



St. Mary, Mother of God

A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg

A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust

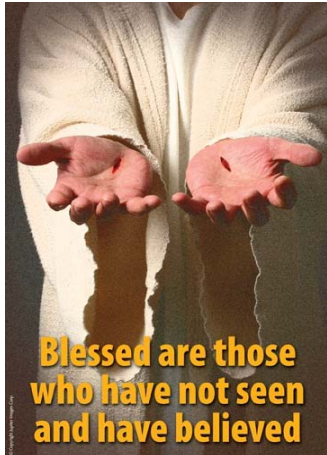
Roman Catholic Church

608 High Street
Freeport, PA 16229



SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY) APRIL 19TH, 2009

“Who indeed is the victor over the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?” — 1 John 5:5



**Blessed are those
who have not seen
and have believed**

MISSING OUT

How often we feel, like Thomas, that we have “missed out” on something that helps others to be more secure in their faith; that if we only had the right proof we would come to a full, complete, and total belief. This is seldom the way in which growth in faith works. Most often, for us as it was for Thomas, it is only by doggedly staying on the journey with Jesus Christ that we will come to greater faith in him. Too many of us believe that our growth in knowledge about our faith or in spiritual depth and awareness stops at a certain age, usually marked by graduation from an educational institution. But a spirit-filled relationship with Christ happens only through consistent pursuit of opportunities to increase our knowledge and understanding of the faith, opportunities to grow in prayer and to be shaped by praying with others, opportunities to bring others to believe through our witness—as evidenced in today’s first reading. Let us look to Thomas, then, as our role model, perhaps even our patron, as we continue to grow in our faith in, and relationship with, the risen Christ.

Today’s Readings: Acts 4:32–35; Ps 118:2–4, 13–15, 22–24; 1 Jn 5:1–6; Jn 20:19–31

Rev. Edward Volz, OSPPE—*Pastor*

Administrative Center - 724-295-2281

Monday thru Thursday - 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

Friday - 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

Fax—724-295-3090

Parish Website

www.stmaryfreeport.com

Parish Email Address

thechurch@stmaryfreeport.com

Religious Education - *Helen James, Director*

724-295-4758

Teen Ministry

First & Third Sundays, 9:25 to 10:35 A.M.

Mass Schedule

Saturday (Vigil) 4:00 P.M.

Sunday 8:30 & 11:00 A.M.

Weekday Masses

Monday - Saturday 8:00 A.M.

Confession

Saturday - 11:00 A.M. - 12:00 Noon

Baptism

Sundays at 12:15 P.M. (by appointment)

Weddings

Notify the Parish six months in advance

Mass Schedule

MASSES FOR THE 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY)

SATURDAY: April 18
4:00 P.M. +Deceased Members of the Lewandowski Family (George Lewandowski)

SUNDAY: April 19
8:30 A.M. +Charles Huth (Rose and Dave Check)
11:00 A.M. St. Mary Parishioners



MONDAY: April 20
8:00 A.M. +Dom Canterna (Lou Kasperik)

TUESDAY: April 21 - *Anselm, Bishop, Doctor of the Church*
8:00 A.M. +Living & Deceased of the Margaret Rizzo Family (Margaret and Lena)



WEDNESDAY: April 22
8:00 A.M. +Frank Stankiewicz (Rich and Karen Brestensky)

THURSDAY: April 23 - *George, Martyr; Adalbert, Bishop, Martyr*
NO MASS 8:00 A.M. - *Communion Service*



FRIDAY: April 24 - *Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest, Martyr*
NO MASS 8:00 A.M. - *Communion Service*



SATURDAY: April 25 - *Mark, Evangelist*
NO 8:00 A.M. MASS or Communion Service



MASSES FOR THE 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

SATURDAY: April 25
4:00 P.M. +Stephana Sutej (Dorothy Grondwalski)

SUNDAY: April 26
8:30 A.M. +Shirley Yost (Dennis and Debbie Baustert)
11:00 A.M. St. Mary Parishioners



Today's Readings:
Acts 4:32-35
1 John 5:1-6
John 20:19-31

Next Sunday's Readings:
Acts 3:13-15, 17-19
1 John 2:1-5a
Luke 24:35-48

Christian Mothers' Cleaning Assignments - Joanne Barber and Connie Waltenbaugh

Liturgical Roles

April 25th & 26th, 2009

Acolytes/Altar Servers:

Sat., 4:00 P.M. **S. Posney**, G. & K. Huth, A. Brestensky
Sun., 8:30 A.M. **J., N. & R. Kolish**, R. Giori
Sun., 11:00 A.M. **A. Isenberg**, A. Smith, B. McBride, A. Romanchak

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

Sat., 4:00 P.M. M. Bale, G. Pernazza, D. Watt
Sun., 8:30 A.M. B. Cogley, J. Bergstrom, G. Cooper
Sun., 11:00 A.M. P. Ralston, P. Hughes, M. Schaeffer

Lectors:

Sat., 4:00 P.M. Laura Huth
Sun., 8:30 A.M. Matt Goldinger
Sun., 11:00 A.M. Diane Zadnik

Cantors:

Sat., 4:00 P.M. Alex Smith
Sun., 8:30 A.M. Tom Koharchik
Sun., 11:00 A.M. Choir

Organists:

Sat., 4:00 P.M. Tom Misutka
Sun., 8:30 A.M. Tom Koharchik
Sun., 11:00 A.M. Dave Wesolosky



Communion Service

There will be a Communion Service for those who would like to receive on Thursday and Friday, at 8:00 A.M. There will be no 8:00 A.M. mass or communion service on Saturday. We will have our 4:00 P.M. Mass on Saturday.



Christian Mothers are hosting a Spring Card and Salad Party Monday, April 27th, 7:00 P.M., in the Church Hall. See today's insert for all details.



The 2nd Annual Community Stations of the Cross Walk was successful due to those who gave so freely of themselves—Father Ed, who set the tone by warmly welcoming the “Walking Pilgrims” into St.

Mary's and sharing spiritual insights regarding the spiritual dynamic at work in the devotions we know as the Stations of the Cross; Jim Negley, who protected everyone along the way—literally; Antonio and Judith Policicchio, who with hammer and twine, marked the path through town early Sunday morn, and “spontaneously” attended to details; and last but not least, **Peter Shipe, Tyler Holbein, Dante Policicchio**, and our Lector, **Nathan McCrae**, for representing St. Mary's Youth with dignity, purpose and professionalism. Thank you, all!



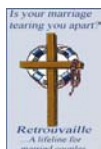
A one-day spiritual adventure entitled “**Catholic Conference at the Camp**” - Saturday, April 25th, at the beautiful conference center at Camp Kon-O-Kwee near Zelenople. Sponsored by Gospa Missions. The day features inspirational speakers, Mass, fifteen decades of the Rosary, and more. Also being offered is a Day at Camp for Kids, ages 6-15. Donation includes buffet lunch and dinner. **Fr. Angelus Shaughnessy**, featured on EWTN for six years and noted speaker, will give two talks and will be the Mass celebrant and homilist. The second speaker will be **Thomas Rutkoski**, international evangelist, author and founder of *Gospa Missions* and *Abode for Children*. For more information, call 724-538-3171.



Practice for First Communion/Confirmation will be held on Thursday, April 30th, at 7:00 P.M., in the Church. **All children, parents and sponsors must be present. Confessions will be heard after practice. First Communion/Confirmation will be held on Sunday, May 3rd, at 1:00 P.M.** The last class for the 2008-2009 school year will be Sunday, May 10th. All students are required to attend this final class and the 11:00 A.M. mass. All children who made their First Holy Communion/Confirmation on May 3rd **must** attend this last class and the 11:00 A.M. mass in their communion/confirmation attire.



Choir Practice will resume on Wednesday, April 22nd, at 7:00 P.M., in church **Remember, when you sing, you are praying, twice.**



Stress in Your Marriage? - Retrouvaille is a program for married couples who feel bored, frustrated, or angry in their marriages. Some experience coldness and simply shut down Others experience conflict and arguments in their relationship. Most don't know how to change the situation or even communicate with their spouse about it. This program has helped tens of thousands of couples experiencing marital difficulty at all levels, including disillusionment and deep misery. For confidential information about or to register for the upcoming program beginning with a weekend on April 24th, please contact Retrouvaille at 412-277-3434. More information is available at www.helpourmarriage.com.



Are You Getting Married? Catholic Engaged Encounter is an opportunity for Christian couples to prepare for a lifetime commitment. If you desire a loving, faithful, permanent and life-giving marriage, consider attending a Catholic Engaged Encounter weekend. This marriage preparation program presents a comprehensive, up-close and personal look at marriage. For additional information, please call George & Pat Ziringer - 724-335-4966. Next scheduled weekend will be held in Greensburg on April 24th-26th.



Natural Family Planning - CM-BBT is a medically based, highly effective NFP method that can be used to avoid, postpone or plan pregnancy. The next CM-BBT Method of Family Planning Session is scheduled for Monday, April 20th, at 6:00 P.M., at the Catholic Charities office in Greensburg. Participants are required to attend only ONE session. The instruction, continued support and follow-up are provided by a medically certified CM-BBT Professional. PRE registration is required. Call Mary Ann Newhouse, Catholic Charities, at 724-837-1840, ext. 658 for additional information or to register.



Spaghetti Dinner at The White Star on Sunday, April 26th, from 3:00 to 7:00 P.M. Menu will consist of spaghetti and a salad. Large/\$7.00—Small/\$5.00. Take-outs will be available.



Rest In Peace - Please pray for the soul of **Harry Goodman** who was recently buried from our parish. May he find eternal happiness with our Lord. Our sympathy and prayers are extended to the family.



Following is the Offertory Collection for April 12th, 2009

- No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 630
- No. of Envelopes Received: 538
- Holy Thursday - \$1,022.00
- Holy Land Collection - \$788.00
- Easter Sunday - \$5,505.00
- Sunday Collection: Offertory - \$4,570.55

THANK YOU!

UPDATE DLA - Our volunteers are in the process of contacting the members of our parish who have not yet responded to this appeal. Please receive them with kindness, and help them to complete this annual appeal. **All volunteers are reminded to turn in their envelopes as soon as possible.**



Please wait until you receive your statement from the Diocese before sending in your next payment. Payments are to be sent in directly to the Diocese.



Freeport Community Yard Sale will be held Saturday, April 25th, 8:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M. This community-wide yard sale is organized and promoted by the Freeport Renaissance Association.

Participating homes and/or businesses should be marked with balloons so that yard sale seekers can find you. Please call 724-295-6551 to place your request for balloons to be brought to your house on Saturday morning.



Pancake & Sausage Breakfast - Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, Sunday, April 19th, St. Gertrude Church Social Hall, Vandergrift - 7:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. Adults/\$4.50, Children (6 to 12 yrs.)/\$2.50, 5 and Under/Free. Unlimited pancakes and coffee. Sausage and orange juice included. Homemade—made from scratch!!!

**St. Mary, Mother of God Church
Membership Form**

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER _____

PLEASE CHECK ONE:

New Registration Change of Address

Moving out of Parish Change of Phone Number

"Please drop form in collection basket or mail to the office"