

ST. JOSEPH - STRINGTOWN

Bulletins

St. Joseph - Stringtown Pages 2-3

St. Joseph - Olney Pages 4-5

Holy Cross – Wendelin Pages 6-7

Kids Bulletin Pages 8-9

Collection Total for December 24 and 25, 2025

Envelopes: \$2,390.00	(44)
Loose: \$719.00	
Total: \$3,109.00	

Building Fund: \$20.00 (1)**Christmas Flowers: \$40.00 (1)****Collection Total for December 28, 2025**

Envelopes: \$725.00	(22)
Loose: \$836.62	
Total: \$1,561.62	

Building Fund: \$20.00 (1)**Christmas Offering: \$310.00 (2)****For the Needy: \$177.00 (7)****Solemnity of Mary: \$5.00 (1)****First Offering: \$15.00 (3)**Weekly Amount Needed: **\$1,400.00**

January Bulletins: For the Parish**January Missalettes: In Memory of Norman****Kocher**

**Contact Ashley to schedule for 2026!

PARISH EVENTS:**Sunday, January 4 – Stringtown Community Club Blood Drive, 6:30am-12pm Noon!****Monday, January 5 – Young Adults Bible Study at Holy Cross-Wendelin, 7pm.****Tuesday, January 6 – Parish Office Open 11am-3pm. *Note time change!****ASAP Prayer Service and Adoration at St. Joseph-Stringtown, 9:30am.**

Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Joseph-Olney, 12-3pm.

OCIA at St. Joseph-Olney, 6:30pm. Topic: God the Holy Spirit: Conversion, Call, and Ecclesia.

Sister's in Christ will resume in new year!**Wednesday, January 7 – Family Catechesis Twelfth Night Dinner, Holy Cross Parish Center, 6:30pm.****Thursday, January 8 – Brother's in Christ at Holy Cross-Wendelin, 7pm.**

Sunday, January 11 – CYM Mass and Meeting at St. Joseph-Stringtown.
Donut Sunday Following 8am Mass at St. Joseph-Stringtown Parish Center.

BAPTISM:

The Sacrament of Baptism represents the first step in a lifelong journey of discipleship. To inquire about a Baptism and to schedule a date, contact Caroline Trimble.

PHOTO DIRECTORY SIGNUPS:

If you weren't able to get your photo taken, you can drop a photo by the parish office, send to our parish email stjoestringtown@hotmail.com, or text to Ashley.

BLOOD DRIVE TODAY:

The next Stringtown Community Blood Drive is scheduled for TODAY Sunday, January 4, 2026, from 6:30-12 noon. Mark your calendar and go ahead and pre-scheduled your January 4th appointment by clicking below.

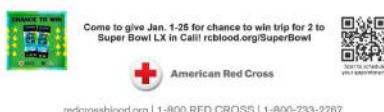
<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?order=DATE&range=10&zipSponsor=StringtownCC>

**St Joseph Stringtown Community Club Blood Drive**

Parish Hall
6342 County Rd 1700 E
Olney, IL 62450

Sunday, January 4, 2026
6:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

For an appointment call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767)
or visit RedCrossBlood.org. Sponsor code StringtownCC
Bring a friend and help save lives together.

**EPIPHANY KITS:**

Available for pickup in the vestibule to bless your home! **20+C+M+B+26**

2026 CALENDARS:

Special thanks to Kistler-Patterson Funeral Homes for once again so generously providing the 2026 calendars, which are now available in the vestibule. We appreciate your support and generosity!

MINISTER'S LIST JANUARY-MARCH:

Now available! Thanks to those that serve these ministries! If you are interesting in serving a ministry and do not already, please contact Ashley. We can provide training, if necessary. Thank you!

DONUT SUNDAY:

Donut Sunday will be held next Sunday, January 11th following Mass. Come join us!

SISTERS IN CHRIST:

There will be a pause for the Christmas season and the new study will be shared in the New Year.

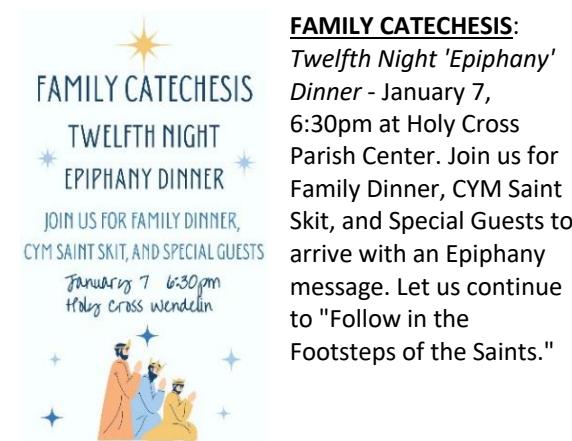
CAROLINE TRIMBLE - PASTORAL ASSOCIATE:

A Star guided the Magi to the King of Kings, and Lord of Lords. What Star is guiding you this New Year? What will you find once you reach the Star? Will it be life-giving, fruitful and "of God" or prideful and "of the world"? The moment of your Epiphany is closer than you might think! Seek to be

guided by the One True Star for it is there where you will find your life of love! Journey onward this New Year, being guided by the Star of Peace and Love!

FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF SAINTS

LIBRARY: There are NEW Christmas books- items for kids and adults- to select from. Be sure to take home some Christmas reading material and something for these Winter nights. When we pray, we talk to God; when we read, God speaks to us. "St. Isidore of Seville: "

**ST. JOSEPH-OLNEY SCHOOL NEWS:**

2026 Benefit Calendars are here! The price is \$25. The total payout is \$8,450. Calendars are for sale at the school office, the parish office, or by calling Jeffrey Rosenburg at 618-302-0391. **School will resume on Monday, January 5th!**

OLNEY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:**Thursday, January 8:** 3rd Degree meeting, 7 PM.**Thursday, January 15:** 4th Degree meeting, 7 PM.**FORMED.ORG SUBSCRIPTION:**

Download the app or go to www.formed.org and enter 62448. **The Week of January 4th**

Recommendations: God's Doorkeeper, The Three Wise Men, Epiphany

CSMA 2025 – HOPE IN THE LORD:

May God's blessings pour upon you and grant you and your loved ones a healthy, prosperous and joyful new year. Heartfelt thanks to all of you for your support of the Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal and our Belleville Diocese in the past year. You are remembered always in our prayers.

Ministries and Programs Funded by
The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal

RESPECT LIFE CORNER:

How do we live out the message of Christmas in the New Year, rather than pack it away with the ornaments? Each year, the Octave Day of Christmas falls on the first day of the New Year, on which we also celebrate the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God. Her open heart and courageous "yes" to God show us how to live year-round—with hearts open to the Lord, following where He leads. We are called to place our trust in Him, to enter compassionately into the suffering of others, and to love one another as Christ loves us. Like Our Blessed Mother welcomed Jesus, we are called to cherish and protect the gift of human life, at every stage and in every circumstance. Copyright © 2024, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, D.C. Reprinted with permission. All rights reserved.

VOCATION CORNER:

What a wonderful Gospel account of the Magi traveling to meet the Lord. They followed the star – their "call" – to come and offer their gifts to the Lord. But the question arises as to how the Magi noticed a star at night and no one else really did. Perhaps we need to embrace the "night," the stillness, to "see and hear" our call. How are we doing in discerning our call to Holiness – in living our vocation as man, woman, or child; married or single; priesthood or religious – of being called to something beyond ourselves?

QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTION:

It's the giving season! A **qualified charitable distribution** (QCD) allows people over age 70½ to donate to charities – like our parish and school – directly from a taxable IRA instead of taking their required minimum distributions. The tax savings can be very significant. For additional information, please contact your financial representative or tax preparer.

THE MESSENGER NEWSPAPER:

Make The Messenger a part of your New Year's Resolution! The Messenger brings you the stories of real people quietly living their faith through compassion and good works. Inspirational stories that show our Catholic faith is alive and well in southern Illinois. Subscribe to The Messenger at 618-233-8670. To subscribe online, go to www.bellevillemessenger.org. Prices are \$40 for print edition, \$35 for digital edition, \$45 for both print and digital.



Kocher

REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS: Rick Rennier, Teresa Zehner, Judy Brown, Brenda Zuber, Valerie Weidner, Steve Zuber, Carolyn Elie, Linda McWhirter, Jim & Norma

Sunday, January 4, 2026

The Epiphany of the Lord

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

Stringtown "Judy Zuber†" "Gus & Lorena Ochs†,

Joseph Schneider†" "Fr. Roger Schoenhofen†"

Monday, January 5, 6:30pm at St. Joseph-

Stringtown "Judy Kocher†"

Tuesday, January 6, 5:00pm at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville

Wednesday, January 7, 8:05am at St. Joseph-Olney

Thursday, January 8, 6:30pm at Holy Cross-Wendelin

Friday, January 9, 8:00am at St. Joseph-Olney

Saturday, January 10, 4:00pm at Holy Cross-Wendelin, 5:00pm at St. Joseph-Olney

Sunday, January 11, 8:00am at St. Joseph-Stringtown "Louis & Leila Volk†" "Elmer &

Elfrieda Zwilling†", 8:00am at St. Joseph-Olney, 10:00am at Holy Cross-Wendelin, 10:00am at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville

01/04/2025

Servers:

Izzy Volk

Will Volk

Gabriel Volk

Lector:

Owen Kocher

EMHC:

Scott Seiler

Janette Kocher

Gary Zwilling

Gifts:

Ellen Steber Family

Ushers:

Evelyn Volk

Elmer Ochs

Greeters:

Caden Kocher

Children's Liturgy:

Joselyn & Mallory

01/11/2025

Servers:

CYM

Lector:

CYM

EMHC:

Jenny Hancock

Joselyn Kocher

Owen Kocher

Gifts:

CYM

Ushers:

CYM

Greeters:

CYM

Children's Liturgy:

Madison & Natalie

**St. Joseph Church
Stringtown, Illinois**



(GPS address: 6342 N. Stringtown Rd, Olney, IL 62450) Phone: 618-754-3676

Email: stjoestringtown@hotmail.com

Website: www.stjosephstringtown.com

Parish Office Hours: Tuesday 9am-2pm & Thursday 9am-1pm

Very Rev. Fr. Steven Beatty _____ Pastor

Cell _____ 618-697-2632

E-mail frsteven.beatty@gmail.com

Reverend Levi James _____ Parochial Vicar

Cell _____ 618-240-3638

E-mail levi.jamessiu@gmail.com

Caroline Trimble _____ Pastoral Associate

Caroline's Cell _____ 618-263-7106

E-mail ctrimblePA@gmail.com

Tyler Timm _____ Youth Minister

Tyler's Cell _____ 507-530-2911

Tyler's E-mail ttimm@stjoeolney.com

Ashley Hinterscher _____ Administrative Assistant

Ashley's Cell _____ 618-843-1892

Office Phone _____ 618-754-3676

E-mail stjoestringtown@hotmail.com

Sunday, January 4, 2026
The Epiphany of the Lord

† Eucharistic Celebrations †

Mon. Jan. 5	6:30 PM	at Stringtown
Tue. Jan. 6	5:00 PM	at Lawrenceville
Wed. Jan. 7	8:05 am	Nina Wargel
Thu. Jan. 8	6:30 pm	at Wendelin
Fri. Jan. 9	8:00 am	For the Parish
Sat. Jan. 10		
4:00 PM		at Wendelin
5:00 PM		<i>Lawrence & Dorothy Fehrenbacher</i> <i>Carl & Una Kocher</i> <i>Kenneth Buckels</i>
Sun. Jan. 11		
8:00 am		<i>John Bower</i> <i>Gary Stoltz</i> <i>Deacon Jack Shuster</i>
8:00 am		at Stringtown
10:00 am		at Wendelin
10:00 am		at Lawrenceville

OUR JANUARY SPONSORS

Bulletins: Dale & Mary Jane Tibbs
Missalettes: Mike & Lori Uhl

OUR TITHES FOR DECEMBER 28th

Parish Operating Expense per Week = \$9,847.00
Envelopes: \$22,837 (107) Loose: \$407
Guatemala: \$45 (3) Christmas Flowers: \$95 (5)
Retirement Fund for Religious: \$175 (3)
Christmas for those in need: \$1,535 (37)
Christmas collection: \$18,849 (144) Building Fund: \$1,100 (10)

Let Us Pray For: Kevin Bookhout, Marilyn McCormick, Elizabeth Ginder, Jim Gassmann, Dolores Hemrich, Clara Rose Wilson, Kenneth Ochs, Valerie Weidner, Julie Oesch, Margaret Burgener, Fr. Joe Erbacher, Jeff Beard, Judy Spitz, Jerry L. Harper, Emery Oesch, Gene Bergbower, Luke G. Kocher, Marlene Harris, Bessie Rossiano, Mary Rowark, Tony Tredway, Anita Shultz, Kenneth Hann, and Ruth Zwilling.

Deepest Sympathy to the family of **Tony Steber**.
May he rest in the peace of God's love.

~ AROUND OUR PARISHES ~

Saturday, January 3rd

- Mass for **Margaret King, Ted Eagleson Sr., and Deacon Jack Shuster**.

Sunday, January 4th

- Mass for **Albert, Clara, & Rose Ellen Hahn, Christina Ginder, and a Special Intention**.
- Children's liturgy at 8 am mass. All students in grades K-3 are welcome to attend.

Tuesday, January 6th

- 12:00-3:00 PM, Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Olney. There must always be 2 people in the church.
- 6:30 PM, OCIA meeting in the conference room. Topic: God the Holy Spirit: Conversion, Call, and Ecclesia.

Wednesday, January 7th

- 6:30 PM, Twelfth Night 'Epiphany' Dinner for Family Catechesis. Join us for a Family Dinner, CYM Saint Skit, and a special guest to arrive with an Epiphany message. Let us continue to "Follow in the Footsteps of the Saints."

Thursday, January 8th

- 5:30 PM, Parish and Family Life Committee meeting in the quilting room.

Sunday, January 11th

- Treat your family to **donuts and coffee** after the 8 am mass at St. Joseph, Olney in the MPR. Don't miss these yummy donuts and fellowship!

CALENDAR WINNERS - \$25

Dec. 29: Herman Zuber (#111)
Dec. 30: Doug & Kim Kuhl (#796)
Dec. 31: **\$500** Reta Kocher (#605)



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St. Joseph School News

- School resumes Monday, January 5th.

~ PARISH NEWS ~

- **Thank you to Kistler-Patterson Funeral Homes** for providing our 2026 calendars. The calendars are available at the doors.
- **Meals for Moms** would like to welcome **Isla Mae Zuber**, born on Dec 15, 2025 at 5:03pm (eastern). Daughter of Lexie (Erwin) and Tyler Zuber. If you would like to sign up to provide a meal and dessert to this family, or other families who welcome little ones, please contact Laura Matthews at 618-924-5901 or lmatthews@stjoeolney.com.
- **The Parish and Family Life Committee** has left over "Christmas Nail" ornaments. If you did not get one for your family, please feel free to pick one up at the back of church.
- **The Christmas Flower Memorial** list will be printed for next weekend. If you still have envelopes for memorials please bring them to the parish office by Monday, January 5th.

~ KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS ~

- Thursday, Jan. 8: 3rd Degree meeting, 7 PM.
- Thursday, Jan. 15: 4th degree meeting, 7 PM.

Journey Onward Ye Sojourners

Caroline Trimble Pastoral Associate

A Star guided the Magi to the King of Kings, and Lord of Lords. What Star is guiding you this New Year? What will you find once you reach the Star? Will it be life-giving, fruitful and "of God" or prideful and "of the world"? The moment of your Epiphany is closer than you might think! Seek to be guided by the One True Star for it is there where you will find your life of love! Journey onward this New Year, being guided by the Star of Peace and Love!

The 2025 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal
Hope in the Lord

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The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal

Start your New Year off great, by Subscribing to The Messenger! To subscribe online for the Paper or E-edition go to: www.bellevillemessenger.org or Call 618-233-8670.

Respect Life Corner: January 4, 2026

How do we live out the message of Christmas in the New Year, rather than pack it away with the ornaments? Each year, the Octave Day of Christmas falls on the first day of the New Year, on which we also celebrate the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God. Her open heart and courageous "yes" to God show us how to live year-round—with hearts open to the Lord, following where He leads. We are called to place our trust in Him, to enter compassionately into the suffering of others, and to love one another as Christ loves us. Like Our Blessed Mother welcomed Jesus, we are called to cherish and protect the gift of human life, at every stage and in every circumstance. Copyright © 2024, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, D.C. Reprinted with permission. All rights reserved.

Happy New Year 2026

Vocation Corner: January 4, 2026

What a wonderful Gospel account of the Magi traveling to meet the Lord. They followed the star – their “call” – to come and offer their gifts to the Lord. But the question arises as to how the Magi noticed a star at night and no one else really did. Perhaps we need to embrace the “night,” the stillness, to “see and hear” our call. How are we doing in discerning our call to Holiness – in living our vocation as man, woman, or child; married or single; priesthood or religious – of being called to something beyond ourselves?

Sister Parish Trip to Guatemala

A group reservation has been made for 30 seats for the **sister parish trip to Guatemala** for June 2026. If still interested contact Shelly Sands at Missions International (618) 654-9254. Deadline to commit is February 1, 2026.

St. Joseph Church

208 South Elliott St.
Olney, Illinois 62450



Sunday, January 4, 2026

The Epiphany of the Lord



~ St. Joseph Church ~

Website www.stjosephchurcholney.com

Very Rev. Steven L. Beatty Pastor

Fr. Steven's Cell 618-697-2632

E-mail frsteven.beatty@gmail.com

Reverend Levi James Parochial Vicar

Fr. Levi's Cell 618-240-3638

E-mail levi.jamessiu@gmail.com

Caroline Trimble Pastoral Associate

Caroline's Cell 618-263-7106

E-mail CtrimblePA@gmail.com

Tyler Timm Youth Minister

Tyler's Cell 507-530-2911

E-mail ttimm@stjoeolney.com

Casey Hemrich Administrative Assistant

Parish Office 618-392-8181

E-mail stjosephchurch_olney@yahoo.com

Jeffrey Rosenberg Trustee

Elliot Brazil Trustee

~ Welcome ~

The St. Joseph Parish family is a community of believers rooted in the teachings of Jesus.

Join us for mass:

Wednesday 8:00 am

Friday 8:00 am

Saturday 5:00 pm

Sunday 8:00 am

Live streaming of the 8 am masses on Sunday and Wednesday are now available! To watch it live, go to stjosephchurcholney.com

New parishioners, please register as soon as you move into our parish. Call the Parish Office (618-392-8181) to receive a new member packet

Office hours: Mon. Wed. Fri. 8:00-3:00 pm

Baptism: Contact the Parish Office.

Reconciliation: Saturdays from 4:30 PM – 4:45 PM or contact the Parish Office.

Marriage: Call 6 months in advance.

Anointing of the Sick: Any time of need.

~ St. Joseph School ~

Josy Hart Principal

Carol Potter Assistant Principal

Catherine Fritschle Office Manager

School Office 618-395-3081

E-mail office@stjoeolney.com

Website www.stjoeolney.com

FAX 618-395-8500

School Advisory Council: Angel Padilla (*Chairperson*), Heather Colwell, Samantha Foust, Marissa Graves, Andrea Kuenstler, Lauren McClain, Tyler Ochs, Doug Kocher (*St. Joseph-Stringtown Representative*), Holly Nettleton (*Holy Cross-Wendelin Representative*).

January 4, 2026

The Epiphany of the Lord
†Eucharistic Celebrations†

Saturday, January 3, 4:00pm at Holy Cross-

Wendelin "Wib & Virginia Blank†", 5:00pm at St.

Joseph-Olney, 5:00pm at St. Joseph-Olney

Sunday, January 4, 10:00am at Holy Cross-

Wendelin "Clifford & Gertrude Rauch†", "Eleanor Buerster†"

Monday, January 5, 6:30pm at St. Joseph-Stringtown

Tuesday, January 6, 5:00pm at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville

Wednesday, January 7, 8:00am at St. Joseph-Olney

Thursday, January 8, 6:30pm at Holy Cross- Wendelin "For the Parish"

Friday, January 9, 8:00am at St. Joseph-Olney

Saturday, January 10, 4:00pm at Holy Cross-

Wendelin "Floyd & Gerry Carter†", 5:00pm at St. Joseph-Olney

Sunday, January 4, 10:00am at Holy Cross-

Wendelin "Jerry Mix†", "Mildred H. Drewes†", "Gib & Pat Volk†", 8:00am at St. Joseph-Stringtown, 8:00am at St. Joseph-Olney; 10:00am at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville

January Bulletins and Missalettes:

**In Memory of All Deceased Family Members
by Henry & Lynn Weidner**

BULLETIN & MISSALETTE SPONSORS:

To schedule, contact Ashley. Price to sponsor for a month is \$100 for bulletins and \$100 for missalettes.

CHRISTMAS COLLECTIONS – Thursday, December

25, 2025 (2) Envelope Collection: \$20.00, (89)

Christmas Offering: \$6,061.00, Loose: \$638.00 –

Total: \$6,719.00, (3) Building: \$970.00, (5) Needy:

\$145.00

JANUARY LITURGICAL MINISTERS

SATURDAY SUNDAY

Open/Lock/Greet: Open/Lock/Greet:

Dave & Tammy Brent & Sharon

Rudolphi Edwards

EMHC: EMHC:

Tammy Rudolphi Phyllis Eggers

Emma Tinder Diane Schackmann

Lynn Weidner Paul Kocher

Josy Hart Travis Weber

Lectors: Lectors:

Victoria Rudolphi Robin Deckard

Money Counters:

Gerald & Diane Schackmann

Ushers: Ushers:

Daniel Baker Paul Lybarger

Michael Kuenstler Ben Niebrugge

James Rudolphi Brent Edwards

Tim Weidner Aaron Eggers

Mass Servers:

Sat. January 3 – Hank, Clara, & Boyd Weidner

Sun. January 4 – Alex Street, Brooke & Braden Weidner

Sat. January 10 – Levi Rudolphi, Noah Rudolphi, and Mattux Hart

Sun. January 11 – Lane Smithenry, Cora & Stella Warfel

CRMH Communion:

January 11 – Maria Rudolphi

January 18 – Marge Kessler

Children's Liturgy of the Word:

January 4 – Marcia & Nora Street

January 11 – Anna Land & Audrey Smith

January 18 – Holly Nettleton & Ellee Bare

January 25 – Kaila & Bailey Kistner

SUNDAY COLLECTION – Sunday, December 28,

2025 (66) Envelope Collection: \$2,296.00, Loose:

\$433.00 – **Total: \$2,729.00, (3) Building: \$335.00,**

(2) Christmas Flowers: \$45.00, (12) Christmas

Offering: \$1,570.00, (25) Needy: \$810.00, (1) First

Offering: \$5.00

HOLY CROSS REBUILD & IMPROVEMENT UPDATE:

As of Wednesday, December 31st – **\$296,148.57** has been received from 410 donations – thank you!



REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:

Mary Beth Scherer, Terry Tolliver, Wesley Frohning, Wilma Jean Geier, Lee Patridge, Valerie Weidner, Tonya Hall, Dana Kuhl-Bell, Stacy Kessler, Jim & Norma Kocher

PARISH EVENTS:

Monday, January 5 – Young Adults Bible Study at Holy Cross-Wendelin, 7pm.

Tuesday, January 5 – ASAP Prayer Service and Adoration at St. Joseph-Stringtown, 9:30am. Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Joseph-Olney, 12-3pm.

OCIA at St. Joseph-Olney, 6:30pm – God the Holy Spirit: Conversion, Call, and Ecclesia.

Wednesday, January 7 – Family Catechesis Twelfth Night Dinner, Holy Cross Parish Center, 6:30pm.

Thursday, January 8 – Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at Holy Cross-Wendelin, 5:30pm until Mass at 6:30pm.

Brother's in Christ at Holy Cross-Wendelin, 7pm. Monday, January 26 – American Red Cross Blood Drive, Holy Cross Parish Center, 1:30-5:30pm.

CONGRATULATIONS JUSTIN & JACELYN:

On behalf of your parish family, we extend congratulations to Jacelyn (Street), daughter of Shad & Marcia Street, & Justin Zumbahlen as they were united

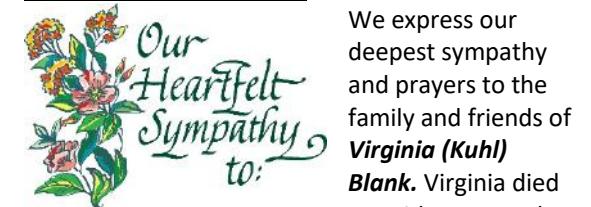
in Holy Matrimony on Saturday, December 27th at Holy Cross-Wendelin. **Your wedding will be remembered as the beginning of many joyous moments in your life together, the moment two people's lives become one; where love between a man and a woman is joined, by the Holy Church,**

in Sacrament. Almighty Father, we ask you to bless Justin & Jacelyn with love, happiness and guidance during their married life. Amen!

WALKING IN PARISH CENTER:

The Holy Cross Parish Center will only be open for walking Wednesday and Friday from 9-11am this week.

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY:

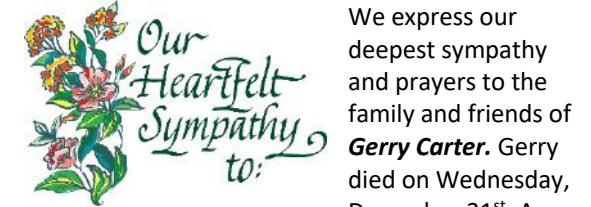


We express our deepest sympathy and prayers to the family and friends of **Virginia (Kuhl) Blank.** Virginia died on Friday, December

26th. A visitation for family and friends will be held on Sunday, January 4th from 3-6pm at Holy Cross. Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Monday, January 5 at 10am at Holy Cross Church with interment following at Holy Cross Cemetery.

"Eternal rest unto Virginia, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace."

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY:



We express our deepest sympathy and prayers to the family and friends of **Gerry Carter.** Gerry died on Wednesday, December 31st. A

visitation for family and friends will be held on Monday, January 5th from 4-6pm at Holy Cross and one hour prior to services on Tuesday. Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Tuesday, January 6 at 10am at Holy Cross Church with interment following at Holy Cross Cemetery. **"Eternal rest unto Gerry, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul and all the souls of the**

faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace."

KNEELER WALLS FOR SALE:

We have eight (8) "kneeler walls" to sell. Kneelers are attached to these when there is no pew in front of a seat. They have been replaced to match the new pews. These are about 4' long and the same height as a pew. \$50 each. Contact Sherry Geier (sherrygeier@gmail.com) if you would like to purchase one.



EPIPHANY KITS:

Available for pickup in the vestibule to bless your home! **20+C+M+B+26**

2026 CALENDARS:

Special thanks to **Kistler-Patterson Funeral Homes** for once again so generously providing the 2026 calendars, which are now available in the vestibule. We appreciate your support and generosity!

CAROLINE TRIMBLE, PASTORAL ASSOCIATE:

A Star guided the Magi to the King of Kings, and Lord of Lords. What Star is guiding you this New Year? What will you find once you reach the Star? Will it be life-giving, fruitful and "of God" or prideful and "of the world"? The moment of your Epiphany is closer than you might think! Seek to be guided by the One True Star for it is there where you will find your life of love! Journey

onward this New Year, being guided by the Star of Peace and Love!

FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF SAINTS

LIBRARY: There are NEW Christmas books- items for kids and adults- to select from. Be sure to take home some Christmas reading material and something for these Winter nights. ***When we pray, we talk to God; when we read, God speaks to us.*** "St. Isidore of Seville "

SISTERS IN CHRIST:

There will be a pause for the Christmas season and the new study will be shared in the New Year.

LADIES ALTAR SODALITY CAKE/CRAFT DRAWING:

Drawing this weekend! If you are interested in donating a cake/craft item, please contact a Ladies Altar Sodality Member or the Parish Office to sign up.

FORMED.ORG SUBSCRIPTION:

Download the app or go to www.formed.org and enter 62448. **The Week of January 4th**

Recommendations: God's Doorkeeper, The Three Wise Men, Epiphany

ST. JOSEPH OLNEY SCHOOL NEWS:

2026 Benefit Calendars are here! The price is \$25. The total payout is \$8,450. Calendars are for sale at the school office, the parish office, or by calling Jeffrey Rosenburg at 618-302-0391. **School will resume on Monday, January 5th!**

OLNEY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:

Thursday, January 8: 3rd Degree meeting, 7 PM.
Thursday, January 15: 4th Degree meeting, 7 PM.

VOCATION CORNER:

What a wonderful Gospel account of the Magi traveling to meet the Lord. They followed the star – their "call" – to come and offer their gifts to the Lord. But the question arises as to how the Magi noticed a star at night and no one else really did.

Perhaps we need to embrace the "night," the stillness, to "see and hear" our call. How are we doing in discerning our call to Holiness – in living our vocation as man, woman, or child; married or single; priesthood or religious – of being called to something beyond ourselves?

PHOTO DIRECTORY:

Please submit photos if you were unable to make a date by sending to parish email, dropping a photo by parish office, or texting to Ashley!

RESPECT LIFE CORNER:

How do we live out the message of Christmas in the New Year, rather than pack it away with the ornaments? Each year, the Octave Day of Christmas falls on the first day of the New Year, on which we also celebrate the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God. Her open heart and courageous "yes" to God show us how to live year-round—with hearts open to the Lord, following where He leads. We are called to place our trust in Him, to enter compassionately into the suffering of others, and to love one another as Christ loves us. Like Our Blessed Mother welcomed Jesus, we are called to cherish and protect the gift of human life, at every stage and in every circumstance. Copyright © 2024, U.S.

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CSMA 2025 – HOPE IN THE LORD:

May God's blessings pour upon you and grant you and your loved ones a healthy, prosperous and joyful new year. Heartfelt thanks to all of you for your support of the Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal and our Belleville Diocese in the past year. You are remembered always in our prayers. Ministries and Programs Funded by The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal

Sunday, January 4, 2026
The Epiphany of the Lord

Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come; and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.



Holy Cross Parish in Wendelin
5782 Ingraham Lane, Newton, IL 62448

Website - - www.holycrosswendelin.com

Parish E-mail: holycrosswendelin@outlook.com

Parish Phone Number: (618)-752-5671

Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday 10am-3pm, and Friday 10am-1pm.

Mass Schedule: Thursdays 6:30pm with Adoration at 5:30pm, Saturday 4:00pm, Sunday 10:00am

****Very Rev. Steven L. Beatty – Pastor**

Fr. Steven's Cell: 618-697-2632

E-mail: frsteven.beatty@gmail.com

****Reverend Levi James – Parochial Vicar**

Fr. Levi: 618-240-3638, levi.jamessiu@gmail.com

****Caroline Trimble – Pastoral Associate**

Caroline: 618-263-7106, trimblePA@gmail.com

****Ashley Hinterscher – Administrative Assistant**

Ashley: 618-843-1892, creholycross@gmail.com

****Tyler Timm – Youth Minister**

Tyler: 507-530-2911; ttimm@stjoeolney.com

Trustees: Carl Will & Kasey Iffert; Pastoral

Council: Tony Kuenstler-Chair; Kevin Blank-Vice-Chair; Cindy Blank, Sharon Edwards, Kelly Geier, Tammy Rudolphi, Holly Nettleton, Dusty Smithery

The Epiphany

At the beginning of the new year we celebrate both Mary, the Mother of God and the Epiphany, which is when the wise men came from far away to worship baby Jesus.

Imagine that you are living a long time ago in Bethlehem and your parents have invited a poor family to stay at your house: a mother, a father and a new baby.



One day something amazing happens: some rich men from a far away country come to see the baby and bring expensive treasures for him! Do you know who the family is now? Who is the baby?

The baby is Jesus, of course, and the mother is Mary. She holds Jesus on her lap so the wise men can bow down to Him and worship Him. Mary cooperated with God to bring Jesus into the world so that we could all see and love and worship Him.

Can you thank Mary today for bringing Jesus to us?

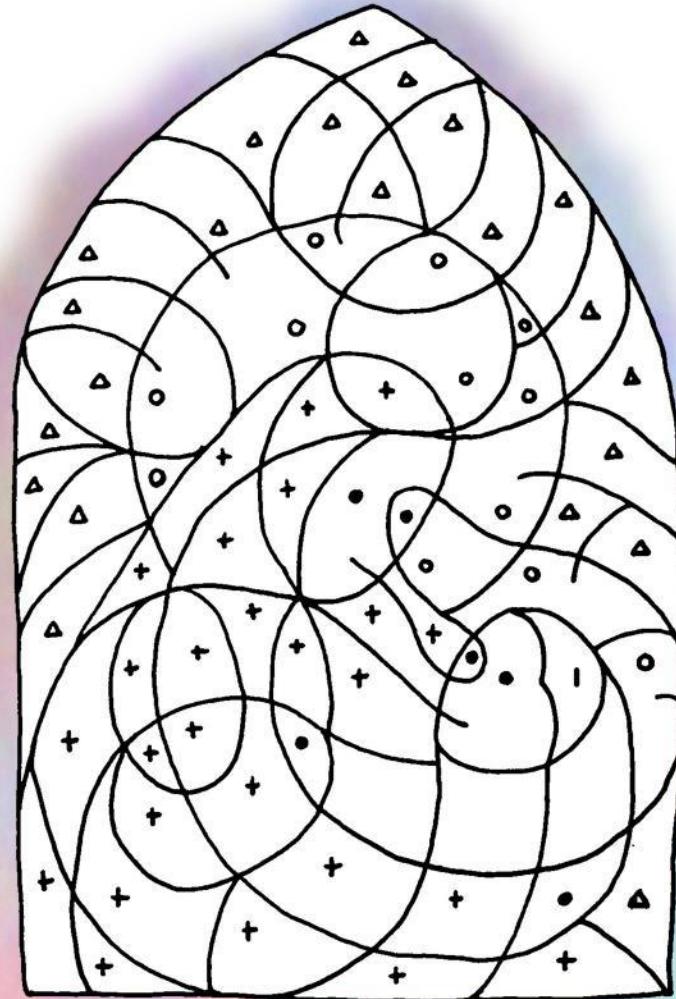
Answer to Octave of Christmas Word-Find:
Mary the Mother of God

www.thekidsbulletin.com



The Kids' Bulletin

*Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God: Jan. 1
& Feast of the Epiphany: January 4 or 6, 2026*



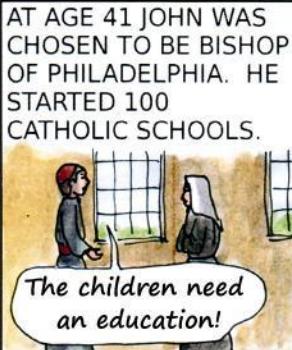
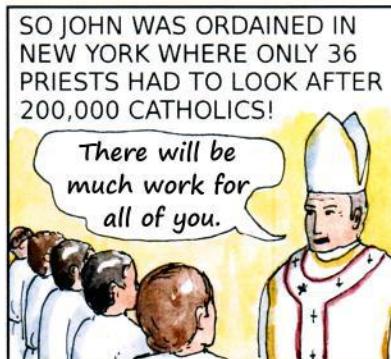
*Whose feast is it on New Year's Day?
Colour in the spaces to see! Here's the code:*

- Blue
- Pink
- Yellow
- Brown
- Skin colour

Saint John Neumann

January 5

JOHN NEUMANN WAS BORN IN BOHEMIA IN 1811. HE STUDIED FOR THE PRIESTHOOD BUT THE BISHOP WOULD NOT ORDAIN HIM BECAUSE THEY HAD SO MANY PRIESTS!



ONCE WHEN VISITING ONE OF HIS PARISHES, BISHOP JOHN HAD TO TAKE A RIDE ON A MANURE WAGON!



SAINST JOHN NEUMANN WORKED TIRELESSLY TO HELP THE POOR PEOPLE WHO WERE SETTLING IN AMERICA. HE DID NOT LET HIS OWN POVERTY SLOW HIM DOWN. WE CAN LEARN FROM HIS EXAMPLE TO USE OUR TALENTS TO BRING GOD TO THE WORLD NO MATTER HOW MUCH OR HOW LITTLE WE HAVE.

Octave of Christmas

Word-Find



Can you find all the words in the list in the puzzle below? Use the leftover letters to fill in the blanks at the end.

ANGELS
ANIMALS
BABY
BARN
BETHLEHEM
BORN
COLD
FIELDS
FOUND

GLORY
GOD
HOLY
JESUS
JOSEPH
MANGER
MARY
MOTHER
NIGHT

PRAISE
SAVIOUR
SHEEP
SHEPHERDS
SING
SKY
STABLE
WONDER
WORSHIP

W P M S I N G N I G H T
O R A T A N I M A L S B
N A S A N G E L S R H E
D I A B M O T H E R E T
E S V L A D J O S E P H
R E I E R Y E L T H H L
G L O R Y E S Y M O E E
F B U T H E U S K Y R H
O A R W O R S H I P D E
U B A R N F I E L D S M
N Y R M A N G E R O F G
D O D C O L D P B O R N

On the eighth day of Christmas we honour in a special way

_____.
