

Collection Total for November 20, 2022

Envelopes: \$825.00

Loose: \$158.50

Total: \$983.50

Weekly Amount Needed: \$1,400.00

Building Fund Donations: \$42.00 (5)

Human Development: \$130.00 (7)

November Bulletins: Bartley C. Zuber Attorney at Law

November Missalettes: In Memory of Thea Ginder by Marvin Ginder

-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:

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

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

Christmas Choir Practices: Will be held from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm on the following dates. Please watch the bulletin and Facebook for updates, we may change a couple of the Sunday times to after Mass instead of 6:30 pm due to other possible parish events. You do not need to attend all the practices to participate. Contact Donna Zwilling if you have any questions. 618-754-3049

Sunday, November 27 Tuesday, November 29

Sunday, December 4 Tuesday, December 6

Sunday, December 11 Wednesday, December 14

Tuesday, December 20 Thursday, December 22

PARISH EVENTS:

Sunday, November 27, Priest Support Group in Mt. Vernon

Wednesday, November 20, 12:00pm (Noon) East Vicariate Meeting

Sunday, December 4, 1:00pm,

Advent Reconciliation Service at St. Joseph-Olney

Wednesday, December 7, VIGIL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (Holy Day of Obligation

6:30pm, Mass at St. Joseph-Stringtown

6:30pm, Mass at Holy Cross-Wendelin (with Family Catechesis)

7:15pm, Family Life Meet & Greet Santa

Thursday, December 8, SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (Holy Day of Obligation)

8:00am, Mass at St. Joseph-Olney (with school children)

5:00pm, Mass at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville

Friday, December 9, 12:00pm (Noon), Finance Meeting at St. Joseph-Olney

CHRISTMAS MASSES:

Christmas Eve 4:00pm (with the School Children.)

at St. Joseph-Olney and 4:00pm at St. Lawrence-

Lawrenceville; 6:00pm at Holy Cross-Wendelin;

8:00pm at St. Joseph-Olney and **10:00pm at St.**

Joseph-Stringtown. On Christmas Day, 8:00am at

St. Joseph-Stringtown and St. Joseph-Olney as well

as 10:00am at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville and Holy

Cross-Wendelin.

JOURNEY ONWARD YE SOJOURNERS

CAROLINE TRIMBLE PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

The Church celebrates Advent as a time of *preparation – anticipation – waiting-* for the birth of Jesus. What are you preparing, anticipating, or waiting on? Does your “to-do and to-buy” list overshadow your thoughts and time? Intentionally take time each day to reflect upon the **Hope – Love - Joy - Peace** of the Advent season. If we took the *preparation – anticipation -waiting-* of Advent more seriously, it would radically transform our

experience of Christmas. The word “Christmas” literally means “**Christ**” and “**Mass**” -the celebration of God’s selfless gift of his son to mankind. Live a life of Love seeking to receive the best gift (*JESUS*) this Christmas by keeping Advent! A great guide for these royal days of journeying is Meditations for Advent *by Bishop Jacques-Bénigne Bossuet*. Keep to the J.O.Y.S.

FROM FR. MARK

In the Catholic Church, Advent is a period of preparation extending over the four Sundays before Christmas. The word Advent comes from the Latin *advenio*, "to come to," and refers to the coming of Christ. And the term the coming includes three references: first of all, to our celebration of Christ's birth at Christmas; second, to the coming of Christ in our lives through grace and the Sacrament of Holy Communion; and finally, to his second coming at the end of time.

Our preparations, therefore, should have all three comings in mind. We need to prepare our souls to receive Christ worthily.

First We Fast; Then We Feast

Advent has been called a "little Lent," because it traditionally has included a period of increased prayer, fasting, and good works. Although the Western Church no longer has a set requirement for fasting during Advent, the Eastern Church (both Catholic and Orthodox) continues to observe what is known as Philip's Fast, from November 15 until Christmas.

Traditionally, all great feasts have been preceded by a time of fasting, which makes the feast itself more joyful. Unfortunately, Advent today has supplanted by "the Christmas shopping season," so that by the time Christmas Day comes, many people no longer enjoy the feast or even specially mark the next 12 days of the Christmas season, which lasts until Epiphany (or, technically, the Sunday after Epiphany, being that the next season, called ordinary time, starts on the following Monday).

The Symbols of Advent

In its symbolism, the church continues to stress the penitential and preparatory nature of Advent. As during Lent, priests wear purple vestments, and the Gloria ("Glory to God") is omitted during Mass. The

only exception is on the Third Sunday of Advent, known as Gaudete Sunday, when priests can wear rose-colored vestments. As on Laetare Sunday during Lent, this exception is designed to encourage us to continue our prayer and fasting, because we can see that Advent is more than halfway over.

The Advent Wreath

Perhaps the best-known of all Advent symbols is the Advent wreath, a custom that originated among German Lutherans but was soon adopted by Catholics. Consisting of four candles (three purple or blue and one pink) arranged in a circle with evergreen boughs. the Advent wreath corresponds to the four Sundays of Advent. The purple or blue candles represent the penitential nature of the season, while the pink candle calls to mind the respite of Gaudete Sunday. The white candle, when used, represents Christmas.

Celebrating Advent

We can better enjoy Christmas—all 12 days of it—if we revive Advent as a period of preparation. Abstaining from meat on Fridays or not eating at all between meals is a good way to revive the Advent fast. (Not eating Christmas cookies or listening to Christmas music before Christmas is another.) We can incorporate customs such as the Advent wreath, the Saint Andrew Christmas Novena, and the Jesse Tree into our daily ritual, and we can set some time aside for special scripture readings for Advent, which remind us of the threefold coming of Christ.

Holding off on putting up the Christmas tree and other decorations is another way to remind ourselves that the feast is not here yet. Traditionally, such decorations were put up on Christmas Eve, and they would not be taken down until after Epiphany, in order to celebrate the Christmas season to its fullest.

ST. JOSEPH OLNEY SCHOOL NEWS:

Tuesday, November 29th - Hearing Screenings

Saturday, December 3rd 10 am - Noon Cookies with Santa for children birth - second grade in the MPR

Sunday, December 4th - First Reconciliation 2nd graders St. Joseph, Olney

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:

Sunday, November 27: K of C led Rosary, 7:40AM before the Olney St. Joe Mass.

Sunday, December 4: Free Olney, Wendelin, Stringtown Council 1352 Member and Family Christmas Dinner, Olney St. Joe Multi Center, 5PM. Santa arrives after the meal.

Parishioners and K of C members: Do you know a male Practical (attending Mass) Catholic aged 18 and over interested in joining the Knights of Columbus? The dues are free for the remainder of this year. Contact Hank Ginder for more information at 6188433016 or email at hnginder76@hotmail.com.

Remember in our prayers...

Carolyn Zuber, Ed Ginder, Rick Rennie, Carolyn Elie



Sunday November 27, 2022

**First Sunday of Advent
+Eucharistic Celebrations+**

Monday, November 28, 6:30pm, at St. Joseph-Stringtown "For the Parish"

Tuesday, November 29, 5:00pm at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville

Wednesday, November 30, 8:00am at St. Joseph-Olney

Thursday, December 1, 6:30pm at Holy Cross-Wendelin

Friday, December 2, 8:00am at St. Joseph-Olney

Saturday, December 3, 4:00pm at Holy Cross-Wendelin

5:00pm at St. Joseph-Olney

Sunday, December 4, 8:00am at St. Joseph-Olney

8:00am at St. Joseph-Stringtown "Hermina Zuber+, Lawrence Kocher+"

10:00am at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville

10:00am at Holy Cross-Wendelin

MINISTERS LIST

11/27/2022

Servers:

Jared Weidner

Natalie Zwilling

Lector:

Joselyn Kocher

Eucharist Minister:

Jenny Hancock

Gifts:

Tom & Kathy Kocher

Ushers:

Isaac Zwilling

Elmer Ochs

Greeters:

Werner & Janette Kocher

12/04/2022

Servers:

Nathaniel Zwilling

Jared Zwilling

Lector:

Anita Seiler

Eucharist Minister:

Mary Ochs

Gifts:

Jim & Thelma Muhs

Ushers:

Harold Boehl

Jared Boehl

Greeters:

Jean, Mona & Gary Kocher

**St. Joseph Church
In Stringtown Illinois
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E-mail..... mstec88@msn.com

Reverend Felix Chukwuma..... Pastor

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Caroline Trimble..... Pastoral Associate

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