

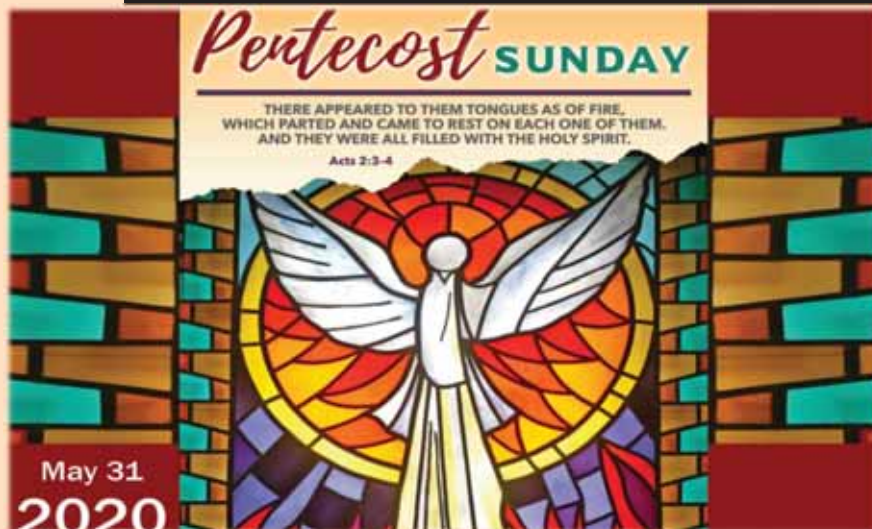
St. Mary, Mother of God Church



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



Established 1826



Father Ronald Maquiñana—*Pastor*
rmaquinana@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Parish Information

Saturday (Vigil): 4:00 P.M. (with guidelines)

Sunday: 8:30 & 11:00 A.M. (with guidelines)

Weekday Masses: Monday through Friday—8:00 A.M. (with guidelines)

Holy Day of Obligation: 8:00 A.M. & 7:00 P.M. (with guidelines)

Reconciliation: By appointment only—please call the Administrative Office at 724-295-2281.

Baptism: Sundays (by appointment and with guidelines)

Marriage: Contact the Administrative Office nine months in advance—724-295-2281

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 (with guidelines). 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
Ed & Jeannie Lepkowski
Parish Custodians
Judy Bergstrom, *Cemetery Sales Coordinator*
724-316-5352
Jeff Jones, *Groundskeeper—724-448-9250*

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
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

Parish Email Address:
thechurch@stmaryfreeport.com

Facebook: Saint Mary, Mother of God - Freeport

Send Information to share:
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 PENTECOST SUNDAY

SATURDAY: 4:00 P.M.	May 30th †Marcella Adams (Pat Davis)
SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. 11:00 A.M.	May 31st ♥St. Mary Parishioners †Charlotte Lepkowski (Fred Maradei)
MONDAY: 8:00 A.M.	June 1st †J.D. Easley Family (Estate)
TUESDAY: 8:00 A.M.	June 2nd †James B. Huth (Family)
WEDNESDAY: 8:00 A.M.	June 3rd †David Shipe (Friends of Monarch Butterflies)
THURSDAY: 8:00 A.M.	June 4th †Arnold Clark (Friend)
FRIDAY: 8:00 A.M.	June 5th †Jane Shipe (Shipe Family)

MASSES FOR THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

SATURDAY: 4:00 P.M.	June 6th †Regis Barr (John & Brenda DeMeno)
SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. 11:00 A.M.	June 7th †Raymond Ravotti (Alfred & Marlene Brown) ♥St. Mary Parishioners

Readings for the Week

Monday:	<i>Gn 3:9-15, 20 or Acts 1:12-14; Ps 87:1-3, 5-7; Jn 19:25-34</i>
Tuesday:	<i>2 Pt 3:12-15a, 17-18; Ps 90:2-4, 10, 14, 16; Mk 12:13-17</i>
Wednesday:	<i>2 Tm 1:1-3, 6-12; Ps 123:1b-2; Mk 12:18-27</i>
Thursday:	<i>2 Tm 2:8-15; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Mk 12:28-34</i>
Friday:	<i>2 Tm 3:10-17; Ps 119:157, 160, 161, 165, 166, 168; 1-6; Mk 12:35-37</i>
Saturday:	<i>2 Tm 4:1-8; Ps 71:8-9, 14-15ab, 16- 17, 22; Mk 12:38-44</i>
Sunday:	<i>Ex 34:4b-6, 8-9; Dn 3:52-55; 2 Cor 13:11-13; Jn 3:16-18</i>



PENTECOST

Unless the eye catch fire,
God will not be seen.
Unless the ear catch fire,
God will not be heard.
Unless the tongue catch fire,
God will not be named.
Unless the heart catch fire,
God will not be loved.
Unless the mind catch fire,
God will not be known.

—William Blake



Ministry Schedule

June 6th & 7th, 2020

ALTAR SERVERS:

<i>Saturday, 4:00 P.M.</i>	TBD
<i>Sunday, 8:30 A.M.</i>	Samuel and Jacob Kristine
<i>Sunday, 11:00 A.M.</i>	Jacob Schaeffer

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION:

<i>Saturday, 4:00 P.M.</i>	Bridget Fogarty; Nancy Forbeck
<i>Sunday, 8:30 A.M.</i>	Carol Carson; Kim Holbein
<i>Sunday, 11:00 A.M.</i>	Lisa Isenberg

LECTORS:

<i>Saturday, 4:00 P.M.</i>	Janice Meola
<i>Sunday, 8:30 A.M.</i>	Lisa Boylan
<i>Sunday, 11:00 A.M.</i>	Bill Cogley

ORGANIST:

<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>Saturday, 4:00 P.M.</i>	Sue Myford
<i>Sunday, 8:30 A.M.</i>	Tom Koharchik
<i>Sunday, 11:00 A.M.</i>	TBD



SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday:	Pentecost Sunday
Monday:	The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church; Ninth Week in Ordinary Time
Tuesday:	Ss. Marcellinus and Peter
Wednesday:	St. Charles Lwanga and Companions
Friday:	St. Boniface; First Friday
Saturday:	St. Norbert; First Saturday



From the Pastor's Desk

Seven weeks after Easter Sunday, we celebrate the *Solemnity of Pentecost* which is the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles. The promise, made by Jesus as He returned to His Father that an Advocate will be with them to strengthen and empower them in their discipleship and mission has now been fulfilled.

This event of the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles was described in our first reading. *The disciples were in one place together. And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind and it filled the entire house in which they were. Then they appeared to them as tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim. (Acts. 2-11)*

From this narrative we can draw two images that describes the presence of the Holy Spirit, strong driving wind and tongues of fire. Back in the Old Testament, the **force of a wind** recalls the *ruah*, “the primordial breath”. The *ruah* is the “mighty wind” that was “sweeping over the waters” in the very first verse of Genesis, when God created the heavens and the earth. Therefore, what the Apostles encountered was the breath, the presence of God in their midst. No wonder, in the gospel as presented by John, Jesus breathed on His disciples and said to them, *Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained. (Jn. 20:22-23)*. It gives them the power to forgive with the presence of the Holy Spirit in them.

Another image described was tongues of fire which parted and rested on the Apostles. This fire recalls the burning bush and Sinai, when God gave the Ten Commandments. In the biblical tradition, the fire accompanies the manifestation of God. In the fire, God delivers His living and energetic word (see *Hebrews 4: 12*) which opens up to the future; fire expresses symbolically His work of warming, illuminating, and infusing wisdom in hearts, His care in testing the resistance of human works, in purifying them and revitalizing them.

There is a key difference in this manifestation, though. In Sinai, it is the voice of God who speaks, but now, in Jerusalem on Pentecost, it is Peter, the rock, the first pope of Christ's Church.

The Church is born of this fire of love that breaks out, and “manifests the strength of the Word of the Risen One imbued with the Holy Spirit.”

As we celebrate the *Solemnity of Pentecost*, let us ask the Holy Spirit to come and dwell in us, to strengthen us in our weakness, to give us the power to defeat evil and give us courage to make a difference in the world.

A Blessed Sunday to Everyone!



SAINT CHARLES LWANGA AND HIS COMPANIONS (martyred 1886-87) - June 3rd



“Master of Pages,” reputedly the handsomest man in all Uganda, Charles Lwanga, lay catechist, courageously led about forty teenaged boys, Catholics and Anglicans, on a forty-mile forced march to martyrdom for their common Christian faith. Teaching each other the hymns of their different churches, they strengthened one another for the ordeal ahead. King Mwanga, himself barely twenty, had ordered them executed for being “those who pray.” But these royal pages were the king's male harem, who, now Christians, refused what pious accounts demurely

describe as his “unreasonable demands.” Some were clubbed to death, most burned alive; the youngest, thirteen-year old Saint Kizito, whom Charles had often shielded from the King's lust; the most tragic, Saint Mbagwa, whose father was his executioner! In 1964, Paul VI canonized the young Catholics and praised their Anglican companions, recalling the heroism of early Christianity's African martyrs, which we modern Christians of far less faith never expected to see repeated. Forty years after the pope's words, what does our faith cost us? Heroism aside, how generous is our response? †

TV and Online Mass Options:
<https://www.heartofthenation.org/where-to-watch>
<https://mass-online.org/daily-holy-mass-live-online/>; <http://www.catholicTV.org/masses/catholicTV-mass>

Calendar of Events/Meetings

Weekday Mass—8:00 A.M. (with guidelines)

Weekend Masses—Saturday (Vigil): 4:00 P.M. (with guidelines)

Sunday: 8:30 & 11:00 A.M. (with guidelines)

First Holy Communion—Will be re-scheduled

The Bible Timeline—Will be re-scheduled

First Friday Adoration—June 5th - 8:45 A.M.—6:30 P.M.

Confirmation—Will be re-scheduled

PLEASE NOTE

**For the month of June or otherwise noted, we will be live streaming the Saturday Vigil Mass (4:00 P.M.) and the Sunday Mass at 8:30 A.M. so that we can allot for the overflow in our Fellowship Hall. We will NOT be live streaming the 11:00 A.M. Sunday mass. †



Parish Information/Events

The Administrative Office continues to be open the normal hours of Monday through Friday, 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. Effective June 1st, our weekday and weekend mass schedule will resume (with guidelines). St. Mary's will continue to be open for private prayer from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. daily and 12:00 Noon to 5:00 P.M. on Sundays. Below are the guidelines that are to be followed when visiting our church and what is being done for your safety.

- Wear a mask upon entrance to the church.
- Social distancing must be observed - six feet apart from the next person.
- Only designated pews are to be used for mass/private prayer. For morning and weekend masses, the main doors of the church will be the only way to enter. Greeters and seaters will be at the entrance to greet and seat you. The collection basket will be in the back of the church. When receiving communion, please abide by the markings. This will be explained prior to the beginning of each mass. For private prayer, you are to enter at the side entrance.
- There are sanitizers and wipes that are to be used as you enter the church.
- The identified pews and other high contact areas like doorknobs, handles and tables will be sanitized and disinfected twice a day.
- Weekly, each church's high contact areas will be cleaned with soap and water and then sanitized.
- Hymnals and missalettes have been taken out from the pews for your safety.

Health and Safety Guidelines

Diocesan Target - \$37,826.00
Parish Target - \$55,000.00
Pledges to Date - \$107,735.00
Paid to Date - \$85,550.00
Number of Donors - 258



Diocesan Target has been Achieved!!!

Thank you!

ALL future gifts and/or pledges will now stay directly here at St. Mary's in order that we may complete this year's major DLA projects!



Please join us for
First Friday Adoration

First Friday Adoration—On June 5th, we will resume our First Friday Adoration. Mass will be celebrated at 8:00 A.M. followed with all day adoration and Benediction at 6:30 P.M. (with guidelines).
Please join us as we adore our Lord Jesus! †



Congratulations to *Tom and Donna Brestensky, Jr.* who were united in marriage on Saturday, May 16th, 2020. God bless the both of you!



Saint Joseph High School Freshman Received Covestro Pittsburgh Regional Science & Engineering Fair Award

Freshman and parishioner **Kathryn Huth '23**
received a

Covestro Pittsburgh Regional Science & Engineering Fair
award. Gannon University awarded *Kathryn* the
Pittsburgh Science Fair Foundation Scholarship.

This award is a four year scholarship totaling \$8,000.00.
Kathryn photographed the stars that can be seen around
Polaris for about four months to try to make a method to
determine moon brightness during the different
phases of the moon.

Kathryn Huth '23 is the daughter of Patrick and Laura Huth.

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Evangelization

FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK



LECTIO: MARY The Queen Mother

In the Old Testament, throughout the line of Davidic kings, the queen was not the wife of the king, but rather the king's mother. Jesus rules as king of heaven and earth with his mother, Mary, as the queen mother.

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formed.org/signup. When the "Create a New Account" page comes up, enter the parish zip code (16229) in the "Find your Parish or Organization" box. Select our parish and click the next button. Any issues, please contact Beth Macurdy at: bmacurdy@zoominternet.net. †

Why Pentecost? - One of the many traditions here at Saint Mary's is the celebration of the feast of *Pentecost* manifested in our choice of color. From Father Ron's red vestments, to the explosion of red geraniums around the altar (this year we have red roses) to our own sea of red clothing in the pews. This tidal wave of red is to help us visualize the first *Pentecost* when the Paraclete descended upon Mary and the disciples in tongues of fire. So why do we call it *Pentecost* and who is the Paraclete anyway? *Pentecost* was originally a Jewish festival which occurred seven weeks (forty-nine days plus one) after the Passover. The term *Pentecost* is a Greek word meaning "fiftieth" to signify when it occurs on the calendar. It is also known as the feast of First Fruits, a harvest festival, where the first of the harvest was given back to the Lord with joyful thanksgiving for His prosperity. However, as times changed and not everyone was a farmer, around the second century B.C. it also morphed into a festival celebrating the giving of the Ten Commandments to Moses on Mount Sinai. In Exodus we read how fire, smoke, and a shaking mountain accompanied the descent of the "Law" overshadowing the Jewish people. So, fast forward to fifty days after the resurrection of Jesus on Easter Sunday and we have the new feast of *Pentecost*. This is also our feast of First Fruits where the seeds of the Good News, planted by Christ during His three years of ministry, are ready to be harvested (John 4:35). In scripture we hear how the rush of the mighty wind shook the house and "tongues of fire" rested upon each one of them as The Holy Spirit (Paraclete) overshadowed Mary and the disciples. Immediately afterwards, Peter preaches, and three thousand souls are baptized and "harvested" for the Lord. Paraclete is another Greek word which means "to call beside". This is of whom Jesus says the Father will send to be with us forever (John 14:15-17). Jesus ascended into Heaven, but we can call the Holy Spirit to be at our side to help us, comfort us, and be our counselor and advocate continually. The presence of the Holy Spirit is not just on our Confirmation day, but all through our lives. He will **enlighten** our minds by opening up the scriptures we read and prayerfully **guide** us as we live out our daily vocation. The paraclete will **strengthen** and **console** us in the sacraments, especially the gift of the Most Holy Eucharist in which He comes down upon "to make them holy so that they will become the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ". †



A special thank you to
Jacob and Erin Schaeffer
for helping a parishioner with some needed yard work.
Young Helping Hands are an extra special blessing!"

Thank You



Altar Bread and Wine

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



Bill Davis

By
Wife—Pat

Sanctuary Lamp

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



in loving memory of
Raymond Ravotti

By
Family

Collections

Offertory Collection for May 24th, 2020

No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 598

No. of Envelopes Received: 50

Collection: Offertory - \$2,925.00

Electronic Payments (14) - \$1,195.00

Loose -\$0.00; Children (-) - \$0.00

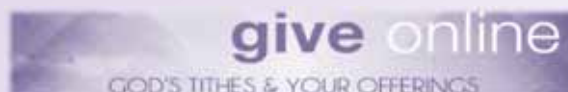
Ascension of the Lord (23) - \$260.00

Communication Campaign (8) - \$75.00

Total Collection - \$4,455.00

THANK YOU!

Although we are unable to attend Mass at this time, we urge you
to please mail your weekly/monthly contribution or drop it off at
the Administrative office or the mail box outside the office doors.



Something to think about—If you normally give in the offertory
basket, now might be the time to think about on-line giving.

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**Saturday—June 6th, 2020
NO CLEANING ASSIGNMENTS
THIS WEEK**

*Please call the Administrative Office if you
would like to volunteer to be one of the
cleaning volunteers—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****

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