

ST. JOSEPH - OLNEY

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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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

Wednesday, December 3rd

- 6:30 pm, Family Catechesis at Holy Cross. An Advent evening for all ages.

Saturday, December 6th

- Middle School Youth Group

Sunday, December 7th

- Donuts after 8am mass at Olney.
- Donuts with St. Nicholas after 8 am mass at Stringtown.
- 2:00 pm, First Reconciliation for 2nd graders, Olney.
- 4:00 pm, Evensong at Wendelin.
- 5:00 pm, K of C member Christmas dinner in the MPR, Olney.

Monday, December 8th

- 8:00 am, school mass, Olney.
- 6:00 pm, Stringtown 1st reconciliation

Tuesday, December 9th

- 1:30-6 pm, Blood Drive in the cafeteria, Olney.

Thursday, December 11th

- 5:30 pm, Wendelin First reconciliation.

Saturday, December 13th

- Cookie walk after 5 pm mass in Olney.

Sunday, December 14th

- Cookie walk after 8 am mass in Olney.
- 9-10:30 am, Cookies with Santa for birth-kindergarten children.

Friday, December 19th

- K-4 Christmas Program at 1 pm.



Christmas Mass Schedule

December 24th

4:00 pm Olney
4:00 pm Lawrenceville

December 25th

12:00 am Wendelin
8:00 am Stringtown
8:00 am Olney
10:00 am Wendelin

DIRECTORY PHOTO SCHEDULE

December 4th - Olney
2:00-8:30 pm

December 5th - Olney
2:00-8:30 pm

December 6th - Olney
10:30 am - 5:00 pm

December 8th - Stringtown
2:00 - 8:30 pm

December 9th - Olney
2:00 - 8:30 pm

December 15th - Olney
2:00 - 8:30 pm

December 16th - Wendelin
2:00 - 8:30 pm

Sisters in Christ

Continuing our book, The Reed of God.

Dec. 2-3 - Part Three

Dec. 9-10 - Part Four

There will be a pause for the Christmas season and the new story will be shared in the new year.



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.

VOCATIONS GROUP FOR YOUNG MEN

For young men from high school through age 35. This group will be meeting every 4th Saturday of the month.

The first meeting will be on January 24th at 6 pm in the MPR at St. Joseph in Olney.

If interested please contact Fr. Levi at 618-240-3638.

Candlelight Mass at Sunrise

St. Joseph, Stringtown
6:15 am

Saturday, December 13th



With traditional Advent music by Lucas Rauch & Co.



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

Contact Us

Parish Offices

St. Joseph, Olney
618-392-8181

Holy Cross, Wendelin
618-752-5671

St. Joseph, Stringtown
618-754-3676

School office: 618-395-3081



St. Joseph School News

Dec. 12: Band concert at 3 pm in gym.

Dec. 14: Cookies with Santa in the MPR from 9:00-10:30 am.

Dec. 19: K-4 Christmas program at 1:00 pm in the gym.

"Blessed be the Lord, who daily bears us up; God is our salvation". - Psalm 68:19

DONUTS & COFFEE

**Sunday
December 7th
after 8:00 am mass**

Enjoy donuts and coffee on
Sunday morning with your
families and fellow parishioners

**DEC.
7**

**St. Joseph, Olney
Multipurpose Room**

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



Rorate Coeli

Candlelight Mass

At Sunrise

St. Joseph, Stringtown

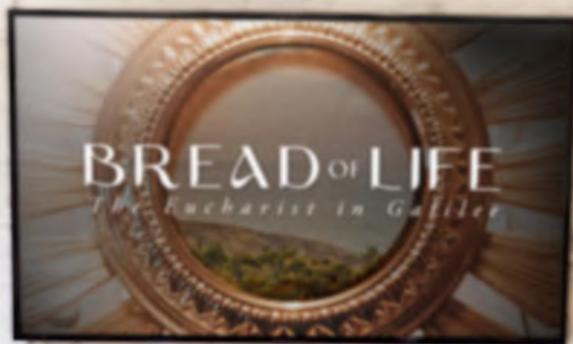
6:15 am | Saturday, Dec. 13

With traditional Advent music by Lucas Rauch & co.

Breakfast to follow in the Parish Hall

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Forming Catholics for *Life*.



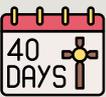
Diving into the beauty of the Faith has never been easier! Discover small group Bible studies, inspiring children's shows, sacramental preparation resources, family-friendly movies, and more! There is something for every member of the family and your Catholic community to help them grow closer to Jesus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

<p>2025 August</p>  <p>27 Wed. Opening Mass Holy Cross 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>September</p>  <p>3 Wed. Family Gathering Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center</p> <p>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</p> <p>13-14- Red Plate Blessing for 1st graders</p> <p>*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder for updates.</p>	<p>October</p>  <p>1 Wed. Family Gathering Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center</p> <p>Adults: Presentation Youth: Activity Saint presentations and “Following in the Footsteps of the Saints” items.</p> <p>4-5 Confirmation Commitment Weekend 11-12 Cup Blessing for 2nd graders 30-All Saint-Family Rosary-Trunk n’ Treat after Mass</p> <p>*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder and Sacrament book for check-in.</p>
<p>November</p>  <p>5 Wed. Family Gathering Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center</p> <p>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.</p> <p>8-9 Candle Blessing for 3rd graders 29-30 -Gift of Love Mass Weekend</p> <p>*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder and Sacrament book for check-in.</p>	<p>December</p>  <p>3 Wed. Family Gathering Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center</p> <p>Adults: Presentation Youth: Activity Saint presentations, Advent party, and “Following in the Footsteps of the Saints” items.</p> <p>7 -Advent tradition of “Evensong” at Holy Cross 8 & 11- First Reconciliation</p> <p>*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder and Sacrament book for check-in.</p>	<p>Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year</p> 
<p>2026 January</p>  <p>7 Wed. Family Gathering Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center</p> <p>Families: Saint presentations, Three Kings and 12th Night Dinner Party and “Following in the Footsteps of the Saints” items.</p> <p>*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder and Sacrament book for check-in.</p>	<p>February</p>  <p>4 Wed. Family Gathering Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center</p> <p>Adults: Presentation Youth: Activity Saint presentations and “Following in the Footsteps of the Saints” items.</p> <p>7-M.C.4.C. Valentine Dinner/Dance at Holy Cross</p> <p>*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder and Sacrament book for check-in.</p>	<p>March</p>  <p>4 Wed. Ash Wednesday 15- Divine Mercy Book begins</p> <p>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.</p> <p>*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder and Sacrament book for check-in.</p>
<p>April</p>  <p>1 Wed. Family Gathering Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center</p> <p>Adults: Presentation Youth: Activity Saint presentations and “Following in the Footsteps of the Saints” items.</p> <p>5 -Easter 12 -Divine Mercy Sunday (17,18,19)Confirmation at St. Joseph Olney</p> <p>*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder and Sacrament book for check-in.</p>	<p>May</p>  <p>3 Sun. Holy Cross May Crowning 2-3 First Communion 6 Wed. Closing Family Gathering Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center</p> <p>Families: Final Saint presentations, catered meal, and year end video presentation, and “Following in the Footsteps of the Saints” items.</p> <p>*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder</p>	<p>“Let us become saints so that after having been together on earth, we may be together in Heaven.”</p> <p>St. Pio Pietrelcina (Padre Pio)</p>

FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE SAINTS

December 2025



Our December Saints



St. Francis Xavier-Feast Day Dec 3

A Spanish-Navarrese priest and Jesuit missionary who co-founded the Society of Jesus and became known as the "greatest missionary of modern times". He was instrumental in spreading Christianity in parts of Asia, evangelizing extensively in India and Japan. His life's work involved extensive travel and ministry, and he died in 1552 on Shangchuan Island, off the coast of China, while trying to reach the mainland.

St. Lucy- Feast Day Dec 13

She is known as the "Saint of Light" pointing the way to the Light of Christ at Christmas to overcome the darkness in our lives. Until today, she draws us closer to our Savior, Jesus Christ. This Advent season, let us not forget to celebrate the birth of Jesus and see the reflection of His light of love, hope and mercy for humanity and the world.





Following in the Footsteps of the Saints

The **Catholic Extension Grant** contributed:
 Saint ornament, Saints that Saved Christmas book, and
 some of the items for Advent in Wendelin Evensong.

Let us continue to stay
 “Following in the Footsteps of the Saints.”

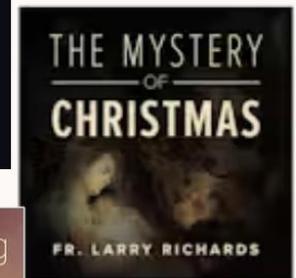
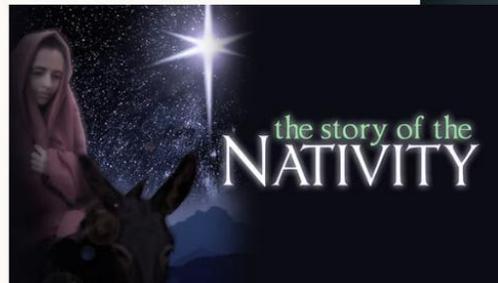
December **formed™**

Some of our CYM
 (Nora, Karly, Ethan, Andrew, Emma, Alex,
 and Ezha) shared about the lives of some
 of the Saintly men and women that we
 refer to as the
 “North American Saints.”
 Their witness of love, joy and courage
 should remind us all to live with that
 same zeal and fervor for God!

No matter the obstacle—
 our All should be for, in, and about God.



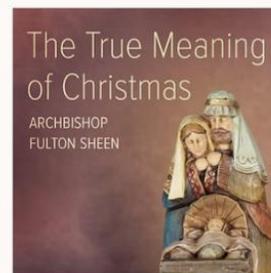
Movies for everyone



Upcoming January Events Holy Cross Wendelin

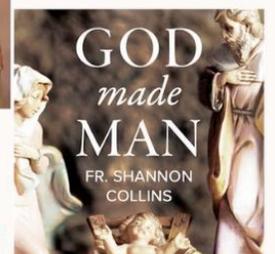
7 Wed. Family Catechesis Gathering 6:30 pm
 We will have *Twelfth Night Dinner Party*
 (come ready to eat), CYM Saint Skit, and a few
 travelers to inspire us in the New Year.

*Reminder to bring your Family Catechesis Tote
 and Binder and Sacrament books for check-in.



Audio Content

MERRY
 CHRISTMAS



SUPPORT ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL JUST BY SHOPPING!

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!



How It Works:

1. Buy gift cards from RaiseRight for all your favorite stores — grocery, gas, restaurants, online shopping, and more!
2. Use them as you normally would — for everyday purchases or gifts.
3. Earn rebates that support our school and your family account.

Get Started:

1. Download the RaiseRight App or visit www.raiseright.com.
2. Enter our enrollment code: 676DF5D387LL
3. You can also stop by the school office with your order and check
4. Start earning while you shop!

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**