

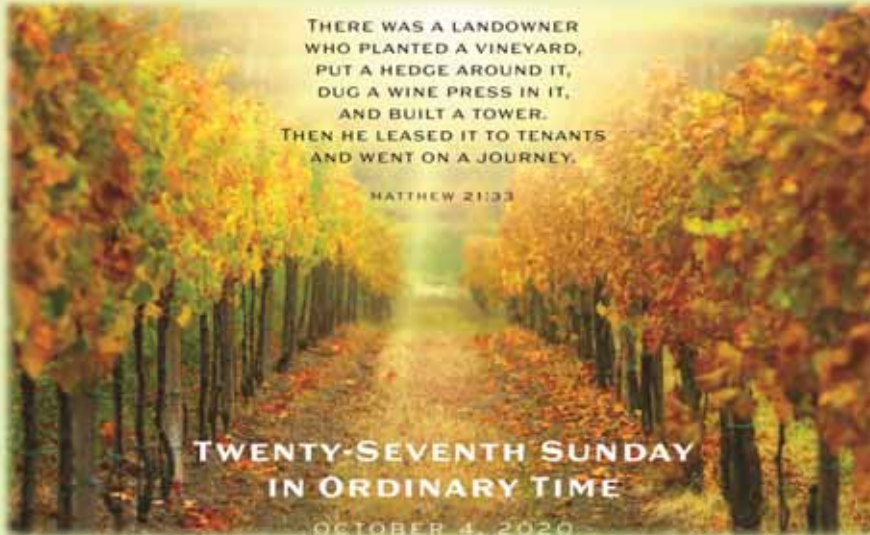
St. Mary, Mother of God Church



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



Established 1826



Monsignor Gilbert C. Gente—Pastor
ggente@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Parish Information

Saturday (Vigil): 4:00 & 6:00 P.M. (with guidelines)

Sunday: 7:00, 8:30 & 11:00 A.M. (with guidelines)

Weekday Masses: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday—8:00 A.M.;
Wednesday—7:00 P.M. (with guidelines)

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

Reconciliation: Saturday - 3:00—3:30 P.M.. (with guidelines)

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 Msgr. Gilbert 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, call Msgr. Gilbert at 724-295-2281.

Anointing of the Sick: Contact Msgr. Gilbert 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, Main Organist

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, 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

Brenda DeMeno/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) ♥=(LHO/special intention/parishioners)

MASSES FOR THE 27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY:	October 3rd
4:00 P.M.	†Barbara Sliviak (Robert & Diane Grant)
6:00 P.M.	†David Singer (Wife & Daughters)
SUNDAY:	October 4th
7:00 A.M.	†Beach Family—Living/Deceased Members (Peggy & Charles Beach)
8:30 A.M.	♥St. Mary Parishioners
11:00 A.M.	†Joseph Klaput, Jr. (Family)
MONDAY:	October 5th
8:00 A.M.	†J.D. Easley Family (Estate)
TUESDAY:	October 6th
8:00 A.M.	†Ann Liti (Posney Family)
WEDNESDAY:	October 7th
7:00 P.M.	†Rev. George Alderson (Friends)
THURSDAY:	October 8th
8:00 A.M.	†Ken Hughes (Grandchildren)
FRIDAY:	October 9th
8:00 A.M.	†Stella Trygar (Daughter—Dianne Zadnik)

MASSES FOR THE 28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY:	October 10th
4:00 P.M.	†Rosemary Shipe (Shipe Family)
6:00 P.M.	†Victor Zadnik (Wife)
SUNDAY:	October 11th
7:00 A.M.	†Sam Clacqueno (John & Betty Lou Nemcek)
8:30 A.M.	♥In Thanksgiving (Bob & Judy Bergstrom)
11:00 A.M.	♥St. Mary Parishioners

Readings for the Week

Monday:	<i>Gal 1:6-12; Ps 111:1b-2, 7-9, 10c; Lk 10:25-37</i>
Tuesday:	<i>Gal 1:13-24; Ps 139:1b-3, 13-15; Lk 10:38-42</i>
Wednesday:	<i>Gal 2:1-2, 7-14; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Lk 11:1-4</i>
Thursday:	<i>Gal 3:1-5; Lk 1:69-75; Lk 11:5-13</i>
Friday:	<i>Gal 3:7-14; Ps 111:1b-6; Lk 11:15-26</i>
Saturday:	<i>Gal 3:22-29; Ps 105:2-7; Lk 11:27-28</i>
Sunday:	<i>Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Phil 4:12-14, 1-9-20; Mt 22:1-14 [1-10]</i>

Altar Memorials



The Altar Bread and Wine were donated for this week in loving memory of **Fr. George Alderson** by *Friends of St. Mary's*



The Sanctuary Lamp (Candle) will burn this week in loving memory of **James McDermott**, requested by *Linda McDermott (Wife) and Children*

Ministry Schedule

October 10th & 11th, 2020

ALTAR SERVERS:

<i>Saturday, 4:00 P.M.</i>	TBA
<i>Saturday, 6:00 P.M.</i>	TBA
<i>Sunday, 7:00 A.M.</i>	None
<i>Sunday, 8:30 A.M.</i>	Sarah Shepherd
<i>Sunday, 11:00 A.M.</i>	Jacob Schaeffer

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION:

<i>Saturday, 4:00 P.M.</i>	Deb Showers
<i>Saturday, 6:00 P.M.</i>	TBA
<i>Sunday, 7:00 A.M.</i>	TBA
<i>Sunday, 8:30 A.M.</i>	Kim Holbein
<i>Sunday, 11:00 A.M.</i>	Tom Brestensky

LECTORS:

<i>Saturday, 4:00 P.M.</i>	Karen Savage
<i>Saturday, 6:00 P.M.</i>	TBA
<i>Sunday, 7:00 A.M.</i>	TBA
<i>Sunday, 8:30 A.M.</i>	Jeff Jones
<i>Sunday, 11:00 A.M.</i>	Marushka Steele

ORGANIST:

<i>Saturday, 4:00 P.M.</i>	Diane Pleva
<i>Saturday, 6:00 P.M.</i>	Quiet Mass
<i>Sunday, 7:00 A.M.</i>	Quiet Mass
<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>	Alex Smith
<i>Saturday, 6:00 P.M.</i>	Quiet Mass
<i>Sunday, 7:00 A.M.</i>	Quiet Mass
<i>Sunday, 8:30 A.M.</i>	Tom Koharchik
<i>Sunday, 11:00 A.M.</i>	TBA



Please Note: If any ministers attend the temporary new masses at 6:00 P.M. on Saturday or 7:00 A.M. on Sunday, could you please come to the sacristy to offer your services in your respective ministry. Thank you!



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

Weekday Mass—8:00 A.M. - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday; Wednesday - 7:00 P.M. (with guidelines)
Confessions—Saturday - 3:00 to 3:30 P.M. (with guidelines)
Weekend Masses—Saturday (Vigil): 4:00 & 6:00 P.M. (with guidelines)
 Sunday: 7:00, 8:30 & 11:00 A.M. (with guidelines)

October 4th CCD Begins Remotely
 October 5th Christian Mother's Meeting—7:00 P.M. - Fellowship Hall (Rosary will be recited at 6:30 P.M.)
 October 13th Men's Group—7:00 P.M. - Fellowship Hall
 October 15th Wedding Rehearsal (Welsh/Long)—6:00 P.M.
 October 17th Wedding (Welsh/Long)—1:30 P.M.
 October 18th Baptism "Korbeck"—12:15 P.M.


***Until further notice, we will only be live streaming the Sunday Mass at 8:30 A.M.



Parish Information/Events



Please remember that the rosary is prayed in church, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday, immediately following the 8:00 A.M. mass and on Wednesday evening at 6:30 P.M., prior to the 7:00 P.M. mass. On weekends, the rosary is recited before each weekend mass.
Please join us!



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

Regional Mass

A regional Mass is celebrated every Sunday at 7:00 P.M. at St. Lawrence Church
 First Street—Cadogan, PA 16212

Attention!

Wednesdays—our daily mass is being celebrated at 7:00 P.M. This evening mass will replace the traditional 8:00 A.M. Mass. Please note that the mass intention that was scheduled for 8:00 A.M. will be scheduled for the 7:00 P.M. Mass.

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Due to the pandemic, we have added two weekend masses to our schedule: Saturday at 6:00 P.M. and Sunday at 7:00 A.M.

**The Administrative Office**—During this pandemic, the office will continue to be open the normal hours of Monday through Thursday, 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M., and Friday, 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. **Our weekday and weekend mass schedule has been revised—see above calendar** (with guidelines). In addition, St. Mary's will continue to be open for private prayer from 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 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 is explained prior to the beginning of each mass. For private prayer, you are to enter at the side entrance.
- There are sanitizers/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

**YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE** *Clearances must be turned into the office if you want to continue to work or volunteer here at St. Mary, Mother of God Church and the Diocese of Greensburg. If you need assistance in completing these forms, please call the Administrative Office at 724-295-2281. †*

*Congratulations to Margaret and Carl Barr who were united in marriage on September 19th, 2020.  
God bless the both of you!*

*Congratulations to Shannon and John Saltarelli who were united in marriage on September 7th, 2020.  
God bless the both of you!*



**Pray for**  
*Vocations*

### **Prayer for Religious Vocations**

Heavenly Father

Your loving providence accompanies us on our life's journey.

Thank you for the many gifts you have given us.

We ask that you continue to call sons and daughters from our families and parishes to serve as priests, deacons and consecrated men and women in the Diocese of Greensburg.

Send your Spirit upon us so that many will respond with great love to your call to service and leadership in your Church.

Give to those you have chosen the faith of the apostle, the vision of the prophet, and the courage of the martyr.

Through the intercession of our Diocesan patroness, Our Lady of the Assumption,

help us to be faithful disciples of your Son by following the example of Mary.

Make us generous in sharing ourselves and our talents for the sake of your Kingdom on earth.

We ask this through Christ the Risen Lord.

*Imprimatur*

The Most Reverend Lawrence E. Brandt, JCD, PhD  
Bishop of Greensburg  
August 15th, 2004

**Pray for**  
*Vocations*

## News/Activities from Our Ministries/Organizations



**The Christian Mothers** beautiful prayer garden behind the church is a wonderful place to honor a loved one. There are several Hail Mary stones still available for purchase at \$300.00 each. Also, engraved walkway bricks are available for \$150.00 each. Examples of the stones and bricks are on display at each church entrance. If you are interested, please contact the Administrative Office at 724-295-2281 or Judy Bergstrom at 724-316-5352.

The next monthly meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 5th at 7:00 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall so we can social distance and follow the CDC guidelines. Members are asked to arrive at 6:30 to pray the rosary. †

# Evangelization

## FORMED

Learn and enjoy your faith at home and on the go, from any device. Sign-up for free at: [formed.org/signup](http://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](mailto:bmacurdy@zoominternet.net).

### PICK OF THE WEEK

WATCH

#### OCEAN OF MERCY

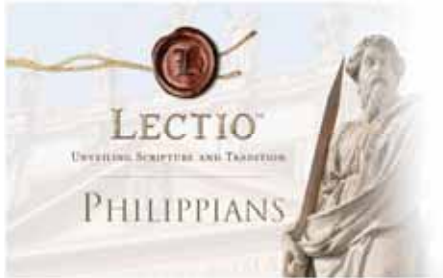
At the dawn of the twentieth century, three voices rose up from Poland—St. Faustina Kowalska, St. Maximilian Kolbe, and Pope St. John Paul II—to proclaim an urgent message, a message powerful enough to alter the course of an age plunging into spiritual darkness.



#### LECTIO: PHILIPPIANS WITH DR. TIM GRAY

Towards the end of his life, under arrest and awaiting trial in Rome, Saint Paul writes a short but powerful letter to the Philippians. In six sessions, Dr. Tim Gray combines insight and practical guidance using the lectio divina disciplines to make the Scriptures come alive in Philippians: Life in Christ.

LEARN



LISTEN

#### BROTHER FRANCIS: THE BAREFOOT SAINT OF ASSISI

If you think you know Francis of Assisi, you're in for a surprise. Discover the astonishing life of Brother Francis, the fun-loving son of wealth and privilege who gave up everything for the sake of Christ.



To sign up for your free FORMED account, please visit [formed.org/signup](http://formed.org/signup)

## Bible Study

**The Bible and the Church Fathers**—As Christians, we should want to know our family tree. We should want to know who has gone before us in the Faith, where they came from, and what they believed. We should want to know our history. Enter *The Bible and the Church Fathers* produced by The St. Paul Center. In twelve beautifully produced lessons, you will learn who the Early Church Fathers were and how they shaped the way we read Scripture. *The Bible and the Church Fathers* will teach you everything you need to know about how the Bible took form. You will learn powerful tools for reading it and you will understand Scripture's relationship to Tradition and, in particular, to the Sacraments. You have a choice to join us for the morning session every Monday at 9:00 A.M. or Thursday evenings at 7:00 P.M. Please register for this twelve week study on the church website: [stmarysfreeport.com](http://stmarysfreeport.com) Click News/Events or you can call Melissa Kristine at 724-230-4450. **Please register by Monday, October 12th.** The cost is \$24.00 for your study book and is payable at the first session: October 19<sup>th</sup> or October 22<sup>nd</sup>. †

**The Frame of Life**—In the second reading on this 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time, St. Paul finishes his letter that he wrote to the Philippians. These words come from a man who is writing from a Roman prison, possibly facing the death penalty. Part of His final words to his beloved brothers and sisters in Christ is about how to frame their lives on God. Just as a picture frame holds the artwork in place, it is also meant to draw the observer towards the beauty of the piece so one can better contemplate and enjoy. Paul says, *"finally brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious.... think about these things"* (Philippians 4:8). Now Paul is not saying that we just need to think of "Christian" things, but that we need to think deeply about the best of things. Just as the old computer saying goes "garbage in, garbage out", it also applies to our hearts and minds. For us to discern right from wrong, good from bad, the profane from the holy, we need to fill our tanks with the beautiful, the good and the true. We do this so that when we go out into the world and experience that which is less than Christian, we can recognize it as such and flavor it with the love and mercy of God. Let's prayerfully look at this verse and its role in our growth in holiness and sanctification. **Whatever is true...** What is truth? Pilate asked this of Jesus when he met Him prior to His ultimate sacrifice on Calvary. We find truth in the Scriptures and in the teachings passed down to us. *"Stand firm and cling to the traditions we taught you whether by word or by letter"* (2 Thessalonians 2:15). **Whatever is honorable, whatever is just...** Something opposite of honorable would be that which is trivial and lacking nobility, for example the latest tweet from a popular cultural figure. The Just one is God Himself and we give Him honor by meditating upon Him with awe, adoration, and praise. **Whatever is pure, whatever is lovely...** In Matthew 5:8 we hear *"blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God"*. When we supply our minds and hearts with an ample amount of that which is beautiful and lovely, our radar will be tuned in on the Godly. This is vital, so when we engage in culture through secular movies and books, we will be better able to discern what good I can garner from its consumption. Does it bring me peace and joy? Inally, we need to **think upon these things**; not just a cursory thought, but deep contemplation. Let our imaginations linger over this list and put it into practice so that when the struggle ensues on the battlefields of our minds, Christ will be victorious and *"the God of peace will be with you"* (Philippians 4:9). †



**SAVE THE DATE**—October 27th for our **2020 Blood Drive**. Watch future bulletins for all registration information as the date gets closer. †



**St. Mary's Men's Group** monthly meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 13th at 7:00 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall. All men of the Parish are encouraged to become a member. If you would like information regarding this ministry, please contact Tim Fogarty at: [ftpfogarty618@gmail.com](mailto:ftpfogarty618@gmail.com); 724-294-0089. †



**Religious Education** classes will be held remotely beginning Sunday, October 4th. If you would like information about our program or how to register your child(ren), please call Helen at 724-295-4758. †



Do you know someone who might want to join the Catholic Church; wants to become more involved in your own faith and learn more; do you just want to find out more about the Catholic Church and what it teaches? Consider joining us for RCIA, the *Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults*. It's open to anyone who is curious about our Church and our faith. Please contact Msgr. Gilbert or Bill Girardi (724-295-2281) to register or for additional details. †

## News from Our Diocese



**Thank you** to all who have responded to the recent request to support our Seminarians, our men preparing to serve as Permanent Deacons, for our International Priests through the *Seminarian and Clergy Formation Collection*. Thank you also for your prayers for vocations to the priesthood, permanent diaconate, and religious vocations. Your prayers and financial support help Seminarians, men preparing for the Permanent Diaconate, clergy formation and International Priests serving in our diocese. Even though this year's appeal and collection is drawing to a close, your continued prayers for all religious vocations are important. Also, for those who still wish to participate in this appeal and collection, you may mail your envelope directly to the Diocese of Greensburg or make a gift online at: [www.dioceseofgreensburg.org](http://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org). †



**Due** to the recent natural disasters, including Hurricanes Laura & Sally and the western wildfires, many people of these affected regions throughout our nation are in need of humanitarian and material assistance. Given the current restrictions related to COVID-19, the practicality and benefits of taking up a special collection in our parishes place limits on our ability to provide needed funds. For those in our parish interested in assisting those in need at this time, you are asked to please refer them directly to Catholic Charities USA. You can find more information and ways to immediately help, including online donation opportunities at: <https://www.catholiccharitiesusa.org/ways-to-give/>. Please remember in your daily prayers all those affected by these terrible natural disasters. Thank you for your attention to our brothers and sisters afflicted at this time and who are in such need of our care and concern. †



**Heroes of Hope videos highlight Guardian Angel Appeal for Catholic Charities**—Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Greensburg recognizes *Heroes of Hope*, individuals who never stopped giving during COVID-19. Now you can be a Guardian Angel for your community by donating to coronavirus relief. All dollars go directly to those in need. Please watch the videos about our Heroes of Hope and prayerfully consider donating online to: <https://www.ccharitiesgreensburg.org/fundraisers/Pages/Heroes-of-Hope.aspx>. We are truly blessed by all of your support! †

## Outside Our Diocese



**St. Joseph High School** is enrolling students in grades 9th through 11th. Scholarship and financial aid is available. For additional information or to register your son/daughter, please call 724-226-4932 or you can email: [admissions@saintjosephhs.com](mailto:admissions@saintjosephhs.com). †



**33rd Annual Life Chain**—Join with thousands of pro-lifers throughout USA and Canada to pray for the end of abortion on Sunday, October 4th, from 2:00 to 3:00 P.M. The Life Chain is a peaceful and prayerful witness of pro-life individuals standing for sixty minutes praying for our nation and for the end of abortion. It is a visible statement of solidarity by the Christian community that abortion kills children and that the church supports the sanctity of human life from the moment of conception to natural death. Take the family. Covid 19

guidelines will be observed. Water, lawn chairs, and strollers are welcome. Everyone will assemble in the Most Blessed Sacrament Church parking lot in Natrona Heights. Youth groups, church organizations, Knights of Columbus, all Christians, please prayerfully consider joining in one hour of prayer to ask Almighty God for His intervention to unite His church against abortion horrors. If we as Christians do not speak for the unborn, who will? Signs will be provided. For additional information, please call Bob at 724-759-0149 or 724-265-4427. †

# St. Mary's CEMETERY

## Approved Prices for St. Mary's Cemetery Lots

--Prices are effective August 1st, 2020--

### Lots

Parishioners \$900.00/each

Non-Parishioners \$1,200.00/each

\*Section E Lots are only available for purchase by parishioners at \$1,000.00/each

### Perpetual Care Cost

\$500.00 will be added to the cost of all graves purchased

### Opening/Closing Costs

\$950.00

\*Section E Lots contain a rock clause. There may be an additional cost to the \$950.00 Opening/Closing Cost. This will be determined at the time of the Grave Opening

### Cremations—Opening/Closing Cost

\$500.00

### Chapel Fee

\$75.00

**Please Note**—If a purchaser wants to sell their lot(s), the lot(s) must be sold back to St. Mary Cemetery at the price that it/they were purchased.



## Offertory Collection for September 27th, 2020

No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 591

No. of Envelopes Received: 136

Collection: Offertory - \$4,999.83

Electronic Payments (11) - \$1,960.00

Loose - \$145.00; Children (5) - \$7.00

## Total Collection - \$7,111.83

Although we are now able to attend Mass, we continue to urge those who do not yet feel comfortable in attending to please mail your weekly/monthly contribution or drop it off at the Administrative Office or the mail box outside the office doors.

# THANK YOU!



**Something to think about**—If you normally give in the offertory basket, please think about on-line giving. Online giving is a safe and easy way to support our parish. This system enables you to support St. Mary, Mother of God Church by making your weekly, bi-weekly or monthly contribution or by establishing a recurring contribution. Thank you!

Thanks to our advertisers who sponsor this bulletin. Please support them with your business.

**ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK**  
**"Dr. John A. Marty & Assoc."**  
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*If you would like to advertise in our weekly bulletin, please contact J.S. Paluch Company, Inc. at 1-800-945-6629*

## 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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