ST. JOSEPH - STRINGTOWN

Bulletins

St. Joseph - Stringtown ..... Pages 2-3

St. Joseph - Olney ..... Pages 4-5

Holy Cross – Wendelin ..... Pages 6-7

Kids Bulletin ..... Pages 8-9

Collection Total for November 30, 2025

Envelopes: $1,310.00 (27)
Loose: $142.00
Total: $1,452.00

Building Fund: $20.00 (1)
Catholic Campaign for Human Dev. $10.00 (1)
Weekly Amount Needed: $1,400.00
****

December Bulletins: In Memory of Barbara Ann Ochs by Fred Ochs
December Missalettes: In Memory of Lorraine & Lucille Dallmier and Cletus & Marie Zwilling by Raymond & Theresa Zwilling
**Contact Ashley to schedule for 2026!
****

PARISH EVENTS:

Sunday, December 7 – Donuts with Saint Nicholas at St. Joseph-Stringtown Parish Center, Following 8am Mass.
First Reconciliation for 2nd Graders at St. Joseph-Olney, 2pm.
Advent in Wendelin-Evensong, Holy Cross-Wendelin, 4pm with Refreshments Following in Parish Center.
Monday, December 8 – The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Holy Day of Obligation: 6:30pm at St. Joseph-Stringtown, School Mass at St. Joseph-Olney, 8:00am, 5:00pm St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville,
Directory Photos at Saint Joseph-Stringtown, 2-8:36pm.
First Reconciliation for 2nd Graders at St. Joseph-Stringtown, 6pm.
Young Adults Bible Study at Holy Cross-Wendelin Parish House, 7pm.
Tuesday, December 9 – 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 Saint Joseph-Olney, 5pm.
OCIA at St. Joseph-Olney Conference Room, 6:30pm. Topic: God the Father: Creation, Fall, and Covenant.
Wednesday, December 10 – Holy Cross Parish Office open 9-11am ONLY.
Sister's in Christ at Holy Cross-Wendelin Parish Center, 5:30pm.
Thursday, December 11 – Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at Holy Cross-Wendelin, 5:30pm until 6:30pm Mass.
First Reconciliation for 2nd Graders at Holy Cross-Wendelin, 5:30pm.
Brother's in Christ, Holy Cross-Wendelin, 7pm.
Saturday, December 13 – Candlelight Mass at Sunrise, St. Joseph-Stringtown, 6:15am with Breakfast to Follow in the Parish Center.

CAROLINE TRIMBLE - PASTORAL ASSOCIATE:

Prepare the way of the Lord! The second week of Advent finds us in the midst of planning, preparing, and purchasing. When we hear the words, Prepare the way of the Lord, the planning, preparing, and purchasing, must be different from the seasonal festivities.

The Planning is to set aside time to share conversation with the Lord, to give him time in the day and to keep welcoming him into your life more and more.
The Preparing begins by spending time with God using his Sacred Word, praying your rosary, novena prayers, and to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
The Purchasing, that was done for you long ago at Mount Calvary by Jesus' death upon a cross; you only need to open your heart and receive!

Life a life of Love this Advent preparing your heart and soul for the Lord! Prepare the way of the Lord!

"Christ must be born from every soul, formed in every life. If we had a picture of Our Lady's personality we might be dazzled into thinking that only one sort of person could form Christ in himself, and we should miss the meaning of our own being.
— **Caryll Houselander,** The Reed of God

BAPTISM:

The Sacrament of Baptism represents the first step in a lifelong journey of discipleship. To inquire about a Baptism and to schedule a date, contact Caroline Trimble.

PHOTO DIRECTORY SIGNUPS:

Pictures are Monday, December 8th! If you are interested in making an appointment, please use this link https://form.jotform.com/252643561943158, contact Ashley, or sign up at Mass. Also, if you haven't found a date that works to schedule photos, you can drop a photo by the parish office or send to our parish email stjoestringtown@hotmail.com.

BLOOD DRIVE:

The next Stringtown Community Blood Drive is scheduled for Sunday, January 4, 2026, from 6:30-12 noon. Mark your calendar and go ahead and pre-scheduled your January 4th appointment by clicking below.
https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?order=DATE&range=10&zipSponsor=StringtownCC

CHRISTMAS CHOIR PRACTICE:

Christmas Choir practice will be held Monday, December 8 after Mass; Friday, December 12; Tuesday, December 16; Friday, December 19, and Tuesday, December 23. All practices start at 6:30pm unless otherwise noted.

CANDLELIGHT MASS CHOIR PRACTICE:

Practice will be held this Wednesday, December 10th at 6:30pm at St. Joseph-Stringtown.

ADVENT IN WENDELIN – EVENSONG TONIGHT:

December 7 at 4:00pm – A candlelight song and musical experience followed with delicious Austrian and German desserts. The evening will have familiar traditions and some new additions. Make your Advent plans for this memorable night!

SISTERS IN CHRIST:

The Reed of God - Tuesday, 10am at St. Joseph Stringtown, 5:00pm at Saint Joseph Olney, Wednesday at 5:30pm at Holy Cross-Wendelin. Dec 9/10- Part Four; There will be a pause for the Christmas season and the new study will be shared in the New Year.

LEADING ROSARY:

If anyone is interested in joining the list for leading the Rosary before Sunday Mass, please let me know. I will be making the new schedule for the year 2026. Thank you! - Janette Kocher

STRINGTOWN COMMUNITY CLUB ADOPT-A-FAMILY:

For those that would like to participate, we will need the gifts by December 19th at 3pm at the St. Joseph-Stringtown Parish Center. You can drop off gifts any Tuesday from 9am-2pm or on Thursday from 9am-1pm while Ashley is in the office. For questions, call Kathy Zuber at 618-869-2306.

ST. JOSEPH-OLNEY SCHOOL NEWS:

Cookies with Santa, sponsored by the St. Joe School enrollment committee, will be held in conjunction with the Cookie Walk this year on Sun., Dec. 14 from 9:00-10:30 am. Children from birth to K are invited to have a cookie, make a Christmas craft, and get their picture taken with Santa! **2026 Benefit Calendars are here!** The price is $25. The total payout is $8,450. Calendars are

for sale at the school office, the parish office, or by calling Jeffrey Rosenburg at 618-302-0391.
School Mass on Monday, December 8 (Feast of the Immaculate Conception).
Friday, December 12 – 5th-8th Grade Band Christmas Concert at 3pm in Gym.

OLNEY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:
Sunday, December 7: 5PM, Free Olney Member Family Christmas Dinner at the Olney St. Joseph Multipurpose Center. Santa has scheduled a visit following the meal. **Thursday, December 11:** 3rd Degree meeting, 7PM. **Thursday, December 18:** 4th Degree meeting, 7PM. **Sunday, December 28:** Knight led Rosary before the Olney 8:00 AM Mass.

FORMED.ORG SUBSCRIPTION:
Download the app or go to www.formed.org and enter 62448. **The Week of December 7th Recommendations:** What is the Immaculate Conception?, Guadalupe: The Miracle and the Message, Our Lady of Guadalupe and Saint Juan Diego: Catholic Saints

CSMA 2025 – HOPE IN THE LORD:
Your contribution to the Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal enables the Office of Education to impact the lives of over 9,140 students at 23 Catholic grade schools, three Catholic high schools and in PSR (Parish School of Religion) classes throughout our Belleville Diocese. If you haven't already done so, we prayerfully ask you to consider making a gift to the 2025 Appeal today…no amount is too large or too small! Thank you.

RESPECT LIFE CORNER:
On December 8th, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. (This feast is a holy day of obligation for dioceses in the United States.) On this feast, we celebrate Mary's conception free from the stain of Original Sin, and we recognize that Mary's life began the moment she was conceived in the womb of St. Anne. So, too, does every human life begin at the moment of fertilization: "You formed my inmost being; you knit me in my mother's womb" (Ps 139:13).
Copyright © 2025, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, DC. All rights reserved.

VOCATION CORNER:
Discernment Day of Recollection
All single young men ages 15–35 are invited to a Discernment Day of Recollection on Saturday, December 20, at St. Nicholas Parish in O'Fallon from 9:00 am-2:30 pm. The day will focus on the theme of "Spiritual Sonship and Fatherhood" and includes conferences, Holy Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, time for discussion, and lunch. Please email mskorch@diobelle.org if you have any questions.

QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTION:
It's the giving season! A **qualified charitable distribution** (QCD) allows people over age 70½ to donate to charities - like our parish and school - directly from a taxable IRA instead of taking their required minimum distributions. The tax savings can be very significant. For additional information, please contact your financial representative or tax preparer.

REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS: Rick Rennier, Teresa Zehner, Judy Brown, Brenda Zuber, Valerie Weidner, Steve Zuber, Carolyn Elie, Linda McWhirter

Sunday, December 7, 2025
Second Sunday of Advent
Sunday, December 7, 8:00am at St. Joseph-Stringtown, "Clara Kocher✝"
Monday, December 8, 8:00am at St. Joseph-Olney, 5:00pm at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville, **6:30pm at St. Joseph-Stringtown "For The Parish"**
Tuesday, December 9, 5:00pm at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville
Wednesday, December 10, 8:00am at St. Joseph-Olney, 1:30pm at CRMH 3rd Floor
Thursday, December 11, 6:30pm at Holy Cross-Wendelin
Friday, December 12, 8:00am at St. Joseph-Olney
Saturday, December 13, 9:00am at Holy Cross-Wendelin, 4:00pm at Holy Cross-Wendelin, 5:00pm at St. Joseph-Olney
Sunday, December 14, 8:00am at St. Joseph-Stringtown "Bill & Catherine Zwilling✝" "Alberta Zuber & Judy Zuber✝, 8:00am at St. Joseph-Olney, 10:00am at Holy Cross-Wendelin, 10:00am at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville

12/07/2025	**12/14/2025**
Servers:	**Servers:**
Roland & Silas Sager	Kaitlyn & Haley Ginder
Brady Ochs	Nathaniel Zwilling
Lector:	**Lector:**
Kathy Kocher	Kylie Kocher
EMHC:	**EMHC:**
Gary Kocher	Joselyn Kocher
Beth Kocher	Janette Kocher
Ian Kocher	Owen Kocher
Gifts:	**Gifts:**
Scott Seiler Family	John Ochs Family
Ushers:	**Ushers:**
Ray Schneider	Gary Kocher
Alex Schneider	Caden Kocher
Greeters:	**Greeters:**
Bill Zuber	Gary & Beth Kocher Family
Children's Liturgy:	**Children's Liturgy**:
Jenny & Kylie	Laura, Dorothy, Delana

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**
Website: **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

Reverend Levi James_____Parochial Vicar
Cell_____618-240-3638
E-mail_____levi.jamessiu@gmail.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

Sunday, December 7, 2025
Second Sunday of Advent

✞ *Eucharistic Celebrations* ✞

Mon. Dec. 8	**8:05 am**	***Immaculate Conception***
	6:30 PM	at Stringtown
Tue. Dec. 9	5:00 PM	at Lawrenceville
Wed. Dec. 10	**8:00 am**	***For the Parish***
	1:30 PM	**at Carle 3rd Floor**
Thu. Dec. 11	6:30 PM	at Wendelin
Fri. Dec. 12	**8:00 am**	***For the Parish***

Sat. Dec. 13

6:15 am	at Stringtown
4:00 PM	at Wendelin
5:00 PM	***Nina Burcham***
	Albert, Clara, & Rose Ellen Hahn
	Edmond, Anna, & Linda Volk

Sun. Dec. 14

8:00 am	***Dudley Chamberlin***
	Henry Weiler
	Carl & Una Kocher
8:00 am	at Stringtown
10:00 am	at Wendelin
10:00 am	at Lawrenceville

OUR DECEMBER SPONSORS
Bulletins: Illini Builders – Gassmann Family
Missalettes: Kistler-Patterson Funeral Home

OUR TITHES FOR NOVEMBER 30th
Parish Operating Expense per Week = $9,847.00
Envelopes: $7,598 (99) Loose: $269
Guatemala: $75 (3) C.C.H.D.: $150 (2)
World Missions: $5 (1)

Let Us Pray For: Marilyn McCormick, Elizabeth Ginder, Jim Gassmann, Dolores Hemrich, Clara Rose Wilson, Kenneth Ochs, 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, Tony Tredway, Anita Shultz, Kenneth Hann, and Ruth Zwilling.

Happy Birthday to ***Verneatha Kessler*** who celebrates her 105th birthday on December 14th!

~ *AROUND OUR PARISHES* ~

Saturday, December 6th
- Mass for ***Donald Kocher, Linda Volk,*** and ***Joseph, Jean, & Norman Zwilling.***
- 6:00 PM, Middle School Youth Group, Olney.

Sunday, December 7th
- Mass for ***Eleanor Steber, Clarence Bridgeman,*** and ***Albert, Rose Ann, & Thomas Fuller.***
- Children's liturgy at 8 am mass. All students in grades K-3 are welcome to attend.
- Treat your family to **donuts and coffee** after the 8 am mass at St. Joseph, Olney in the MPR. Don't miss these yummy donuts and fellowship!
- 9:00 am, Donuts with St. Nick at Stringtown.
- 2:00 PM, First Reconciliation for 2nd graders.
- 4:00 PM, **Evensong at Holy Cross**. Join us for a candlelight service of scripture with elegant organ music of English and Austrian Music sung in German by the Wendelin Kloepfen Singers. This is a tradition of Holy Cross started by the late Fr. Braun. There will be an Austrian/Bavarian Dessert celebration afterwards. Make this a must for your Advent Season.
- 5 PM, K of C member Christmas dinner in MPR.

Tuesday, December 9th
- 12:00-3:00 PM, Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Olney. There must always be 2 people in the church.
- **1:30-6 PM, Blood Drive in Cafeteria**. For an appointment call 1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org.
- 2:00-8:30 PM, Directory photos in MPR.
- 5 PM, Sisters in Christ meet in conference room.
- 6:30 PM, meeting for OCIA members in the conference room at St. Joseph, Olney. Topic: God the Father: Creation, Fall, and Covenant.

Wednesday, December 10th
- Mass for the parish, no school mass.
- Praying the rosary after mass, Olney.
- 12 noon, Bulletin deadline.
- 1:30 PM, mass at Carle 3rd Floor.

Thursday, December 11th
- Church office open!
- 5:30 PM, First Reconciliation at Holy Cross.

Friday, December 12th
- Church office closed!
- 6 PM, Young Adult Gathering

Saturday, December 13th
- 6:15 am, Candlelight mass at Stringtown.
- 4-6 PM, Annual Cookie Walk in the MPR.

Sunday, December 14th
- 8-10 am, Annual Cookie Walk in the MPR.
- **9-10:30 am, Cookies with Santa**, sponsored by the St. Joseph School enrollment committee, will be held in conjunction with the Cookie Walk this year. Children from birth to kindergarten are invited to have a cookie, make a Christmas craft, and get their picture taken with Santa!

Candlelight Mass at Sunrise

St. Joseph, Stringtown
6:15 am
Saturday, December 13th
With traditional Advent music by
Lucas Rauch & Co.

Breakfast to follow mass.

St. Joseph School News

- School Mass on Monday, December 8 (Feast of the Immaculate Conception).
- 5th-8th Grade Band Christmas Concert- Friday, December 12 at 3pm in gym
- **2026 Benefit Calendars are here!** The price is $25. The total payout is $8,450. Calendars are for sale at the school office, the parish office, or by calling Jeffrey Rosenburg at 618-302-0391.
- It's the giving season! A **qualified charitable distribution** (QCD) allows people over age 70½ to donate to charities - like our parish and school - directly from a taxable IRA instead of taking their required minimum distributions. The tax savings can be very significant. For additional information, please contact your financial representative or tax preparer.

CALENDAR WINNERS - $25
Dec. 1: Gary Fehrenbacher (#410)
Dec. 2: Jerry & Darlene Richardson (#341)
Dec. 3: Lucia Ruth (#362)
Dec. 4: Cody Bojer (#502)
Dec. 5: Jerry Dunn (#210)

~ *PARISH NEWS* ~

- **Volunteers Needed!** Lectors, servers, cross-bearers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHC), ushers and gift-bearers are needed for the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses. The sign-up sheet is in the vestibule. Please volunteer to help at the Mass you plan to attend.
- **Christmas Flower Memorials**: Please use the envelope labeled 'Christmas Flower Offering' included in your December packet. Proceeds from this collection will be used to purchase the flowers to decorate our church. On the reverse side of the envelope, please print clearly the person the memorial is for. A list of the memorials will be published at a later date.
- **The annual Cookie Walk** will be held on December 13 and 14 after each Mass in the multi-purpose room. You can either pick your own homemade cookies for $15 or purchase a tray pre-packaged with homemade cookies for $25. We will be requesting cookie donations, and the cookies can be dropped off on December 12 in the multi-purpose room during school hours and on December 13 between 8 AM and 10 AM. If you have any questions, please contact Sara Peavler (618-599-5963).
- **Reminder** to please pick up funeral dishes in the hallway by the MPR.
- We are now accepting **mass intentions** through March 30, 2026. We can accept up to three Mass offerings per mass. Call or stop by the parish office to select the dates you need.
- **Directory photos** are still taking place. Please call the parish office if you need an appointment.

2 opportunities for gift giving this Christmas

- **Adopt-a-Family:** This year St. Joseph Church will adopt 2 local families. The gift labels reflect the requests from the families. To participate: 1. Select an ornament from one of the baskets by the doors of the church. 2. Purchase and wrap the gift - put the label on the wrapped package. 3. Place your gift under the tree and the ornament on the tree in the church foyer. Household cleaning supplies, toiletries and grooming products, as well as food(staples and Christmas dinner items) are always appreciated. The gifts will be delivered to Trinity Lutheran Church on **Friday, December 19**, by a volunteer from Adopt - a Family to deliver to the families. ***Thank you for your kindness and generosity in sharing the spirit of Christmas this season with others in Richland County.***
- **Catholic Relief Services:** One way to support our brothers and sisters around the world is to participate in the CRS gift tag program - providing resources to help those in need build a better life. You can choose an ornament that reflects the resource you want to provide (farm animals, back to school kit, fertilizer, etc.), write out your check to Catholic Relief Services, and place it in the collection at the next mass you attend. Directions are also on the ornaments.

~ KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS ~

- **Sunday, Dec. 7th at 5:00 pm,** Member Family Christmas Dinner in the MPR. Santa has scheduled a visit following the meal.
- **Thurs. Dec. 11th:** 3rd degree meeting at 7PM.
- **Thurs. Dec. 18th:** 4th degree meeting at 7PM.
- **Sun. Dec. 28th:** Knight led Rosary before the 8 am mass at Olney.
- **Kudos** to Keeping Christ in Christmas Knights of Columbus Poster Contest out of 263 participants! 1st place winners: Remi Miller, Vella Kuenstler, Ryker Sterchi, Tatum Pottorff & Cohen Rennier. 2nd Place: Yzabella Biyok, Meira Cotterell, Brooklyn VanBlaricum, Remi Hancock & Jagger Cecil. 3rd place: Landree Nelson, Amity Zuber, Wakely Miller, Lydia Weidner & Isla Stanley. 4th place: Camden Blank, Delana Sterchi, Joe Cummins, Georgia Kapper, & Clair Gibson. 5th place; Chesney Scheutz, Emmitt Kocher, Kloe Williams, Olivia Han & Chandler Davis. First place winners qualify to advance their posters to the Belleville Chapter Competition with winners published in the Messenger after Christmas. Cash prizes were award to the winners in this order; $12, $8, $5, and two dollar bills for 4th and 5th place. First place winners receive a certificate and everyone receives a participant certificate.

Discernment Day of Recollection

All single young men ages 15–35 are invited to a Discernment Day of Recollection on Saturday, December 20, at St. Nicholas Parish in O'Fallon. The day will focus on the theme of "Spiritual Sonship and Fatherhood" and includes conferences, Holy Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, time for discussion, and lunch. Please email mskorch@diobelle.org if you have any questions.

Journey Onward Ye Sojourners

Caroline Trimble Pastoral Associate

Prepare the way of the Lord! The second week of Advent finds us in the midst of planning, preparing, and purchasing. When we hear the words, Prepare the way of the Lord, the planning, preparing, and purchasing, must be different from the seasonal festivities. *The Planning is to set aside time to share conversation with the Lord, to give him time in the day and to keep welcoming him into your life more and more. The Preparing begins by spending time with God using his Sacred Word, praying your rosary, novena prayers, and to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The Purchasing, that was done for you long ago at Mount Calvary by Jesus' death upon a cross; you only need to open your heart and receive!* Life a life of Love this Advent preparing your heart and soul for the Lord! Prepare the way of the Lord!

"Christ must be born from every soul, formed in every life. If we had a picture of Our Lady's personality we might be dazzled into thinking that only one sort of person could form Christ in himself, and we should miss the meaning of our own being.

— Caryll Houselander, The Reed of God

St. Joseph Church

208 South Elliott St.
Olney, Illinois 62450

✞

Sunday, December 7, 2025

Second Sunday of Advent

~ St. Joseph Church ~

Website .....www.stjosephchurcholney.com

Very Rev. Steven L. Beatty..... Pastor
Fr. Steven's Cell.....618-697-2632
E-mail.....frsteven.beatty@gmail.com

Reverend Levi James ..... Parochial Vicar
Fr. Levi's Cell.....618-240-3638
E-mail..... levi.jamessiu@gmail.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
E-mail..... ttimm@stjoeolney.com

Casey Hemrich ..... Administrative Assistant
Parish Office.....618-392-8181
E-mail.....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:
Monday 8:05 am
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

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

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
Website ..... 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)*.

December 7, 2025
Second Sunday of Advent

✝Eucharistic Celebrations✝

Saturday, December 6, 9:00am at Holy Cross-Wendelin "For The Parish", 4:00pm at Holy Cross-Wendelin "Sharon Correll✝" 5:00pm at St. Joseph-Olney**,** 5:00pm at St. Joseph-Olney
Sunday, December 7, "Glen & Alberta Smithenry✝", "Jerry Kessler and Clem & Agnes Bierman✝" "Devin Deisher and Ivan & Mary Weber✝", 8:00am at St. Joseph-Stringtown**;** 8:00am at St. Joseph-Olney; 10:00am at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville
Monday, December 8, 8:05am at St. Joseph-Olney, 5:00pm at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville, 6:30pm at St. Joseph-Stringtown
Tuesday, December 9, 5:00pm at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville
Wednesday, December 10, 8:00am at St. Joseph-Olney; 1:30pm at CRMH 3rd Floor
Thursday, December 11, 6:30pm at Holy Cross-Wendelin "David Parisot✝"
Friday, December 12, 8:00 at St. Joseph-Olney
Saturday, December 13, 6:15am at Saint Joseph-Stringtown, **4:00pm at Holy Cross-Wendelin "Harold & Rose Marie Buerster and Robert N. & Bernadette Kocher✝",** 5:00pm at St. Joseph-Olney**,** 5:00pm at St. Joseph-Olney
Sunday, December 14, 10:00am at Holy Cross-Wendelin "Lowell & Hermina Buerster✝ "Paul & Mary Kessler and Jerry Mix", 8:00am at St. Joseph-Stringtown**;** 8:00am at St. Joseph-Olney; 10:00am at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville

December Bulletins: ***In Memory of Harold & Kathryn Fehrenbacher***
December Missalettes:
Kuhl's Trailer Sales

BULLETIN & MISSALETTE SPONSORS:
To schedule, contact Ashley**. Price to sponsor for a month is $100 for bulletins and $100 for missalettes.**

DECEMBER LITURGICAL MINISTERS

SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Open/Lock/Greet:	**Open/Lock/Greet:**
Holly Nettleton	Cindy Blank
EMHC:	**EMHC:**
Jeannie Nix	Jason Warfel
Kathy Kuenstler	Sandi Kessler
Celia Rudolphi	Ginny Zwilling
Sherry Geier	Penni Kuenstler
Lectors:	**Lectors:**
Jennifer Rudolphi	Marge Kessler

Money Counters:
Tony & Penni Kuenstler

Ushers:	**Ushers:**
Dave Rudolphi	Dusty Smithenry
Mark Rudolphi	Austin Zwilling
Kelly Geier	Eric Sandschafer
Hank Weidner	Jim Rauch

Mass Servers:
Sat. December 6 – Hank, Clara, & Boyd Weidner
Sun. December 7 – Alex Street, Cora & Stella Warfel
Sat. December 13 – Ellee Bare, Kaleb & Kelby Iffert
Sun. December 14 – Lane Smithenry, Brooke & Braden Weidner

CRMH Communion:
December 14 – Ellen Weber
December 21 – Lynn Weidner

Children's Liturgy of the Word:
December 7 – Alli Kirts & Nora Street
December 14 – Nicki Himelick & Kinley Workman
December 21 – Melissa & Brooke Weidner
December 28 – Gracey Himelick & Hope Zuber

SUNDAY COLLECTION – Sunday, November 30, 2025 (69) Envelope Collection: $2,378.00 Loose: $331.00 – **Total: $2,709.00,** (4) Building: $315.00, (3) Campaign for Human Development: $50.00, (5) Christmas Flowers: $115.00, (1) Cemetery: $25.00

HOLY CROSS REBUILD & IMPROVEMENT UPDATE:
As of Wednesday, December 3rd – **$282,898.57** has been received from 403 donations – thank you!

REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:
Mary Beth Scherer, Gerry Carter, Terry Tolliver, Wesley Frohning, Wilmajean Geier, Cindy Henson (Daughter of Dean Klingler), Lee Patridge, Valerie Weidner, Tonya Hall, Virginia Blank, Chase Zumbahlen, Dana Kuhl-Bell, Stacy Kessler, Eleanor Buerster

PARISH EVENTS:
Saturday, December 6 – First Saturday at Holy Cross-Wendelin, 9:00am with Confession beginning at 8:15am.
Middle School Youth Group, St. Joseph-Olney, Following 5pm Mass.
Sunday, December 7 – First Reconciliation for 2nd Graders at St. Joseph-Olney, 2pm.
Advent in Wendelin-Evensong, Holy Cross-Wendelin, 4pm with Refreshments Following in Parish Center.
Monday, December 8 – The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Holy Day of Obligation: School Mass at St. Joseph-Olney, 8:00am, 5:00pm St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville, and 6:30pm at St. Joseph-Stringtown
First Reconciliation for 2nd Graders at St. Joseph-Stringtown, 6pm.
Young Adults Bible Study at Holy Cross-Wendelin Parish House, 7pm.
Tuesday, December 9 – 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 Saint Joseph-Olney, 5pm.
OCIA at St. Joseph-Olney Conference Room, 6:30pm. Topic: God the Father: Creation, Fall, and Covenant.
Wednesday, December 10 – Holy Cross Parish Office open 9-11am ONLY.
Sister's in Christ at Holy Cross-Wendelin Parish Center, 5:30pm.
Thursday, December 11 – Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at Holy Cross-Wendelin, 5:30pm until 6:30pm Mass.
First Reconciliation for 2nd Graders at Holy Cross-Wendelin, 5:30pm.
Brother's in Christ, Holy Cross-Wendelin, 7pm.
Saturday, December 13 – Candlelight Mass at Sunrise, St. Joseph-Stringtown, 6:15am with Breakfast to Follow in the Parish Center.

WALKING IN PARISH CENTER:
The Holy Cross Parish Center will be open on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 9-11am for walking. Please note, if office is closed for the day, there will **NOT** be walking that date. Keep an eye on bulletin updates. Thank you!

ADVENT IN WENDELIN – EVENSONG:

This Sunday, December 7 at 4:00pm – A candlelight song and musical experience followed with delicious Austrian and German desserts. The evening will have familiar traditions and some new additions. Make your Advent plans for this memorable night! Hope to see you there!

MASS MINISTRIES FOR CHRISTMAS:
Please sign up for Mass Ministries for Midnight Mass and 10am Mass on Christmas Day at Holy Cross. Sign up in the vestibule or by contacting Ashley.

CAROLINE TRIMBLE, PASTORAL ASSOCIATE:
Prepare the way of the Lord! The second week of Advent finds us in the midst of planning, preparing, and purchasing. When we hear the words, Prepare the way of the Lord, the planning, preparing, and purchasing, must be different from the seasonal festivities.

The Planning is to set aside time to share conversation with the Lord, to give him time in the day and to keep welcoming him into your life more and more.

The Preparing begins by spending time with God using his Sacred Word, praying your rosary, novena prayers, and to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

The Purchasing, that was done for you long ago at Mount Calvary by Jesus' death upon a cross; you only need to open your heart and receive!

Life a life of Love this Advent preparing your heart and soul for the Lord! Prepare the way of the Lord! *"Christ must be born from every soul, formed in every life. If we had a picture of Our Lady's personality we might be dazzled into thinking that only one sort of person could form Christ in himself, and we should miss the meaning of our own being. —* **Caryll Houselander,** The Reed of God

SISTERS IN CHRIST:
The Reed of God - Tuesday, 10am at St. Joseph Stringtown, 5:00pm at Saint Joseph Olney, Wednesday at 5:30pm at Holy Cross-Wendelin. Dec 9/10- Part Four; There will be a pause for the Christmas season and the new study will be shared in the New Year.

PEW ENDS:
If you'd like to purchase a pew end, please contact Brian Brummer at 618-783-7103, visit 103 South Jack Street in Newton, or email info@brummerscc.com. Brian can also be contacted on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/brummerscabinetscustoms.

LADIES ALTAR SODALITY CAKE/CRAFT DRAWING:
There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in vestibule if you are interested in donating a cake/craft item. You can also contact a Ladies Altar Sodality Member or the Parish Office to sign up.

FORMED.ORG SUBSCRIPTION:
Download the app or go to www.formed.org and enter 62448. **The Week of December 7th Recommendations:** What is the Immaculate Conception?, Guadalupe: The Miracle and the Message, Our Lady of Guadalupe and Saint Juan Diego: Catholic Saints

ST. JOSEPH OLNEY SCHOOL NEWS:
Cookies with Santa, sponsored by the St. Joe School enrollment committee, will be held in conjunction with the Cookie Walk this year on Sun., Dec. 14 from 9:00-10:30 am. Children from birth to K are invited to have a cookie, make a Christmas craft, and get their picture taken with Santa! **2026 Benefit Calendars are here!** The price is $25. The total payout is $8,450. Calendars are for sale at the school office, the parish office, or by calling Jeffrey Rosenburg at 618-302-0391.
School Mass on Monday, December 8 (Feast of the Immaculate Conception).
Friday, December 12 – 5th-8th Grade Band Christmas Concert at 3pm in Gym.

OLNEY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:
Sunday, December 7: 5PM, Free Olney Member Family Christmas Dinner at the Olney St. Joseph Multipurpose Center. Santa has scheduled a visit following the meal. **Thursday, December 11:** 3rd Degree meeting, 7PM. **Thursday, December 18:** 4th Degree meeting, 7PM. **Sunday, December 28:** Knight led Rosary before the Olney 8:00 AM Mass.

VOCATION CORNER:
Discernment Day of Recollection
All single young men ages 15–35 are invited to a Discernment Day of Recollection on Saturday, December 20, at St. Nicholas Parish in O'Fallon from 9:00 am-2:30 pm. The day will focus on the theme of "Spiritual Sonship and Fatherhood" and includes conferences, Holy Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, time for discussion, and lunch. Please email mskorch@diobelle.org if you have any questions.

PHOTO DIRECTORY SIGNUPS:
There are times available on Tuesday, December 16th. Photos will be from 2pm-8:36pm. Call/text Ashley to sign up!

RESPECT LIFE CORNER:
On December 8th, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. (This feast is a holy day of obligation for dioceses in the United States.) On this feast, we celebrate Mary's conception free from the stain of Original Sin, and we recognize that Mary's life began the moment she was conceived in the womb of St. Anne. So, too, does every human life begin at the moment of fertilization: "You formed my inmost being; you knit me in my mother's womb" (Ps 139:13).
Copyright © 2025, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, DC. All rights reserved.

QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTION:
It's the giving season! A **qualified charitable distribution** (QCD) allows people over age 70½ to donate to charities - like our parish and school - directly from a taxable IRA instead of taking their required minimum distributions. The tax savings can be very significant. For additional information, please contact your financial representative or tax preparer.

Sunday, December 7, 2025
Second Sunday of Advent

O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

Holy Cross Parish in Wendelin
5782 Ingraham Lane, Newton, IL 62448
Website - - www.holycrosswendelin.com
Parish E-mail: 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
****Reverend Levi James – Parochial Vicar**
Fr. Levi: 618-240-3638, levi.jamessiu@gmail.com
****Caroline Trimble – Pastoral Associate**
Caroline: 618-263-7106, ctrimblePA@gmail.com
****Ashley Hinterscher – Administrative Assistant**
Ashley: 618-843-1892, creholycross@gmail.com
****Tyler Timm – Youth Minister**
Tyler: 507-530-2911; ttimm@stjoeolney.com
Trustees: Carl Will & Kasey Iffert; Pastoral Council: Tony Kuenstler-Chair; Kevin Blank-Vice-Chair; Cindy Blank, Sharon Edwards, Kelly Geier, Tammy Rudolphi, Holly Nettleton, Dusty Smithenry

The Immaculate Conception

Tomorrow we will be celebrating the Immaculate Conception of Our Blessed Mother. The words "Immaculate Conception" mean that she had no sin on her soul, not even original sin, from the first moment her life began!

Why do you think God saved Mary from all sin? He wanted her to be the perfect mother for His Son Jesus. If you could make your own mother wouldn't you make her perfect too?

Mary is also a model to all people of how to live a good Christian life and to serve God as best we can. We should thank God for giving us such a beautiful example in His holy Mother. We should pray to Mary every day and ask her to help us love her Son Jesus more. Can you say an extra 'Hail Mary' on Our Lady's feast day?

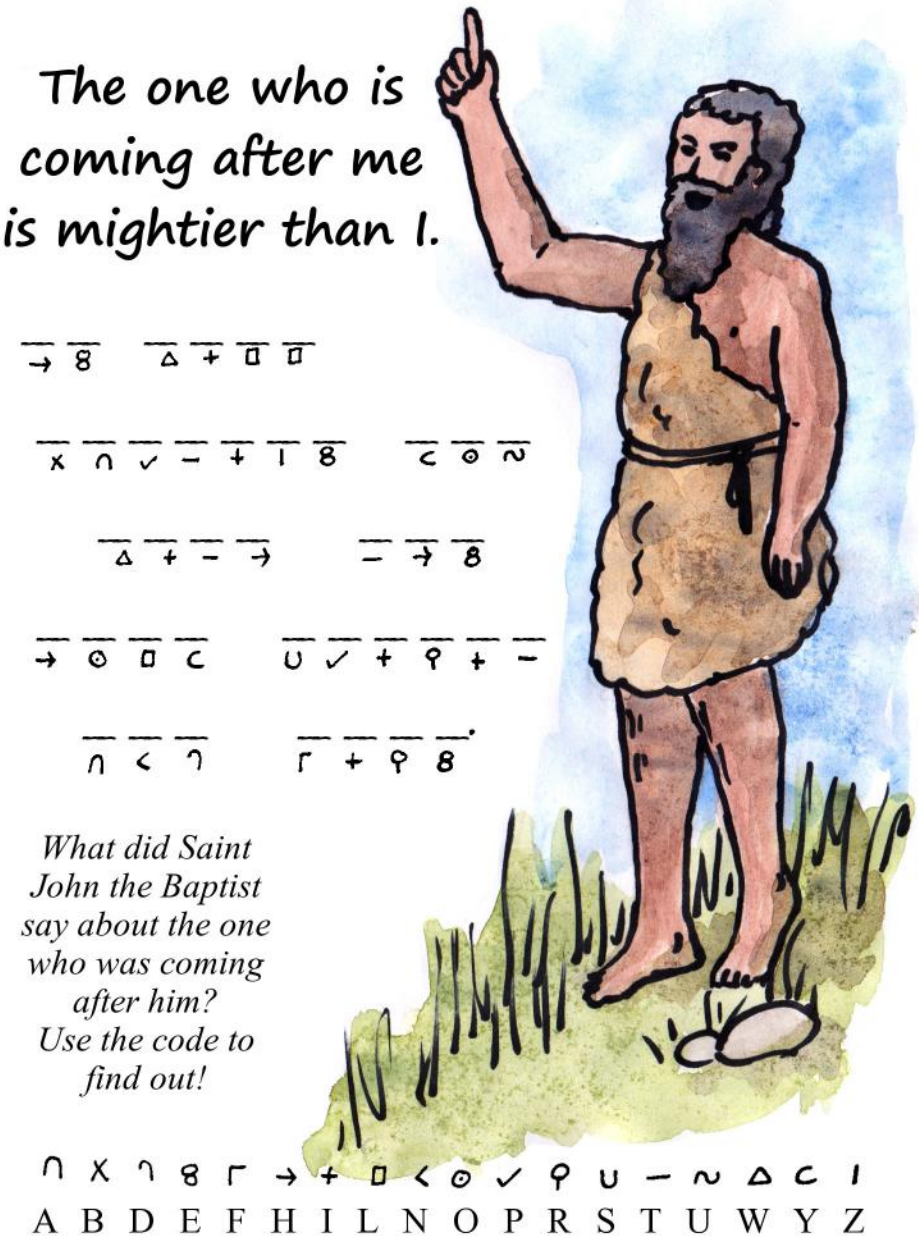
Answer to puzzle on front: He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. Answer to "Peace Among Animals" puzzle: lamb, leopard, calf, bear, lion, baby.

www.thekidsbulletin.com

The Kids' Bulletin

Second Sunday of Advent
December 7th, 2025

The one who is coming after me is mightier than I.



What did Saint John the Baptist say about the one who was coming after him? Use the code to find out!

A B D E F H I L N O P R S T U W Y Z

SAINT AMBROSE
DECEMBER 7

SAINT AMBROSE WAS ALSO THE TEACHER OF SAINT AUGUSTINE. HE WAS VERY GOOD AT KEEPING PEOPLE AT PEACE WITH EACH OTHER. HE STOPPED ARMIES FROM ATTACKING, AND KEPT THE CHRISTIANS AND HERETICS FROM FIGHTING AS WELL. WHAT CAN YOU DO TO KEEP PEACE IN YOUR FAMILY AND SCHOOL?

thekidsbulletin@gmail.com

Peace Among the Animals

In today's first reading, the prophet describes peace between animals and people in God's kingdom. Can you figure out which animals (or people) go with which?
Clue: the pictures might help!

Then the wolf shall be a guest
of the __ __ __ __,
and the __ __ __ __ __ __ __
shall lie down with the kid;
the __ __ __ __ and the young lion
shall browse together,
with a little child to guide them.
The cow and the __ __ __ __
shall be neighbors,
together their young shall rest;
the __ __ __ __ shall eat hay like the ox.
The __ __ __ __ shall play
by the cobra's den,

baby **leopard**
calf **bear**
lamb **lion**