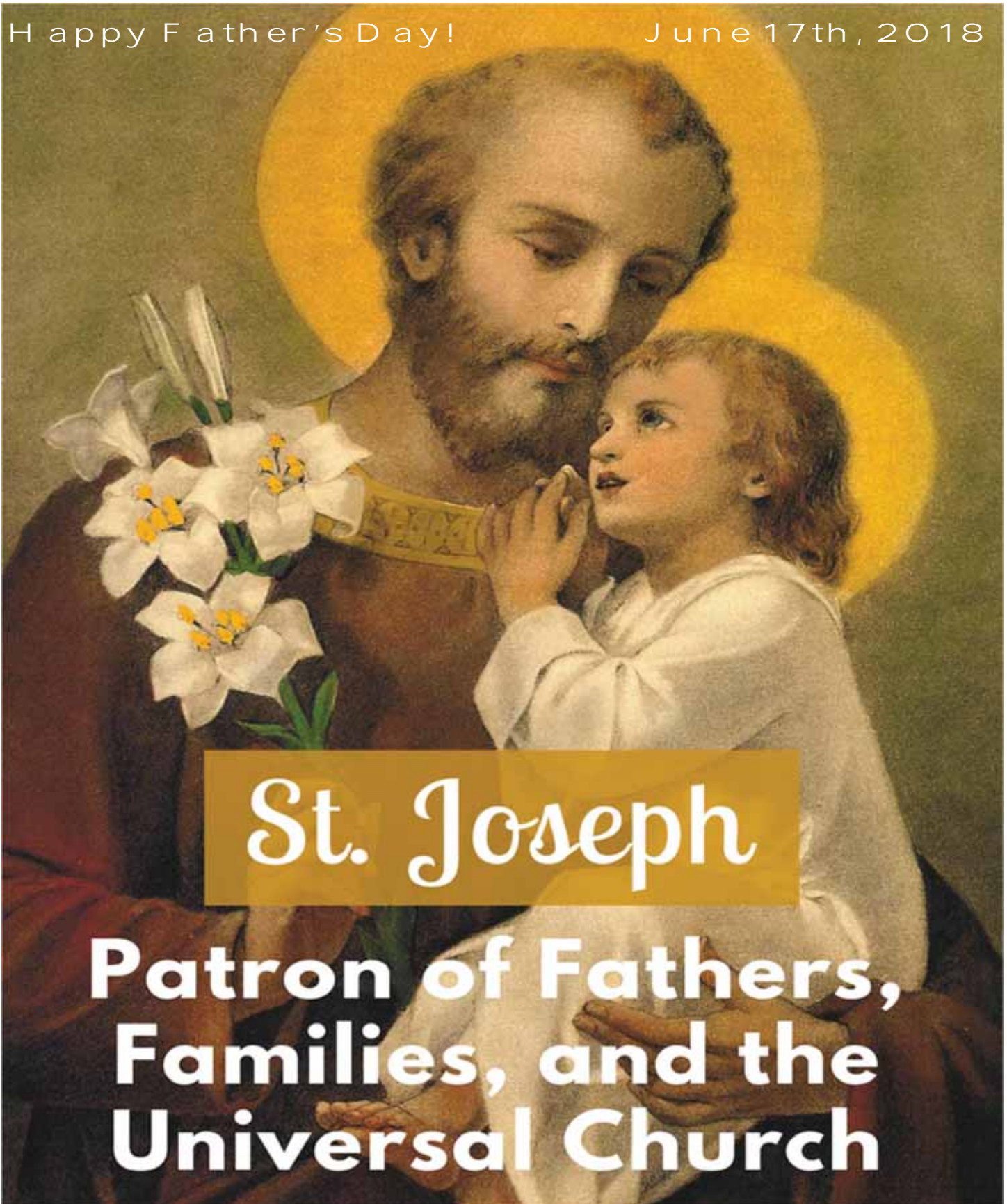


St. Mary, Mother of God Church

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724-295-2281

Happy Father's Day!

June 17th, 2018



St. Joseph

**Patron of Fathers,
Families, and the
Universal Church**

From the Pastor's Desk



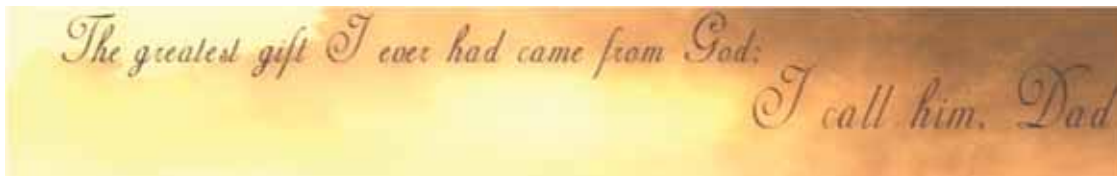
Happy Father's Day to all!

I know this is a special day for all fathers and those who assume the role of being a father. But for me, whenever this celebration approaches, it is hard on my part to celebrate Father's Day because I lost my father at a young age. I was only twelve when he passed away. So much so that I missed him in my growing up years and those significant events in my life, especially when I was ordained as a priest. I imagine how he would be proud of me for who I am today, serving the Lord as a priest, just as he did serve the Church as lay in his capacity. He was the liaison of the bishop in the Diocese of Sorsogon, in the Philippines, into different pastoral projects. He was very active and always ready to be of service to anyone, until he got sick and eventually died due to one man being envious of him in his work. He deceived him by offering him wine during a festive celebration in the parish where my dad was working for a parish project. This man offered wine to my father who was unaware there was poison in it. My dad was sick for several months. He tried to fight for life for his six children; I was the oldest and our youngest was seven months old. He lost the battle and died. It was the most painful event that ever happened in our family. We were deprived of experiencing a father during our growing up years in our family. So today, every time I see a family with a father who is close to his children and enjoying each other, I kind of feel envious. And I say to myself how I wish I experienced that father-son relationship. I imagine how beautiful and happy our family would be if our dad was with us today.

And so, reflecting on Father's Day, a few things dawn on me. First, the importance of the father's role in the family. He is our strength, our model and defender. Of course our mothers play a crucial role in our development as well, but we cannot replace the value of the father and his role in our growing up years. How he supports us in our sports, in acquiring skills, in being responsible for all our actions and being a good person. Second, how a father would do anything to provide the needs of his family to the point of sacrificing himself, working so hard, waking up early to go to work, all for the love of his family. Third, how sometimes he would just keep within himself all the pains and struggles he experiences in raising his children or dealing with his workmates in the workplace and yet appear as if everything is okay.

With all that our fathers and those who assume the role of being a father go through and what they do for us, I believe they deserve an honor to show how grateful we are for all they do. We can show our appreciation in so many ways, either by spending time with them, hug them and have lunch or dinner, or just being a good son or daughter, treasuring all the things they have done for us. In that way, we give them honor and joy. I won't be with you for the celebration of Father's Day as I am with Bishop Malesic, accompanying him to the Philippines for the ordination of Bishop-elect Medil Aseo, but I will be remembering you in my prayers.

TO ALL FATHERS, MAY GOD BLESS YOU!



FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK

Pure Fatherhood

By Devin Schadt

Celebrate Father's Day!

Every father has been entrusted with a lofty vocation—to serve as a visible reflection of God the Father. In this inspiring talk, Devin Schadt draws upon the example of Saint Joseph to encourage fathers to understand and embrace their privileged role in the family and Church today.

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—Andrew O. Moline, IL



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Register your account by going to: www.formed.org and use our parish account (case-sensitive) VNX4G6.

Christian Mothers and parishioners gathered in our Prayer Garden to say the Rosary for David Shipe. Nancy Shipe asks that you please keep her son, David, and her family in your prayers for comfort and peace.



Calendar of Events

June 23rd Baptism — “Glath” - within the 4:00 P.M. Mass
 June 24th Baptism — “Iusi” - 12:15 P.M.
 July 4th Office Closed—Mass at 9:00 A.M.
 July 6th First Friday
 July 23rd Vacation Bible Camp Begins—5:30-8:00 P.M.
 July 27th Last day of Vacation Bible Camp—5:30-8:00 P.M.



St. Mary Cemetery - Do you like working outside? Our cemetery is in need of someone to help out with the grass trimming and light labor work. One or two days a week from April to November. If you are interested, call our caretaker, Richard Bertino, at home at 724-295-3632; cell at 724-602-5986.



First Holy Communion Pictures - If you did not pick up your pictures yet, they are at the Administration Office. You can pick them up during normal office hours.



Church Volunteers Last fall, the gentleman who vacuumed the carpet in our church on a weekly basis became unable to perform this ministry. We are now in need of someone to vacuum the carpet and dust the laminate and pew bottoms each week. It would take approximately one to two hours each week. If God is calling you to help our parish in this manner, please contact the parish office at 724-295-2281 or email: thechurch@stmaryfreeport.com.

VACATION BIBLE CAMP—July 23rd - July 27th, 2018 St. Mary’s Fellowship Hall—5:30 - 8:00 P.M.

All children Preschool thru 6th grade

We are in need of anyone with PA State Criminal & Child Abuse clearances to help with Bible Camp. We CANNOT have Bible Camp without your help. If you are able to help, and bring your children, please fill out and return to the church or call:

Laura Huth at 724-295-3259 or Helen James at 724-272-1171

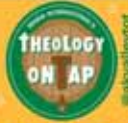
Name (Please Print) _____ (I can help with bible camp this year)

of children I will be bringing _____



Next week, we will have the *Peter's Pence Collection*, which provides Pope Francis with the funds he needs to carry out his charitable works around the world. The proceeds benefit our brothers and sisters on the margins of society, including victims of war, oppression, and disasters. Please be generous. For more information, visit: www.usccb.org/peters-pence.

Theology on Tap in the A-K Valley



Thursday, June 28: 7PM-9PM

Choosing a Faithful Life in a World Full of Sin

Caitlin Craig

Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry at Mother of Sorrows Church



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The Bible teaches us to glean what we are blessed with in order to care for those in need. On Wednesday, July 11, The Blessings Closet will open its doors at Freeport United Methodist Church. Clothing items will be offered. There will be bags of clothing available at \$5/bag and higher end clothing options available at a per item price. CASH ONLY! The hours are from 1-3 pm.

We are in need of clothing donations and to spread the word for those who this store will bless.

For more information, call Freeport UMC at 724.295.2476.

SOUL SHOP

Suicide affects all of us. Most people know someone who is or has dealt with suicidal depression, has attempted suicide or has died by suicide. If you have ever wondered if there was something that you could have done, then you might want to consider attending *Soul Shop*. *Soul Shop* explores the incidence of suicide, self-injuries, suicidal thinking and people impacted by the death of another. It offers a simple, conversational approach to talking about suicide that can save lives and teaches concrete ways of integrating suicide prevention into your life and others. The GLMA will be hosting a *Soul Shop* on Wednesday, June 27th, from 8:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M. at Excelsa Square, Latrobe. The cost of the event is \$20.00. To register, please visit: <https://bit.ly/2HJ3oLh>. Everyone is welcome.

Fine ARTS Camp

The Seton Arts Service Corps of the *Sisters of Charity of Seton Hill* will sponsor a fine arts camp for children in grades 2-8 July 23rd-27th, from 9:00 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. at Caritas Christi. Registration is \$10.00/person. Please call 724-836-0406. Registration deadline is July 6th.



Musical Camp - St. Joseph High School is having a musical camp for students entering Grades 4-8 in the fall, from June 25th-29th, from 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 Noon. The cost is \$25.00/camper. For the online registration form, please visit: www.SaintJosephHS.com. Questions? Contact Jane Susa at: jsusa@SaintJosephHS.com or 724-226-7877.

FESTIVAL OF FRIENDSHIP

St. Margaret Mary Festival of Friendship – 3055 Leechburg Road, Lower Burrell—June 22nd & 23rd. Food booths open at 4:00 P.M., rides and games open at 6:00 P.M. on Friday; 5:00 P.M. on Saturday. Featuring delicious food by local restaurants and caterers, entertainment, kiddie rides, games, bingo, and baskets. RAIN OR SHINE. No pets permitted on festival grounds. (Please note: Saturday evening Mass on June 23rd is scheduled for 4:00 P.M. instead of 5:00 because of the festival.)



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Summer Nutrition and Arts Program @ Freeport UMC 211 4th Street, Freeport... Program began June 12th and runs through August 9th from 12:15-2:15 P.M. They will offer a hot lunch and an arts program. Lunch will be served from 12:30-1:30 P.M. for children 1 mo. to 18 years old and arts from 1:30-2:15 P.M. **Spread the news!**



Seeking volunteers for Summer Nutrition and Arts Program - Tuesday and Thursday which began June 12th through August 9th. Volunteers will need to setup, serve food, clean up, and engage with clients during the lunch and the art portion of the program. Crafts will be planned ahead of time. Contact Pastor Raphael at: emailpastork@gmail.com or 281-620-9928.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR JUNE 23RD & 24TH, 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	Karen Savage	Dave & Lois Posney	Verne Bergstrom	Jamie Phillips
Sunday—8:30 A.M.					
Breanna & Olivia Sutara Ryan Sutara; Katie Huth Mary Huth; Nicolette Zollinger	Betty Lou Nemcek Kim Holbein Lisa Boylan	Susan Shea	Don & Jean Miller	Sue Myford	Sue Myford
Sunday—11:00 A.M.					
Marie Pelliccione Mason DeMeno Paige Liti; Evan Giori	Dan Lucovich Patty Hughes Marushka Steele	Pat Westerman	Jenn Liti	Dave Wesolosky	Julie Cepec

Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK

MASSES FOR THE 11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY: 4:00 P.M.	June 16th All Fathers—Living & Deceased
SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. 11:00 A.M.	June 17th St. Mary Parishioners; All Fathers—Living & Deceased All Fathers—Living & Deceased
MONDAY: 8:00 A.M.	June 18th ✦ Alberta Hager (Lois Ann Ziga)
TUESDAY: 8:00 A.M.	June 19th ✦ Tom Cornman (Family)
WEDNESDAY: 8:00 A.M.	June 20th ✦ Maurice Heinritz Family (Estate)
THURSDAY: 8:00 A.M.	June 21st ✦ Aaron Myers (Myers Family)
FRIDAY: 8:00 A.M.	June 22nd ✦ Leonard Stanoski (Wife—Norma Jane)

MASSES FOR THE NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

SATURDAY: 4:00 P.M.	June 23rd ✦ Wilma Kelly (Posney Family)
SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. 11:00 A.M.	June 24th St. Mary Parishioners ✦ Ken Hughes (Patty Hughes & Family)



The Altar Bread and Wine
were donated for this week
in loving memory of
JOHN COSTANTINO
By
Daughters: Susie, Becky & Beth

In acknowledging the Real Presence of Christ,
The Sanctuary Lamp (Candle) will burn this week in
loving memory of
THOMAS GANCAS
By
With Love—Yvonne & Family



Collections

Offertory Collection for June 10th, 2018

No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 606
No. of Envelopes Received: 168
Collection: Offertory - \$3,993.00
Electronic Payments (13) - \$903.00
Loose - \$281.00; Children - \$22.00
Total Collection - \$5,199.00

THANK YOU!



Saturday, June 23rd, 2018
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