



*Thirteenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
June 30 & July 1, 2007*

*Parish Priest:
Fr. Jim Murphy*



St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception

*309 W. Cook St Portage, WI 53901
Phone: 608-742-6998*

Weekend Mass Schedule

*Saturday, 5:30 p.m.
Sunday, 9:30 & 10:45 am*

Mission Statement of the Parish

*St. Mary Parish strives to be
a welcoming community that is
alive with prayer and service.
Jesus challenges us to support
one another, respecting our
similarities and differences.*

St. Mary Help of Christians

*PO Box 127 Briggsville, WI 53920
Phone: 608-981-2282*

Weekend Mass Schedule

*Saturday, 4:00 p.m.
Sunday, 8:00 a.m.*

Portage Worship Schedule

Monday, July 2

8:00 AM Word & Communion

Tuesday, July 3

8:00 AM Word & Communion

Wednesday, July 4

8:00 AM Word & Communion

Thursday, July 5

8:00 AM † Clements & McWilliams Families (Family)

Friday, July 6

7:00 AM † Babe Ringham (Dick & Mary Higgs)

Saturday, July 7

5:30 PM † Arnold Serna (Bob & Madeline Diplotti)

Sunday, July 8

9:30 AM In Thanksgiving for Maurice & Kathleen Duffy's 50th Wedding Anniversary
10:45 AM † Harry Cawley (Russ & Terri Schider)

Portage Confessions

Saturday, July 7

9:00-9:30 AM

Stewardship of Treasure

for the Weekend of June 30 & July 1

Envelopes	\$8461.00
Offertory.....	\$599.01
DSA.....	\$572.00

Year-to-Date

Envelopes Received.....	\$465891.16
Envelope Budget.....	<u>\$527000.00</u>
Difference.....(short)	\$-61108.84

Stewardship Reflection

July 1 –Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Jesus said, 'No one who sets a hand to the plow and looks to what was left behind is fit for the kingdom of God.'" Luke 9:62

A good steward learns the difference between what we own and what owns us. Jesus reminds us that many things can own us, demanding so much of our time and energy that we have no time left for God. Yet, when we decide to follow Jesus we must not look back at the many things we might leave behind.

From Our Pastor

With the end of the month, we say goodbye to Ken Rieder who has kept the church, school and offices clean and in running order the past 12 years. The St. Mary school children affectionately called him Mr. Ken. Ken was always helpful and cooperative as well as flexible to meet the needs of any given day. We wish Ken well and hope that he enjoys retirement in good health for many years to come. Thanks, Ken for your smile and your generosity.

Dan Schwalbe is our new maintenance supervisor who has been working with Ken the past two weeks. Welcome Dan.

Fr. Jim



Market Day

Order forms for the months of July and August can be picked up in church or at the Parish Center. Please be reminded that this will be the last Market Day order until September. Be sure to stock up on all your favorites.

Orders are due on Friday, July 13 and pick up will be **Wednesday, July 18.**

Eucharistic Adoration

All are invited to share in the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Thursday evening, July 5, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm.



All are welcome to come in for a visit any time during the two hours.

Jazz at the Plaza

The Portage Business Improvement District has organized a concert series at Commerce Plaza for the first Thursdays of July, August and September. This Thursday, July 5, Eulberg's Men's Store is sponsoring The Mad City Jazz group at 6:00 pm. Volunteers of River Haven Shelter will provide concessions. There is a need for three volunteers to provide a pan of brownies. If you can fill this need, please call the parish office on Monday or Tuesday.



Baptisms

We welcome Faith Bruna Bennett into the Parish family and our Catholic Faith Community at St. Mary, Portage. Faith, the daughter of Patrick and Lisa Bennett was baptized on Saturday, June 23, 2007.



We congratulate Faith and her family and pray that they may live and grow in Christ's love.

In Our Thoughts & Prayers

We express our sympathy to the family of Wayne Louis Albert "Porky" Portzen, who passed away on Tuesday, June 19, 2007.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Saturday, June 23 at St. Mary-Portage.

Please continue to keep this family in your prayers.

Knights of Columbus

Fish Fry
 Friday, July 6
 Cocktails 4 pm
 Dinner 5:00-7:30 pm
 Cost: \$8.75



50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration

Maurice & Kathleen Duffy celebrated their 50th Anniversary on May 4, 2007. The family is hosting an open house celebration on Sunday, July 8 from 2-4 pm in the St. Mary School Cafeteria.

Friends and family are invited to share in the celebration.

Please, no gifts, your presence is the best gift they could receive.

No formal invitations will be sent. Please join us.



Heading off to college this fall?

The Catholic Campus Ministry Center ministers at all the colleges and universities in Wisconsin. If you are interested in being contacted by this organization please email Brenda Collins at bcollins@stmaryotc.com with your name and the College/University you are attending.

YNIA DETROIT MISSION TRIP

This year's mission trip was a huge success! A lot of hard work was done, relationships were formed, and faith was deepened! The youth learned about poverty and were able to see it first-hand. The youth have been transformed by this experience and are very excited to share what they have learned.



To see and hear more about the Detroit mission trip, there will be a short presentation during all Masses the weekend of August 25-26.

Thank you to all who made this trip possible, with all your prayers and financial support. A special thank you to an additional donor: Art & Eleanor Doctor.

We are still in need of \$500 to help cover the costs for van rental and gas. If you are able to make a donation please send a check made at to St. Mary Parish to Brenda Collins, PO Box 216, Portage, WI 53901.

The youth of St. Mary Parish thank you for your support!



Youth
 Ministry

RECREATIONAL NIGHT

St. Patrick's in Lodi will be hosting a recreational night for students in grades 7-12 from surrounding areas. There will be foosball, ping-pong, board games, and lots more!

We will leave from St. Mary's Portage at 5 pm and return by 8:30 pm on Saturday, July 7th. Permission slips are available at the back of Church listed as "Kickball." Contact Brenda Collins with any questions.

Baptism Preparation

Parents anticipating Baptism of their **first child** are required to attend a Baptism Preparation Class. The class held every month, is to ready the parents for the Catholic commitment they are making for their child and illuminates the significance of Baptism. The next class is scheduled for **Tuesday, July 10** at the Parish Center.

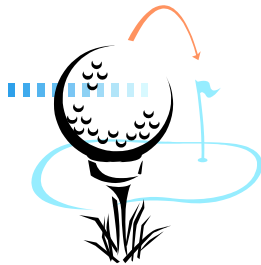
Make Life a Little Sweeter

Divine chocolate is world-class in more ways than one. It is one of the world's best-tasting brands of chocolate and it is the world's first farmer-owned Fair Trade chocolate company! Divine's cocoa comes exclusively from the Kuapa Kokoo cooperative in Ghana, whose farmers handpick the cocoa and own a share of the company!

Great chocolate for you, economic justice for cocoa farmers overseas. chocolate. St. Mary Parish has these chocolate bars available at the Parish Center. There are two sizes, large are \$2.00 each and the small are \$1.00 each. Stop by the Parish Center to purchase one of these delicious bars.

St. Mary Golf Outing

The 11th annual St. Mary Golf Outing will be held on August 5, 2007 at the Portage Country Club. In the past, the proceeds have helped to purchase new computers and equipment for the classrooms and the computer lab and to fund The Patty Quigley Scholarship.



Help Hunger Take a Vacation

Many low-income families experience increased needs in summer and turn to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul for help.

If you would like to help please bring your non perishable items to the Parish Center or take them directly to St. Vincent de Paul.



Hope For Your Marriage



Marriage is about weddings, romance, love and candlelight anniversary dinners, but marriage is also about dirty laundry, confrontations, balancing budgets, and hanging in there with teens. Retroville is a program designed to provide help and support to married couples who are undergoing difficulties in their relationship, for those who are hurting in brokenness and loneliness. It has also proven helpful to couples who are separated or divorced. Although Retroville is Catholic in origin, couples from all or no faith traditions are welcome to attend. The next program begins the weekend of July 13-15 at a hotel in the Madison area. For further information, please call 249-2377 or visit www.helpourmarriage.com. All inquiries are confidential.

Diocesan Family Picnic



All families of the Diocese of Madison are invited to attend the Diocesan Family Picnic held at the Bishop O'Connor Catholic Pastoral Center in Madison on July 29, 2007 from 2:00-7:00 pm. Enjoy the opportunity to connect with other families, and nurture the Church as Family with the Most Rev. Bishop Morlino. Event includes potluck style picnic (meat and tableware provided), games for all ages, and an address by Bishop Morlino. Sponsored by the Office of Evangelization & Catechesis and the Knights of Divine mercy. For more details or to register your family, go to www.madisoncatholic.org/OEC/picnic/ or call Monica Grant at 608-821-3160. Under 18 will require a chaperone.

World Youth Day 2008: The Journey to Sydney Begins

Plans are coming together for the diocesan pilgrimage group which will travel to Sydney, Australia in July 2008 for the 10th international World Youth Day celebration. The focus for the celebration is "Youth, Witness, and Power," a reference to "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses" (Acts 1:8). Pope Benedict XVI selected this theme in hopes of inspiring the Catholic youth of the world to recommit to their baptismal promises, participation in the sacraments, and living out their apostolic mission.

The diocesan planning team, led by Father Paul Arinze, has finalized an itinerary which includes involvement in the Days of Encounter events in the Diocese of Melbourne and an additional closing Mass and dinner with Bishop Morlino in St. Mary's Cathedral in Sydney. Basic itinerary details and projected cost of the WYD pilgrimage are available on the OEC website at www.MadisonDiocese.org/OEC.

Full details will be posted soon. Registrations, along with a non-refundable \$300 deposit are due by August 1, 2007. Open to those aged 16-35, but participants under 18 will require a chaperone.

Scrip will be sold following each Mass this weekend.

Briggsville Worship Schedule

Tuesday, July 3

8:00 AM People of the Parishes

Thursday, July 5

8:00 AM Word & Communion

Saturday, July 7

4:00 PM † Jim Christiansen
(Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Bolger)

Sunday, July 8

8:00 AM Herbert C. Reihansperger
(Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Bolger)

Briggsville Confessions

Saturday, July 7

3:00-3:30 PM

Stewardship of Treasure

for the Weekend of June 23 & 24, 2007

Envelopes Received.....\$1147.00
 Offertory.....\$140.95
 DSA.....\$2122.00

Briggsville Liturgical Schedule

Saturday, July 7

Lector: Charles Newling
 Eucharistic Ministers: Roberta Peake & Diana LaPointe
 Servers: Chelsey & Nellie Hilgendorf

Sunday, July 8

Lector: Jean Derheimer
 Eucharistic Ministers: Mona McTier & Jean Isaacson
 Servers: Nick Schwantz & Sawyer Cimaroli

Scripture Readings

for the Week of July 1, 2007

Sunday: 1 Kgs 19:16b, 19-21/Gal 5:1, 13-18/
Lk 9:51-62
Monday: Gn 18:16-33/Mt 8:18-22
Tuesday: Eph 2:19-22/Jn 20:24-29
Wednesday: Gn 21:5, 8-20a/Mt 8:28-34
Thursday: Gn 22:1b-19/Mt 9:1-8
Friday: Gn 23:1-4, 19; 24:1-8, 62-67/Mt 9:9-13
Saturday: Gn 27:1-5, 15-29/Mt 9:14-17
Sunday: Is 66:10-14c/Gal 6:14-18/Lk 10:1-12,
17-20 or 10:1-9



RAFFLE TICKETS

are

COMING SOON!!!

Watch for your raffle packet in
the church entry.

Great Prizes, 10:00 am Polka Mass,
Delicious Dinner and much more!



Bake Sale
Next Weekend
July 7-8

Bring it and Buy it! Proceeds help the Briggsville Catholic Women support their church projects. Among them: purchase of candles, flowers, altar breads used in church services, refreshments after ecumenical or other special events, hospitalities for the homebound and the bereaved, and Faith Formation materials for our children.

Our altar servers were grateful for lunch money they provided for our day at Chula Vista on June 14. Coming August 10, they will assist in the hosting of an outdoor Mass honoring St. Philomena.

All of Us make these things possible by our participation in the summer bake sales!

Thank You.

Parish Information

Parish Priest: Fr. Jim Murphy

St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception -Portage

Weekend Masses

Saturday-5:30 pm
Sunday- 9:30 & 10:45 am

Parish Offices- 742-6998

Parish Deacon- Dennis Sutter (dsutter@stmaryotic.com)

Faith Formation- Jeri Sutter (jsutter@stmaryotic.com)

Youth Minister- Brenda Collins (bcollins@stmaryotic.com)

Pastoral Minister- Malu Durkin

Secretaries- Pat Ashley & Kari Caulum

Bookkeeper- Betty Tessmann

Maintenance- Ken Rieder

Cemetery Sexton- Tom Waldron- 742-3153

Pastoral Council Chair-John Miller- 742-7267

St. Mary Help Of Christians - Briggsville

Weekend Masses

Saturday-4:00 pm
Sunday-8:00 am

Parish Office – 981-2282

Pastoral Minister- Sr. Julaine Meyer
(jmeyer@stmaryotic.com)

Bookkeeper- Barbara Poppy-253-2100

Maintenance- Bob Gauger

Pastoral Council Chair- Susan Hilliard – 981-2033

Cemetery Sexton- James Dinegan– 981-2183

St. Mary School– 742-4998
315 W. Cook St Portage, WI 53901
Principal– Lynn Koresh
Secretary– Cindy Harvey

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Portage– Each Saturday, 9:00-9:30 am
Briggsville– First Saturday of each month,
3:00-3:30pm

Baptisms

Portage & Briggsville–call Pat Ashley or
Kari Caulum at 742-6998 to make
arrangements.

Parish Website:
www.stmaryotic.com

Marriages

Call Fr. Jim 6 months prior to the wedding

Mission Statement of the Parish

St. Mary Parish strives to be a welcoming
community that is alive with prayer and
service. Jesus challenges us to support one
another, respecting our similarities and
differences.

Parish Email:
parish@stmaryotic.com