

**Collection Total for December 29, 2024**

Envelopes: \$1,583.00 (33)  
Loose: \$658.36  
**Total: \$2,241.36**

Weekly Amount Needed: \$1,400.00

**Building Fund: \$70.00 (2)**

**Christmas Offering: \$1,355.00 (5)**

**Religious Education: \$50.00 (1)**

**Needy: \$25.00 (1)**

**First Offering: \$5.00 (1)**

**Retirement Fund for Religious: \$20.00 (1)**

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**January Bulletins: For the Parish**

**January Missalettes: For the Parish**

**\*Available for 2025. Contact Ashley to schedule.**

**Prices are \$100 for sponsor missalettes and \$50 for bulletins for a month.\***

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**PARISH EVENTS:**

**Sunday, January 5 – Stringtown Community Club Blood Drive, St. Joseph-Stringtown Parish Center, 7-11:30am**

**Tuesday, January 7– Parish Office will be closed! ASAP Prayer Service and Adoration at St. Joseph-Stringtown, 9:30am**

Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Joseph-Olney, 12-3pm. Must be 2 people in the church at all times.

OCIA at St. Joseph-Olney, Room B, 6pm.

**Wednesday, January 8 – Deacon Jack Bible Study at St. Joseph-Olney, 9:15am**

Family Catechesis at Holy Cross-Wendelin, 6:30pm.

Adult Topic: New Beginnings of Life in God

Spiritual Plan Part 2, Kid Topic: CYM – Epiphany:

Follow the Star

**BROTHERS IN CHRIST:**

Thursdays at 7:00pm at Holy Cross-Wendelin

**CAROLINE TRIMBLE - PASTORAL ASSOCIATE:**

**20+C+M+B+25**

*"We saw his Star at its rising and have come to do him homage."*

The Star led the Magi to the greatest gift - Jesus!

The Magi – 3 Kings - brought gifts that were

intended for royalty - for a King.

How could 3 Kings from afar know that the one

they sought was the prophesied one?

They looked to the Star that served as their guide

and followed the *True Light*.

What might be your guiding Star this New Year?

What gifts do you bring to the King? Begin this

New Year living a life that - *reflects- illuminates -*

the Love of God!

The journey is set before you - go forth following

the True Star.

Live this Jubilee year as a "Pilgrim of Hope."

Our Lady of Fatima, *pray for us!*

**STRINGTOWN COMMUNITY CLUB BLOOD DRIVE:**

The next Stringtown Community Blood Drive is scheduled for Sunday, January 5, 2025, from 7-11:30 a.m. Mark your calendar and schedule an appointment online today!

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/donation-time>

**SISTERS IN CHRIST:**

A New Year and our groups resume with "World's First Love" by Venerable Fulton Sheen.

*Venerable Sheen emphasizes the unique dignity, strength, and gifts of women and stresses mankind's need for the Mother of God and her burning love for all her children.*

Join us for the study on: **January 14, Tuesday morning, 10am** at St. Joseph-Stringtown Parish Center. Contact Janette Kocher or Caroline Trimble, if interested.

**January 15, Wednesday evening, 5:30pm** at Holy Cross Parish Center. Contact Kristi Sandschafer or Caroline Trimble, if interested. (On Wednesday evenings there is childcare available). Remember to have your Saint and Word for the New Year.

It's a Jubilee Year let us journey onward as Pilgrims of Hope! **Tuesday group also available at Holy Cross-Wendelin, 6:30-7:30pm.** If interested, contact Amy Heurman at 217-240-1599.

**THANK YOU:**

"Thanks for your prayers and cards that I received over the past few weeks. What a blessing from all of you. I am currently scheduled for surgery on January 8<sup>th</sup> where they will decide to replace the battery or the pacemaker. This decision will be made at the time of my surgery.

Looking forward to returning to the parishes of St. Joseph (Olney), St. Joseph (Stringtown), Holy Cross and St. Lawrence to continue the spreading the Good News of Jesus. Keep me in your prayers on the 8<sup>th</sup> and I look forward to seeing you soon."

God Bless,

Father Daniel Jurek

**If you would still like to send cards and well wishes to Fr. Daniel as he recovers from surgery, here is his address once again:**

Hincke-Sense Home for Retired Priests

Attn: Fr. Daniel Jurek

2620 Lebanon Avenue

Belleville, IL 62221

**NOTE ABOUT MASSES THIS WEEKEND:**

**Please NOTE there will NOT be 10am MASS at Holy Cross-Wendelin this weekend or 8am at St. Joseph-Olney. We will not ask a retired priest to travel across the state in case of inclement weather.**

**WEATHER UPDATE:**

Masses are weather pending next week. Please make sure you are signed up to Flocknote for the latest weather-related updates. Text stjoholycross to 84576.

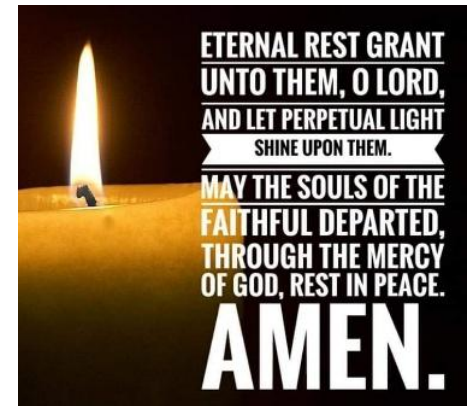
**OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY:**

To Stacy & Kelby Kessler, Joan & David Buerster Jeff & Diane Kocher, Tim & Paula Kocher, and all family and friends on the death of Judy Ann

Kocher. Judy died on December 27, 2024. Services and burial were held at St. Joseph-Stringtown on Friday, January 3, 2025. ***"May Judy rest in the peace and love of our Lord."***

To Tom & Deb Zuber on the death of their daughter Maren Lee Zuber, as well as our sympathy to all family and friends. Maren died on Monday, December 30, 2024. A visitation will be held from 10-11am on Wednesday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at St. Joseph-Olney, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 11am. Burial will follow at St. Joseph-Stringtown Cemetery. ***"May Maren rest in the peace and love of our Lord."***

***Please remember keep these families in your prayers as it has been a hard season for many.***



**YOUNG ADULTS:**

**Bible Study** at the Holy Cross Parish House on Monday's at 7pm.

**ST. JOSEPH OLNEY SCHOOL NEWS:**

**School resumes** for students January 7.

**2025 Benefit Calendars are here!** The price is \$25. Total payout is \$8,425. Calendars are for sale at the school office, parish office, or by calling Jeffrey Rosenberg at 618-302-0391.

**STRINGTOWN COMMUNITY CLUB:**

Stringtown Community Club will meet on Tuesday, January 7 at 7:00 pm at the Parish Center. No speaker is scheduled. It is game night. Feel free to bring a game to play. Refreshments provided by Jamie Kocher and Janice Zwilling.

**ST. JOSEPH-OLNEY BIBLE STUDY:**

Wednesdays at 9:15am, Room B.

**OLNEY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:**

**Thursday, January 9:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Meeting at 7pm.

**Thursday, January 16:** 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Meeting at 7pm.

**Sunday, January 26:** Knight led Rosary at St. Joseph-Olney at 7:40am.

**FRIDAY – ST. JOSEPH-OLNEY MASSES:**

There will only be First Friday masses at Olney until further notice.

**RESPECT LIFE CORNER:**

Living out Christmas in the New Year  
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. One way to live out the message of Christmas and follow Our Lady’s example is to pray 9 Days for Life, a novena for the protection of human life taking place January 16-24. Each day of the novena features a different prayer intention, a short reflection, and more. Download the novena or sign up to get the daily prayers by email or text message at 9daysforlife.com!

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**\*\*If you would like a paper copy of this Novena and do not have access to print, reach out to Ashley via text/call on my cell phone. I would be happy to print you a copy.\*\***

**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?

**2024 CATHOLIC SERVICE & MINISTRY APPEAL:**

*Serve the Lord with gladness -Psalm 100*  
“May God’s blessings pour upon you and grant you and your loved ones a healthy, prosperous and joyful new year. I send 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 my prayers.”

-Bishop Michael McGovern

**THE MESSENGER:**

Subscription prices are 2025 are \$40 for print edition, \$35 for digital edition, \$45 for both print and digital.

***Remember In Our Prayers – Rick Rennie, Teresa Zehner, Luke G. Kocher, Judy Brown, Brenda Zuber***

**Sunday, January 5, 2025**

**The Epiphany of the Lord**

**Sunday, January 5, 8:00am at St. Joseph-Stringtown “Rita Damm+” “Herman, Ethel, & Kathleen Zwilling+”**

**Monday, January 6, 6:30pm at St. Joseph-Stringtown “For the Parish”**

**Tuesday, January 7, 5:00pm at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville**

**Wednesday, January 8, 8:05am at St. Joseph-Olney; 1:30pm at CRMH 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor**

**Thursday, January 9, 6:30pm at Holy Cross-Wendelin**

**Friday, January 10, NO MASS**

**Saturday, January 11, 4:00pm at Holy Cross-Wendelin; 5:00pm at St. Joseph-Olney**

**Sunday, January 12, 8:00am at St. Joseph-Stringtown “Sr. Antoinette Volk, PHJC+” “Sr. Loretta Volk, PHJC+”**

8:00am at St. Joseph-Olney

10:00am at Holy Cross-Wendelin

10:00am at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville

**01/05/2025**

**Servers:**

Kerigan Kocher

Levi Weidner

Ian Kocher

**Lector:**

Wayne Kocher

**EMHC:**

Elmer Ochs

Mary Ochs

John Ochs

**Gifts:**

Chad & Jenny

Hancock Family

**Ushers:**

Jack Weidner

Jared Weidner

**Greeters:**

Sam & Mary Zwilling

**Children’s Liturgy:**

Madison & Natalie

**01/12/2025**

**Servers:**

Delana Sterchi

Grayson Sterchi

Sadie Seiler

**Lector:**

Laura Sterchi

**EMHC:**

Gary Zwilling

Jamie Kocher

Scott Seiler

**Gifts:**

Ellen Steber

Family

**Ushers:**

Byron Zwilling

Isaac Zwilling

**Greeters:**

Caden Kocher

**Children’s Liturgy:**

Janette & Mallory

**St. Joseph Church  
In Stringtown, Illinois  
P.O. Box 10, Dundas, IL 62425**



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

Email: [stjoestringtown@hotmail.com](mailto:stjoestringtown@hotmail.com)

Web site: [www.stjosephstringtown.com](http://www.stjosephstringtown.com)

**Very Rev. Fr. Steven Beatty, V.G. \_\_\_\_\_ Pastor**  
Cell \_\_\_\_\_ 618-697-2632  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ frsteven.beatty@gmail.com

**Reverend Felix Chukwuma \_\_\_\_\_ Pastor**  
Fr. Felix’s Cell \_\_\_\_\_ 812-899-2415  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ [chibuchuma@yahoo.com](mailto:chibuchuma@yahoo.com)

**Caroline Trimble \_\_\_\_\_ Pastoral Associate**  
Caroline’s Cell \_\_\_\_\_ 618-263-7106  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ [ctrimblePA@gmail.com](mailto:ctrimblePA@gmail.com)

**Tyler Timm \_\_\_\_\_ Youth Minister**  
Tyler’s Cell \_\_\_\_\_ 507-530-2911  
Tyler’s E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ [ttimm@stjoeolney.com](mailto:ttimm@stjoeolney.com)

**Ashley Hinterscher \_\_\_\_\_ Administrative Assistant**  
Ashley’s Cell \_\_\_\_\_ 618-843-1892  
Office Phone \_\_\_\_\_ 618-754-3676  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ [stjoestringtown@hotmail.com](mailto:stjoestringtown@hotmail.com)  
Parish Office Hours: Tuesday 9-2pm & Thursday 9am-1pm