



A PARISH OF THE DIOCESE OF GREENSBURG

St. Mary, Mother of God

Roman Catholic Church
608 High Street, Freeport, PA 16229



THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME OCTOBER 26TH, 2008

"You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." — Matthew 22:37



COMPASSION AND JUSTICE

Because we are not perfect in love, or anything else, Jesus came with great love to teach us how to love. With great compassion, he showed us how to treat one another, both in his teaching and in his life, death, and resurrection. We have before us many examples of those who have lived this law of love and life. The Thessalonians in their great faith under difficult conditions were an example to others in their own time. Exodus gives us many examples of ways in which we are to treat others with justice and compassion: we are not to deprive another of his or her only shelter from cold; we are to use our financial resources to help and not to oppress others. These are just a few examples. The law cannot cover everything. Only love can teach us what we are to do. Only love.

Today's Readings: Ex 22:20–26; Ps 18:2–4, 47, 51; 1 Thes 1:5c–10; Mt 22:34–40

Rev. John T. Euker, *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 30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- SATURDAY:** October 25
4:00 P.M. +Andrew Rezak (Rezak Family)
- SUNDAY:** October 26
8:30 A.M. +Peter Murphy
(Bob and Amy Holbein)
11:00 A.M. St. Mary Parishioners
- MONDAY:** October 27
8:00 A.M. +Warren Watt (Wife, Dolores)
- TUESDAY:** October 28 - *Simon and Jude, Apostles*
8:00 A.M. +James and Louis DeBlasio
(Betty Labiaux)
- WEDNESDAY:** October 29
8:00 A.M. +Dorothy Pofi (John and Lynette Bevilacqua)
- THURSDAY:** October 30
8:00 A.M. +Mary Pesci Ranieri (Richard Wesolosky)
- FRIDAY:** October 31
8:00 A.M. +Domenic Alvino (Wife, Josephine)
- SATURDAY:** November 1 - *All Saints*
8:00 A.M. +Elizabeth I. DiMeno
(Anthony W. DiMeno & Family)



MASSES FOR THE 31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- SATURDAY:** November 1
4:00 P.M. +Geno Pesci (The Geary's)
- SUNDAY:** November 2 - *The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls)*
8:30 A.M. +Deceased Members of the Christian Mothers(Christian Mothers)
11:00 A.M. St. Mary Parishioners



Today's Readings:
Exodus 22:20-26
1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10
Matthew 22:34-40

Next Sunday's Readings:
Wisdom 3:1-9
Romans 5:5-11
John 6:37-40

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

Liturgical Roles

November 1st & 2nd, 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, D. Watt
Sun., 8:30 A.M. B. Nemcek, J. Bergstrom, G. Cooper
Sun., 11:00 A.M. L. Isenberg, C. Higgins, M. Schaeffer
- Lectors:**
Sat., 4:00 P.M. Diane Zadnik
Sun., 8:30 A.M. Bill Cogley
Sun., 11:00 A.M. Jeff Jones
- Cantors:**
Sat., 4:00 P.M. Jamie Phillips
Sun., 8:30 A.M. Tom Koharchik
Sun., 11:00 A.M. Pat Ralston
- Organists:**
Sat., 4:00 P.M. Tom Misutka
Sun., 8:30 A.M. Tom Koharchik
Sun., 11:00 A.M. Dave Wesolosky




Thanks so much! **To Father John Euker** - Thursday, October 30th, will be the last day you will be our pastor here at St. Mary, Mother of God Church. It is with great sadness that we say "farewell" to you. Even though your stay with us was very short, your spiritual guidance, commitment to St. Mary's, and your many accomplishments (in the little time you had) in helping us move forward has left a permanent spot in our hearts. Memories last a lifetime, and you, Fr. John, are one of those memories for all of us. It has been an honor to have you with us. We are grateful for all that you have done, and please believe us when we say, "we will miss you!" —St. Mary Parishioners and Staff


Fall Card Party - Monday, October 27th, 7:00 P.M., Church Hall. Cost - \$8.00/person and includes unlimited salad bar, refreshments and prizes. For more information and tickets, call Charmaine Macurdy at 724-353-2038.


St. Mary's Annual Thanksgiving Bingo/Bake Sale/ Drawing/Door Prizes - Sunday, **November 2nd**, in our Church Hall. Bake sale begins 8:30 A.M., the early bird bingo at 1:30 P.M., and the regular bingo at 1:45 P.M. Donation - \$10/ticket. Tickets will be on sale before and after the weekend masses at the church entrance. A \$10 ticket will entitle you to 2 lap boards, 1 set of specials, and a door prize chance. Lots of prize money - \$25 for each regular game, \$50 for specials, a \$500 jackpot, and door prizes. Food and refreshments will be sold. Please call the following people if you can help: Geno Pernazza (295-3505), Ray Ravotti (295-9348), Maryellyn Bale (353-9006), Betty Canterna (295-2972), bingo/drawing; Helen Murphy (295-2701), food and refreshments; Lola Bono (295-2923), Charmaine Macurdy (353-2038), baked goods; and to donate door prizes, call Ray Ravotti (295-9348). Please reserve this day for your parish and join in the fun!


WOMEN Graced and Gifted: Biblical Wisdom for the Homemaker's Heart - third session will be held **Sunday, October 26th, 6:30 to 8:15 P.M., in the Church Hall.** If you were not able to attend the prior sessions, consider attending this one.


Christian Mothers - Sunday, November 2nd, at 8:30 A.M., the Christian Mother's monthly mass will be offered in honor of all deceased members of the Confraternity of Christian Mothers. All members and their families are asked to sit in front of the Blessed Mother, pray, and receive Communion together.

 **Christian Mothers** are selling Pittsburgh Area Entertainment Books—\$20.00/each. Please call Joanne Colpo at 724-295-4379 to place your order.


 **Annual "Blessing Bag" Campaign** - The Freeport Ministerial Association is requesting you and your family be a "Blessing" to those in need by filling a grocery bag with non-perishable food items...and returning your filled bag to the church Sunday, October 26th or Sunday, November 2nd. Filled grocery bags will be taken to the Freeport Food Bank in time for their pre-Thanksgiving distribution.

 **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, November 3rd, 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.

 **Are You Getting Married?** Catholic Engaged Encounter is an opportunity for Christian couples to prepare for a lifetime commitment. 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, November 7th-9th. You may also call Brian and Nancy Stevens at 412-861-0262 for the next scheduled weekend at the Gilmory Diocesan Center, Coraopolis, on November 14th-16th.


 **Freeport VFW, Post #6648** will conduct the first "Retirement of the Flag" Ceremony on Saturday, November 8th, at 6:30 P.M., at Riverside Park. According to the U.S. Flag Code, "The flag, when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning." As a service to the community, Post #6648 is collecting worn U.S. Flags until November 7th, at the following locations throughout town: *VFW, Post Office, Library, and Borough Building*. These flags will be respectfully disposed of at the ceremony. All are welcome to attend this solemn service. Refreshments will be served at VFW, Post #6648, following the ceremony.


The Office for Clergy Vocations of the Diocese of Greensburg will be sponsoring a "Come and See" vocational discernment experience at St. Mark Seminary, Erie, on Friday, October 31st thru Saturday evening, November 1st. This program is an opportunity to visit the seminary and participate in a variety of vocational conferences, prayer experiences, and spend some time with seminarians including those studying for our diocese. This opportunity is open to men 16 years of age and older who believe that God may be calling them to the priesthood. For more information, please contact Father Larry Kulick, Director for clergy Vocations, at 724-837-0901, ext. 332, or you may email: lkulick@dioceseofgreensburg.org


 **Freeport "Trick or Treat"** will be held Thursday, October 30th, 6:00 to 8:00 P.M. Residents wishing to participate are asked to leave their porch lights on.





Following is the Offertory Collection for October 19th, 2008
 No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 618
 No. of Envelopes Received: 253
 Sunday Collection: Offertory - \$4,436.47
THANK YOU!


 **Thank you** for your generosity on World Mission Sunday. Our parish offered \$529.00 to the Propagation of the Faith Appeal. Please continue to pray for missionaries. **May God bless all of you!**

 **The Diocesan Collection** next weekend benefits the elderly women and men religious (*Retirement Fund for Religious*). More than 19,000 religious have less than 20 percent of the amount needed for projected costs of living and health care. **Please give generously!**

 **Cemetery Lot Promotion** - In the coming months, we will be 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. Call Richard at 724-295-3632 for a purchase agreement.

 **Healing Mass** at St. Paul Church, 820 Carbon Road, Greensburg, at 7:00 P.M., on Wednesday, October 29th; praise and worship begins at 6:30 P.M.; individual prayer will be available following the Mass. For additional information, please call their Parish Office at 724-834-6880.

 **Spaghetti Dinner** - White Star Club will have a spaghetti dinner on Sunday, October 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.

 **As a United Way Partner Agency, Catholic Charities** of the Diocese of Greensburg is asking for your help and support. Your participation is critical to maintaining the vital services for families and individuals in our Diocese, providing them with help and creating hope. Please consider exercising your **Donor Choice Option** by designating **Catholic Charities** on your United Way pledge form. Thank you.

Wisdom...According to Mother Teresa

*Life is an opportunity, benefit from it. Life is beauty, admire it.
 Life is a dream, realize it. Life is a challenge, meet it.
 Life is a duty, complete it. Life is a game, play it.
 Life is a promise, fulfill it. Life is sorrow, overcome it.
 Life is a song, sing it. Life is a struggle, accept it.
 Life is a tragedy, confront it. Life is an adventure, dare it.
 Life is luck, make it. Life is too precious, do not destroy it.
 Life is life, fight for it.*

