



# 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

## OCTOBER 7TH, 2018

# MARK 10:2-12



### TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Father Ronald Maquiñana—*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 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



If you recall, last year we held several listening sessions in different locations within our parish community. The purpose was to reach out, know the concerns of every member, and try to address them so we can better serve. One of the concerns that came up was the need to have bible studies or small group studies. Well, we listened to you. Last Thursday, we began our first session for the bible studies entitled "Unlocking the Mysteries of the Bible". We had more than forty participants. I was glad to hear that after the first session, many liked it and they are excited and look forward to the next session on Wednesday. This bible study meets every Wednesday from 6:30 to 8:00 P.M. at St. Mary's Fellowship Hall. It will run through November 14th, 2018.

Another concern that we heard from the listening sessions was the need to provide young adults, ages 20 to 40 years old, an avenue where they can engage in faith discussions without being forced to come to church - to meet where they are coming from. Again, we listened to you. We are launching the *Theology on Tap* that will begin in November and will be spearheaded by three young couples within the above mentioned age group. Once a month, a speaker will be invited to give a talk to a group of young adults in our parish or neighboring community. The topic will be related to their interests. It will be done in a casual and relaxed setting like a restaurant or a place where they like to hang out with their friends so they can freely express themselves and interact with the speaker.

The need for a men's group in our parish was brought up in the listening sessions, something to provide an opportunity for men to gather and be of spiritual support to one another, growing in holiness while encouraging them to engage in the parish and evangelization. We will soon be launching the *Holy Name Society*.

Finally, last Sunday we launched the *Helping Hands Ministry* with the aim of helping those in our community who are in need, on a temporary basis, like preparing food for those who are elderly or recovering from surgery, doing yard work or cleaning, driving somebody to their doctor's appointment or picking up their prescription, health care and others. Our coordinator is Gina Jones. Those interested in volunteering or in need can either call Gina at 724-448-9251 or email her at: [ginaj1904@gmail.com](mailto:ginaj1904@gmail.com).

With all of the above, we recognize the working of the Holy Spirit upon us as He guides us in our journey to become one family of God. As St. Paul said: ***"There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them to everyone."*** (1Cor. 12:4-6).

Whatever gifts God has given us, let us use and share them. Let us make a difference and make other's lives better!

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### MORE RECOMMENDATIONS:

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- Watch: John XXIII
- Watch: True Reformers Ep. 5: Saint Teresa
- Watch: Lectio: Peter Ep. 9
- Watch: Symbolon Ep.9: Mary and the Saints

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# Bible Study



## Calendar of Events

**October 7th** Religious Education Classes—9:30 - 10:40 A.M.—Security Guard is Jim Zollinger  
 Teen Ministry—9:35 - 10:45 A.M.  
 Choir Practice—9:45 - 10:45 A.M.; 11:00 A.M. Mass  
**October 9th** RCIA—6:30 P.M. - Conference Center  
**October 10th** Scripture Study—6:30 P.M. - Fellowship Hall  
**October 14th** Mission Co-op  
 Religious Education Classes—9:30 - 10:40 A.M.—Security Guard is Jim Zollinger  
 Choir Practice—9:45 - 10:45 A.M.; 11:00 A.M. Mass  
 PARISH PICNIC/OKTOBERFEST—12:00 Noon to 4:00 P.M. - Church Grounds  
**October 16th** RCIA—6:30 P.M. - Conference Center  
**October 17th** Scripture Study—6:30 P.M. - Fellowship Hall

## Oktoberfest

**Sunday, October 14th**  
**12:00 Noon—4:00 P.M.**  
**Church Grounds**  
**Sign-up sheets are at**  
**the church entrances.**

**Deadline to sign-up is**  
**Sunday, October 7th**



Today we are participating in the Greensburg Diocesan Mission Cooperative Plan and we welcome *Fr. Efrén Ambre*, representing the **Diocese of Bangued**, located in Northern Philippines. Please give *Fr. Ambre* your full attention and prayerfully consider a donation to support this diocese. If you forgot your green Mission Co-op envelope, additional ones are located at all of the church entrances. Please be generous!



The **Christian Mothers** are beautifying our St. Mary's Prayer Garden with new landscaping and a sign. Parishioners and members of the community can be a part of this project! They will be replacing the rosary steps with beautiful granite stones and building a new brick walkway. You can order a stone or brick to be engraved to honor or memorialize a loved one or recognize a group. Some examples could be "In Memory of Ray Ravotti by His Children", "In Honor of All Christian Mothers" or "Presented by St. Mary's 2018 Teen Ministry". Order forms may be found at all of the church entrances, the Administrative Office and on the home page of our parish website: [www.stmaryfreeport.com](http://www.stmaryfreeport.com). If you would like additional information, please call Judy Bergstrom at 724-316-5352.

## WELCOMING

- To greet in a polite way
- Friendly
- Warm
- Hospitable
- Openhearted



## Mission in Action



- Greeters
- Ushers
- Donut Sunday

**Thank you!**

Thank you to all who have responded to the recent request to support our Seminarians, our men preparing to serve as Permanent Deacons, for our International Priests through the Seminarian and Clergy Formation Collection. Thank you also for your prayers for vocations to the priesthood, permanent diaconate and religious vocations. Your prayers and financial support helps Seminarians, men preparing for the Permanent Diaconate, clergy formation and International Priests serving in our diocese. For those who still wish to participate in this appeal and collection, you may mail your envelope directly to the Diocese of Greensburg or use the gift envelopes found at all the church entrances.

*Pro-Life Prayer Breakfast*

The Greensburg Diocesan Council of the National Council of Catholic Women is sponsoring the annual Interfaith Pro-Life Prayer Breakfast on Saturday, October 20th, at 10:00 A.M., at the Christ Our Shepherd Center, Route 30 East of Greensburg. The guest speaker will be Dr. Brian Clowes, Director of Education and Research for Human Life International. All seats are reserved. Tickets are \$20.00/person; \$10.00/students. The registration deadline is October 8th. For questions and additional information, call 724-537-2064 or email: [rsvpf@hotmail.com](mailto:rsvpf@hotmail.com).



**THE MELCHIZEDEK PROJECT**

The Melchizedek Project days for young men in grades 9-12 will be held at Greensburg Central Catholic Junior-Senior High School from 6:30-8:00 P.M. on Sundays, October 14th, November 18th, December 9th, February 17th, March 10th, April 14th and May 12th. Contact: [vocations@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:vocations@dioceseofgreensburg.org) to register.

All are welcome to participate in Life Chain 2018 on Sunday, October 7th, at 2:00 P.M. Life Chain is a visual statement of Christian solidarity that will take place throughout the United States and Canada. This will be a peaceful and prayerful display of those who want to end abortion. Please join the local Life Chain in silent prayer on Leechburg Road, Lower Burrell. Parking for those participating at Mogie's Restaurant.



The Greensburg Chapter of Magnificat, a Ministry to Catholic Women, will be holding a Breakfast at the Ramada Hotel and Convention Center, Rt. 30 East, Greensburg on Saturday, October 20th, from 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon. Guest speaker will be Lucille Cortese, discussing the powerful miracles of faith, trust, and conversion she has seen as Executive Director of St. Joseph Radio. Cost is \$20.00; student rate is \$15.00. To register, please call Brenda by at 724-836-2094 or visit: [www.magnificatgreensburg.com](http://www.magnificatgreensburg.com) to download a registration form. Please note that there is no online registration. Deadline is October 12th.



**You are invited to participate in ROSARY COAST TO COAST!**

The event is to link people saying the Rosary across America at the same time.  
**When: October 7th at 4:00 PM**  
**Where: St. Paul Parish, 820 Carbon Road, Greensburg**  
**Focus: Praying for our Nation... Beginning with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary, short Scripture Reading and homily followed by Benediction.**



Always God's Children, a ministry to LGBT people and their families, will be held Thursday, October 11th, at 7:00 P.M. in the Assembly Room in the Parish Center at St. Vincent Basilica Parish, Latrobe. For more information, contact Alecia Moss at: [leashmo@hotmail.com](mailto:leashmo@hotmail.com) or call 724-433-1857.



Christ, Prince of Peace Parish is offering Grief Recovery sessions which helps individuals to recovery from a significant loss. Grief overcomes us with pain and heartache. The program is an eight week process for recovery from grief that can return a person to a capacity of happiness. Sister Edie Strong, SC, is a Certified Grief Recovery specialist and will lead the sessions. Sister Edie will hold an information night on Monday, October 15th, at 6:30 P.M. in the Parish Office. The regular sessions will then be held on Monday evenings beginning October 22nd, from 6:30 — 8:00 P.M. in the Parish Office. Please register by calling the Christ, Prince of Peace Parish Office at 724-763-9141.



A Public Card Party sponsored by the Christian Mothers and Women of St. Joseph parish, Cabot, will be held on Monday, October 8th, at 12:00 Noon with lunch followed by the card party. Any other games or cards can be played. However, if playing a different game, please try to bring enough people to fill a table of four. A \$5.00/person donation also includes lunch. Join them for an enjoyable afternoon. Also available will be Butler Flavorings (dark & clear vanilla; maple and almond) and USA-made RADA cutlery. The card parties help with various women and children's functions.



## MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR OCTOBER 13TH & 14TH, 2018

| Altar Servers   | Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion      | Lector          | Greeters                        | Organist       | Cantor        |
|---|--|-----------------|---------------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| <b>Saturday - 4:00 P.M.</b>                                 |  |                 |                                 |                |               |
| Bill Girardi; Zach Showers<br>Madison & Dawson Gaillot      | Dave Brestensky; Fred Walker<br>Andrea Camerlo | Jackie DeFelice | Sharon Mihalich                 | Diane Pleva    | Alex Smith    |
| <b>Sunday—8:30 A.M.</b>                                     |  |                 |                                 |                |               |
| Evan McCrea<br>Sarah & Hannah Shepherd<br>Abby Koharchik    | Betty Lou Nemcek<br>Pat Ralston<br>Lisa Boylan | John Nemcek     | John Nemcek<br>Betty Lou Nemcek | Tom Koharchik  | Tom Koharchik |
| <b>Sunday—11:00 A.M.</b>                                    |  |                 |                                 |                |               |
| Marie Pelliccione<br>Mason DeMeno<br>Paige Liti; Evan Giori | Helen James<br>Andre Volek<br>Bill Cogley      | Rob Svitek      | Jill Zalewski                   | Dave Wesolosky | Choir         |

### Mass Intentions

#### MASSSES FOR THE 27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>SATURDAY:</b><br>4:00 P.M.             | October 6th<br>St. Mary Parishioners  |
| <b>SUNDAY:</b><br>8:30 A.M.<br>11:00 A.M. | October 7th<br>✦ Deceased of the Pollicchio Family (The Pollicchio's)<br>✦ Rev. George Alderson (Friends) |
| <b>MONDAY:</b><br>8:00 A.M.               | October 8th<br>✦ Edna Barr (David & Cleatus Burk)   |
| <b>TUESDAY:</b><br>8:00 A.M.              | October 9th<br>✦ Ken Hughes (Cornman Family)  |
| <b>WEDNESDAY:</b><br>8:00 A.M.            | October 10th<br>✦ Ann & Jim Liti (Posney Family)  |
| <b>THURSDAY:</b><br>8:00 A.M.             | October 11th<br>✦ J.D. Easley Family (Estate)   |
| <b>FRIDAY:</b><br>8:00 A.M.               | October 12th<br>✦ Alberta Hager (Patty Hughes & Family)   |

#### MASSSES FOR THE 28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>SATURDAY:</b><br>4:00 P.M.             | October 13th<br>✦ Thomas Dowling (Wife—Betty)                              |
| <b>SUNDAY:</b><br>8:30 A.M.<br>11:00 A.M. | October 14th<br>St. Mary Parishioners<br>✦ Laura Camerlo (Debbie Mielecki) |



The Altar Bread and Wine  
were donated for this week  
in loving memory of  
**FR. GEORGE ALDERSON**  
By  
*Friends of Fr. George*

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



**MARY, LADY OF THE ROSARY**  
By  
*Robert and Diane Grant*

### Collections

#### Offertory Collection for September 30th, 2018

No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 610  
No. of Envelopes Received: 219  
Collection: Offertory - \$4,253.89  
Seminarian & Clergy Collection - \$710.00  
Electronic Payments (19) - \$714.00  
Loose - \$226.00; Children - \$39.00

**Total Collection - \$5,942.89**

**THANK YOU!**



Saturday, October 13th, 2018  
*Donna Smith and Deb Showers*

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