

# 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



October 28th, 2018

# ARE YOU BLIND?

## 30<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**Father Ronald Maquiñana—Pastor**  
[rmaquinana@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto: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*  
William Girardi, *Social Hall Coordinator*—412-719-7085  
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*

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

**Parish Email Address:** [thechurch@stmaryfreeport.com](mailto:thechurch@stmaryfreeport.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



This coming November 1st we celebrate the *Solemnity of All Saints*. It is a **Holy Day of Obligation**. It is dedicated to all the saints and martyrs of the Church, both known and unknown, throughout the Christian history. While most saints have a particular feast day on the Catholic calendar (usually, though not always, the date of their death), not all of those feast days are observed. And saints who have not been canonized—those who are in Heaven, but whose sainthood is only known to God—have no particular feast day, then this solemnity of all saints is for their celebration also.

Remembering saints and martyrs and dedicating a specific day to them each year has been a Christian tradition since the 4th century. However, it was not until 609 AD that Pope Boniface IV decided to remember all martyrs after he consecrated the Pantheon in Rome. Originally, the 13th of May was designated as the Feast of All Holy Martyrs but later, in 837AD, Pope Gregory IV extended the feast to remember all the saints, changed its name to Feast of All Saints, and changed the date to November 1st. Eventually, it became a Holy Day of Obligation.

Unfortunately, because the eve before All Saints Day is Halloween, it is the one more popularly remembered to be celebrated than all the saints to be honored. You will see homes and their yards decorated with creepy things or children who go door-to-door in costume, trick-or-treating in their neighborhoods. This holiday seemed to lose much of its connection to its religious origins.

It is important to remember these basic facts:

- *Halloween is a secular holiday that comes the night before All Saints' Day.*
- *All Saints' Day is on November 1st, and it is a Holy Day of Obligation.*
- *All Souls' Day is on November 2nd. Though not a Holy Day of Obligation, we are encouraged to remember those who have died and offer prayers for them.*

As in the previous years, we will celebrate two masses on November 1st - one at 8:00 A.M. and the other at 7:00 P.M. This provides an opportunity for those who are working to attend mass in observance of the Solemnity of All Saints. On November 2nd, we will also celebrate two masses, being that it is also First Friday. One at 8:00 A.M., our regular scheduled mass, and the other at 7:00 P.M. as the Mass of Remembrance for the deceased members of our parish and our loved ones.

I invite you to join us for any of the masses scheduled for November 1st and 2nd.



### FORMED PICK

## Symbolon: Knowing the Faith

Episode 9: Mary and the Saints

### Discover the "Cloud of Witnesses"

How does our relationship with the Virgin Mary impact our relationship with her Son? What is the connection between our understanding of Mary and the rest of the saints? Why do we ask Mary and other "dead people" to pray for us? The answers to these questions give us a framework for the Catholic Church's teachings on life after death and what we call "The Communion of the Saints."

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



"Well done. Very good analogies used here."

—John T., Tehachapi, CA

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If you have any questions, please contact Beth Macurdy at: [bmacurdy@ufcw.org](mailto:bmacurdy@ufcw.org) or call her at 724-295-9411.





**Congratulations to *Brittany and Patrick Himes*** who were united in marriage on September 29th, 2018. God bless the both of you!



Fall Board Game/Card Social  
 Monday, October 29th  
 6:30 to 10:00 P.M.  
 Fellowship Hall  
 Doors open at 6:00 P.M.  
 Cost - \$10.00/person  
 Sandwiches, Salad  
 Buffet, Refreshments  
 Prizes & 50/50 raffle  
 Information/Reservations  
 Please call Carol Carson at  
 724-316-1204  
 Sponsored by  
 St. Mary  
 Christian Mothers



**Life Choices Baby Bottle Campaign** begins this weekend. Bottles will be available for everyone to take home and fill with loose change, bills or checks and return to our church. By participating in the Baby Bottle Campaign, you will be touching and SAVING LIVES!!!

**ATTENTION** 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.

First Friday  
 of the month

First Friday, November 2nd, is also *All Souls' Day*. Mass will be celebrated at 8:00 A.M. followed with all day adoration and Benediction at 6:30 P.M. Sign-up sheets are located at the church entrances. Two people should be represented for each half hour.



St. Mary's Teen Ministry is having a Pie Sale. Proceeds help fund their service projects and activities. Order forms are located at all of the church entrances and on our parish website. **Deadline to submit forms is November 4th.**



Thursday, 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.

# REACHING OUT

To make an effort to do something for other people



## Mission in Action

- Homebound
- Meals on Wheels
- Freeport Food Bank
- St Vincent DePaul
- Helping Hands
- Evangelization Team

## Annual Mass of Remembrance



St. Mary, Mother of God will remember our deceased loved ones with our **Annual Mass of Remembrance** on Friday, November 2nd at 7:00 P.M., in Church. In a special way, we will honor the memory of those who were buried from our parish during this past year (November 2nd, 2017 - November 1st, 2018). Everyone is invited to this beautiful liturgy honoring those who have gone before us.

## Calendar of Events


<b>October 28th</b>	<b>Baby Bottle Campaign Begins</b> <i>Religious Education Classes—9:30 - 10:40 A.M.—Security Guard is Mike Ostrowski</i> <i>Choir Practice—9:45 - 10:45 A.M.; 11:00 A.M. Mass</i> <i>Bible Study—6:30 P.M. - Fellowship Hall</i>
<b>October 29th</b>	<i>Fall Card Party—6:30 - 10:00 P.M. - Fellowship Hall</i>
<b>October 30th</b>	<i>RCIA—6:30 P.M. - Conference Center</i>
<b>November 1st</b>	<i>All Saints' Day—Holy day of Obligation - Parish Office Closed</i>
<b>November 2nd</b>	<i>All Souls' Day/First Friday; 7:00 P.M.—Mass of Remembrance</i>
<b>November 3rd/4th</b>	<b>Religious Education Classes—9:30 - 10:40 A.M.—Security Guard is Mike Ostrowski</b> <i>Teen Ministry—9:35 - 10:45 A.M.; Pie Orders Due</i> <i>Choir Practice—9:45 - 10:45 A.M.; 11:00 A.M. Mass</i>
<b>November 5th</b>	<i>Christian Mothers' Meeting—7:00 P.M. - Christian Mother's Room</i>
<b>November 6th</b>	<i>RCIA—6:30 P.M. - Conference Center</i>
<b>November 7th</b>	<i>Bible Study—6:30 P.M. - Fellowship Hall</i>

**PLEASE  
NOTE**



**BIBLE STUDY**

*Bible Study has been moved from Wednesday, October 31st, to Sunday, October 28th, 6:30 to 8:00 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall*

 **Christian Mothers**  
Next Sunday, November 4th, 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. Their monthly meeting will be held **Monday, November 5th**, 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 **Christian Mothers** are beautifying our St. Mary's Prayer Garden with new landscaping and a sign. You can order a stone or brick to be engraved to honor or memorialize a loved one or recognize a group. Order forms may be found at all of the church entrances, the Administrative Office and on the home page of our parish website: [www.stmaryfreeport.com](http://www.stmaryfreeport.com).



Come join us for *Theology on Tap*, a program for young adults who want to explore the role of faith in their daily lives. In this casual atmosphere, you'll hear straight talk and honest answers to your deepest questions about faith, love, work and other real life experiences. *Theology on Tap* provides an opportunity to not only learn about your faith but also meet like-minded people, make new friends and enjoy an evening out. *Theology on Tap* is open to all young adults in their 20's, 30's and 40's, singles and couples, regardless of religious affiliation. A speaker will begin the evening followed by an open discussion. Join us Thursday, November 8th, at Cooper Station on Route 356 where we will explore "Living a Holy Life in an Unholy World." Appetizers will be provided with dinner and drinks available for purchase. Contact Natalie at: [kolishn@gmail.com](mailto:kolishn@gmail.com), Chris at: [cmwhite929@gmail.com](mailto:cmwhite929@gmail.com), or Gen at: [gennifersvitek@comcast.net](mailto:gennifersvitek@comcast.net) with any questions. We hope to see you there!



The **Leadership Team** is selling t-shirts and sweatshirts. T-shirts are available in short sleeve, baseball sleeve and long sleeve. Both adult and youth sizes are available. Samples can be found at the main entrance. Order forms are located at all entrances and can also be found on the parish website. Please note the form is double sided because two logo formats are available.



The **Diocesan Collection** next weekend benefits the elderly women and men religious (*Retirement Fund for Religious*). Your tax deductible donation to this fund supports the day-to-day care of thousands of elder sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. Please give generously to this appeal!



The **Diocese of Greensburg** is sponsoring a trip for young adults (ages 18-39) to a one-day Catholic festival at The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., January 26th, 2019, in conjunction with World Youth Day in Panama. The event will include a livestream of Pope Francis' Mass in Panama. Cost, including overnight accommodation, is \$160.00/per person, \$95.00/ per person for double occupancy. Visit: [www.dioceseofgreensburg.org/WYD](http://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org/WYD) for additional information.

**St. Margaret Mary Church** is currently accepting orders for their annual nut and apricot roll fundraiser. Rolls are \$12.00/ea. and can be picked up on Tuesday, November 13th to Thursday, November 15th from 10:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. and on Friday, November 16th from 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. at the Parish Center, 3055 Leechburg Road, Lower Burrell. Payment is due at time of pickup. Please note: if your order contains apricot rolls, pickup will be on Thursday, November 15th ONLY. Place orders by calling Maureen at 724-335-6501; Toni at 724-339-0839; Dee at 724-335-0959; the parish office at 724-335-2336; online at: [www.smmlb.org](http://www.smmlb.org). Deadline for orders is Monday, November 5th. Extra nut or apricot rolls will not be sold at time of pickup.



“The best thing I did in ministry was to teach children the Gospel through plays,” says Sister Clare Vandecoevering, 88. “Oh, they were just delighted!” A member of the Sisters of St. Mary of Oregon, she spent more than 50 years in the classroom, sharing her love of Jesus and bringing the Catholic faith to life.

# Retirement Fund for Religious

Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

Perhaps there was a Sister Clare in your life. Perhaps a special woman or man religious shared with you love, faith, and a belief in all that you could become. Maybe you knew more than one. Today those sisters, brothers, and religious order priests may be elderly, and their religious communities may struggle to meet retirement needs.

Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious supports necessities—such as medications and nursing care—and helps ensure the next generation of Sister Clares can continue in ministry. Please give generously.

[retiredreligious.org](http://retiredreligious.org)

Almost 94 percent of donations directly aid senior religious.



Meet them at [retiredreligious.org/2018photos](http://retiredreligious.org/2018photos).

**To give at your parish:** Make your check payable to your parish. (Write RFR on the memo line.)

**To donate by mail:** Make your check payable to Retirement Fund for Religious. Please do not mail cash.

**Amount:**  \$1,000  \$500  \$250  \$100  \$50  \$25  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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# MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER 1ST, 2ND, 3RD & 4TH, 2018

<i>Altar Servers</i>	<i>Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion</i>	<i>Lector</i>	<i>Greeters</i>	<i>Organist</i>	<i>Cantor</i>
<b>Thursday - 8:00 A.M.</b> Volunteers	Volunteers	Volunteer	Volunteers	Sue Myford	Sue Myford
<b>Thursday - 7:00 P.M.</b> TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	Dave Wesolosky	Choir
<b>Friday - 7:00 P.M.</b> TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	Sue Myford	Jamie Phillips
<b>Saturday - 4:00 P.M.</b>					
Fred Walker; Zach Showers Lauren & Leah Clark	Stella Aul; Deb Showers Dave Valencic	Dave Brestensky	Doug Scholl Mary Scholl	Diane Pleva	Alex Smith
<b>Sunday - 8:30 A.M.</b>					
Samuel & Jacob Kristine David Kristine Ali & Ben Brestensky	Betty Lou Nemcek Pat Ralston Lisa Boylan	Jeff Jones	Diane Grant Janis Harbison	Tom Koharchik	Tom Koharchik
<b>Sunday - 11:00 A.M.</b>					
Celeste Beacom Jacob & Erin Schaeffer Victor & Olivia Svitek	Helen James Andre Volek Bill Cogley	Marushka Steele	Rose Naughton	Dave Wesolosky	Choir

## Mass Intentions

**MASSES FOR THE 30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**SATURDAY:** October 27th  
4:00 P.M. ✦ William Jansen (Constance Jansen & Family)

**SUNDAY:** October 28th  
8:30 A.M. St. Mary Parishioners  
11:00 A.M. ✦ Gowetski Family (Family)

**MONDAY:** October 29th  
8:00 A.M. ✦ Edward Sypulski (Ed & Lynne Friel)

**TUESDAY:** October 30th  
8:00 A.M. ✦ Peter Amurgis (Patricia Horenzy)

**WEDNESDAY:** October 31st  
8:00 A.M. Special Intention (Mary Fullerton)


**THURSDAY:** November 1st—All Saint's Day  
8:00 A.M. St. Mary Parishioners  
7:00 P.M. ✦ Herbert Wolfe (Freeport Eagles)

**FRIDAY:** November 2nd—All Souls' Day - First Friday  
8:00 A.M. ✦ All Souls' Intentions  
7:00 P.M. ✦ MASS OF REMEMBRANCE


**MASSES FOR THE 31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**SATURDAY:** November 3rd  
4:00 P.M. ✦ All Souls' Intentions

**SUNDAY:** November 4th  
8:30 A.M. ✦ Christian Mothers—Deceased Members (Christian Mothers)  
11:00 A.M. ✦ All Souls' Intentions and St. Mary Parishioners



The Altar Bread and Wine were donated for this week in honor of **ALL SAINTS**  
By **Robert and Diane Grant**



In acknowledging the Real Presence of Christ, The Sanctuary Lamp (Candle) will burn this week in loving memory of **JEREMY MICHAEL BRODERICK**  
By **Becky Broderick (Mother)**

## Collections

**Offertory Collection for October 21st, 2018**

No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 613  
No. of Envelopes Received: 191  
Collection: Offertory - \$3,989.00  
Word Mission Sunday - \$721.00  
Electronic Payments (9) - \$1,505.00  
Loose - \$224.00; Children - \$19.00

**Total Collection - \$6,458.00**  
**THANK YOU!**



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**Charlene Becker**

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