

TRI-PARISH

HOLY CROSS-WENDELIN † ST. JOSEPH-OLNEY † ST. JOSEPH-STRINGTOWN

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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TRI PARISH NEWS

ST. JOSEPH, OLNEY

Mass times

Wed. & Fri 8:00 am
Sat. 5:00 pm
Sun. 8:00 am

HOLY CROSS, WENDELIN

Mass times

Thurs. 6:30 pm
Sat. 4:00 pm
Sun. 10:00 am

ST. JOSEPH, STRINGTOWN

Mass times

Mon. 6:30 pm
Sun. 8:00 am



✚
**ST. JOSEPH
OLNEY**



✚
**HOLY CROSS
WENDELIN**



✚
**ST. JOSEPH
STRINGTOWN**

ADORATION

There must always be at least 2 people in the church

St. Joseph, Olney

Every Tuesday from 12-3 pm

Holy Cross, Wendelin

Thursdays at 5:30 pm until mass
time at 6:30 pm.

St. Joseph, Stringtown

Prayer service & adoration every
Tuesday at 9:30 am.

WORLD MISSION ROSARY

Pray the Rosary with Us

This October, the Pontifical Mission Societies invite you to join us for a special rosary as we observe World Mission Month. Each day in October, we will gather via livestream to pray the World Mission Rosary at 3 p.m. (Eastern Time).

Archbishop Sheen designed the World Mission Rosary so that every Catholic — no matter where they lived — could hold up the whole world in prayer. Every day of October, join us to do exactly that.

For more information PONTIFICALMISSIONS.ORG/WMS-2026

FIND THE LIVESTREAM HERE ➔

On **Sunday, October 18**, the Church celebrates **World Mission Sunday** which invites all of us to respond to Christ's call to be missionary disciples. This year, we mark the 100th anniversary of World Mission Sunday, 2026. The theme "One in Christ, United in Mission" speaks eloquently, beautifully, and powerfully of the unfading, ongoing work of divine love living and effective in our humble acts of sharing God-given gifts in faith. The spirit of the Blessed Fulton J. Sheen, who was Director of the Pontifical Mission Society in the United States from 1950 to 1966, continues to inspire the holy work of propagating faith in this country and around the world. The funds collected during World Mission Sunday help our Holy Father Pope Leo XIV spearhead the work of evangelization of the Gospel of mercy and compassion around the world. It further helps us become beacons of hope, fanning the flame of the Good News, unity in Christ, and peace in one service of the Kingdom of God on earth. For these reasons, I ask that you generously support this special collection. Together we can continue to write the next chapter of the Church's missionary story.

Peace, Most Reverend Godfrey Mullen, OSB

AROUND OUR PARISHES

Saturday & Sunday, Oct. 3-4th

- Confirmation Commitment Weekend: Confirmandi should bring their confirmation preparation covenant papers to mass.

Wednesday, October 7th

- 6:30 PM, Family Catechesis at Holy Cross: Our Focus this month will be Sacrifice of Praise.

Saturday & Sunday Oct. 10-11th

- At all masses and at all the parishes, 2nd grade students may receive a chalice as a part of the Kitchen Table Catechesis.

Sunday, October 11th

- 9 am, donut and coffee social after the 8 am mass in Olney.
- 9 am, CYM mass and meeting at Holy Cross.
- 5:30 pm, Youth Group meets at Stringtown.

Monday, October 12th - Columbus Day

- No school and no mass.
- Priests at Convocation until 10/15.

Wednesday, October 14th

- Happy Birthday to Fr. Steven!! We are so thankful for all that you do for our parishes!!
- Prayer Service at 8 am, no mass.
- 6:30 pm, CYM bible study at HC.

Friday, October 16th

- 2:30 pm, courtyard band concert
- Set up for the Smorg. begins

Saturday, October 17th

- 7:00 pm, CYM bonfire at Stringtown.

Sunday, October 18th

- 10 am- 2 pm, Annual St. Joseph Smorgasbord and Bazaar. All are welcome for food, fun, and friendship!

Monday, October 19th

- 6 pm, Family Life Center may be coming to the Olney Community!! Informational meeting at the Olney Community Building at the City Park. If you are interested in Family Life coming to Olney please attend.

Sunday, October 25th

- The proceeds raised for Kristen Kennedy will be given to the family at 10:00 am Mass in Wendelin, wear your T-Shirt that Sunday as a sign of support for this family. Following mass there will be a carry-in meal and basket raffle. Please bring your favorite side dish or dessert. Thank you for your support!
- 5:30 pm, Youth Group at HC.

Tuesday, October 27th

- 5:30 pm, Mass with Bishop Godfrey at St. Joseph, Olney. All are welcome for the mass and those who were asked to stay for the workshop to follow please do so.

Wednesday, October 28th

- 6:30 pm, CYM pickleball tournament at Olney.

Thursday, October 29th

- Family Catechesis All Saints Trunk or Treat. Mass at 6:30 pm followed by trunk or treat beginning at 7 pm. Come dressed as your favorite saint!

Sisters in Christ

"Friendship in the Lord"

Tuesdays: Stringtown 10:00 am

Olney 5:00 pm

Wednesdays: Wendelin 5:30 pm

Family Catechesis

Our Focus this month will be Sacrifice of Praise. Why do we call the Mass a "Sacrifice"? We know Jesus died once for all, so what are we bringing to the altar every Sunday? Come to our family presentation, "The Sacrifice of Praise," on October 7th at Holy Cross, 6:30 pm.

Welcome.
There is **More to Life**

Something New is Coming this Lent!

Welcome Retreat 2027

Are you looking for a way to quiet the noise, recharge your spiritual life, and find real community? Join us for the upcoming Welcome Retreat arriving in Lent 2027. This transformative Saturday & Sunday experience is designed to help you deepen your relationship with Christ and build lasting connections with fellow parishioners. Please note that this program features separate weekends for women and men to foster open, meaningful sharing among peers. Exact dates will be announced soon! For questions, more details, or early interest, please contact Caroline Trimble, Pastoral Associate (618-263-7106 / CTrimblePA@gmail.com) or Fr. Levi James (618-240-3638 / levijamesiu@gmail.com).

St. Joseph School News

This October, St. Joseph School is uniting daily to pray a decade of the Rosary as a school family. This special month of prayer will culminate on All Souls' Day, when 5th-8th graders gather at the cemetery to pray a full Rosary for our dearly departed.

Friday, October 2- bring your pets and gather for a Pet Blessing in the grassy lot north of the school at 2:30pm in honor of St. Francis of Assisi's feast day.

Monday, October 12- No School, Columbus Day

Tuesday, October 13- School picture day

Friday, October 16- Courtyard Band concert at 2:30pm

October 21-23- 8th grade visits Camp Ondessonk

October 22- 11:50 Dismissal, Parent Teacher Conferences

October 23- No School

October 28- 1:50 Dismissal

"Sow for yourselves righteousness; reap steadfast love; break up your fallow ground, for it is the time to seek the LORD, that He may come and rain righteousness upon you." - Hosea 10:12 ESV

FAMILY CATECHESIS

ENCOUNTERING CHRIST & LIVING THE VIRTUES



Our upcoming year will concentrate on more depth and faith formation for our families. There will be presentations on the Mass, opportunities for Adoration, Confession, Praise & Worship, resources monthly and much more..

Join us for
Family Catechesis first Wednesday of the month.
Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.

Register online at the parish website.
or contact Caroline Trimble Pastoral Associate.

*"For where two or three are gathered in my name,
there am I among them."* Matt. 18:20

Tri-Parish CYM - October Newsletter

High School CYM September Schedule

October 3rd - 1st Saturday Mass w/ Breakfast After (9am)
October 11th - CYM Mass & Meeting at Holy Cross (9am)
October 11th - Youth Group at Stringtown (5:30pm)
October 14th - Small Group at Holy Cross (6:30pm)
October 17th - CYM Bonfire (Stringtown)
October 25th - Youth Group at Holy Cross (5:30pm)

Middle School CYM October Schedule

October 10th - Youth Group at Olney (6pm)
October 24th - Youth Group at Olney (6pm)

Middle & High School CYM Event

October 28th - CYM Halloween Pickleball Tournament (6:30pm)

The past month in High School CYM

We started off our month with a retreat style lock-in with the theme being the Holy Spirit and how God transforms us, setting us on fire to make us bright lights for the world. There was plenty of fun, discussion, games, and time in prayer for those that attended! Then we had our first CYM Mass and meeting of the school year in Olney.

At our meeting we selected our location and dates for Mission Trip next summer: Waterloo, IA - June 13th - 18th

We met twice for youth group this month, first one being in Olney. We talked about confession, using a very mystical Saint in Padre Pio, to explain that even in the most seemingly extraordinary of circumstances and lives, for St. Padre Pio, it always came back to reconciliation. That ultimately being one of the many inconceivably incredible things offered to us in the sacraments: God filled with mercy, taking the burden of our sins away, offering us in return the greatest love, pardon, and peace. Our second youth group was at Holy Cross, our theme was mental health awareness. The lesson being that in all of life's storms, Christ is in the boat with us. He may not calm the storms immediately when we ask like He did in the Gospels, but He will always remain near us and be with us through it. Likewise, we can emulate Christ and be in the boats of those around us, offering peace and closeness through their own storms!

The past month in Middle School CYM

We met twice for youth group this month. At the first one Fr. Steven joined us and talked about the importance of the ministries during Mass. Heavily going in on what it really means to lector and also be an extraordinary minister of Holy Communion. At our second youth group, the kids split into two teams and came up with team names to compete for an ultimate prize through a list of team games. The score was neck & neck the whole time and was decided by a game of rock, paper, scissors! Ultimately, our lesson was what it means to be a good teammate, uplifting those around us, not just in sports, but the classroom, at home, and where ever else we are!

Student Spotlight



Emma Hefferman

Home Parish: St. Joseph, Olney

School: Richland County High School

Year in School: Senior

Extracurriculars: Golf, Soccer, Basketball, Olney FFA, Section 23 FFA, RCHS Student Council, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, RCHS Yearbook Auxiliary

Favorite Color: Navy Blue

Favorite Food: Crunchy Green Grapes

Favorite Animal: Highland Cow

Favorite Sport: Soccer to play, Football to watch

Favorite Number: 7

Favorite Song: Speaking Terms - Ella Langley

Favorite CYM Memory: The group conversation with the girls at this last mission trip. We really bonded and it truly made me realize I am called to teach the word of God to others and always be willing to listen to them when something is heavy on their heart.

Plans after High School: Attend University of Arkansas to dual major in Poultry Science & Ag Communications. With later plans to go to Law school to pursue becoming an agricultural lawyer.

CYM Prayer Requests

October, the month of the Rosary, we ask for you to remember CYM during one of your Rosary's this month. With the intentions of continued guidance in our ministry!

CYM Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser

The last Sunday of last month we had our annual Pancake breakfast at Stringtown. Huge thank you to everyone who came out and supported CYM at the breakfast and with the basket raffle! We could simply not do what we do without your support! <3



CYM Kids in Activities



WE LOVE HAVING YOU AS

a part of
our Flock!



*Keep in touch with us via
email and text!*



TEXT
STJOEHOLYCROSS
TO 84576



OR CONNECT WITH US ONLINE AT:

stjosepholney.flocknote.com

Text STOP to 84576 to stop txt notifications at any time. Text HELP for help. There is no charge for this service, but your carrier message and data rates may apply. View full privacy policy & terms at flocknote.com/txt.

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Register for a free **Formed** account at signup.formed.org Use Zip Code: 62448

New Resources For Children

Children's Missalettes

These missalettes are recommended for ages 5-12 and are a great resource for helping our school age children follow along with the mass. It includes a description of the sanctuary and all the prayers during mass. These can be picked up at each mass by all of the entrances to the church. Please return them at the end of mass.

Mass Bags

These bags are recommended for ages 0-4 and include religious toys and books. We currently have 3 bags available for children to use during mass. These can be found by the main entrance to church on the book shelf. Please return the bag and all of its contents at the end of mass. If you would like to purchase one of these for your family to keep, you can purchase one at the parish office for \$54.



Family Catechesis Schedule

Encountering Christ & Living the Virtues

1st Wed. of the month [Sept-Dec]
6:30 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. Holy Cross

"For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them." Matt. 18:20

August	Family Catechesis Registration
September VIRTUE: Prayer	Wednesday 2, Welcome to our Home Youth: Child Safety & Parents: Year's Agenda in the Parish Center - Presentation in Church Sat/Sun ~12/13- 1 st Grade Red Plate
October VIRTUE: Peace	Wednesday 7, Sacrifice of Praise Adoration, Presentation & Activity in Church Sat/Sun ~10/11- 2 nd Grade Blessing Cup Thursday 29 Trunk or Treat Holy Cross 6:30 pm
November VIRTUE: Thankfulness	Wednesday 4, Liturgy of the Word with Explanatory Mass Presentation & Activity in Church Sat/Sun ~14/15- 3 rd Grade Candle Sunday 29 Gift of Love
December VIRTUE: Hope	Wednesday 2, Liturgy of the Eucharist with Explanatory Mass Presentation & Activity in Church
Sacraments Meetings afterwards	Confirmation Check-in's and Family Meetings Reconciliation Check-in's and Family Meetings

Family Catechesis Schedule

Encountering Christ & Living the Virtues

1st Wed. of the month [Jan- May]
6:30 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. Holy Cross

January

VIRTUE: Love

Wednesday 6, God Dwells Among us
Epiphany-12th Night Dinner & Musical presentations in Parish Center

February

VIRTUE: Honesty

Wednesday 3, Encountering Christ in Lent
Family: Family Retreat in Parish Center
Wednesday 10, Ash Wednesday

March

VIRTUE: Obedience

Wednesday 3, Scriptural Stations
Presentation & Activity in Church
Friday 19 St. Joseph Table Stringtown
Thursday 25- Saturday 27 Holy Week Easter Sunday 28

April

VIRTUE: Mercy

Wednesday 7, Symbols, Senses and Actions
Presentation & Activity in Church
Confirmation April 9 St. Joseph Stringtown

May

VIRTUE: Humility

Wednesday 5, Go in Peace-Dismissal
Presentation & Ice Cream Party in Parish Center
Sunday 2, May Crowning & First Communion

Sacraments

Meetings afterwards

Confirmation Check-in's and Family meetings
Eucharist Check-in's and Family meetings

Saints, Eucharist and the Catholic Faith



*Stringtown Study
The Four Terezas*

**TUESDAY
ST. JOSEPH
STRINGTOWN
10:00AM**

*Sisters in Christ
The Devil in the Castle*

**WEDNESDAY
HOLY CROSS
5:30 PM**

OCIA
*Order of Christian
Initiation of Adults*

INTERESTED IN JOINING THE
CATHOLIC CHURCH OR JUST
WANT MORE INFORMATION?

WE ARE ALWAYS EXCITED TO
WELCOME NEW
MEMBERS/FAMILIES.

MEETINGS WILL BE
STARTING SOON.

CONTACT
FR. STEVEN OR CAROLINE
FOR MORE INFORMATION.



*Olney Study
The Eucharist*

**WEDNESDAY
ST. JOSEPH OLNEY
9:15 AM & 7:00 PM**

*Brother's in Christ
Into the Breach*

**THURSDAY
HOLY CROSS
7:00PM**

A great way to provide scholarship support for students attending a Catholic School and earn a tax credit for yourself.

Donate through Empower Illinois

<https://empowerillinois.org/>



Empower Illinois is the state's largest and most comprehensive Scholarship Granting Organization, expanding quality education options for low-income and working-class families through scholarships to private schools.

You can make a charitable investment in education through the tax credit scholarship program!

How it works:

- Donate to St. Joseph School's or St. Thomas School's scholarship fund through Empower Illinois.
 - Visit www.empowerillinois.org/donors
 - Find St. Joseph Grade School, Olney or St. Thomas-Newton in Region 5 on the website
- Earn a 75% Tax Credit back to offset your tax liability!
 - For more information, contact an Empower Illinois tax credit specialist at 312-392-0250

Schools can receive a \$10,000 match for donations between February 1-March 31.