

# **ST. JOSEPH - STRINGTOWN**

## **Bulletins**

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**Collection Total for February 15, 2026**

Envelopes: \$1,025.00 (35)  
Loose: \$62.00  
**Total: \$1,087.00**

**Building Fund: \$395.00 (3)**

**Black & Indian Collection: \$15.00 (3)**

Weekly Amount Needed: \$1,400.00

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**February Bulletins and Missalettes: *In Memory of Herman & Ethel Zwilling***

\*\*Contact Ashley to schedule for 2026!

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**PARISH EVENTS:**

**Sunday, February 22** – CYM Spaghetti Luncheon and Basket Raffle at Holy Cross-Wendelin Parish Center, 10:30am-12:30pm. Free will donation!

**Monday, February 23** – Young Adults Bible Study at Holy Cross-Wendelin, 7pm.

**Tuesday, February 24** – ASAP Prayer Service and Adoration at St. Joseph-Stringtown, 9:30am.

**Sister's in Christ at St. Joseph-Stringtown Parish Center, 10am.**

Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Joseph-Olney, 12-3pm.

Sister's in Christ at St. Joseph-Olney, 5pm.

**Wednesday, February 25** – Sister's in Christ at Holy Cross Parish Center, 5:30pm.

Lenten Vespers (Evening Prayer) at Holy Cross-Wendelin, 6:30pm.

**Thursday, February 26** – Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at Holy Cross-Wendelin, 5:30pm until Mass at 6:30pm.

Brother's in Christ at Holy Cross-Wendelin, 7pm.

**Friday, February 27** – Stations of the Cross, 6:30pm, available at ALL parishes! St. Joseph-Stringtown, St. Joseph-Olney, Holy Cross-Wendelin, and St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville.

**Sunday, March 4** – Lenten Vespers (Evening Prayer) at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville, 6:30pm

**Saturday, March 7** – First Saturday at Holy Cross-Wendelin, 9am with Confession beginning at 8:15am.

**Sunday, March 8 – Stringtown Community Club Senior Citizen Breakfast at St. Joseph-Stringtown Parish Center following 8am Mass.**

**PHOTO DIRECTORY SIGNUPS:**

If you weren't able to get your photo taken, you can drop a photo by the parish office, send to our parish email [stjoestringtown@hotmail.com](mailto:stjoestringtown@hotmail.com), or text to Ashley.

**TAX CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS:**

Tax contribution statements are available in the vestibule of church. If you weren't able to locate yours, please contact Ashley and I'd be happy to email or print you another copy. The parish appreciates your generosity in 2025! Thank you!

**LENTEN VESPERS (EVENING PRAYER):**



Wednesday Evenings 6:30 p.m. beginning after Ash Wednesday. *Evening Vespers, or Evening Prayer*, is a Catholic liturgical service part of the Liturgy of the Hours that sanctifies the end of the day through prayer, praise, and thanksgiving. Typically held at dusk, its primary purpose is to offer an "evening sacrifice" to God, reflect on the day's events, thank Him for graces received, and seek forgiveness for sins. February 25<sup>th</sup> at Holy Cross-Wendelin, March 4<sup>th</sup> at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville, March 11<sup>th</sup> at St. Joseph-Stringtown, March 18<sup>th</sup> at St. Joseph-Olney

**CAROLINE TRIMBLE - PASTORAL ASSOCIATE:**

*Not Today Satan* - Do you find yourself thinking this or saying this phrase throughout the day? Possibly you wish you had, or even wished someone would have told you to say it sooner. These days of Lenten penitence one might find themselves a bit more vulnerable-it is here where the evil one lies in wait to strike! Have courage and be assured-God is bigger than the strikes and we are to trust! So, this Lent serve God in all that you

say and do – Live a Lent of Trust and Love! Our Lady of Fatima, pray for us!

**ST. RAPHAEL'S MINISTRY OF CARE:**

St. Raphael's Ministry of Care will begin a Grief Care Group. This will be a space dedicated to prayer, listening, conversation and faithful support. Our first meeting will be held on Monday, March 2, from 5:30pm. to 6:30pm at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Olney, Room B!

**BLOOD DRIVE:**

The next Stringtown Community Blood Drive is scheduled for Sunday, March 15, 2026, from 6:30am-12 noon.

[https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=StringtownCC&fbclid=IwY2xjaWPOavxleHRuA2FibQIxMABicmlkETFwNURgcjZlYkU2S1dRY0pVc3JOYwZhcHBfaWQQMjlyMDM5MTC4ODlwMDg5MgABHv7z5h4gUh40pAoHdpevOjpTW Rwms6nqeklovP2RgOwskVK-KjO5Zfywa-zM\\_aem\\_LuPwf6OkOPeqBJEN2MDU-A](https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=StringtownCC&fbclid=IwY2xjaWPOavxleHRuA2FibQIxMABicmlkETFwNURgcjZlYkU2S1dRY0pVc3JOYwZhcHBfaWQQMjlyMDM5MTC4ODlwMDg5MgABHv7z5h4gUh40pAoHdpevOjpTW Rwms6nqeklovP2RgOwskVK-KjO5Zfywa-zM_aem_LuPwf6OkOPeqBJEN2MDU-A)

**SENIOR CITIZEN BREAKFAST:**

The Stringtown Community Club is hosting the annual Senior Citizen Breakfast on Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup> after 8am Mass. All parishioners age 65 and older are invited to attend with a guest. Please RSVP by March 1<sup>st</sup> to Anne Crites at 618-838-3935.

**EUCHRE:**

Hope to see everyone back on March 13<sup>th</sup>!

**FORMED.ORG SUBSCRIPTION:**

Download the app or go to [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org) and enter 62448. **The Week of February 22<sup>nd</sup>:** Foretold, Saint Peter, St. Polycarp: Catholic Saints

**ST. JOSEPH-OLNEY SCHOOL NEWS:**

**Monday, February 23** - Thank you Olney Arts Council for sponsoring storyteller and author Mary Jo Huff for our students!

**Thursday, February 26** - Early release at 1:50pm, Confirmation Retreat, Preschool Program at 6:30pm in the gym

**Saturday, March 14** - Bingo Bash/Auction Night at St. Joseph Stringtown Parish Center

**WINE PULL DONATIONS NEEDED:**



We are collecting unopened bottles of wine for the wine pull to benefit St. Joseph School at the Bingo Bash held on March 14<sup>th</sup> at St. Joseph-Stringtown. Donation boxes are located at each of our Tri-Parishes.

**OLNEY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:**

**Friday, February 27:** Fish Fry Night at the Olney City Park Community Building to benefit Richland County Hope, serving from 5 -7PM or until sold out. All are welcome, carry-outs are available.

**Saturday, March 8:** Twelve St. Joe students are advancing to the Breese Regional Free Throw Competition at Mater Dei High School.

**Thursday, March 12:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree meeting, 7PM.

**Thursday, March 19:** 4<sup>th</sup> Degree meeting, 7PM.

**Sunday, March 29:** Three St. Joe students qualify for the Regional Spelling Bee at the O'Fallon Knights of Columbus Hall.

**Olney-Stringtown-Wendelin Knights of Columbus Council Baby Crib Charity Drive for WIC:** Items can be left at any of our Tri-Parishes in the cribs or pack and plays! Thank you for your support!



### **HOLY CROSS WINE TASTING:**

Join us for a Wine Tasting on Saturday, March 21, 2026 at Holy Cross Parish Center from 6-10:30pm. \$10 admission will cover wine glass and all tastings and include wines from Berryville Vineyards, Castle Finn Vineyard, Irene's Vineyard, and The Pour Vineyard. Food trucks available and live music by Dakota Danielle! Domestic beer available for purchase. Wineries will serve until 9pm.

### **TRI-PARISH CYM SPAGHETTI LUNCHEON:**

Tri-Parish CYM Spaghetti Luncheon and Basket Raffle will be held **THIS** Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> from 10:30am-12:30pm at the Holy Cross Parish Center. Lunch is for a free will donation. Proceeds go towards supporting CYM and Mission Trip! Gluten free options available.

### **RESPECT LIFE CORNER:**



“The essence of our identity is that we are created in God's image and likeness and loved by Him. Nothing can diminish the priceless worth of any human life. Every person is cherished.”  
USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life

Activities Respect Life Reflection: Cherished, Chosen, Sent

### **VOCATION CORNER:**

“From a young age, I desired to be noticed by Jesus in a particular way. By age 13, Good Friday left me with an ache to suffer with the crucified Lord. At age 16, I read the Song of Songs and declared “I want a love like that.” Jesus became my first love. Though I was open to religious life, I also love the idea of marriage. In college, I replaced Jesus as the center of my life with the man I thought I'd marry. Deep down, I felt Jesus' claim on my life and fought against Him for it, in restless pursuit of a tangible spouse. But Jesus brought me to surrender. In the Eucharistic presence of the divine bridegroom the attraction of all earthly bridegrooms faded away. Jesus gave

himself entirely for me on the cross. I now yearned to give my whole self to him. Today, as a Passionist nun, I stand at the foot of the Cross, wedded to Redeeming Love. Jesus crucified does not disappoint. He is the fairest bridegroom of all.”  
Sr. Maria Faustina Carmichael; Passionist Nuns of St. Joseph Monastery; *Columbia Magazine Oct. 2025*

### **KING'S HOUSE LADIES RETREAT:**

King's House has a Ladies' Quiet Retreat coming up on March 20-22, 2026. If you would like to join, please contact King's House at (618)-397-0584 to register. Let Lynn Weidner know if you want to travel with us.

### **ST. MARY'S BRUNCH:**

St. Mary's Brunch will be held Sunday, March 1, 2026 from 8-11:30am at St. Mary's Parish Center in Sainte Marie. Menu will include sausage links and ham, scrambled eggs, biscuits and gravy, breads and fruits, and juice, milk, and coffee. Adults are \$10, Children (4-10) are \$5, and 3 and under are FREE. Bake sale sponsored by the Youth Group. Please join us!

**REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:**  
Rick Rennier, Teresa Zehner, Judy Brown, Brenda Zuber, Valerie Weidner, Steve Zuber, Carolyn Elie, Jim & Norma Kocher, Ralph McIntire, Dalton Linder (Linda McWhirter's son), Linda McWhirter

*God of goodness and mercy, Hear my prayer as I begin this Lenten journey with you. Let me be honest with myself as I look into my heart and soul, noticing the times I turn away from you. Guide me as I humbly seek to repent and return to your love. May humility guide my efforts to be reconciled with you and live forever in your abundant grace. Transform me this Lent, heavenly Father. Give me the strength to make myself 100% available to you every day as I prepare for Easter. Amen.*



### **Sunday, February 22, 2026**

#### **First Sunday of Lent**

**Sunday, February 22, 8:00am at St. Joseph-Stringtown “Carolyn Zuber†” “Elmer & Elfrieda Zwilling†”**

**Monday, February 23, 6:30pm at St. Joseph-Stringtown “Fr. Roger Schoenhofen, OMI†”**

**Tuesday, February 24, 5:00pm at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville**

**Wednesday, February 25, 8:00am at St. Joseph-Olney**

**Thursday, February 26, 6:30pm at Holy Cross-Wendelin**

**Friday, February 27, 8:00am at St. Joseph-Olney**

**Saturday, February 28, 4:00pm at Holy Cross-Wendelin, 5:00pm at St. Joseph-Olney**

**Sunday, March 1, 8:00am at St. Joseph-Stringtown “Louis & Lelia Volk†” “Carl & Una Kocher†”, 8:00am at St. Joseph-Olney, 10:00am at Holy Cross-Wendelin, 10:00am at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville**

### **02/22/2026**

#### **Servers:**

Don Seiler  
Sadie Seiler  
Hallie Ochs

#### **Lector:**

Anita Seiler

#### **EMHC:**

Scott Seiler  
Joselyn Kocher  
Jamie Kocher

#### **Gifts:**

John Ochs Family

#### **Ushers:**

Scott Seiler  
Luke Seiler

#### **Greeters:**

Natalie Ochs

#### **Children's Liturgy:**

Joselyn & Mallory

### **03/01/2026**

#### **Servers:**

Izzy Volk  
Will Volk  
Gabriel Volk

#### **Lector:**

Joselyn Kocher

#### **EMHC:**

Harold Boehl  
Lisa Boehl

Joselyn Kocher

#### **Gifts:**

Gary & Dorothy Zwilling

#### **Ushers:**

Harold Boehl  
David Muhs

#### **Greeters:**

Bill Zuber

#### **Children's Liturgy:**

Madison & Natalie

## **St. Joseph Church Stringtown, Illinois**

**P.O. Box 10, Dundas, IL 62425**



(GPS address: 6342 N. Stringtown Rd, Olney, IL 62450) Phone: 618-754-3676

Email: [stjoestringtown@hotmail.com](mailto:stjoestringtown@hotmail.com)

Website: [www.stjosephstringtown.com](http://www.stjosephstringtown.com)

**Parish Office Hours: Tuesday 9am-2pm & Thursday 9am-1pm**

**Very Rev. Fr. Steven Beatty** \_\_\_\_\_ **Pastor**  
Cell \_\_\_\_\_ 618-697-2632  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ [frsteven.beatty@gmail.com](mailto:frsteven.beatty@gmail.com)

**Reverend Levi James** \_\_\_\_\_ **Parochial Vicar**  
Cell \_\_\_\_\_ 618-240-3638  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ [levi.jamessiu@gmail.com](mailto:levi.jamessiu@gmail.com)

**Caroline Trimble** \_\_\_\_\_ **Pastoral Associate**  
Caroline's Cell \_\_\_\_\_ 618-263-7106  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ [ctrimblePA@gmail.com](mailto:ctrimblePA@gmail.com)

**Tyler Timm** \_\_\_\_\_ **Youth Minister**  
Tyler's Cell \_\_\_\_\_ 507-530-2911  
Tyler's E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ [ttimm@stjoeolney.com](mailto:ttimm@stjoeolney.com)

**Ashley Hinterscher** \_\_\_\_\_ **Administrative Assistant**  
Ashley's Cell \_\_\_\_\_ 618-843-1892  
Office Phone \_\_\_\_\_ 618-754-3676  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ [stjoestringtown@hotmail.com](mailto:stjoestringtown@hotmail.com)

*Sunday, February 22, 2026*  
*First Sunday of Lent*  
 † Eucharistic Celebrations †

- Mon. Feb. 23 6:30 PM at Stringtown  
 Tue. Feb. 24 5:00 PM at Lawrenceville  
**Wed. Feb. 25 8:05 am Verlie & Lynn Troutman**  
 Thu. Feb. 26 6:30 pm at Wendelin  
**Fri. Feb. 27 8:00 am For the Parish**  
**Sat. Feb. 28**  
 4:00 PM at Wendelin  
 5:00 PM **Jim & Mary Steber**  
**Carolyn & Joe Moran**  
**Henry Weiler**  
**Sun. Mar. 1**  
**8:00 am Ed Pool**  
**Wilbert & Virginia Blank**  
**Ken, Marcella, & Janet Ochs**  
 8:00 am at Stringtown  
 10:00 am at Wendelin  
 10:00 am at Lawrenceville

**OUR FEBRUARY SPONSORS**

Bulletins: Bob & Joan Uhl  
 Missalettes: Peavler Trucking

**OUR TITHES FOR FEBRUARY 15<sup>th</sup>**

Parish Operating Expense per Week = \$9,847.00  
 Envelopes: \$13,018 (109) Loose: \$245  
 First Offering: \$5 (1) Solemnity of Mary: \$15 (1)

**Let Us Pray For:** Allen Kocher, Charlotte Hough, Blaine Sholders, Kevin Bookhout, Marilyn McCormick, Elizabeth Ginder, Dolores Hemrich, Clara Rose Wilson, Valerie Weidner, Julie Oesch, Margaret Burgener, Fr. Joe Erbacher, Jeff Beard, Judy Spitz, Jerry L. Harper, Emery Oesch, Gene Bergbower, Luke G. Kocher, Marlene Harris, Bessie Rossiano, Mary Rowark, Anita Shultz, Kenneth Hann, and Ruth Zwilling.

**Happy Birthday** to **Mary Jane Kuenstler** who celebrates her 98<sup>th</sup> birthday on February 23<sup>rd</sup>!

~ AROUND OUR PARISHES ~

**Saturday, February 21<sup>st</sup>**

- Mass for **Rita & Ron Damm, Eleanor Steber, and Maren Zuber.**
- 6 PM, Middle School youth group at Olney.

**Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>**

- Rosary before mass led by the Knights of Columbus.
- Mass for **Mary Ann Kuenstler, Tony Steber, and Deacon Jack Shuster.**
- Children's liturgy at 8 am mass. All students in grades K-3 are welcome to attend.
- Rite of Election at St. Peter Cathedral for OCIA.
- 10:30-12:30 am, CYM spaghetti lunch at Holy Cross.
- 5:30 PM, High School youth group at Holy Cross.

**Tuesday, February 24<sup>th</sup>**

- 12:00-3:00 PM, Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Olney. There must always be 2 people in the church.
- 5:00 PM, Sisters in Christ meeting in the conference room.
- 6:30 PM, OCIA meeting in the conference room. Topic: LJ The Moral Law and Christian Life.
- 7:00 PM, Choir practice in the church.

**Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>**

- Mass for **Verlie & Lynn Troutman.**

**Thursday, February 26<sup>th</sup>**

- Confirmation retreat 8am-1pm at Stringtown.

**Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup>**

- 6:00 PM, Priestly Discernment Group meeting in the conference room at Olney. If interested in joining, contact Fr. Levi.

Throughout Lent we will be praying the Rosary before all of the Masses, beginning with the 5:00 PM Mass on Saturday, February 21, and ending with the 8:00 AM Mass on Sunday, March 22. We will begin a half hour before each Mass. For anyone who wishes to lead the Rosary during those times, there will be a sign-up sheet by the door at the back of the church. Thank you.

**Thank you from the family of *Jeanne Dehlinger*,** to Father Steven and Father Levi for the wonderful funeral service. Also, to the funeral dinner committee for the delicious meal and to the organist and choir for the beautiful music. God Bless you all.

 **St. Joseph School News** 

- Monday, February 23- Thank you Olney Arts Council for sponsoring storyteller and author Mary Jo Huff for our students!
- Thursday, February 26- Early release at 1:50, Confirmation Retreat, Preschool Program at 6:30 in the gym.

**CALENDAR WINNERS - \$25**

Feb. 16: Danny King (#487)  
 Feb. 17: Archer Laughlin (#455)  
 Feb. 18: Kelsey Grimes (#472)  
 Feb. 19: Karen Morris (#689)  
 Feb. 20: Anita Steber (#576)

~ PARISH NEWS ~

- There are several ways to pray and to give this **Lenten season.** Little Black Books, The Word Among Us, and Rice Bowls for Catholic Relief Services can be found at all the church entrances.
- **Rice Bowls:** There are a few rice bowls still available at the doors. When you are finished filling your Rice Bowls for Catholic Relief Services you can place them in the labeled tub in the church vestibule or drop them off at the parish office. You can also bring them to mass on **April 1<sup>st</sup>** at 8 am, where the school children will have a collection tub in front of the altar. Please have all Rice Bowls turned in by **April 6<sup>th</sup>.**
- **There has been an interest in adding Children's Liturgy to the 5 pm mass at Olney.** We would love to provide this opportunity to our children who attend mass on Saturdays. We currently only have 1 volunteer to help lead the class. We need just a couple more to start this ministry on Saturdays. Please contact the parish office.

- **Choir practice** in the church every Tuesday at 7:00 pm. All are welcome to join. If interested contact Bruce Stout at 618-843-8100.
- **Evening Vespers,** or Evening Prayer, is a Catholic liturgical service part of the Liturgy of the Hours that sanctifies the end of the day through prayer, praise, and thanksgiving. Typically held at dusk, its primary purpose is to offer an "evening sacrifice" to God, reflect on the day's events, thank Him for graces received, and seek forgiveness for sins.
  - Vespers will be on Wednesday Evenings 6:30 p.m. beginning after Ash Wednesday.
    - February 25th Holy Cross Wendelin
    - March 4th St. Lawrence Lawrenceville
    - March 11th St. Joseph Stringtown
    - March 18th St. Joseph Olney
- **St. Joseph School Bingo Bash & Auction Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>.** Join us for food, fun, many chances to win and purchase items to support the school! Tables: \$280 or \$35/person. Bingo and a catered meal by the Smokin' Pig included in the price. Call the school office to reserve your table. If you cannot attend but want to help, reach out to Carol Potter at [cpotter@stjoeolney.com](mailto:cpotter@stjoeolney.com).

~ KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS ~

- **Sunday, Feb. 22:** Knight led Rosary before the Olney 8 AM Mass.
- **Friday, Feb. 27:** Fish Fry Night at the Olney City Park Community Building to benefit Richland County Hope, serving from 5 -7 PM or until sold out. All are welcome, and carry outs are available.
- **Saturday, March 8:** Twelve St. Joe students are advancing to the Breese Regional Free Throw Competition at Mater Dei High School.
- **Thursday, March 12:** 3rd Degree meeting, 7PM.
- **Thursday, March 19:** 4th Degree meeting, 7PM.
- **Sunday, March 29:** Three St. Joe students qualify for the Regional Spelling Bee at the O'Fallon Knights of Columbus Hall.

## Journey Onward Ye Sojourners

Caroline Trimble Pastoral Associate

*Not Today Satan-* Do you find yourself thinking this or saying this phrase throughout the day? Possibly you wish you had, or even wished someone would have told you to say it sooner. These days of Lenten penitence one might find themselves a bit more vulnerable-it is here where the evil one lies in wait to strike! Have courage and be assured-God is bigger than the strikes and we are to trust! So, this Lent serve God in all that you say and do – Live a Lent of Trust and Love! Our Lady of Fatima, pray for us!



### First Sunday of Lent Weekly Prayers

We pray for the families in Ghana, Guatemala and Timor-Leste -whom we will meet this Lent through CRS Rice Bowl-and for all families working hard to lead healthy and dignified lives.

For our faith community as we begin the holy season of Lent, may we be inspired through our prayer, fasting and almsgiving to support our sisters and brothers in need.

### Respect Life Corner: February 22, 2026

“The essence of our identity is that we are created in God’s image and likeness and loved by Him. Nothing can diminish the priceless worth of any human life. Every person is cherished.”  
USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities  
Respect Life Reflection: Cherished, Chosen, Sent

### Vocation Corner: February 22, 2026

“From a young age, I desired to be noticed by Jesus in a particular way. By age 13, Good Friday left me with an ache to suffer with the crucified Lord. At age 16, I read the Song of Songs and declared “I want a love like that.” Jesus became my first love. Though I was open to religious life, I also love the idea of marriage. In college, I replaced Jesus as the center of my life with the man I thought I’d marry. Deep down, I felt Jesus’ claim on my life and fought against Him for it, in restless pursuit of a tangible spouse. But Jesus brought me to surrender. In the Eucharistic presence of the divine bridegroom the attraction of all earthly bridegrooms faded away. Jesus gave himself entirely for me on the cross. I now yearned to give my whole self to him. Today, as a Passionist nun, I stand at the foot of the Cross, wedded to Redeeming Love. Jesus crucified does not disappoint. He is the fairest bridegroom of all.”  
Sr. Maria Faustina Carmichael; Passionist Nuns of St. Joseph Monastery; *Columbia Magazine Oct. 2025*

### Gaudeamus – Let Us Rejoice!

#### Seminarian Gala

Saturday, April 11 at Holy Trinity Church in Fairview Hts., IL

To register for this event please visit <http://www.diobelle.org/> or for more information please contact Mary Fleming at [mfleming@diobelle.org](mailto:mfleming@diobelle.org). There are flyers posted on the bulletin boards as well.

### Faith. Fun. Friendship.

Totus Tuus 2026 is happening at five locations in our diocese! Open to grades 1-12. Day program for elementary students and evening program for middle and high school students. All parishes are welcome – even if you’re not hosting! Stay tuned for registration details. See flyer on bulletin boards for more information.

## St. Joseph Church

208 South Elliott St.  
Olney, Illinois 62450



Sunday, February 22, 2026

First Sunday of Lent



### ~ St. Joseph Church ~

Website .....[www.stjosephchurcholney.com](http://www.stjosephchurcholney.com)

Very Rev. Steven L. Beatty..... Pastor

Fr. Steven’s Cell.....618-697-2632

E-mail.....[frsteven.beatty@gmail.com](mailto:frsteven.beatty@gmail.com)

Reverend Levi James ..... Parochial Vicar

Fr. Levi’s Cell.....618-240-3638

E-mail.....[levi.jamessiu@gmail.com](mailto:levi.jamessiu@gmail.com)

Caroline Trimble ..... Pastoral Associate

Caroline’s Cell .....618-263-7106

E-mail.....[CtrimblePA@gmail.com](mailto:CtrimblePA@gmail.com)

Tyler Timm ..... Youth Minister

Tyler’s Cell .....507-530-2911

E-mail.....[ttimm@stjoeolney.com](mailto:ttimm@stjoeolney.com)

Casey Hemrich ..... Administrative Assistant

Parish Office.....618-392-8181

E-mail.....[stjosephchurch\\_olney@yahoo.com](mailto:stjosephchurch_olney@yahoo.com)

Jeffrey Rosenberg ..... Trustee

Elliot Brazil..... Trustee

### ~ Welcome ~

The St. Joseph Parish family is a community of believers rooted in the teachings of Jesus.

#### Join us for mass:

Wednesday 8:00 am

Friday 8:00 am

Saturday 5:00 pm

Sunday 8:00 am

Live streaming of the 8 am masses on Sunday and Wednesday are now available! To watch it live, go to [stjosephchurcholney.com](http://stjosephchurcholney.com)

New parishioners, please register as soon as you move into our parish. Call the Parish Office (618-392-8181) to receive a new member form.

Office hours: Mon. Wed. Fri. 8:00-3:00 pm

**Baptism:** Contact the Parish Office.

**Reconciliation:** Saturdays from 4:30 PM – 4:45 PM or contact the Parish Office.

**Marriage:** Call 6 months in advance.

**Anointing of the Sick:** Any time of need.

### ~ St. Joseph School ~

Josy Hart.....Principal

Carol Potter ..... Assistant Principal

Catherine Fritschle ..... Office Manager

School Office ..... 618-395-3081

E-mail.....[office@stjoeolney.com](mailto:office@stjoeolney.com)

Website ..... [www.stjoeolney.com](http://www.stjoeolney.com)

FAX ..... 618-395-8500

**School Advisory Council:** Angel Padilla (*Chairperson*), Heather Colwell, Samantha Foust, Marissa Graves, Andrea Kuenstler, Lauren McClain, Tyler Ochs, Doug Kocher (*St. Joseph-Stringtown Representative*), Holly Nettleton (*Holy Cross-Wendelin Representative*).



Possibly you wish you had, or even wished someone would have told you to say it sooner. These days of Lenten penitence one might find themselves a bit more vulnerable-it is here where the evil one lies in wait to strike! Have courage and be assured-God is bigger than the strikes and we are to trust! So, this Lent serve God in all that you say and do – Live a Lent of Trust and Love! Our Lady of Fatima, pray for us!

#### **LADIES ALTAR SODALITY CAKE/CRAFT DRAWING:**

Ladies Altar Sodality collected \$365 for the cake/craft drawing last weekend. Half the proceeds will go to MC4C needs and events. Hilda Hinterscher won Saturday and Milissa Weber won on Sunday. Items for both Saturday and Sunday were homemade banana bread and a gift certificate to Vic's Café donated by Henry & Sandi Kessler! Thanks to all who support these drawings! If you are interested in donating a future cake and/or craft item, please sign up in the vestibule, contact a LAS Member or the Parish Office.

#### **FORMED.ORG SUBSCRIPTION:**

Download the app or go to [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org) and enter 62448. **The Week of February 22<sup>nd</sup>:** **Foretold, Saint Peter, St. Polycarp: Catholic Saints**

#### **ST. JOSEPH OLNEY SCHOOL NEWS:**

**Monday, February 23** - Thank you Olney Arts Council for sponsoring storyteller and author Mary Jo Huff for our students! **Thursday, February 26** - Early release at 1:50pm, Confirmation Retreat, Preschool Program at 6:30pm in the gym. **Saturday, March 14** - Bingo Bash/Auction Night at St. Joseph Stringtown Parish Center

#### **WINE PULL DONATIONS NEEDED:**



We are collecting unopened bottles of wine for the wine pull to benefit St. Joseph School at the Bingo Bash held on March 14<sup>th</sup> at St. Joseph-Stringtown. Donation boxes are located at each of our Tri-Parishes.

#### **OLNEY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:**

**Friday, February 27:** Fish Fry Night at the Olney City Park Community Building to benefit Richland County Hope, serving from 5 -7PM or until sold out. All are welcome, carry-outs are available. **Saturday, March 8:** Twelve St. Joe students are advancing to the Breese Regional Free Throw Competition at Mater Dei High School. **Thursday, March 12:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree meeting, 7PM. **Thursday, March 19:** 4<sup>th</sup> Degree meeting, 7PM. **Sunday, March 29:** Three St. Joe students qualify for the Regional Spelling Bee at the O'Fallon Knights of Columbus Hall. **Olney-Stringtown-Wendelin Knights of Columbus Council Baby Crib Charity Drive for WIC:** Items can be left at any of our Tri-Parishes in the cribs or pack and plays! Thank you for your support!



#### **PHOTO DIRECTORY:**

Please submit photos by sending to parish email [holycrosswendelin@outlook.com](mailto:holycrosswendelin@outlook.com), dropping a photo by parish office, or texting to Ashley!

#### **VOCATION CORNER:**

"From a young age, I desired to be noticed by Jesus in a particular way. By age 13, Good Friday left me with an ache to suffer with the crucified Lord. At age 16, I read the Song of Songs and declared "I want a love like that." Jesus became my first love. Though I was open to religious life, I also love the idea of marriage. In college, I replaced Jesus as the center of my life with the man I thought I'd marry. Deep down, I felt Jesus' claim on my life and fought against Him for it, in restless pursuit of a tangible spouse. But Jesus

brought me to surrender. In the Eucharistic presence of the divine bridegroom the attraction of all earthly bridegrooms faded away. Jesus gave himself entirely for me on the cross. I now yearned to give my whole self to him. Today, as a Passionist nun, I stand at the foot of the Cross, wedded to Redeeming Love. Jesus crucified does not disappoint. He is the fairest bridegroom of all."sr. Maria Faustina Carmichael; Passionist Nuns of St. Joseph Monastery; *Columbia Magazine Oct. 2025*

#### **RESPECT LIFE CORNER:**

"The essence of our identity is that we are created in God's image and likeness and loved by Him. Nothing can diminish the priceless worth of any human life. Every person is cherished." usccb Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities Respect Life Reflection: Cherished, Chosen, Sent

#### **KING'S HOUSE LADIES RETREAT:**

King's House at the Shrine has a Ladies' Quiet Retreat coming up on March 20-22, 2026. Please contact King's House at (618)-397-0584 to register. You can let Lynn Weidner know if you want to travel with us.

#### **ST. MARY'S BRUNCH:**

St. Mary's Brunch will be held Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup> from 8-11:30am at St. Mary's Parish Center in Ste. Marie. Menu will include sausage links and ham, scrambled eggs, biscuits and gravy, breads and fruits, and juice, milk, and coffee. Adults are \$10, Children (4-10) are \$5, and 3 and under are FREE. Bake sale sponsored by the Youth Group.

*God of goodness and mercy, Hear my prayer as I begin this Lenten journey with you. Let me be honest with myself as I look into my heart and soul, noticing the times I turn away from you. Guide me as I humbly seek to repent and return to your love. May humility guide my efforts to be reconciled with you and live forever in your abundant grace. Transform me this Lent, heavenly Father. Give me the strength to make myself 100% available to you every day as I prepare for Easter. Amen.*

#### **Sunday, February 22, 2026**

#### **First Sunday of Lent**

When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.



**Holy Cross Parish in Wendelin**  
5782 Ingraham Lane, Newton, IL 62448  
Website - - [www.holycrosswendelin.com](http://www.holycrosswendelin.com)  
Parish E-mail: [holycrosswendelin@outlook.com](mailto:holycrosswendelin@outlook.com)  
Parish Phone Number: (618)-752-5671  
Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday 10am-3pm, and Friday 10am-1pm.  
**Mass Schedule:** Thursdays 6:30pm with Adoration at 5:30pm, Saturday 4:00pm, Sunday 10:00am  
**\*\*Very Rev. Steven L. Beatty – Pastor**  
Fr. Steven's Cell: 618-697-2632  
E-mail: [frsteven.beatty@gmail.com](mailto:frsteven.beatty@gmail.com)  
**\*\*Reverend Levi James – Parochial Vicar**  
Fr. Levi: 618-240-3638, [levi.jamessiu@gmail.com](mailto:levi.jamessiu@gmail.com)  
**\*\*Caroline Trimble – Pastoral Associate**  
Caroline: 618-263-7106, [ctrimblePA@gmail.com](mailto:ctrimblePA@gmail.com)  
**\*\*Ashley Hinterscher – Administrative Assistant**  
Ashley: 618-843-1892, [creholycross@gmail.com](mailto:creholycross@gmail.com)  
**\*\*Tyler Timm – Youth Minister**  
Tyler: 507-530-2911; [ttimm@stjoelolney.com](mailto:ttimm@stjoelolney.com)  
**Trustees:** Carl Will & Kasey Iffert; **Pastoral Council:** Tony Kuentler-Chair; Kevin Blank-Vice-Chair; Cindy Blank, Sharon Edwards, Kelly Geier, Tammy Rudolphi, Holly Nettleton, Dusty Smithenry

# What Happens in Lent?

In today's Gospel story, Jesus goes out into the desert to fast and pray for forty days. In the forty days of Lent, the Church asks us to fast, give alms, and pray.



In Lent we don't eat meat on Fridays. Many people give up things like candy or dessert for all of Lent. When we give up food that we like, it reminds us that food isn't the only thing we need- we need God too!



Giving alms means giving money or things to the poor or the Church. God lets there be people who need our help so that we can become better by helping them!

The third thing that we should do in Lent is praying. You could say an extra prayer every day- maybe an "Our Father" or a "Hail Mary" when you wake up or before you go to bed. Another good idea is reading a bit from the Bible, because when we read the Bible we let God speak to us.

What are some little things you could do for Lent? Try to do things that will help you think a bit more about God every day.

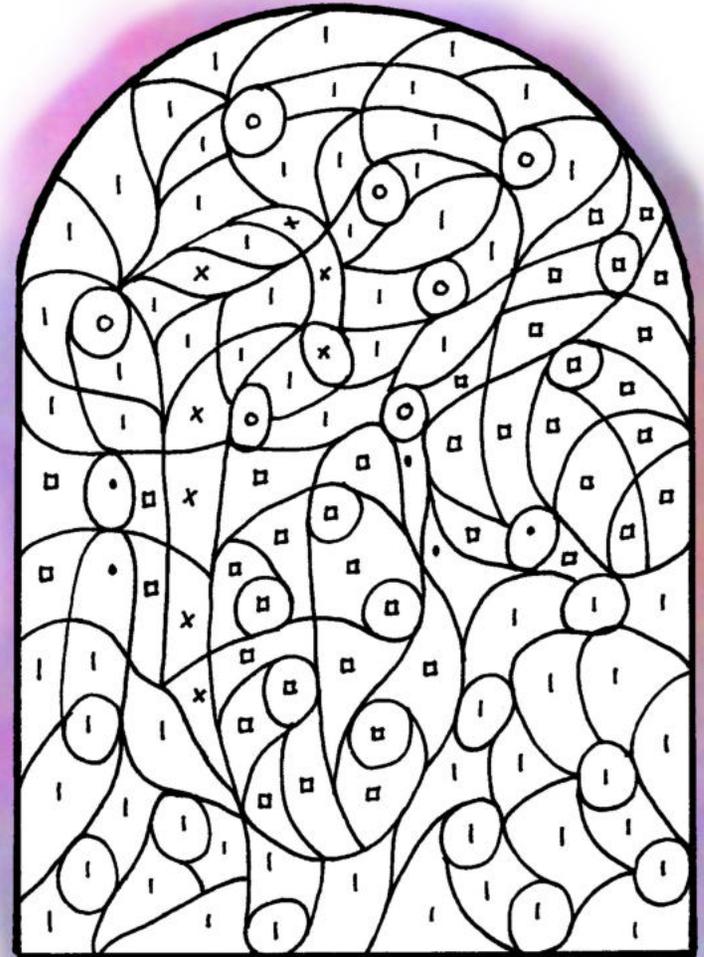


Answers to picture puzzle inside: top: 4, 6, middle: 5, 1, bottom: 2, 3.

# The Kids' Bulletin

**First Sunday of Lent**  
**February 22nd, 2026**

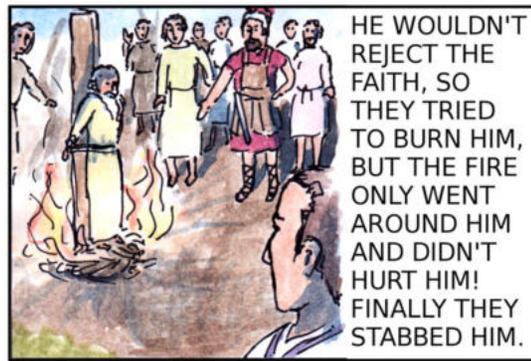
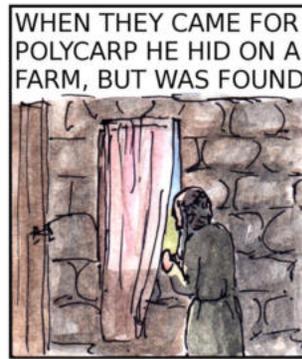
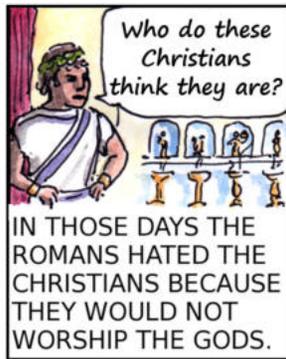
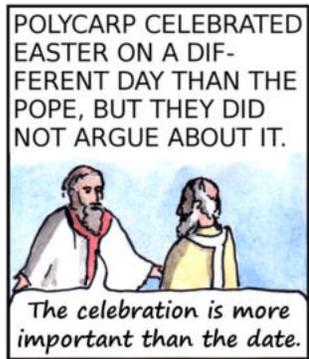
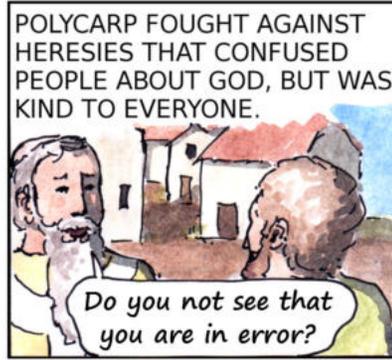
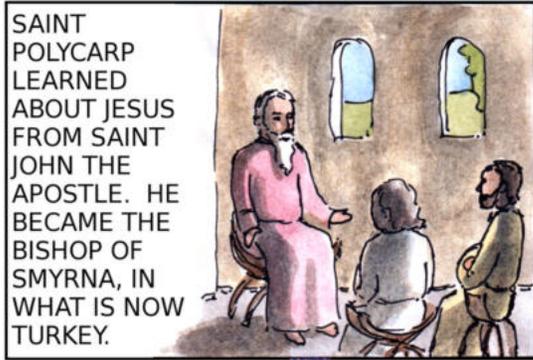
*Today's first reading tells us about sin. Use the code at the bottom to colour in the spaces and find out what the story was.*



- blue
- | green
- x brown
- red
- skin colour

# Saint Polycarp

## February 23



SAINT POLYCARP HELD ONTO HIS FAITH EVEN WHEN HE WAS VERY OLD. HE WOULDN'T EVEN GIVE UP ON JESUS WHEN HE WAS FACED WITH TORTURE. MOST OF US WON'T HAVE TO CHOOSE BETWEEN KEEPING OUR FAITH AND GETTING KILLED, BUT WE STILL HAVE TO BE BRAVE TO STAY TRUE TO JESUS IN THE WORLD.

# Sort the Story!

What happened when Jesus had prayed and fasted for forty days in the desert?  
See if you can sort the order of these pictures.  
Write 1 on the first, 2 on the second, and so on.

