## 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





## 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

#### 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

#### **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.

## From the Pastor's Desk



Pentecost Sunday is always associated with the descent of the Holy Spirit and the giving of its gifts to the disciples of Jesus and the Blessed Virgin Mary. But Pentecost is the moment when God manifested Himself in a hidden, silent and simple way.

This Solemnity of Pentecost is also called the Birthday of the Church. It is because even though the disciples received the Holy Spirit on Christ's first appearance to them after His resurrection (Jn 20:22), it was on Pentecost day that this descent of the Holy Spirit became a public manifestation by which the crowds were amazed, including local and foreign Jews who gathered in Jerusalem on that great occasion. Different people with different languages could understand them preaching, even if they spoke unto them in their own tongue. That was the power of the Holy Spirit working in them.

Maybe it is good to talk about the Third Person of the Blessed Trinity, the Holy Spirit. Holy Spirit is the proper name of the Third Person of the Blessed Trinity. He is a Person, distinct from the Father and the Son. This name is frequently used in the Acts of the Apostles and in the Epistles. When Jesus proclaims and promises the coming of the Holy Spirit, He calls Him the "Paraclete" literally meaning, "He who is called to one side," (or Advocatus in Latin) and commonly translated as "Consoler". He is an Advocate

since He is a witness for the defense on behalf of Christ and assisting the disciples testifying for the Lord. Jesus also calls Him "The Spirit of truth." St. Paul addresses Him as the "Spirit of the promise, the Spirit of adoption, the Spirit of Christ, the Spirit of the Lord, the Spirit of God". St. Peter also referred to Him as the "Spirit of glory" (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 691-693).

In the scriptures, we can also find many symbols used for the Holy Spirit. For example, water which symbolizes the Holy Spirit's action in Baptism and efficacious sign of a new birth; anointing with oil which signifies that the Lord is with the baptized; fire which symbolizes the transforming energy of the Holy Spirit's actions; hand, especially the laying on of hands is a vivid example of the outpouring Holy Spirit; finger which symbolizes the Holy Spirit to remind us of our teamwork and unity that we must have; dove used in the Bible to symbolize the Holy Spirit; and wind. The term spirit translates the Hebrew word ruah meaning breath, air, wind and many more.

When we were baptized and confirmed, we received the gifts of the Holy Spirit: Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Fortitude, Knowledge, Piety and Fear of the Lord to help and strengthen us in giving witness to what it means to be Christian.

We pray that the Holy Spirit may continue to help us to be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations, through Christ Our Lord. Amen.



#### FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK

## The Wild Goose

#### Do you have a personal relationship with the Holy Spirit?

The same Holy Spirit that descended on the apostles at Pentecost is given to us. In this acclaimed and inspiring series, Fr. Dave guides you into a deeper relationship with the Person of the Holy Spirit with the hope that you might experience the mercy, healing, peace and presence that He brings.







"As Catholics we tend to pray to the Father, to Jesus, to Mary, to the Saints but forget about the Holy Spirit. Would recommend to anyone weathing to be more spiritual within Catholicism."

-Vincent V

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May 27th May 28th June 1st

#### Calendar of Events

Baccalaureate Breakfast—Following 8:30 A.M. Mass - Fellowship Hall Memorial Day—Mass at 9:00 A.M. at St. Mary Cemetery; Parish Office Closed First Friday Adoration—Benediction at 6:30 P.M.



**Baccalaureate Mass** will be held on Sunday, May 27th, at 8:30 A.M. Invitations along with registration forms were mailed out to seniors that we have on our parish records; however, we would also like to extend an invitation to any graduating seniors from new families who have joined our parish recently and possibly will not receive a personal invitation. Following Mass, the

Christian Mothers will host a continental breakfast for the seniors and their families in our Fellowship Hall. If you plan to attend, place your registration form in the collection basket in an envelope marked "GRADUATION" or email: <a href="mailto:bill.girardi@yahoo.com">bill.girardi@yahoo.com</a> no later than Monday, May 21st. Also, there is a sign-up sheet located at the back of the church. Your parish family here at St. Mary's wishes to extend to you congratulations on your accomplishment and will pray that God continues to guide you in your lives ahead.

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 on Thursday, June 7th. To register, call Mark and Melissa at 724-230-4450 or the Administrative Office at 724-295-2281.

St. Mary Cemetery 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. Interested? Call Richard—(home) 724-295-3632 or (cel) 724-602-5986.

## **Diocesan Lenten Appeal**



Diocesan Target - \$39,816.68
Parish Target - \$30,183.32
Combined Target - \$70,000.00
Pledges to Date - \$113,431.00
Paid to Date - \$81,283.65
Number of Donors - 312

Diocesan & Parish Targets Achieved!!!

Thank you





Applications are 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 are at: <a href="mailto:www.dioceseofgreensburg.org/cpm">www.dioceseofgreensburg.org/cpm</a>. Parishioners interested in lay ecclesial ministry or the permanent diaconate can contact Marsha Kable at: <a href="mailto:mkable@dioceseofgreensburg.org">mkable@dioceseofgreensburg.org</a> or call 724-552-2597 for more information.

Corpus Christi The annual diocesan procession for the feast of Corpus Christi will be held Sunday, June 3rd in Indiana beginning with Mass at 9:30 A.M., at St. Bernard of Clairvaux Parish followed by a procession through the town to St. Thomas More University Parish for Benediction.

# Benefit Concert

Mary Queen of Apostles School will host a benefit concert featuring MQA graduate, Colin Aikins, on Thursday, May 24th at 7:00 P.M. at St. Margaret Mary Parish, Lower Burrell. A free will offering will be taken to support the school's Ten Commandments Project and Fine Arts Department.

Permanent Information sessions for men who are considering the permanent diaconate will be held Diaconate 6:30-9:00 P.M. on: Wednesday, May 23rd at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral Parish, Greensburg; Wednesday, May 30th at St. Rita Parish, Connellsville. You only need to attend one session. Deacon William J. Hisker, Director of the program, will lead each session. Call 724-552-2598 to register or for more information.



Tickets for Saint Joseph High School's \$20,000 Super Raffle are now available! You can't beat these odds! Only 500 tickets will be sold at \$100.00/each. Prizes are as follows: One grand prize

of \$20,000.00 and three runner-up prizes of \$1,000.00/each. The grand prize ticket seller will receive \$500.00. Please consider identifying their parish as the ticket seller! Drawing will be held on Monday, June 11th during the Spartan Scramble: Golf, Dinner, Auction at Lenape Heights Golf Resort. Winner does not need to be present. To order your tickets, please visit: <a href="SaintJosephhs.com">SaintJosephhs.com</a>; call 724-224-5552; mail in the postcard form located in the back of the church.



Today's Diocesan Collection will be for the Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC).

Half of the proceeds from the collection stays in the diocese to support local communications efforts. The other half is sent to the USCCB to support national and international communications projects. For additional information about the CCC and its projects, please visit: www.usccb.org/ccc.

## NOTICE

AS OF MAY 21ST, 2018 THE ARMSTRONG CO. AREA AGENCY ON AGING WILL BE MOVING TO:

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PHONE NUMBERS, FAX NUMBERS, AND E-MAILS WILL REMAIN THE SAME. 724-548-3290 or 1-800-368-1066.

# RAFFLE

The Sisters of Charity of Seton Hill will sponsor two Summer Fun Cash Raffle tickets in June one ticket based on the 1:00 P.M. Pennsylvania 3digit lottery and another on the 7:00 P.M. drawing. One thousand tickets are available for each drawing at \$10.00/ticket. No prizes are awarded on Sundays. Call Sister of Charity Agnes Steedle at 724-836-0406, Ext. 6646, to order tickets and for payment information. All proceeds benefit the Sisters of Charity. Deadline is Friday, May 25th.





Reconciliation and the Eucharist

Speaker: Chris Baker

Date: Thursday, May 24

Time: 7PM-9PM

Location: Garda's Restaurant

2033 St Rte 66 Ford City, PA 16226





MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR MAY 26TH & 27TH, 2018					
Altar Servers	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Lector	Greeters	Organist	Cantor
Saturday - 4:00 P.M.					
Brandon & Zachary Bowser Lauren & Leah Clark Zach Showers	Dave Brestensky Bill Girardi Fred Walker	Janice Meola	Doug & Mary Scholl	Verne Bergstrom	Jamie Phillips
Sunday—8:30 A.M.					
Breanna & Olivia Sutara Ryan Sutara Katie Huth & Mary Huth Nicolette Zollinger	Judy Bergstrom John Nemcek Carol Carson	Graduates	Diane Grant Janis Harbison	Tom Koharchik	Tom Koharchik
Sunday—11:00 A.M.					
Marie Pelliccione Evan Giori Mason DeMeno; Paige Liti	Helen James Andre Volek Bill Cogley	Rob Svitek	Jenn Liti	Dave Wesolosky	Kathy Conley

## Mass Intentions

#### MASSES FOR PENTECOST SUNDAY

SATURDAY: May 19th

SUNDAY: May 20th

11:00 A.M. St. Mary Parishioners

MONDAY: May 21st

TUESDAY: May 22nd

WEDNESDAY: May 23rd

8:00 A.M. Pobert Hoffman (Jeananne Postle)

THURSDAY: May 24th

FRIDAY: May 25th

MASSES FOR THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

SATURDAY: May 26th

SUNDAY: May 27th

11:00 A.M. St. Mary Parishioners



Saturday, May 26th, 2018 Jeannie Lepkowski & Mary Bertino

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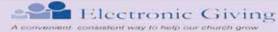
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By *Children* 

## Collections

## Offertory Collection for May 13th, 2018

No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 606
No. of Envelopes Received: 215
Collection: Offertory - \$4,614.50
Electronic Payments (27) - \$1,601.00
Loose - \$276.00; Children - \$28.00
Ascension of our Lord - \$1,122.00
Total Collection - \$7,641.50
THANK YOU!



We are truly appreciative of any gifts made to our parish. Electronic Giving is intended to be a convenient tool for you to contribute weekly or monthly or to make other donations to the church, electronically. This option allows you to easily setup recurring contributions, saving you time. Through electronic giving, this allows us to become more efficient and fiscally responsible. When signing up, please remember to provide your envelope number.

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