

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

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-John Miller

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 OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

of Portage, WI

&

ST MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

of Briggsville, WI

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



Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 23 & 24, 2009

Pastor, Fr. Jim Murphy

jmurphy@stmaryotic.com

Deacon, Dennis Sutter

dsutter@stmaryotic.com

Parish Community Website: www.stmaryotic.com

Portage Worship Schedule

Monday, May 25

8:00 AM Word & Communion

Tuesday, May 26

8:00 AM Word & Communion

Wednesday, May 27

7:00 AM † Ned Tierney
(Herb Hilgendorf)

Thursday, May 28

8:00 AM Special Intention
(Steinhaus Family)
7:00 PM 8th Grade Graduation

Friday, May 29

7:00 AM Joe Waldron (Family)

Saturday, May 30

4:00 PM † Elizabeth Boylan
(Craig & Judy Cawley)

Sunday, May 31

9:30 AM † Chris Pieper
(Jeff & Linda Heiskanen)
11:00 AM † Forrest Sommers (Family)

Portage Confessions

Saturday, May 30

Stewardship of Treasure

Parish Support May 16 & 17

Envelopes	\$4555.50
Offertory.....	\$369.25
DSA.....	\$280.00
Fiscal Year to Date Giving.....	\$441043.64

Parish Support Previous Year –2008

Envelopes Received	\$7658.50
Fiscal Year Giving.....	\$445958.74

Difference from previous fiscal year giving

Decrease.....\$4915.10

Scripture Reflection

Ascension of Our Lord

“This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven will return in the same way as you have seen him going into heaven.” - Acts 1:11

How strong is your faith? Do you believe that Jesus will return? In the Gospel Jesus tells us that He will return and when He does He will separate us into sheep and goats, depending on how much we used our blessings to help those in need. So how strong is your faith? The answer can be found in how much you give.

From Our Pastor

We have been fortunate that there have been no major business closing and loss of employment in our local area. There are however, individuals in our parish who have lost their jobs. As a community and a family, the needs of one ought to concern us all. Earlier this month, unemployment was a topic at our Parish Pastoral Council meeting. As a result of this conversation, we would like to offer our parish bulletin as an employment networking site. If you are looking for work, we would welcome your contact information and your job skills or field of desired employment. Some parish members may be in a position to interview but more may be able to share information or contacts that may be helpful. Certainly we can all pray for those seeking employment in these difficult economic times.

Thanks to all who supported Best Fest in any way. Financial reports on Best Fest will be available in a few weeks.

Fr. Jim

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. Please join us in congratulating them on this great accomplishment. Fr. Jim will be giving them a special blessing. If you are a high school graduate and did not receive an invitation please contact Brenda Collins at bcollins@stmaryotic.com to RSVP by Wednesday May 22.

Red Geraniums Needed



We would like to decorate with red geraniums for Pentecost, which is the weekend of May 30. Anyone wishing to donate flowers may bring them to the parish center during the week. Monetary contributions toward the purchase of geraniums may be placed in an envelope marked “GERANIUMS” and placed in the collection basket.

Please Note

The Stewardship meeting originally scheduled for Wednesday, May 27 at 6:30 pm has been rescheduled for Thursday, May 28 at 6:30 pm.

Youth Mission Trip News

On the Road to Detroit

The youth and adult members of our **Young Neighbors** team are gearing up for their June 14 – June 20 service week in Detroit, MI. They are going not just as individuals, but also as members of our parish community. They will be working and learning in our name. Please keep them in your prayers. To find out more about their Detroit involvement, or to see how you can help contribute to this trip, contact Brenda Collins at 742-6998.

Little Caesars Pizza Kits!!

The *delicious* Little Caesars Pizza Kits will be for sale after all Masses May 30–31. Choose from pizza kits, cookie dough, pies, and more that range in price from \$14.00 - \$18.50. Products will be delivered on June 10! All proceeds go towards the youth mission trip to Detroit. Contact person: Brenda Collins 742-6998

Thank you!

Thank you to that special someone who anonymously donated \$100 towards the mission trip to Detroit! We appreciate your support!

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.

Market Day

Order forms for June are available in church or at the Parish Center. It's a perfect time to purchase those items for outdoor grilling!! FREE grilling sauce with a \$35.00 purchase. If you order online don't forget to check the clearance section to purchase web clearance items while supplies last. Orders are due on Friday, June 5 and pick up will be Tuesday, June 9.

SCRIP will be sold following each Mass this weekend. We now have Pierce's SCRIP available in \$25, \$50 and \$100.

Congratulations to our 2009 Best Fest Raffle Ticket Winners

Grand Prize- \$5,000

Gary Bisping

Second Prize- \$1000.00

Lynette Rataczak

Third Prize- \$500.00

Tammy Olson

Fourth Prize- \$500.00

Nikki Tessmann

Fifth Prize- \$250.00

Dan Kastenholz

Sixth Prize- \$250.00

Bill Tierney

7th Prize

\$100.00

Chad

Hayes

8th Prize

\$100.00

Brian

Tollison

9th Prize

\$100.00

Faith

Weix

10th Prize

\$100.00

Kathie

Kinney

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

Bulletin Announcement Deadline

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

St. Mary School News

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 Fourth Grade Room

As the school year is winding down, we are finishing various activities in and outside the classroom. In Religion class we have been studying how to take care of our world. When we went outside our classroom and took a trip to Camp Gray in April, we learned how to be good stewards of the environment. We also learned the importance of trees as we planted four of them for the city of Portage at Goodyear Park. In Reading class we are studying stories about the sea and the planets and how probes are sent to outer space to gather information. We are finishing up our study of dairying and agriculture in Wisconsin. The fourth graders are "udderly" fascinated by what they are learning!! We also took our annual trip to the Surgeon's Quarters and Indian Agency. After a year of working hard, we are excited that summer is just around the corner!

Chris Daley

Save the Date for the following Events!!

St. Mary Golf Outing

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

Relay for Life

The Cancer Relay for Life will be held on July 21.

Stop by NEXT WEEKEND!!

St. Mary School

Car Wash

Saturday, May 30
10:00 am- 1:00 pm



Proceeds will help pay for
Camp Gray Trip



SCRIP NEWS!!

Order SCRIP ONLINE for DADS & GRADS!!!

Looking for a perfect gift for that high school graduate or for Dad for Father's Day. Pick something from the list below or look on line for more ideas! For easy instructions visit the St. Mary website at www.stmaryotic.com and click on the SCRIP tab and you can shop from the convenience of your home!!!

IDEAS for GRADS

For the Dorm Room

Bed Bath & Beyond \$25
Crate & Barrel \$25/\$100
Pier One \$25
HomeGoods/TJMaxx/
Marshalls \$25
AT&T Long Distance \$9.50

Study Gear

Staples \$25/\$100
Office Max \$25
Office Depot \$25
Barnes & Noble \$10/\$25/\$100
Borders \$10/\$25
Walgreen's \$25/\$100

Just for Fun

iTunes \$15
Sunglass Hut \$25
Amazon.com \$25/\$100
Starbucks \$10/\$25
Game Stop \$25
Build-A-Bear \$25
BP \$50/\$100/\$250
Exxon/Mobil \$50/\$250

Midnight Snack

Arby's \$10
Burger King \$10
Papa Johns Pizza \$10
Subway \$10
Wendy's \$10

IDEAS for DADS!!

Handyman Dads

Ace Hardware \$25/\$100
Sears \$25/\$100/\$250
Lowes \$25/\$100/\$500
Home Depot \$25/\$100/\$500

Active Dads

Dick's Sporting Goods \$25
Sports Authority \$25/\$100
Finish Line \$25
Dunham's \$25

Gadget-Loving Dads

Best Buy \$25/\$100/\$250
Radio Shack \$25

Outdoor Loving Dads

BassPro \$25/\$100
Cabela's \$25/\$100
Gander Mountain \$25

Hard-to-Shop-For Dads

Red Lobster \$25
Texas Roadhouse \$25
Land's End \$25/\$100

Well-Dressed Dads

LL Bean \$25/\$100
JCPenney \$25/\$100
Kohl's \$25/\$100

shopwithscrip.com



Briggsville Worship Schedule

Tuesday, May 26

8:00 AM † Claudine McMahon Box
(Joe & Carole Cleary)

Wednesday, May 27

8:00 AM Word & Communion

Thursday, May 28

8:00 AM Word & Communion

Saturday, May 30

5:30 PM † Helene Bloss (Dean Huber)

Sunday, May 31

8:00 AM † Ethel Huber (Connie & Russ Evans)

Liturgical Schedule

for May 30 & 31

Reader:

5:30 pm– Diana LaPointe

8:00 am– Jean Derheimer

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

5:30 pm– Betty Nadolski & Marcia Ginther

8:00 am– Anna & Lloyd Weber

Servers:

5:30 pm– Chelsey & Nellie Hilgendorf

8:00 am– Jenalee Wilson & TJ Belleau

Stewardship of Treasure

Parish Support May 16 & 17

Envelopes Received	\$828.00
Offertory	\$144.50
DSA	\$210.00
Maintenance	\$5.00
Total	\$1187.50

Scripture Readings

for the week of May 24, 2009

Sunday: Acts 1:1-11/ Eph 1:17-23 or 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13/
Mk 16:15-20

Monday: Acts 19:1-8/ Jn 16:29-33

Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27/Jn 17:1-11a

Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38/Jn 17:11b-19

Thursday: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11/Jn 17:20-26

Friday: Acts 25:13b-21/Jn 21:15-19

Saturday: **Morning:** Acts 28:16-20,30-31/Jn 21:20-25

Sunday: **Vigil:** Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14
or Jl 3:1-5/Rom 8:22-27/ Jn 7:37-39
Day: Acts 2:1-11/1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Gal 5:16-25/
Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 15:26-27; 16:12-15

From Our Pastor

Last weekend, Susan Hilliard spoke about “Guided by the Spirit” our planning process from the Diocese. There is no present crisis but now is the time to fulfill the goals of active participation in our link with St. Mary Portage. Cooperation with and participation within this link will provide evidence that St. Mary, Briggsville is a viable, active parish. To fulfill our goals, please consider participation in two joint committees: Liturgy and Parish Life. Contact Sr. Jovita or myself to volunteer or clarify committee tasks

Fr. Jim

Catholic Women’s Bake Sale

Don’t forget to stop and pick up some goodies following Mass this weekend!!



PLANS ARE IN THE WORKS AND WE NEED YOU!!

Prizes and donations are needed for ticket items. Please call Craig Hilliard if you can help with donations and prizes in any way. It is of utmost importance.

We are looking for volunteers who can help in all areas of the festival!!



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.

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

Tuesday, May 26

6:30 pm	Just Faith Class	school
6:30 pm	Parish Life Mtg.	PC-C
7:00 pm	Adult Education Mtg.	PC-LL

Wednesday, May 27

6:00 pm	Youth Mission Trip Mtg.	PC-LL
6:30-7:30 pm	Celebration Choir Practice	mus. rm.
7:00 pm	8th Grade Graduation Mass (reception to follow in gym)	church

Thursday, May 28

6:30 pm	Stewardship Mtg.	PC-UL
7:00 pm	Building & Grounds	PC-CR

Friday, May 29

St. Mary School Mini Course Day

Saturday, May 30

10 am-1 pm St. Mary School Car Wash

Meeting Room Key

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

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

Please Note!!

The parish offices will be closed on Monday, May 25 for Memorial Day. Have a safe & happy Memorial Day weekend!