

The Catholic Parish Communities of:
**St. Mary of the Immaculate
 Conception**

309 W Cook St.

Portage Wisconsin 53901

608-742-6998 portage@stmaryotic.org

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St. Mary Help of Christians
 N565 County Rd. A
 Briggsville, Wisconsin 53920, 608-981-2282

<p>Pastoral Minister & Director of Faith Formation Sr. Anita Henning, CSA stmaryhofc@maqs.net</p> <p>In Residence: Sr. Jovita Winkel, CSA jovitawinkel@gmail.com</p>	<p>Bookkeeper: Barbara Poppy 253-2100</p> <p>Pastoral Council Chair: Joshua Huber—608-369-3096</p> <p>Finance Council Chair: Steffanie Murphy—608-981-2393</p> <p>Cemetery Sexton: Jim Dinegan— 981-2183</p>
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St. Mary School
 315 W. Cook St.
 Portage, Wisconsin
 608-742-4998

Josh Schuenemann, Principal
joshschuenemann@stmarysportage.org

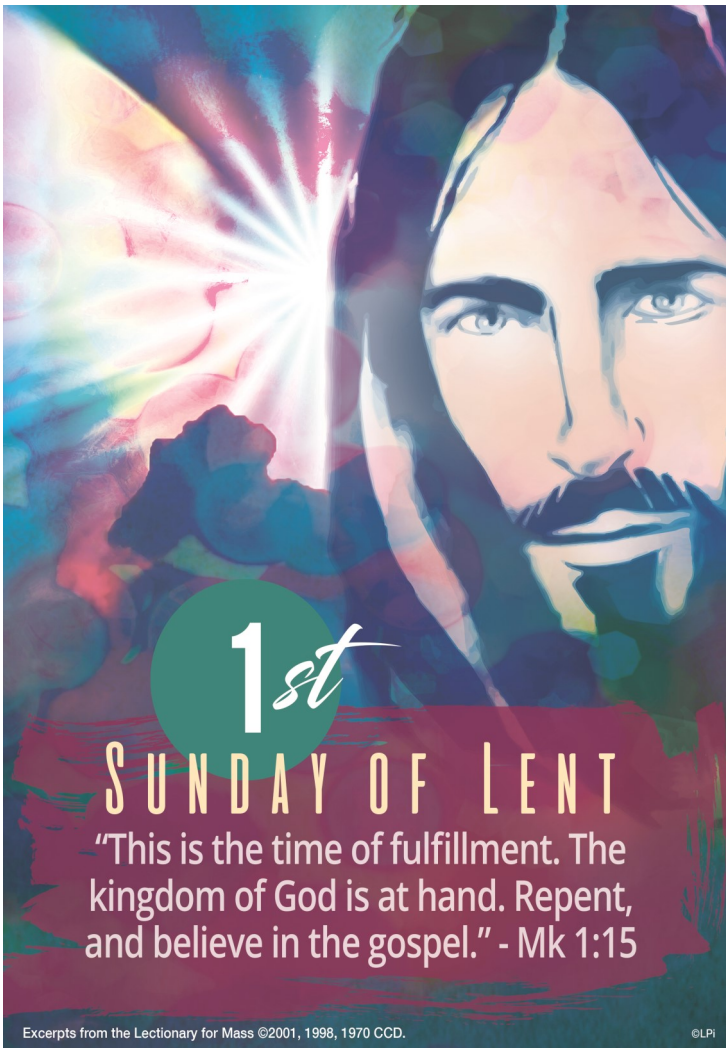
Cheryl Heimerl, Secretary
cheimerl@stmarysportage.org

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

Website
www.stmaryoticandhoc.org

Facebook
www.facebook.com/stmaryoftheimmaculateconception



1st Sunday of Lent
 February 21, 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

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, February 23 5:00 PM (Portage)	† Patti Mootz (Jeff & Janice Grothman)
February 24 8:15 AM (Briggsville)	† Margaret & William LaFleur (Estate)
Thursday, February 25 8:15 AM (Portage)	† Patrick Mohn (Ed & Anne Zydowsky)
Friday, February 26 7:00 AM (Portage)	† Eugene Kappenman (Friends)
Saturday, February 27 4:00 PM (Portage)	† Erin Vallicelli (Family)
Sunday, February 28 8:00 AM (Briggsville)	† Frances McMahon (Marie Johnson & Family)
9:30 AM (Portage)	People of the Parish (
11:00 AM (Portage)	Chuck & Vivian Joyce Mona Tryggeseth (Ron & Chris Wheeler)



Deepen Your Faith with the Catholic Herald

Issue of February 25, 2021

This week, the *Catholic Herald* will showcase the announcement of our plans for a capital fund drive entitled “Our Church- Our Future” Campaign. It’s aim is to raise the funds required to renovate and expand our church and parish facilities.

Learn more about your Catholic faith by reading the *Catholic Herald*. If you do not subscribe but wish to receive the *Catholic Herald* print or e-Edition in your home, contact your parish office.

EVENTS THIS WEEK

TUESDAY, February 23

- 4:00 PM (Portage) - Private Reconciliation Church
- 4:30 PM (Portage) - Rosary Church
- 6:00 PM (Portage) - “The Chosen” Cafeteria

WEDNESDAY, February 24

- 8:45 AM (Briggsville) - “Communication with God” Church
- 5:15 PM (Portage) - Stations of the Cross Church
- 6:00 PM (Portage) - Faith Formation Entire Campus
- 6:30 PM (Briggsville) - Stations of the Cross Church

SATURDAY, February 27

- 9:00 AM (Portage) - Private Reconciliation Church

SUNDAY, February 28

- 9:00 AM (Briggsville) - Faith Formation Church
- 2:00 PM (Portage) - Confirmation Church

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

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

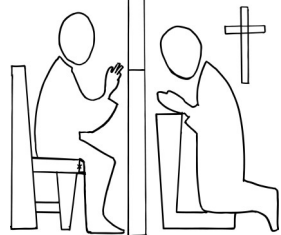
Stations will be held at St. Mary, Portage on Wednesday evenings during Lent at 5:15 PM beginning February 24, 2021.

Stations will be held at St. Mary, Briggsville on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 PM beginning February 24, 2021.



Readings for the week of February 21, 2021

Sunday: Gn 9:8-15/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [cf. 10]/1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15
Monday: 1 Pt 5:1-4/Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6 [1]/Mt 16:13-19
Tuesday: Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19 [18b]/Mt 6:7-15
Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19 [19b]/Lk 11:29-32
Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8 [3a]/Mt 7:7-12
Friday: Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8 [3]/Mt 5:20-26
Saturday: Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8 [1b]/Mt 5:43-48
Next Sunday: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 [9]/Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10



There will be private reconciliation at St. Mary, Portage on Tuesday, February 23 at 4:00 PM and Saturday, February 27 at 9:00 AM .

Please note that, until further notice, face-to-face reconciliations are not allowed.



Knights of Columbus Friday Night Fish Fries

The KC's will host a fish fry every Friday night starting February 19, 2021 through Good Friday, April 2, 2021

Come and enjoy some great fish and great company at the KC Hall in Portage.
Cocktails begin at 4:00 PM and dinner is served from 5:00 PM to 7:30 PM



Update on Congregational Singing

With recommendations from the CDC and from several aerosol studies, we will slowly reintroduce congregational singing as a part of our weekend liturgies. Beginning on Ash Wednesday—February 17, 2021—we will invite the congregation to join the song leader and psalmist in singing the Psalm and Gospel Acclamation at each Mass.



If you have questions about this decision, please contact Sam Clemmons—the Director of Liturgical Music—at sclemmons@stmaryotic.org or 608-742-6998.

THE CHOSEN—EXPLORING THE LIFE OF JESUS

Looking to explore the life of Jesus this Lent?

Come and join us as we view the first season of the TV series “The Chosen”. The series has been very well received and is designed to help us see Jesus through the eyes of those who knew him. We’ll gather Tuesday evenings beginning February 16th in the school cafeteria and follow the video with discussion. We’ll meet from 6:00 – 7:15 pm. There will be eight sessions. Our final session will be April 6th. Covid-19 guidelines remain in place, so registration is necessary.

To sign up please contact Dcn. Dennis & Jeri Sutter at djsutter4@gmail.com or 742-2647

The Chosen – Official Trailer

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K1-FoFj8Jbo>

COMMUNICATION WITH GOD

A session on growth of a prayer life will be offered after Mass (8:45 AM) each Wednesday morning during Lent at St. Mary Help of Christians in Briggsville.

The sessions will explore ways of growth in prayer in much the same way as we experience growth in personal human development. Various types of prayer will be used as examples of growth in communicating with God.

The session will be led by Sr. Jovita.

Spiritual Adoption Program

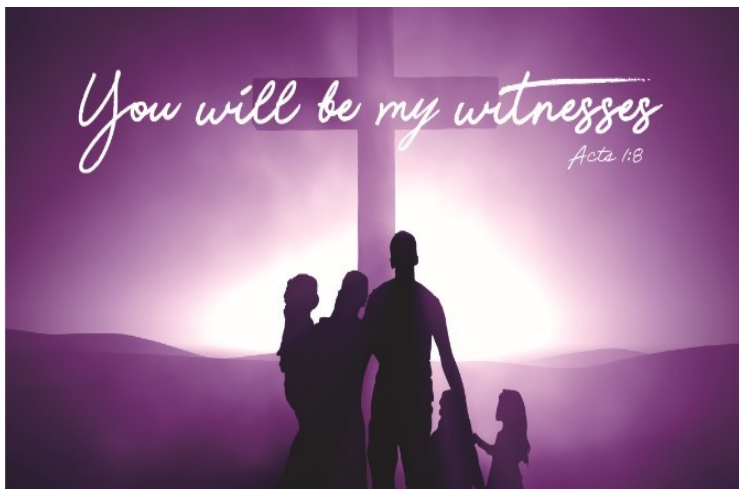
MONTH 1 – Developing Baby – “My heart is beating!”



Your spiritually adopted baby has been quite active over the past month. Already your baby is 10,000 times bigger than at conception.

Your baby has developed the foundations of his brain, spinal cord, and nervous system by the 20 th day. His heart began to beat on the 21st day, pumping blood through its own circulatory system and the blood type can be different from his mother’s.

Your baby is most vulnerable during the next month of being aborted. Pray that the Lord of Life might move the heart of his mother to give him the most precious gift of all - - the gift of life.



LENTEEN MISSION WITH BISHOP DONALD HYING

HOSTED BY ST. JOHN VIANNEY CHURCH



Bishop Hying’s talk begins at 6:30 p.m. and is followed by Q&A

- Sunday: Jesus Christ as the Good News of the Father’s love
- Monday: The glory and graciousness of creation
- Tuesday: The cosmic shipwreck of Original Sin
- Wednesday: The Christ event as the divine rescue
- Thursday: Discipleship—our response to God’s offer of salvation

- Due to limited seating, registration is required.
- Janesville Catholics, please contact your parish to reserve seats.
- Registered attendees are invited to arrive early for Adoration and Confession, 5:00-6:00 p.m.
- Masks are required in accord with civil and diocesan guidelines

MISSION WILL BE STREAMED LIVE AT:
FACEBOOK.COM/SAINTJOHNVIANNYPARISH
YOUTUBE.COM/SJVJANESVILLE

ST. MARY SCHOOL NEWS

GREETINGS FROM THE THIRD GRADE!

Brrr! We hope everyone is staying warm and safe and healthy!

The third grade classroom is a busy place! It’s so much fun when our Literacy stories overlap with our Social Studies lessons. We love reading about historical events, and recently had a story about the flight of the Wright Brothers, and also read about them in our history lesson! Next we will be learning more about our government in Social Studies.

One of our favorite things is to find a “School House Rocks” clip that compliments what we’re studying! Whether it’s multiplication, *Three is a Magic Number* being a favorite,) parts of grammar, *Conjunction Junction, What’s Your Function?* or the Revolutionary War, *he Shot Heard ‘Round the World*. We love to listen and learn from these catchy tunes.

In Science, we are learning about all forms of energy and really enjoy the explorations we are able to do each week.

Our Religion class lessons give us more details and insight into each sacrament.

Math class has us a little divided! We are mastering our multiplication and division facts so that we can use all four operations in our daily work.

We hope that everyone has a peaceful, reflective Lenten season.

We will remember all of our parish and school families in our prayers.

Mrs. Austin and the Third Graders



*In Our
Thoughts
and Prayers*

Prayerful sympathies to the families of John O’Donnell and Richard Solterman.

John passed away on February 2, 2021. A Mass of Christian Burial was held at St. Mary, Portage on February 19, 2021.

Richard passed away on February 2, 2021. A prayer service was held at Pflanz Mantey Mendrala Funeral Home on February 19, 2021. May John and Richard rest in peace.

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.