

Collection Total for February 5, 2023

Envelopes: \$921.00
Loose: \$162.00
Total: \$1083.00

Weekly Amount Needed: \$1,400.00

Easter Flower Donations: \$65.00 (3)
Black & Indian Missions: \$120.00 (8)
Religious Edu: \$130.00 (5)
Building Fund: \$90.00 (3)
The Messenger: \$100.00 (3)

February Bulletins: In Memory of Norman Kocher

February Missalettes: Rick Ginder Family

-CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PARISH-

If you are attending Sunday Mass in any of Four Partnership Churches: St. Joseph-Olney, St. Joseph-Stringtown, Holy Cross-Wendelin, or St. Lawrence, please use your contribution envelopes. Your contribution will be credited to the parish stated on the envelope.

PARISH NEWS:

KEEP CONNECTED with the church and receive important messages and updates via text and email. Sign up for Flocknote by texting stjoeholycross to 84576 to get connected

BULLETIN NEWS: Deadline Wednesday 2:00PM

St. Joseph church in Stringtown will be saying the Rosary every Sunday morning before Mass starting at 7:35am. Everyone is invited to come early and participate. Prayers are powerful and much needed in our world today. Also, If you would like to help by leading the Rosary please sign up in the back of the church.

PARISH EVENTS:

Sunday, February 19, 8:00am, Baptism at St. Joseph-Olney
8:00am, FFA present at Mass at St. Joseph-Olney
10:00am, Baptism at Holy Cross-Wendelin
11:00am, Mardi Gras Soup Supper at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville
11:00am, CYM Spaghetti Dinner Fund Raiser at Holy Cross-Wendelin
Monday, February 20, 7:00pm, School Board at St. Joseph-Olney
Wednesday, February 22, ASH WEDNESDAY

SISTERS IN CHRIST:

We begin a new book study. If you are interested contact Kristi Sandschafer, or Caroline Trimble. We will meet on **Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. -this is an 8-week study.**

SAVE THE DATE:

We are having a **Lenten Quad-Parish Renewal on March 5-8, a night at each of our parishes!** Dr. Mark Ginter will be our speaker.

Holy Cross March 5 - "Please, may I introduce you to my Friend, the Holy Spirit?"

St. Joseph Stringtown March 6 - "How did extraordinary faith at 16 help me to face my brother's sudden death?"

St. Lawrence March 7 - "What hope do I have that my children and I will remain Catholic until the end?"

St. Joseph Olney March 8 - "How do I love God with all of my heart, soul, mind, and strength?"

***Franciscan University at Steubenville, Ohio,** has partnered with our Diocese to offer us faith formation from the comforts of home. Sign up today! The mission of our parish is *"to form missionary disciples of Jesus Christ within the Catholic Church."* To help us in achieving this mission, our parish/school has just subscribed to an extraordinarily effective new outreach from Franciscan University's Catechetical Institute (CI).

-Thanks to a partnership between our diocese and the CI, we are now able to offer local, mentored, substantive, and engaging formation for every person in ministry. That includes clergy, catechists, school personnel, youth ministers, adult group leaders, volunteers, and even (and especially) parents.

It is free to all, with unlimited access. Sign Up at <https://franciscanathome.com/diocese-belleville>

PICNIC NEWS:

This year's Picnic Committee consists of Paige Ginder 618-843-0324, Ross Ginder 618-843-4314, and Carli Ginder 618-843-6704 and we're needing another couple or two to join our committee this year. Contact one of us three if you're interested in joining. Also we are now accepting donations towards picnic expenses as well as raffle prizes.

JOURNEY ONWARD YE SOJOURNERS

CAROLINE TRIMBLE PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

To fall in love with God is the greatest of romances, to seek Him the greatest adventure, to find Him the greatest human achievement.

Love is in the air a tad more so this time of year. It should give one cause to think a moment about who and what we love. Ultimately, we are to love God first and foremost. However, when God is not priority or often even a thought, everything else in your life becomes your god. So what are the "ungod-like" things in your life? Where or Who do you struggle to love? Did you know, when you love one another, the Love of God is more evident in you! Seek the God that loves you - it leads to a Life of Love, and this is a journey you do not want to miss! Keep to the J.O.Y.S.

FROM FR. MARK

February 14 has become one of the strangest days in Western culture. It is widely celebrated by the name of "Valentine's Day," referring to the Catholic saint, Valentine. However, in the mass celebrated on February 14, we don't actually celebrate St. Valentine on February 14. The general calendar states that

February 14 is the memorial of "Sts. Cyril and Methodius."

While nearly the entire Western world celebrates "St. Valentine," the Church directs our attention to a pair of obscure Slavic saints. Why is that?

Historically speaking, February 14 has been associated with St. Valentine for centuries, dating back to some of the earliest calendars of the Catholic Church. However, it was not a single St. Valentine, but multiple saints. The various martyrologies of the Church contain twenty-two lives of canonized saints by the name of Valentine. Of these, nine are recorded as bishops, twelve as martyrs, most of the latter were priests; one was an officer in the army of Maximian and died at Ravenna. They are of all nationalities, Italians, French, Spaniards, Germans and Belgians. One of which was a 3rd-century Roman priest who was martyred for his Christian faith. There exist a number of legends that surround this particular saint, one of them claiming that he secretly wed couples.

In the Second Vatican Council document, Sacrosanctum Concilium, it was suggested that the liturgical year should be revised, and certain saints removed from the general calendar. A study was conducted by the Church, and St. Paul VI later explained in his motu proprio, *Mysterii Paschalis*, why some saints were removed and different ones added.

In order to execute this decision of the Ecumenical Council, the names of some saints have been removed from the universal Calendar ... The suppression of reference to a certain number of saints who are not universally known has permitted the insertion, within the Roman Calendar, of names of some martyrs of regions where the proclaiming of the Gospel arrived at a later date. Thus, as representatives of their countries, those who have won renown by the shedding of their blood for Christ or by their outstanding virtues enjoy the same dignity in this same catalogue.

While not martyrs, this does appear to be a reference to Sts. Cyril and Methodius, who proclaimed the Gospel to the Slavic people during the 9th century. The switch was an effort to make

the calendar more “universal,” as St. Paul VI states in his letter.

Also, it is believed that since there was doubt as to which St. Valentine was celebrated on February 14, his name was subsequently removed. Oddly enough, the document that authorized the changing of the calendar was dated February 14, 1969.

ST. JOSEPH OLNEY SCHOOL NEWS:

Tuesday, February 14th - K of C Spelling Bees for 5th - 8th students

Thursday, February 16th - Early Dismissal 12:10 pm

Friday, February 17th - No School Parent-Teacher Conferences

Monday, February 20th - No School Presidents' Day

Mark your calendars:

February 25th - Boosters Pasta Night - Thanks to Tony and Tiffany Trupiano - to support our Sports and Music programs with our PTO Winter Carnival in the gymnasium - join us!

March 18th - Inaugural Bingo Bash to support the school's many activities and groups (Boosters, 8th grade activities, field trips, technology, curricular advancement)

Advance sales in the school office - Individual \$25 or buy a table for \$200 (reserved table for your group)

Want to donate an auction item? Contact the school office.

Want to donate a bottle of wine for the wine pull? Leave your wine in any of our parish collection boxes at the back of church or contact Janice Zwilling for a drop-off.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:

Tuesday, February 14: Spelling Bee (2) at St Joe School, 5th Grade and grades 6th, 7th & 8th. Cash Prizes!

Thursday, February 16: 4th Degree meeting, 7:30PM.

Friday, February 17: Fish Fry Night to benefit the Senior Citizens Center from 5 to 7Pm at the Olney City Park Community Building.

Sunday, February 26: K of C led Rosary, 7:40Am before the Olney, St. Joe Mass.

Kudos to St. Joe Staff and 142 students in grades 3 - 8th for participating in the K of C Free Throw Competition! Winners ages 9 -14 now qualify for the Regional at St. Anthony High School in Effingham. Students age 8 participate locally because they are in the third grade with 9 year olds. -2023 Olney Knights of Columbus \$250 Senior Scholarships are now available at the Olney High School and at the back of the three Olney Council sister church parishes. Deadline is Wednesday April 20th at the Olney Post Office, P.O. Box 172. See the scholarship form for more information.

A new, easy way to give to the school - **Wal-Mart's Round Up/Spark Good Program:** Anytime you shop at Wal-Mart, your amount due can be rounded up, and the change goes directly to the school.

On the app:

- Go to your account, scroll down to Giving and Impact
- Click "look for a preferred charity"
- You should see St. Joseph Church - St. Joseph School (look for the school logo)
- Click on “us” and start giving!

Remember in our prayers...

Carolyn Zuber, Ed Ginder, Rick Rennier, Carolyn Elie, Louise Weber



**Sunday February 12, 2023
Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

+Eucharistic Celebrations+

Sunday, February 12, 8:00am at St. Joseph-Olney
8:00am at St. Joseph-Stringtown “Kathy Zuber+, Barbara Ochs+”

10:00am at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville

10:00am at Holy Cross-Wendelin

Monday, February 13, NO MASS

Tuesday, February 14, NO MASS

Wednesday, February 15, 8:00am Prayer Service with School Children at St. Joseph-Olney

Thursday, February 16, NO MASS

Friday, February 17, NO MASS

Saturday, February 18, 4:00pm, at Holy Cross-Wendelin

5:00pm, at St. Joseph-Olney

Sunday, February 19, 8:00am at St. Joseph-Olney
8:00am at St. Joseph-Stringtown “Louis Volk+, Bill & Catherine Zwilling+, Nadine Zwilling+”

10:00am at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville

10:00am at Holy Cross-Wendelin

MINISTERS LIST

02/12/2023

Servers:

Mallory Kocher

Owen Kocher

Lector:

Kylie Kocher

Eucharist Minister:

Jamie Kocher

Gifts:

Doug & Lora Kocher

Ushers:

Natalie Zwilling

Luke Seiler

Greeters:

Jean, Mona, & Gary Kocher

02/19/2023

Servers:

Natalie Ochs

Mitchell Ochs

Lector:

Hank Ginder

Eucharist Minister:

Gary Kocher

Gifts:

Rick & Robbie Ginder

Ushers:

Harold Boehl

Jared Boehl

Greeters:

Werner & Janette Kocher

**St. Joseph Church
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E-mail..... mstec88@msn.com

Reverend Felix Chukwuma..... Pastor
Fr. Felix’s Cell..... 618-671-0641
E-mail..... chibuchuma@yahoo.com

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

Savannah Lenear.....Administrative Assistant
Office phone618-754-3676
E-mail.....stjoestringtown@hotmail.com
Parish Office Hours: Tues. & Thur. 9:00am-3:00pm