

ST. JOSEPH - OLNEY

Bulletins

St. Joseph - Olney Pages 2-3

St. Joseph - Stringtown Pages 4-5

Holy Cross – Wendelin Pages 6-7

Kids Bulletin Pages 8-9

Sunday, December 28, 2025
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph

† Eucharistic Celebrations †

Mon. Dec. 29 6:30 PM at Stringtown

Tue. Dec. 30 No mass

Wed. Dec. 31 Vigil of The Solemnity of Mary

5:00 PM Rita & Ron Damm
Eleanor Steber

Thu. Jan. 1 5:00 PM at Lawrenceville
The Solemnity of Mary

10:00 am at Stringtown
6:30 pm at Wendelin

Fri. Jan. 2
First Friday
8:00 am For the Parish

Sat. Jan. 3
9:00 am
4:00 PM
5:00 PM
Margaret King
Ted Eagleson Sr.
Deacon Jack Shuster

Sun. Jan. 4
8:00 am
Albert, Clara, & Rose Ellen Hahn
Christina Ginder
Special Intention

8:00 am
10:00 am
10:00 am at Lawrenceville

OUR DECEMBER SPONSORS

Bulletins: Illini Builders – Gassmann Family
Missalettes: Kistler-Patterson Funeral Home

OUR TITHES FOR DECEMBER 21st
Parish Operating Expense per Week = \$9,847.00

Envelopes: \$7,008 (102) Loose: \$251

Guatemala: \$65 (3) Christmas Flowers: \$300 (10)
Retirement Fund for Religious: \$180 (4)

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 **Frank Raymond Ginder**. May he rest in the peace of God's love.

~ AROUND OUR PARISHES ~

Saturday, December 27th

- Mass for **Jim & Mary Steber, Maren Zuber, and Larry & Donna Kirts.**

Sunday, December 28th

- Mass for **Carl & Una Kocher and Deacon Jack Shuster.**
- Children's liturgy at 8 am mass. All students in grades K-3 are welcome to attend.

Tuesday, December 30th

- 12:00-3:00 PM, Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Olney. There must always be 2 people in the church.
- No meeting for OCIA members today. Next meeting is on January 6th at 6:30 PM.

Friday, January 2nd - First Friday

- 8:00 am mass followed by communion delivery.

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."

CALENDAR WINNERS - \$25

Dec. 22: Katie Rosenburg (#287)
Dec. 23: Michelle Burgener (#422)
Dec. 24: Ashley Williams (#498)
Dec. 25: \$500 – Jill Slack (#132)
Dec. 26: Maria Nobbe (#291)



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.

St. Joseph School News

- The school will be closed for Christmas break from Dec. 22 - Jan. 4. Students return Jan. 5th.
- 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.

~ PARISH NEWS ~

Following in the Footsteps of the 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:"*

- **Christmas Flower Memorials:** Please use the envelope labeled 'Christmas Flower Offering' included in your December packet. Proceeds from this collection will be used to purchase the flowers to decorate our church. On the reverse side of the envelope, **please print clearly** the person the memorial is for. A list of the memorials will be published at a later date.

- **Thank you to Kistler-Patterson Funeral Homes** for providing our 2026 calendars. The calendars are available at the doors.

- **Catholic Relief Services:** One way to support our brothers and sisters around the world is to participate in the CRS gift tag program - providing resources to help those in need build a better life. You can choose an ornament that reflects the resource you want to provide (farm animals, back to school kit, fertilizer, etc.), write out your check to Catholic Relief Services, and place it in the collection at the next mass you attend. Directions are also on the ornaments.

- **Meals for Moms** would like to welcome **Lucia Evelyn Brazil**, born on December 8, 2025. Daughter of Samantha (Herman) & Elliot Brazil. 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 ornaments from last weekend. If you did not get one for your family, please feel free to pick one up at the back of church.

~ 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

There is no place like home, and there is nothing like family. Those that are part of a family may not always be of the same last name, DNA, faith, or the same culture. There is family that is given and family that is chosen! The Holy Family is a perfect example- Mary was Immaculately Conceived, Joseph is the foster Father, and Jesus was of a Divine Conception. Make no mistake, they were family, they loved each other, laughed, cried, supported, and shared the journey no matter the obstacles. What a family shares- in season or out of season - is the priceless gift of Holy Love. Family is a precious and priceless gift, spend time loving your family and bring that Holy Love of the Holy Family into yours. Call it a clan, call it a network, call it a tribe, call it a family: Whatever you call it, whoever you are, you need one. Journey onward this New Year with the Holy Love of Family. A Joyous New Year to you and all your loves!

The 2025 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal
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.

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: December 28, 2025

“O Blessed Mother, at the angel’s word you went in haste to the aid of your cousin Elizabeth. Although pregnant yourself, you placed her needs before your own. By your example of radical solidarity, teach us to reverence and protect those in need, without conditions or expectations... Obtain for us the grace to bring Christ to any expectant mother who is alone and afraid.” USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities Prayer for Radical Solidarity (www.respectlife.org/prayer-for-radical-solidarity)

Vocation Corner: December 28, 2025

“The priestly vocation is essentially a call to sanctity, in the form that derives from the Sacrament of Holy Orders. Sanctity is intimacy with God; it is the imitation of Christ, poor, chaste, and humble; it is unreserved love for souls and self-giving to their true good; it is love for the Church, which is holy and wants us to be holy, because such is the mission that Christ has entrusted to it. Each one of you must be holy also in order to help your brothers pursue their vocation to sanctity.”

– St. John Paul II, October 9, 1984

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.

Parish office hours will vary over the holidays.

The office will be open:

Mon. Dec. 29th 8am-noon
Wed. Dec. 31st 8am-3pm
Fri. Jan. 2nd 8am-3pm



St. Joseph Church

208 South Elliott St.
Olney, Illinois 62450



Sunday, December 28, 2025

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph



~ 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).

Collection Total for December 21, 2025

Envelopes: \$1,217.00 (31)

Loose: \$80.00

Total: \$1,297.00

Building Fund: \$515.00 (6)

Christmas Flowers: \$55.00 (3)

Retirement Fund for Religious: \$360.00 (4)

Christmas Offering: \$105.00 (2)

Weekly Amount Needed: \$1,400.00

December Bulletins: In Memory of Barbara Ann Ochs by Fred Ochs

December Missalettes: In Memory of Lorraine & Lucille Dallmier and Cletus & Marie Zwilling by Raymond & Theresa Zwilling

**Contact Ashley to schedule for 2026!

PARISH EVENTS:

Monday, December 29 – Young Adults Bible Study at Holy Cross-Wendelin, 7pm.

Tuesday, December 30 – Stringtown Parish Office open 9am-2pm. **Please note bulletin info must be submitted by NOON to go in weekend bulletin.**

ASAP Prayer Service and Adoration at St. Joseph-Stringtown, 9:30am.

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

There will not be OCIA. Next meeting January 6th at 6:30pm – God the Holy Spirit: Conversion, Call, and Ecclesia.

Sister's in Christ will resume in new year!

Wednesday, December 31 – Vigil of the

Solmenity of Mary: Mass at St. Joseph-Olney and St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville, 5pm.

Thursday, January 1 – Happy New Year! Parish Offices Closed!

Solemnity of Mary: Mass 10:00am at St. Joseph-Stringtown, 6:30pm at Holy Cross-Wendelin.

There will not be Brother's in Christ this week!

Sunday, January 4 – Stringtown Community Club Blood Drive, 6:30am-12pm Noon!

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

Sunday, January 4 – Stringtown Community Club

Blood Drive, 6:30am-12pm Noon!

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:

The next Stringtown Community Blood Drive is scheduled for 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.



Come to give Jan. 1-25 for chance to win trip for 2 to Super Bowl LIX in Calif. redblood.org/SuperBowl

1-800 RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767
redcrossblood.org

Red Cross Blood Services

SISTERS IN CHRIST:

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

THANK YOU:



Thank you to the decorators for all their hard work keeping our church beautifully decorated and always looking it's best, to our gifted and talented choir for the beautiful music at our Christmas Masses and always, and to all those that served ministries. We are truly blessed here at St. Joseph-Stringtown!

CAROLINE TRIMBLE - PASTORAL ASSOCIATE:

Merry Christmas to you and yours!

May the love of the Holy Family

Jesus+Mary+Joseph+fill your hearts and homes.

A Blessed New Year to you and keep to the journey-the Kingdom awaits!

There is no place like home, and there is nothing like family. Those that are part of a family may not always be of the same last name, DNA, faith, or the same culture. There is family that is given and family that is chosen! The Holy Family is a perfect example- Mary was Immaculately Conceived, Joseph is the foster Father, and Jesus was of a Divine Conception. Make no mistake, they were family, they loved each other, laughed, cried, supported, and shared the journey no matter the obstacles. What a family shares- *in season or out of season* - is the priceless gift of Holy Love. Family is a precious and priceless gift, spend time loving your family and bring that Holy Love of the Holy

Family into yours. Call it a clan, call it a network, call it a tribe, call it a family: Whatever you call it, whoever you are, you need one. Journey onward this New Year with the Holy Love of Family. A Joyous New Year to you and all your loves!

FAMILY CATECHESIS:

Twelfth Night 'Epiphany' Dinner - January 7, 6:30pm at Holy Cross Parish Center.

Join us for Family Dinner, CYM Saint Skit, and Special Guests to arrive with an Epiphany message. Let us continue to "Follow in the Footsteps of the Saints."



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.

The school will be closed for Christmas break from December 22-January 4. Students return January 5.

All of us at St. Joseph School wish our parish communities a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We are deeply grateful for your prayers, kindness, presence, and continued investment in Catholic education.

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 December 28th**

Recommendations: New Year's Resolutions: The Augustine Institute Show, The Holy Family, and Litany of the Holy Name of Jesus.

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:

"The priestly vocation is essentially a call to sanctity, in the form that derives from the Sacrament of Holy Orders. Sanctity is intimacy with God; it is the imitation of Christ, poor, chaste, and humble; it is unreserved love for souls and self-

giving to their true good; it is love for the Church, which is holy and wants us to be holy, because such is the mission that Christ has entrusted to it. Each one of you must be holy also in order to help your brothers pursue their vocation to sanctity."

— St. John Paul II, October 9, 1984

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.



REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:

Rick Rennier, Teresa Zehner, Judy Brown, Brenda Zuber, Valerie Weidner, Steve Zuber, Carolyn Elie, Linda McWhirter, Jim & Norma Kocher

Happy New Year on behalf of Fr. Steven, Fr. Levi, staff, and all of us at St. Joseph-Stringtown!

Sunday, December 28, 2025

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph Sunday, December 28, 8:00am at St. Joseph-

Stringtown "Barbara Ann Ochs†" Joseph

Schneider†" "Carl & Una Kocher†"

Monday, December 29, 6:30pm at St. Joseph-

Stringtown "Ronald and Rita Damm† & Eleanor

Steber†" "George Ochs†"

Tuesday, December 30, NO MASS

Wednesday, December 31, Vigil of the Solemnity of Mary, 5:00pm at St. Joseph-Olney and St.

Lawrence-Lawrenceville

Thursday, January 1, The Solemnity of Mary, 10:00am at St. Joseph-Stringtown "For The

Parish", 6:30pm at Holy Cross-Wendelin

Friday, January 2, 8:00am at St. Joseph-Olney

Saturday, January 3, 4:00pm at Holy Cross-Wendelin, 5:00pm at St. Joseph-Olney

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

Stringtown "Judy Zuber†" "Gus & Lorena Ochs†, Joseph Schneider†" "Fr. Roger Schoenhofen†"

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

12/28/2025

01/04/2025

Servers:

Delana Sterchi

Hallie Ochs

Gus Kocher

Lector:

Gary Zwilling

EMHC:

Elmer Ochs

Mary Ochs

John Ochs

Gifts:

Jack Weidner Family

Ushers:

Ian Kocher

Mallory Kocher

Greeters:

Elmer & Mary Ochs

Children's Liturgy:

Anne & Kaitlin

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

St. Joseph Church

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

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

CAROLINE TRIMBLE, PASTORAL ASSOCIATE:

Merry Christmas to you and yours!
May the love of the Holy Family
Jesus+Mary+Joseph—fill your hearts and homes.
A Blessed New Year to you and keep to the journey—the Kingdom awaits!

There is no place like home, and there is nothing like family. Those that are part of a family may not always be of the same last name, DNA, faith, or the same culture. There is family that is given and family that is chosen! The Holy Family is a perfect example—Mary was Immaculately Conceived, Joseph is the foster Father, and Jesus was of a Divine Conception. Make no mistake, they were family, they loved each other, laughed, cried, supported, and shared the journey no matter the obstacles. What a family shares—*in season or out of season*—is the priceless gift of Holy Love. Family is a precious and priceless gift, spend time loving your family and bring that Holy Love of the Holy Family into yours. Call it a clan, call it a network, call it a tribe, call it a family: Whatever you call it, whoever you are, you need one. Journey onward this New Year with the Holy Love of Family. A Joyous New Year to you and all your loves!

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:

There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in vestibule if you are interested in donating a cake/craft item. You can also 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 December 28th**

Recommendations: New Year's Resolutions: The Augustine Institute Show, The Holy Family, and Litany of the Holy Name of Jesus.

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. **The school** will be closed for Christmas break from December 22-January 4. Students return January 5. **All of us at St. Joseph School** wish our parish communities a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We are deeply grateful for your prayers, kindness, presence, and continued investment in Catholic education.

OLNEY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:

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

VOCATION CORNER:

"The priestly vocation is essentially a call to sanctity, in the form that derives from the Sacrament of Holy Orders. Sanctity is intimacy with God; it is the imitation of Christ, poor, chaste, and humble; it is unreserved love for souls and self-giving to their true good; it is love for the Church, which is holy and wants us to be holy, because such is the mission that Christ has entrusted to it. Each one of you must be holy also in order to help your brothers pursue their vocation to sanctity." — St. John Paul II, October 9, 1984

PHOTO DIRECTORY:

Thank you to Kasey Iffert, Kathy Kuenstler, Joan Buerster, Ann Bryan, Martha Buerster, Sandi Kessler, Caroline Trimble, Carla Kuhl, and Martha Deimel for helping work the registration table for photos! 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. Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, D.C. Reprinted with permission. All rights reserved.

QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTION:

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.

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

Happy New Year on behalf of Fr. Steven, Fr. Levi, parish staff, and all of us at Holy Cross Church!

Sunday, December 28, 2025
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

The shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.



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

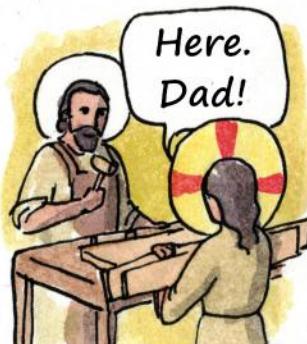
****Very Rev. Steven L. Beatty – Pastor**
Fr. Steven's Cell: 618-697-2632
E-mail: frsteven.beatty@gmail.com

****Reverend Levi James – Parochial Vicar**
Fr. Levi: 618-240-3638, levi.james@outlook.com
****Caroline Trimble – Pastoral Associate**
Caroline: 618-263-7106, ctrimblePA@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 Holy Family



Today we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family: Jesus, Mary and Joseph. When God sent His Son Jesus into the world He wanted Him to come in a humble and quiet way.

He wanted Jesus to have a mother and an earthly father and be raised in a happy home.

God brings us into the world in families too. He wants us to have good and loving mothers and fathers to look after us and teach us. Our Lady and Saint Joseph are great examples for parents. They loved Jesus and kept Him safe and let Him grow and learn.



Jesus is an example to children, too!

Love your father and mother, obey them and pray for them. Today is a good time to think of how your family can become more like the

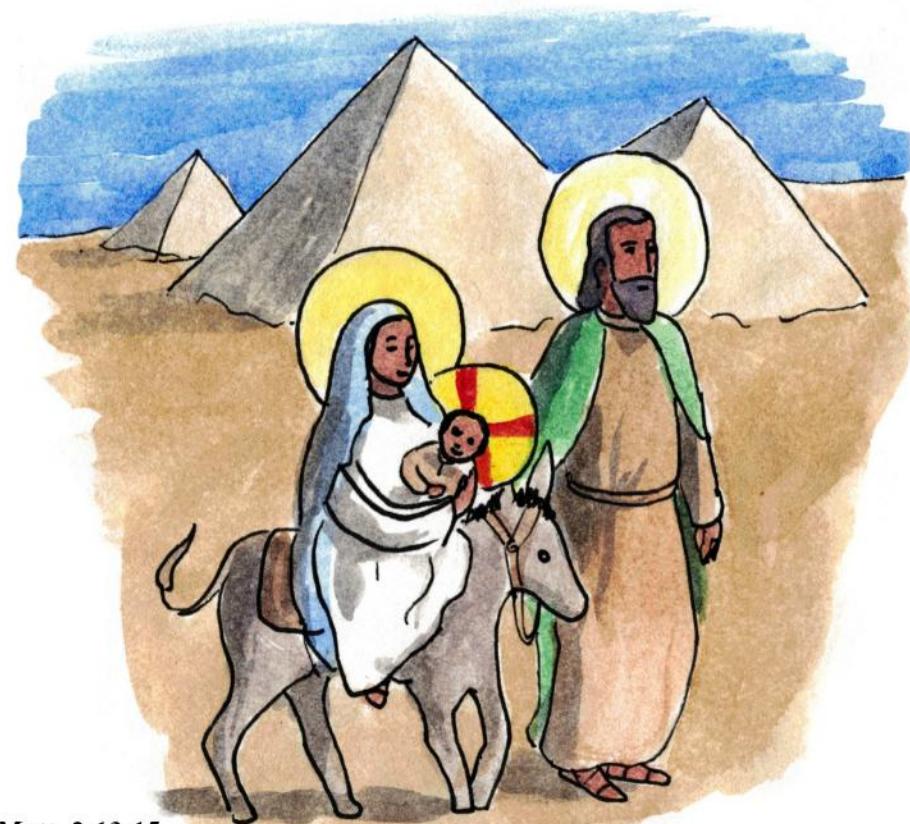
Holy Family, living in peace, joy and love. Can you think of a way to be more obedient, loving or generous with your family?

Answer to inside page: HOLY FAMILY
Answer to front page: Out of Egypt I called my son.

www.thekidsbulletin.com

The Kids' Bulletin

*Sunday December 28th, 2025
Feast of the Holy Family*



Matt. 2:13-15

Use the number code to see what the prophet predicted about the Child Jesus.

11 15 14 11 5 4 6 16 12 14 7
— — — — — — — — — — — — — — — .

A	C	D	E	F	G	I	L	M	N	O	P	S	T	U	Y
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16

Saint Thomas Becket

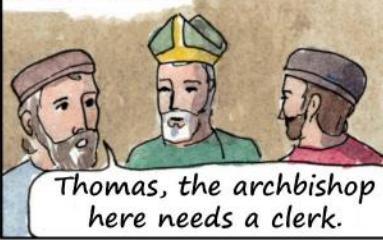
December 29

THOMAS BECKET WAS BORN IN 1120 IN LONDON, ENGLAND, TO A FAIRLY WEALTHY FAMILY. HE RECEIVED A GOOD EDUCATION.

Translate this sentence...



HE WAS SENT TO PARIS TO STUDY, AND BEGAN WORKING FOR THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY.



Thomas, the archbishop here needs a clerk.

BECAUSE HE GOT ALONG WELL WITH KING HENRY II, HE WAS MADE CHANCELLOR.

Tell the pope I want Thomas to be the archbishop.



I'll serve you to the best of my ability!

WHEN THE ARCHBISHOP DIED, THOMAS TOOK HIS PLACE.

THOMAS TOOK HIS JOB SERIOUSLY, INSISTING ON THE CHURCH'S RIGHTS.

Your Highness, you are not in charge of the monasteries.

THE KING BECAME ANNOYED AND GRUMBLED ABOUT ARCHBISHOP THOMAS.

For the name of Jesus and the protection of the Church!



Who will rid me of this troublesome priest?

FOUR KNIGHTS WHO WANTED TO PLEASE THE KING WENT TO THE CATHEDRAL WHERE SAINT THOMAS WAS OFFERING MASS AND KILLED HIM.



SAINT THOMAS HAD LIVED A SECULAR (NOT VERY RELIGIOUS) LIFESTYLE UNTIL HE BECAME AN ARCHBISHOP. THEN HE UNDERSTOOD THAT HIS JOB WAS TO CARE OF SOULS, AND HE DIDN'T LET HIS FRIENDSHIP WITH THE KING GET IN THE WAY. GOD WANTS US TO HAVE GOOD FRIENDS, BUT REMEMBER HE IS OUR BEST FRIEND!

Fill in the Blanks

Use the words from the list to fill in the blanks and use the circled letters to fill in the blanks at the bottom.

The angel of the Lord appeared to

_____ ¹ in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his ² _____, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell ³ _____. ”

_____ ⁴ is going to search for the child to destroy him.”

Joseph rose and took the _____ ⁵ and his mother by ⁶ _____ and departed for Egypt.

He _____ ⁷ there until the death of Herod, that what the ⁸ _____ had said through the prophet might be _____ ⁹, Out of _____ ¹⁰ I called my son.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Matt. 2:13-15

FULFILLED
MOTHER
STAYED
JOSEPH
HEROD **YOU**
CHILD **LORD**
NIGHT **EGYPT**

