

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



Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 10th, 2019

Are you
ready to
follow?

Luke 5:1-11



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*
Cindy Harbison, *Social Hall Coordinator*—724-272-7744
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



Reflecting on our readings this Sunday, we can find a common theme and it is about *the call*. *The call* of Isaiah in the first reading, *the call* of Paul in the second reading and *the call* of Peter, James and John in the gospel.

What is common to their calling is the feeling of unworthiness. They all felt unworthy of God. Isaiah said, **“Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips!”** (Isaiah 6:5). Paul felt himself unfit to be called an apostle because he persecuted the church of God. (1Cor.15:9). And Peter fell down at Jesus’ feet and said, **“Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!”**

But notice what God did. As they humbled themselves and confessed their sinfulness and inadequacies before Him, He reached out and absolved them in order to be uplifted. In the case of Isaiah, one of the seraphs touched his lips with a burning coal taken from the altar of the temple and said to him, **“Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out”** (Isaiah 6:7). In the case of Simon Peter, Jesus said to him, **“Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people”** (Luke 5:10). We see that their qualification for the work of God does not come from them but from God. It is not their personal achievement; it is God’s grace. That is why Paul could say, **“But by**

the grace of God I am what I am and his grace to me has not been ineffective” (1Cor. 15:10).

And so, as they experienced the grace of God, we saw their responses: As soon as Isaiah heard the voice of the Lord asking, **“Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?”** his response was: **“Here am I; send me!”** (Isaiah 6:8). In the case of Peter and his partners, we were told that, **“they left everything and followed him”** (Luke 15:11) without looking back. And Paul threw himself with so much zeal into God’s work saying **“not I, but the grace of God that is with me”** (1Cor. 15:10).

When we follow the guidance of the Lord in our lives, though sometimes we feel inadequate and unworthy, He gives us the grace in order to make things happen. All we need is our openness and willingness. There we will witness what God has in store for us.



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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, **Mark and Lynsey Lepkowski**, on the baptism of their son, **Christopher Robert**. He is a child of God, heir to the Kingdom!



Last week, the *Teen Ministry* met and put together Care Packages for St. Mary parishioners attending college. They mailed out packages to 25 college students not only from Pennsylvania, but various other states including Virginia, North Carolina, California, Washington and Ohio.



Calendar of Events

- 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
- February 18th** Presidents’ Day—Parish Office Closed



To understand the importance of the Sacrament of Baptism and your obligation as parents, you are required to attend one baptismal class. The first class scheduled for 2019 will be held Thursday, March 8th. To register, please call Mark or Melissa at 724-230-4450 or the Administrative Office at 724-295-2281.



Request your Mass Intention

Continue to show your care about your deceased loved ones by having masses offered for them. In the mass, our prayers for our beloved dead are united to the perfect prayer of intercession —Jesus' own sacrificial death for us on the cross. A Mass offered is an act of love for all eternity. Flowers die, memorials fade—a mass is forever! Mass dates available for the month of February are the following weekdays at 8:00 A.M.: February 27th & 28th. Contact the Administrative Office if you are interested in requesting a mass for any of these dates - 724-295-2281.



Holy Name Society

Holy Name Society—St. Mary, Mother of God Church is in the process of forming a Parish Chapter of *The Holy Name Society*. All male members of the parish who are 18 years of age or older are eligible to become members. If you are interested in becoming a member, please e-mail or call Tim Fogarty at: tpfogarty618@gmail.com; 724-294-0089.

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.**

**Wine/Cheese/Crackers
Pasta
Carving Table**

Tickets are \$30.00 each and may be purchased by calling Bridget at 724-294-0089

—All proceeds benefit Fellowship Hall Improvement Projects—

Mardi Gras Entertainment for the evening

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Sponsor / Donate

Have you considered sponsoring our Mardi Gras Wine Tasting Event? Sponsor forms are located at all of the church entrances. You can fill one out and return it to our Parish Office. **Deadline for sponsor forms is Sunday, February 24th.** If you would rather help out in another way, donations are being accepted for theme baskets. If you would like to donate one or several items, please call Judy Bergstrom at 724-316-5352. **Deadline for donations is Sunday, February 17th.**



Walk through the Liturgy with Bishop Barron and you'll be transformed through insights on this most privileged and intimate encounter with our Lord Jesus Christ. See how the Mass brings us out of the fallen world and into the heavenly realm, how it resonates with a call from God and a response from his people, the Church, and, most importantly, how we are intimately joined with the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus through the Holy Eucharist. The Mass will help you understand how to fully, consciously, and actively participate in the source and summit of the Christian life. Join us for *The Mass* in the Fellowship Hall on Thursday, March 7th—April 11th, from 6:30—8:00 P.M. or Monday, March 11th—April 15th, from 9:00—10:30 A.M. All are encouraged to come. The study includes a series of six informative and engaging videos presented by Bishop Barron. Each video will be followed by a lively group discussion. There is a \$25.00 fee to cover the cost of the study materials. Registration forms are located at all of the church entrances. **Please register by February 21st.**

MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY 16TH & 17TH, 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 | Andrea Camerlo Arlene Miller, Fred Walker | Janice Meola | Doug Scholl Mary Scholl | Diane Pleva | Alex Smith |
| Sunday—8:30 A.M. | | | | | |
| Brianna, Olivia, Ryan Sutara Ali & Ben Brestensky Nicolette Zollinger | Rose Check Patty Hughes Cindy Harbison | Lisa Boylan | Karen Nigra | Tom Koharchik | Tom Koharchik |
| Sunday—11:00 A.M. | | | | | |
| Celeste Beacom Victor & Olivia Svitek Jackson Ringler | Marushka Steele Bill Cogley Lisa Isenberg | Rob Svitek | Karen Fennell | Dave Wesolosky | Choir |


Mass Intentions

MASSES FOR THE 5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME


| | |
|---|---|
| SATURDAY: 4:00 P.M. | February 9th ✦Stella Trygar (John & Betty Lou Nemcek) |
| SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. 11:00 A.M. | February 10th St. Mary Parishioners ✦Josephine (DeFina) Spataro (Friend) |
| MONDAY: 8:00 A.M. | February 11th ✦J. Easley Family (Estate) |
| TUESDAY: 8:00 A.M. | February 12th ✦Elva Berry (Mary Fullerton) |
| WEDNESDAY: 8:00 A.M. | February 13th ✦Harold V. McGuire (Bob & Judy Bergstrom) |
| THURSDAY: 8:00 A.M. | February 14th ✦Ken Hughes (Patty & Family) |
| FRIDAY: 8:00 A.M. | February 15th ✦Maurice Heinritz Family (Estate) |

MASSES FOR THE 6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

| | |
|---|---|
| SATURDAY: 4:00 P.M. | February 16th ✦Helen Pucko (Rose & David Check) |
| SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. 11:00 A.M. | February 17th ✦Rinaldo Policicchio (The Policicchio's) St. Mary Parishioners |




The Altar Bread and Wine were donated for this week in loving memory of
JOSEPH F. SUTARA
By
Joe & Amy Sutara




In acknowledging the Real Presence of Christ, The Sanctuary Lamp (Candle) will burn this week in loving memory of
JOHN BONO
By
Lola Bono



Offertory Collection for February 3rd, 2019
No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 598
No. of Envelopes Received: 216
Collection: Offertory - \$6,029.60
Electronic Payments (18) - \$976.00
Loose - \$249.00; Children - \$19.00; Candle Money - \$724.00
Eastern & Central Europe Collection - \$695.00
Total Collection - \$8,692.60
THANK YOU!



Saturday, February 16th, 2019
Nancy Laux and Betty Lou Nemcek



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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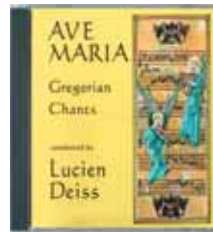
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