



A PARISH OF THE DIOCESE OF GREENSBURG

St. Mary, Mother of God

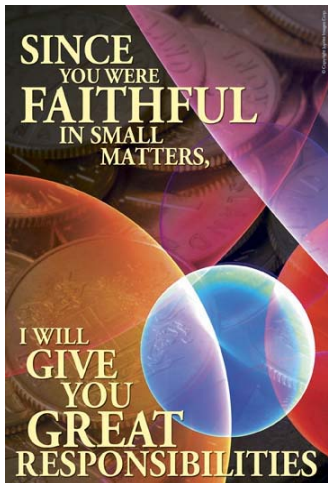
Roman Catholic Church
608 High Street, Freeport, PA 16229



**THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
NOVEMBER 16TH, 2008**

"Blessed are you who fear the LORD."

— Psalm 128:1a



WHAT IS EXPECTED

In Matthew, this is the last parable Jesus will tell his followers before his passion, death, and resurrection. Only next week's allegory of the sheep and goats stands between this parable and the beginning of the Passion drama. So the purpose of this parable in the Gospel is no longer merely to instruct the disciples of Jesus in matters of proclaiming the gospel, but they are meant to be, simultaneously, keys to understanding the ministry of Jesus, particularly of his pending death and resurrection into his Father's joy. We see in Jesus an example of God's servant who lived industriously and wisely, to bring back to his Father a bountiful return. Consequently, the decision for us is to be like the second servant, who like the first (Christ, our example), does likewise, though to a lesser degree; or we may choose to be like the third, who does absolutely nothing, expends no effort in his master's service, and is forbidden from sharing his master's joy.

Today's Readings: Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31; Ps 128:1-5; 1 Thes 5:1-6; Mt 25:14-30 [14-15, 19-21]

Rev. Edward Volz, OSP, Pastor
Office/Parish House—724-295-2281

Fax—724-295-3090

Parish Website
www.stmaryfreeport.com

Parish Email Address
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 8:30 & 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

MassSchedule

MASSES FOR THE 33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- SATURDAY:** November 15
4:00 P.M. +George W. Coward (Linda)
- SUNDAY:** November 16
8:30 A.M. St. Mary Parishioners
11:00 A.M. +Arthur Bocchi (Martin and Silvia Sikora)
- MONDAY:** November 17 - *Elizabeth of Hungary*
8:00 A.M. +Bruce Merryman & Roberta Coffee (Janis Sikora)
- TUESDAY:** November 18 - *The Dedication of the Basilicas of St. Peter and St. Paul in Rome, Apostles; Rose Philippine Duchesne, Virgin*
8:00 A.M. +Merry DeMao (Robert & Judy Bergstrom)
- WEDNESDAY:** November 19
8:00 A.M. +Betty Kirkland (Dave & Bertie Blaylock)
- THURSDAY:** November 20
8:00 A.M. +Richard Fuhrman (Joe & Alberta Hager)
- FRIDAY:** November 21 - *The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary*
8:00 A.M. +Stephen A. Sudy (Anthony DiMeno Family)
- SATURDAY:** November 22 - *Cecilia, Virgin*
8:00 A.M. +Beverly McClain (Bob & Judy)



MASSES FOR OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST THE KING

- SATURDAY:** November 22
4:00 P.M. +Ruth Milbert (Daughter)
- SUNDAY:** November 23
8:30 A.M. Legion of Mary
11:00 A.M. St. Mary Parishioners



Today's Readings: Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31
1 Thessalonians 5:1-6
Matthew 25:14-30 or 14-15, 19-21

Next Sunday's Readings: Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17
1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28
Matthew 25:31-46

Christian Mothers' Cleaning Assignments - Jeannine Brown and Rose Check

Liturgical Roles

November 22nd & 23rd, 2008

- Acolytes/Altar Servers:**
Sat., 4:00 P.M. S. & E. Posney, B. Kolek
Sun., 8:30 A.M. J., N. & R. Kolish
Sun., 11:00 A.M. A. Isenberg, V. Jones, A. Smith
- Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:**
Sat., 4:00 P.M. B. Girardi, F. Walker, G. Cooper
Sun., 8:30 A.M. D. Watt, B. Nemcek, R. Check
Sun., 11:00 A.M. A. Volek, D. Showers, L. Isenberg
- Lectors:**
Sat., 4:00 P.M. Gloria DeMeno
Sun., 8:30 A.M. Randy Mielecki
Sun., 11:00 A.M. Jeff Jones
- Cantors:**
Sat., 4:00 P.M. Alex Smith
Sun., 8:30 A.M. Tom Koharchik
Sun., 11:00 A.M. Kathy Conley
- Organists:**
Sat., 4:00 P.M. Tom Misutka
Sun., 8:30 A.M. Tom Koharchik
Sun., 11:00 A.M. Dave Wesolosky



St. Mary's Church - Just a reminder that the only entrance that will now remain unlocked on a daily basis until 5:00 P.M. will be the side entrance located next to the parish house.



A special and sincere thank you to all the wonderful bakers of the parish who donated baked goods last weekend for our reception for Fr. Edward Volz. Everyone enjoyed themselves and it was a wonderful way to meet and welcome our new pastor.



Community Thanksgiving Service - Sunday, November 23rd at 7:00 P.M. at Trinity Lutheran Church. Join our neighbors and give thanks and praise for the blessings of our nation. The pastors of the Freeport Council of Churches and the Community Choir will participate. Please consider taking your family to this celebration!



All Christian Mothers and their families are invited to their annual *Christmas Gathering* on Sunday, December 7th, immediately following the 11:00 A.M. mass, in the Church Hall. Adult entrée choices are: Stuffed Chicken Breast or Roast Beef for \$12.00. Children's entrée will be Chicken Fingers and French Fries for \$3.50. To make your reservations, please call Josephine Holmes at 724-295-9743 or Rose Check at 724-295-3320. Please plan to attend their Celebration of the Season with your family. You must RSVP no later than Wednesday, December 3rd.



Graced and Gifted: Biblical Wisdom for the Homemaker's Heart - the final session will be held **Sunday, November 16th, 6:30 to 8:15 P.M., in the Church Hall.**



Thank you to **Nancy Laux** and **Greg Rutkoski** for donating a portion of their winnings from our recent raffle. Your generosity is very much appreciated.

Sexual Abuse - If you have a concern about sexual abuse of a child or young person by anyone in a parish or diocesan position (clergy, volunteer, or paid staff), please contact Bishop Brandt's delegate for matters of sexual misconduct. He may be reached at 724-837-0901, Ext. 221.



“Presents For Patients” - Any CCD student that has not sent in their \$4.00 for the annual “Presents for Patients” project is asked to do so no later than Sunday, November 23rd. The teachers need time to go shopping. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Anyone that has not sent in their tuition money is asked to do so as soon as possible. Thank you!



“Adopt A Family For Christmas”- The teen ministry will be collecting at all the entrances of the church after all the masses the weekend of November 22nd-23rd, asking for donations for their **“adopted families”**. The Hope Center is a shelter for abused women and their children. Mothers and their children temporarily living at this shelter have no financial means to provide Christmas gifts, so all money collected will be used to buy Christmas gifts for the two adopted families. One mother has one boy (3 yrs. old) and one girl (5 yrs. old). The other mother has two girls (ages 1 and 4). The teens would like to give them a Christmas that is filled with peace, joy and love. Your support is needed for this worthy project. Any monetary donation will be greatly appreciated.



The Teen Ministry continues to collect empty inkjet cartridges for recycling and inactive cell phones. Please look for the recycling boxes that are **now located next to the confessional**. Your continued support is appreciated.



Poinsettias - The Teen Ministry is selling poinsettias, wreaths and swags. The poinsettias come in a variety of sizes and colors and the wreaths in several sizes. See insert in today’s bulletin for all details and prices. Deadline for orders is Sunday, November 30th. Completed forms and money (checks are to be made payable to **St. Mary Youth Group**) are to be put in an envelope marked “Poinsettia Sale”, and may be placed in the collection basket or dropped off at the parish office. Pick-up dates are December 6th & 7th, after mass.



The teen ministry is selling Subway fundraiser cards (see insert in today’s bulletin). Cost is \$10.00 and can provide a large savings to the card holder for breakfast, lunch or dinner. There is no expiration date on the card and can be used at three locations - Buffalo Plaza (Sarver), Walmart BP Exit 16 (Route 908), and at the Walmart located in Natrona Heights. To order your card(s), please place your completed order form and payment (checks to be made payable to St. Mary’s Youth Group) in an envelope marked “Teen Ministry” and place in the collection basket or drop off at the Parish Office. If you have any questions, please contact Pat Westerman at 724-224-8865 (pataw@verizon.net), or Beth Macurdy at 724-295-9411 (bmacurdy@ufcw.org). These cards would be great stocking stuffers, birthday gifts, or just a great way to treat yourself. **Deadline is Sunday, November 30th. Pick-up dates are December 6th & 7th.**



Cemetery Lot Promotion - At this time, we are promoting and encouraging the purchase of lots in our beautiful St. Mary’s Cemetery. We recently put in a new water line and have purchased a new tractor. To keep pace with our expenses, we thought this promotional opportunity would be timely. In the spring, the purchase amount for a lot will be raised to \$500.00 for parishioners and \$600.00 for Catholics who are not parishioners. **You may purchase a lot from now until March 1st, 2009, at the current price of \$400.00 (\$500.00 for Catholics of another parish). Act now to secure a space.** Lots may be paid off in monthly installments, up to six months. No tombstones or interments will be permitted if the lot is not paid off. Please call Richard at 724-295-3632 for a purchase agreement.



Following is the Offertory Collection for November 9th, 2008
 No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 616
 No. of Envelopes Received: 265
 Sunday Collection: Offertory - \$6,113.00
 Children’s - \$16.00
 Retirement Fund for Religious - \$165.00
THANK YOU!



Diocesan Collection - Next Sunday, there will be a collection for the combination of two national collections - **Catholic Relief Services (CRS)** and the **Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD)**.

Clelian Heights School for Exceptional Children in Greensburg is having their Third Annual Holly Berry Juried Craft Fair on December 5th & 6th. A Ziti Dinner will be held on Friday, December 5th, from 5:00 to 8:00 P.M. Christmas Tree Lane chances, Raffle Chances and a Bake Sale will be available both days and Breakfast with Santa and entertainment will be provided on Saturday, December 6th. Craft show hours are 5:00 to 8:00 P.M. on Friday and 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. on Saturday. For *Dinner and Breakfast with Santa* reservations or additional information, please call Ann Miles at 724-837-8120, Ext. 124.

DCCW - **“Advent Evening of Recollection to prepare yourself for Jesus’ Birth”** will be held Thursday, December 4th, at St. Emma’s Monastery, Greensburg, with Guest Speaker and Mass Celebrant Reverend Martin R. Bartel, OSB. This is open to both men and women. Registration (\$20.00) will begin at 4:00 P.M., confessions to be heard at 4:30 P.M., Rosary at 4:45 P.M., 1st Conference at 5:15 P.M. in the Chapel, 6:00 P.M. dinner, Mass and 2nd conference at 7:15 P.M. Please call Debbie Baustert at 724-295-2256 for reservations, and/or transportation. This is hosted by the Greensburg Diocesan Council of Catholic Women.



St. Joseph High School, Harrison, will host an Open House on Wednesday, November 19th, from 7:00 to 9:00 P.M. Parents and students interested in visiting the school and learning more about what St. Joseph High School has to offer are invited to attend. Walk-ins are welcome. If you would like additional details, please call the school office at 724-224-5552.



Healing Mass - There will be a Healing Mass at St. Paul Parish, Greensburg, on Wednesday, November 19th, at 7:00 P.M. Praise and worship will begin at 6:30 P.M. and individual prayer will be available following the Mass. For additional information, please call 724-834-6880.

natural family planning



Natural Family Planning - CM-BBT is a medically based, highly effective NFP method that can be used to postpone or plan pregnancy. Next CM-BBT Method of Family Planning Session is scheduled Monday, December 15th, 6:00 P.M., at the Catholic Charities office, 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 required. If interested, call Mary Ann Newhouse, Catholic Charities, at 724-837-1840, ext. 658.

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 their website at: www.Masstimes.org.