

*Sunday, May 21, 2023*  
*Ascension of the Lord*

† *Eucharistic Celebrations* †

Mon. May 22	6:30 PM	(at Stringtown)
Tue. May 23	5:00 PM	(at Lawrenceville)
<b>Wed. May 24</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>For the Parish</b>
Thu. May 25	6:30 PM	(at Wendelin)
<b>Fri. May 26</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>Christina Stec</b>
<b>Sat. May 27</b>	4:00 PM	(at Wendelin)
	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>Linda Gumble;</b>
		<b>Gerald Kuenstler;</b>
		<b>Cornelius Deimel</b>
<b>Sun. May 28</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>Nina Burcham;</b>
		<b>Helen Powless</b>
	8:00 am	(at Stringtown)
	10:00 am	(at Wendelin)
	10:00 am	(at Lawrenceville)

**OUR MONTHLY SPONSORS**

Bulletins: Dan Kuenstler family  
Missalettes: Edward Jones – Leon Stallard

**OUR TITHES FOR MAY 14**

Parish Operating Expense per Week = \$9,847.00  
Envelopes: \$9,815 (93) Loose: \$111  
Guatemala: \$189 (11) Home Missions: \$50 (1)  
Seminarian Education: \$385 (11)

~ **Kudos** ~

- ◆ To *Dudley Chamberlin*, who will celebrate his 94th birthday on May 25. Happy birthday!

**\* AROUND OUR PARISHES \***

**Sunday, May 21**

- 11 AM, Family Life Center Effingham/Newton/Shelbyville will be present at Holy Cross-Wendelin.
- 11 AM, Family Life Committee Coffee and Donuts at Holy Cross-Wendelin
- 4 PM, Priest Support Group in Mt. Vernon

**Wednesday, May 24**

- **Rosary, after Mass.**

- **3 PM, Bulletin deadline. Write, type or email all announcements.**

**Thursday, May 25**

- **2 PM – 6 PM, Blood Drive in the multi-purpose room. Appointments are needed. Schedule online or call 1-800-RED CROSS.**

**Saturday, May 27 / Sunday, May 28**

- **Graduation Recognition Mass.**
- **Memorial Day Prayer and Cemetery Blessing.**

- 11 AM, Recognition of Deacon Steve Andrews' 10-year anniversary of his Diaconate Ordination at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville.

**Monday, May 29 - Memorial Day**

- Parish Offices closed.

**Wednesday, May 31**

- **9 AM, Good Samaritan.**

**Thursday, June 1**

- 7 PM, Finance Council at Holy Cross-Wendelin.

**Friday, June 2**

- **9 AM, First Friday Communion Visitation.**
- **9 AM, Good Samaritan.**

**Saturday, June 3**

- 1 PM, Frohning/Bergbower Wedding at Holy Cross-Wendelin.

 **St. Joseph School Notes** 

\* Congratulations to our graduates and thank you to the families who chose a full-time faith-based education.

\* Thank you to these staff members retiring or making changes in their lives: Marcia Horstmeyer - 38 years, Beth Kinkade - 21 years, Cindy Peters - 11 years, Casey Hemrich - 9 years. We are grateful for the love and commitment they have shown during their time with us.

\* Congratulations to our many alumni who graduate this year - high school, college, and graduate school - you continue to make us proud.

\* Thanks to the staff who share so much of themselves - time, talent, and treasure - to ensure our collective children learn and grow in God's love.

\* The school office will be closed on Fridays during the summer.

\* Our Raise Right program continues to run during the summer - place your orders on Mondays by 9 AM and pick up Thursdays after 1PM.

**CALENDAR WINNERS - \$25**

May 8: Denyse Eagleson (#812)

May 9: Robert Zuber (#262)

May 10: Kari Chamberlin (#721)

May 11: Dan Zwilling (#692)

May 12: Sydni Sorensen (#764)

**Let Us Pray For:** Willy Deimel, Bob Geiger, Angela Geltz, Kenneth Hann, Sarah Kocher, Deloris Nix, Emery and Julie Oesch, Anita Shultz, Eleanor Steber, and Tony Tredway.

*Please call or email the Parish Office to add your name to the Prayer List. Unless notified to extend, the listing in the bulletin will be for four weeks.*

**FROM FR. MARK**

Today we celebrate the conclusion of Jesus' mission from his Father. We see Jesus stand before his chosen eleven as the Christ, Lord of the universe. With full authority for the salvation of the world, Jesus sends the Eleven forth to make disciples of all the nations. They are to baptize in the name of the Trinity and teach all they have been commanded by Jesus.

Then Jesus returns to his Father, leaving the earth in his bodily form. His leaving emphasizes the importance that faith will play in their mission. They are to put their trust in the Spirit he will leave with them, and they are to act on all they have been taught to believe. They will have doubts and fears as they go, so they are to remember his final words to them: "I am with you

always." Jesus' abiding presence with them through the Spirit will give them strength and courage when they need it to continue their efforts.

Over the past few weeks, you and I have been renewed in our faith by our celebration of Jesus' death and rising. Today, as we celebrate his return to his Father, Jesus speaks to us, his disciples in 2023, with the full authority of the Christ: I send you forth to make new disciples. Announce the truth of what I have taught you by living it every day. When you feel the insecurities of the journey, recall my promise to you: "I am with you always." My Spirit will provide the strength you need to continue.

As we carry out our mission each day, we are not to waste time trying to judge our success or failure. Jesus asks us to place our faith in him and give the best effort we can each day. St. Francis de Sales reminds us to begin each day anew, trying to be faithful today to letting Jesus live in us and love through us.

As we celebrate Jesus' return to his Father, let us renew our faith in all that Jesus has taught us. With confidence, let us set about living today with grace and enthusiasm. Remember: Jesus is with us always!

May Jesus draw others to himself by the way we live.

**Journey Onward Ye Sojourners**  
**Caroline Trimble Pastoral Associate**

*"I will rise when he calls my name, no more sorrow, no more pain!" I will rise – I will rise - I will rise! Our Lord Jesus Christ, the King of Kings, suffered, died, and ascended into heaven, and reigns forever and ever. Our King defeated the throngs of death and darkness and opened the heavens for us to enter. However, the process of being transformed does not just wait for us at the end of our life but happens with every breath we take. This transformation is either more of HIM and less of me, or more of the world with more of me!*

One cannot serve two masters; either the prince of this world is your taskmaster and holds you *bound*, or The King of Kings is God and sets you *free*! Live a life of Love - and you too will rise! *I will rise when he calls my name* - to the heights of heaven! Keep to the J.O.Y.S

“**With great joy**, I announce that on Saturday, June 3, 2023, I will ordain 14 men of our Diocese to the Order of Deacon (Permanent Diaconate). The Liturgy will take place at the Cathedral of St. Peter at 10 AM. All are invited to attend. Please pray for our candidates as they prepare for ordination.”

- *From Bishop McGovern*

**May is the month** for our annual St. Joseph Cemetery Fund collection. Please consider giving to help with mowing expenses and general maintenance. You can give in the envelope provided with the May packet or put your contribution in an envelope marked "Cemetery Fund". ***Please write out your check to "St. Joseph Cemetery Fund"***. We appreciate your help in making sure our cemetery remains one of the best kept in the area.

**Memorial Day Prayer and Cemetery Blessing**, at each of our Catholic Cemeteries on Sunday, May 28. The priest, deacons and ministers will be present to honor not only our deceased military service men and women, but all our dead. Join us at one of our Catholic Cemeteries after our Sunday mass. St. Joseph-Stringtown and St. Joseph-Olney at 9:15 AM; Holy Cross-Wendelin at 11:15 AM; and 12:30PM at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Cemetery in St. Francisville and Immaculate Conception Catholic Cemetery in Bridgeport. These short services will occur rain or shine.

**Annual Baby Bottle Project (BBP):** The Parish and Family Life Committee is asking each family to take a baby bottle home and fill

it with your extra pocket change or dollars. Then bring your baby bottle back to church by Sunday, June 18 to be collected. The proceeds will help the Family Life Center in Effingham in the continuation of its pro-life ministry.

**We are accepting mass intentions through September 27, 2023.** Up to three first names with the same last name (i.e., John, Paul and Mary Smith) or two last names only (i.e., Scott and Smith Families) will be allowed per intention. We can accept up to three Mass offerings per mass.

**Meals for Moms** would like to welcome Austin Eli Amerman, son of Nick and Elizabeth (Kuentler) Amerman, born on May 2, 2023.

**2023 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal**  
*The one who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord - Psalm 15*

Thank you to the 52 households that have already pledged to support the mission of the Church to teach, preach, minister and serve in the name of Jesus through their financial support. So far, \$9,889.25 has been pledged by our parish, which is 47% of our goal of \$21,129.

**Recycling:** When you bring aluminum cans to be recycled, please do not include any other metal containers with the aluminum cans, per the Recycling Center.

~ **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS** ~  
**Sunday, May 28:** K of C led Rosary at 7:40 AM at St. Joseph-Olney.

\* Memorial Day Prayer and Cemetery Blessing at Wendelin, Olney and Stringtown Cemeteries following Mass. Two to three Knights carrying the Flag in procession to the cemetery.

**Welcome** Ray Schneider as a 2nd and 3rd Degree Knight!

St. Joseph Church  
208 South Elliott St.  
Olney, Illinois 62450



‘Renewing the Vision’  
Sunday, May 21, 2023  
Ascension of the Lord

~ **Mission Statement** ~

St. Joseph Parish family is a community of believers rooted in the teachings of Jesus Christ. Using the individual gifts, we have been given by God, we minister to ourselves and others through prayer, support, and service. We nurture our inherited faith life and through the power of the Spirit pass it to future generations.

Website ..... [www.stjosephchurcholney.com](http://www.stjosephchurcholney.com)

Very Rev. Fr. Mark Stec, V.F. .... Pastor  
Fr. Mark’s Cell ..... 618-841-7324  
E-mail ..... [mstec88@msn.com](mailto:mstec88@msn.com)

Reverend Felix Chukwuma ..... Pastor  
Fr. Felix’s Cell ..... 618-671-0641  
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)

Kim Kocher ..... Administrative Assistant  
Parish Office ..... 618-392-8181  
E-mail ..... [stjosephchurch\\_olney@yahoo.com](mailto:stjosephchurch_olney@yahoo.com)

Jeffrey Rosenberg ..... Trustee  
Elliot Brazil ..... Trustee

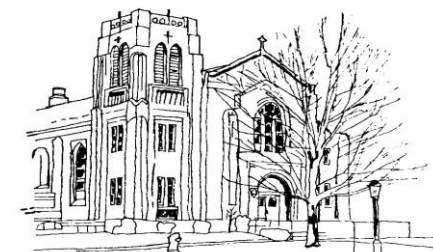
~ **Sacraments** ~

Baptism: Infant or adult, please contact the Parish Office.

Reconciliation: Saturdays from 4:15 PM – 4:30 PM or contact the Parish Office.

Marriage: Call no later than 6 months in advance.

Anointing of the Sick: Any time of need.



~ **Welcome, New Parishioners** ~

Please register as soon as you move into our parish. Call the Parish Office (392-8181) to receive a new member packet. (If you are not receiving church offering envelopes, you are not properly registered.)

~ **St. Joseph School** ~

Carol Potter ..... Principal

Kristen Eagleson ..... Administrative Assistant  
School Office ..... 618-395-3081  
E-mail ..... [office@stjoeolney.com](mailto:office@stjoeolney.com)  
Website ..... [www.stjoeolney.com](http://www.stjoeolney.com)  
FAX ..... 618-395-8500

School Board: Angel Padilla (*Chairperson*), Christy Blank, Heather Colwell, Kathy Davis, Andrea Kuentler, Lauren McClain, Sara Peavler, Doug Kocher (*Stringtown Representative*), Tammy Rudolphi (*Holy Cross-Wendelin Representative*)