

ST. JOSEPH - STRINGTOWN

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St. Joseph-Stringtown Ministries 2025

OCTOBER		NOVEMBER		DECEMBER	
Servers		Servers		Servers	
Sun. Oct. 5	Kerigan Kocher, Will & Gabriel Volk	Sun. Nov. 2	Roland Sager & Silas Sager, Julian Seaman	Sun. Dec. 7	Roland Sager & Silas Sager, Brady Ochs
Sun. Oct. 12	Kaitlyn Ginder & Haley Ginder, Brady Ochs	Sun. Nov. 9	Emmitt Kocher, Gavin Kuenstler, Levi Weidner	Sun. Dec. 14	Kaitlyn Ginder & Haley Ginder, Nathaniel Zwilling
Sun. Oct. 19	Amity Zuber, Gus Kocher, Nathaniel Zwilling	Sun. Nov. 16	Kerigan Kocher, Will & Gabriel Volk	Sun. Dec. 21	Emmitt Kocher, Gavin Kuenstler, Julian Seaman
Sun. Oct. 26	Delana Sterchi, Sadie & Don Seiler	Sun. Nov. 23	Amity Zuber, Sadie & Don Seiler	Sun. Dec. 28	Delana Sterchi, Hallie Ochs, Gus Kocher
		Sun. Nov. 30	Delana Sterchi & Grayson Sterchi, Hallie Ochs		
Lector		Lector		Lector	
Sun. Oct. 5	Wayne Kocher	Sun. Nov. 2	Shelly Seaman	Sun. Dec. 7	Kathy Kocher
Sun. Oct. 12	Kathy Kocher	Sun. Nov. 9	Owen Kocher	Sun. Dec. 14	Kylie Kocher
Sun. Oct. 19	Natalie Zwilling	Sun. Nov. 16	Hank Ginder	Sun. Dec. 21	Jocelyn Kocher
Sun. Oct. 26	Anita Seiler	Sun. Nov. 23	Gary Zwilling	Sun. Dec. 28	Gary Zwilling
		Sun. Nov. 30	Laura Sterchi		
Eucharistic Ministers		Eucharistic Ministers		Eucharistic Ministers	
Sun. Oct. 5	Scott Seiler, Janette Kocher, Gary Zwilling	Sun. Nov. 2	Jenny Hancock, Janette & Owen Kocher	Sun. Dec. 7	Beth, Gary, & Ian Kocher
Sun. Oct. 12	Janette, Owen, & Joselyn Kocher	Sun. Nov. 9	Gary, Beth, & Ian Kocher	Sun. Dec. 14	Joselyn, Janette, & Owen Kocher
Sun. Oct. 19	Harold & Lisa Boehl, Jamie Kocher	Sun. Nov. 16	Elmer, Mary, & John Ochs	Sun. Dec. 21	Harold & Lisa Boehl, Jenny Hancock
Sun. Oct. 26	Elmer, Mary, & John Ochs	Sun. Nov. 23	Harold & Lisa Boehl, Scott Seiler	Sun. Dec. 28	Elmer, Mary, & John Ochs
		Sun. Nov. 30	Gary Zwilling, Jenny Hancock, Jamie Kocher		
Gifts		Gifts		Gifts	
Sun. Oct. 5	Chad & Jenny Hancock Family	Sun. Nov. 2	David Muhs Family	Sun. Dec. 7	Scott Seiler Family
Sun. Oct. 12	Ray Schneider Family	Sun. Nov. 9	Harold & Lisa Boehl	Sun. Dec. 14	John Ochs Family
Sun. Oct. 19	Ellen Steber Family	Sun. Nov. 16	Tom Kocher Family	Sun. Dec. 21	Seaman Family
Sun. Oct. 26	Gary & Dorothy Zwilling	Sun. Nov. 23	Werner & Janette Kocher	Sun. Dec. 28	Jack Weidner Family
		Sun. Nov. 30	Elmer & Mary Ochs		
Ushers		Ushers		Ushers	
Sun. Oct. 5	Jack & Jared Weidner	Sun. Nov. 2	Austin Kuenstler, Grayson Sterchi	Sun. Dec. 7	Ray & Alex Schneider
Sun. Oct. 12	Brian & Mitchell Ochs	Sun. Nov. 9	Carter Seaman, Elmer Ochs	Sun. Dec. 14	Gary & Caden Kocher
Sun. Oct. 19	James Schneider, Tom Kocher	Sun. Nov. 16	Scott & Luke Seiler	Sun. Dec. 21	David Muhs, Werner Kocher
Sun. Oct. 26	Evelyn Volk, Doug Kocher	Sun. Nov. 23	Byron & Isaac Zwilling	Sun. Dec. 28	Ian Kocher, Mallory Kocher
		Sun. Nov. 30	Harold Boehl, Owen Kocher		
Greeters		Greeters		Greeters	
Sun. Oct. 5	Caden Kocher	Sun. Nov. 2	Mallory Kocher	Sun. Dec. 7	Bill Zuber
Sun. Oct. 12	Ralph & Sue McIntire	Sun. Nov. 9	Sam & Mary Zwilling	Sun. Dec. 14	Gary & Beth Kocher Family
Sun. Oct. 19	Natalie Ochs	Sun. Nov. 16	The Seaman Family	Sun. Dec. 21	Werner & Janette Kocher
Sun. Oct. 26	Elmer & Mary Ochs	Sun. Nov. 23	Jean Kocher Family	Sun. Dec. 28	Elmer & Mary Ochs
		Sun. Nov. 30	Doug & Lora Kocher Family		
Children's Liturgy of the Word:		Children's Liturgy of the Word:		Children's Liturgy of the Word:	
Sun. Oct. 5	Madison & Natalie	Sun. Nov. 2	Anita & Anna	Sun. Dec. 7	Jenny & Kylie
Sun. Oct. 12	Donna & Natalie	Sun. Nov. 9	Anne & Kaitlin	Sun. Dec. 14	Laura, Dorothy, & Delana
Sun. Oct. 19	Jenny & Kylie	Sun. Nov. 16	Joselyn & Mallory	Sun. Dec. 21	Anita & Anna
Sun. Oct. 26	Laura, Dorothy, & Delana	Sun. Nov. 23	Madison & Natalie	Sun. Dec. 28	Anne & Kaitlin
		Sun. Nov. 30	Donna & Natalie		

Please Find A Substitute If You Cannot Attend As Scheduled

TRI PARISH NEWS

ST. JOSEPH, OLNEY

Mass times

Wed. & Fri 8:00 am
Sat. 5:00 pm
Sun. 8:00 am

HOLY CROSS, WENDELIN

Mass times

Thurs. 6:30 pm
Sat. 4:00 pm
Sun. 10:00 am

ST. JOSEPH, STRINGTOWN

Mass times

Mon. 6:30 pm
Sun. 8:00 am



✚
**ST. JOSEPH
OLNEY**



✚
**HOLY CROSS
WENDELIN**



✚
**ST. JOSEPH
STRINGTOWN**

AROUND OUR PARISHES

Saturday, November 1st

- 9:00 am, All Saints Mass/First Saturday at Holy Cross.
- Directory photos at Olney 10-4pm.

Sunday, November 2nd

- 7-11:30 am, Stringtown Community Blood Drive.
- 4-6 pm, Stringtown Soup Supper.

Wednesday, November 5th

- 6:30 pm, Family Catechesis All Saints Maze at Holy Cross. There will be smores and a bonfire. Adult gathering afterwards.

Saturday, November 8th

- Candles will be given out at all masses for all third graders as part of the kitchen table catechesis.

Sunday, November 9th

- Candles will be given out at all masses for all third graders as part of the kitchen table catechesis.
- Donuts and coffee social after the 8 am mass in Olney.
- Donuts with Veterans after the 8 am mass in Stringtown.
- 5:30 pm, High School Youth Group at Holy Cross.

Monday, November 10th

- 1:30-5:30 pm, Blood Drive at Holy Cross.
- Directory photos at Holy Cross 1:30-8:36 pm.

Tuesday, November 11th

- Happy Veteran's Day! Thank you to all Veterans!
- Directory photos at Holy Cross 1:30-8:36 pm.

Wednesday, November 12th

- Directory photos at Holy Cross 1:30-8:36 pm.
- 7 pm, Knights of Columbus memorial mass at Olney.

Saturday, November 15th

- 5 pm, CYM mass at Olney.
- 6 pm, Middle School Youth Group at Olney.

Sunday, November 16th

- 6 pm, Young Adults Gathering. Topic and location TBA.

AROUND OUR PARISHES

Monday, November 17th

- Directory photos at Olney 2-8:36.

Tuesday, November 18th

- 6:30pm, Bibles & Brews at HV's in Olney. Topic and speaker TBA.

Friday, November 21st

- 7 pm, CYM dance at Holy Cross.

Saturday, November 22nd

- 5 pm, Middle School Youth Group at Holy Cross.

Sunday, November 23rd

- 5:30 pm, High School Youth Group at Holy Cross.

Monday, November 24th

- Directory photos at Holy Cross 2-8:36 pm.

Thursday, November 27th

- Happy Thanksgiving! Wishing you and yours a very blessed day.

Saturday, November 29th

- 6:30 pm, High School Youth Group movie night at Holy Cross.

Sunday, November 30th

- Gifts of Love for all families of the deceased.

Sisters in Christ

Our new book will be the spiritual classic, **The Reed of God**, the cost is \$15.00. This is an excellent Advent read for those seeking a profound reflection on Mary and how to be open to God's will. We will resume on Tuesday Nov. 4th 10:00 am St. Joseph Stringtown, and 5:00 pm St. Joseph Olney, and Wednesday, November 5th 5:30 p.m. Holy Cross. Kindly respond to the Flocknote and/or text Caroline Trimble Pastoral Associate to confirm a book.

"We shall learn what sort of purpose God has for us. In what way are we to fulfill the work of giving Christ life in us?"



Following in the Footsteps of the Saints Library

Be sure to check out the library and take home a book to read! The libraries are located in the vestibules of the tri-parishes.

Congratulations Kristen!

A heartfelt thank you to Kristen Eagleson for her many years of dedicated service to St. Joseph School and parish. Her commitment and hard work have been a true gift to our community. We wish her a joyful retirement!

Book of Remembrance

During the month of November, we especially remember and pray for those who have passed away. You are welcome to write the names of your deceased loved ones in the Book of Remembrance, which will be located in your parish beginning November 1st.



Family Catechesis Gift of Love

This is for our families who lost a loved one- a parishioner- within the parish this past year. Our hope is that his small token of love will help ease their sadness and bring them comfort this Advent and Christmas season. **Sunday, November 30:** St. Joseph Olney 8:00 am, St. Joseph Stringtown 8:00 am, and Holy Cross 10:00 am.

ADORATION

There must always be at least 2 people in the church

St. Joseph, Stringtown

Prayer service & adoration every Tuesday at 9:30 am.

Holy Cross, Wendelin

Thursdays at 5:30 pm until mass time at 6:30 pm.

St. Joseph, Olney

Every Tuesday from 12-3 pm



St. Joseph in Olney will be collecting gift packed shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child this year. Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse, an international relief organization. Their mission is to provide local partners around the world with shoeboxes filled with small toys, hygiene items, and school supplies as a means of reaching out to children in their own communities with the Good News of Jesus Christ. These boxes will bring joy to many children during the Christmas season. We will be collecting shoeboxes now, until **November 17th**. Shoeboxes will be available in the vestibule (or any shoebox will do). Please drop off packed shoeboxes to the parish office in Olney or leave in the tub in the back of the church. There is also a shipping fee that is needed to ship each box. Please include \$10 in an envelope, along with a label (which can be found on the back table of church) for shipping, or purchase your own shipping label online.

Please join us as we pray, pack, and ship these gifts in the spirit of Christmas!

St. Joseph School News

The annual St. Joseph School Benefit Calendars will be available for purchase the week prior to Thanksgiving! This is one of the most vital fundraisers for our school, and your support directly benefits the students and mission of St. Joseph School. Each calendar costs \$25 and gives you a chance to win cash prizes every single day of the year! That's 365 opportunities to win, making it a great value and a fun way to support the school. The calendars will be available for purchase starting the week prior to Thanksgiving at the St. Joseph School and Parish Offices. Thank you for your support of St. Joseph School! Be sure to pick up your calendars early—they make fantastic Christmas gifts for family and friends.

- 3rd Grade candles at weekend masses, Nov. 8-9th
- No school on November 11, 26, 27, & 28th



"But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him". 1 Corinthians 2:9

ADVENT IN WENDELIN EVENSONG



**DECEMBER 7, 2025
4:00 P.M.**

*A Candlelight Service with Scripture and Organ Music,
with English Advent Hymns,
and Austrian Christmas Music
sung in German by the Kloepfen Singers*

**TRADITION OF
HOLY CROSS WENDELIN**

AUSTRIAN AND GERMAN DESSERTS AFTERWARDS

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Forming Catholics for *Life*.



Diving into the beauty of the Faith has never been easier! Discover small group Bible studies, inspiring children's shows, sacramental preparation resources, family-friendly movies, and more! There is something for every member of the family and your Catholic community to help them grow closer to Jesus Christ and his Church.



Register for a free **Formed** account at signup.formed.org Use Zip Code: 62448

Family Catechesis Schedule of Events

"Following in the Footsteps of Saints"

2025 August

27 Wed. Opening Mass
Holy Cross 6:30 p.m.



Families: You will receive the Family Tote with Family Catechesis Saint Binder, and "Following in the Footsteps of the Saints" items, and Special Blessing for the year.

September

3 Wed. Family Gathering
Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center



Families: Parent meeting, youth activity, Saint presentation and Birthday party for Mary with The Word of Life Workbook, and other "Following in the Footsteps of the Saints" items.

Sacrament Meeting for:
Reconciliation/Confirmation

13-14- Red Plate Blessing for 1st graders

*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder for updates.

October

1 Wed. Family Gathering
Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center



Adults: Presentation

Youth: Activity
Saint presentations and "Following in the Footsteps of the Saints" items.

4-5 Confirmation Commitment Weekend

11-12 Cup Blessing for 2nd graders

30-All Saint-Family Rosary-Trunk n'Treat after Mass

*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder and Sacrament book for check-in.

November

5 Wed. Family Gathering
Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center



Families: All Saint Maze and special Saint presentations, with bonfire and s/mores. Gift of Love information and "Following in the Footsteps of the Saints" items.

8-9 Candle Blessing for 3rd graders
29-30 -Gift of Love Mass Weekend

*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder and Sacrament book for check-in.

December

3 Wed. Family Gathering
Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center



Adults: Presentation

Youth: Activity
Saint presentations, Advent party, and "Following in the Footsteps of the Saints" items.

7 -Advent tradition of "Evensong" at Holy Cross
8 & 11- First Reconciliation

*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder and Sacrament book for check-in.

Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year



2026 January

7 Wed. Family Gathering
Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center



Families: Saint presentations, Three Kings and 12th Night Dinner Party and "Following in the Footsteps of the Saints" items.

*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder and Sacrament book for check-in.

February

4 Wed. Family Gathering
Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center



Adults: Presentation

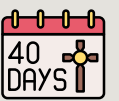
Youth: Activity
Saint presentations and "Following in the Footsteps of the Saints" items.

7-M.C.4.C. Valentine Dinner/Dance at Holy Cross

*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder and Sacrament book for check-in.

March

4 Wed. Ash Wednesday
15- Divine Mercy Book begins



19 -Families: St. Joseph Table tradition with Mass and Dinner at St. Joseph Stringtown Saint presentations and "Following in the Footsteps of the Saints" items.

*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder and Sacrament book for check-in.

April

1 Wed. Family Gathering
Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center



Adults: Presentation

Youth: Activity

Saint presentations and "Following in the Footsteps of the Saints" items.

5 -Easter

12 -Divine Mercy Sunday

(17,18,19)Confirmation at St. Joseph Olney

*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder and Sacrament book for check-in.

May

3 Sun. Holy Cross May Crowning
2-3 First Communion
6 Wed. Closing Family Gathering
Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center



Families: Final Saint presentations, catered meal, and year end video presentation, and "Following in the Footsteps of the Saints" items.

*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder

**"Let us become saints so that
after having been together on
earth, we may be together in
Heaven."**

St. Pio Pietrelcina (Padre Pio)

FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE SAINTS

November 2025



Our November Saints



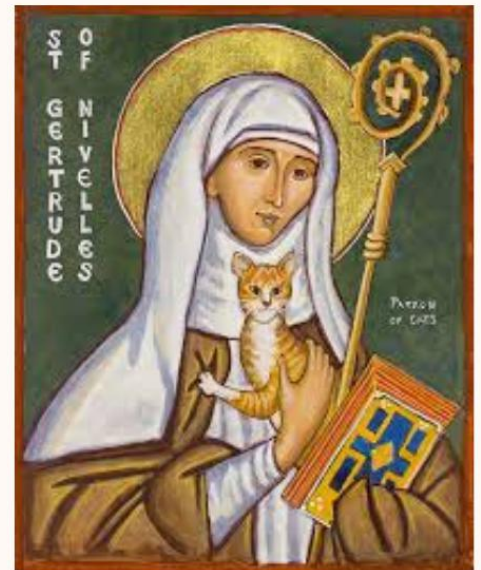
St. Elizabeth of Hungary

A Hungarian princess who became a symbol of Christian charity, known for her work with the poor and sick after becoming a widow. After her marriage to Landgrave Louis IV of Thuringia at age 14, she dedicated herself to charity, inspired by Franciscan ideals. Following Louis's death in 1227, she used her dowry to build a hospital and serve the needy until her own death at 24, after which she was swiftly canonized in 1235. She is revered as the patron saint of nurses, the poor, Catholic charities, and is also associated with bakers and brides.



St. Catherine Laboure

A French nun who in 1830 experienced visions of the Virgin Mary at the Daughters of Charity convent, leading to the creation of the Miraculous Medal. Born in 1806 and dying in 1876, she lived a life of humble service, first as a child caring for her family after her mother's death, and then for 46 years as a Sister of Charity, caring for the elderly and sick. Her body was found incorrupt after her death and is now displayed in Paris.



St. Gertrude the Great

A German Benedictine nun and mystic who became a profound spiritual writer and theological figure. After a transformative mystical vision in 1281, she experienced a deep, personal union with Christ, particularly focusing on the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Awarded the title "the Great" by Pope Benedict XIV for her spiritual depth, she is also known as a patron of the holy souls in purgatory.



Following in the Footsteps of the Saints

The **Catholic Extension Grant** contributed:
Miraculous Medals, Wooden Saint Magnets,
and our Stringtown Team Members made loaves of bread-
(in honor of St. Elizabeth of Hungary).

Let us continue to stay
"Following in the Footsteps of the Saints"

All Saint's Maze this month, was
offered with the support and
assistance of our CYM.
They presented some of our
North American Saints:

Marianne Cope
Kateri Tekakwitha
Mother Theodore Guerin
Rose Philippine Duchesne
Damien of Molokai
Junipero Serra and Issac Jogues

The evening concluded with
S'mores and an Adult Gathering
afterwards with fellowship and fun.

November formed™



ST. JUNÍPERO SERRA A Man of God, A Mission of Love



Gift of Love



Nov 29 Saturday St. Joseph Olney 5:00 pm

Nov 30 Sunday St. Joseph Stringtown 8:00 am
Holy Cross Wendelin 10:00 am

A **Gift of Love** offered by our
Family Catechesis families done in memory of their
loved one who died this past year.

Upcoming December Events **Holy Cross Wendelin**

- 3** Wed. Family Catechesis Gathering 6:30 pm
- 7** **Advent EvenSong** with Family Catechesis
children offering a "Following in the
Footsteps of the Saints" tribute 4:00 pm
- 8** First Reconciliation -Stringtown 6:00 p.m.
- 11** First Reconciliation -Holy Cross 5:30 p.m.

Family Catechesis Pictures



Comments from our families



Goodness where do I start!

I'm learning so much about Saints I've always heard about but never knew their history. Love seeing the priests & other parishioners put them in person for us to hear their stories. Also, I am really enjoying seeing the parishes coming together learning, laughing & praying together as one Body of Christ. Love the joint activity & really want to see more.

I think my favorite Saint so far has been Padre Pio. I loved him before but loved Fr. Levi's interpretation! Thanks for all the hard work!! Great job to all of you!
~Sondra Geiger

From the time I step thru the door till I leave I find Family Catechesis Amazing-Powerful-Spiritual. The binders are especially wonderful. I have learned so much from it. They are packed full of information of the Saints, Prayers, Holy Cards and even recipes. I really like listening about different Saints that have been portrayed by different ones.

The Human Rosary with the lighted candles was beautiful, watching the kids and parents pick up the binders and receiving a special gift each month and especially receiving the statue of Mary was Awesome.

I truly Love everything about Family Catechesis!
~Debbie Workman

I have enjoyed the Saints presentations, the variety of recipes, and the binder itself. Inside the binder is a resource folder which is like a treasure chest filled with awesome activities to share as a family.

My favorite is the word search on the different amazing Saints. I have learned abundantly about the various Saints and the hardships they endured and their perseverance. Each Saint had a zeal for God! They grew spiritually by prayer, service, scripture, and the sacraments. The Saints radiated joy in knowing and serving the Lord. My favorite memory is making meal placemats with the children and then blending our voices together in song singing Happy Birthday to our Blessed Mother at the grotto. Everything has enhanced my personal relationship with my Creator!!
~Elaine Grimes



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Did you know you can help raise money for our school without spending anything extra? When you purchase gift cards through RaiseRight, a portion of every purchase goes right back to St. Joe School — and even helps your family earn money!

🎄 **Perfect Time for the Holidays!** 🎄
Now's a great time to stock up on gift cards for Christmas shopping or holiday giving!
Order early to make sure you have them in time
Last day to order for Christmas delivery is December 15th!



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Every purchase helps our school grow — thank you for your support!
Questions? Contact the school office at 618-395-3081 or office@stjoeolney.com

Saints, Eucharist and the Catholic Faith



*Stringtown Study
The Four Terezas*

**TUESDAY
ST. JOSEPH
STRINGTOWN
10:00AM**

*Sisters in Christ
The Devil in the Castle*

**WEDNESDAY
HOLY CROSS
5:30 PM**

OCIA
*Order of Christian
Initiation of Adults*

INTERESTED IN JOINING THE
CATHOLIC CHURCH OR JUST
WANT MORE INFORMATION?

WE ARE ALWAYS EXCITED TO
WELCOME NEW
MEMBERS/FAMILIES.

MEETINGS WILL BE
STARTING SOON.

CONTACT
FR. STEVEN OR CAROLINE
FOR MORE INFORMATION.



*Olney Study
The Eucharist*

**WEDNESDAY
ST. JOSEPH OLNEY
9:15 AM & 7:00 PM**

*Brother's in Christ
Into the Breach*

**THURSDAY
HOLY CROSS
7:00PM**