

**Collection Total for December 18, 2022**

Envelopes: \$1083.00  
Loose: \$75.00  
**Total: \$1158.00**

Weekly Amount Needed: \$1,400.00

Building Fund Donations: \$570.00 (6)  
Retired Religious: \$125.00 (3)  
Christmas Flower Offering: \$40.00 (4)  
Immaculate Conception: \$5.00 (1)

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**December Bulletins:** Bill & Kathy Zuber  
**December Missalettes:** Bartley C. Zuber Attorney at Law

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**-CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PARISH-**

If you are attending Sunday Mass in any of Four Partnership Churches: St. Joseph-Olney, St. Joseph-Stringtown, Holy Cross-Wendelin, or St. Lawrence, please use your contribution envelopes. Your contribution will be credited to the parish stated on the envelope.

**PARISH NEWS:**

**Congratulations** to Memphis William Ginder (parents Ross and Carly) who was baptized on December 18 at St. Joseph-Stringtown.

**KEEP CONNECTED** with the church and receive important messages and updates via text and email. Sign up for Flocknote by texting stjoeholycross to 84576 to get connected

**BULLETIN NEWS:** Deadline Wednesday 2:00PM

**St. Joseph Stringtown Mass Intention book for 2023, January through June, will be open beginning Thursday, Dec. 22.** (Requests for mass intentions will be accepted for first 6 months). A Mass may be offered for the repose of the soul of someone who has died, on the occasion of an anniversary, or some special need.

**ASAP Prayer Group will continue** meeting every Tuesday at 9:30am to say the rosary and have fellowship. Everyone is invited to participate. Questions call Janette Kocher 843-1650

**PARISH EVENTS:**

**Monday, December 26, PARISH OFFICES CLOSED**  
**Friday, December 30, PARISH OFFICES CLOSED**  
**Saturday, December 31, Vigil of Mary the Mother of God (New Year's Eve)**  
4:00pm, Mass at Holy Cross-Wendelin  
5:00pm, Mass at St. Joseph-Olney  
**Sunday, January 1, SOLEMNITY OF MARY THE MOTHER OF GOD (New Year's Day)**  
**8:00am, Mass at St. Joseph-Stringtown**  
8:00am, Mass at St. Joseph-Olney  
10:00am, Mass at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville  
10:00am, Mass at Holy Cross-Wendelin  
**Monday, January 2, PARISH OFFICES CLOSED**  
**Friday, January 6, 8:00am, First Friday Mass and Communion Visitations**  
1:30pm, Personnel Board at Chancery Office-Belleville

**Dear Friends in Christ,**  
As we celebrate the Nativity of our Lord, I think of the words St. John wrote in one of his epistles: "we have come to know and believe in the love God has for us." My sincere prayer for the people of our diocese is that as we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus, each of us comes to know and believe more deeply in the love God has for us. May this Christmas be filled with a spirit of kindness and compassion and may you, your families and loved ones be filled with the peace of Christ in the New Year.

**Sincerely yours in Christ,**  
**Bishop Michael McGovern**

**JOURNEY ONWARD YE SOJOURNERS**  
**CAROLINE TRIMBLE PASTORAL ASSOCIATE**

**Merry Christmas to you and yours!** May the love of the Holy Family Jesus+Mary+Joseph-fill your hearts and homes.  
A Blessed New Year to you and keep to the journey- the Kingdom awaits!  
Keep to the J.O.Y.S

**FROM FR. MARK**

"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light" (Isa. 9:1). In the darkness of the night or the darkness that many face due to suffering both human made, and nature made, which engulfs us Christ is our light. It's time for us to pause and see this Light and feel its warmth. As we celebrate Christmas Masses as one big parish family, may the light of Christ illumine your ways and fill your homes.

All the readings for all the various Christmas liturgies proclaim the same mystery: The Incarnation. God not only authors life and sustains it, He chooses to become one of us. Whatever the circumstances of your life right now; grief or joy, struggle or success, faith or doubt, love or betrayal, Jesus has lived it himself, and he longs to live it with you. Allow Him to enter into your moments and give you the life for which you were created.

I would like to thank each and every one of you for your commitment to our parish this past year. The giving of your time, talent and treasure to the Lord continues to reflect God's presence in our community. I would also like to extend my gratitude to all the volunteers who have worked so hard to make our Christmas celebrations truly wonderful. Additionally, a special thank you to our staff and the devoted members of the various ministries in our parishes and especially to those few who work quietly, behind the scenes all the time to make our parish vibrant.

My Christmas message this year is to challenge all of us to become more involved. It is not so much a question of giving more; it is a question of giving more of ourselves. Moreover, that's what God did when he entered our world at the first Christmas. God will fill us with His peace if there is room for Him in our lives.

In closing, my only prayer today, that you, your family and homes be filled with the Blessings of Peace, Joy and Love. At the same time, I thank you all, most sincerely for your thoughtful prayers, inspiring Christmas greetings and priceless gifts. May all my dear parishioners be over shadowed

with the mighty and powerful blessings of the Baby Jesus. . ., the Emmanuel.

**Merry Christmas! On behalf of Fr. Felix and myself as well as the parish Staff, I sincerely hope that the remembrance of Christ's birth brings you much peace and hope.**

**ST. JOSEPH OLNEY SCHOOL NEWS:**

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year** from the Faculty at St. Joseph School!

**Tuesday, January 3rd** - Teachers and students return

**Congratulations** to our alumni who were named IL State Scholars: Abigail Atwood, Chloe McKinney, Mallory Miller, Sophia Ranes, and Cody Fulk! We are proud of you.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:**

**Parishioners and K of C members:** Do you know a male Practical Catholic aged 18 and over interested in joining as a Knights of Columbus member? The membership video is 26 minutes. Contact Hank Ginder for more information; 6188433016 or email hnginder76@hotmail.com

**Remember in our prayers...**

Carolyn Zuber, Ed Ginder, Rick Rennie,  
Carolyn Elie

**MINISTERS LIST**

<u>12/24/2022</u>	<u>01/01/2022</u>
<b><u>Servers:</u></b> Natalie Zwilling Nathaniel Zwilling Jared Zwilling	<b><u>Servers:</u></b> Carter Seamen Julian Seamen
<b><u>Lector:</u></b> Hank Ginder	<b><u>Lector:</u></b> Owen Kocher
<b><u>Eucharist Minister:</u></b> Jamie Kocher	<b><u>Eucharist Minister:</u></b> Elmer Ochs
<b><u>Gifts:</u></b> Jim & Thelma Muhs	<b><u>Gifts:</u></b> Jean & Gary Kocher
<b><u>Ushers:</u></b> Ray Schneider Brian Ochs	<b><u>Ushers:</u></b> Harold Boehl Jared Boehl
<b><u>Greeters:</u></b> Elmer & Mary Ochs	<b><u>Greeters:</u></b> Gary & Beth Kocher Family

**CHRISTMAS DAY, December 25<sup>th</sup> Ministers List**

**Servers:** Natalie & Mitchell Ochs  
**Lector:** Laura Sterchi  
**Eucharist Minister:** Beth Kocher  
**Gifts:** Gary & Dorothy Zwilling  
**Ushers:** Lester Zuber, Luke Seiler  
**Greeters:** Gary & Beth Kocher Family

**Sunday December 25, 2022**

**The Nativity of the Lord**

**+Eucharistic Celebrations+**

**Monday, December 26, NO MASS**  
**Tuesday, December 27, 5:00pm** at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville  
**Wednesday, December 28, 8:00am** at St. Joseph-Olney  
**Thursday, December 29, 6:30pm,** at Holy Cross-Wendelin  
**Friday, December 30, NO MASS**  
**Saturday, December 31, 4:00pm,** at Holy Cross-Wendelin  
5:00pm, at St. Joseph-Olney  
**Sunday January 1,**  
8:00am at St. Joseph-Olney  
**8:00am at St. Joseph-Stringtown "For the Parish"**  
10:00am at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville  
10:00am at Holy Cross-Wendelin

**St. Joseph Church  
In Stringtown Illinois  
P.O. Box 10, Dundas, IL 62425**



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Web site: [www.stjosephstringtown.com](http://www.stjosephstringtown.com)

**Very Rev. Fr. Mark Stec, V.F..... Pastor**  
Fr. Mark's Cell..... 618-841-7324  
E-mail..... [mstec88@msn.com](mailto:mstec88@msn.com)

**Reverend Felix Chukwuma..... Pastor**  
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**Caroline Trimble..... Pastoral Associate**  
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**Savannah Lenear.....Administrative Assistant**  
Office phone .....618-754-3676  
E-mail.....[stjoestringtown@hotmail.com](mailto:stjoestringtown@hotmail.com)  
Parish Office Hours: Tues. & Thur. 9:00am-3:00pm

