

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.*



*This is my commandment: love one another as I love you.  
No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.  
John 15:12-13*

**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)

*Sixth Sunday of Easter*  
May 16 & 17, 2009

## Portage Worship Schedule

### Sunday, May 17

9:30 AM † Elizabeth Petzke (Art & Eleanor Docter)  
11:00 AM † Remedios Tiongson (Apo Family)

### Monday, May 18

8:00 AM Word & Communion

### Tuesday, May 19

8:00 AM Word & Communion

### Wednesday, May 20

7:00 AM † Tom & Bernadine Coleman  
(Estate of Bernadine Coleman)

### Thursday, May 21

8:00 AM † Mary Hoff (Mary Poole)

### Friday, May 22

7:00 AM † Harold LeJeune (Family)

### Saturday, May 23

4:00 PM † Marie Kamps (John Kamps)

### Sunday, May 24

9:30 AM † John Hryszko  
(Janet, Mary, Kathy & Kayla)  
1st Anniversary  
11:00 AM In honor of members of the Dedrick Family  
(Family)

## Portage Confessions

Saturday, May 23  
9:00 am

## Stewardship of Treasure

Parish Support May 2 & 3 and May 9 & 10

Stewardship of Treasure	May 2 & 3	May 9 & 10
Envelopes	\$10649.00	\$9023.50
Offertory	\$609.59	\$395.53
DSA	\$613.00	\$1257.00
Fiscal Year to Date Giving -2009	\$427464.69	\$436488.14
Fiscal Year to Date Previous Year- 2008	\$427470.74	\$438300.24
Difference from Previous Year giving	Decrease of \$6.05	Decrease of \$1812.10

## From Our Pastor

I hope that you are both involved in and enjoying Best Fest this weekend. A reminder that both parishes will hear about the Annual Catholic Appeal beginning the weekend of May 30 & 31.

Summer is coming! I would encourage parents of grade school children to consider hosting a child from Mississippi through Project Self Help and Awareness. Schedule dates and registration forms are available online if you search Project Self Help and Awareness. As one people of God, we still need to increase communication and understanding among races. This simple project has survived over the years because of its basic desire to pair families in two states and allow children to lead us.

Fr. Jim

## IT'S BEST FEST WEEKEND

Mini Raffle, Craft Fair,  
Cake Walk, Booknook,  
Authentic Mexican  
Food, Bake Sale  
and  
**FREE Entertainment All Weekend Long!**



### Schedule of Remaining Events

#### Saturday, May 17

7:00-11:00 pm  
11:00 pm

Music by "The Elwood Lee Band"  
Carnival Closes

#### Sunday, May 18

7:30am-12 pm  
11:00 am-3:00 pm  
12 pm-4:00 pm  
12 pm- 3:00 pm  
3:00 pm

KC Breakfast- St. Mary Cafeteria  
Food Concessions  
Carnival Wrist Band Day- \$10  
St. Mary Celebration Choir & DJ  
Mini Raffle & Grand Prize Drawing

## Scripture Reflection

for the week of May 17, 2009

"This is my commandment: love one another as I love you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends" - John 15:12-13

Do you love Jesus? Do you consider Him your friend? Jesus says that if we love Him we should be willing to offer whatever we have to Him, not because we want praise and glory, but simply because we love Him.

## In Loving Memory

Our sympathy and prayers are extended to the family of Alice Hamele. Alice passed away on Friday, May 1, 2009. A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Friday, May 8, 2009. Please continue to keep Alice's family in your prayers.

## 50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration

Will you be celebrating your 50th Wedding Anniversary in 2009? The Bishop and the Office of Evangelization & Catechesis will once again be celebrating 50th Wedding Anniversaries at the Bishop O' Connor Catholic Pastoral Center with a Mass followed by a cake, coffee, and punch reception. This is an invitation only event! Please notify the Parish Office by Monday, June 22 at 742-6998 that you will be celebrating your 50th Anniversary in the calendar year of 2009 and they will submit your name to the Bishops office.



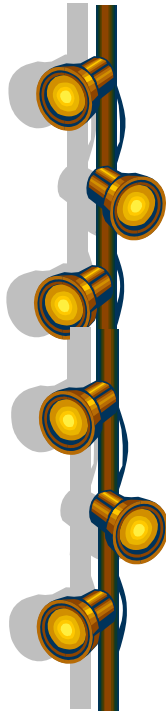
## Stewardship Spotlight The St. Mary "Resurrection Choir"

The Resurrection Choir, which consists of a dedicated group of parishioners, volunteer their time to support families who are grieving, by singing at funeral Masses. There is no requirement for musical training, just a love for singing, and a desire to offer comfort and support. The choir practices on the second Monday of each month (March –November) from 10:00 to 11:00 am. Members are notified through a call list when a funeral is scheduled, and make every effort to be at the funeral if possible, but there is no requirement that members are present at every funeral. New members are always welcome.

### Members Include:

Sandy Blankenheim  
Kathryn Brown  
Malu Durkin  
Sharon Goetz  
Jeanne Graves  
Betty Harkins  
Arlene Hein  
Paula Hibner  
Monica Holden  
Mary Kearns

Marcy Kliner  
Gerry Kronenberg  
John & Carol Lehman  
Paul & Rosemary Mandli  
Kate Murphy  
Kate Paske  
Gretchen Rudy  
Jean Schwantes  
Ginny Sommers  
Jeri Sutter



**C**ongratulations and blessings to Kathleen Murphy and Daniel Ott who were married on May 9, 2009 at St. Mary– Portage.



## High School Graduates

All high school seniors, their families, relatives and friends are invited along with the parish community to celebrate and honor our graduates at the 9:30 am Mass on Sunday, May 31.



If you are a high school graduate and did not receive an invitation please contact Brenda Collins at [bcollins@stmaryotc.com](mailto:bcollins@stmaryotc.com) to RSVP by Wednesday May 22.

## St. Mary School News



### Student Recognition Night

On Monday, May 18 at 6:30 pm the students in grades 5-8 will be recognized for their achievements throughout the school year.

### St. Mary Graduation

Please join us for the 8th grade graduation Mass and ceremony on Wednesday, May 27 at 7:00 pm.

### News from the Third Grade Room

In third grade we are getting deeper and deeper into our books. Some of our current units include fractions, multiplication and division, rocks and minerals, verbs and celebrations around the world. One very interesting and exciting thing that we have noticed is that our subjects overlap. Concepts and vocabulary in one subject, such as science, show up in social studies, reading, language, and even math! We have found that our learning is all connected, and that it takes us from the classroom into the community and beyond. We have sharpened our study skills this year and we have become even more independent learners. We are preparing ourselves to become fourth graders.

### Save the Date!!

The 2009 St. Mary Golf Outing will be August 2! Watch for more information in future bulletins.



## Briggsville Worship Schedule

### Tuesday, May 19

8:00 AM People of the Parishes

### Wednesday, May 20

8:00 AM Word & Communion

### Thursday, May 21

8:00 AM Word & Communion

### Saturday, May 23

5:30 PM Fr. Don Beckius (Karen & Keith Summers)

### Sunday, May 24

8:00 AM People of the Parishes

## Liturgical Schedule

for May 23 & 24

### Reader:

5:30 pm– Diane Hons-Solterman

8:00 am– Barb Poppy

### Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

5:30 pm– Sr. Jovita & Roberta Peake

8:00 am– Jean Isaacson & Mona McTier

### Servers:

5:30 pm– Thomas Kruse & Dakota Musiekklak

8:00 am– Nicole & Shyla Cummings

## Stewardship of Treasure

Parish Support May 9 & 10

Envelopes Received	\$2066.00
Offertory	\$121.00
Votive Lights	\$18.00
DSA	\$275.00
Lenten-Easter Books	\$43.75
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2523.75</b>

## Scripture Readings

for the week of May 17, 2009

<b>Sunday:</b>	Acts 10:25-26,34-35,44-48/Jn 4:7-10/Jn15:9-17
<b>Monday:</b>	Acts 16:11-15/Jn 15:26—16:4a
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Acts 16:22-34/Jn 16:5-11
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Acts 17:15, 22—18:1/Jn 16:12-15
<b>Thursday:</b>	Acts 18:1-8/Jn 16:16-20
<b>Friday:</b>	Acts 18:9-18/Jn 16:20-23
<b>Saturday:</b>	Acts 18:23-28/Jn 16:23b-28
<b>Sunday:</b>	Acts 1:1-11/ Eph 1:17-23 or 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13/ Mk 16:15-20

## Festival Plans Begin

The St. Mary Briggsville festival will be on August 9. Anyone who is interested in calling for prizes and able to help in planning and doing pre-festival work, please call Craig Hilliard—981-2012 or 981-2033. Also anyone wishing to donate prizes or cash for the raffle can also call Craig. Ticket information is due by June 1, so tickets can be printed at that time.

## Catholic Women's Bake Sale

### Who:

YOU & ME

### What:

A bake sale of bars, cookies, pies, cakes breads...etc

### When:

May 23 & 24

### Where:

Church Entrance

### Why:

Proceeds help the Briggsville Catholic Women support their church projects. Including: purchase of candles, flowers, altar breads used in church services, refreshments after ecumenical or other special events and hospitalities for the homebound and the bereaved.

### How:

Bake & Bring (before Mass)

Buy & Take (after Mass)



## College Connection Program

This fall, many Catholic high school graduates will become freshmen on campuses where their faith and moral life will often be tested. Catholic campus ministries, such as the Newman Centers, offer strong support but, because of privacy laws and competing activities, struggle to connect with freshman students. The U.S. Council of Serra developed the *College Connection Program* to help. At participating parishes, a Serra representative collects the names of high school graduates along with their intended college and its location. Then, they forward that information to the campus ministries who, in turn, send the student a welcoming packet in the summer and greet the student upon arrival. This student information is communicated to the campus ministries only and, otherwise, will remain confidential. If you would like to make this connection you may enroll them in several ways:

- Add the name to the Enrollment Form found at the Parish Office
- Enroll on-line: [www.madisondiocese.org](http://www.madisondiocese.org), then go to the Vocations tab
- Call: Office of Vocations: 608-821-3095

## St. Mary Portage Parish & School Calendar of Events for May 18-May 24

### Monday, May 18

6:30 pm Student Recognition gym

### Tuesday, May 19

4:00 pm Marketing Meeting school  
6:30 pm Just Faith Class 8th gr. rm.  
6:30 pm Baptism Prep PC-UL  
7:30 pm Education Commission Mtg. PC-LL

### Wednesday, May 20

4:00 pm Home & School Mtg. PC-LL  
5:30 pm Facilities Committee Mtg. PC-CR  
6:30-7:30 pm Celebration Choir Practice Mus. Rm.

### Meeting Room Key

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

## St. Mary Briggsville Calendar of Events for May 18-May 24

Saturday, May 23 & Sunday, May 24  
Bake Sale following each Mass

## 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  
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.

## Area New & Events

### Portage Lions-Recycle for Sight

During the month of May, the Portage Lions will be collecting used prescription eyeglasses and sunglasses as part of a recycling program conducted throughout the United States and Canada by Lions Clubs. Hearing aids will also be collected and accepted. The eyeglasses and hearing aids will be refurbished and distributed to the poor in developing countries where eye care is often unaffordable and inaccessible. Please bring your eyeglasses and hearing aids to church and deposit them in the marked container. Thank you.

### Discover

When searching for Treasure, X marks the spot. And so it is with us Christians; but we can see that X actually as a cross. We must discover and rediscover, Jesus. In our search, we may need a little help. The Diocese of Green Bay, is offering some help for men, July 17, 18 & 19 in the form of a silent retreat. There are other scheduled retreats for women and couples. Check the bulletin board in the back of church. To share a ride to the July 17-19 retreat call Jerry Tollison, 697-7735.

### Badger Care Plus Core Plan

*Basic Health Care for adults with no dependent children*  
The Badger Care Plus Core Plan will provide access to basic health care services, including primary and preventive care and some generic drugs to low-income adults. Income-eligible adults, from age 19 through 64 who do not have children or do not have dependent children under age 19 living with them may be able to enroll in the Badger Care plus Core Plan. Applications for the Core Plan will be accepted starting July 1, 2009. The earliest enrollment date will be July 1, 2009. More details can be found on [www.badgercareplus.org](http://www.badgercareplus.org).

You will be able to request Badger Care Plus Core Plan for childless adults online or by phone You will not be able to apply at the local county or tribal agency. The enrollment services center phone number is 1-800-291-2022. Online requests can be made at [access.wi.gov](http://access.wi.gov). Columbia County Human Services will have a computer and phone available in the receptionist area

## 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

**Music Coordinator**– 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 Sextons**– 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

### Bulletin Announcement Deadline

Bulletin announcements are due each Wednesday by  
12:00pm in writing or emailed to  
kcaulum@stmaryotic.com

## Visit Our Website

www.stmaryotic.com

If you haven't made a recent visit to the parish website now is the time to add it to your list of favorites. Listed below are just a few of the items you will find to keep you in touch with all that's happening within the parish.

- Weekly Bulletins
- Stewardship Reflections
- Daily Readings
- Ministry Schedules
- Event Calendars
- SCRIP Information
- Market Day Link
- Event Photos– if you haven't seen the pictures from the Haiti trip you can view them on the web.

NEW to the site include links to some great Family Resources including:

- *Father's For Good*  
An initiative for men by the Knights of Columbus
- *Veritas Financial Ministry*  
Veritas Financial Ministries develops Stewards of Providence by equipping people to manage their personal finances according to Catholic principles.
- *NFP- Natural Family Planning Diocesan Website*  
The good news about fertility, sex and marriage
- *St. Joseph's Covenant Keepers*  
"And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers."

You will also find links to some great sites of interest under the Catholic Resources including:

- Diocese of Madison
- Catholic Herald
- Catholic Charities of Madison
- Mass Time on the Web
- Wisconsin Catholic Conference
- United States Catholic Conference
- Claretian Publications