

## Parish Information

### St. Mary Help Of Christians - Briggsville

#### Weekend Masses

Saturday-5:30 pm  
Sunday-8:00 am

#### Parish Office – 981-2282

**Pastoral Minister**– Sr. Jovita Winkel, CSA  
(jwinkel@solarus.net)

**Bookkeeper**– Barbara Poppy-253-2100

**Maintenance**– Bob Gauger

**Pastoral Council Chair**- Susan Hilliard

**Cemetery Sexton**– James Dinegan

### St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception- Portage

#### Weekend Masses

Saturday-4:00 pm  
Sunday– 9:30 & 11:00 am

#### Parish Office- 742-6998

**Faith Formation**– Jeri Sutter  
(jsutter@stmaryotic.com)

**Youth Minister**– Brenda Collins  
(bcollins@stmaryotic.com)

**Pastoral Minister**– Malu Durkin

**Liturgist**– Kathy Oganezov  
(kathyo@stmaryotic.com)

**Secretaries**– Pat Ashley & Kari Caulum

#### Bulletin Editor &

**Website Maintenance**– Kari Caulum  
(kcaulum@stmaryotic.com)

**Bookkeeper**– Betty Tessmann  
(betty@stmaryotic.com)

**Maintenance**– Dan Schwalbe

**Cemetery Sexton**– Tom Waldron

**Pastoral Council Chair**– Sara Shaver

### St. Mary School– Portage 315 W. Cook St. 53901

#### School Office– 742-4998

Principal– Jamie Hahn  
Secretary– Cindy Harvey

Welcome to the Parish Communities of  
**ST MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS**  
of Briggsville, WI



**ST. MARY OF THE  
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**  
of Portage, WI

*A welcoming community that is alive with prayer and  
service. Jesus challenges us to support one another,  
respecting our similarities and differences.*

*But that you may know that the  
Son of Man has authority to  
forgive sins on earth--  
he said to the paralytic,  
"I say to you, rise, pick up your mat  
and go home.*

*Mark 2:11-12*

**Pastor, Fr. Jim Murphy**

(jmurphy@stmaryotic.com)

**Deacon, Dennis Sutter**

(dsutter@stmaryotic.com)

**Parish Community Website [www.stmaryotic.com](http://www.stmaryotic.com)**

**Parish Email: [parish@stmaryotic.com](mailto:parish@stmaryotic.com)**

*Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time  
February 21 & 22, 2009*

## Portage Worship Schedule

### Monday, February 23

8:00 AM Word & Communion

### Tuesday, February 24

8:00 AM Word & Communion

### Wednesday, February 25

#### Ash Wednesday

6:00 AM People of the Parish

Noon † Jacob Hoff (Mary Poole)

5:30 PM † Ned Tierney (Bob & Kathy Swanson)

### Thursday, February 26

8:00 AM † John Staudenmayer  
(Esther Staudenmayer)

### Friday, February 27

7:00 AM Our Servite Sisters Jubilarians

### Saturday, February 28

4:00 AM † Jack Stumpf (Family)  
1st Anniversary

### Sunday, March 1

9:30 AM † Sam Pate (Family)

11:00 AM † Beryl Pascavis (Nettie Pascavis)

5:30 PM Evening Prayer

## Portage Confessions

**Saturday, February 28**

**9:00-9:30 AM**

## Stewardship of Treasure

*Parish Support February 14 & 15*

Envelopes .....	\$7016.00
Offertory.....	\$484.25
DSA.....	\$35.00
Fiscal Year to Date Giving.....	\$324439.99

## Parish Support Previous Year –2008

Envelopes Received .....	\$6376.50
Fiscal Year Giving.....	\$316032.07

## Difference from previous fiscal year giving

**Increase.....\$8407.92**

## Stewardship Reflection

*Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time-February 22, 2009*

*“He rose picked up his mat at once and went away in the sight of everyone. They were all astounded and glorified God, saying, ‘We have never seen anything like this.’” - Mark 2:12*

Have you taken any time lately to think about how truly good God has been to you? He may not have to cure your paralysis if He has already given you the gift of mobility. But do we glorify and thank Him for such simple gifts as sight, and speech, and general health? Do we give back to God in proportion to all the many blessings He has given to us?

## From Our Pastor

Lent arrives this week. Ash Wednesday is a popular day to come and celebrate the Eucharist. By Easter we will say that the 40 days have gone quickly, so by beginning at day one it is a sign that each day is important. We have materials from Catholic Relief Services (CRS) in the form of rice bowls for donations for their relief work around the world. This year the Lent calendar is inside the rice bowl. Once again there is weekly info on a country served by CRS and a recipe. We also have reflection books for daily reading. For the second year we will make prayer a priority in our parish Lent schedule. Each evening will offer a different prayer format. Explore different options or pick a night to participate each week of Lent. Finally mark April 2 as our Communal Reconciliation evening. See you on Ash Wednesday.

Fr. Jim

## Come & Hear about Our Journey to Haiti!! THIS SUNDAY!!

There will be a “Report to the Parish” with pictures from the Haiti delegation. A chili lunch will be offered at noon **Sunday, February 22** in St Mary School cafeteria.

Come see the schools we support, parish preparation for the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in Corail and other sites.

## Knight of Columbus Events

### Tuesday, February 24

The sixth grade class along with the Knights of Columbus will be hosting their annual Pancake Supper on February 24 from 5:00-7:00 pm in the St. Mary Portage Cafeteria.

### Friday, February 27

Fish Fry

Cocktails –4 pm

Dinner– served 5:00-7:30 pm

## ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK

### CRESTWOOD INN

*A tradition of excellence in dining*

**Rte.2, N6215, Hwy 51 South**

**Portage, WI 53901**

**742-6333**



**Ash Wednesday**  
**Wednesday, February 25**  
**Mass Times**  
**St. Mary-Portage**  
**6:00 am, 12:00 pm & 5:30 pm**

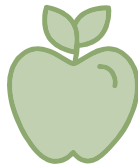
## RCIA Schedule

All sessions begin at 7:00 pm at St. Mary-Portage

February 26th-	Conscience Formation
March 5th-	Reconciliation
March 12th-	Catholic Social Teaching
March 19th-	Monastery
March 26th-	Marriage/Holy Orders

## Market Day

Order forms for March are available in the back of church, at the parish office or the school office. Be sure to check out the insert this month for the delicious cookie dough that is available. There is also a way to save \$5.00 automatically. Orders are due on Friday, March 6 and pick up will be Tuesday, March 10 from 3:00-4:30 in the school cafeteria.



## Softball Anyone?

Last year was the first time St. Mary, Portage Parish put together a softball team through the Portage Parks and Recreation Department. Since they had so much fun, a team will be organized again this year. If you are interested in playing softball this summer please contact Janice Grothman at 742-2946.



## Scripture Readings

for the week of February 22, 2009

Sunday:	Is 43:18-19, 21-22, 24b-25/2 Cor 1:18-22/ Mk 2:1-12
Monday:	Sir 1:1-10/Mk 9:14-29
Tuesday:	Sir 2:1-11/Mk 9:30-37
Wednesday:	Jl 2:12-18/2 Cor 5:20—6:2/ Mt 6:1-6,16-18
Thursday:	Dt 30:15-20/Lk 9:22-25
Friday:	Is 58:1-9a/Mt 9:14-15
Saturday:	Is 58:9b-14/Lk 5:27-32
Sunday:	Gn 9:8-15/1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15

## St. Mary Portage Faith Formation Schedule

### Kindergarten– Eighth Grade

#### \*Wednesday, February 25

**NO CLASS– Ash Wednesday**

please attend 6am, noon or 5:30 pm Mass as a family

#### \*Wednesday, March 11

**5:30-6:30 pm– Family Faith Formation**

We will begin our journey through lent with a banquet to sustain us and get us headed in the right direction.

#### \*Wednesday, March 25

**5:30-6:30 pm– Family Faith Formation**

We will continue to move toward Easter by following in the footsteps of Jesus.

#### \*Wednesday, April 8

**7:00-8:00 pm– Family Faith Formation**

Shadow Stations of the Cross– Led by students from Assumption High School in Wisconsin Rapids. Come and pray the Stations of the Cross as a family along with these students in this moving, and unique presentation.

#### Please Note:

Please register for any of the above evenings by calling Jeri Sutter at 742-6998. All parishioners are invited to attend any of these evenings.

### High School Faith Formation

#### Mini Courses

#### \*Special Lenten Event– Family Faith Formation

**Wednesday, April 8**

**7:00-8:00 pm**

Shadow Stations of the Cross– Led by students from Assumption High School in Wisconsin Rapids. Come and pray the Stations of the Cross as a family along with these students in this moving, and unique presentation.

#### \*Intro to Liturgy & Sacraments

Sunday, February 22 & March 1, 8 & 29  
9:00 –10:30 am

#### \*Creed Part II

Wednesday, February 25, March 4 & 11  
7:00-8:30 pm

#### \*Intro to Christian Prayer

Sunday, March 29 , April 5, 19 & 26 & May 3  
10:30 am-12:00 pm

## St. Mary School News

### From the Sixth Grade Room

After many weeks of research, the sixth grade students are putting the finishing touches on their family tree projects. In Religion class they have learned how many biblical families are related. They researched their own families, so that they could trace their heritage. Many of them enjoyed learning interesting stories about their families.

In Science they are beginning a chapter on natural resources. They are seeing that the world consumes a lot of resources that can not be replaced within a lifetime. They know that as God's children it is our responsibility to take care of what we are given. They reviewed how reducing, reusing, and ] recycling can make their resources last longer.

The sixth grade is excited to be holding their first fundraiser for their safety patrol trip to St. Louis. They would like to thank their parents for all of the hard work that they have put into the Pancake Supper as well as the Knights of Columbus. They hope that the community is able to enjoy good food and fellowship on Fat Tuesday.

Mrs. Collins

### Open House

Planning is underway for the 4K and Kindergarten Open House Events. Kindergarten Open House is scheduled for February 24 from 4:00-6:00 pm. 4K Open House is Tuesday, March 3 from 4:00-6:00 pm. Spread the word and let everyone know what a wonderful school we are waiting to share.

### Get Involved with BEST FEST this YEAR!

The plans for Best Fest are underway. We would like to see the school families help to make this event a huge success. The Best Fest committee is in need of a few individuals to take charge of the "Walk/Run" which will be held on May 16th. If you are interested please call the school office.



## St. Mary Portage Calendar of Events February 23-March 1

### Monday, February 23

7:00 pm Facilities Meeting church

### Tuesday, February 24

6:30 pm Parish Life Meeting PC-CR  
7:00 pm Just Faith school  
7:00 pm Adult Ed Meeting PC-LL

### Wednesday, February 25

Ash Wednesday Mass -6:00 am, 12 Noon & 5:30 pm  
6:30 pm Celebration Choir Practice Mus. Rm.  
7:00-8:30 pm High School Mini Course PC-LL  
(Creed Part II)

### Thursday, February 26

7:00 pm RCIA PC-LL

### Sunday, March 1

9:00-10:30 am High School Mini Course PC-LL  
**Intro to Liturgy & Sacraments**  
12:30 pm Justice & Peace Meeting PC-UL  
1:30 pm Liturgy Committee Meeting PC-CR  
12:00-1:30 pm Bell Choir Practice church  
5:30 pm Evening Prayer church

## St. Mary School Calendar of Events February 23- March 1

### Monday, February 23

No School

### Monday, February 24

Kindergarten Open House & Sixth Grade Pancake Supper

### St. Mary Portage Parish & School Meeting Room Key

Parish Center Lower Level	PC-LL
Parish Center Upper Level	PC-UL
Parish Center Conference Rm.	PC-CR

### Bulletin Deadline

All bulletin articles are due to Kari Caulum in writing or emailed to [kcaulum@stmaryotic.com](mailto:kcaulum@stmaryotic.com) each Wednesday by noon of publication in the following weekends bulletin.

## Briggsville Worship Schedule

**Tuesday, February 24**

8:00 AM † Nyla Urban (St. Mary Catholic Women)

**Wednesday, February 25**

**Ash Wednesday**

7:00 PM † Helene Bloss (Dean Huber)

**Thursday, February 26**

8:00 AM Word & Communion

**Saturday, February 28**

5:30 AM People of the Parishes

**Sunday, March 1**

8:00 AM † Ethel Huber (Tim & Pat Cleary)

## Liturgical Schedule

*for the weekend of February 28 & March 1*

**Reader:**

5:30 pm– Mary Ann Bergh

8:00 am– Diana LaPointe

**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:**

5:30 pm– Mona McTier

8:00 am– Robert Gauger

**Servers:**

5:30 pm– Chelsey & Nellie Hilgendorf

8:00 am– Thomas Foland & TJ Belleau

## Stewardship of Treasure

*Parish Support February 14 & 15*

Envelopes Received	\$1208.00
Offertory	\$118.00
Maintenance	\$520.00
DSA	\$205.00
Religious Ed.	\$15.00
Catholic Women	\$45.62
Retirement Fund for Religious	\$10.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2121.62</b>



**Ash Wednesday**  
**Wednesday, February 25**

**Mass Time**  
**St. Mary-Briggsville**  
**7:00 pm**

## St. Mary Briggsville Faith Formation Schedule

**\*Sunday, February 22**

Parent/Student Session following 8 am Mass  
*(all adults from the parish are invited to this session)*

**\*Sunday, March 1, 8, 15 & 30**

**Class following 8 am Mass**

**\*Sunday, March 22**

Parent/Student Session following 8 am Mass  
*(all adults from the parish are invited to this session)*

## St. Mary Briggsville Calendar of Events February 23-March 1

**Wednesday, February 25**

Ash Wednesday Mass –7:00 pm

**Sunday, March 1**

Following 8 am Mass

Faith Formation Parent/Student Session  
*(all adults from the parish are welcome)*

## SACRAMENT INFORMATION

### Reconciliation

Private confessions are held at St. Mary -Portage each Saturday at 9:00 am in the church.

### Baptisms

Parents wishing to have their child baptized are asked to participate in a Baptismal Preparation session which is held on the third Tuesday each month at 6:30 pm at St. Mary- Portage. To make arrangements for baptism or to register for the class, please call the St. Mary -Portage Parish Center at 742-6998.

### Marriages

For weddings at St. Mary- Portage or St. Mary- Briggsville please make arrangements with Fr. Jim at least six months in advance by calling the St. Mary- Portage Parish Center at 742-6998.

### First Reconciliation/First Eucharist

St. Mary -Portage– Contact Jeri Sutter at 742-6998.

Students who are at least 7 years of age and have attended faith formation classes in a parish faith formation program, or at a Catholic school, for at least one year are encouraged to begin preparing for these Sacraments.

## St. Mary Portage Special Lenten Offerings

### Evening Prayer

St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception, Portage

**Sunday, 5:30 pm**

March 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 & April 5

### Soup & Stations of the Cross

**Monday, Soup at 5:00 followed by stations at 6:00 pm**

March 2, 16, 23 & 30

### Faith Sharing

**Tuesday, 7:00 pm**

March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

### Family Faith Formation

**Wednesday, March 11- 5:30-6:30 pm**

We will begin our journey through lent with a banquet to sustain us and get us headed in the right direction.

**Wednesday, March 25- 5:30-6:30 pm**

We will continue to move toward Easter by following in the footsteps of Jesus.

**Wednesday, April 8- 7:00-8:00 pm**

Shadow Stations of the Cross- Led by students from Assumption High School in Wisconsin Rapids. Come and pray the Stations of the Cross as a family along with these students in this moving, and unique presentation.

### Adult Evening of Reflection

**Wednesday, 5:30-6:30 pm**

March 4, 18 & April 1

A unique 3-part video presentation and reflection time. We will also be offering a light supper for anyone who attends the session and stays afterward to share their reactions to the video. This video entitled "Into Great Silence", is called a "mesmerizing poetic chronicle of spirituality" and a "rare and transformative experience" and will be an opportunity for you to quiet yourself and reflect for a short time on the important relationships in your life. Give yourself the gift of peace and renewal.

### Evening Song

**Thursday, 7:00 pm**

March 5 & 12

Join us for a half hour of psalms & songs of praise led by one of our choirs.

### Taizé

**Thursday, 7:00 pm**

March 19 & 26

Taizé prayer is a quiet simple way of prayer. These meditative candlelit services include simple chants sung repeatedly, prayers of praise and intercession.

### Friday Evening Mass

**Friday, 5:30 pm**

March 6, 13, 20, 27 & April 3

## St. Mary Briggsville Special Lenten Offerings

### Soup & Stations

**Thursday, 7:00 pm**

March 5 & 19

**Sunday, 4:00 pm**

March 8 & 22

### Adult Formation Lenten Theme

**Tuesday, following 8 am Mass**

March 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31 and April 7

## Area Events

### The ARC of Columbia County

#### 3rd Annual Bowl-a-Thon Fundraiser

#### For Special Olympics- Saturday, March 7

#### Tolleys Alleys

**Shifts at 10 am, 1 pm & 4 pm**

\$25.00 age 13 & up and \$15.00 age 12 & under

*cost includes shoes & 3 games*

#### Ways To Donate

Sponsor a Bowler, Sponsor a Lane, Bowl at the Event

Cash Donation, Donate for the Raffle

*The Arc Serves Citizens with Development & Related*

*Disabilities Call 742-0260 Columbia Country ACR for more information ALL ARE WELCOME!*

### Diocesan Men's Retreat -March 6-7

The annual Diocesan Men's Retreat featuring Fr. Thomas Loya will be held at the Bishop O'Connor Center on March 6-7. Fr. Loya, a top national speaker on the Theology of the Body and issues of faith and gender, will speak on the theme "Masculinity for a New Millennium." Register online at the Diocesan website [www.madisondiocese.org](http://www.madisondiocese.org). The retreat is sponsored by the Office of Evangelization & Catechesis and the Knights of Divine Mercy. Call 821-3160 with any questions.

### Dr. Ray Guarendi Appearance

Relevant Radio 1240 AM is pleased to present nationally-know Family Psychologist Dr. Ray Guarendi's important presentation, "Standing Strong as a Parent" on March 1 at 2:00 pm in the auditorium of the Bishop O'Connor Center in Madison. This presentation is for parents, teachers and anyone who works with children who are having their confidence, peace of mind and authority undercut by a number of widespread myths that have been pushed upon them by the experts and the liberal media. Tickets at \$10.00 per person or \$15.00 per couple can be ordered by calling 608-576-4008 or on line at [www.relevantradio1240.com](http://www.relevantradio1240.com). Child care service is available.

### Climate Change Workshop

"Raise Your Voice!", a workshop on the Catholic response to climate change, will be held Saturday, March 7, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Saint Victor Parish School in Monroe. Cost is only \$7 in advance, or \$9 at the door, to cover the cost of the meal. Register by contacting Tom Nelson at the diocesan Rural Life Office, 608-821-3093 or [tom.nelson@straphael.org](mailto:tom.nelson@straphael.org). There will be at least two van pools from the Madison area: to reserve a ride, call Rich at 608-244-6903 or Dennis at 608-221-8025.