



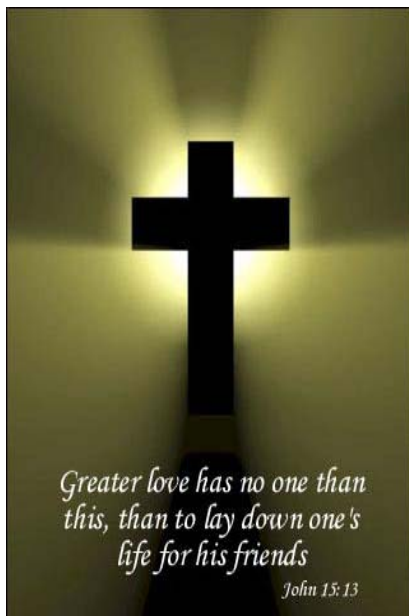
St. Mary, Mother of God

A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg

A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust

Roman Catholic Church

608 High Street
Freeport, PA 16229



SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 17TH, 2009

*"It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you
and appointed you to go and bear fruit."*

— John 15:16

We have a unique episode in the Acts of the Apostles today. A whole roomful of people are baptized with the Holy Spirit before they are baptized with water! The verb used—"the Holy Spirit 'fell' on them"—is characteristic of the way the Spirit works throughout the book of Acts: powerful and surprising. Though this "baptism" is not the normative way the New Testament describes baptism, it is still a good reminder today that the Holy Spirit is not controlled by whether or not we pour water, but rather that our sacramental signs reveal the presence of the Spirit at work among us. And we have a double reinforcement of how this work is accomplished from a letter and a Gospel bearing John's name. It is love, self-sacrificing and self-giving love, that manifests the Spirit of Jesus in our midst. It is love that is the greatest of commandments. The Spirit is manifested equally through those who live in that love.

Today's Readings: Acts 10:25–26, 34–35, 44–48; Ps 98:1–4; 1 Jn 4:7–10; Jn 15:9–17

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 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SATURDAY: May 16
4:00 P.M. +Mary Lowers
(Denise & Gene Tannler & Family)



SUNDAY: May 17
8:30 A.M. St. Mary Parishioners
11:00 A.M. +Richard Huth (Bertie & Dave Blaylock)

MONDAY: May 18 - *John I, Pope, Martyr*
8:00 A.M. +Harold Wyant (Family)



TUESDAY: May 19
8:00 A.M. +Ambrose and Helen Gallagher (Wedding Anniversary) The Gallagher Family

WEDNESDAY: May 20 - *Bernardine of Siena, Priest*



NO 8:00 A.M.
7:00 P.M. +Stella Trettel (Bob Trettel)

THURSDAY: May 21 - *The Ascension of the Lord*
8:00 A.M. St. Mary Parishioners
7:00 P.M. Steve Brestensky, Sr.
(Rich and Karen Brestensky)



FRIDAY: May 22 - *Rita of Cascia, Religious*
8:00 A.M. +Mary Louise Young
(Helen Goodman)



SATURDAY: May 23
8:00 A.M. +Julian and Wladyslawa Nowakowski
(Dolores Watt)

MASSES FOR THE 7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SATURDAY: May 23
4:00 P.M. +Gene T. Showers (Tom Showers Family)

SUNDAY: May 24
8:30 A.M. St. Mary Parishioners
11:00 A.M. +Louise and Dena Poretti (Son and Daughter)



Today's Readings:
Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48
1 John 4:7-10
John 15:9-17

Next Sunday's Readings:
Acts:1:15-17, 20a, 20c-26
1 John 4:11-16
John 17:11b-19

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

Liturgical Roles

May 20th, 21st, 23rd & 24th, 2009

Acolytes/Altar Servers:

Wed., 7:00 P.M. S. & E. Posney, V. Jones, A. Smith
Thurs., 7:00 P.M. J., N. & R. Kolish, B. McBride
Sat., 4:00 P.M. P. & J. D'Amico, B. Kolek, A. Brestensky
Sun., 8:30 A.M. P. & C. Shipe, J. Kristine, R. Giori
Sun., 11:00 A.M. A. Isenberg, V. Jones, A. Smith, B. McBride

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

Wed., 7:00 P.M. S. Aul, M. Bale, P. Supik
Thurs., 7:00 P.M. A. Camerlo, J. Bergstrom, B. Girardi
Sat., 4:00 P.M. D. Watt, A. Camerlo, S. Aul
Sun., 8:30 A.M. R. Check, G. Wilson, B. Girardi
Sun., 11:00 A.M. C. Higgins, L. Isenberg, M. Schaeffer

Lectors:

Wed., 7:00 P.M. Laura Huth
Thurs., 7:00 P.M. Helen Murphy
Sat., 4:00 P.M. Judy Bergstrom
Sun., 8:30 A.M. Geno Pernazza
Sun., 11:00 A.M. Bill Cogley

Cantors:

Wed., 7:00 P.M. Tom Koharchik
Thurs., 7:00 P.M. Sue Myford
Sat., 4:00 P.M. Alex Smith
Sun., 8:30 A.M. Tom Koharchik
Sun., 11:00 A.M. Choir

Organists:

Wed., 7:00 P.M. Tom Koharchik
Thurs., 7:00 P.M. Sue Myford
Sat., 4:00 P.M. Tom Misutka
Sun., 8:30 A.M. Tom Koharchik
Sun., 11:00 A.M. Dave Wesolosky



Holy Day of Obligation Thursday, May 21st, 2009 "The Ascension of the Lord"

Masses will be celebrated **Wednesday**, at 7:00 P.M., and **Thursday** at 8:00 A.M. and 7:00 P.M.



With gratitude to God, we have completed our mission conducted by Fathers Victor Karls and Joseph Butz, C.Ss.R. We thank Fr. Vic and Fr. Joe for sharing their love and enthusiasm with us this past week. We pray that the Holy Spirit will pour forth many blessings upon our parish in the days ahead. May God continue to bless Father's Vic and Joe in their retreat work.



A Family Brunch will be held on Sunday, June 7th, immediately following the 8:30 A.M. Mass, in the parish hall. Everyone is invited to attend. Meat and rolls will be provided by the Christian Mothers. Each family is asked to bring their favorite brunch item or dessert to share. There is no cost. Reservations must be made by calling Joanne Colpo at 724-295-4379 no later than Tuesday, June 2nd.



Life Choices 1st Annual Charity Yard Sale and Vendor Show (105 South Pike Road, Sarver) will be held Saturday, May 30th - 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Food—Bake Sale—Drawings! Vendors welcome! For all information or to donate items/bake sale goodies, call 724-295-1904.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the following children who recently made their First Holy Communion and Confirmation:

First Holy Communion/Confirmation

Celeste Beacom
Cameron Bennick
Cole Bennick
Emma Daugherty
Allison DeJidas
Carlie Giori
Emily Huff
Evan McCrea

Danate Morgante
Caitlyn Pascucci
Austin Romanchak
Jody Seger
Joshua Tirdel
Miles Troup
Zachary Zecca
Zane Zeppuhar
John Zurisko



First Holy Communion

Lexi Allen

Confirmation

Derek Christopher
Jared Kapustik



Tyler Bennick
Julie Cepec



Choir Practice will resume this Wednesday, May 20th. Practice will immediately follow the 7:00 P.M. Mass. *Remember, when you sing, you are praying, twice.*

GRADUATES

Attention - All St. Mary parishioners who are graduating from High School this year are invited to attend the 8:30 A.M. graduation recognition Mass on Sunday, May 31st. Graduates are to attend mass in their cap and gown. A breakfast (sponsored by the Christian Mothers) will follow immediately after mass in the church hall. Please call Bridget at 724-294-0089 to make your reservations. Graduates and family members must RSVP no later than Sunday, May 24th.



Memorial Day will be here before you know it. We are looking for veterans from our parish who would like to volunteer to renovate and repair the flagpole in front of our Parish Center. The pole will be lowered to ground level to accomplish this task. We are also looking for an electrician to install lights to illuminate our flag. If you are interested, please call the office at 724-295-2281.



The Benedictine Nuns of St. Emma Monastery & Retreat House will have an Evening of Recollection on Wednesday, May 27th, from 3:45 to 9:00 P.M. Retreat master for the evening will be Rev. Leon Hont, OSB, Pastor of St. Bartholomew Church, Crabtree. The evening's theme will be *www.God*. Included will be Eucharistic adoration, opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, several conferences, dinner and Mass. Cost for the evening is \$20. For information or reservations, call 724-834-3060, ext. 139. You may also email: reservations@stemma.org.



Red Geranium forms are located at the entrance by the confessional. Flowers may be taken home immediately following the 11:00 A.M. Mass on Sunday, May 31st. Completed forms and money may be put in a marked envelope (Geraniums) and placed in the collection basket or dropped off at the parish office **no later than Monday, May 25th.**

Collections

Following is the Offertory Collection for May 10th, 2009

No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 630
No. of Envelopes Received: 255
Sunday Collection: Offertory - \$5,871.00
Children's - \$51.05

THANK YOU!



Communications Media - The annual collection for the U.S. Bishops' Catholic Communication Campaign will be held today. Half of the donations stay in the diocese to support local projects, including *The Catholic Accent* and the diocesan website. The other half supports multimedia projects developed by the Catholic Communication Campaign, an initiative of the U.S. bishops that promotes Gospel values through the media. Your generous contribution is appreciated!

UPDATE

DLA - Our appeal is coming to an end, however, it's not too late to make your pledge. If you have not responded yet, please consider doing so this week. I thank everyone who has responded thus far to our Diocesan Lenten Appeal. We will be bringing this year's campaign to a close within the next couple of weeks. **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.**



Anyone who ordered flats and potted plants from the teen ministry may pick them up in the garage behind the Retreat Center after Mass next weekend, May 23rd-24th.



Freeport's Annual Memorial Day Observance will be held Monday, May 25th. Activities commence at 9:30 A.M. as the parade departs Freeport Junior High for Riverside Drive. The parade will travel down Buffalo Street, turning right to Fifth Street to Market Street, then onto Riverside Drive. Riverfront Services will begin 10:00 A.M. in front of Freeport High-Rise to honor those who have fought and died for our country's freedom. This year's guest speaker is Freeport High School Choir Director, (and also St. Mary's Choir Director), **SSGT Thomas Koharchik, US Army**. VFW Post 6648 would like to honor our hometown heroes and invite any and all members of the community who has had military service—active, reserve, guard, retired—to march with the VFW as a participant in the parade. If you are interested, please be at the Junior High School at 9:15 A.M. for the line-up! In the event of rain, services will be held in the Junior High Auditorium. On Saturday, May 23rd, flags will be placed on veterans' graves in the local cemeteries including Freeport, St. Mary's, McVile, and Slate Lick. If you are interested in helping, please meet at the Freeport VFW at 1:00 P.M. Also, collection bins will be available at the Memorial Day Service for worn/used flags that will be disposed of at the "Retirement of the Flag" Ceremony on June 14th. ****Non-perishable food items are requested in support of the Freeport Area Food Bank. Containers for donations will be located at the Riverside Park gazebo during Freeport's Memorial Day Service.**