

Sunday, December 18, 2022
4th Sunday of Advent

† *Eucharistic Celebrations* †

Mon. Dec. 19 6:30 PM (at Stringtown)
Tue. Dec. 20 5:00 PM (at Lawrenceville)
Wed. Dec. 21 8:05 am Albert, Clara & RoseEllen Hahn
Thu. Dec. 22 No Mass
Fri. Dec. 23 No Mass
Sat. Dec. 24 ~ Christmas Eve ~
4:00 PM For the Parish
4:00 PM (at Lawrenceville)
6:00 PM (at Wendelin)
8:00 PM For the Parish
10:00 PM (at Stringtown)
Sun. Dec. 25 ~ Christmas Day ~
8:00 am For the Parish
8:00 am (at Stringtown)
10:00 am (at Wendelin)
10:00 am (at Lawrenceville)

OUR MONTHLY SPONSORS

Bulletins: Illini Builders
Missalettes: Kistler-Patterson Funeral Homes

OUR TITHES FOR DECEMBER 11

Parish Operating Expense per Week = \$9,847.00
Envelopes: \$5,379.50 (82) Loose: \$198
Guatemala: 200 (8) Flowers: \$510 (17)
Retired Religious: \$380 (14)

~ Kudos ~

* To *Jeanne Dehlinger*, who will celebrate her 94th birthday on December 19.

*** AROUND OUR PARISHES ***

Sunday, December 18

- **8 AM, Children's Liturgy.**
- 1 PM - 4 PM, Stained Glass Window Tour, showcasing 12 Lawrence County Churches including St. Lawrence.

Monday, December 19

- 6 PM, Advent Reconciliation at St. Stephen-Flora

Tuesday, December 20

- 5:30 PM – 7 PM, Advent Reconciliation at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville
- 7 PM, Advent Reconciliation at St. Mary-Mt. Carmel

Wednesday, December 21

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

Thursday, December 22

- **12 PM (Noon), Parish Office is closed.**
- **2 PM – 6 PM, Blood Drive in the multi-purpose room. Appointments are needed. Schedule online or call 1-800-RED CROSS. Shake up your holiday tradition - give blood!**

Friday, December 23

- **The Parish Office is closed.**

Monday, December 26

- **The Parish Office is closed.**

Wednesday, December 28

- **9 AM- 11AM, Good Samaritan.**

Friday, December 30

- **The Parish Office is closed.**
- **9 AM- 11AM, Good Samaritan.**

Saturday, December 31 - Vigil of Mary the Mother of God (New Year's Eve)

- 4 PM, Mass at Holy Cross-Wendelin
- **5 PM, Mass at St. Joseph-Olney**
- **Sunday, January 1** - Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God (New Year's Day)
- **8 AM, Mass at St. Joseph-Olney**
- 8 AM, Mass at St. Joseph-Stringtown
- 10 AM Mass at Holy Cross-Wendelin
- 10 AM Mass at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville

 **St. Joseph School Notes** 

Wednesday, December 21

- School Mass, 8:05 AM (2nd).
- Christmas Program in the gymnasium, 1 PM.
- Early dismissal, 1:50 PM.

December 22 - January 2

- No School.

* The Children's Liturgy Committee will not offer 8AM Children's Liturgy on Christmas Morning (December 25) or New Year's Day (January 1). We will see your children again on January 8.

* Thanks to Mischelle and Riley Doll for organizing and running Santa's Workshop again this year! Thanks to the many helpers who made the shopping days a tremendous success.

* During our Annual Giving Campaign, we occasionally miss donors on our final list. The school wants to recognize Tom and Susan Murray and Paul and Carole Wirth for their gifts to our annual giving campaign. We apologize for missing their names in our final report.

* 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).

CALENDAR WINNERS - \$25

December 5: Mike Zuber (#738)
December 6: Jarrett Doll (#700)
December 7: Rayme Lynn Wagner (#751)
December 8: Susan Kapche (#256)
December 9: DeAnn Dorn (#726)

Let Us Pray For: Janet David, Angela Geltz, Elizabeth and Frank Ginder; Justin, Ember, Olivia Faith and Sophia Hope Kabbes; Sarah Kocher, Darrell Kuhl, Garry Maris, Cathy McDowell, Avery McKinney, Emery and Julie Oesch, Debbie Rauch, Janice Rowark, Kay Rowark, Lynden Spieth, Eleanor Steber, Brenda Summers, Jim Wattles, Camden Weston, Clara Wilson and Jim Zwilling.

FROM FR. MARK: The "O" Antiphons

There are seven short verses sung before the Magnificat during Evening Prayer of the Church on the seven days before the vigil of Christmas. They each begin with the exclamation "O". Each of them ends with a plea for the Messiah to come. As Christmas approaches the cry becomes more urgent.

The antiphons were composed in the seventh or eighth century when monks put together texts from the Old Testament which looked forward to the coming of our salvation. They form a rich mosaic of scriptural images. These seven verses, or antiphons as they are called, appear to be the originals although from time-to-time other texts were used. They became very popular in the Middle Ages. While the monastic choirs sang the antiphons the great bells of the church were rung.

A curious feature of these antiphons is that the first letter of each invocation may be taken from the Latin to form an acrostic in reverse.

So, the first letters of Sapientia, Adonai, Radix, Clavis, Oriens, Rex, and Emmanuel, provide the Latin words: ERO CRAS . The phrase spells out the response of Christ himself to the heartfelt prayer of his people: "Tomorrow I will be there".

Why not join with the Prayer of the Church each evening and reflect on these words preparing for Christmas day by day:

O Sapientia - December 17th: O Wisdom, you come forth from the mouth of the Most High. You fill the universe and hold all things together in a strong yet gentle manner. O come to teach us the way of truth.

O Adonai - December 18th: O Adonai and leader of Israel, you appeared to Moses in a burning bush and you gave him the Law on Sinai. O come and save us with your mighty power.

O Radix Jesse - December 19th: O stock of Jesse, you stand as a signal for the nations; kings fall silent before you whom the peoples acclaim. O come to deliver us, and do not delay.

O Clavis David - December 20th: O key of David and scepter of Israel, what you open no one else can close again; what you close no one can open. O come to lead the captive from prison; free those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death.

O Oriens - December 21st: O Rising Sun, you are the splendor of eternal light and the sun of justice. O come and enlighten those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death.

O Rex Gentium - December 22nd: O King whom all the peoples desire, you are the cornerstone which makes all one. O come and save man whom you made from clay.

O Emmanuel - December 23rd: O Emmanuel, you are our king and judge, the One whom the peoples await and their Savior. O come and save us, Lord, our God.

Journey Onward Ye Sojourners

Caroline Trimble Pastoral Associate

The Advent season of waiting and anticipating brings us to the last purple candle of Peace. May these remaining days of journeying towards the babe in the manger be one of *Hope, Love, Joy and Peace* in your heart and homes. Our Blessed Mother shows us the way to Jesus in every season, so let her show you what Peace on Earth really looks like. Join our Mother and say "*Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.*" There is a Joy in the journey and Mary leads the way... Keep to the J.O.Y.S

The Cookie Walk was a great success! Thank you to all of our bakers, volunteers, and parishioners for the support in another successful Cookie Walk. The total earnings were \$1,162!

Volunteer Now! Ministers are still needed for the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses. Sign-up sheet is in the vestibule. Please volunteer to help at the Mass you plan to attend.

The deadline to turn in names for the Christmas Flower Memorial list is Sunday, December 25.

Giving Tree: The deadline to turn in gifts is Wednesday, December 21. After the deadline, please call Rose Ann Schwartz (395-1151) to arrange for pick-up.

We are now accepting mass intentions through June 30, 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.

Deepest sympathy to the family of Edward S. Weiler. May he rest in the peace of God's love.

Let's shower our Seminarian Ben Baker from St. Joseph-Olney with Christmas greetings by sending him a Christmas card letting him know he is in our thoughts and prayers. His address is: Ben Baker, Kenrick-Glennon Seminary, 5200 Glennon Drive, St. Louis, MO 63119.

The 45th Annual Christmas Collection will be taken up at all Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Parishes and agencies throughout the diocese will request monies from this collection during 2023 to assist those who are in need with food, clothing, shelter, utility payments, healthcare and medications, funeral and burial expenses, transportation and emergency assistance of all types. Please consider giving as you are able.

Annual Outreach Meals: The Immanuel United Methodist Church, along with other churches in our community, are planning for the annual Outreach Meals on Christmas Eve, December 24. More information is on the bulletin board.

~ KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS ~

Sunday, December 25: K of C led Rosary, 7:40AM, at St. Joseph-Olney.

There were no local winners to the Vocational Raffle. Kudos to our local parishes with 88 books sold! Local monies will be presented to our local Seminarian, Ben Baker.

Family of the Month: Steve and Donna Kuenstler - Christmas Dinner hosts!

Knight of the Month: Mike Ginder – Vocation Raffle Chairman.

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



'Renewing the Vision'
Sunday, December 18, 2022
4th Sunday of Advent

~ 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.

Websitewww.stjosephchurcholney.com

Very Rev. Fr. Mark Stec, V.F..... Pastor
Fr. Mark's Cell618-841-7324
E-mail..... mstec88@msn.com

Reverend Felix Chukwuma Pastor
Fr. Felix's Cell618-671-0641
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Kim Kocher Administrative Assistant
Parish Office..... 392-8181

E-mail..... stjosephchurch_olney@yahoo.com

Jeffrey Rosenberg Trustee
Elliot Brazil..... Trustee

Pastoral Council: Kurt Ginder, Jane Kocher,
Wayne Kocher, Cathy McDowell, Vicki Stuckey, Matthew Zuber

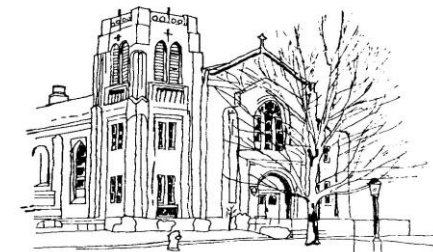
~ Sacraments ~

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 PotterPrincipal

Kristen Eagleson.....Administrative Assistant
School Office 395-3081

E-mail..... office@stjoeolney.com

Websitewww.stjoeolney.com

FAX..... 395-8500

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