



A PARISH OF THE DIOCESE OF GREENSBURG

# St. Mary, Mother of God

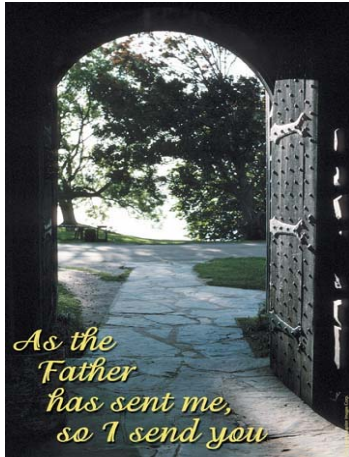
Roman Catholic Church  
608 High Street, Freeport, PA 16229



## SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY) MARCH 30TH, 2008

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

— John 20:29b



Peter's "letter" doesn't even begin with a salutation, as do most of the apostolic letters in the Bible. Rather, his eagerness and joy seem to be so great that he has to begin by bursting out, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!" What an excellent role model for us, to begin everything with praise of God! In his excitement, Peter's recounting of the grace of the Resurrection tumbles over itself as he reminds us of our new birth in living hope, and of the "imperishable, undefiled, unfading" inheritance kept for us in heaven. In his own way, Peter recounts his brother John's beatitude "Blessed are they who have not seen, but believe" when he reminds us that, through baptism, we can love, believe, and rejoice in Christ without seeing him. Like all brothers and sisters in Christ, Peter and John really aren't rivals, but friends, family.

Today's Readings: Acts 2:42-47; Ps 118:1-4, 13-15, 22-24; 1 Pt 1:3-9; Jn 20:19-31

**Rev. John T. Euker, Pastor**

*Office/Parish House—724-295-2281*

**Fax—724-295-3090**

**Parish Website**

[www.stmaryfreeport.com](http://www.stmaryfreeport.com)

**Parish Email Address**

[thechurch@stmaryfreeport.com](mailto:thechurch@stmaryfreeport.com)

**Religious Education - Helen James, Director**

724-295-4758

**St. Mary Church Hall**

724-295-3003

**Teen Ministry**

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

**Mass Schedule**

Saturday (Vigil) 4:00 P.M.

Sunday 8:15 & 11:00 A.M.

**Weekday Masses**

Monday - Saturday 8:00 A.M.

**Confession**

Saturday - 11:00 A.M. - 12 Noon & 3:30 P.M.

**Baptism**

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

**Weddings**

Notify the Parish six months in advance

# Mass Schedule

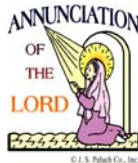
## MASSES FOR THE 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY)

**SATURDAY:** March 29  
4:00 P.M. +Geno Pesci  
(Rose and Edith Pesci)



**SUNDAY:** March 30  
8:15 A.M. +Richard Brestensky, Jr. (Mr. and Mrs. Robert Phillips, Jr. and Family)  
11:00 A.M. St. Mary Parishioners

**MONDAY:** March 31 - *The Annunciation of the Lord*  
8:00 A.M. +Dominic Canterna  
(Freeport Meals on Wheels)

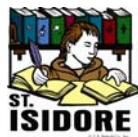


**TUESDAY:** April 1  
8:00 A.M. +Glenn Huth (Mary Venturini)

**WEDNESDAY:** April 2 - *Francis of Paoli, Hermit*  
8:00 A.M. +James Golembesky, Sr. (Ray Tomayko)

**THURSDAY:** April 3  
8:00 A.M. +James Alvino (John Alvino)

**FRIDAY:** April 4 - *Isidore, Bishop, Doctor*  
8:00 A.M. +Peter Murphy (Funeral Choir)



**SATURDAY:** April 5 - *Vincent Ferrer, Priest*  
8:00 A.M. +Larry Probel (Harry and Helen Goodman)

## MASSES FOR THE 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

**SATURDAY:** April 5  
4:00 P.M. +Judi Galie (Mike and Ronna Brestensky and Family)

**SUNDAY:** April 6  
8:15 A.M. St. Mary Parishioners  
11:00 A.M. +Margaret Gooch (Pat and Andrea)



**Today's Readings:** Acts 2:42-47  
1 Peter 1:3-9  
John 20:19-31

**Next Sunday's Readings:** Acts 2:14, 22-33  
1 Peter 1:17-21  
Luke 24:13-35

**Christian Mothers' Cleaning Assignments - Charlene Becker and Mary Ann Miller**

# Liturgical Roles\*

April 5th & 6th, 2008

### Acolytes/Altar Servers:

Sat., 4:00 P.M. **J. Zadnik**, G. & K. Huth  
Sun., 8:15 A.M. **G. Carson**, T. Holbein, D. Policicchio  
Sun., 11:00 A.M. **L. Kriger**, V. Jones, Alyson Smith

### Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

Sat., 4:00 P.M. S. Aul, G. Pernazza, P. Supik  
Sun., 8:15 A.M. B. Nemcek, G. Wilson, G. Cooper  
Sun., 11:00 A.M. C. Higgins, P. Hughes

### Lectors:

Sat., 4:00 P.M. Laura Huth  
Sun., 8:15 A.M. Helen Murphy  
Sun., 11:00 A.M. Jeff Jones

### Cantors:

Sat., 4:00 P.M. Pat Ralston  
Sun., 8:15 A.M. Tom Koharchik  
Sun., 11:00 A.M. Choir

### Organists:

Sat., 4:00 P.M. Sue Myford  
Sun., 8:15 A.M. Tom Koharchik  
Sun., 11:00 A.M. Dave Wesolosky



**Remember** the parish assembly today in our Church Hall at 2:00 P.M. **All** are invited to come and listen and share your own input concerning the future development of our parish.



**St. Mary's** annual spaghetti dinner/bake sale/drawing will be held at the White Star Club - Wednesday, April 16th, 4:00 to 8:00 P.M. Adult tickets/\$6.00 - children under 12/\$4.00. Take-outs will be available. A sign-up sheet will be posted at the Church entrances for anyone willing to help at the dinner. Contacts for the dinner are Helen Murphy, Jeannine Brown, George Lewandowski & Eugene Mennow; for the bake sale, Lola Bono, Helen Goodman & Karol Mennow; for the dinner & drawing tickets, Geno Pernazza, Ray Ravotti & Maryellyn Bale. **We need volunteers to make this a success - men, women, and teenagers. This is a parish project!** Parishioners are now selling tickets for the dinner and drawing. They will also be sold at the Church door before and after all weekend masses.

**All Christian Mothers** and their families are encouraged to sit and pray together at the 8:15 A.M. Mass, next Sunday, April 6th, in front of the Blessed Mother. The Christian Mothers invite all parishioners to join them in church on Monday, April 7th, at 6:30 P.M., to pray the rosary in celebration of the Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel (which is celebrated on April 26th). The monthly business meeting will immediately follow in the church hall. If you need a ride or have any questions, please call Judy Bergstrom at 724-353-2115.



**Freeport Community Blood Drive**, sponsored by the American Red Cross, will be held at The United Methodist Church, 211 Fourth Street, on Thursday, April 3rd, 1:00 to 7:00 P.M. **Someone's**

**Waiting™** "Please donate blood!" Please remember to take some form of ID with you!



**All 8th Grade Religious Education** students and parents are reminded about the video entitled, "Sex Still Has A Price Tag", to be shown on Sunday, April 6th. This is a well made video and has been approved by Fr. John. *All students and parents are encouraged to attend.*



**The Youth Group** would like to thank everyone for their recent pierogie purchases and for supporting this recent fundraiser. It is appreciated!



**Legion of Mary** - You are welcome to attend the next meeting scheduled at 7:00 P.M., on Thursday, April 3rd. There is no obligation to join if you attend one of the meeting.



**Choir Practice** - The next practice is scheduled on Wednesday, April 2nd, at 7:00 P.M., in church **Remember, when you sing, you are praying, twice.**



A warm thank you to all who participated in the *Inaugural Stations of the Cross Walk* through Freeport on a very cold Sunday afternoon. A *special* thank you to the youth leaders representing St. Mary's: Tyler Singer, Christopher and Peter Shippe, John Kristine, Dante Policicchio, and Victor Vujevich.

**During** the month of March, please pray in a special way for all those involved in the *strategic planning efforts* that are taking place within the diocese. Bishop Brandt, along with parish, regional and diocesan leaders, are relying on the prayers and support of all the faithful of our diocese as they strive to answer difficult questions and draft comprehensive plans so that we are prepared to face hurdles and roadblocks that surface on our journey of faith. Please visit [www.dioceseofgreensburg.org](http://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org) and read the Catholic Accent for updates and additional information.

**Protect Marriage in Pennsylvania** - The Lord God said: "It is not good for the man to be alone, I will make a suitable partner for him." The Lord God then built up into a woman the rib that he had taken from the man. *Gen. 2:18, 22.*



**St. Joseph High School Drama Department** will present their Spring musical, "Once On This Island", at the Casino Theatre, 151 Lincoln Avenue, Vandergrift. Dates are April 4th, 5th, 6th, 11th, and 12th, at 7:30 P.M. Also, matinees will be on April 6th and 12th, at 2:00 P.M. For reserved seating, call 724-409-2235.



**Spring Craft Show** - St. Mary, Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, Kittanning - Saturday, April 5th, 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M., in the parish hall. Hall is located at 361 North Jefferson Street, Kittanning.

**St. Mary Cemetery** - If you want your Christmas wreaths and decorations, **please remove them by March 31st.** If you don't, the caretaker will remove and destroy them. Thank you.

**Going Away on Vacation or a Business Trip? Free Ministry** to traveling Catholics. For nationwide Mass times and locations, call 1-410-676-6000 or visit at: [www.Masstimes.org](http://www.Masstimes.org).



**Following is the Offertory Collection for March 23rd, 2008**

No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 621

No. of Envelopes Received: 421

Holy Thursday - \$827.80

Holy Land Collection - \$680.50

Easter Collection: Offertory - \$9,661.00

**THANK YOU!**

**2007 Financial Statements** - Contribution records for 2007 are now available **by request only.** To make arrangements to pick up your records, please call the parish office at 724-295-2281 between 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M., Monday thru Friday. You may also fax your request to 724-295-3090 or email: [thechurch@stmaryfreeport.com](mailto:thechurch@stmaryfreeport.com). **Please remember to give your envelope number.** Thank you!



**DLA** - We are currently at \$47,775.00 pledged, which brings us within \$10,000.00 of our overall goal! Our participation rate continues to climb to over 43%. So, we would like to see 10% more participation and that would bring us over our goal. Remember, we have already surpassed the Diocesan target, so every pledge now is a total gift to St. Mary's without any further Diocesan tax. Many thanks to the nearly 271 participants so far!



**Any volunteers** who did not turn in their envelopes are reminded to do so this week. **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.**

**Stress In Your Marriage** - Retrouvaille is a program for married couples who feel bored, disillusioned, frustrated, or angry in their marriages. Some experience coldness. Others experience conflict in their relationships. Most don't know how to change the situation or even communicate with their spouses about it. This program has helped tens of thousands of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriages. For confidential information about or to register for the spring program beginning with a weekend on April 4th-6th, call 1-800-470-2230, send an email to [3041@retrouvaille.org](mailto:3041@retrouvaille.org), or visit their website at [www.helpourmarriage.com](http://www.helpourmarriage.com).



**Spaghetti Dinner** at The White Star on Sunday, March 30th, from 3:00 to 7:00 P.M. Menu will consist of spaghetti and a salad. Large/\$6.00—Small/\$4.00. Take-outs will be available.

**Pilgrimage** to the National Shrine Grotto of Lourdes in Emmitsburg, MD, will be made by St. Bruno Church on Saturday, April 12th. Bus will leave St. Bruno parking lot at 6:00 A.M. and is expected to return approximately 9:30 P.M. Cost is \$40.00 and includes bus, shrines, travel snacks, and a sit-down lunch. To make reservations or for additional information, call 7247-836-0690, ext. 11. Deadline is Wednesday April 2nd.

**Stay Warm Hot Line** - In need of assistance with heating bills? Visit [www.StayWarmPA.com](http://www.StayWarmPA.com), or call 1-866-550-4355.