

Hail, you Star of Ocean! Portal of the sky, Ever Virgin Mother, Of the Lord most high. O! by Gabriel's Ave, Uttered long ago, Eva's name reversing, Establish peace below. Break the captive's fetters; Light on blindness pour; All our ills expelling, Every bliss implore. Show yourself a mother; Offer him our sighs, Who for us Incarnate Did not you despise. Virgin of all virgins! To your shelter take us; Gentlest of the gentle! Chaste and gentle make us. Still as on we journey, Help our weak endeavor, Till with you and Jesus We rejoice forever. Through the highest heaven, To the Almighty Three, Father, Son, and Spirit, One same glory be.

Confirmation: April 12th at 5:00pm at St. Joseph-Olney
First Eucharist: April 27-28th at All Masses

Gift of Love The season of giving is upon us and in remembrance of our parishioners who have lost a loved one this year, the Family Catechesis families are going to be giving a "Gift of Love". Our hope is that this token of Love will bring comfort knowing that your loved one is remembered during this Advent and Christmas season. On Sunday, **December 10**, these **Gifts of Love** will be presented to the family of: **Richard Weidner, Kevin Frohning, Linda Rudolphi, Hermena Medernach, Wayne Stark, Floyd Carter, Patricia Volk, Larry Bryan, Eva Herdes, Leonard Kessler, and Joan Rudolphi.** In this Season of Glad Tidings and what a JOY it is to SHARE GIFTS OF LOVE!

CYM YOUTH GROUP:
 CYM Youth Group gathering on Wednesdays at Holy Cross Rectory basement from 7-8:30pm. All high school youth invited. Questions? Please contact Tyler Timm.

ST. JOSEPH OLNEY SCHOOL NEWS:
Thanks to Deacon Steve Andrews and Mr. Jim Gibson for speaking with our 5th - 8th grade students about Jim's prison ministry. His

commitment and faith in working with individuals incarcerated is inspirational.
Saturday, December 9 - Santa Event in the MPR 5:45-7:30pm **Tuesday, December 12** - Girls 8th grade night **Wednesday, December 13 and Thursday, December 14** - Santa's Workshop MPR **Any parishioner interested in 2024-25 enrollment must contact the school office prior to the Christmas break.**
Mark your calendars: March 9th - Bingo Bash - St. Joseph, Stringtown, Parish Center
 Table reservations begin January 3rd by calling the school office. If you want to donate an item to be auctioned, please contact Carol Potter, Lora Kocher, Andrea Kuenstler, Lauren Tibbs, Megan Brinkley or Sara Peavler.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:
Thursday, December 14: 3rd Degree meeting, 7pm. **Thursday, December 21:** 4th Degree meeting, 7pm. **Sunday, December 31:** Volunteer Ministry at 8AM Mass, Olney-St. Joe. Fellowship breakfast to follow at a local restaurant. K of C led Rosary at 7:40AM. **Kudos** to 67 in attendance at the Christmas Appreciation Dinner! Thanks to Steve Kuenstler and Family for the dinner preparation.

CAKE/CRAFT DRAWING:
 Thanks to everyone that participated in our cake/craft drawing this past weekend. Our winners were Saturday – Marcia Street and Sunday – Theresa Smith. Thanks to Martha Buerster for making a towel and placemat set and Ashley Hinterscher for baking cookies and cupcakes. The total amount donated to CYM for the November and December drawings was \$410.00. If anyone would be willing to donate to the cake/craft drawing for future months, please contact the parish office or a Ladies Altar Sodality member.

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION/CATHOLIC CONVERSION:
 Do you have questions about the Catholic faith? Are you interested in learning more about how to grow

closer to our Lord? Do you want to learn how to pray better? Interested in reading more about a certain topic of our faith, but don't know where to start? Possibly even have a hurt or misunderstanding that you want to talk to someone about. Contact Caroline Trimble Pastoral Associate to set up an appointment.

REPRESENTATIVE NEEDED:
 Our area still needs representatives from Wendelin and Stringtown for Catholic Relief Services. If you want to serve your parish in this role, please contact Carol Potter (rep from St. Joseph, Olney) at school (618-395-3081).

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE:
 Thanks to everyone who attended and supported the blood drive this past Monday, December 4th. A special thanks to Kelly Geier for making sure the drive ran smoothly. There were 26 presenting donors with 26 productive units collected. The next drive is scheduled for Monday, January 29, 2024.

The following gave Power Red Donations: Ben Niebrugge, Dennis Herdes, and Travis Weber

Ben Niebrugge	Rita Buerster
Andy Buerster	Denise Geier
Billy Geier	Dan Frohning
Michael Phillips	Fred Kuhl
Elizabeth Volk	Jeff Volk
Dennis Herdes	Amy Sandschafer
Brian Chestnut	Brent Chestnut
Doug Line	Carl Will
Travis Weber	Tony Weber
Renee Gier	Sarah Egleston
Matt Maxon	Michael Gier
Kelly Geier	Hillary Wendling
Tony Prosser	Makayla Weidner

Friends of Newton Family Life Center Provides loving, nonjudgmental, free support for persons in the community who are experiencing an unexpected pregnancy or pregnancy decision. 301 S. Jackson Street, Newton, IL 62448 618-783-5433

Sunday, December 10, 2023
Second Sunday of Advent
O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.



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

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Trustees _____	Carl Will & Sherry Geier
Pastoral Council: _____	Tony Kuenstler-Chair; Kevin Blank-Vice-Chair; Heather Blank-Secretary; Cindy Blank, Gregg Weber, Sheryl Klingler, Pam Blank, Sharon Edwards, Kelly Geier, Tonya Hall, Tammy Rudolphi