



## ST. MARY'S

ENGLISH-SPEAKING ROMAN CATHOLIC  
PARISH RHEIN-MAIN-AREA

Church location:

Wachenheimer Str. 58  
65835 Liederbach / Taunus

**Sunday Mass: 5:00 pm**



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September 9<sup>th</sup> 2018  
23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

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*Jesus said, "Ephphatha!", that is "Be opened!". And immediately the man's ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly.*

### **THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR SEPTEMBER**

**Universal: YOUNG PEOPLE IN AFRICA** – That young people in Africa may have access to education and work in their own countries.

## TRUSTING THE CREATIVITY OF GOD

*(a reflection on the Feast of the Birth of the Bl. Virgin Mary by Catholic Digital Resources)*

A passage from the Book of Romans reminds us that “all things work together for the good of those who love God.” Even the bad things that happen to us will get put to good use - if we trust the creativity of our all-powerful, mercifully loving God. .... One place where we see this principle perfectly illustrated is in Matthew 1, where the long genealogy of Jesus is listed, like a who’s who of the Old Testament. But that list of Christ’s ancestors shows that the Messiah also came from a long line sinners, not just from the righteous and just. The point of this reading: Despite the errors of the people, God accomplished His salvation plans.



God eventually always finishes what He sets out to do, one way or another. By putting God in charge of our lives, rather than taking matters into our own hands out of frustration – knowing that His timing is always perfect and His plans always are good – we realize that we can and should have hope and joy, even when we suffer at times. Mishaps discourage us. Sins divert us from our path of God’s plan. But God is bigger than these things! He wants our troubles to work as blessings so that we can achieve victory for His Kingdom.

Consider the Feast that we celebrated yesterday, on September 8<sup>th</sup> – the Feast of the Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Mary was born without the affects of Original Sin so that she could later carry God in her totally human womb. If the Divine Father of Mary could do the impossible once for the sake of His salvation plan, He can do it again and again. And He wants to!

God makes all things work together for the good of those who love him and respond to his calling to serve His purposes. You have also been called. Do not worry about things that go wrong, for God will develop awesome plans from then and despite them.

## PERSONNEL, OFFICE HOURS & CONTACT DETAILS

**PARISH PRIEST:**  
**Father Steven Forster**

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0174 1636820  
frstevenforster@stleonhards.org

**PASTORAL ASSOCIATE:**

**Lori Bemb**  
(Gemeindereferentin)  
Phone: 069 283177  
lori.bemb@stleonhards.org

**PARISH SECRETARY:**

**Mara Plumari**  
Phone: 069 283177  
email@stleonhards.org

**PARISH OFFICE:**

Vilbeler Straße 36, 60313 Frankfurt (Third Floor)  
Phone: 069 238177

**Public office hours for inquiries and appointments:**

Tuesday: 09:00 – 14:00  
Wednesday: 09:00 – 14:00  
Friday: 09:00 – 13:00

Baptisms arranged with one month notice  
Weddings arranged with at least six months’ notice  
Confession available on request  
Spiritual Direction as arranged with the Parish Priest

**WEBSITE: [www.st-marys.de](http://www.st-marys.de)**

*(This will lead you to our new website, which is shared with St. Leonhard’s in Frankfurt. Just hit the button for St. Mary’s and you will see all relevant information)*

**FACEBOOK: “St. Mary’s Parish – Liederbach, Germany”**

**St. Leonhard’s in Frankfurt**

Holy Cross Center for Christian Meditation and Spirituality  
Kettelerallee 45, 60385 Frankfurt am Main  
Mass times: Saturdays 7:30 pm // Sundays 9:30 am

**LAST SUNDAY WAS “GIVING SUNDAY”** – We collected **298 Euros** for our Parish Charity - Mary’s Meals – at the special 2<sup>nd</sup> collection last week. Thank you again for your continued generosity!

**FIRST COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION** - We are currently accepting registrations for the 2018-2019 **First Communion** (for children grade 2 and above). + **Confirmation** (for teenagers age 14 and above) preparation programs. For more information or for a registration form contact Lori Bemb at Mass or via email - [lori.bemb@stleonhards.org](mailto:lori.bemb@stleonhards.org)

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE FINAL DATE FOR REGISTRATION IS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14<sup>th</sup>.**

**MINISTRY SIGN-UPS** – As many of St. Mary’s parishioners have moved back home during the summer break, we are looking for new people to serve in the various Lay Ministries – **Altar Servers, Lectors, Social Committee, Music Ministry**. If you are interested, please speak with either Father Steve or Lori Bemb. Training is available if necessary.

**HOFHEIMER TAFEL** - Please note that in addition to Giving Sundays, it is also possible to bring your donations for the Hofheimer Tafel on ANY Sunday of the year. Simply place your non-perishable foods and toiletries in the green baskets located in the back of the church.

**WELCOME BACK PARTY** – On **Sunday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>** (after Mass) we will hold our annual Welcome Back Party. This is a chance for all “old-timers” and “newcomers” to get to know each other a bit better and to catch up after the long summer holidays.

**“STIFTE MACHEN MÄDCHEN STARK” (“Pens Make Girls Strong”)** – This is an initiative from the World Day of Prayer to help support a team of teachers and psychologists who teach 200 Syrian girls in a refugee camp in Lebanon by collecting used pens, fountain pens, markers, sharpies, etc. Our German sister-parish of St. Marien has decided to help this cause and it would be great if St. Mary’s parishioners could join in. There is a box in the lobby near the entrance of our church where you can deposit your donations. For each donated pen the World Day of Prayer group will get 1 cent and if pro 15 kg box, they will receive 15 Euros. More information under: [www.weltgebetstag.de/projekte/projektarbeit-weltweit/libanon](http://www.weltgebetstag.de/projekte/projektarbeit-weltweit/libanon)



**WELCOME NEWCOMERS** – We warmly welcome any new parishioners to St. Mary’s and ask that you kindly register with our church. You will then automatically receive the weekly copy of our bulletin directly to your email, as well as any updates concerning parish activities, schedule changes, etc.

***Please note that all information is kept confidential and is for internal parish purposes only.*** You can send your contact info directly to: [st-marys-parish@hotmail.com](mailto:st-marys-parish@hotmail.com)

	<i>Lectors</i>	<i>Eucharistic Ministers</i>
<b>Sept 9</b>	Michael Lohscheller <b>Volunteer</b>	Lori Bemb <b>Volunteer</b> <b>Volunteer</b>
<b>Sept. 16</b>	Cara Benes Lori Bemb	Lori Bemb <b>Volunteer</b> <b>Volunteer</b>

### ***FORECAST OF EVENTS***

		<b>SEPTEMBER 2018</b>
Sun 23 <sup>rd</sup>	after Mass	Welcome Back Party
		<b>OCTOBER 2018</b>
Sun 7 <sup>th</sup>		“Giving Sunday”
Wed 10 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 pm	“The Teaching Church, The Listening Church” - with Father Steve at St. Leonhard’s in Frankfurt
		<b>NOVEMBER 2018</b>
Thurs 1 <sup>st</sup>	7:30 pm	All Saints Mass at St. Leonhard’s/Frankfurt
Sun 4 <sup>th</sup>		“Giving Sunday”
Sun 11 <sup>th</sup>		Remembrance Sunday
Sun 18 <sup>th</sup>	3:30 pm	Parish Council Meeting

### **FIRST READING – Isaiah 35: 4-7**

A reading from the book of the Prophet Isaiah.

Say to those who are of a fearful heart,

“Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,  
with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you.”

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,

and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

then the lame shall leap like a deer,

and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,

and streams in the desert;

the burning sand shall become a pool,

and the thirsty ground springs of water.

**R: Praise the Lord, my soul.**

### **SECOND READING – James 2: 1-5**

A reading from the Letter of Saint James.

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism

really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ?

For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly,

and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in,

and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say,

“Have a seat here, please,”

while to the one who is poor you say,

“Stand there,” or, “Sit at my feet,”

have you not made distinctions among yourselves,  
and become judges with evil thoughts?

Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters.

Has not God chosen the poor in the world

to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom

that he has promised to those who love him?

### **GOSPEL – Mark 7: 31-37**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

Returning from the region of Tyre,

Jesus went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee,  
in the region of the Decapolis.

They brought to him a man who was deaf

And who had an impediment in his speech;

and they begged him to lay his hand on him.

He took him aside in private, away from the crowd,

and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue.

Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him,

“Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.”

And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released,  
and he spoke plainly.

Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them,  
the more zealously they proclaimed it.

They were astounded beyond measure, saying,

“He has done everything well;

he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”