

Sunday, December 8, 2024
Second Sunday of Advent

✠ Eucharistic Celebrations ✠

- Mon. Dec. 9** *The Immaculate Conception*
8:05 am *For the Parish*
8:00 am at Lawrenceville
6:30 PM at Stringtown
- Tue. Dec. 10 5:00 PM (Prayer Service)
at Lawrenceville
- Wed. Dec. 11 1:30 PM (at Carle 3rd Floor)
Special Intention
- Thu. Dec. 12 6:30 PM at Wendelin
- Sat. Dec. 14**
4:00 PM at Wendelin
5:00 PM *Hermine, William, & Margaret Zuber*
Deceased members of Raymond & Christina Kocher Family
Bernie Seiler
- Sun. Dec. 15**
8:00 am *Richard & Glenda Dallmier*
Eddie & Catherine Pingsterhaus
Wm & Ethel Faller
- 8:00 am at Stringtown
10:00 am at Wendelin
10:00 am at Lawrenceville

OUR DECEMBER SPONSORS

Bulletins: Illini Builders
Missalettes: Kistler-Patterson Funeral Home

OUR TITHES FOR DEC. 1st

Parish Operating Expense per Week = \$9,847.00
Envelopes: \$5,740 (76) Outreach: \$240
Guatemala: \$281 (19) Christmas Flowers: \$618 (25)

Let Us Pray For: Emery Oesch, Gene Bergbower, Luke G. Kocher, David Fehrenbacher, Marlene Harris, Don Kocher, Bessie Rossiano, Mary Rowark, Eleanor Steber, Tony Tredway, Anita Shultz, Kenneth Hann, Deloris Nix, and Ruth Zwilling. *Please call or email the Parish Office to add any new names to the Prayer List.*

~ Kudos ~

- Happy Birthday to Verneatha Kessler who celebrates her 104th birthday on December 14th.

~ Deepest Sympathy ~

- Deepest sympathy to the family of *Deborah Lynn (Tibbs) Rauch*. May she rest in the peace of God's love.

~ AROUND OUR PARISHES ~

Sunday, December 8th

- Children's liturgy at 8 am mass.
- **Gift of Love:** A token of love offered in memory of a Loved one who died this past year. A gift will be shared on December 8, at all the Masses. The Family Catechesis families have provided this token of love for your family to share during the Advent and Christmas season. If you are unable to be there to receive your Gift of Love, you can pick it up at the parish office. Our continued prayers for you and your families during this time of year.

Monday, December 9th

- Mass at 8:05 am, Feast of the Immaculate Conception. (No mass Dec. 11)
- Rosary, after mass.

Tuesday, December 10th

- 12 PM - 3 PM, Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. There must always be 2 people in the church.
- 2nd and 6th grades attend the Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.
- OCIA will be meeting on Tuesday evenings in conference room B at 6 PM.
- Lawrenceville will have a prayer service at 5 PM.

Wednesday, December 11th

- 9:15 am, Bible Study, St. Joseph Olney, Room B: Deacon Jack will take you through the readings for the Third Sunday of Advent and we'll hear about our challenge to bring the Good News to the people and enable them to share the Good News of a God who is near and cares for each person. Better visit Bible Study
- 12 noon, Bulletin deadline. Write, type or email all announcements.
- 1:30 PM, mass at Carle 3rd floor.

Thursday, December 12th

- Parish and Family Life committee meets at 5:30 PM in the quilting room.

Saturday, December 14th

- 4 PM - 6 PM, Annual Cookie Walk in the multi-purpose room.

Sunday, December 15th

- 8 am - 10 am, Annual Cookie Walk in the multi-purpose room.
- 9:00 - 10:30 am, Cookies with Santa, sponsored by the St. Joseph School enrollment committee. Children from birth to kindergarten are invited to have a cookie, make a Christmas craft, and get their picture taken with Santa!
- CYM leads the mass ministries at Olney.

During Advent we will be praying the Rosary before all of the Masses, beginning with the 5:00 PM Mass on Saturday, November 30, and ending with the 8:00 AM Mass on Sunday, December 21. We will begin a half hour before each Mass. For anyone wishing to lead the Rosary during those times, there will be a sign-up sheet by the door at the back of the church. Thank you.

🔔 St. Joseph School News 🔔

- School Mass on **Monday**, December 9- Feast of the Immaculate Conception.
- Secret Santa shopping for K-8 students- December 11 and 12.
- Band Christmas concert- Friday, December 13 at 3pm in the gymnasium.
- Cookies with Santa- Sunday, December 15 from 9:00-10:30 for children birth-Kindergarten sponsored by the Enrollment Committee.

*** CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE ***

Christmas Eve - Tuesday, December 24

*** 4 PM at St. Joseph-Olney**

*** 4 PM at Holy Cross-Wendelin**

Christmas Day - Wednesday, December 25

*** 12 AM at St. Joseph-Stringtown**

*** 8 AM at St. Joseph-Olney**

*** 8 AM at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville**

~ PARISH NEWS ~

- **Thank you** to Kistler-Patterson Funeral Homes for providing our 2025 calendars. The calendars are available at the doors.
- **Advent/Christmas books:** Be sure to grab your Little Blue Book this weekend in the back of church.
- **Attention Liturgical Ministers:** The deadline is Friday, December 20th to make any changes for the January and February schedule. Please call the Parish Office (392-8181) or send an email, to report any dates you do not wish to be scheduled, or to have your name added or removed from the upcoming schedule. Please prayerfully consider assisting at Mass in the various ministries.
- **Opportunities for gift giving this Christmas:**

➤ **Adopt -a-Family:** This year St. Joseph Church will adopt 2 local families. The gift labels reflect the requests from the families. To participate: 1. Select an ornament from one of the baskets by the doors of the church. 2. Purchase and wrap the gift - put the label on the wrapped package. 3. Place your gift under the tree and the ornament on the tree in the church foyer.

Household cleaning supplies, toiletries and grooming products, as well as food(staples and Christmas dinner items) are always appreciated. The gifts will be delivered to Trinity Lutheran Church on Sunday, December 15, for a volunteer from Adopt - a Family to deliver to the families. Thank you for your kindness and generosity in sharing the spirit of Christmas this season with others in Richland County.

➤ **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.

- **We are now accepting mass intentions through March 30, 2025.** 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.
- **Volunteer for Christmas Mass!** Lectors, servers, cross-bearers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHC), greeters, ushers and gift-bearers are 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.
- **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.
- **The annual Cookie Walk** will be held on December 14 and 15 after each Mass in the multi-purpose room. You can either pick your own homemade cookies or purchase a tray pre-packaged with homemade cookies. We will be requesting cookie donations, and the cookies can be dropped off on December 13 in the multi-purpose room during school hours and on December 14 between 8 AM and 10 AM. If you have any questions, please contact Sara Peavler (618-599-5963).
- **Cookies with Santa**, sponsored by the St. Joseph School enrollment committee, will be held in conjunction with the Cookie Walk this year on Sunday, December 15 from 9:00-10:30 am. Children from birth to kindergarten are invited to have a cookie, make a Christmas craft, and get their picture taken with Santa!

CALENDAR WINNERS - \$25
 Nov. 25: Marilee Rodgers (#298)
 Nov. 26: Claire Uhl (#406)
 Nov. 27: Madelyn Dunn (#568)
 Nov. 28: Dan Zwilling (#737)
 Nov. 29: Stacey & Tony Steber (#111)

~ **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS** ~

- **December 12th:** 3rd degree meeting at 7 PM.
- **December 19th:** 4th degree meeting at 7 PM.
- **Thank you** to Steve and Donna Kuenstler who prepared a delicious Christmas dinner for the Knights and their families at the Knight's Annual Christmas Dinner. A great time was had by all.
- **Christmas Poster Contest:** There were 212 entries in Olney Council Knights of Columbus Christ in Christmas Poster Contest, there were four winners at four age levels. The four first places at each age level qualify for the Regional Belleville Competition and those winners will be published in the December issue of the Messenger.

Journey Onward Ye Sojourners
Caroline Trimble Pastoral Associate

The journey of Advent longs to bring us into a deepening awareness; an awareness that our lives are being drawn closer to the babe in the womb of Mary. This babe is Jesus, but before we come to know Him, we must come to know the Mother. Yes, Mary is the Mother of God, and she carries the King of Kings in her womb. Mary wants us, we who are also her children, to walk with her during these days of waiting and longing. A waiting for the best gift to be given; a longing for the breath of God to envelop our heart, mind, and soul. Mary leads us to life! Take time this season to truly come to know Jesus! After all, He is always the reason for the season. Light your second purple candle of Peace and journey to Bethlehem with Joseph and Mary. Live a Jubilee year as a "Pilgrim of Hope." Our Lady of Fatima, pray for us!

~ **DIOCESE OF BELLEVILLE NEWS** ~

The 2024 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal
Serve the Lord with gladness
-Psalm 100

Your contribution to The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal enables the Office of Education to impact the lives of over 11,128 students at 25 Catholic grade schools, three Catholic high schools and in PSR (Parish School of Religion) classes throughout our Belleville Diocese. If you haven't already done so, we prayerfully ask you to consider making a gift to the 2024 Appeal today...no amount is too large or too small! Thank you.

St. Joseph Church
 208 South Elliott St.
 Olney, Illinois 62450
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 'Renewing the Vision'
 Sunday, December 8, 2024
Second 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. Steven L. Beatty Pastor
 Fr. Steven's 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
- 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

~ **Sacraments** ~

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

Reconciliation: Saturdays from 4:30 PM – 4:45 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.)
 Office hours: Mon. Wed. Fri. 7:30-3:00 pm

~ **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
 Kristen Eagleson Financial Manager

School Board: Angel Padilla (*Chairperson*), Heather Colwell, Samantha Foust, Marissa Graves, Andrea Kuenstler, Lauren McClain, Sara Peavler, Doug Kocher (*St. Joseph-Stringtown Representative*), Holly Nettleton (*Holy Cross-Wendelin Representative*)