

Collection Total for November 26, 2023

Envelopes: \$1,208.00 (26)
Loose: \$41.00
Total: \$1,249.00

Weekly Amount Needed: \$1,400.00

Building Fund: \$25.00 (2)

Religious Education: \$100.00 (1)

Christmas Flower: \$20.00 (1)

December Bulletins: Bartley C. Zuber, Attorney at Law

December Missalettes: For the Parish

DONUTS WITH SANTA:

Please join us following 8am Mass on Sunday, December 10th in the Parish Center for Donuts with Santa.

PARISH EVENTS:

Saturday, December 2 – First Saturday Mass at Holy Cross-Wendelin, 9:00am, with Confession beginning at 8:15am

Sunday, December 3 – CYM Mass at Holy Cross-Wendelin with Bake Sale Following, 10am

Monday, December 4 –Holy Cross-Wendelin Blood Drive at Wakefield Fire Department, 1:30pm-5:30pm

St. Joseph School First Reconciliation at St. Joseph-Stringtown – Open to Parishioners After, 6pm

Tuesday, December 5 – ASAP Prayer Service and Adoration at St. Joseph-Stringtown, 9:30am and Stringtown Study, 10am

Wednesday, December 6 – Sister’s in Christ at Holy Cross-Wendelin, 5:30pm

Family Catechesis at Holy Cross-Wendelin, 6:30pm

Thursday, December 7 – Family Catechesis First Reconciliation at Holy Cross-Wendelin – Open to Parishioners After, 6pm

Vigil of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Mass at Holy Cross-Wendelin, 6:30pm

Mass at St. Joseph-Stringtown, 6:30pm

Brothers in Christ at Holy Cross-Wendelin, 7pm

Friday, December 8 – Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Holy Day of Obligation)

Mass at St. Joseph-Olney, 8:00am

Mass at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville, 8:00am

Sunday, December 10 – Family Catechesis Gifts of Love at ALL Masses

Donuts with Santa at St. Joseph-Stringtown Following Mass

SISTERS IN CHRIST/STRINGTOWN STUDY:

The True Meaning of Christmas by Michael Barber
Wednesday evenings at 5:30pm at Holy Cross-Wendelin or Tuesday mornings at 10:00am after Rosary at St. Joseph-Stringtown If interested in joining, contact Kristi Sandschafer, Janette Kocher, or Caroline Trimble Pastoral Associate.

BROTHERS IN CHRIST RESUMES:

Thursday, December 7 at 7:00pm at Holy Cross-Wendelin

“The future of the world and of the Church passes through the family.” St. John Paul II

Come and join this 5 part study on "The Mission of the Family"

Men of the Church join your fellow Brothers in Christ and together let us strengthen our families and marriages. *St. Michael please help us to be defenders of our family, faith, and life!*

CAROLINE TRIMBLE PASTORAL ASSOCIATE:

Be Watchful! Be Alert! This is the first Sunday of Advent, and we must be watchful and alert to the signal graces of *Hope, Love, Joy, and Peace*. The season of Advent can offer the opportunity to spiritually renew and enjoy the simple things- especially this year. Let this season of Advent bring forth a renewal of *Hope, Love, Joy, and Peace* that is only found in Jesus. Begin and end your day in prayer, pick up an Advent devotional, sit in silence,

smile, extend kindness to those that you ignore or cast judgment upon...Change your habits to a habit of Love! *Be Watchful! Be Alert!* Live a Life of Love and light one purple candle on your Advent wreath for **Hope!** Keep to the J.O.Y.S

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION AT ST. JOSEPH-OLNEY:

Spend time with Jesus this Advent! Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Joseph Olney on Tuesday afternoons beginning in December. The hours will be from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm. There must always be 2 people in the church, so a sign-up sheet will be available in the vestibule of the church. Feel free to just stop in for a few minutes, most importantly, just come and *Adore our Lord.*

FAMILY CATECHESIS:

December 6 Feast of Saint Nicholas

On December 6, at 6:30pm at Holy Cross-Wendelin, join us for a beautiful chant of Advent Vespers, a visit from St. Nicholas, music from the Holy Cross Choir, and more. Reminder there will be a Confirmation Check-In and a First Reconciliation Check-In and practice afterwards. **Live Your Catholic Faith** – Light the candles each week on your Advent wreath.

Pray the Advent prayers at meal time and live Advent.

Let Hope, Peace, Joy and Love be present before the presents!

Family Prayer – Ave Maris Stella Prayer

Hail, you Star of Ocean! Portal of the sky, Ever Virgin Mother, Of the Lord most high. O! by Gabriel's Ave, Uttered long ago, Eva's name reversing, Establish peace below. Break the captive's fetters; Light on blindness pour; All our ills expelling, Every bliss implore. Show yourself a mother; Offer him our sighs, Who for us Incarnate Did not you despise. Virgin of all virgins! To your shelter take us; Gentlest of the gentle! Chaste and gentle make us. Still as on we journey, Help our weak endeavor, Till with you and Jesus We rejoice forever.

Through the highest heaven, To the Almighty Three, Father, Son, and Spirit, One same glory be.

First Reconciliation: December 7th at 6:00pm at Holy Cross-Wendelin

Confirmation: April 12th at 5:00pm at St. Joseph-Olney

First Eucharist: April 27-28th at All Masses



The season of giving is upon us and in remembrance of our parishioners who have lost a loved one this year,

the Family Catechesis families are going to be giving a “**Gift of Love**”. Our hope is that this token of Love will bring comfort knowing that your loved one is remembered during this Advent and Christmas season. On Sunday, **December 10**, these **Gifts of Love** will be presented to the family of: **Lelia Volk, Carolyn Zuber, Herman Zwilling, Eloise “Ellie” Kocher, Joseph Schneider, and Ed Ginder**. In this Season of Glad Tidings and what a JOY it is to SHARE GIFTS OF LOVE!

CYM YOUTH GROUP:

CYM Youth Group gathering on Wednesdays at Holy Cross Rectory basement from 7-8:30pm. All high school youth invited. Questions? Please contact Tyler Timm (507)-530-2911.

OCIA-ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS - (PREVIOUSLY KNOWN AS RCIA):

Interested in joining the Catholic Church or just want more information? We are always excited to welcome new members/families. For more information, contact Fr. Steven Beatty or Caroline Trimble.

ST. JOSEPH OLNEY SCHOOL NEWS:

Mark your calendars: March 9th - Bingo Bash - St. Joseph, Stringtown, Parish Center
Table reservations begin January 3rd by calling the school office. If you want to donate an item to be auctioned, please contact Carol Potter, Lora Kocher, Andrea Kuenstler, Lauren Tibbs, Megan Brinkley, or Sara Peavler.

First Reconciliation for our second graders:

Sunday, December 3rd at 1 pm (St. Joseph, Olney), Monday, December 4th, at 6 pm (St. Joseph, Stringtown) and Thursday, December 7th at 6:30 pm (Holy Cross, Wendelin). Please keep our children in your prayers. **Reminder** - School mass the week of December 3rd will be Friday, December 8th (Feast of the Immaculate Conception), instead of Wednesday, December 6th. **Friday, December 8th** - 5th - 8th Grade Band Concert 3 pm in the gymnasium **Saturday, December 9th** - Santa Event - 5:45 - 7:30 pm

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:

Sunday, December 3: Olney Council Members and Family Christmas Appreciation Dinner at St. Joe-Olney MPR, 5PM. Santa arrives after the meal. **Thursday, December 14:** 3rd Degree meeting, 7pm. **Thursday, December 21:** 4th Degree meeting, 7pm.

CHRISTMAS CHOIR PRACTICES:

Christmas Choir Practices will be held on the following dates. All are welcome to join! Practices will be held from 7-8:30pm unless another time is specified. You do not have to attend all the practices to participate, just attend as often as you can. Tues, Nov 28; Sun, Dec 3; Tues, Dec 5; Thurs, Dec 7 After Mass; Thurs, Dec 14; Tues, Dec 19; Thurs, Dec 21; Sun, Dec 24 after 8am Mass

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION/CATHOLIC CONVERSION:

Do you have questions about the Catholic faith? Are you interested in learning more about how to grow closer to our Lord? Do you want to learn how to pray better? Interested in reading more about a certain topic of our faith, but don't know where to start? Possibly even have a hurt or a misunderstanding, that you want to talk to someone about. Contact Caroline Trimble Pastoral Associate to set up an appointment.

HELP NEEDED:

St. Joseph Stringtown will be helping with the live nativity scene at the Olney City Park Christmas Light Display on Saturday, December 2 from 6:00-8:00pm. We need 6-12 volunteers who would like to represent our parish – possibly a few families or several individuals. Please contact Lora Kocher (618-843-8126) if you would be able to help.

STRINGTOWN COMMUNITY CLUB:

The Stringtown Community Christmas Party will be held on Saturday, December 2 at the Town Talk in Ste. Marie at 9:30am. If you want to carpool, please meet at the Parish Center at 9:00am. If you did not sign up at the meeting and wish to attend, please contact one of the committee members to make a reservation: Ashlie Zwilling (615) 332-2500, Kerrie Weidner (618) 843-8520, Kathy Zuber (618) 869-2306, or Robbie Ginder (618) 843-1742.

The Stringtown Community Club is participating in Adopt A Family through Good Samaritan. We are purchasing gifts for 1 family. If anyone in the parish would like to participate in this program to help a family in need this Holiday Season, you can contact Jean Weber at (618)838-3989. You can purchase gifts for a specific family or just make a cash donation. Checks should be made out to Good Samaritan, with AAF in the Memo Line. You can mail it to PO Box 365, Olney or you can give your check to Kathy Zuber or Robbie Ginder to deliver to Good Samaritan.

REPRESENTATIVE NEEDED:

Our area still needs representatives from Holy Cross, Wendelin, and St. Joseph, Stringtown for Catholic Relief Services. If you want to serve your parish in this role, please contact Carol Potter (rep from St. Joseph, Olney) at school (618-395-3081).

Remember in our prayers...

Rick Rennier, Carolyn Elie, Eugene Zuber

Sunday, December 3, 2023

First Sunday of Advent

+Eucharistic Celebrations+

Monday, December 4, 6:30pm at St. Joseph-Stringtown “Herman Zwilling+”
Tuesday, December 5, 5:00pm at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville
Wednesday, December 6, 8:05am at St. Joseph-Olney
Thursday, December 7, 6:30pm at Holy Cross-Wendelin
6:30pm at St. Joseph-Stringtown “For the Parish”
Friday, December 8, 8:00am at St. Joseph-Olney
8:00am at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville
Saturday, December 9, 4:00pm at Holy Cross-Wendelin
5:00pm at St. Joseph-Olney
Sunday, December 10, 8:00am at St. Joseph-Stringtown “Kathy Zuber+” “Rita Damm+”
8:00am at St. Joseph-Olney
10:00am at Holy Cross-Wendelin
10:00am at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville

MINISTERS LIST

12/03/2023

Servers:

Mitchell Ochs
Will Volk

Lector:

Wayne Koche

EMHC:

Jenny Hancock
Janette Kocher
Owen Kocher

Gifts:

Seaman
Family

Ushers:

Jack Weidner
David Muhs

Greeters:

Doug & Lora
Kocher Family

12/10/2023

Servers:

Jared Weidner
Levi Weidner

Lector:

Anita Seiler

EMHC:

Mary Ochs
Gary Zwilling
Josie Kocher

Gifts:

John Ochs
Family

Ushers:

Brian Ochs
Elmer Ochs

Greeters:

Werner & Janette
Kocher

**St. Joseph Church
In Stringtown, Illinois
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Email: stjoestringtown@hotmail.com

Web site: www.stjosephstringtown.com

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

Tyler Timm _____ Youth Minister
Tyler's Cell _____ 507-530-2911
Tyler's E-mail _____ ttimm@stjoelolney.com

Ashley Hinterscher _____ Administrative Assistant
Ashley's Cell _____ 618-843-1892
Office Phone _____ 618-754-3676
E-mail _____ stjoestringtown@hotmail.com
Parish Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 9am-2pm