



A PARISH OF THE DIOCESE OF GREENSBURG

# St. Mary, Mother of God

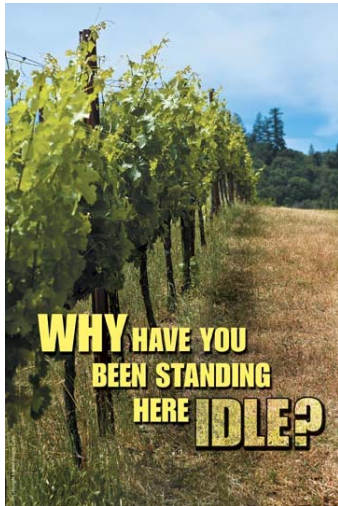
Roman Catholic Church  
608 High Street, Freeport, PA 16229



## TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME SEPTEMBER 21ST, 2008

*“Turn to the LORD for mercy; to our God, who is generous in forgiving.”*

— Isaiah 55:7b



### A CALL TO THE VINEYARD

What are we supposed to think about the Gospel for today? The workers hired at dawn agreed to the usual daily wage. Yet at the end of the day, when they got their money—the money they had agreed to—they were grumbling at the great injustice just meted out to them. What gives?

What gives, of course, is all those other workers Jesus tells us about—especially the ones who came very late in the day—who got the same pay as the poor Joes picking or pruning or digging since dawn. It doesn't seem right, does it? Not fair at all! But then there's Isaiah: "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord." We are all called to do the Lord's work, but each of us does it in our own individual way. "Fruitful labor," Paul calls it, whether it has to do with grapes or not. So it doesn't matter if you are a farmer or a brain surgeon, a student or a teacher, a preacher or the person in the last pew. Regardless of how we interpret God's call to us or our own unique circumstances, may we, like the apostle Paul, be forever mindful of our truest calling—to live and die in Christ—and conduct ourselves in an appropriate and worthy way.

**Today's Readings:** Is 55:6–9; Ps 145:2–3, 8–9, 17–18; Phil 1:20c–24, 27a; Mt 20:1–16a

**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 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**SATURDAY:** September 20  
4:00 P.M. +Ralph Westerman, III (Betty Dowling)

**SUNDAY:** September 21  
8:15 A.M. St. Mary Parishioners  
11:00 A.M. +Linda Sprentz  
(Kay Potosky)



**MONDAY:** September 22  
8:00 A.M. +Paul Huth (Mom and Dad)

**TUESDAY:** September 23 - *Pio of Pietrelcina, Priest*  
8:00 A.M. +Margaret Gooch (Family)



**WEDNESDAY:** September 24  
8:00 A.M. +Ann Liti (Rezak Family)

**THURSDAY:** September 25  
8:00 A.M. +Joan Sliwiak (Daughter and Family)

**FRIDAY:** September 26  
8:00 A.M. *Cosmas and Damian, Martyrs*  
+Cora Paprocki  
(Mary Brestensky)



**SATURDAY:** September 27 - *Vincent de Paul, Priest*  
8:00 A.M. +John Smith (Jennie Lutynski)



## MASSES FOR THE 26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**SATURDAY:** September 27  
4:00 P.M. +Glenn Huth  
(Jeannie Gaillot and Jennifer Bottles)

**SUNDAY:** September 28  
8:15 A.M. +Mary Conti (Robert and Rena Reeping)  
11:00 A.M. St. Mary Parishioners



**Today's Readings:**  
Isaiah 55:6-9  
Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a  
Matthew 20:1-16a

**Next Sunday's Readings:**  
Ezekiel 18:25-28  
Philippians 2:1-11 or 2:1-5  
Matthew 21:28-32

**Christian Mothers' Cleaning Assignments - Kathy Bordonaro and Christine Bender**

# Liturgical Roles

September 27th & 28th, 2008

**Acolytes/Altar Servers:**

Sat., 4:00 P.M. A. Brestensky, J. Kristine  
Sun., 8:15 A.M. P. & C. Shipe, J. Nigra  
Sun., 11:00 A.M. P. & J. D'Amico, A. Romanchak

**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:**

Sat., 4:00 P.M. M. Bale, G. Cooper, D. Showers  
Sun., 8:15 A.M. G. Wilson, P. Hughes, B. Cogley  
Sun., 11:00 A.M. M. Schaeffer, P. Ralston, B. Cogley

**Lectors:**

Sat., 4:00 P.M. Gloria DeMeno  
Sun., 8:15 A.M. Helen Murphy  
Sun., 11:00 A.M. Debbie Baustert

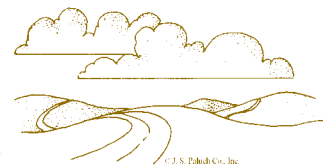
**Cantors:**

Sat., 4:00 P.M. Alex Smith  
Sun., 8:15 A.M. Tom Koharchik  
Sun., 11:00 A.M. Cathy Conley

**Organists:**

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

GOD'S WAYS  
ARE ABOVE  
OUR WAYS



**Fr. Euker** would like to meet with any child who is interested in becoming an altar server. A first meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, September 24th, at 4:30 P.M.**, in Church. All children who have received their first communion and are in **fourth grade or above** are eligible.

Permission forms will be given on Wednesday for parental approval.



**Thank you** to all the many helpers for another wonderful annual parish picnic. It is nice to see so many of our parishioners respond with gifts of time and service. Thank you to all who helped organize, prepare, and host our parish families, as well as a special thanks to the clean up crews. We also want to thank everyone who supported our raffle and to those who gave financial donations. **Congratulations to the Parish Picnic Winners - Melanie Nagy (1st prize), Carissa Rhodes (2nd prize), Fr. John Euker (3rd prize), Debbie Malecki (4th prize), Betty Labiaux (5th prize).**

## Pro-Life 14th Annual Interfaith Pro-Life Prayer Breakfast

will be held Saturday, October 4th, 10:00 A.M - 12:00 Noon, at the Four Points Hotel, Greensburg. Keynote Speaker will be David Bereit, National Campaign Director for "40 Days For Life", which is a focused pro-life campaign with a vision to access God's power through prayer, fasting, and peaceful vigil to end abortion in America. They have been instrumental in helping to close abortion clinics all over USA. Also in attendance will be The Most Reverend Lawrence E. Brandt, who will be giving the Benediction. Cost is \$12.00/person. For more information, call Betty at 724-668-7436 or Millie at 724-537-2064. **Reservation deadline is September 27th.**



**Boy/Girl Scout Retreatoree** - Diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting is planning this year's Scout Retreatoree the weekend of September 26th-28th, at Camp Conestoga, in Bakersville. Weekend will be open to all Scouts, grades 5 and up. Theme - "Journey in the Footsteps of St. Paul". Pre-registration required. Details/registration forms, contact Glenda at 724-446-5197.



**Rest In Peace** - Please pray for the soul of **Trudy Bures** who was buried from our parish this past week. May she find eternal happiness with our Lord. Our sympathy and prayers are extended to the family.



**Our** teachers will be commissioned today, **Catechetical Sunday**, at the 11:00 A.M. mass. Let's prepare to make this an eventful year of learning and growth in our understanding of the faith of Jesus Christ that we share.



**Our Religious Education Program** is in need of several substitute teachers. You would not be required to fill-in every week, just when needed. If you are interested in volunteering your time, please call Helen James at 724-295-4758.



**St. Mary's Youth Group** will be cooking and serving a meal to the homeless in Pittsburgh through Howard International Ministry (HIM). The teens will be collecting monetary donations and items for adults and children before and after Mass this weekend and next weekend, September 27th-28th, in the parish hall. **Gently worn or new sweatshirts/hoodies, sweatpants, jeans, coats, and duffle bags will be accepted.** They will only be accepting new packages of socks and underwear. There is also a need for toiletry items (toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, feminine hygiene products, soap, makeup, etc.). All high school age youth are invited to help with this project. Please contact Beth Macurdy at 724-295-9411 if you would like to help or require further information.



**The Teen Ministry** continues to collect empty inkjet cartridges for recycling. Please place your old cartridge in a plastic sandwich bag and deposit in the collection bin located in the main entrance of the church. **Please see insert in today's bulletin for the acceptable cartridges.** A list of the cartridges is listed on the collection box and can also be found on our website: [www.stmaryfreeport.com](http://www.stmaryfreeport.com).

**Cell Phone Recycling** is a new fundraiser for our teens this year. See insert in today's bulletin for all details. Please donate your inactive working cell phone(s) to them. This project will raise much needed funds for the Teen Ministry and help keep the harmful materials (lead, arsenic, beryllium, etc.) the phones contain out of our landfills. A box for this collection is also located in the main entrance of the church. Your support is appreciated for both of these fundraisers!

**WOMEN**

All women are invited to the Greensburg DCCW 25th Biennial Convention on Saturday, October 18th. The convention will be held at Bishop Connare Center, Greensburg. The day will begin at 8:00 A.M. with registration, coffee and rolls, scriptural rosary, various speakers, and Eucharistic Liturgy - Most Rev. Lawrence E. Brandt, Bishop of Greensburg. The day will conclude with a luncheon. For more information and reservations, please call Millie at 724-537-2064. **Reservation deadline is Monday, October 6th.**



**St. Francis of Assisi** is one of the best loved saints and is known for his gospel way of life. Did you know that there is a fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order in this area? A group of lay men and women living the gospel way of life through the example of St. Francis. Would you like to learn more and meet some of the members? Please join them on the feast day of St. Francis, Saturday, October 4th, at St. Joseph Parish, in O'Hara Township, for the 4:00 P.M. anticipated mass and an open house. Refreshments will follow in the social hall. It will be a fun and relaxing way to celebrate St. Francis and to meet those following in his footprints. Please call Jackie at 724-882-2396 if you have any questions or need to get directions.



**Spaghetti Dinner** - White Star Club will have a spaghetti dinner on Sunday, September 28th, 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.



**Following is the Offertory Collection for September 14th, 2008**  
 No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 619  
 No. of Envelopes Received: 222  
 Sunday Collection: Offertory - \$4,578.00  
**THANK YOU!**



**Second Collection** - Next weekend, the **Called By Name** program and the **Seminarian and Clergy Formation** collection will take place. Please watch for a letter from Bishop Brandt regarding this appeal. We are being asked to 'take a look around' and recognize if we see any possible candidates for priesthood in our presence. Our awareness and invitations can be the catalyst that prompts a person to respond to God's call in his life. Support for this program and collection is vital to make them a success. Also, please continue praying for religious vocations in preparation for the **Called By Name** program and the collection.



In coming weeks, we are invited and encouraged to pray in a special way, that those involved in developing strategic planning implementation steps will be open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit and be strengthened with wisdom and trust. Bishop Brandt and others are relying on the prayers and support of all in our diocese as they strive to respond to difficult situations and implement comprehensive plans to help us face hurdles and roadblocks that might 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.



**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, October 6th, 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.



**Mt. Aloysius College** will hold "**Discovery Days**" on Sunday, September 28th, beginning at 10:00 A.M. in the Health and Physical Fitness Center. The day will include complimentary lunch. To make your reservation, call 1-888-823-2220 or email: [admissions@mtaloy.edu](mailto:admissions@mtaloy.edu).



**Knights of Columbus**, Natrona Council, is now selling the 2009 Entertainment Book. The 2009 edition includes money-saving coupons for dinners, lunches, fast food, movies, recreation, golf, and more. **All of this for the reduced price of \$20.00 (\$5.00 off the regular price).** By using two of the many dinner coupons, the book will have more than paid for itself. Throw in video rentals, golf, Pitt, Penguin, and Pirate game offers, and see the savings. This book would make a great birthday or Christmas gift. If you would like to purchase one of these books, please call Dick Bertino at 724-295-3632. Proceeds from the sales help various charities including McGuire Home in New Brighton, St. Anthony's Satellite Schools for Exceptional Children, and PA Association for Retarded Citizens—ARC, which work with mentally challenged children and adults.



**St. Mary Cemetery** - All flowers and flags will be removed by cemetery personnel on October 1st. If arrangements, flowers or flags are wanted, the owners **must remove them prior to September 30th.**