St. Mary, Mother of God Church



Roman Catholic Church 608 High Street ~ Freeport, PA 16229

A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg
A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust



Established 1826



Monsignor Gilbert C. Gente—Pastor ggente@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Parish Information

Saturday (Vigil): 4:00 P.M. (some restrictions) **Sunday:** 7:00, 8:30 & 11:00 A.M. (some restrictions)

Weekday Masses: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday—8:00 A.M.;

Wednesday—7:00 P.M. (some restrictions)

Holy Day of Obligation: 8:00 A.M. & 7:00 P.M. (some restrictions)

Reconciliation: Saturday - 3:00—3:30 P.M.

Baptism: Sundays (by appointment)

Marriage: Contact the Administrative Office nine months in advance—724-295-2281

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: RCIA helps you to learn more about the Catholic faith. Pre-registration is required. Contact Msgr. Gilbert 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, call Msgr. Gilbert at 724-295-2281.

Anointing of the Sick: Contact Msgr. Gilbert 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.

Parish Staff

Jerome (J.T.) Tuskan

Deacon Aspirant

William Girardi

Pastoral Associate—412-719-7085

Claudia Vertosick

Business Manager/Parish Secretary Helen James, Religious Education Director

Thomas Koharchik, Main Organist

Ed & Jeannie Lepkowski

Parish Custodians

Judy Bergstrom, Cemetery Sales Coordinator

724-316-5352

Jeff Jones, *Groundskeeper—724-448-9250* Fellowship Hall Information—*Please call* 724-295-2281

Ministries

Laura Huth—Teen Ministry
Melissa Kristine—Evangelization
John Nemcek—Homebound Ministry

Gina Jones—Helping Hands

724-448-9251; <u>ginaj1904@gmail.com</u> Brenda DeMeno—*The Caring Tree*

Organizations

Diane Grant—*Christian Mothers*Bill Cogley—*St. Vincent de Paul Society*Tim Fogarty—FORGED (*Men's Group*)

Office Information

Administrative Center Numbers & Hours :

 $724\text{-}295\text{-}2281 \ (Office) \ \ 724\text{-}295\text{-}3090 \ (Fax) \\ Monday \ through \ Thursday - 9:00 \ A.M. \ to \ 3:00 \ P.M. \\ Friday - 9:00 \ A.M. \ to \ 2:00 \ P.M.$

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



MASSES FOR THE 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY: January 15th

4:00 P.M. ♥St. Mary Parishioners

SUNDAY: January 16th

7:00 A.M. **†Bill & Jean Robinson (Wyant Family)**

8:30 A.M. †Mary Krumenacker (Family) 11:00 A.M. †William Balash (Anna Malvone)

MONDAY: January 17th

8:00 A.M. †Denise Zabinski (Patty Hughes)

TUESDAY: January 18th

8:00 A.M. †Clarebel Costantino (Mary Fullerton)

WEDNESDAY: January 19th 7:00 P.M. †Victor Zadnik (Wife)

THURSDAY: January 20th

8:00 A.M. †Walter I. Sliviak (Robert & Diane Grant)

FRIDAY: January 21st

8:00 A.M. †Robert Hughes (Olivia Runco Leslie)

MASSES FOR THE 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY: January 22nd

4:00 P.M. †Richard Brestensky (Mom & Dad)

SUNDAY: January 23rd 7:00 A.M. †Perfecto Patricia

8:30 A.M. †Marsha Steiner (Tim & Joycelyne Steiner)

11:00 A.M. ♥St. Mary Parishioners



Readings for the Week



Monday: 1 Sm 15:16-23; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21,

23; Mk 2:18-22

1 Sm 16:1-13; Ps 89:20-22, 27-28; Mk Tuesday:

2:23-28

1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51; Ps 144:1b, Wednesday:

2, 9-10; Mk 3:1-6

1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7; Ps 56:2-3, 9-13; Thursday:

Mk 3:7-12

1 Sm 24:3-21; Ps 57:2-4, 6, 11; Mk 3:13 Friday:

-19

2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27; Ps 80:2-Saturday:

3, 5-7; Mk 3:20-21, or any of a num-

ber of readings for the Day of Prayer

Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Sunday: 1 Cor 12:12-30 [12-14, 27]; Lk 1:1-4;

4:14-21

Altar Memorials



The Altar Bread and Wine were donated for this week in honor of John Nemcek by Mary & Claudia



The Sanctuary Lamp (Candle) will burn this week in loving memory of Frank & Gertrude Hager, requested by Ed & Jeannie Lepkowski, Children and Grandchildren

Ministry Schedule

January 22nd & 23rd, 2022

ALTAR SERVERS:

Sunday, 11:00 A.M.

Saturday, 4:00 P.M. Dawson Gaillot

Sunday, 7:00 A.M.

None

Sunday, 8:30 A.M.

Sutara/Koharchik Families Jacob Schaeffer; Chloe Liti

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION:

Saturday, 4:00 P.M. Dave Brestensky

Sunday, 7:00 A.M. TBA

Sunday, 8:30 A.M. Kim Holbein Sunday, 11:00 A.M. Helen James

LECTORS:

Saturday, 4:00 P.M. Janice Meola

Sunday, 7:00 A.M. TBA

Sunday, 8:30 A.M. Linda Koharchik Sunday, 11:00 A.M. Marushka Steele

ORGANIST:

Saturday, 4:00 P.M. Diane Pleva Sunday, 7:00 A.M. Quiet Mass Sunday, 8:30 A.M. Tom Koharchik Sunday, 11:00 A.M. Dave Wesolosky

CANTOR:

Saturday, 4:00 P.M. Alex Smith Sunday, 7:00 A.M. Quiet Mass Sunday, 8:30 A.M. Tom Koharchik TBA

Sunday, 11:00 A.M.



Please Note: If any ministers attend the temporary mass at 7:00 A.M. on Sunday, could you please come to the sacristy to offer your services in your respective ministry. Thank you!



If you are new to the area, we invite you to share fully in our parish life. Your presence brings vitality and new gifts to the community. Please take a moment to register. Forms are available at all of the church entrances or by calling the Administrative Office at 724-295-2281.

Calendar of Events/Meetings

Weekday Mass—8:00 A.M. - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday; Wednesday - 7:00 P.M. (some restrictions)

Confessions—Saturday - 3:00 to 3:30 P.M.

Weekend Masses—Saturday (Vigil): 4:00 P.M. (some restrictions)

Sunday: 7:00, 8:30 & 11:00 A.M. (some restrictions)

Remember that the rosary is prayed on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, immediately following the 8:00 A.M. mass and at 6:30 P.M. on Wednesday, prior to the 7:00 Mass. On weekends, the rosary is recited before each weekend mass.

Teen Ministry Meeting/Religious Education Classes—9:30 to 10:40 A.M. January 16th January 17th **POSTPONED**—Parish Council Meeting—7:00 P.M. - Fellowship Hall January 18th Finance Council Meeting—7:00 P.M. - Fellowship Hall—VIA ZOOM

January 19th RCIA—6:30 P.M. - Fellowship Hall

January 21st Confessions/Adoration/Divine Mercy/Benediction—Following the 8:00 A.M. mass

January 22nd-23rd Survey Sunday

POSTPONED—Leadership—6:30 P.M. - Fellowship Hall January 24th

January 26th RCIA—6:30 P.M. - Fellowship Hall

January 28th Confessions/Adoration/Divine Mercy/Benediction—Following the 8:00 A.M. mass

The 8:30 A.M. Sunday Mass is live streamed every week!



Parish Information/Events



Adoration Invitation — On Friday mornings following our 8:00 mass, we have confessions, adoration, praying the rosary, the Divine Mercy Chaplet and benediction. The most powerful thing we can do on this earth with our time is to spend it in Adoration. Nothing can do more to change the world, to bring about peace, to convert hearts, to make reparation for the many evils committed. Spending time in prayer may seem, on the outside, to be a passive thing; however, it is anything but! Our world is in desperate need of hope, of renewal, of a 'turning back' to the things of God. By visiting Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, we take up the best weapon for the

battles of our age and contribute to the healing of our culture. Cultivating a life of adoration also bears tremendous fruit in our own hearts and lives. We cannot spend time in the rays of His Presence without receiving His grace, His love, His mercy, His peace. As we gaze upon Him Face to face, we are transformed little by little into a closer reflection of His divine image. Please consider joining us for this Holy Hour. You do not have to sign up to attend. Come, worship the Lord! 🤒



In your charity, please remember the souls of those who passed away, especially Vincent Bachar. A Funeral Mass was celebrated for Vincent here at St. Mary, Mother of God Church on Saturday, January 15th, at 10:00 A.M. We ask God to welcome Vincent and all who have gone before us into the joy of everlasting life and bring comfort and peace to their families. 90



Mass Intention Requests are being accepted for 2022. What a wonderful way to remember your loved ones. Mass requests will be received at the Administrative Office during normal office hours. Your mass donation is to be made at the time of your request. Please note that if a mass is requested and a Communion Service needs to be scheduled, Msgr. Gilbert will take the mass intention with him. Thank you! 🧐



We have a couple of envelopes available for your weekly intentions for *The Sanctuary Candle* and the *Altar Bread* & Wine. This is a very special way to remember a deceased family member or to celebrate a special event. The remembrance begins on Sunday and ends on Saturday of that week. Please note that your donation (\$20.00/ea.) must be given at the time of your request. Thank you! so



Please remember that Msgr. Gilbert will NEVER send you an email or text asking you to do him a favor or send him money, regardless if he is here or on vacation. If you are contacted by email or text message, do not provide your home or mobile number or any other information to the sender. Once you receive this request, immediately delete it! If Msgr. Gilbert wants a favor from you, he will personally call you! 🦻

Be Sure to Support Our Bulletin Advertisers. And if your business could use a boost, please consider placing an ad in our bulletin! Our church bulletin is not only available in church, it is also on our parish website. If you would like to reach Freeport and the surrounding area residents regarding your business, St. Mary, Mother of God bulletin is a great place to advertise. To learn more or to place an ad, contact J.S. Paluch at 1-800-945-6629. 🧐

On behalf of all the parishioners here at St. Mary, Mother of God Church, we would like to welcome our newest members to our parish family. We hope you find warmth and hospitality here. These members joined the fourth quarter of 2021. Please welcome:

Mary Calligan
The Chahoy Family
Robert & Michele Craig
Barbara Gajdosik
The Krajcovic Family
The Dennis McGaughey Family
The Keenan McGaughey Family
Peg & Clarence Moore
Hilda & Kyle Schrag



St. Mary's is now your parish family, so please try to become actively involved in the many different ministries that we have; allow the Holy Spirit to lead you to that particular ministry that will not only give you the opportunity to be of service to our Lord, but also help you in your growth as a *disciple* of Jesus Christ. *Become involved and let us together grow in our faith*! We look forward to getting to know you and are happy that you chose to become a member of our parish.

Balptized in Christ

Baptized into our Faith - Congratulations to Capri Mae, child of Keyla and Dennis McGaughey, who was baptized on Saturday, January 8th. May our Lord, Jesus Christ grant that Capri may receive the fullness of His grace.





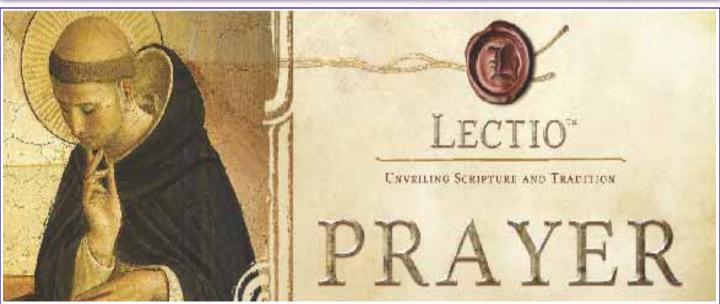


If you are unable to attend the March for Life in person but would like to participate in some way:

There are a number of local and virtual events and opportunities for prayer taking place. Here are a few:

- St. Emma Monastery will be hosting prayers for life on Tuesday, January 18th from 2:30-5:30 P.M. in the Cor Jesu chapel. The event includes common prayer, Eucharistic adoration, a reflection, and vespers. Contact the sisters at 724-834-3060 for details.
- The Greensburg Diocesan Council of the National Council of Catholic Women is hosting a "Pray for Life" day on Friday, January 21st at Christ Our Shepherd Center from 11:30 A.M. 4:30 P.M. The events include a rosary for priests, Mass, Eucharistic adoration, a rosary for life, stations of the cross for life, a divine mercy chaplet, and a litany for life. Please contact Millie at 724-537-2064 for details.
- The Youth Rally and Mass for Life will be a hybrid event this year in-person for local youth and virtual for others. The events will be live-streamed on the YouTube channel for the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle in Washington. Please visit: https://adw.org/youth-rally-mass-life/ for more details. https://adw.org/youth-rally-mass-life/ for more details.

Lenten Reflection



Though prayer is one of the essentials of a thriving faith, we often feel as if we're talking to ourselves—or worse, as if we're talking to no one at all. How can something so vital to the faith be so elusive? *Lectio: Prayer* was created to help us find intimacy with God through effective, conversational prayer.

Join us to watch the series and develop a closer relationship with God.

Time: Two separate sessions: Monday morning at 9:00 A.M. and Thursday evening at 7:00.

Place: St. Mary, Mother of God, Freeport—Fellowship Hall

Dates: The Monday session begins February 28th and finishes April 4th

The Thursday session begins March 3rd and finishes April 7th

Contact: Register online at: www.stmaryfreeport.com under Events or

Contact Melissa at 724-230-4450; kristine7@zoominternet.net

To assist the friends and family of our parish in having a very meaningful Lent in 2022, our parish is hosting this series on prayer. Our Lord Jesus will never barge into your heart, we need to invite Him in. Please join us in one of three ways: live on Mondays or Thursdays or online at: Formed.org. A workbook is available for purchase for only \$9.00. Please register by February 7th, 2022.

To find Lectio: Prayer and more great media, register for a free FORMED account at: signup.formed.org

FORMED



FORGED-The Men's Group was formed to provide both a spiritual and fellowship connection for ALL men of the Parish. FORGED meets monthly, the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall. Each meeting includes a reflection on what it means to be a Catholic Man in today's society, a discussion, and social interactions. The goal of FORGED is to reach out to all men of the parish and engage with them in fellowship and growth in our faith. The group provides support to all men and with prayer, discussion, and some laughter, provides an outlet to encourage men in their role as son, father, grandfather, friend and Catholic man. Please consider joining us for an upcoming meeting. We will not have a meeting in January because of the rise in COVID cases. In February, we will meet on Tuesday, February 8th. If you have any questions, please contact Tim Fogarty at: tpfogarty618@gmail.com; 724-448-9644.

News/Activities from Our Ministries/Organizations

Evangelization

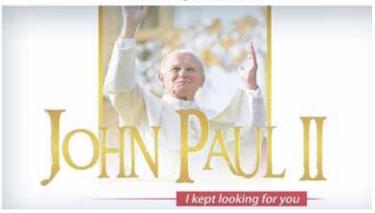
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January 16, 2022

WATCH

JOHN PAUL II: I KEPT LOOKING FOR YOU

This incredible documentary traces Pope St. John Paul II's impact on the Church and the world. This film is a wonderful tribute to a man who inspired millions of people to deeper faith in Jesus Christ.



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Did you know...Before we enter the pew, we should genuflect toward the tabernacle before we take our seat. You do this by briefly touching your right knee to the ground to show respect and love to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. If you are unable to kneel, it is customary that you bow. 🧐

1st Holy Communion Workshops are scheduled for the following Sundays — March 20th, March 27th and April 3rd during regular CCD time. At least one parent/guardian must attend all three workshops. Scott **EDUCATION** McKernan will be the Security Guard for January 16th, 23rd and 30th. As a reminder, please exercise extreme caution in our church parking lot while dropping off and picking up children from classes. Please drive slowly in the parking lot and refrain from using cell phones. Children move quickly and your full attention is needed. 🤛

TEEN MINISTRY Attention high school students! The teens normally meet twice a month and plan service projects one weekend per month (not during their regularly scheduled meeting time). Their next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 16th, immediately following the 8:30 A.M. mass, in the teen ministry room. 🦃

News from Our Diocese

PROTECTING Om CHILDREN If you have any suspicion about the sexual abuse (or any other type of abuse) of a minor child by anyone, contact the 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. 🤛



Millions in Catholic school tuition assistance available — SPREAD THE NEWS! The twelve Diocese of Greensburg Catholic schools now have millions of dollars in tuition assistance available! Become a TOP Student today. Visit: www.CatholicSchoolsGuide.org or call 724-552-2565. 90

Diocese of Greensburg Catholic schools seek substitute teachers

The Catholic schools of the Diocese of Greensburg are accepting applications for substitute teachers. Please send current resume to the Office of Catholic Schools at: CatholicSchools@dioceseofgreensburg.org. If you would like additional information, please call 724-552-2594. All clearances are required! 🤝

Pray for Vocations

Prayer for Religious Vocations

Pray for Vocations

Heavenly Father

Your loving providence accompanies us on our life's journey. Thank you for the many gifts you have given us.

We ask that you continue to call sons and daughters from our families and parishes to serve as priests, deacons and consecrated men and women in the Diocese of Greensburg.

Send your Spirit upon us so that many will respond with great love to your call to service and leadership in your Church.

> Give to those you have chosen the faith of the apostle, the vision of the prophet, and the courage of the martyr.

Through the intercession of our Diocesan patroness,

Our Lady of the Assumption,

help us to be faithful disciples of your Son by following the example of Mary. Make us generous in sharing ourselves and our talents for the sake of your Kingdom on earth. We ask this through Christ the Risen Lord.

> Imprimatur The Most Reverend Lawrence E. Brandt, JCD, PhD Bishop of Greensburg August 15th, 2004



Offertory Collection for January 9th, 2022

No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 579 No. of Envelopes Received: 132 Collection: Offertory - \$5,585.68 **Electronic Payments (18) - \$1,180.00** Loose - \$131.00; Children (1) - \$1.00 Additional Christmas Donations (4) - \$150.00 Additional Holy Day Donations (2) - \$40.00 Candle Money - \$195.00

Total Collection - \$7,282.68

Although we are now able to attend Mass, we continue to urge those who do not yet feel comfortable in attending to please mail your weekly/monthly contribution or drop it off at the Administrative Office or the mail box outside the office doors.

THANK YOU!

give online GOD'S TITHES & YOUR OFFERING.

Something to think about—If you normally give in the

offertory basket, please think about on-line giving. Online giving is a safe and easy way to support our parish. This system enables you to support St. Mary, Mother of God Church by making your weekly, bi-weekly or monthly contribution or by establishing a recurring contribution. Thank you!

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New Membership Registration Forms are located at all of the church entrances



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