



# *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*

# ***EASTER SUNDAY***

## **APRIL 1, 2018**



## From the Pastor's Desk



### **This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad. (Psalm 118)**

There is indeed a cause for us to celebrate and rejoice this Easter Sunday because the Lord has truly risen. If we go through the Lenten Season, especially during the most holy of all weeks of the year, we will truly appreciate the celebration of Easter Sunday because of what Jesus went through: from the persecutions of the religious leaders of his time, the Pharisees, scribes and fellow Jews, to the betrayal of his disciples, especially Judas and Peter; the public trial that subjected him to all kinds of mockery and humiliation; the sufferings and pains he endured from the cruelty while he carried the cross. He stumbled and fell until he reached the place only to be crucified and hung on the cross. Eventually he died. These scenarios are hard to imagine and maybe beyond expectation for a man thought to be good and powerful and yet became powerless when he suffered and died.

Those who accused and betrayed him probably rejoiced for what they did, but it was only for a moment because after three days, he resurrected. That must have brought shame to all of them. That He won and they were defeated. That He brought victory over death and sin. That He brought hope for those who are suffering and in pain. If you suffer because of others and not of your own wrongdoings, then you can merit from it if you

persevere with faith.

Again, this can be hard to understand, but having the image of the risen Christ, it strengthens us and encourages us to believe that suffering and the power of darkness will not prevail because Christ has conquered them. He gave us hope. Suffering and death are not the end. There is resurrection. The good will always triumph over evil. And God, as always, is good and powerful. **Let us rejoice and be glad for the Lord has truly risen! Happy Easter**

*Sidenote: We are happy to have our elect, **Jackson Ringler**, receive the sacraments of baptism, confirmation and Holy Communion for the first time at our Easter vigil after he successfully completed his journey into the RCIA program. Congratulations!*



### FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK

## Symbolon: Knowing the Faith

### Session 6: The Paschal Mystery

#### Why do Christians worship a crucified God?

We've all heard that Christ died for our sins and rose again on Easter, but what does it mean? In this original Augustine Institute production, Dr. Edward Sri opens our eyes to the deeper meaning behind the fundamental mystery of our Christian faith.

Watch on [formed.org](http://formed.org)

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—Anonymous



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## Calendar of Events

**April 1st** No CCD Classes; No Choir Practice  
**April 2nd** Christian Mother's Meeting—7:00 P.M.  
**April 4th** 1st Holy Communion Workshop—7:00 P.M. - Fellowship Hall  
**April 6th** First Friday Adoration beginning at 8:45 A.M. - 6:30 P.M.—Benediction  
**April 7th** Baptism (Harmon)—5:15P.M.  
**April 8th** Religious Education Classes—9:30 - 10:40 A.M.— Security Guard - "Erik Beach"  
 Choir Practice—9:45 - 10:45 A.M.; 11:00 A.M. Mass  
**April 14th/15** Donut Social—Immediately following all weekend Masses - Fellowship Hall.  
**April 15th** Religious Education Classes—9:30 - 10:40 A.M. - Security Guard - "Erik Beach"  
 Teen Ministry Meeting—9:25 A.M.; Choir Practice—9:45 - 10:45 A.M.; 11:00 A.M. Mass



First Friday Adoration will be April 6th, beginning at 8:45 A.M. Sign-up sheets are located at the church entrances. Please join us as we adore our Lord, Jesus!



**Religious Education Classes** will resume on Sunday, April 8th, from 9:30 to 10:40 A.M. The Security Guard will be *Erik Beach*  
**Wednesday, April 4th** - First Holy Communion Workshop (Parents & Children must attend)—7:00 to 8:30 P.M.—Fellowship Hall  
**Sunday, April 29th** - Final class - students must attend the 11:00 A.M. Mass  
**Wednesday, May 2nd** - Candle Service followed by 1st Holy Communion practice in church—7:00 P.M. **All children must attend.**  
**May 6th** - 1st Holy Communion will be celebrated at the 11:00 A.M. Mass. Children to assemble in the Conference Room at 10:30.



**St. Mary Cemetery** - Do you like working outside? Our cemetery is in need of someone to help with the grass trimming and light labor work. One or two days a week from April to November. If you are interested, please call our caretaker, Richard Bertino, at 724-295-3632 (home) or 724-602-5986 (cell).



### Diocesan Lenten Appeal

Diocesan Target - \$39,816.68  
 Parish Target - \$30,183.32  
 Combined Target - \$70,000.00  
 Pledges to Date - \$73,554.00  
 Paid to Date - \$56,041.70  
 Number of Donors - 225

**Diocesan & Parish Targets Achieved!!!**  
 (Totals are as of Friday, March 23rd)

**Because of your great outpouring love for our parish, we have passed our combined diocesan and parish target of \$70,000.00 so we are able to proceed with an additional project with the replacement of our 100 year old pews. This project will begin the end of April.**



**Divine Mercy Novena** continues this week. The novena and chaplet will be said mornings following the 8:00 A.M. Mass. On Divine Mercy Sunday, the chaplet will be recited before our weekend Masses. Note that you may also pray this Novena at home. Pamphlets are located at each entrance.



**Christian Mother's** - The monthly meeting will be held on Monday, April 2nd, at 7:00 P.M., in the Christian Mother's Room. Members are asked to arrive at 6:30 P.M. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending. Members and their families are asked to gather together in front of the Blessed Mother (please plan on arriving at 8:00 A.M.) to recite the rosary and to attend morning Mass on Sunday, April 8th.



The teens would like to thank everyone who recently purchased popcorn. Your support of their fundraisers is always greatly appreciated!

### Becoming a Member of St. Mary, Mother of God Church

Welcome! It is a great joy to welcome new members to our parish community. Please register as soon as possible in order to participate in our various programs, ministries and activities. Just drop this form in the collection basket and we will send you a detailed registration form. If you are already a member and have changed any of your personal information (address, phone number, name, etc.), please return the changes on the form below. It is important to keep our records up to date.

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

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

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
New Registration

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Moving

## Divine Mercy Sunday Service



**Bishop Malesic** will lead an outdoor service and Eucharistic procession for *Divine Mercy Sunday*, April 8th, at 3:00 P.M. in St. Clair Park on North Maple Avenue, Greensburg. In case of inclement weather, the service will be moved to Blessed Sacrament Cathedral on North Main Street.



**St. Vincent College**, Latrobe, will host the 8th annual *Faith and Reason* summer program from Sunday, June 10th to Friday, June 15th. Students age 15 and older are invited to apply for admission to the program which introduces young minds to the rich intellectual tradition of the Roman Catholic faith and is designed to prepare students for college-level education. Housing in a college residence hall and three daily meals in the college dining hall are included in the cost of \$495.00. Limited scholarship funding is available. Additional information is available by contacting Dr. Michael Krom at 724-805-2844 or emailing: [michael.krom@stvincent.edu](mailto:michael.krom@stvincent.edu). Students may register online at: [www.stvincent.edu/faithandreason](http://www.stvincent.edu/faithandreason).



**Applications** are now being accepted for the Certificate in Pastoral Ministry program for classes beginning in late August. The program is a partnership between the Diocese of Greensburg and Seton Hill University designed to meet the educational and formational needs of adults who are committed to the mission of Christ and feel called to serve publicly in the name of the Catholic Church. Information and registration can be found at: [www.dioceseofgreensburg.org/cpm](http://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org/cpm). Parishioners interested in lay ecclesial ministry or the permanent diaconate can contact Marsha Kable at: [mkable@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:mkable@dioceseofgreensburg.org) or call 724-552-2597 for more information.



**Catholic Charities** of the Diocese of Greensburg offers faith-based assistance with anxiety, depression, grief and loss, interpersonal conflicts, recovery support, parenting and family issues, anger management and other personal and family issues. Counseling is provided by licensed, professional and experienced therapists. Low fees, and many insurances accepted. Offices are located in Greensburg, Indiana, Uniontown, Kittanning and New Kensington. If you would like additional information or an appointment, please contact 724-837-1840 or email: [counseling@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:counseling@dioceseofgreensburg.org).

Greensburg Central Catholic Junior-Senior High School will host "Visit Our Campus" April 11th, from 5:00-7:00 P.M. No reservation is needed. For information or to schedule a personal visit to the school, please visit: [www.gcchs.org](http://www.gcchs.org) or call 724-834-0310.

### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The diocesan Office for Communications is looking for a photography/multimedia intern, a part-time, paid position. See "Employment Opportunities" at: [www.dioceseofgreensburg.org](http://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org) for job description and application information.



**St. Joseph Church**, 315 Stoney Hollow Road, Cabot, is facilitating a "As by A New Pentecost". It is a video series, to prepare for a new life in the Holy Spirit. Renew and refresh the outpouring of the Holy Spirit that you have received in the Sacrament of Confirmation. They will meet Tuesday evenings 7:00-8:30 P.M., in the Parish Hall, for seven consecutive Tuesdays beginning April 10th. The last session will be May 22nd. For information, please contact: [sjaff@zoominternet.net](mailto:sjaff@zoominternet.net) or 724-352-3443.



The Saint Joseph High School spring musical, *Children of Eden*, will be performed on the following dates and times at the Penn State New Kensington Forum Theatre: April 12th - 14th at 7:00 P.M. and April 14th-15th at 2:00 P.M. All tickets are \$10.00/each. Purchase your tickets now by submitting an order form by visiting: [www.SaintJosephHS.com](http://www.SaintJosephHS.com)). To reserve your tickets and pay at will, email: [sjstheatertickets@gmail.com](mailto:sjstheatertickets@gmail.com). Tickets will also be available to purchase at the theater the night of the performance. It is recommended purchasing/reserving tickets ahead of time.



The Knights of Columbus #2602 will sponsor a Pancake & Sausage Breakfast on Sunday, April 8th, 9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M., at the council home located at 28 Garfield Street, Natrona. Cost is \$6.00/adults and \$3.00/children under 6. Take your family and friends!



**SOFTBALL PLAYERS WANTED, CO-ED SINGLES, 21 AND OVER.** Softball is played in Blawnox. The Catholic Singles Club of Pittsburgh is looking for players of all abilities. The group also offers parties, picnics, mini golf, hiking, volleyball, dinners, spirituality events, trips, and many other great events. For more information or an application, please visit: [www.cacpittsburgh.org](http://www.cacpittsburgh.org), or contact [cac.softball@yahoo.com](mailto:cac.softball@yahoo.com) or Gary at: [Gary.Urbatis@verizon.net](mailto:Gary.Urbatis@verizon.net) or call 412-427-8772.



A Public Card Party hosted by the Christian Mothers & Women of St. Joseph parish, Cabot, will be held on Monday, April 9th at 12:00 Noon with lunch followed by the card party. Any other games/cards can be played, just be sure to bring enough people to fill a table. A \$5.00/person donation includes lunch and cards/games. Join them for lunch and some fun with friends. Butler Flavorings (dark & clear vanilla; maple and almond) and USA-made RADA cutlery will be available. Proceeds help with various women and children's functions.

## MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR APRIL 7TH & 8TH, 2018

Altar Servers	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Lector	Greeters	Organist	Cantor
<b>Saturday - 4:00 P.M.</b>					
Bill Girardi; Zach Showers Madison & Dawson Gaillot	Dave Brestensky Andrea Camerlo; Fred Walker	Jackie DeFelice	Jim & Diana Talotta	Verne Bergstrom	Alex Smith
<b>Sunday—8:30 A.M.</b>					
Samuel & Jacob Kristine David Kristine Ali & Ben Brestensky	Carol Carson Rose Check Pat Ralston	Lisa Boylan	John Nemcek Betty Lou Nemcek	Tom Koharchik	Tom Koharchik
<b>Sunday—11:00 A.M.</b>					
Celeste Beacom Jacob & Erin Schaeffer Victor & Olivia Svitek	Lisa Isenberg Helen James Melissa Schaeffer	Rob Svitek	Jill Zalewski	Dave Wesolosky	Choir

### Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK

#### MASSES FOR EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

<p><b>SATURDAY:</b> 8:30 P.M.</p> <p><b>SUNDAY:</b> 8:30 A.M. 11:00 A.M.</p> <p><b>MONDAY:</b> 8:00 A.M.</p> <p><b>TUESDAY:</b> 8:00 A.M.</p> <p><b>WEDNESDAY:</b> 8:00 A.M.</p> <p><b>THURSDAY:</b> 8:00 A.M.</p> <p><b>FRIDAY:</b> 8:00 A.M.</p>	<p>March 31st—Easter Vigil St. Mary Parishioners</p> <p>April 1st St. Mary Parishioners St. Mary Parishioners</p> <p>April 2nd ✦Kerry Liti (Posney Family)</p> <p>April 3rd ✦Kenny Hughes (Rich &amp; Karen Brestensky)</p> <p>April 4th ✦Bobby Hoffman (Donna King)</p> <p>April 5th ✦Mary Pesci Ranieri (David &amp; Cleatus Burk)</p> <p>April 6th ✦Phillip Bordonaro (Nancy Danik &amp; Family)</p>	
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#### MASSES FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY)

<p><b>SATURDAY:</b> 4:00 P.M.</p> <p><b>SUNDAY:</b> 8:30 A.M. 11:00 A.M.</p>	<p>April 7th ✦Ray Ravotti (John &amp; Brenda DeMeno)</p> <p>April 8th St. Mary Parishioners ✦Evely Kline (Family)</p>
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The Altar Bread and Wine were donated for this week in loving memory of **RAYMOND RAVOTTI** By **Loretta & Children**

In acknowledging the Real Presence of Christ, The Sanctuary Lamp (Candle) will burn this week in loving memory of **RAYMOND RAVOTTI** By **Loretta & Children**

### Collections

**Offertory Collection for March 18th, 2018**

No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 608  
No. of Envelopes Received: 228  
Collection: Offertory - \$4,382.00  
Loose - \$282.00; Children - \$31.90  
Tornado Relief - \$1,226.00

**Total Collection - \$5,921.90**

*Due to the early deadline for the submission of the April 1st bulletin, the weekly contribution report for March 25th was not available. It will be published in next Sunday's bulletin.*

**THANK YOU!**

**Saturday, April 7th, 2018**  
*Debbie Baustert and Susan Zingaro*

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Easter is a wonderful time for us. In addition to the very special meaning of the liturgical celebration, we are always happy to see so many parishioners whose schedules may not allow you to attend Mass at our parish on a regular basis. If you are one of those who cannot visit our parish as much as you like, you might want to check out the simple, safe and secure online giving option with your bank. The program allows you to continue to support the parish even when you are out-of-town, too busy to remember an envelope, working weekends, or attending Mass at another parish. Remember to provide your envelope number.

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