

Sunday December 11, 2022
Third Sunday of Advent
+Eucharistic Celebrations+

Monday, December 12, 6:30pm, at St. Joseph-Stringtown

Tuesday, December 13, 5:00pm at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville

Wednesday, December 14, 8:00am at St. Joseph-Olney

Thursday, December 15, 6:30pm at Holy Cross-Wendelin "For the Parish"

Friday, December 16, NO MASS

Saturday, December 17, 4:00pm at Holy Cross-Wendelin "Robert Staser+, Wayne Kessler+"

5:00pm at St. Joseph-Olney

Sunday, December 18, 8:00am at St. Joseph-Olney

8:00am at St. Joseph-Stringtown

10:00am at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville

10:00am at Holy Cross-Wendelin "Harold & Rose Marie Buerster+"

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.**

SUNDAY COLLECTION – Sun. Dec. 4, 2022

(64) Envelopes \$2746.00 Loose \$127.00

(29) Building \$1400.00 (8) Christmas Flower

Offering \$335.00 (1) Retirement Fund \$50.00

(2) Human Development \$110.00

TOTAL: 4768.00

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS *OUR SICK

Devin Deisher, Shirley Atwood, Patricia (Gib) Volk,

Wyatt Hayes (Grandson of Herb & Martha

Deimel), Tim Schnautz, Norma Weidner

CRMH COMMUNION

December 11-Diane Schackmann @217-343-8799

December 18-Sheryl Klingler @618-843-3083

January 8-Diane Herdes @618-723-2506

We are still requesting help with this ministry. Please contact the Parish Office to answer this calling.

***December Liturgical**

Ministers*

Saturday

Sunday

Open/Lock/Greet:

Open/Lock/Greet:

Brent, Sharon Edwards

Chris, Melanie Waller

Eucharistic Ministers:

Eucharistic Ministers:

Jennifer Rudolphi

Penni Kuenstler

Lectors:

Lectors:

Robin Deckard

Sun. Dec. 25: Grace & Stella Warfel, Bella Stevens

PARISH EVENTS:

Monday, December 12, 6:30pm Mass and Eucharistic Adoration at St. Joseph-Stringtown

Tuesday, December 13, 8:30am to 11:00am, Advent Reconciliation at St. Joseph-Olney

6:00pm, Finance Meeting at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville

Wednesday, December 14, 8:30am to 11:00am, Advent Reconciliation at St. Joseph-Olney

6:00pm to 8:00pm, Advent Reconciliation at St. Joseph-Olney

Thursday, December 15, 5:00pm to 6:30pm, Advent Reconciliation at Holy Cross-Wendelin

6:00pm, advent Reconciliation at St. Edward-Fairfield

Sunday, December 18, 1:00pm to 4:00pm, Stained Glass Window Tour, showcasing

12 Lawrence County Churches including St. Lawrence.

Monday, December 19, 6:00pm, Advent Reconciliation at St. Stephen-Flora

Tuesday, December 20, 5:30pm to 7:00pm, Advent Reconciliation at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville

MASS

SERVERS:

Sat. Dec. 17:

Hank &

Clara

Weidner

Sun. Dec.

18: Grace

Ochs, Karly

Deckard

Sat. Dec. 24:

Ian Kessler,

Levi

Rudolphi,

Victoria

Rudolphi

7:00pm, Advent Reconciliation at St. Mary-Mt. Carmel

(Reconciliation is available every Saturday prior to mass: 3:15 to 3:45pm at Holy Cross-Wendelin and 4:15 to 4:45pm 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

Choose Joy! Are you choosing Joy this Advent season? Do you have Joy in your Heart? Your Home? The way we respond and treat others is the first indicator. A joyful person is welcoming, loving and kind! Take extra care this week and be joyful to one another. There is a JOY in the journey, and it is only found when the stable of your heart reflects the one that is soon to come. Come Lord, Jesus, Come Quickly, the whole word awaits! Live a life of Joy!

FROM FR. MARK:

During the Advent our attention is drawn to the Virgin Mary. We honor her as the one who gave birth to our Lord on Christmas Days, there are several other Marian Fest Days during this time, The Presentation of Mary in the Temple, The Feast of the Immaculate Conception, and the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Advent is also an invitation to pondering the life and witness of St. Joseph. Although there are no spoken words of St. Joseph recorded in Scripture, there is an abundance of wisdom to glean from his life.

There are three themes from the life of St. Joseph that carry us into the new liturgical year as we

begin Advent. These themes are: Waiting, invitation, and accompaniment.

Waiting: Waiting is a daily aspect of life. We wait for the red light to turn green. We wait for crops to grow. We wait for an answer or reply from a friend. There are many ways we wait every day. Waiting can be a source of frustration but waiting can also be formative to aid patience. Waiting is particularly formative when we are waiting on the Lord. In prayer, many petitions, questions, and requests are offered. Sometimes these prayers are expressed calmly and sometimes with a pleading heart. We believe the Lord hears AND answers all of our prayers, but most often we are led to wait for the answer.

Scripture frequently calls us to wait. "Wait for the Lord, take courage; be stouthearted, wait for the Lord!" (Psalm 27:14). St. Joseph waited for the Lord to reveal His plan multiple times. After learning Mary was with child and later when the Holy Family was in Egypt, Joseph waited for the Lord's instructions. Joseph's life shows that waiting requires patience and humility. He also shows that waiting brings joy. Joseph's life witnesses to the words of the Psalmist, "I wait for the Lord, my soul waits and I hope for his word" (130:5).

Invitation: Much of our waiting in life is done waiting for an invitation to join an event, a group of people, a team, or a social outing. We wait for another person to extend an invitation to us. An invitation tells us we are valued, important, or included. Our Lord also works through invitations. He extends invitations to us on a daily basis. Beautiful aspects of nature — a sunrise or sunset, leaves changing colors, the first snowfall of the season — are invitations to contemplate God's creativity and design in the world. Reminders to attend Sunday Mass and frequent the Sacrament of Confession are also invitations from the Lord that speak of his desire to draw close to us and heal us. St. Joseph received many invitations from the Lord. Some of these were to take Mary and Jesus to a certain town. Some invitations did not

reveal all that would unfold. In responding to the Lord's invitations, Joseph needed what Pope Francis called "creative courage" (Patris Corde, 5). Joseph acted promptly in response to the Lord's invitations, but he also had to make decisions to provide or bring a solution as he led the Holy Family. In the final verses of Scripture we read, "The Spirit and the bride say 'Come.' Let the hearer say, 'Come.'" (Revelation 22:17). When the Lord invites us to come to him, our response is the same: Come, Lord Jesus! This exchange of invitation and openness allows for the creative courage of St. Joseph to flourish in each of us.

Accompaniment: Throughout life, various people journey alongside us to help us along the way. Parents, siblings, friends, a spouse, a teacher or mentor, a priest or spiritual director. Reflection helps us identify the growth in our lives that took place as someone accompanied us for a time. To accompany another person requires an investment of time, courage, and oftentimes patience. Walking alongside another and witnessing their growth is one of life's most rewarding experiences — well worth every effort or sacrifice that is required. During Advent, we often reflect on Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem. By that point, Joseph has chosen to accompany Mary as they together follow the Lord's invitation. Joseph is present to respond to the needs of Mary and Jesus. He courageously fulfills his vocation as the husband of Mary and earthly father of Jesus. He accepts them both with his whole heart and trusts in the Lord. He walks with them as long as the Lord allowed him to. We, too, are called to accompany others — to invest in other people and to build relationships with them. "Joseph's attitude encourages us to accept and welcome others as they are, without exception, and to show special concern for the weak" (Patris Corde, 4). Welcoming another person and accepting them where they are at provides the foundation for an open and trusting relationship. To do this, one must listen without preconceived judgments. Over time, the relationship grows

allowing for deeper conversations and room for the Lord to work in both people.

This Advent, taking some time to reflect on these themes — waiting, invitation, and accompaniment — may reveal opportunities for prayer, invitations to respond to or invitations to extend, or people God is calling you to accompany more intentionally.

ST. JOSEPH OLNEY SCHOOL NEWS:

2023 Benefit Calendars are here. The price is \$20. Total payout is \$8,500. Calendars are for sale at the School Office, the Parish Office or by calling Jeffrey Rosenberg (618-302-0391).

The 8th grade class will have an ethical trade sale after masses the weekend of December 10-11 in Meeting Room B of the MPR. Beautiful Christmas handicrafts from across the world will be available for purchase. All proceeds from the sale go back to the artisans who created them.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:

Thursday, December 15: 4th Degree meeting, 7:30PM.

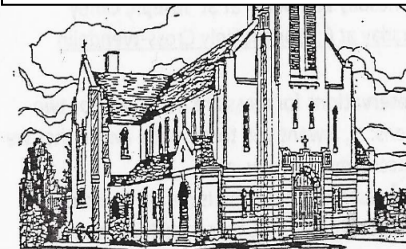
Sunday, December 25: K of C led Rosary, 7:40AM before the Olney St. Joe, Mass.

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

HOLY CROSS PARISH

Sunday, December 11, 2022
Third Sunday of Advent

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say,
rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.



Holy Cross Church-Wendelin
5782 Ingraham Lane, Newton, IL 62448
Website - - www.holycrosswendelin.com
Mass Schedule: Thurs., 6:30pm
Saturday 4:00pm, Sunday 10:00am

**** Very Rev. Fr. Mark D. Stec, V.F., Pastor**
Fr. Mark's Cell _____ 618-841-7324
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**** Reverend Felix Chukwuma Pastor**
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**** Martha Buerster Administrative Assistant**
**** Savannah Leneer Administrative Assistant**
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Pastoral Council: Tony Kuentler-Chair; Kevin Blank-Vice-Chair; Heather Blank-Secretary; Cindy Blank, Gregg Weber, Sheryl Klingler