

Collection Total for December 17, 2023

Envelopes: \$2,570.00 (38)
Loose: \$11.00
Total: \$2,581.00

Weekly Amount Needed: \$1,400.00

Building Fund: \$325.00 (7)
Christmas Flower: \$40.00 (2)
Immaculate Conception Offering: \$5.00 (1)
Retired Priests: \$6.00 (1)
Christmas Offering: \$115.00 (1)

December Bulletins: Bartley C. Zuber, Attorney at Law

December Missalettes: For the Parish

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE:

Christmas Eve: Sunday, December 24, 2023

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

Christmas Day: Monday, December 25, 2023

12am at St. Joseph-Stringtown
8am at St. Joseph Olney
8am at St Lawrence-Lawrenceville

PARISH EVENTS:

Sunday, December 24 – Christmas Eve

Stringtown Choir Practice Following 8am Mass
Christmas Mass at Holy Cross-Wendelin, 4pm
Christmas Mass at St. Joseph Olney, 4pm
Christmas Mass at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville, 8pm

Monday, December 25 – Christmas Day – Parish Offices Closed

Christmas Mass at St. Joseph-Stringtown, 12am
Christmas Mass at St. Joseph-Olney, 8am
Christmas Mass at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville, 8am

Tuesday, December 26 – Parish Offices Closed

Friday, December 29 – Parish Offices Closed

Monday, January 1 – Parish Offices Closed
Sunday, January 7 – St. Joseph-Stringtown Blood Drive, 7am-11:30am

SISTERS IN CHRIST/STRINGTOWN STUDY:

Will be paused a couple weeks for Holiday Season.

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:

Thursdays 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:

The Advent season of waiting and anticipating brings us to the last candle of **Love**. May these remaining moments of journeying towards the babe in the manger be one of *Hope, Peace, Joy and Love* in your heart and homes. Our Blessed Mother shows us the way to Jesus in every season. Behold he comes-The one who is Born to Die- The one who is King of Kings! *Merry Christmas to you and yours!*

EUCCHARISTIC 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:

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.

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

First Eucharist: April 27-28th at All Masses

ST. JOSEPH OLNEY SCHOOL NEWS:

St. Joseph School is proud of our IL State Scholars from Richland County High School.

Congratulations Madison Nelson, Trenton Payne, Evelyn Potter, Isabella Trupiano, and Isaac Zwilling!

Merry Christmas from the staff at St. Joseph School! We are grateful for our families who choose a full-time Catholic education and our parishes who support their decision.

Thank you to Mrs. Michels and our Kindergarten-4th grade musicians for a wonderful Christmas program!

Christmas Break Friday, December 22nd - Tuesday, January 2nd

Students return Wednesday, January 3rd.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:

Monday, December 25: Knights of Columbus Mass Ministry, 8AM Mass, St. Joseph-Olney

Sunday, December 31: Knights of Columbus Mass Ministry, 8AM Mass, St. Joseph-Olney, followed by fellowship breakfast at a local restaurant. 7:40AM Knights of Columbus led Rosary.

Kudos to Mike Ginder, Vocation Raffle Chairman; 73 Vocation Raffle Booklets submitted! No local winners. Four Belleville Seminarians will receive \$165.

Knight of the Month: Bart Zuber-Knights of Columbus Appreciation Christmas Dinner Special Guest!

CHOIR:

The choir will sing a selection of Christmas music before Midnight Mass, starting at 11:30pm.

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.

DIOCESAN CHRISTMAS COLLECTION:

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!

FARMERS SUPPORTING FARMERS

Join us for continental breakfast and discussion on how rural communities and others in the United States can partner with farmers and rural communities around the world. Representatives from Farmer to Farmer and Growing Hope Globally will tell how to get involved with their programs. Farmer to Farmer sends U.S.-based volunteers to developing countries to support farmers and agribusiness professionals with hands-on training. Growing Hope Globally links the grassroots energy and commitment of rural communities in the U.S. to raise funds for farming programs in developing countries. These programs provide lasting solutions to hunger. RSVPs are appreciated to help with meal planning. Contact Cheryl Sommer at cherylsommer@yahoo.com or 618-624-2838 or Carol Potter (principal@stjoeolney.com or 618-395-3081).

Saturday January 13, 8:30-10:30 a.m.

St. Patrick Church, 1377 CR 25 E, Enfield, IL

The 2023 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal *The one who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord - Psalm 15*

The true joy of Christmas is in the everlasting love of Christ. May you find His peace, love and joy now and in the coming New Year. With deepest gratitude for your prayers and generosity, -Bishop Michael McGovern and Ministries and Programs Funded by The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal.

Remember in our prayers...

Rick Rennie, Carolyn Elie, Eugene Zuber



**Wishing you a Merry Christmas and
a Blessed New Year!**

Sunday, December 24, 2023

Fourth Sunday of Advent

+Eucharistic Celebrations+

Monday, December 25, 12:00am at St. Joseph-Stringtown "For The Parish"

8:00am at St. Joseph-Olney

8:00am at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville

Tuesday, December 26, 5:00pm at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville

Wednesday, December 27, 8:05am at St. Joseph-Olney

Thursday, December 28, 6:30pm at Holy Cross-Wendelin

Friday, December 29, NO MASS

Saturday, December 30, 4:00pm at Holy Cross-Wendelin

5:00pm at St. Joseph-Olney

Sunday, December 31, 8:00am at St. Joseph-Stringtown "Carolyn Zuber+"

8:00am at St. Joseph-Olney

10:00am at Holy Cross-Wendelin

10:00am at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville

MINISTERS LIST

12/24/2023

Servers:

Grayson Sterchi

Ian Kocher

Lector:

Shelly Seaman

EMHC:

Jamie Kocher

Elmer Ochs

John Ochs

Gifts:

Werner & Janette Kocher

Ushers:

Isaac Zwilling

Byron Zwilling

Greeters:

Sam & Mary Zwilling

12/31/2023

Servers:

Mallory Kocher

Hallie Ochs

Lector:

Gary Zwilling

Owen Kocher

Gifts:

Lester & Janice Zuber

Ushers:

Gary Kocher

Doug Kocher

Greeters:

Elmer & Mary Ochs

**St. Joseph Church
In Stringtown, Illinois
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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 _____ 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 _____ 507-530-2911
Tyler's E-mail _____ ttimm@stjoeolney.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