

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



January 27th, 2019

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

“ **TODAY THIS
SCRIPTURE
HAS BEEN
FULFILLED
IN YOUR HEARING** ”
—**LUKE 4:21**

Father Ronald Maquiñana—*Pastor*
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*
Gina Jones—*Helping Hands*

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

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 Sunday, we celebrate two events. First is the closing of the *World Youth Day* that began on January 22nd, in Panama, and second is the celebration of *Catholic Schools Week*.

Refreshing our memory, *World Youth Day* began its celebration in 1984 at the close of the Holy Year of Redemption when Pope John Paul II, who is now a saint, invited young people around the world for an International Jubilee of Youth on Palm Sunday at St. Peter's Square in Rome. With over 300,000 young people from around the world who responded, he looked out to the crowds and said, *"What a fantastic spectacle is presented on this stage by your gathering here today! Who claimed that today's youth has lost their sense of values? Is it really true that they cannot be counted on?"* It was at this gathering that the Holy Father entrusted to the youth what is now known as the **World Youth Day Cross**, to be carried throughout the world as a symbol of the love of Christ for humanity. Since then, every year *World Youth Day* has been celebrated from one hosting country to the other until 2013, when it became every three years. Youth from all over the world participate and enjoy the time of togetherness in prayer, fellowship and other religious activities.

This is one of the legacies that Pope John Paul II left for the youth which His successors, Pope emeritus Benedict XVI and now Pope Francis, has faithfully continued, carrying on the hope of their predecessor for the youth of the world, commissioning them as Christ's disciples to be faithful living witnesses. And I think that is always the constant invitation and challenge for all our youth today.

Now as to the observance of the *Catholic Schools Week*, we have three students from Mary Queen of Apostles School, New Kensington to speak on behalf of our Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Greensburg and share their experiences. Their parents will accompany them and they will be more than happy to talk to you after the mass if you have some questions and inquiries.

The theme for this *Catholic Schools Week 2019* is **"Catholic Schools: Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed."** Schools typically observe the annual celebration week with Masses and other activities for students, families, parishioners and community members. Through these events, schools focus on the value Catholic education provides to young people and its contributions to our church, our communities and our nation.



WORLD YOUTH DAY 2019



Catholic Schools
Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.

Celebrate
Catholic Schools
Week 2019

January 27 - February 2

FORMED PICK



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

Baptized in Christ

Congratulations to the proud parents, **David and Kelly Hynes**, on the baptism of their son, **Harrison John**. He is a child of God, heir to the Kingdom!



Calendar of Events

- January 27th** Religious Education Classes—9:30 - 10:40 A.M.— Security Guard - “Sam O’Donnell”
Choir Practice—9:45 - 10:45 A.M.; 11:00 A.M. Mass
- February 1st** First Friday—6:30 P.M. - Benediction; Deadline for names and addresses for College Care Packages
- February 3rd** Religious Education Classes—9:30 - 10:40 A.M.— Security Guard - “Sam O’Donnell”
Teen Ministry Meeting—9:35 - 10:45 A.M.; Choir Practice—9:45 - 10:45 A.M.; 11:00 A.M. Mass
Baptism - “Lepkowski”—12:15 P.M.
- February 4th** Christian Mothers’ Meeting—6:30 P.M. - Christian Mothers’ Room
- February 7th** Theology on Tap—7:00 P.M. - Cooper Station on Route 356 - Guest Speaker “Jacob Williamson”
- February 9th** Welcome Dinner for New Members—5:00 P.M. - Fellowship Hall
- February 10th** Donut Sunday; Religious Education Classes—9:30 - 10:40 A.M.— Security Guard - “Scott McKernan”
Choir Practice—9:45 - 10:45 A.M.; 11:00 A.M. Mass; Religious Education Mass—11:00 A.M. - 4th Grade
- February 17th** Religious Education Classes—9:30 - 10:40 A.M.— Security Guard - “Scott McKernan”
Teen Ministry Meeting—9:35 - 10:45 A.M. - Guest Speaker “Jacob Williamson”
Choir Practice—9:45 - 10:45 A.M.; 11:00 A.M. Mass



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 learn about your faith, 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. Speaker **Jacob Williamson** will begin the evening followed by an open discussion. Join us on Thursday, February 7th at 7:00 P.M., at Cooper Station on Route 356 where we will explore “*Sex and the City: The Truth About Men, Women and What God Really Intended.*” Appetizers will be provided with dinner and drinks available for purchase. Please contact Chris at: cmwhite929@gmail.com, Natalie at: kolishn@gmail.com, or Gen at: gennifersvitek@comcast.net with any questions! We hope to see you there!




Mardi Gras Wine Tasting Festival will be held on Saturday, March 2nd, 6:00 to 10:00 P.M., in our Fellowship Hall. Please see flier in today’s bulletin for details and sponsor information. Tickets are \$30.00 each and includes wine tasting and a lite fare. To purchase your tickets, please call Bridget at 724-294-0089. Event is sponsored by our Parish Council. Proceeds will benefit the restroom upgrade in our Fellowship Hall.



The Diocesan Collection next week-end will be for the *Church in Central and Eastern Europe*. This collection supports the Church in over 20 countries. Your support restores the Church and builds the future in these regions. Please prayerfully consider supporting this collection.

College Care Packages

The Teen Ministry will be sending care packages to college students from our parish!



Please submit names and addresses by Friday February 1st

Painting with a Purpose Catholic Charities will host a fundraiser "Painting with a Purpose" Tuesday, February 5th, from 6:00-8:00 P.M., at Painting with a Twist, Greensburg. Doors will open at 5:30. The event is for people 18 and older. Cost is \$35.00/person. To register, please visit: www.paintingwithatwist.com/studio/Greensburg/event/1752133/



Are You Getting Married? Catholic Engaged Encounter is an opportunity for Christian couples to prepare for a lifetime commitment. If you desire a loving, faithful, permanent and life-giving marriage, consider attending a Catholic Engaged Encounter weekend. This marriage preparation program presents a comprehensive, up-close and personal look at marriage. For more information, please call George and Pat Ziringer at 724-335-4966; email them at: ziringer@comcast.net; visit: www.greensburgcee.com. *The next scheduled weekend will be held in Greensburg on February 1st-3rd.*



Natural Family Planning CM-BBT instruction will be held on Monday, February 4th at 6:00 P.M., in the Catholic Charities office in Greensburg. Contact Mary Ann Newhouse at Catholic Charities at 724-837-1840, Ext. 1658 for additional information or to register. Please call one week prior to the instruction date to preregister. For more information, please visit: www.ccharitiesgreensburg.org and link into Natural Family Planning under "Services."

NCYC The National Catholic Youth Conference, a biennial, three-day experience of prayer, community and empowerment for Catholic teenagers, will be held in Indianapolis November 21st-23rd this year. Information is at: www.dioceseofgreensburg.org/NCYC. Registration deadline is Wednesday, January 30th.

"Lancaster - Two Shows & More" - Lancaster, PA - Thursday-Friday, May 2nd-3rd, 2019 (Sponsored by St. Margaret Mary Church Social Committee)

Reserve your seat by stopping at St. Margaret Mart Church parish office, Lower Burrell to complete the registration form. If you sign-up with payment by **February 18th**, you will receive a \$20.00 discount. Only fourteen seats remain available. Trip includes:

- One Night Accommodation, Three Meals (Dutch Apple Theater, Breakfast at Hotel, Lunch at Miller's)
- *"Jesus"* at Sight & Sound Theatre
- *"Joseph & Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat"* at Dutch Apple Dinner Theater
- Kitchen Kettle Village, Wheatland, President Buchanan's Home

\$398.00/person, double occupancy - \$470.00/person, single occupancy - \$388.00/person, triple occupancy (room has 2 beds, no cots available). If you're a single and would like to join another single, please let them know. **Any questions, please email Arleen at: apavetto1900@gmail.com or call 724-335-9788.**

WANTED Softball Players

Softball Players Wanted
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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 their website: www.cacpittsburgh.org; contact: cac.softball@yahoo.com or Gary at: Gary.Urbatis@verizon.net or 412-427-8772.

PILGRIMAGE

On Wednesday, June 12th there will be a pilgrimage to the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception Basilica and St. John Paul II National Shrine in Washington, D.C. The motor coach departs at 6:00 A.M. from St. Paul's (Greensburg) parking lot and returns at 11:30 P.M. The cost of the trip is \$120.00/person which includes the motor coach, taxes, dinner and admissions. You will attend the noon mass at the Basilica and lunch is on your own at the Basilica Cafe. **A deposit of \$50.00 is due by Sunday, February 10th.** Please make checks payable to: Scholastica Travel, Inc. and mail them to Sharon Highberger, 15 Northmont Street, Greensburg, PA 15601. For more information, contact Sharon at 724-989-6034.

How do I make my faith a priority in this culture?

An Evening for Teens and Parents with Bishop Malesic

sponsored by:
Our Lady of Grace, St. Benedict, and Holy Cross Parishes

February 10, 2019

6:00 p.m. - 7:15 p.m. Teens Only in the Church
7:15 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Teens & Parents in the Parish Hall
with social to follow
Open to all teens in 6th-12th grades

Our Lady of Grace Church & Parish Hall

For more information or to RSVP contact:
Katrina Coleman
724.838.9480

Mardi Gras



*Wine Tasting
and Lite Fare*

**St. Mary's Fellowship Hall
608 High Street—Freeport
Saturday, March 2nd, 2019
6:00—10:00 P.M.**

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~~All proceeds benefit Fellowship Hall Improvement Projects~~

~~O V E R ~~

St. Mary, Mother of God Church
608 High Street—Freeport 724-295-2281 (Church) 724-295-3090 (Fax)

Mardi Gras Wine Tasting and Lite Fare
Saturday, March 2nd, 2019
6:00 P.M.—10:00 P.M.



Sponsorship Opportunities

\$400.00 Major Event Sponsor
Includes four (4) complimentary tickets and sponsor sign at entrance

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\$100.00 Wine Table Sponsor
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Please mail the completed reservation form, along with your check made payable to St. Mary, Mother of God Church - 608 High Street—Freeport, PA 16229.

Deadline for submission of sponsorship and advertising materials is Monday, February 25th.
Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. Consult your tax professional.

~ ~All proceeds benefit Fellowship Hall Maintenance and Improvements~ ~

MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY 2ND & 3RD, 2019

<i>Altar Servers</i>	<i>Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion</i>	<i>Lector</i>	<i>Greeters</i>	<i>Organist</i>	<i>Cantor</i>
Saturday - 4:00 P.M.					
Madison & Dawson Gaillot Zach Showers	Stella Aul; Nancy Forbeck Dave Brestensky	Karen Savage	Gary Miller Arlene Miller	Diane Pleva	Alex Smith
Sunday—8:30 A.M.					
Evan McCrea Alexandra Lasko Sarah and Hannah Shepherd Emma Shepherd Abby Koharchik	Judy Bergstrom Karen Nigra Pat Ralston	Jeff Jones	Diane Grant Janis Harbison	Tom Koharchik	Tom Koharchik
Sunday—11:00 A.M.					
Jacob & Erin Schaeffer Evan Giori; Paige Liti	Helen James; Andre Volek Melissa Schaeffer	Bill Cogley	Rose Naughton	Dave Wesolosky	Choir

Mass Intentions

MASSES FOR THE 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY: January 26th
4:00 P.M. ✦ William Fullerton (DeMeno Family)

SUNDAY: January 27th
8:30 A.M. St. Mary Parishioners
11:00 A.M. ✦ Martin J. Sikora (Anthony Bocchi)

MONDAY: January 28th
8:00 A.M. ✦ Fr. Geno Rivi (Friend)

TUESDAY: January 29th
8:00 A.M. ✦ Sharon Glath (Family)

WEDNESDAY: January 30th
8:00 A.M. ✦ Fr. Louis Cheatham (Friend)


THURSDAY: January 31st
8:00 A.M. ✦ Joann Marie Jancaro (Friend)

FRIDAY: February 1st - First Friday
8:00 A.M. ✦ Fr. James Vasil (Friend)
6:30 P.M. Benediction


MASSES FOR THE 4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY: February 2nd
4:00 P.M. St. Mary Parishioners

SUNDAY: February 3rd
8:30 A.M. ✦ Helen Murphy (Eugene & Karol Mennow)
11:00 A.M. ✦ David Robert Shipe (Wyant Family)



The Altar Bread and Wine were donated for this week in loving memory of **DAVID SHIPE**
By **Shipe Family**




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 January 20th, 2019

No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 614
No. of Envelopes Received: 107
Collection: Offertory - \$3,182.05
Electronic Payments (15) - \$2,481.00
Loose - \$209.00; Children - \$20.00
Total Collection - \$5,892.05


THANK YOU!



Saturday, February 2nd, 2019
Debbie Baustert and Susan Zingaro

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Winter weather is here and that means ice and snow may make it difficult for some people to get to church. But parish bills keep growing during the winter, including increased heating costs and snow removal expenses. You can make sure your parish support doesn't stop just when we need it the most. Why not check out the simple, safe and secure online giving option with your bank. We are most grateful to all those who make every effort to give consistently whether electronically or through the weekly offering basket. It really helps us plan and meet our budget.

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