



A PARISH OF THE DIOCESE OF GREENSBURG

St. Mary, Mother of God

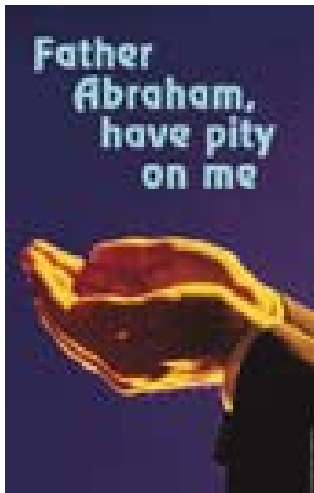
Roman Catholic Church
608 High Street, Freeport, PA 16229



**TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
SEPTEMBER 30TH, 2007**

Pursue righteousness, devotion, faith, love, patience, and gentleness.

— 1 Timothy 6:11



RICH AND POOR

The tension over the use of money in the church is a long and historic one. Since Amos was writing in the eighth century BC, we can say the debate is at least twenty-eight hundred years old. St. Bernard of Clairvaux (1090–1153) wrote of the mouths of the poor being empty so the eyes of the rich could be satisfied. But the whole of Christian tradition, including the Bible, takes a more elusive and nuanced position. It is tempting, and quite easy, to automatically vilify the rich (or ennoble the poor). But Abraham was considered a rich man, and today we hear about him and Lazarus together in the afterlife. What the scriptures consistently decry is the “complacency” of the rich we hear about in Amos, the indifference of the rich man in Jesus’ parable. Human beings have the ability to use money, as they can use anything else, to bring about the reign of God’s justice, peace, mercy, joy, and beauty, or to use it for their own satisfaction, seeking to bring about their own reign, and not the reign of God’s will being done.

Today’s Readings: Am 6:1a, 4–7; Ps 146:7–10; 1 Tm 6:11–16; Lk 16:19–3

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, 9:30 to 10:45 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 9:15 A.M. (by appointment)

Weddings

Notify the Parish six months in advance

Mass Schedule

MASSES FOR THE 26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- SATURDAY:** September 29
4:00 P.M. +Patricia Beale (Jeff Bichsel & Jodi Windows)
- SUNDAY:** September 30
8:30 A.M. St. Mary Parishioners
11:00 A.M. +Robert Bennett (Ruth Falsetti)
- MONDAY:** October 1 - *Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Virgin, Doctor*
8:00 A.M. +Josephine Bonino (Janet Bevilacqua)
- TUESDAY:** October 2 - *The Guardian Angels*
8:00 A.M. +Peter Murphy (Linda Windows)
- WEDNESDAY:** October 3
8:00 A.M. +Esther and John Smith (Millie Rezak)
- THURSDAY:** October 4 - *Francis of Assisi, Religious*
8:00 A.M. Betty Nowakowski (Dolores Watt)
- FRIDAY:** October 5
8:00 A.M. +Richard Brestensky, Jr. (Floyd and Carol Rzewnicki)
- SATURDAY:** October 6 - *Bruno, Priest; Blessed Marie-Rose Durocher, Virgin*
8:00 A.M. Alzheimer Patients and their Families (Baustert Family)



MASSES FOR THE 27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- SATURDAY:** October 6
4:00 P.M. +Mary A. Pofi Ranieri (Rosemary Aiello)
- SUNDAY:** October 7
8:15 A.M. St. Mary Parishioners
11:00 A.M. +Fr. George Alderson [6th Anniversary] (St. Mary Parishioners)



Today's Readings:
Amos 6:1a, 4-7
1 Timothy 6:11-16
Luke 16:19-31

Next Sunday's Readings:
Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4
2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14
Luke 17:5-10

Christian Mothers' Cleaning Assignments - Kathy Bordonaro and Gina Jones

Liturgical Roles*

October 6th & 7th, 2007

- Altar Servers:**
Sat., 4:00 P.M. **M. DeMeno**, A. Romanchak, J. Anuszek
Sun., 8:15 A.M. **J. Zadnik**, T. Holbein, A. Brestensky
Sun., 11:00 A.M. **P. & J. D'Amico**, A. Smith
- Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:**
Sat., 4:00 P.M. G. Pernazza, M. Bale, F. Walker
Sun., 8:15 A.M. A. Volek, J. Bergstrom, P. Hafera
Sun., 11:00 A.M. H. Murphy, B. Girardi
- Lectors:**
Sat., 4:00 P.M. Gloria DeMeno
Sun., 8:15 A.M. Diane Zadnik
Sun., 11:00 A.M. Matt Goldinger
- Cantors:**
Sat., 4:00 P.M. Alex Smith
Sun., 8:15 A.M. Tom Koharchik
Sun., 11:00 A.M. Choir
- Organists:**
Sat., 4:00 P.M. Tom Misutka
Sun., 8:15 A.M. Tom Koharchik
Sun., 11:00 A.M. Dave Wesolosky



Remember, beginning next Sunday, October 7th, the early Sunday mass will begin at 8:15 A.M. Please make a note of this.



Rosary

October is "Respect Life Month". It is also the month we traditionally recognize the special intervention of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Remember to pray the Rosary for world peace. May all people come to a profound respect for the value and dignity of life as a foundation for justice and true peace.

RCIA Wednesday, October 3rd, at 7:00 P.M., in the Retreat Center. This week's session centers on an introduction to Scripture. All are welcome.

National Life Chain - This year, The "National Life Chain" will be held on Sunday, October 7th - 2:00-3:00 P.M., along old Route 28 (Freeport Road) in Natrona Heights. The purpose is to be in a humble, repentant attitude of prayer as everyone prays for those injured by abortion, the pre-born infants who have died, our nation, and the affirmation of the sacredness of life. Assembly will begin in the parking lot of Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament Church. From there, participants will take a place on Freeport Road and stand and pray quietly for an end to abortion. Please prayerfully consider taking part in this pro-life event. If you would like additional information, please contact Bob Eckenrod at 724-265-4427.



St. Mary's Annual Thanksgiving Bingo/Bake Sale/ Drawing/Door Prizes will be held on Sunday, November 4th, in our Church Hall. Further details will follow in future bulletins. Please remember to reserve this date.

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 no later than Sunday, September 30th.



Important Reminder - The First Sacramental Preparation Session for *parents* of children enrolled in the classes for the Initiation Sacraments this year is Wednesday, October 3rd, at 7:00 P.M., in the Church Hall. Both parents, and children are to attend. Any family that is not represented by a parent will be expected to make up these sessions. This session addresses the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Remember the Homeless



St. Mary's Youth Group, in conjunction with Howard International Ministries (HIM), will be serving the homeless of Pittsburgh again this year on Saturday, October 6th. The teens will be preparing and serving a meal as well as distributing needed clothing that evening.

The teens will be collecting monetary donations for the meal and clothing donations for adults and children before and after mass today in the parish hall. The **only** items which will be accepted are **winter coats, gloves, winter hats, scarves, winter socks (new preferred), sweat-shirts and sweatpants, sweaters, duffle bags and toiletry items**. All high school age youth are invited to help with this project. Please contact Beth Macurdy (724-295-9411) if you would like to help or would like further information. The parish's support is greatly appreciated.



Second Annual Youth Day Harvest "Blast of Fire" (Sponsored by the Freeport Ministerium of Churches)

- All Youth of High School Age (must be in grades 9th thru 12th)—YOU ARE INVITED to join together for this annual event, beneath the Stars of a Crisp Autumn Evening on Sunday, October 7th, 6:00 to 8:00 P.M., on the Steele Farm, 2498 White Cloud Road, off Route 356 (adjacent to the Freeport Theatre Festival). Come and make new friends. Bring a blanket or lawn chair, a friend, wear sturdy shoes (no flip flops), wear protective/warm clothing, and remember to bring a spirit for fun and fellowship. Reservations and registration is a must. Please call Marushka Steele at 724-295-1934 or the Pastor of your Church. **Reservation deadline is Friday, October 5th. Build Bridges of Friendship, Unity of Spirit, and Cooperation.**



Legion of Mary - You are welcome to attend the next meeting scheduled on Thursday, October 4th, at 7:00 P.M. There is no obligation to join if you choose to attend one of their meetings.



Choir Practice - 7:00 P.M., Wednesday, October 3rd, in Church. The Choir is always looking for new members.

Remember, when you sing, you are praying, twice.



October is The Month of the Rosary. All parishioners are invited to join the Christian Mothers Monday, October 1st, at 6:30 P.M., in front of Mary's statue at the cemetery to pray. One of Our Blessed Mother's promises was "*All those who propagate the Holy Rosary shall be aided by me in their necessities.*"

Everyone will join together and pray The Joyful Mysteries of My Scriptural Rosary, by Thomas Rutkoski. In case of inclement weather, all will meet in the church. Immediately following, all Christian Mothers are asked to attend the monthly business meeting in the church hall. Theme for October - **Eucharist: Heart of the Abundant Life**. Also, on Sunday, October 7th, at the 8:15 A.M. mass, all members and their families are asked to sit together in front of the Blessed Mother and offer Holy Communion. The Christian Mothers will lead the recitation of the Holy Rosary before the Mass.



Anyone who ordered baked goodies from the Christian Mothers may pick up their order after Mass today.

Going Away on Vacation or a Business Trip? Free Ministry to traveling Catholics. For nationwide Mass times and locations, you may call 1-410-676-6000. You can also visit their website at: www.Masstimes.org.

Collections

Following is the Offertory Collection for September 23rd, 2007

No. of Envelopes Mailed Out: 630

No. of Envelopes Received: 278

Sunday Collection: Offertory - \$4,434.00
Seminarium and Clergy Formation - \$391.00

Children - \$15.50

THANK YOU!

Diocesan Collection - Please submit your *Called By Name* cards with the names of suggested candidates and your **Seminarium and Clergy Formation Collection** appeal form with your donation in the collection basket today. If you did not bring your card and form to church, you can mail them to the Diocese of Greensburg in the envelope that was with the letter from Bishop Brandt. Thank you for your support of this appeal and thank you for your continued prayers for vocations in the Diocese.



Chosen and Cherished - A Women's Bible study, by Kimberly Hahn, based on Proverbs 31, for married and engaged women interested in enriching their relationship with their beloved through the word of Sacred

Scripture and the teachings of the Catholic Church, is being offered at our parish beginning Sunday, October 7th, from 6:30 to 8:15 P.M., in the Church Hall. It is a FREE program that will run for six consecutive Sunday evenings. You only need to bring your Bible. If you are unable to attend all six, please consider attending the sessions you are able to. Hope to see you there!

Oktoberfest - Saturday, October 6th, 3:00 to 8:00 P.M., at Concordia, under the tent in the Lund Care Center rear parking lot. Bake sale, hayrides, a strolling accordionist, petting zoo, pony rides, German menu, and so much more. At dusk, watch for Zambelli Fireworks. Proceeds to benefit Concordia's capital campaign.



"Crop Walk" for World Hunger in our area, sponsored by the Freeport Council of Churches, on Sunday, October 14th, beginning at the Trinity Lutheran Church. We will participate and collect for **Catholic Relief Services**. **CRS** is not affiliated with Church World Services, the sponsor of Crop; however, monies collected for **CRS** can be assured to not support contraceptives in third world countries. Our marchers from St. Mary's will collect in conjunction with this walk. One fourth of the revenue will stay here for our food pantry.

Harmonic Brass - The United Presbyterian Church, Freeport, will be hosting *Harmonic Brass*, an internationally renowned brass quintet from Germany, on Thursday, October 4th, at 7:30 P.M. Prices are: \$15.00/General; \$10.00/Student; \$5.00/Children 10 and under.



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

St. Mary of Czestochowa - Pro-Life Mission will be held October 6th thru 10th. Presented by Fr. Thomas Koys, author of "*The Ashes That Remain*". For the schedule and additional information, please visit: www.stmarynk.org. Click on Activity Schedule. You may also call George Pecoraro, Jr., at 724-335-8212 for all details.

Website - pictures from parish events, weekly bulletin, ministry schedule and information about upcoming events may be found on our parish website at: www.stmaryfreeport.com.