



# 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**

*February 18th, 2018*



**Father Ronald Maquínana—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 Center 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 Center at 724-295-2281.



Some Catholics make the mistake of viewing Mass strictly through the lens of what they “get” from it. While we do “get” to hear God’s Word proclaimed and receive the Body and Blood of Christ at every Mass, we should also ask ourselves, “What am I bringing to Mass?” What do you bring to Mass? Praise and prayers? Distraction and boredom? If you are truly seeking God at Mass, you must put in some effort to connect with him. Once your heart moves toward God, you will come to realize that you aren’t actually pursuing him as much as he is pursuing you. *AltARATION: The Mystery of the Mass Revealed* will help open your eyes and your heart to a deeper reality of what God has done for you ... and what he has in store for you at Mass. Join us for the last two sessions of *AltARATION* on February 25th, and March

4th from 9:30 – 10:40 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Attendance of the first session is not required for the other sessions. All teens (grades 7 – 12) and adults are encouraged to come.



**What do you have planned for Lent this year? Grow in faith this Lent! Sign up for daily reflections!**

This Lent, get daily reflections from Bishop Donald Hying, delivered right to your email, every day. Watch, Read, and Reflect for just 10 Minutes a Day:

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- Reflect on how God's truth applies to your daily life

SIGN UP NOW at [formed.org](http://formed.org). If you are not a registered user of [formed.org](http://formed.org), use our parish code VNX4G6 for a free subscription. After logging into [formed.org](http://formed.org), click DAILY LENTEN REFLECTIONS to sign up for daily reflections from Bishop Hying.

## Dynamic Catholic Best Lent Ever



A free email program that will guide you on an incredible 40-day journey to become the-best-version-of-yourself, making this a truly life-changing Lent. Beginning Ash Wednesday (February 14th), you'll receive daily emails with short inspirational videos from Matthew Kelly, practical tips to incorporate into your everyday life, and personal stories from Dynamic Catholic team members. Our lives change when our habits change. Your 40 days of Lent will be an incredibly transformative experience because you've learned simple yet powerful ways to become the person God created you to be. Sign up at [DynamicCatholic.com/40Days](http://DynamicCatholic.com/40Days).



**Lenten Adoration of the Cross** will be all day on Fridays immediately following the 8:00 A.M. Mass. At 6:00 P.M., there will be the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament followed by the Stations of the Cross at 7:00 P.M.



**During Lent**, mass will be celebrated on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 8:00 A.M. On Wednesdays, Mass will be celebrated at 7:00 P.M. This will provide an opportunity for the people who work to attend Mass during Lent, in addition to attending on Saturday evening/Sunday morning.



### St. Ferdinand Youth Ministry Living Stations

**Who:** St. Ferdinand's Youth Ministry  
**What:** St. Ferdinand's interpretation of the 14 steps before Jesus' death  
**Where:** St. Mary Mother of God Parish, Freeport, PA  
**When:** February 18, 2018 at 7:30pm  
**Why:** This prayer service is a fantastic spiritual event. These young individuals put in many hours to bring this service to you.



**Easter Flower Offering Envelopes** - Remember your loved ones this Easter by making a donation for flowers and decorations for the sanctuary during the Easter season. Envelopes will be included in your March monthly packet. **Deadline is 12:00 Noon on Monday, March 26th.**

## Calendar of Events

**February 18th**

Religious Education Classes—9:30 - 10:40 A.M.— Security Guard - “Jeff Lasko”  
*AltARATION: The Mystery of the Mass Revealed*—9:30 - 10:40 A.M.  
 Teen Ministry Meeting—9:25 A.M. - Popcorn Fundraiser Begins  
 Choir Practice—9:45 - 10:45 A.M.; 11:00 A.M. Mass; Baptism “Cypher”—12:15 P.M.  
 Living Stations of the Cross—7:30 P.M.

**February 19th**

President's Day—Parish Office Closed

**February 21st**

Evening Mass—7:00 P.M.

**February 23rd**

Stations of the Cross—7:00 P.M.

**February 25th**

Religious Education Classes—9:30 - 10:40 A.M.— Security Guard - “Joe Sutara”  
*AltARATION: The Mystery of the Mass Revealed*—9:30 - 10:40 A.M.  
 Teen Ministry Meeting—9:25 A.M.; Choir Practice—9:45 - 10:45 A.M.; 11:00 A.M. Mass



# Mardi Gras







This weekend marks the beginning of our annual **Diocesan Lenten Appeal**. The theme of this year's appeal is "Love One Another with Great Love." This week, households in our parish will be receiving a request from Bishop Malesic in the mail along with additional information about the Appeal. Please watch for yours to arrive.



## Diocesan Lenten Appeal

**Diocesan Target - \$39,816.68**

**Parish Target - \$70,816.68**

**Pledges to Date - \$10,600.00**

**Number of Donors - 10**



To understand the importance of the Sacrament of Baptism and your obligation as parents, you are required to attend one baptismal class. The next class scheduled for this year will be held **Thursday, March 1st**. Please call Mark or Melissa at 724-230-4450 or the Administrative Office at 724-295-2281 to register.



**Mt. St. Peter Parish** is sponsoring a pilgrimage to Washington, D.C., and the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception and the St. John Paul II Shrine on April 11th. Cost is \$60.00/person. The bus leaves New Kensington at 6:00 A.M. and returns that evening. For information and reservations, call 724-351-3575 by March 10th.



If you have any suspicion about the sexual abuse (or any other type of abuse) of a minor child by anyone — please contact PA Childline immediately at 1-800-932-0313. If the alleged abuser is functioning in a parish, school or diocesan position as clergy, religious, paid staff or volunteer, you are also requested to contact the Bishop's Delegate for Matters of Sexual Misconduct after you have called the Childline number and made the report. The Bishop's Delegate may be reached at 724-837-0901, Ext. 1221.



**Soup's On!** Thursday, February 22nd from 11:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M., at St. Ladislaus Church, 48 Spruce Street, Natrona. Join them for a light soup lunch. Free and open to the public!

## A-K Valley TOT presents...

**Lent & Triduum**  
What's the big deal?



**Speaker: Msgr. Michael Begolly**

Pastor of Mount Saint Peter Parish

**Date: Thursday, February 22**

**Time: 7PM-9PM**

**Location: Garda's Restaurant**

2033 St Rte 66  
Ford City, PA 16226



**Diocesan Collection** - Today our second collection will be for the *Catholic Home Missions Appeal*. Please be generous!



The religious congregations of the Diocese of Greensburg are hosting a Religious Life Chat Room February 21st, March 21st and April 25th, for women ages 18-40, to talk about consecrated religious life. The sessions are held in the Greensburg Room at Seton Hill University from 5:00-6:30 P.M. Contact Sister Barbara Ann Smelko at: [basmelko@scsh](mailto:basmelko@scsh) or Sister Joann Gartner at: [Carmelite.monastery@verizon.net](mailto:Carmelite.monastery@verizon.net).



**Christ the King Parish, Leechburg**, is accepting orders for Nut, Apricot and Poppy Seed rolls and Paska bread (with or without raisins) for Easter. Nut, Poppy Seed and Apricot rolls are \$11.50/each. Order deadline is Monday, March 5th. Paska bread (with or without raisins) is \$6.50/each. Order deadline is Monday, March 12th. To place your order, please call any of the following numbers: 724-842-0623, 724-845-8615 or 724-845-9762. Thank You!

# I AM

## A Community Lenten Journey

The Freeport Ministerium invites you to join them for the 2018 Lenten Series "I AM". Thursdays during Lent, area churches will host a light luncheon at noon (a freewill offering will be taken). Pastors will offer a short message during our time together. All are welcome!

|                    |  |                     |
|--------------------|--|---------------------|
| <b>February 22</b> | Rev. Dawn Lynn Check<br>(Freeport United Methodist Church)       | Sower's Chapel      |
| <b>March 1</b>     | Father Ron Maquinana<br>(St. Mary's Catholic Church)             | United Presbyterian |
| <b>March 8</b>     | Pastor Raphael Koikoi<br>(Freeport United Methodist Church)      | St. Mary's          |
| <b>March 15</b>    | Pastor Mike Harvey<br>(Harvest Community Church Freeport Campus) | Freeport UMC        |
| <b>March 22</b>    | Rev. Derrick Lumsden<br>(Sower's Chapel)                         | Trinity Lutheran    |

I AM  
the Light of  
the world!





# Love One Another With GREAT LOVE



Foundation  
of Greensburg



DIocese of  
20  
LENT  
APPEAL

The Diocese  
of Greensburg

## YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth Ministry helps our children learn the beauty of helping those in need and the satisfaction that comes with loving one another.

*One of the things I'm always telling young people is that we're taught as Catholics and Christians to serve one another. The simplest things we do can be a great way to show Jesus and His love to other people."*

**Msgr. James J. Mackay, director of Youth Ministry, St. Barbara Parish**

*"We have a different service project each month. Last week, we put together birthday parties for families who can't afford to have parties for their children. I've learned that a small act of kindness I do really makes an impact on other people's lives."*

**Msgr. James J. Mackay, 17, member of the Youth Ministry program, St. Barbara Parish**

## Announcement Weekend

February 17-18, 2011

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## MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY 24TH & 25TH, 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>Saturday - 4:00 P.M.</b>  |  |                 |                   |                 |               |
| Bill Girardi; Zach Showers<br>Madison & Dawson Gaillot             | Dave Brestensky<br>Andrea Camerlo; Fred Walker   | Jackie DeFelice | Sharon Mihalich   | Verne Bergstrom | Alex Smith    |
| <b>Sunday—8:30 A.M.</b>  |  |                 |                   |                 |               |
| Samuel & Jacob Kristine<br>David Kristine<br>Ali & Ben Brestensky  | Judy Bergstrom<br>John Nemcek<br>Rose Check      | Lisa Boylan     | Don & Jean Miller | Tom Koharchik   | Tom Koharchik |
| <b>Sunday—11:00 A.M.</b>   |  |                 |                   |                 |               |
| Celeste Beacom<br>Jacob & Erin Schaeffer<br>Victor & Olivia Svitek | Dan Lucovich<br>Patty Hughes<br>Marushka Steele  | Rob Svitek      | Jill Zalewski     | Dave Wesolosky  | Choir         |

### Mass Intentions

#### MASSES FOR THE 1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>SATURDAY:</b><br>4:00 P.M.             | <b>February 17th</b><br>✦ Alberta Hager (Martin & Silvia Sikora)               |
| <b>SUNDAY:</b><br>8:30 A.M.<br>11:00 A.M. | <b>February 18th</b><br>St. Mary Parishioners<br>✦ Bobby Hoffman (Edward King) |
| <b>MONDAY:</b><br>8:00 A.M.               | <b>February 19th</b><br>✦ Martin Hoffman (Susan, Ken & Adam Fortner)           |
| <b>TUESDAY:</b><br>8:00 A.M.              | <b>February 20th</b><br>✦ Robert Phillips (Richard & Karen Brestensky)         |
| <b>WEDNESDAY:</b><br>7:00 P.M.            | <b>February 21st</b><br>✦ Evelyn Kline (Family)                                |
| <b>THURSDAY:</b><br>8:00 A.M.             | <b>February 22nd</b><br>✦ James & Alma Ebeg (Judy & Bob Bergstrom)             |
| <b>FRIDAY:</b><br>8:00 A.M.<br>7:00 P.M.  | <b>February 23rd</b><br>✦ Aaron Myers (Myers Family)<br>Stations of the Cross  |

#### MASSES FOR THE 2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>SATURDAY:</b><br>4:00 P.M.             | <b>February 24th</b><br>✦ Richard L. Bayne (Tim & Bridget Fogarty)                          |
| <b>SUNDAY:</b><br>8:30 A.M.<br>11:00 A.M. | <b>February 25th</b><br>St. Mary Parishioners<br>✦ Frank & Agnes Shuster (Dan & Barb Coyle) |



The Altar Bread and Wine  
were donated for this week  
in loving memory of  
**RAY RAVOTTI**  
By  
*Jean Rupert*

In acknowledging the Real Presence of Christ,  
The Sanctuary Lamp (Candle) will burn this week in  
loving memory of  
**MIKE MCGINNIS**  
By  
*Jean Rupert*



### Collections

#### Offertory Collection for February 11th, 2018

No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 602  
No. of Envelopes Received: 207  
Collection: Offertory - \$4,751.00  
Electronic Payments (9) - \$278.00  
Loose - \$247.00; Children - \$40.50  
Catholic Accent - \$5.00  
Central & Eastern Europe - \$30.00

**Total Collection - \$5,351.50**  
**THANK YOU!**



**Saturday, February 24th, 2018**  
**Christine Kern and Connie Waltenbaugh**

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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. Currently twenty-one families are giving online. Please consider joining that growing number of dedicated givers! 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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