

Collection Total for November 24, 2024

Envelopes: \$1,131.50 (33)
Loose: \$32.00
Total: \$1,163.50

Weekly Amount Needed: \$1,400.00

Building Fund: \$20.00 (1)

Catholic Camp. For Human Develop.: \$105.00 (2)

December Bulletins: In Memory of Barbara Ann Ochs

December Missalettes: For the Parish

PARISH EVENTS:

Sunday, December 1 – Server Training at St.

Joseph-Stringtown, Following 8am Mass

First Reconciliation at St. Joseph-Olney at 1pm.

Reconciliation will be open for other parishioners after 2nd graders are finished.

Monday, December 2 – First Reconciliation at St.

Joseph-Stringtown, 6pm

Tuesday, December 3 – ASAP Prayer Service and Adoration at St. Joseph-Stringtown, 9:30am

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

OCIA, St. Joseph-Olney, 6pm

Wednesday, December 4 – Family Catechesis at

Holy Cross Wendelin, 6:30pm, Family Topic:

Advent Practices and Jesse Tree – St. Nick Party:

Sacrament Check-ins and Bring Gift of Love Packages!

Thursday, December 5 – First Reconciliation at
Holy Cross-Wendelin, 6pm

Friday, December 6 – St. Nicholas Feast Day!

Sunday, December 8 – Family Catechesis *Gifts of LOVE* Gifts Shared at ALL PARISH Sunday Morning Masses!

Donuts with Santa, St. Joseph-Stringtown Parish Center, Following 8am Mass

BROTHERS IN CHRIST:

Thursdays at 7:00pm at Holy Cross-Wendelin

CAROLINE TRIMBLE - PASTORAL ASSOCIATE:

Be Watchful! Be Alert! This is the first Sunday of Advent and we must be watchful and alert to the signal graces of Hope, Love, Joy, and Peace. The season of Advent offers the opportunity to spiritually renew, enjoy the simpler things, and awaken the wonder and awe of Mary, Joseph and Jesus.

Strive to begin and end your day in prayer, pick up an Advent devotional, listen to a Catholic podcast, sit in silence, extend kindness and share the beauty of the season.

Say a prayer and light one purple candle on your Advent wreath for Hope! Let us live this new liturgical year, a Jubilee year, embracing the theme: “Pilgrims of Hope.” Our Lady of Fatima, pray for us!

BLOOD DRIVE:

The next Stringtown Community Blood Drive is scheduled for Sunday, January 5, 2025, from 7-11:30 a.m. Mark your calendar and schedule an appointment online today!

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/donation-time>

CHRISTMAS CHOIR PRACTICE:

Christmas Choir Practices will be held at 7pm on the following dates: Sunday, December 1, Wednesday, Dec 11, Friday, December 13, Thursday, December 19, and Sunday, Dec 22. All are welcome to join!

ADVENT:

Advent always begins on the Sunday closest to November 30th, the feast day of St. Andrew the Apostle. St. Andrew Christmas Novena which is traditionally prayed from the feast of St. Andrew (November 30th) until Christmas Eve (December 24th).

Prayer is an *essential* part of Advent. Reciting this special novena prayer each day is a simple yet beautiful way to celebrate the spiritual significance of the Advent season and to experience a deeper

conversion to the heart of Jesus. *It is piously believed that whoever recites the St. Andrew Christmas Novena Prayer FIFTEEN times each day will obtain the favor requested.*

Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in piercing cold. In that hour vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires through the merits of Our Savior Jesus Christ, and of His blessed Mother. Amen.

STRINGTOWN COMMUNITY CLUB MEMBERS:

The Adopt-A-Family information will be in the back of church. It will also be posted on Facebook. There will be a sign-up sheet for you to list the person you want to buy for. If any questions, call Kathy Zuber, 618-869-2306 or Robbie Ginder, 618-843-1742. You can also sign up on Facebook.

SERVER TRAINING:

There will be server training after Sunday Mass on December 1st. All school children age 4th grade through freshman in high school are asked to attend. High school and adults welcome to attend, as well! Servers will be trained to ring bells at Consecration time so it is important that everyone attend. Any questions, call Janette Kocher 618-843-1650.

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS BOOKS:

Be sure to grab your Little Blue Book this weekend in the back of church. This Little Book will help you devote some minutes to prayer during the Advent and Christmas season.

GIFT OF LOVE:

A token of love offered in memory of a Loved one who died this past year. A gift will be shared on December 8, at all the Masses.

The Family Catechesis families have provided this token of love for your family to share during the Advent and Christmas season. If you are unable to be there to receive your Gift of Love, you can pick it up at the parish office. Our continued prayers for you and your families during this time of year.

YOUNG ADULTS:

Bible Study at the Holy Cross Parish House on Monday's at 7pm.

SISTERS IN CHRIST:

Join us this Advent for a 4-week journey of *Encountering Emmanuel*. Embark on a transformative journey this Advent with Heather Khym, cohost of the *Abiding Together* podcast, in *Encountering Emmanuel*. Each day will show you a unique way God can come into your life, including the following:

- *he comes in the darkness*
- *he comes to set us free*
- *he comes to awaken us from slumber*
- *he comes as a helpless child*
- *he comes as a gift to the world*
- *he comes as a person with a face*
- *he comes to be our food*

God will not force—love never does—but he asks, and we have a choice. Will you open wide your heart to the Savior and give your fiat as Mary did? Come and Encounter Emmanuel this Advent, the book cost is \$8.00.

Tuesday morning: St. Joseph Stringtown 10:00 am
Wednesday evening: Holy Cross Wendelin 5:30 pm
Contact Kristi Sandschafer, Janette Kocher or Caroline Trimble Pastoral Associate for more information.

ST. JOSEPH OLNEY SCHOOL NEWS:

Monday, December 9- School Mass- Feast of the Immaculate Conception
(No school Mass on Wednesday, December 11)

OLNEY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:

December 1st: Knights of Columbus Christmas Dinner at 5 PM. All knights and their families are welcome to attend. Santa will be there around 5:45pm.

December 12th – 3rd Degree Meeting at 7pm.

December 19th – 4th Degree Meeting at 7pm.

CYM RADA FUNDRAISER:

Please consider ordering and supporting our CYM members and families as they raise money to go on mission trip! They work so hard to fundraise all year for this trip. Catalogs are available in the back of church for anyone interested. Orders are due December 1st and can be turned into the parish offices, given to a CYM member, or Tyler Timm. You can also order from this link but will be required to pay tax and shipping if ordering online. You will not be required to pay tax and shipping if ordering through the office or CYM member. Orders will be delivered December 21-22nd. Thanks for your continued support of our CYM! Checks can be made payable to Holy Cross CYM. If you any questions, please reach out to Tyler or the Parish Office.

<https://radafundraising.com/?rfsn=6184508.e1a053>

ST. JOSEPH-OLNEY BIBLE STUDY:

Wednesdays at 9:15 AM, Room B. Deacon Jack will take you through the readings for the Second Sunday of Advent. John's Gospel centers on announcing the ministry of John the Baptist and we'll learn about his message to repent. He proclaimed forgiveness of sins and, basically, how we should be willing to seek and to ask for forgiveness of sins. This will be an important Bible Study.

RESPECT LIFE CORNER:

ASSISTED SUICIDE INCENTIVIZES DENYING TREATMENT Insurance companies have turned down coverage for cancer treatment but offered to pay for suicide drugs instead. Furthermore, the

disabled community already faces demoralization and oppression in seeking adequate medical care. Assisted suicide encourages this kind of prejudice. Access Living, Progress Center for Independent Living and the National Council on Disability oppose assisted suicide. People need quality medical care and treatment, not assisted suicide. Tell your state legislators to **Vote NO on SB 3499-**assisted suicide. Visit www.ilcatholic.org for additional information and resources.

2024 CATHOLIC SERVICE & MINISTRY APPEAL:

Serve the Lord with gladness -Psalm 100
Your contribution to The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal enables the Office of Education to impact the lives of over 11,128 students at 25 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 2024 Appeal today...no amount is too large or too small! Thank you.



Gary Zwilling pictured with Bishop Michael McGovern, Father Michaelsami Arockiam (Assistant Director of Deacon Formation) and Deacon Levi James, as well as other Deacon Candidates at the Rite of Admission to Candidacy for Deacons during Mass at the Cathedral of St. Peter on November 9, 2024.

Remember In Our Prayers – Rick Rennie, Teresa Zehner, Luke G. Kocher, Judy Brown

Sunday, December 1, 2024

First Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 1, 8:00am at St. Joseph-Stringtown “Norman, Neil, & Dorothy Kocher+” “Elmer & Elfrieda Zwilling+”

Monday, December 2, 6:30pm at St. Joseph-Stringtown “Herman, Ethel, and Kathleen Zwilling+”

Tuesday, December 3, 5:00pm at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville

Wednesday, December 4, 8:05am at St. Joseph-Olney

Thursday, December 5, 6:30 at Holy Cross-Wendelin

Friday, December 6, 8:00am at St. Joseph-Olney

Saturday, December 7, 9:00am at Holy Cross-Wendelin, 4:00pm at Holy Cross-Wendelin; 5:00pm at St. Joseph-Olney

Sunday, December 8, 8:00am at St. Joseph-Stringtown “Joseph Schneider+” “Bob & Francella Dhom+” “Mary & Holly Kocher+” “Nadine Zwilling+” 8:00am at St. Joseph-Olney; 10:00am at Holy Cross-Wendelin; 10:00am at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville

12/01/2024

Servers:

Kaitlyn Ginder
Haley Ginder
Sadie Seiler

Lector:

Gary Zwilling

EMHC:

Elmer Ochs
Mary Ochs
John Ochs

Gifts:

John Ochs Family

Ushers:

Gary Kocher
Ian Kocher

Greeters:

Seaman Family

Children’s Liturgy:

Donna & Natalie

12/08/2024

Servers:

Kerigan Kocher
Gabriel Volk
Will Volk

Lector:

Jocelyn Kocher

EMHC:

Janette Kocher
Scott Seiler
Jamie Kocher

Gifts:

Bill Zuber

Ushers:

Werner Kocher
Evelyn Volk

Greeters:

Jean Kocher Family

Children’s Liturgy:

Jenny & Kylie

**St. Joseph Church
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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 9-2pm & Thursday 9am-1pm