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
<u>dsutter@stmaryotic.org</u>
Steve Letourneaux
<u>sletourneaux@gmail.com</u>

Administration & Operations Manager Lisa Clemmons

Iclemmons@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

Liturgical Environment Lisa Dougherty

ndavis@stmaryotic.org

Director of Advancement for Parish & School
Jamie Hahn

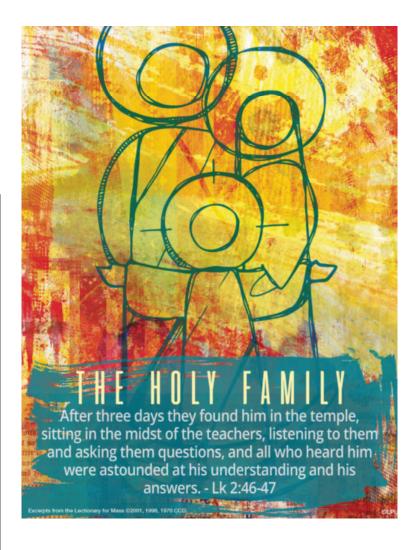
Cemetery Sexton: Joe Weber-jweber79@aol.com 608-617-6046

jamhahn@stmarysportage.org

Council Chairs
Pastoral
Lisa Walker—608-697-0550

Finance

Rod Gumz: 608-697-3613



The Holy Family

December 26, 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

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 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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#### INTENTIONS † Bill Tiernev Tuesday, December 28 4:00 PM (Portage) (Rudy & Carol Ringelstetter) Wednesday, December 29 † Connie Corcoran 8:15AM (Briggsville) (Mike & Virginia Eggleston) † Kimberly Tessmann Thursday, December 30 8:15 AM (Portage-Murphy Rd.) (Larry & Sandy Kiefer) **SOLEMNITY OF MARY** Saturday, January 1 † Pat Cleary 8:00 AM (Briggsville) (Family & Friends) 10:00 AM (Portage) People of the Parish **EPHIPANY OF THE LORD** Irene & Dale Gloyd Saturday, January 1 4:00 PM (Portage) Rita & Dan Devine (Devine Family)

#### A Message from Father Gary

† Katherine Evans

† Jane Gray

(Pat & Maureen Hauswald)

(Tom & Nadine Lynch)

People of the Parish

My prayers of gratitude to all who extended their greetings and blessings over the Christmas holidays - for your messages, cards, gifts and prayers.

I hope you had the opportunity to spend time with family and friends and the opportunity to sit quietly in prayer before the Christ whose birth and manifestation we celebrate in this Christmas Season.

Fr. Gary

Wednesday:

Saturday:

8:00 AM (Briggsville)

9:30 AM (Portage)

11:00 AM (Portage)

#### Readings for the week of December 26, 2021

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

Monday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Tuesday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18

1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40

Friday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18

Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-

21

Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/

Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

#### **EVENTS THIS WEEK**

**TUESDAY, December 28** 

3:00 PM (Portage) The Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Murphy Rd

3:30 PM (Portage) Rosary

Murphy Rd

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



Fr. Gary will be leading a 12-day pilgrimage to the Holy Land from September 26 - October 7, 2022.

Fr. Gary and Fr. Kevin (a seminary classmate) will be Co-Spiritual Directors on this pilgrimage.

Bishop Hying recently referred to a Holy Land Pilgrimage as "The Fifth Gospel." It is an opportunity to walk where Jesus walked and experience the Gospel of Jesus Christ beyond the written word.

If you are interested in learning more, Fr. Gary will lead informational meetings on :

- Sunday January 9 at 12:00 Noon (after the 11:00 Mass)
- Tuesday January 11 at 4:30 PM (after the 4:00 Mass)

Informational meetings will be held at the St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Church (on Murphy Road). Brochures are available at both churches, in the parish offices and can be mailed upon request.



Every year on January 1, the Holy Father marks the World Day of Peace with a special message inviting all people to reflect on the important work of building peace. This year's message is the latest in a long tradition of messages for this day that began with St. Paul VI in 1967 and continued with St. John Paul II, Pope Benedict XVI, and Pope Francis. You can find this year's message at https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/peace.index.html

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#### **FRASSATI FEST 2022**

**Dear High School Students,** 

I am writing to extend an invitation for all of you to participate in *Frassati Fest* this year. If you are not familiar, *Frassati Fest* is an opportunity to gather with other high school students from across the diocese for a weekend of fun, faith, celebration and prayer. It is sponsored by the Diocese of Madison and held at Kalahari Resort in Wisconsin Dells the weekend of Feb. 11-13.

Check out this link <a href="https://madisondiocese.org/frassatifest">https://madisondiocese.org/frassatifest</a> for more information and a short video.

If you are interested, there will be registration forms at the parish office or at Murphy Road. You can also call to request a form be emailed to you.

Please complete it and send it to the St. Mary, Portage Parish Office, Attn: Lisa, (309 West Cook Street, Portage WI 53901) no later than January 5.

Because of the generous support of some parishioners, the parish will cover the entire cost of the room! You will only be responsible for \$75 of the cost for the weekend.

I hope many of you consider this opportunity and participate.

Fr. Gary



#### ST. MARY PORTAGE PARISH CENTER HOURS

Friday, December 24, 2021—Closed Monday, December 27, 2021—Closed Tuesday, December 28, 2021—Open 9-4 Wednesday, December 29, 2021—Open 9-4 Thursday, December 30, 2021—Open 9-4 Friday, December 31, 2021—Closed

# ST. MARY SCHOOL NEWS

#### Merry Christmas from the 6th Grade classroom!

We are anxiously waiting during this Advent season in anticipation of Christmas day and the chance to celebrate the birth of Jesus. As we wait, we are definitely staying busy. Their religion classes are focusing on the Advent season.

In Literacy, the students are reading Percy Jackson.

Pre-algebra has them solving algebraic inequalities and making fun Christmas designs with graphs.

In Science, the students are learning about genetics and how traits are passed down to future generations.

World Geography has the students learning about World War I and World War II.

In Art, the students are creating a Ski Chalet collage.

During Phy Ed, they are spending their time scooting around the gym, having a blast.

Music class is taking a new direction now that the Christmas program is over. They are comparing how they sound to other musical ensembles. They did such a wonderful job at the Christmas Program!!

We hope you have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Mrs. Edwards and the Sixth Grade Class

#### ST. MARY PORTAGE FAITH FORMATION

The Faith Formation program in Portage is looking for a teacher's aid in two classrooms, one for Grades 4-6 and one for 9th Grade.

A teacher's aid helps take attendance and is a second adult in the classroom to help with any tasks needed and to help supervise our students.

Faith Formation meets three Wednesday a month from 6:00-7:00 PM.

If you are interested, please contact Father Gary at garyk@stmaryotic.org or call 608-742-6998 x214

ISSUE TWENTY NINE | DECEMBER 21, 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.



## **Scaffolding Comes Down**

The scaffolding on site has come down in several places, but the most notable changes on site are two of the major components of the exterior renovation and restoration. The scaffolding for the exterior brick structure was removed from the north side of the building and the result is incredible. When putting the two structures side-by-side, it can be difficult for one to see the differences in the brick color. The work on the exterior will continue to happen on the south side of the building, where new scaffolding has already found its way into the sky. The other major change to the project is to the skyline of the St. Mary Renovation site. A drive by the site reveals the steeple, which has seen extensive restoration and renovation over these past weeks. The steeple, while visually different than what we've come to know, has been brought up into the 21st Century with new fire prevention features and weather-proof exterior components.







## **Framing Continues**

The work in the lower level is continuing to make great strides. The spaces are getting closed off more and more everyday and new plumbing and electrical is being run through the ceiling and walls. The two images here are of the kitchen and the hallway leading to the new lower level bathrooms. The kitchen will help take pressure off of the school for several functions, including funeral luncheons, which have displaced students and staff for years. The new kitchen will also make it easier for us to host events in the Worship Space above and move seamlessly to the lower level. The bathrooms on the lower level will help to accommodate the increased traffic to the church and will help support our parish and community functions.



#### 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— Iclemmons@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** 

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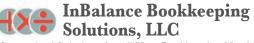
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