

Sunday, December 17, 2023
3rd Sunday of Advent

✠ *Eucharistic Celebrations* ✠

Mon. Dec. 18 6:30 PM (at Stringtown)
 Tue. Dec. 19 5:00 PM (at Lawrenceville)
**Wed. Dec. 20 8:05 am Eulalia Kocher;
 Albert, Clara &
 RoseEllen Hahn**
 Thu. Dec. 21 6:30 PM (at Wendelin)
Fri. Dec. 22 8:00 am Special Intention
Sat. Dec. 23 4:00 PM (at Wendelin)
**5:00 PM Jim & Mary Steber;
 Linda Gumble**
**Sun. Dec. 24 8:00 am Ed & Mary Jo
 Zuber**
 8:00 am (at Stringtown)
 10:00 am (at Wendelin)
 10:00 am (at Lawrenceville)
4:00 PM For the Parish
 4:00 PM (at Wendelin)
 8:00 PM (at Lawrenceville)
Mon. Dec. 25 12:00 am (at Stringtown)
8:00 am For the Parish
 8:00 am (at Lawrenceville)

OUR MONTHLY SPONSORS

Bulletins: Family Hair Care (Betty Slover)
Missalettes: Kistler-Patterson Funeral Homes

OUR TITHES FOR DECEMBER 10

Parish Operating Expense per Week = \$9,847.00
Envelopes: \$5,436 (77) Loose: \$225
Guatemala: \$255 (10) Flowers: \$987 (31)
Retired Religious: \$475 (15)

~ *Kudos* ~

◆ To *Jeanne Dehlinger*, who will celebrate her 95th birthday on December 19. Happy birthday! Cards can be sent to her at 4615 E. Golf Ln., Olney.

*** AROUND OUR PARISHES ***

Sunday, December 17

- 8 AM, Children's Liturgy.

Tuesday, December 19

- 12 PM -3 PM, Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Joseph-Olney. There must always be 2 people in the church, so a sign-up sheet is in the vestibule of the church.

Wednesday, December 20

- Rosary, after Mass.
- 3 PM, Bulletin deadline. Write, type or email all announcements.

Thursday, December 21

- 2 PM – 6 PM, Blood Drive in the multi-purpose room. Appointments are needed. Schedule online or call 1-800-RED CROSS. Also taking walk-ins after school program.

Friday, December 22

- The Parish Office is closed.

*** CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE ***

Christmas Eve - Sunday, December 24

- * 4 PM at St. Joseph-Olney
- * 4 PM at Holy Cross-Wendelin
- * 8 PM at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville

Christmas Day - Monday, December 25

- * 12 AM at St. Joseph-Stringtown
- * 8 AM at St. Joseph-Olney
- * 8 AM at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville

 **St. Joseph School Notes** 

Tuesday, December 19

- Reconciliation for grades 3–8.

Wednesday, December 20

- 8:05 AM, School Mass (2nd-Kessler).

Thursday, December 21

- 1 PM, K-4 Christmas Music Program in the gymnasium.
- 1:50 PM, Early dismissal.

Friday, December 22 - Tuesday, January 2

- Christmas Break

Wednesday, January 3

- Students return.

* **Thanks** to Mischelle Doll for organizing another fantastic Santa's Workshop for our collective children!

* **2024 Benefit Calendars are here.** The price is \$20. Total payout is \$8,500. Calendars are for sale at the School Office, the Parish Office or by calling Jeffrey Rosenberg (618-302-0391).

CALENDAR WINNERS - \$25

- Dec. 4: Dave Kocher (#683)
- Dec. 5: Heath Houchin (#662)
- Dec. 6: Janet Snyder (#485)
- Dec. 7: Falyann Paitz (#522)
- Dec. 8: Lance & Jessica Chapman (#638)

Let Us Pray For: Kristen Eagleson, Harold Foerster, Bob Geiger, Angela Geltz, Kenneth Hann, Marlene Harris, Don Kocher, Rose Kocher, Sarah Kocher, Deloris Nix, Emery and Julie Oesch, Anita Shultz, Judy Spitz, Eleanor Steber, and Tony Tredway.

Please call or email the Parish Office to add your name to the Prayer List. Unless notified to extend, the listing in the bulletin will be for four weeks.

Journey Onward Ye Sojourners
Caroline Trimble Pastoral Associate

Choose Joy! Are you choosing Joy this Advent season? Do you have Joy in your Heart? Your Home? The way we respond and treat others is the first indicator. A joyful person is welcoming, loving and kind! Take extra care this week and be joyful to one another. There is a JOY in the journey, and it is only found when the “*stable of your heart*” reflects the one that is soon to come. Light your pink candle of **Joy** and journey to Bethlehem with Joseph and Mary! Come Lord, Jesus, Come Quickly, the whole word awaits! Live a life of Joy!

Volunteer Now! Lectors, servers, cross-bearers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHC), greeters, ushers and gift-bearers are needed for the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses. Sign-up sheet is in the vestibule. Please volunteer to help at the Mass you plan to attend.

Christmas Flower Memorials: Please use the envelope labeled 'Christmas Flower Offering' included in your December packet. Proceeds from this collection will be used to purchase the flowers to decorate our church. On the reverse side of the envelope, please print clearly the person the memorial is for. A list of the memorials will be published at a later date.

The Parish and Family Life Committee is sponsoring a “Christmas Card and Cake” community outreach project for ALL the residents of our local Long Term Care Facilities. *The deadline for donations is today (Sunday, December 17).* We are collecting Christmas cards along with boxes of Little Debbie snack cakes from parish members and St. Joseph School students. Cards and snack cakes will be delivered to all the facilities prior to Christmas day. Donations can be dropped off at the front doors of St. Joseph Church in Olney or to Sondra Geiger at Blank’s Insurance Agency at 515 S Whittle Ave. If you have questions or would prefer your items to be picked up, please call Sondra Geiger (618-843-8532).

Let us remember; 1 Corinthians 13:13 “And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.”

Giving Tree: This Advent, our parish again has the opportunity to share the real meaning of Christmas with our less fortunate neighbors by supporting our Giving Tree. You may choose one (or more) ornaments from the baskets by the doors, purchase and wrap the requested gift,

place the sticker from the ornament on the package for identification, then place the ornament on the tree and the gift under the tree. The deadline to turn in gifts is Sunday, December 24. After the deadline, please call Rose Ann Schwartz (395-1151) to arrange for pick-up.

Thanks to everyone for a very successful 2023 St. Joseph Church Smorgasbord, our profit this year was \$25,591.

The Cookie Walk was a great success! Thank you to all of our bakers, volunteers, and parishioners for the support in another successful Cookie Walk. The total earnings were \$1,374!

We are now accepting mass intentions through June 30, 2024. Up to three first names with the same last name (i.e., John, Paul and Mary Smith) or two last names only (i.e., Scott and Smith Families) will be allowed per intention. We can accept up to three Mass offerings per mass. Mass intentions cannot be scheduled for the following days: Holy Thursday, Holy Saturday, Easter, Mother's Day, Father's Day, Memorial Day, First Communion and Confirmation. These Mass intentions will be for the general intentions of our parishioners.

We are accepting donations of canned goods and non-perishable food items. These items will be given to the Good Samaritan of Richland County. Please place these items in the basket in the church vestibule.

The 46th Annual Diocesan Christmas Collection will be taken up at all Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Parishes and agencies throughout the diocese will request monies from this collection during

2024 to assist those who are in need with food, clothing, shelter, utility payments, healthcare and medications, funeral and burial expenses, transportation and emergency assistance of all types. Please consider giving as you are able; thank you so much.

~ KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS ~
Thursday, December 21: 4th Degree meeting, 7PM.

Sunday, December 31: K of C led Rosary at 7:40AM at St. Joseph-Olney. Volunteer Ministry at 8 AM Mass. Fellowship breakfast to follow at a local restaurant.

Kudos to St. Joseph School students and staff! 162 entries in the Christ in Christmas Poster Contest. 27 cash winners of \$10, \$5, \$3, and \$2. First place winners advancing to Belleville in categories: Pre-K-2nd Grade were Ryker Sterchi, 3rd-5th Mabel Stout, and 6th-8th Carly Kessler. Olney Council winners in the following categories are PreK-K: Ellison Pitts, Halle Rennie, Parker Stanley, Macyn Cunningham, Jayden Gallagher. 1st-2nd: Ryker Sterchi, Brooklyn VanBlaricum, Jenna Cummins, Olivia Rude, Averie Ochs. 3rd-4th: Mabel Stout, Delana Sterchi, David Fleming, Claire Abell, Parker Womack. 5th and 6th: Katelyn Ochs, Kadence Kocher, Landree Nelson, Remi Miller, Kyla Matthews. 7th-8th: Carly Kessler, Nora McClain, Natalie Ochs, Brooke Weidner, Andrew Lambird, Jared Weidner.

St. Joseph Church
208 South Elliott St.
Olney, Illinois 62450



'Renewing the Vision'
Sunday, December 17, 2023
3rd Sunday of Advent

~ Mission Statement ~

St. Joseph Parish family is a community of believers rooted in the teachings of Jesus Christ. Using the individual gifts we have been given by God, we minister to ourselves and others through prayer, support, and service. We nurture our inherited faith life and through the power of the Spirit pass it to future generations.

Websitewww.stjosephchurcholney.com

Very Rev. Steven L. Beatty, V.G. Pastor
Fr. Steven's Cell 618-697-2632
E-mail frsteven.beatty@gmail.com

Reverend Felix Chukwuma Pastor
Fr. Felix's Cell 812-899-2415
E-mail chibuchuma@yahoo.com

Caroline Trimble Pastoral Associate
Caroline's Cell 618-263-7106
E-mail CtrimblePA@gmail.com

Tyler Timm Youth Minister
Tyler's Cell 507-503-2911
E-mail ttimm@stjoeolney.com

Kim Kocher Administrative Assistant
Parish Office 618-392-8181
E-mail stjosephchurch_olney@yahoo.com

Jeffrey Rosenberg Trustee
Elliot Brazil Trustee

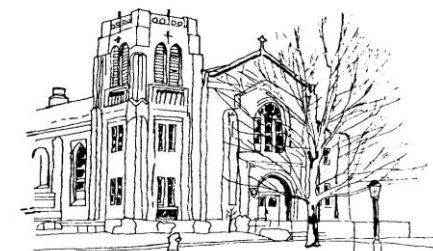
~ Sacraments ~

Baptism: Infant or adult, please contact the Parish Office.

Reconciliation: Saturdays from 4:15 PM - 4:30 PM or contact the Parish Office.

Marriage: Call no later than 6 months in advance.

Anointing of the Sick: Any time of need.



~ Welcome, New Parishioners ~

Please register as soon as you move into our parish. Call the Parish Office (392-8181) to receive a new member packet.

(If you are not receiving church offering envelopes, you are not properly registered.)

~ St. Joseph School ~

Carol Potter Principal

Kristen Eagleson Administrative Assistant
School Office 618-395-3081

E-mail office@stjoeolney.com

Website www.stjoeolney.com

FAX 618-395-8500

School Board: Angel Padilla (*Chairperson*), Christy Blank, Heather Colwell, Kathy Davis, Andrea Kuenstler, Lauren McClain, Sara Peavler, Doug Kocher (*St. Joseph-Stringtown Representative*), Tammy Rudolphi (*Holy Cross-Wendelin Representative*)