

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](mailto:portage@stmaryotic.org)

Pastor  
Fr. Gary Krahenbuhl  
[garyk@stmaryotic.org](mailto:garyk@stmaryotic.org)

Pastoral Emergency: 608-745-9098

Deacons  
Dennis Sutter  
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Director of Liturgical Music & Media  
Coordinator  
Samuel Clemmons  
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Finance Manager  
Christine R. Daly  
[cdaly@stmaryotic.org](mailto: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](mailto:ndavis@stmaryotic.org)

Liturgical Environment  
Lisa Dougherty

Director of Advancement for Parish &  
School  
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Cemetery Sexton:  
[Joe Weber-jweber79@aol.com](mailto:Joe_Weber-jweber79@aol.com)  
608-617-6046

Council Chairs  
Pastoral  
Lisa Walker—608-697-0550

Finance  
Rod Gumz: 608-697-3613



**4th Sunday of Advent**

**December 19, 2021**

**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](mailto:stmaryhofc@maqs.net)

Bookkeeper  
Mena McFaul 608-617-6715

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

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

Cemetery Sexton:  
Jim Dinegan—981-2183

**MASS SCHEDULE**

**St. Mary, Portage**

Tuesday, 4:00 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  
[joshschuenemann@stmarysportage.org](mailto:joshschuenemann@stmarysportage.org)

Cheryl Heimerl, Secretary  
[cheimerl@stmarysportage.org](mailto:cheimerl@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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# MASS INTENTIONS

<b>Tuesday, December 21</b> 4:00 PM (Portage)	† Detienne/Drinkwine Families  (Shirley Detienne)
<b>Wednesday, December 22</b> 8:15AM (Briggsville)	† Steven Twing  (Diane Hons-Solterman)
<b>Thursday, December 23</b> 8:15 AM (Portage-Murphy Rd.)	† Albert & Jean Feltz  (Leona & Ray Geymann)
<b>CHRISTMAS EVE</b>	
<b>Friday, December 24</b> 3:30 PM (Portage)	† Patti Mootz  (Friends)
5:00 PM (Portage)	People of the Parish  (Family)
7:00 PM (Briggsville)	† Deceased Members of the Dinegan Family  (Mary & Dennis Lueck)
<b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b>	
<b>Saturday, December 25</b> 8:00 AM (Briggsville)	† Margaret Henning  (Mary Alice & Keith Martin)
10:00 AM (Portage)	People of the Parish
<b>HOLY FAMILY</b>	
<b>Sunday, December 26</b>	
8:00 AM (Briggsville)	† John & Virginia Raab  (Mike & Chris Clark)
9:30 AM (Portage)	† Clem Fagan  (Friends and Family)
11:00 AM (Portage)	† Clayton & Shirlee Reynolds  (Mike Reynolds)

## EVENTS THIS WEEK

### MONDAY, December 20

6:00 PM (Portage) "The Chosen" Faith Sharing  
Lower Level Meeting Room

### TUESDAY, December 21

3:00 PM (Portage) Reconciliation  
Murphy Rd  
3:00 PM (Portage) The Chaplet of Divine Mercy  
Murphy Rd  
3:30 PM (Portage) Rosary  
Murphy Rd  
Gym

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



### A Message from Father Gary and Sister Anita

May all we celebrate at Christmas - the love of God manifest as a humble child, the fulfillment of the prophets, the hope of salvation in the Prince of Peace, the love that flows from the heart of God- be renewed in your hearts and your homes.

If you are traveling, I pray that you have safe journeys. If you are gathering with family and friends, I pray that they are joyful gatherings. If your Christmas will be quiet and simple, I pray that you will know the peace of Christ in your hearts.

Have a blessed Christmas!

*Fr. Gary*

I wish all of you a holy and happy Christmas. May Emmanuel be made flesh in your lives in the New Year.

*Sister Anita*

We welcome all to our Christmas liturgies this year. As we anticipate larger crowds in the churches and will be seated very closely, for your safety and for the safety of others we encourage all to wear masks this year.

All Christmas Masses at St. Mary, Portage will be live-streamed.

Please note that there will not be a Mass celebrated Saturday evening, December 25. Masses on December 24 and 25 will celebrate Christmas. Masses on Sunday will celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family.



## Join us for Advent Reconciliation. Check out the times below!

### Saturday, December 11

9:00 Portage  
3:00 Portage

### Tuesday, December 14

5:00 Portage - Communal

### Wednesday, December 15

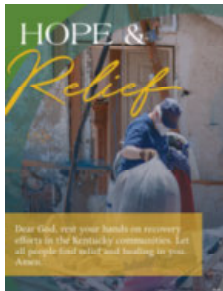
9:00 Briggsville

### Saturday, December 18

9:00 Portage

### Tuesday, December 21

3:00 Portage



*"It is heartbreaking to see the destruction and devastation brought by the tornadoes that tore through the South and Midwest overnight. During this Advent season where we await in joyful anticipation for the birth of our Lord, we pray for those who have been injured, for those who have lost their lives, and for their grieving families and communities. May those who have been impacted by these storms find peace, comfort, and*

*hope in our faith and in God's endless love. We also pray for the emergency responders and those who have begun the work of providing for the needs of the impacted in these communities in the recovery efforts. We entrust all our brothers and sisters in harm's way to our Blessed Mother, and we ask for her continued protection and for her intercession in comforting those who are suffering. Catholics and all people of good will may help our brothers and sisters in their recovery by supporting the work of Catholic Charities USA.*

Individuals can donate directly online for victims at the following locations:

1) **Disaster Relief at the Office of Stewardship and Development of the Diocese of Madison** – See <https://www.madisondiocese.org/donate>, click on "I want to support", then select "Disaster Relief Fund – USCCB (US & Kentucky Tornado Relief)" on the pull-down menu.

2) **Catholic Charities USA** - See [www.catholiccharities.us/campaign/ccusa-disaster-relief/c353051](http://www.catholiccharities.us/campaign/ccusa-disaster-relief/c353051).

# ST. MARY SCHOOL NEWS

Happy Holidays from 7th Grade!

The seventh graders have spent this quarter learning about Earth Science and preparing their Science Fair projects.

They recently became captivated by the *Hunger Games* in Literacy class and are studying world cultures and the substitution method in Geography and Math, respectively.

Seventh Grade is very excited for Christmas and has been very busy practicing for the Christmas Program, completing an Advent photo challenge, and participating in classroom Secret Santa.

Ms. Achterberg and the 7th Grade Class

Christmas is fast approaching, giving us another year to celebrate this joyous holiday season together!



If you would like to remember a loved one during this Christmas season by making a donation for Poinsettias, please put your donation in the regular weekend collection baskets in Briggsville or Portage indicating your parish, the name of your loved one, and who is making the donation in an envelope and mark it *Christmas flowers*.

You can also drop off your donation at either of the parish offices.

## Readings for the week of December 19, 2021

Sunday:	Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45
Monday:	Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 7c and 10b]/Lk 1:26-38
Tuesday:	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 [1a; 3a]/Lk 1:39-45
Wednesday:	1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd [cf. 1a]/Lk 1:46-56
Thursday:	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 [cf. Lk 21:28]/Lk 1:57-66
Friday:	<i>Morning:</i> 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 [2]/Lk 1:67-79
Saturday:	<i>Vigil:</i> Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 [2a]/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25 <i>Night:</i> Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 [Lk 2:11]/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14 <i>Dawn:</i> Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20 <i>Day:</i> Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3c]/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14
Next Sunday:	Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

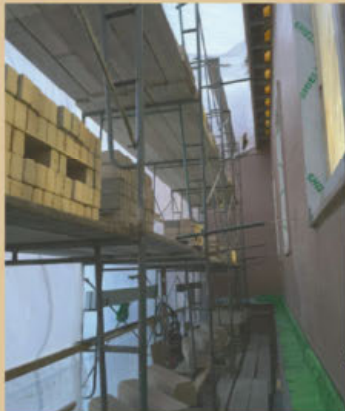


# ST. MARY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION RENOVATION REPORT

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

## New Brick Exterior

The large scaffolding that we see around the exterior of the building provides support for the crew members that are working on the finishing exterior touches of the addition on the east side. While the iconic yellow Portage brick is no longer in production, a similar product is being used to meld the existing structure to the new structure. Crews have already completed the lower half of the exterior on the north side and will continue until the entire side is completed. A quick drive by the site will also show that they are preparing to begin the work on the south exterior that faces W. Cook St.



## Entering the Worship Space

The image below may seem odd without any context, but this wall skeleton provides distinction between the Gathering Space and the Worship Space. The archway above is a common feature that has been used throughout the design of the addition and merges the architectural style of the existing church to the new structure. This threshold will feature a new set of doors that will be edged with baseboard made from the old pews. It certainly does provide some great insight into the great things that will be coming our way!



## Lower Level Framing

Much like the upper level of the addition, the lower level is seeing some great progress. Aside from new utilities being installed, this space is also starting to become more defined with the placement of the new wall studs. These steel studs are beginning to separate out the designated spaces below. In addition to framing, some of the walls are already starting to see utility integration and drywall. The image on the left shows the dark outline for the new walls and the image on the right shows the new utility room in the addition.



## 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- lclcmmons@stmaryotic.org by 4:00 PM each Monday for publication in the following weekend's bulletin. Holiday deadlines are Friday of the week before.

CHARLES MANTEY



ROBERT MENDRALA

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