The Catholic Parish Communities of:

St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception

Church: 2652 Murphy Rd
Parish Office: 309 W Cook St.
Portage Wisconsin 53901
608-742-6998 portage@stmaryotic.org

Pastor
Fr. Gary Krahenbuhl
garyk@stmaryotic.org

Pastoral Emergency: 608-745-9098

Deacons
Dennis Sutter
dsutter@stmaryotic.org
Steve Letourneaux
sletourneaux@gmail.com

Administration & Operations Manager
Lisa Clemmons
lclemmons@stmaryotic.org

Director of Liturgical Music & Media Coordinator
Samuel Clemmons
sclemmons@stmaryotic.org

Finance Manager
Christine R. Daly
cdaly@stmaryotic.org

If you are in the hospital or homebound and would like a visit, contact:
Director of Pastoral Ministry
Nancy Davis
ndavis@stmaryotic.org

Liturgical Environment
Lisa Dougherty

Director of Advancement for Parish & School
Jamie Hahn
jamhahn@stmarysportage.org

Director of Faith Formation
Hannah Haseley
hhaseley@stmaryotic.org

Cemetery Sexton:
Joe Weber–jweber79@aol.com
608-617-6046

Council Chairs
Pastoral
Lisa Walker—608-697-0550

Finance

St. Mary Help of Christians

N565 County Rd. A
Briggsville, Wisconsin 53920, 608-981-2282

Pastoral Minister & Director of Faith Formation
Sr. Anita Henning, CSA
stmaryhofc@maqs.net

Pastoral Council Chair:
Joshua Huber—608-369-3096

Finance Council Chair:
Steffanie Murphy—608-981-2393

Cemetery Sexton:
Jim Dinegan– 981-2183

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jesus then said to the Twelve, "Do you also want to leave?" Simon Peter answered him, "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God." - Jn 6:67-69

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 22, 2021

MASS SCHEDULE

St. Mary, Portage

Tuesday, 5:00 PM
Thursday, 8:15 AM
Friday, 7 AM
Saturday, 4:00 pm
Sunday, 9:30 am & 11:00 am

St. Mary, Briggsville

Wednesday, 8:15 AM
Sunday, 8:00 AM

St. Mary School

315 W. Cook St.
Portage, Wisconsin
608-742-4998

Josh Schuenemann, Principal
josschuenemann@stmarysportage.org

Cheryl Heimerl, Secretary
cheheimerl@stmarysportage.org

MISSION STATEMENT

We, the parishes of St. Mary Help of Christians (Briggsville) and St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception (Portage), in a spirit of faith and service rooted in the mission of Christ as revealed in the Gospel, are committed to creating welcoming communities that actively pursue opportunities for formation in our Catholic faith, spiritual growth and outreach to others in need.

CONNECT WITH US

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www.stmaryoticandhoc.org
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MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, August 24 5:00 PM (Portage)	† Lillian Sippel
	(Gary & Jean Anderson)
Wednesday, August 25 8:15AM (Briggsville)	† Louise Collins
	(Ed Flynn)
Thursday, August 26 8:15 AM (Portage)	† Robert Monthey
	(Pat Kaiser)
Friday, August 27 7:00 AM (Portage)	† Katie Brown
	(Friends & Family)
Saturday, August 28 4:00 PM (Portage)	† Tony, Stella & Allyn Bauer
	(Rudy & Carol Ringelstetter)
Sunday, August 29	
8:00 AM (Briggsville)	† Don Slowey
	(Mena & Larry McFaul)
9:30 AM (Portage)	† Steve Gavinski
	Family
11:00 AM (Portage)	People of the Parish

Prayerful sympathy to the family of Irene Preston. Irene passed away on July 31, 2021. A Mass of Christian Burial was held at St. Mary, Portage on August 14. May Irene rest in peace.

Readings for the week of August 22, 2021

Sunday:	Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b/Ps 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19, 20-21, 22-23 [9a]/Eph 5:21-32 or 5:2a, 25-32/Jn 6:60-69
Monday:	1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Mt 23:13-22
Tuesday:	Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18 [12]/Jn 1:45-51
Wednesday:	1 Thes 2:9-13/Ps 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab [1]/Mt 23:27-32
Thursday:	1 Thes 3:7-13/Ps 90:3-5a, 12-13, 14 and 17 [14]/Mt 24:42-51
Friday:	1 Thes 4:1-8/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12 [12a]/Mt 25:1-13
Saturday:	1 Thes 4:9-11/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9 [9]/Mt 25:14-30
Next Sunday:	Dt 4:1-2, 6-8/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5 [1a]/Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27/Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

EVENTS THIS WEEK

TUESDAY, August 24

4:30 PM (Portage)	Rosary Murphy Rd
5:00 PM (School)	Back To School Night Entire School
6:00 PM (Portage)	Immaculate Conception Choir Practice Murphy Rd

SATURDAY, AUGUST 28

9:00 AM (Portage)	Private Reconciliation Murphy Rd Church

SUNDAY, AUGUST 29

12:00 PM (School)	Golf Outing Portage Country Club

A full calendar of St. Mary, Portage and St. Mary, Briggsville events can be found on our website at http://www.stmaryoticandhoc.com/

Faith Formation Registration is Now Open

Registration is open for our Faith Formation program! Students not currently enrolled in a Catholic School going into K5-9th grade should register to participate. These sessions will be held Wednesday Nights throughout the year. There will be a parent meeting held in the Cafeteria on September 1st at 5pm for K5-8th grade parents and one at 6pm for 9th grade parents. Classes begin September 8th. Registration can also be found online.

Call St. Mary School Alumni: We are looking for volunteers to assist in rebuilding the St. Mary School Alumni Committee. This committee would meet once per month to foster communications and engage our alumni in our school and parish community. Please contact Jamie Hahn at jamhahn@stmarysportage.org or 742-6998 x211 to learn more or be part of this committee.

THANK YOU to those who have already offered to sponsor a St. Mary School classroom or program! We have sponsors for Kindergarden-7th grade and in many special areas.

Support is still needed for the 4K and 8th grade classrooms as well as the Art, Music, Phy. Ed. And Spanish programs. If you are interested in being a sponsor or contributing, please contact Jamie Hahn at 742-6998 x211 or jamhahn@stmarysportage.org

Pregnancy Helpline of Madison is hosting its 7th Annual DiaperDash from 8:00-11:00am on Saturday, September 25, 2021 at McKee Farms Park in Fitchburg.

This family-friendly event will consist of a 5k run/2 mile walk, Kids' Dash, children's activities, diaper drive collection and more!

Prizes will be awarded for top fundraising and diaper donations. The cost is $30 for an individual registration, including a race day t-shirt. Family registration is $75, which includes two t-shirts. Group rates are available for junior an adult teams.

Funds raised support Pregnancy Helpline Diaper Bank to provide diapers and wipes to families in need. All event information can be found at www.pregnancyhelpline.net

Cross Catholic OUTREACH

This weekend we are blessed to be hosting a priest representing Cross Catholic Outreach. This official Catholic ministry was founded to link parishes in the U.S. with priests, religious brothers and sisters, and laypeople working in Church mission overseas. Its programs span the Caribbean, Africa, Asia, and Central and South America. Please be generous in your response to his appeal. Please be sure to say "hi" after Mass. Brochures with a donation envelope will be provided if you wish to support this worthy Catholic ministry. For more information on Cross Catholic Outreach, please go to CrossCatholic.org/outreach or text BELSSINGS to 474747.l

Welcome into our Christian Community, Warren Andrew Housel. Warren, son of Quinn & Miriam Marx Housel, was baptized at St. Mary, Portage on August 14, 2021.

St. Mary School is looking for a substitute helper in the school kitchen. Hours would vary between 10:00-11:00 AM until 1:00 PM. This is a paid position. Duties would include prep work, serving lunch and cleaning up after lunch. If interested, please contact Linda Raimer at 608-742-4998 or linraimer@stmarysportage.org

The first Immaculate Conception Choir practice will be Tuesday, August 24 at 6:00 PM at Murphy Rd.

All are welcome!

There will be a blood drive at the Endeavor Moundville Church on August 27 from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM. To make an appointment, contact 1-800-RED-CROSS or call Ruth Jones at 608-587-2646..

The St. Mary Briggsville Catholic Women will have a bake sale after the 8:00 AM Mass on September 5. Please support this event.

ISSUE ELEVEN | AUGUST 17, 2021

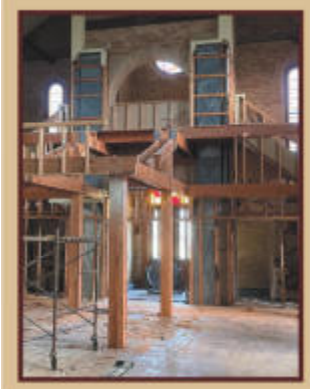
ST. MARY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

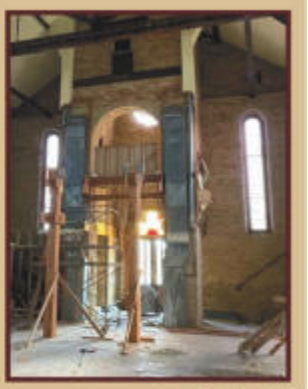
RENOVATION REPORT

Your weekly update on the progress of the renovation at St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception.

Balcony Bonanza

Who would have ever guessed that 150 years ago, a small choir loft would actually become a major component to the church structure at St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception? The original choir loft was expanded in 1972 to become the "balcony" to accommodate the growing size of the congregation. Counter to is original intent, the balcony created two levels of seating and actually separated parishioners by sight and sound for the last 50 years. This counteracted so much of what was intended by Vatican II in is reform of the Church's liturgy. Now that we are 50 years into understanding those documents, we've realized that the only way to welcome everyone to the Altar is to bring everyone to the same level of participation. This week, crews slowly dismantled the balcony from our church. The removal of the balcony actually increases the overall volume of the space by 30%, will allow us to expand seating, with less obstructions, and allows more natural light into the space through two beautiful windows that were hidden by the balcony.



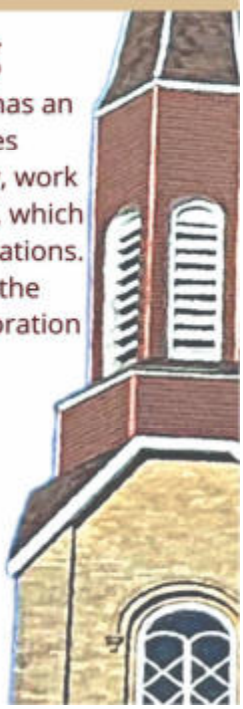


Continued Foundation Work

Crews continued foundation work at the St. Mary Renovation site this week. As the addition foundation continues to take shape, we can start to imagine all of the great things that it will allow us to do. These two boxes show where the lower level windows will be placed in east wall which will allow natural light to fill the space below.

The Steeple's the Thing

St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception has an iconic steeple which can be seen for miles around. With the removal of the balcony, work can now begin on important restoration, which will preserve the steeple for many generations. This week, the scaffolding was placed in the worship space and will assist in the restoration of the iconic structure.



Sacrament Information

Reconciliation

Private confessions are held at St. Mary, Portage most Saturdays at 9:00 am in the church.

Baptisms

Parents wishing to have their child baptized must attend a Baptismal Preparation session. To make arrangements to attend, please call the Portage Parish Center at 742-6998. Pre-registration is necessary. Baptism prep class is usually offered the third Tuesday of each month in Portage.

Marriages

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

Bulletin Deadline

Announcements must be dropped off at the Parish office or emailed to Lisa Clemmons– lclemmons@stmaryotic.org by 4:00 PM each Monday for publication in the following weekend's bulletin. Holiday deadlines are Friday of the week before.

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