

# **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**

## AROUND OUR PARISHES

### Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup>

- 9:30 am, Stringtown Easter Egg Hunt.
- 7:30 pm, Easter Vigil mass at Olney. Welcome to our new parishioners.

### Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup> Easter Sunday

- He is Risen!! Happy Easter!!
- 10 am, Holy Cross Easter Egg Hunt after mass.

### Monday, April 6<sup>th</sup>

- No school and no evening mass.
- 5:30 pm, St. Raphael Ministry of Care group meets at Olney.

### Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>

- No adoration at Olney.

### Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup>

- 6:00 pm, Middle School Youth Group meets in Olney.

### Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup> Divine Mercy

- 9:00 am, Donut and coffee social in the MPR at Olney.
- 2:00 pm, Divine Mercy service at Stringtown. Refreshments to follow in the parish center.
- 5:30 pm, High School Youth Group meets in Olney.

### Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup>

- 11:00 am, Confirmation at St. Joseph, Olney.

### Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup>

- 8:00 am, CYM mass and meeting at Stringtown. Bale Sale to follow mass.
- Young Adults Gathering, TBD.

### Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>

- 6:00 pm, Middle School Youth Group meets at Olney.

### Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>

- 10:00 am, First Communion practice for Holy Cross after mass.
- 5:30 pm, High School Youth Group at Holy Cross, Wendelin.

### Tuesday, April 28<sup>th</sup>

- Bibles and Brews, details TBD.



# Welcome!

## Our OCIA candidates and sponsors

### St. Joseph, Olney

Isaac Beal – St. Hubertus  
Sponsor – Mike Ginder

Dalyn Brach – St. Joseph  
Sponsor – Kiersen Lewis

Stephen Brach – St. Joseph  
Sponsor – Jennifer Brach

Hilary Cecil – St. Teresa of Avila  
Sponsor – Logan Urfer

Luke Hahn – Ferdinand III of Castile  
Sponsor – Elliot Brazil

Kristen Kocher – St. Catherine of Siena  
Sponsor – Paula Kocher

Jillian Peavler – St. Gerard Majella  
Sponsor – Lona Peavler

### Holy Cross

Abby Garrison – St. Gianna Beretta Molla  
Sponsor – Cheryl Garrison



## Confirmation Candidates

Yzabella Biyok  
Camden Blank  
Brilyn Brinkley  
Max Crouch  
Hazel Durmas  
Lauren French  
Paxton Gher  
Haley Ginder  
Koltyn Hinterscher  
Korbyn Hinterscher  
Riley Kraus  
Gavin Kuenstler  
Nicole Kuhl  
Parker Lewis  
Kylah Matthews  
Diesel Myers  
Landree Nelson  
Aubrey Patridge

Laney Peavler  
Peyton Peavler  
Sarah Ruppel  
Julian Seaman  
Sadie Seiler  
Leo Seitzinger  
Makai Steele  
Beau Stevens  
Jett Thomas  
Quinn Trout  
Lucca Trupiano  
Bria Waggoner  
Cora Warfel  
Adrienne Weidner  
Braden Weidner  
Hayden Womack

Almighty God, we thank You for our young people who are preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation. You call each one of them by name and promise to be with them always.

## ST. RAPHAEL'S MINISTRY OF CARE

This ministry will focus on providing pastoral care through spiritual support to the sick, homebound, elderly, those grieving and their caregivers, and families.

Reminder to contact the St. Raphael's Ministry of Care Representative or the parish office, if your loved one is sick, anticipating a surgery or treatment, recovering from surgery, relocating from home, or might need a pastoral visit.

### St. Raphael's Ministry of Care Representatives

St. Joseph Stringtown- Janette Kocher  
Holy Cross Wendelin- Sherry Geier  
St. Joseph Olney- Elaine Grimes  
Caroline Trimble Pastoral Associate

## ADORATION

There must always be at least 2 people in the church

### St. Joseph, Stringtown

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

### Holy Cross, Wendelin

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

### St. Joseph, Olney

Every Tuesday from 12-3 pm

## Contact Us

St. Joseph, Olney  
618-392-8181

Holy Cross, Wendelin  
618-752-5671

St. Joseph, Stringtown  
618-754-3676

School office: 618-395-3081

## SISTERS IN CHRIST

Sisters in Christ will resume in the month of April. Dates to be announced later. See bulletins for updates.

Tuesdays 10:00 am - Stringtown  
Tuesdays 5:00 pm - Olney  
Wednesdays 5:30 pm - Holy Cross

St. Joseph School Trash Bag  
Fundraiser- Now through April 10.  
See any St. Joseph student to  
order!



### St. Joseph School News

- April 7- 5th Grade Altar Servers training
- April 7- National Evangelization Team retreat for 6-8 grade
- April 9- 7th and 8th grade to Springfield
- April 17- 3rd Grade Leadership Day
- April 18- Confirmation
- April 20- 5th Grade Rotary Spelling Bee
- April 23- 1:50 Dismissal
- April 24- 4th Grade State Fair
- April 28- Spring Picture Day

*"He entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of His own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption." -Hebrews 9:12 ESV*



THE PARISH & FAMILY LIFE COMMITTEE PRESENTS

# A Celebration OF WOMEN

Honoring the Past, Celebrating the  
Present, Inspiring the Future

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Monday  
May 4, 2026

**St. Joseph, Olney**

Join us at 5:30 pm for a beautiful evening as women of all ages come together to connect, reflect, and celebrate the generations of faith that unite us at St. Joseph Church. We begin with a prayer service in the church followed by a catered meal in the cafeteria.

Tickets are now on sale in the parish office. Adult tickets are \$10, child tickets are \$5, and under 5 are free. If you need a table reservation for a group of 8 or more, we can reserve an area for you to make sure you can sit together with your family and friends. Tickets will also be for sale after masses on April 25-26.

**Have you attended this banquet in the past?**

We would love to celebrate those memories by honoring our past generations. Please consider sharing your photos to be displayed at the event. Photos can be dropped off or emailed to the parish office.

All women are welcome! Come be encouraged, uplifted, and reminded of the beautiful role you play in the story of faith across generations.

## ~ 2026 Easter Flower Memorials ~

Bill & Karen Anderson, Jr.  
Bill & Barbara Anderson, Sr.

Corbett & Bertha Bailey  
Malachi Baltzell

John Beal  
Charles & Esther Benton  
Kim Black  
Darrel & Alice Bishop  
Norman Bishop  
Edna Brian  
Kenny Buckels  
Bunn family

Kathy Ginder Compton  
Howard & Ruth Craig  
Lara Curry

Charlie & Jayne David  
Dick Debolt  
Earl & Mabel Debolt  
Leroy Debolt  
Alexander Dunn

Dorothy Eagleson  
La Eagleson Family  
Ted Eagleson Sr.  
Keith Eckel

Barbara Faggetti  
Ed & Pearl Fehrenbacher  
Jim Fehrenbacher  
Lawrence & Dorothy Fehrenbacher  
Roy & Viola Fehrenbacher (2)  
Steve & Margaret Fehrenbacher  
William & Maxine Ferrell  
Harold L. Foerster  
Harold Wayne Foerster

Charles & Doris Galloway  
George & Lora Geiger  
Dean & Geneva Ginder

Delbert Ginder  
Christina Ginder  
Lee & Donna Ginder  
Lawrence & Ima Gosnell  
Gumble family

Bertha & Otto Hahn  
Cliff & Katie Hahn  
Harold & Rita Hann  
Ronald Hemrich  
Rosie Hemrich  
Hinterscher family

Fr. Dan Jurek

Catherine Kelly Family  
A.J. & Catherine Keolker  
Alex & Lorene Kessler  
Larry & Clorine Kistner  
Donald A. Kocher  
Jane Kocher  
Jerry Kocher  
Lawrence & Bernadine Kocher(2)  
Neil & Dorothy Kocher  
Norman Kocher  
Mr. & Mrs. Omer Kocher  
Ralph & Margaret Kocher  
Raymond & Christina Kocher  
Urban Kocher  
Carl & Una Kocher  
Frank Kuenstler  
Frances Kuenstler  
Fred Kuenstler  
Gerald Kuenstler  
Jacklyn Kuenstler  
Mary Ann Kuenstler  
Arthur Kuhl

Amelia Foerster Leaf

Bill & Estella Meadows  
John & Vivian Menkosky

Allan & Mary Ellen Mosby  
Woodrow & Lucille Mosby

Jonathan Richard Nieman

Dan & Mildred Ochs  
Greg J. Ochs  
Greg Ochs  
Leonard & Colletta Ochs  
Sylvan Ochs  
Thomas & Edna O'Connor

Al & Marge Piercefield  
Andrew & Elaine Pierzchalski  
Eddie & Catherine Pingsterhaus

Mr. & Mrs. Cletus Rauch  
Debbie Rauch  
Floyd Rauch  
John & Frances Rauch  
Henry Rauch  
Gene & Zita Reir  
Florence Rohr  
Paul & Josephine Rohr  
Dale & Nancy Rosenberg  
Brad Roth  
Jared Rowark  
Jason Rowark  
Rowe family

Basil Scranton Jr.  
Monte Scranton  
Steve Scranton  
Jessie & Basil Scranton Sr.  
Lucille Sechrest  
Mary Sheridan  
Elmer & Dorothy Stark  
Kimberly Stark  
Mary Stark  
Steve Stark  
August & Christine Steber  
Dan & Helen Steber

## ~ 2026 Easter Flower Memorials ~

Donald Steber  
Eleanor Steber  
Emily Steber  
Gene & Virginia Steber  
Herman Steber  
Jim A. Steber  
Jim & Mary Steber (3)  
Lawrence Steber  
Robbie Steber  
Tony Steber  
George & Shirley Stout  
Kimberly Stout  
Susan Ferrell-Stout

Dale Tibbs  
Jeff & Verlie Troutman  
Lynn Troutman

Estelle & Helen Uhl

Steve VanBlaricum  
Lucy VanBuskirk  
Kathleen Vaughn  
Edmund & Anna Volk (2)  
John & Martha Volk  
Lawrence Volk  
Linda Volk (2)

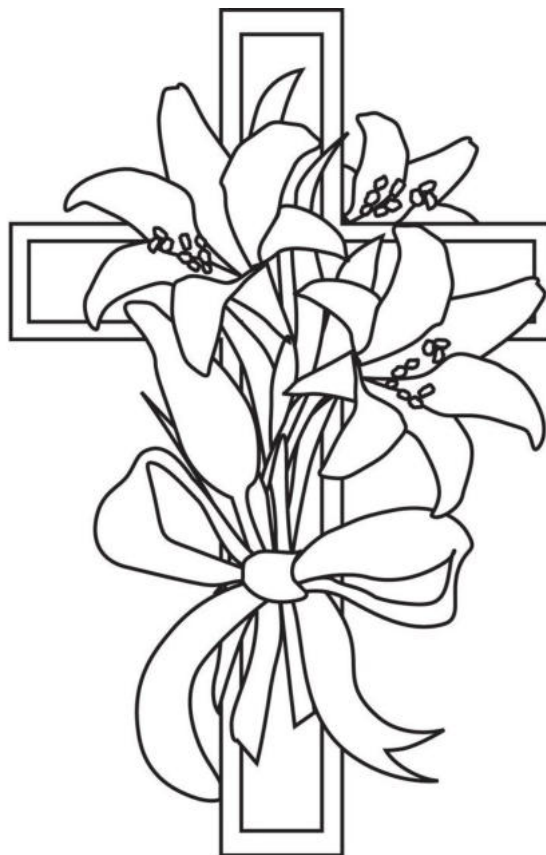
Jim Wattles  
Fr. Ron Weber  
Dr. George Weber Family  
Joe Weber  
Caide Weidner  
George Weidner  
J.V. & Florine Weidner  
Jason Weidner  
Marjorie (Marj) Weidner  
William Weidner  
Byron & Virginia Weiler (2)  
Gus & Francis Weiler (2)  
Mark Weiler  
Jim & Wanda Weiler

Fr. Jerry Wirth

Ed & Mary Jo Zuber  
Raymond & Alberta Zuber  
Cletus & Marie Zwilling  
Ella Zwilling  
Jean Zwilling (2)  
John & Bertha Zwilling Family  
Joseph Zwilling (2)  
Lawrence, Magdalene, & Greg  
Zwilling  
Norman Zwilling (2)

### In Honor of:

U.S. military, past and present  
Charolette Hough



# STRENGTHENING THE CHURCH AT HOME



In nearly 75 dioceses in the United States and its territories, funds from Catholic Home Missions are a lifeline for churches in rural areas where small Catholic populations are unable to sustain basic pastoral ministries without outside assistance.

In southern Illinois, the challenges facing the Diocese of Belleville are particularly acute. Most of the diocese's 28 counties are rural and have small Catholic populations, while the cities within the diocese are among the poorest in the entire country. Although the diocese lacks necessary material resources, it is blessed with dedicated men and women who faithfully carry out their mission to share the Gospel in ministries including catechesis, Hispanic/Latino ministry among the area's growing Spanish-speaking population, and campus ministry for the students at Southern Illinois

University (SIU) in Carbondale and other college campuses in the area.

The Newman Center campus ministry located on the SIU campus strengthens the faith of Catholic young adults with faith formation programs, fellowship, and prayer, as well as community service opportunities beyond campus. By participating at Sunday and weekday Masses and in student-led retreats, weekly dinners, and outreach to families in need, these students grow in their faith and prepare to be church leaders. Working with the diocesan vocation director, the campus ministry program helps nurture priestly vocations—a record of success made possible through support received from the Catholic Home Missions Appeal, which funds the full-time campus minister's position. For more information about Catholic Home Missions, visit [www.usccb.org/home-missions](http://www.usccb.org/home-missions).

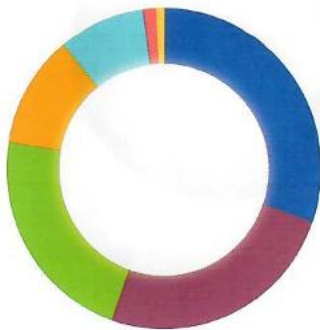
If you prefer to donate online, see QR code.



## What Is a "Home Mission" Diocese?

Home mission dioceses are those Catholic dioceses in the United States, its territories, and its former territories that cannot provide basic pastoral services without outside help. Basic pastoral services include Mass, the sacraments, religious education, and ministry training for priests, deacons, religious sisters, and lay people. Nearly 40% of dioceses in the United States and its current and former territories are considered home mission dioceses.

## CHMA FINANCIALS 2024



### Totals by Program Area

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| • Diocesan and Parish Assistance                             | \$2,485,000 |
| • Faith Formation  | \$2,045,000 |
| • Vocations and Formation of Deacons, Priests, and Religious | \$1,810,000 |
| • Special Grants*  | \$938,475   |
| • Cultural Ministries**                                      | \$725,000   |
| • Strengthening Marriage and Family Life                     | \$125,000   |
| • Life and Dignity of the Human Person†                      | \$50,000    |

**Total: \$8,178,475**

\*Special Grants include the following:

- Support for the Installation of a New Home Mission Bishop \$90,000
- Support for USCCB Initiatives (Eucharistic Revival, Synodal Journey) \$740,000
- Diocesan Professional Development Opportunities \$108,475

\*\* Including Hispanic/Latino, Black, Asian, and Native American ministries.

† Including ministries for persons with disabilities.



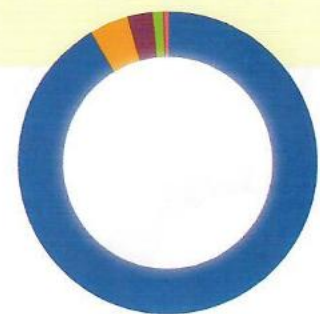
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

### Catholic Home Missions Appeal

Office of National Collections

3211 Fourth Street NE • Washington, DC 20017-1194

202-541-3400 • fax 202-541-3460 • [www.usccb.org/nationalcollections](http://www.usccb.org/nationalcollections)



|                                       |             |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| • Grants and Donations                | \$8,076,036 |
| • Program Costs                       | \$478,207   |
| • Promotions and Fundraising Expenses | \$389,274   |
| • Administrative Expenses             | \$98,290    |
| • Allocations – Internal Grants       | \$29,825    |

**Total Expenses: \$9,071,632**



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# Family Catechesis Revised Schedule of Events

“Following in the Footsteps of the Saints”

| March   | April  | May  |
|---|--|--|
| <p><b>4 Wed: Stay at Home Family Night</b><br/> <b>8th Grade Confirmation Retreat 6:30 p.m.</b><br/>           Holy Cross Parish House</p> <p><b>19- Family Catechesis will be held at St. Joseph Stringtown for the feast day of St. Joseph.</b> There will be Mass and Dinner with the “Following in the Footsteps of the Saints” items.</p> <p>*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder and Sacrament book for check-in.</p> | <p><b>1 Wed. Family Gathering</b><br/>           Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center<br/> <b>Adults:</b> Presentation<br/> <b>Youth:</b> Activity<br/>           Saint presentations and “Following in the Footsteps of the Saints” items.</p> <p><b>5 -Easter</b><br/> <b>12 -Divine Mercy Sunday</b><br/> <b>18-Confirmation at St. Joseph Olney</b><br/> <b>26- First Communion Practice after Mass</b></p> <p>*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder and Sacrament book for check-in.</p> | <p><b>3 Sun. Holy Cross May Crowning</b><br/> <b>2-3 First Communion</b><br/> <b>6 Wed. Closing Family Gathering</b><br/>           Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center<br/> <b>Families:</b> Final Saint presentations, meal, and year end presentation, and “Following in the Footsteps of the Saints” items.</p> <p>*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder</p> |



# FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE SAINTS

April 2026



## Our April Saint



**St. Catherine of Siena** (1347–1380) was an Italian mystic, philosopher, and Dominican tertiary who became one of the most influential spiritual leaders in the Catholic Church. Known for her visions and activism, she famously persuaded Pope Gregory XI to return the papacy to Rome from Avignon and was later named a Doctor of the Church.

Feast Day: April 29

### Key Aspects of Her Life

*Early Life & Vocation:* Born in Siena, Italy, as the 24th of 25 children, Catherine experienced mystical visions from a young age and vowed her virginity to Christ at age six.

*Dominican Tertiary:* She joined the Sisters of Penitence of St. Dominic (Mantellate), living a life of intense prayer, fasting, and charity in her family home rather than a convent.

*Political Activism & Influence:* During a time of church corruption and political chaos, she mediated between city-states and corresponded with leaders across Europe, advocating for peace.

*Papal Return:* She is credited with playing a pivotal role in persuading Pope Gregory XI to return the papal seat from Avignon back to Rome, ending a ~70-year period of French influence.

*Theology & Legacy:* She authored *The Dialogue of Divine Providence*, a major mystical work. She was canonized in 1461 and declared a Doctor of the Church in 1970.

*Death & Attributes:* Catherine died at age 33 in Rome. She is often depicted with a heart, lily, and stigmata.

If **YOU** are *what you*  
**should be,**  
*you will set THE*  
**WHOLE WORLD ablaze!**  
~Saint Catherine of Siena

# April Events

Sunday 12 Divine Mercy Sunday 2:00 p.m.  
St. Joseph Stringtown

Saturday 18 Confirmation 11:00 a.m.  
St. Joseph Olney

Sunday 26 First Communion Practice  
Holy Cross Wendelin (*after Mass*)

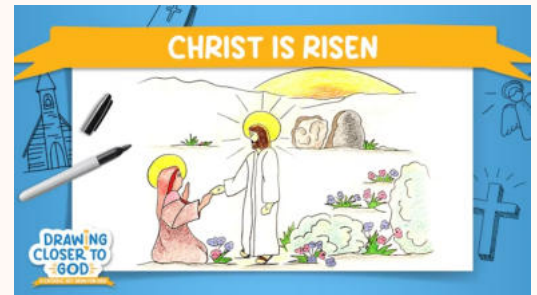


# Following in the Footsteps of the Saints

The **Catholic Extension Grant** contributed:  
Divine Mercy Holy Card and Saint cards  
Let us continue to stay  
“*Following in the Footsteps of the Saints.*”



**formed™**  
VIDEO'S FOR  
FAMILIES AND KIDS



**WEDNESDAY, MAY 6**



**Final Family Gathering  
“Following in the Footsteps of the Saints”**

**This will be a Carry In Meal:**

**A-F Side Dishes**

**G-P Salads**

**Q-Z Desserts**

**The Team will provide the Meat, Potatoes,  
Paper Products, Drinks, and Fun!**

# Upcoming May Events

## Holy Cross Wendelin

3- Sunday-May Crowning & First Communion

6 -Wed. LAST Family Gathering Holy Cross 6:30  
p.m. Carry In Meal, Year-End Wrap Up  
with lots of Saint surprises  
and Family fun.

26-29 VBS at Holy Cross during the evening

\*Reminder to bring Saint Binder.



# Pray for ME

## C O N F I R M A N D I

Adrienne Weidner: St. Veronica

Aubrey Patridge: St. Cecilia

Beau Stevens: St. Philip Neri

Braden Weidner: St. Hubert of Liege

Bria Waggoner: St. Anne

Brilyn Brinkley: St. Elizabeth of Portugal

Camden Blank: St. Phocas

Cora Warfel: St. Anne

Diesel Myers: St. Christopher

Gavin Kuenstler: St. Isidore the Laborer

Haley Ginder: St. Gianna Beretta Molla

Hayden Womack: St. Joseph

Hazel Durmas: St. Rose of Lima

Jett Thomas: St. Francis de Sales

Julian Seaman: St. Sebastian

Koltyn Hinterscher: St. John Paul

Korbyn Hinterscher: St. Carlo Acutis

Kylah Matthews: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Landree Nelson: St. Catherine of Siena

Laney Peavler: St. Elizabeth of Hungary

Lauren French: St. Therese of Lisieux

Leo Seitzinger: St. Joan of Arc

Lucca Trupiano: St. Padre Pio

Makai Steele: St. Michael the Archangel

Max Crouch: St. Michael the Archangel

Nicole Kuhl: St. Monica

Parker Lewis: St. Juan Diego

Paxton Gher: St. Sebastian

Peyton Peavler: St. Michael the Archangel

Quinn Trout: St. Patrick

Riley Kraus: St. Therese of Lisieux

Sadie Seiler: St. Mary, Mother of God

Sarah Ruppel: St. Therese of Lisieux

Yzabella Biyok: St. Philip Neri



# Pray for Me

**O  
C  
I  
A**

Isaac Beal

Dalyn Brach

Stephen Brach

Eli Brown

Hilary Cecil

Abby Garrison

Luke Hahn

Kristen Kocher

Jillian Peavler

Sallie VanBlaricum



# 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.



# *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**