT is a collection of different types of books. There are history, prophecy, law, liturgy, poetry and songs. It is classified by style to help us to better understand how to read it. Beginning on Easter and through the next fifty days, we hear from the Acts of the Apostles. The reason for the change is so we may walk with the disciples of the Lord as they experience the Resurrection of the Lord. To give an example, look at the readings selected from this Sunday (30th Sunday Year C). In the gospel reading, we hear Jesus explain for us the parable of the Pharisee and the Tax-collector at prayer. He cautions us against going into prayer with a prideful agenda which blocks our hearts from listening to the voice of God and His will for us. Instead, we should be humble and receptive like the tax-collector who realizes that God IS God and we are not. With that in mind, *the first reading* is from the book of Sirach, which is a book of wisdom used for moral instruction. Sirach tells us that "the prayer of the lowly pierces the clouds" and that "the one who serves God willingly is heard". It is truly an echo of the Gospel reading and compliments the theme that we need to be open and responsive when approaching our loving Father in prayer. At the conclusion of the reading, the lector reminds us that what we have just heard is "The Word of the Lord". We respond whole-heartedly and rightly so, "Thanks be to God!" †



**Meals on Wheels** is seeking *volunteers* to assist in preparing meals the second Wednesday of every month from 7:00 to 11:00 A.M. Meals are prepared at the Freeport Methodist Church. If you would like to *volunteer* or obtain additional information, please contact Pat Westerman at 724-448-4662 or Cindy Kaminski at 724-991-9676. †



**St. Mary's Religious Education Department** has been having an "OPEN HOUSE SHARING AND CARING TIME" for all grades. Parents and guardians have been invited to come and spend a little time in their child's class so they may **SHARE** with you what they are learning. If you **CARE** to, please come in. Many families have more than one child and they are in various grades, thus it is difficult to accommodate everyone. Therefore, we want you to know you are welcome to come anytime it is convenient for you and stay as long as you like. For the month of November, Preschool is scheduled for November 24th. The next children's mass will be celebrated in January. The Security Guard for October 27th, November 3rd & 10th will be *Trina Champagne*. Parents are reminded to send in their children's tuition and their \$5.00 for our Adopt-A-Shut-in project. †



**Pastoral Council** - The fall meeting was held on Monday, October 14<sup>th</sup>. DLA 2019 has wrapped up for the year and was a huge success because of the generosity of our parishioners. Jeff Polana will present a summary at all masses in the near future. We thank and appreciate Jeff's time, talent and leadership that he always exhibits during this campaign. Because of your generous support, windows in the Conference Center and the Administrative Office are being replaced and the Church doors have been addressed, due to weathering. Thank you to George Bender who put in a lot of time to get these projects accomplished. Our Cemetery is in the process of getting a face lift. The wildflower garden is in the planting phase and should provide color to cover an acre very soon. The Men's group has plans to paint the exterior of our cemetery chapel. When you have time, please remember to drive through our cemetery to appreciate the newly addressed roads. Holbein, Inc. did a fantastic job and it looks great! Please mark your calendars for upcoming functions - Advent "evening of reflection" on December 10th; the *new member* dinner in January; Mardi Gras parish fundraiser (February 22<sup>nd</sup>) - tickets will be printed so they can be purchased as Christmas gifts. Please watch our bulletins for additional detailed information. †

## News from Our Diocese



**Natural Family Planning CM-BBT (NFP)** instruction will be held on Monday, November 11th, from 6:00-8:30 P.M. in the Catholic Charities office in Greensburg. Please 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. Please call at least one week prior to the instruction date to preregister. For more information regarding Natural Family Planning and the CM-BBT method, visit: [www.ccharitiesgreensburg.org](http://www.ccharitiesgreensburg.org) and link into Natural Family Planning under "Services." †

### DIocese OF GREENSBURG



*A few spaces are still available for the Diocese of Greensburg's two pilgrimages to witness the world-famous Passion Play of Oberammergau, Germany: May 22nd-June 3rd; August 25th-September 5th. Pilgrimage includes visits to the sites and shrines of Bavaria, Prague, Krakow and Warsaw. If you would like more information, please contact Father William J. Lechnar, Diocesan Pilgrimage Director, at: [wlechnar@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:wlechnar@dioceseofgreensburg.org) or call 724-552-2645. †*

Bishop Edward C. Malesic will be one of the panelists at the Seton Hill University National Catholic Center for Holocaust Education's discussion "*Remember. Reflect. Renew.*", which marks the observance of the first year since the mass shooting at the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh. The discussion will be held on Wednesday, October 30th at 7:30 P.M., in Cecilian Hall on the second floor of the University's Administration building. The event is free and open to the public. †

**The Diocesan Collection** next weekend benefits the elderly women and men religious (*Retirement Fund for Religious*). Your tax deductible donation to this fund will be greatly appreciated! Please give generously to this appeal! †

## VOCATION EVENTS

### Vocation Discernment Events for Boys, Young Adults and Men

*Exploring God's Call*, for boys in grades 9th-12th, will be offered November 10th, December 8th, February 9th, March 8th, April 19th and May 17th, from 6:30-8:00 P.M., at Greensburg Central Catholic High School. For information or to register, please visit: [gbgvocations.org](http://gbgvocations.org).

*The Melchizedek Project*, for young adults 18 and older, will be held November 3rd, 17th and 24th, and December 8th, from 6:30-8:00 P.M., at Holy Family Parish rectory, Latrobe. To register, email: [dmahoney@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:dmahoney@dioceseofgreensburg.org). †

## Around Our Diocese

**Dr. Philip Jenkins**, author of more than twenty-five books, will speak on "*The Church in the 21st Century: Is the Church Entering a Golden Age or a Dark Age?*" on Tuesday, October 29th at 7:30 P.M., at St. Vincent Seminary as part of the Pope Benedict XVI Lecture Series. Jenkins is the Edwin Erle Sparks Professor of the Humanities in history and religious studies at Penn State and Distinguished Senior Fellow at the Institute for Studies of Religion at Baylor University. Admission is free, but reservations are requested by calling 724-805-2177. †



**The St. Vincent Camerata**, with organist Neil Stahurski, will present "*Been in the Storm So Long — A Choral Prayer in Troubled Times*" on Saturday, November 9th, at 7:30 P.M., in the St. Vincent Archabbey Basilica. Benedictine Father Stephen Concordia will conduct. Tickets are \$15.00 in advance and \$17.00 at the door. Call 724-805-2177. †



**St. Margaret Mary Church** is currently accepting orders for their annual nut and apricot roll fundraiser. Rolls are \$12.00/each and may be picked up on Tuesday, November 19th through Thursday, November 21st from 10:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. and on Friday, November 22nd, from 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. at the Parish Center, 3055 Leechburg Road, Lower Burrell. Payment is due at the time of pick-up. Please note: if your order contains apricot rolls, pick-up will be on Thursday, November 21st ONLY. Please place your orders by calling Maureen at 724-335-6501, Toni at 724-339-0839, parish office at 724-335-2336, or online at: [www.smmlb.org](http://www.smmlb.org). Deadline to place orders is Monday, November 11th. Extra nut or apricot rolls will not be sold at the time of pick-up. †



**St. Joseph High School** will offer two Fall Open Houses: Sunday, October 27th, from 12:00 Noon-2:00 P.M. and Wednesday, November 13th, from 5:00-7:00 P.M. Shadow days will begin on Tuesdays beginning October 22nd for 8th grade and transfer students. Private tours are always available by appointment. Please contact Mrs. Shane Palumbo '92: [admissions@saintjosephhs.com](mailto:admissions@saintjosephhs.com); 724-226-4932. If you would like additional information, please visit: [SaintJosephHS.com](http://SaintJosephHS.com). †

## Altar Bread and Wine

The Altar Bread and Wine were donated  
for this week  
in honor of



**David & Suzanna Hastings**

By  
**Fred Walker**

## Sanctuary Lamp

In acknowledging the Real Presence of Christ,  
The Sanctuary Lamp (Candle) will burn  
this week  
in loving memory of



**John Bono**

By  
**Lola Bono**

## Collections

### Offertory Collection for October 20th, 2019

No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 599

No. of Envelopes Received: 167

Collection: Offertory - \$4,075.00

Electronic Payments (12) - \$655.00

Loose - \$385.00; Children (10) - \$44.00

Mission Co-op (Additional Donation) - \$110.00

World Mission Sunday (50) - \$733.00

**Total Collection - \$6,002.00**

**THANK YOU!**



## Electronic Giving

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## ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK

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contact J.S. Paluch Company, Inc. at 1-800-945-6629*



**Saturday  
November 2nd, 2019**

**Donna Smith and  
Deb Showers**

*Please call the Administrative Office if you  
would like to volunteer to be one of the  
cleaning ladies—724-295-2281.*

## St. Mary, Mother of God Membership Request/Change

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Address/Phone Change

\_\_\_\_ Please remove me from your census

Please drop this form in the collection basket

**\*\*New Membership Registration Forms are located at all of the church entrances\*\***

21



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