

# **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

### Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>

- 5:00 pm, 1<sup>st</sup> Communion at St. Joseph, Olney.

### Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>

- 8:00 am, 1<sup>st</sup> Communion at St. Joseph, Stringtown.
- 10:00 am, 1<sup>st</sup> Communion at Holy Cross.
- 10:00 am, CYM mass and meeting at Holy Cross.
- 5:30 pm, High School Youth Group end of year party at Holy Cross.

### Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup>

- 5:30 pm, Parish and Family Life Banquet at Olney. Starting in the church with a prayer service. Meal to follow in the cafeteria.

### Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>

- 8:00 am, mass at Olney followed by Honor's awards ceremony.

### Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup>

- 6:00 pm, Middle School Youth Group end of year party at Olney.

### Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup>

- Happy Mother's Day! Blessings to all mothers past, present, and future.
- 9:00 am, Donuts and coffee in the MPR following the 8 am mass at Olney.

### Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>

- 8:15 am, Graduation mass at Olney.
- 7:00 pm, Graduation cememoy.

### Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup>

- 5:00 pm, PreK singing at mass, Olney.

### Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>

- Last Day of School for St. Joseph. Dismissal is at 10:50 am.

### Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup> - Memorial Day

- 6:30 pm, masses at the Stringtown and Lawrenceville cemeteries.

### Tuesday May 26 - Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup>

- Vacation Bible School for the Tri-Parish at Wendelin. Meeting Tuesday through Friday from 5:30-7:30pm every evening. For ages PreK through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Registration is now open! Visit the parish website to sign up!

### Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup>

- Young Adults Gathering, TBD

The O.C. I. A. [Order of Christian Initiation of Adults] candidates began a journey as a group of men and women who spent the last six months gathering almost every Tuesday evening to discover, learn, and fall in love with the Catholic faith. Throughout these months of discovery, many were joined by their sponsors for inspiring presentations and enticing conversations. A significant highlight was the Rite of Election in February, which served as a "wonder and awe" moment, offering a true sense of what the greater Catholic Church looks and feels like.

At the Easter Vigil, these individuals who began this journey months ago left that night in the arms of their families-rejoicing! The joy and enthusiasm was and remains infectious to everyone who meets them.

Please continue to pray for and support the newest members of our parish:

Top Row: Luke Hahn, Jillian Peavler, Abby Garrison



Middle Row: Stephen Brach, Isaac Beal, Dalyn Brach



Bottom Row: Eli Brown, Kristen Kocher, Hilary Cecil



First Communion Candidates

St. Joseph, Olney

Holland Bible  
Raylon Cowman  
Holden Deimel  
Chandler Foust  
Owen Graves  
Grace Jensen  
Georgia Kapper  
Jaxon Kocher  
Kasen Kuentler  
Garrett Lathrop  
Easton Oilar  
Graelyn Smithenry  
Kaden Williams

Holy Cross, Wendelin

Rhett Geier  
Eli Kennedy  
Wyatt Klingler  
Blair Land  
Amelia Rauch  
Carter Smith  
Vera Mae Warfel  
Colin Will  
Ethan Phillips  
Avrie Tinder



St. Joseph, Stringtown

Taylor Ginder  
Case Runyon  
Elijah Zwilling  
Elliot Kirk

*Pray that God will bless you with grace today and always.*

**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



*Congratulations to our Tri-Parish Confirmation Class of 2026*



St. Joseph School News

- May 1- Beckoning of Lovely Day and 10:50 dismissal
- May 6- Honors Mass and Science Fair
- May 8- Band Concert and 7/8 Grade Spring Dance
- May 13- Graduation Mass @ 8:15 and Graduation Ceremony @ 7 pm in Courtyard
- May 16- PreK sings at 5pm mass.
- May 19- Preschool Graduation
- May 20- Field Day and Last Day of School

"Honor your father and mother" (this is the first commandment with a promise), "that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land." - Ephesians 6:2-3 ESV



THE PARISH & FAMILY LIFE COMMITTEE PRESENTS

# A Celebration OF WOMEN

Honoring the Past, Celebrating the  
Present, Inspiring the Future

---

Monday  
May 4, 2026

**St. Joseph, Olney**

Join us at 5:30 pm for a beautiful evening as women of all ages come together to connect, reflect, and celebrate the generations of faith that unite us at St. Joseph Church. We begin with a prayer service in the church followed by a catered meal in the cafeteria.

Tickets are now on sale in the parish office. Adult tickets are \$10, child tickets are \$5, and under 5 are free. If you need a table reservation for a group of 8 or more, we can reserve an area for you to make sure you can sit together with your family and friends. Tickets will also be for sale after masses on April 25-26.

**Have you attended this banquet in the past?**

We would love to celebrate those memories by honoring our past generations. Please consider sharing your photos to be displayed at the event. Photos can be dropped off or emailed to the parish office.

All women are welcome! Come be encouraged, uplifted, and reminded of the beautiful role you play in the story of faith across generations.

# DONUTS & COFFEE

**Sunday  
May 10<sup>th</sup>  
after 8:00 am mass**

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

**MAY  
10**

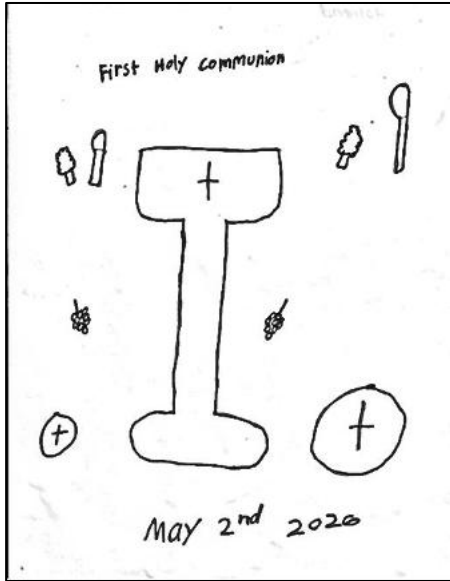
**St. Joseph, Olney  
Multipurpose Room**



# First Holy Communion



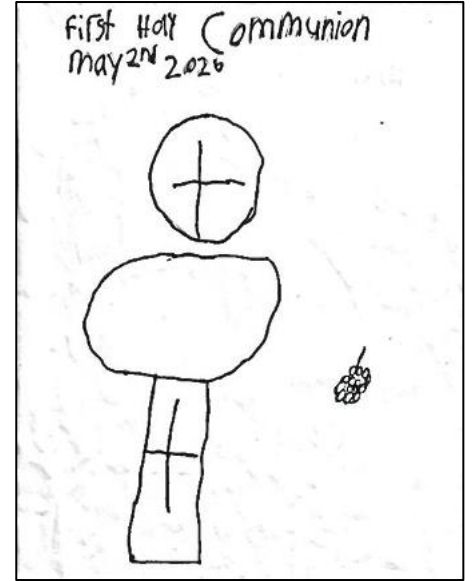
St. Joseph Church  
May 2, 2026



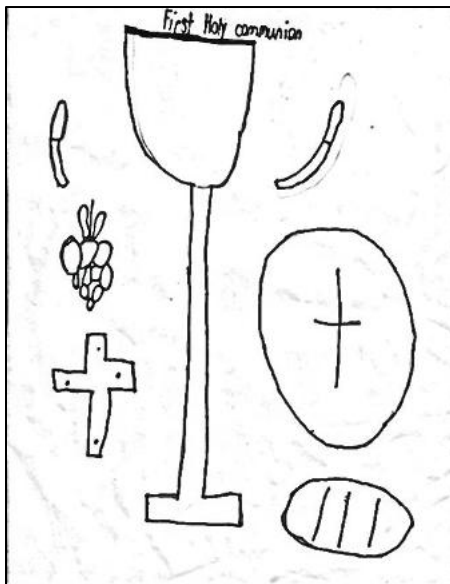
Holland Bible



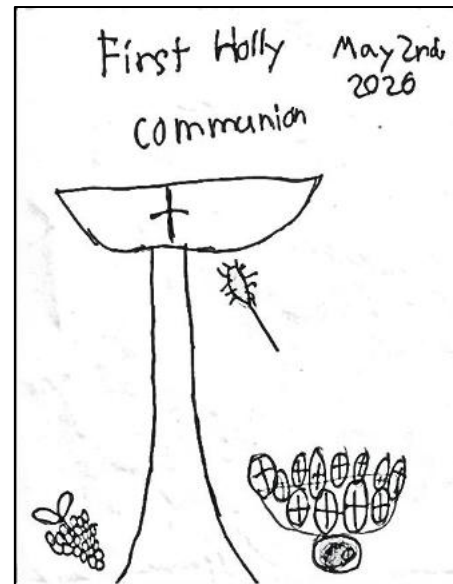
Raylon Cowman



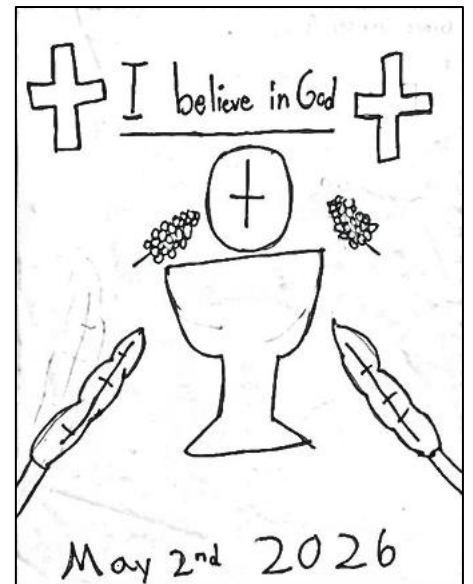
Holden Deimel



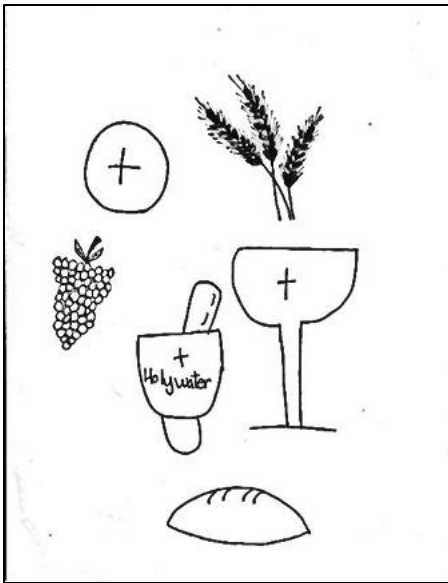
Chandler Foust



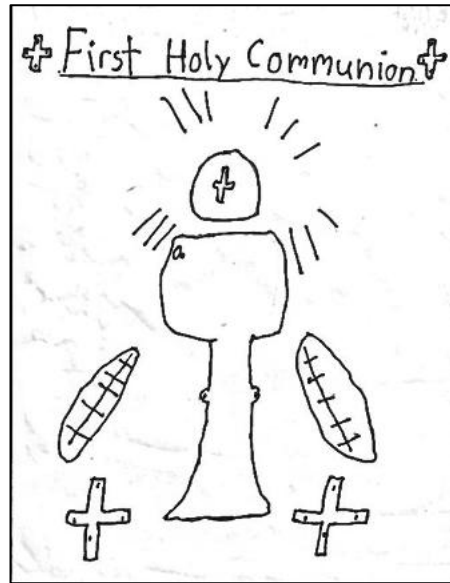
Owen Graves



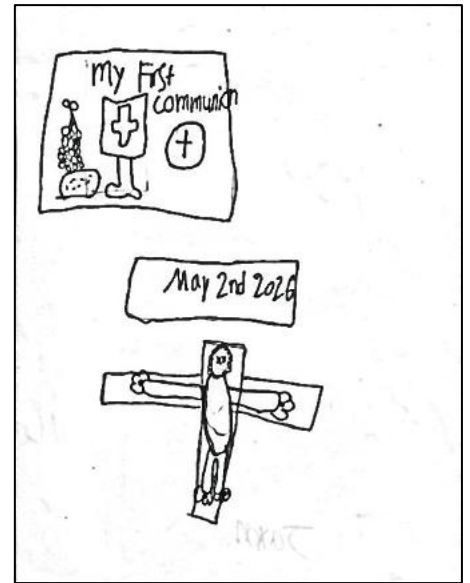
Grace Jensen



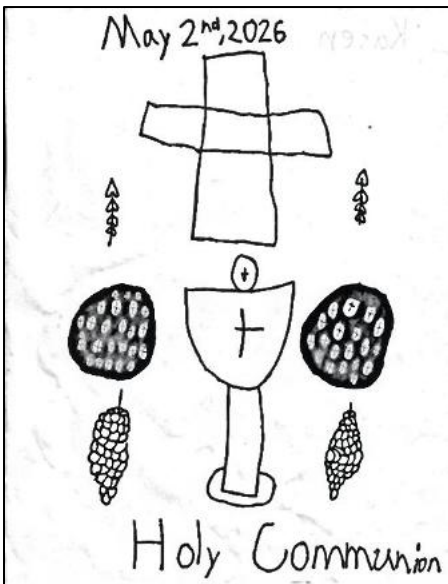
Georgia Kapper



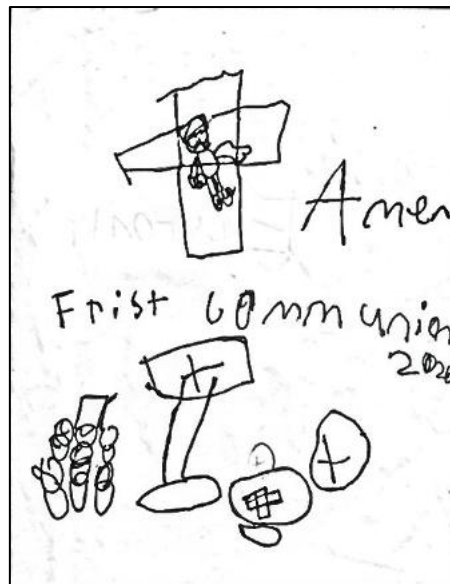
Elliot Kirk



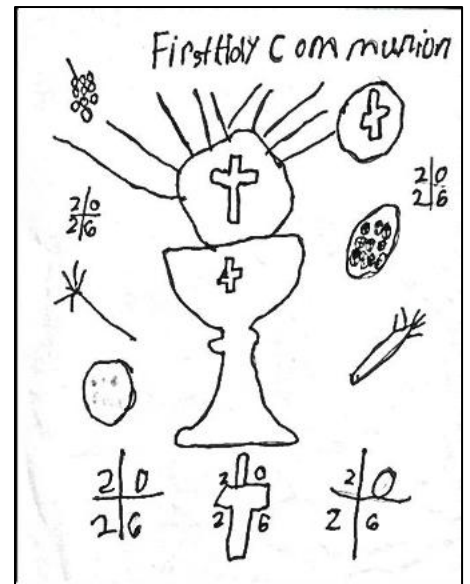
Jaxon Kocher



Kasen Kuenstler



Easton Oilar



Graelyn Smithenry



Kaden Williams



Garrett Lathrop

## ~ 2026 Easter Flower Memorials ~

Bill & Karen Anderson, Jr.  
Bill & Barbara Anderson, Sr.

Corbett & Bertha Bailey  
Malachi Baltzell

John Beal  
Charles & Esther Benton  
Kim Black  
Darrel & Alice Bishop  
Norman Bishop  
Edna Brian  
Kenny Buckels  
Bunn family

Kathy Ginder Compton  
Howard & Ruth Craig  
Lara Curry

Charlie & Jayne David  
Dick Debolt  
Earl & Mabel Debolt  
Leroy Debolt  
Alexander Dunn

Dorothy Eagleson  
La Eagleson Family  
Ted Eagleson Sr.  
Keith Eckel

Barbara Faggetti  
Ed & Pearl Fehrenbacher  
Jim Fehrenbacher  
Lawrence & Dorothy Fehrenbacher  
Roy & Viola Fehrenbacher (2)  
Steve & Margaret Fehrenbacher  
William & Maxine Ferrell  
Harold L. Foerster  
Harold Wayne Foerster

Charles & Doris Galloway  
George & Lora Geiger  
Dean & Geneva Ginder

Delbert Ginder  
Christina Ginder  
Lee & Donna Ginder  
Lawrence & Ima Gosnell  
Gumble family

Bertha & Otto Hahn  
Cliff & Katie Hahn  
Harold & Rita Hann  
Ronald Hemrich  
Rosie Hemrich  
Hinterscher family

Fr. Dan Jurek

Catherine Kelly Family  
A.J. & Catherine Keolker  
Alex & Lorene Kessler  
Larry & Clorine Kistner  
Donald A. Kocher  
Jane Kocher  
Jerry Kocher  
Lawrence & Bernadine Kocher(2)  
Neil & Dorothy Kocher  
Norman Kocher  
Mr. & Mrs. Omer Kocher  
Ralph & Margaret Kocher  
Raymond & Christina Kocher  
Urban Kocher  
Carl & Una Kocher  
Frank Kuenstler  
Frances Kuenstler  
Fred Kuenstler  
Gerald Kuenstler  
Jacklyn Kuenstler  
Mary Ann Kuenstler  
Arthur Kuhl

Amelia Foerster Leaf

Bill & Estella Meadows  
John & Vivian Menkosky

Allan & Mary Ellen Mosby  
Woodrow & Lucille Mosby

Jonathan Richard Nieman

Dan & Mildred Ochs  
Greg J. Ochs  
Greg Ochs  
Leonard & Colletta Ochs  
Sylvan Ochs  
Thomas & Edna O'Connor

Al & Marge Piercefield  
Andrew & Elaine Pierzchalski  
Eddie & Catherine Pingsterhaus

Mr. & Mrs. Cletus Rauch  
Debbie Rauch  
Floyd Rauch  
John & Frances Rauch  
Henry Rauch  
Gene & Zita Reir  
Florence Rohr  
Paul & Josephine Rohr  
Dale & Nancy Rosenberg  
Brad Roth  
Jared Rowark  
Jason Rowark  
Rowe family

Basil Scranton Jr.  
Monte Scranton  
Steve Scranton  
Jessie & Basil Scranton Sr.  
Lucille Sechrest  
Mary Sheridan  
Elmer & Dorothy Stark  
Kimberly Stark  
Mary Stark  
Steve Stark  
August & Christine Steber  
Dan & Helen Steber

## ~ 2026 Easter Flower Memorials ~

Donald Steber  
Eleanor Steber  
Emily Steber  
Gene & Virginia Steber  
Herman Steber  
Jim A. Steber  
Jim & Mary Steber (3)  
Lawrence Steber  
Robbie Steber  
Tony Steber  
George & Shirley Stout  
Kimberly Stout  
Susan Ferrell-Stout

Dale Tibbs  
Jeff & Verlie Troutman  
Lynn Troutman

Estelle & Helen Uhl

Steve VanBlaricum  
Lucy VanBuskirk  
Kathleen Vaughn  
Edmund & Anna Volk (2)  
John & Martha Volk  
Lawrence Volk  
Linda Volk (2)

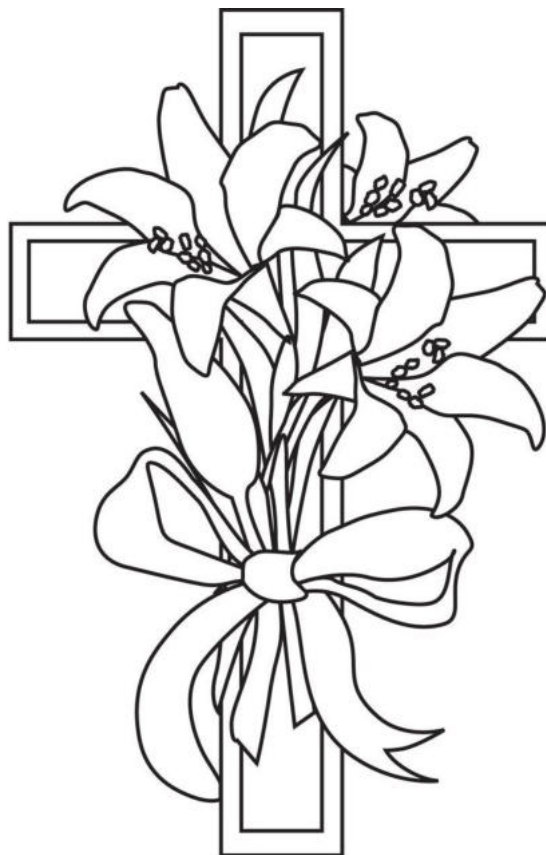
Jim Wattles  
Fr. Ron Weber  
Dr. George Weber Family  
Joe Weber  
Caide Weidner  
George Weidner  
J.V. & Florine Weidner  
Jason Weidner  
Marjorie (Marj) Weidner  
William Weidner  
Byron & Virginia Weiler (2)  
Gus & Francis Weiler (2)  
Mark Weiler  
Jim & Wanda Weiler

Fr. Jerry Wirth

Ed & Mary Jo Zuber  
Raymond & Alberta Zuber  
Cletus & Marie Zwilling  
Ella Zwilling  
Jean Zwilling (2)  
John & Bertha Zwilling Family  
Joseph Zwilling (2)  
Lawrence, Magdalene, & Greg  
Zwilling  
Norman Zwilling (2)

In Honor of:

U.S. military, past and present  
Charolette Hough



# STRENGTHENING THE CHURCH AT HOME



In nearly 75 dioceses in the United States and its territories, funds from Catholic Home Missions are a lifeline for churches in rural areas where small Catholic populations are unable to sustain basic pastoral ministries without outside assistance.

In southern Illinois, the challenges facing the Diocese of Belleville are particularly acute. Most of the diocese's 28 counties are rural and have small Catholic populations, while the cities within the diocese are among the poorest in the entire country. Although the diocese lacks necessary material resources, it is blessed with dedicated men and women who faithfully carry out their mission to share the Gospel in ministries including catechesis, Hispanic/Latino ministry among the area's growing Spanish-speaking population, and campus ministry for the students at Southern Illinois

University (SIU) in Carbondale and other college campuses in the area.

The Newman Center campus ministry located on the SIU campus strengthens the faith of Catholic young adults with faith formation programs, fellowship, and prayer, as well as community service opportunities beyond campus. By participating at Sunday and weekday Masses and in student-led retreats, weekly dinners, and outreach to families in need, these students grow in their faith and prepare to be church leaders. Working with the diocesan vocation director, the campus ministry program helps nurture priestly vocations—a record of success made possible through support received from the Catholic Home Missions Appeal, which funds the full-time campus minister's position. For more information about Catholic Home Missions, visit [www.usccb.org/home-missions](http://www.usccb.org/home-missions).

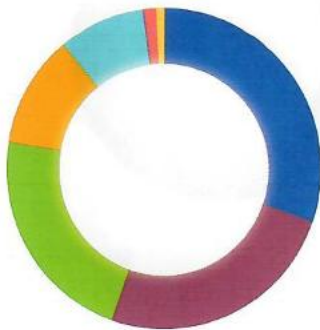
If you prefer to donate online, see QR code.



## What Is a "Home Mission" Diocese?

Home mission dioceses are those Catholic dioceses in the United States, its territories, and its former territories that cannot provide basic pastoral services without outside help. Basic pastoral services include Mass, the sacraments, religious education, and ministry training for priests, deacons, religious sisters, and lay people. Nearly 40% of dioceses in the United States and its current and former territories are considered home mission dioceses.

## CHMA FINANCIALS 2024



### Totals by Program Area

• Diocesan and Parish Assistance	\$2,485,000
• Faith Formation	\$2,045,000
• Vocations and Formation of Deacons, Priests, and Religious	\$1,810,000
• Special Grants*	\$938,475
• Cultural Ministries**	\$725,000
• Strengthening Marriage and Family Life	\$125,000
• Life and Dignity of the Human Person†	\$50,000

**Total: \$8,178,475**

\*Special Grants include the following:

- Support for the Installation of a New Home Mission Bishop
- Support for USCCB Initiatives (Eucharistic Revival, Synodal Journey)
- Diocesan Professional Development Opportunities

\*\* Including Hispanic/Latino, Black, Asian, and Native American ministries.

† Including ministries for persons with disabilities.



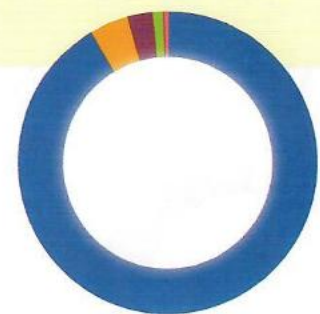
United States  
Conference of  
Catholic Bishops

### Catholic Home Missions Appeal

Office of National Collections

3211 Fourth Street NE • Washington, DC 20017-1194

202-541-3400 • fax 202-541-3460 • [www.usccb.org/nationalcollections](http://www.usccb.org/nationalcollections)



• Grants and Donations	\$8,076,036
• Program Costs	\$478,207
• Promotions and Fundraising Expenses	\$389,274
• Administrative Expenses	\$98,290
• Allocations – Internal Grants	\$29,825

**Total Expenses: \$9,071,632**



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# Family Catechesis Revised Schedule of Events

“Following in the Footsteps of the Saints”

March	April	May
<p><b>4 Wed: Stay at Home Family Night</b>  <b>8th Grade Confirmation Retreat 6:30 p.m.</b>  <b>Holy Cross Parish House</b>  <b>19- Family Catechesis will be held at St. Joseph Stringtown for the feast day of St. Joseph.</b> There will be Mass and Dinner with the “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><b>1 Wed. Family Gathering</b>            Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center  <b>Adults:</b> Presentation  <b>Youth:</b> Activity            Saint presentations and “Following in the Footsteps of the Saints” items.  <b>5 -Easter</b>  <b>12 -Divine Mercy Sunday</b>  <b>18-Confirmation at St. Joseph Olney</b>  <b>26- First Communion Practice after Mass</b></p> <p>*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder and Sacrament book for check-in.</p>	<p><b>3 Sun. Holy Cross May Crowning</b>  <b>2-3 First Communion</b>  <b>6 Wed. Closing Family Gathering</b>            Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center  <b>Families:</b> Final Saint presentations, meal, and year end presentation, and “Following in the Footsteps of the Saints” items.</p> <p>*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder</p>



# FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE SAINTS

April 2026



## Our April Saint



**St. Catherine of Siena** (1347–1380) was an Italian mystic, philosopher, and Dominican tertiary who became one of the most influential spiritual leaders in the Catholic Church. Known for her visions and activism, she famously persuaded Pope Gregory XI to return the papacy to Rome from Avignon and was later named a Doctor of the Church.

Feast Day: April 29

### Key Aspects of Her Life

*Early Life & Vocation:* Born in Siena, Italy, as the 24th of 25 children, Catherine experienced mystical visions from a young age and vowed her virginity to Christ at age six.

*Dominican Tertiary:* She joined the Sisters of Penitence of St. Dominic (Mantellate), living a life of intense prayer, fasting, and charity in her family home rather than a convent.

*Political Activism & Influence:* During a time of church corruption and political chaos, she mediated between city-states and corresponded with leaders across Europe, advocating for peace.

*Papal Return:* She is credited with playing a pivotal role in persuading Pope Gregory XI to return the papal seat from Avignon back to Rome, ending a ~70-year period of French influence.

*Theology & Legacy:* She authored *The Dialogue of Divine Providence*, a major mystical work. She was canonized in 1461 and declared a Doctor of the Church in 1970.

*Death & Attributes:* Catherine died at age 33 in Rome. She is often depicted with a heart, lily, and stigmata.

If **YOU** are *what you*  
**should be,**  
*you will set THE*  
**WHOLE WORLD ablaze!**  
~Saint Catherine of Siena

# April Events

Sunday 12 Divine Mercy Sunday 2:00 p.m.  
St. Joseph Stringtown

Saturday 18 Confirmation 11:00 a.m.  
St. Joseph Olney

Sunday 26 First Communion Practice  
Holy Cross Wendelin (*after Mass*)

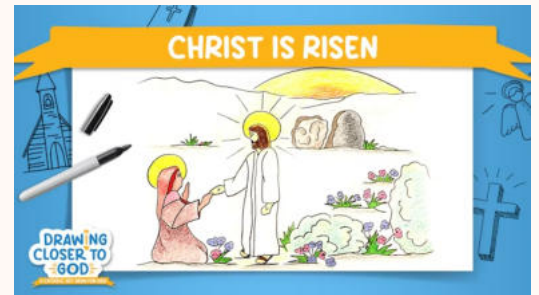


# Following in the Footsteps of the Saints

The **Catholic Extension Grant** contributed:  
Divine Mercy Holy Card and Saint cards  
Let us continue to stay  
“*Following in the Footsteps of the Saints.*”



**formed™**  
VIDEO'S FOR  
FAMILIES AND KIDS



**WEDNESDAY, MAY 6**

**Final Family Gathering**  
**“Following in the Footsteps of the Saints”**

**This will be a Carry In Meal:**

**A-F Side Dishes**

**G-P Salads**

**Q-Z Desserts**

**The Team will provide the Meat, Potatoes,  
Paper Products, Drinks, and Fun!**

# Upcoming May Events

## Holy Cross Wendelin

3- Sunday-May Crowning & First Communion

6 -Wed. LAST Family Gathering Holy Cross 6:30  
p.m. Carry In Meal, Year-End Wrap Up  
with lots of Saint surprises  
and Family fun.

26-29 VBS at Holy Cross during the evening

\*Reminder to bring Saint Binder.



# New Resources For Children

## Children's Missalettes

These missalettes are recommended for ages 5-12 and are a great resource for helping our school age children follow along with the mass. It includes a description of the sanctuary and all the prayers during mass. These can be picked up at each mass by all of the entrances to the church. Please return them at the end of mass.

## Mass Bags

These bags are recommended for ages 0-4 and include religious toys and books. We currently have 3 bags available for children to use during mass. These can be found by the main entrance to church on the book shelf. Please return the bag and all of its contents at the end of mass. If you would like to purchase one of these for your family to keep, you can purchase one at the parish office for \$54.



# *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**