

Sunday, December 15, 2024
Third Sunday of Advent

✠ Eucharistic Celebrations ✠

Mon. Dec. 16 6:30 PM at Stringtown

Tue. Dec. 17 5:00 PM at Lawrenceville

Wed. Dec. 18 8:05 am
*Lawrence & Dorothy Fehrenbacher
Nina Burtham*

Thu. Dec. 19 6:30 PM at Wendelin

Sat. Dec. 21
4:00 PM at Wendelin
5:00 PM *Herman, Ethel, & Kathy Zwilling
Richard & Glenda Dallmier
Linda Gumble*

Sun. Dec. 22
8:00 am *Kuenstler/Kohr Families
Alex & Lorene Kessler
Tony King*

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. 8th

Parish Operating Expense per Week = \$9,847.00
Envelopes: \$8,685.50 (99) Loose: \$140.35
Guatemala: \$165 (10) Christmas Flowers: \$810 (28)
C.C.H.D: \$500 (1) Retirement Religious \$2,360 (26)
Cemetery Fund: \$300 (1)

Let Us Pray For: Jerry L. Harper, Margaret Fehrenbacher, 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, and Ruth Zwilling. *Please call or email the Parish Office to add any new names to the Prayer List.*

~ Deepest Sympathy ~

- Deepest sympathy to the family of *Deloris Nix*. May she rest in the peace of God's love.

~ Kudos ~

- Happy Birthday to *Jeanne Dehlinger* who celebrates her 96th birthday on December 19th.
- Happy 60th Anniversary of ordination to the priesthood for Fr. Bill on December 16th.

~ AROUND OUR PARISHES ~

Sunday, December 15th

- Children's liturgy at 8 am mass.
- CYM leads the mass ministries at Olney.
- 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!

Tuesday, December 17th

- 12 PM - 3 PM, Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. There must always be 2 people in the church.
- 1st and 5th grades attend the Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.
- OCIA will be meeting on Tuesday evenings in conference room B at 6 PM.

Wednesday, December 18th

- Rosary, after mass
- We will celebrate Fr. Bill's 60th year anniversary of ordination to the priesthood Wednesday, December 18th, after school mass (9 am) in the MPR. Join us for coffee & doughnuts!
- 9:15 am, Bible Study, St. Joseph Olney, Room B: Deacon Jack will take you through the readings for the Fourth Sunday of Advent and we'll hear that God is present to us in a variety of ways. We'll talk about recognizing God in our daily lives. Our own actions and words can carry the presence of God to others. What a responsibility! Better attend Bible Study.
- 12 noon, Bulletin deadline. Write, type or email all announcements.

During Advent we will be praying the Rosary before all of the Masses until the 8:00 AM Mass on Sunday, December 21.

🔔 **St. Joseph School News** 🔔

- December 17- Girls Basketball 8th grade night
- December 18- 3rd-8th grade Reconciliation service 9am-noon; Early dismissal at 1:50
- December 19- Boys Basketball 8th grade night
- December 20- K-4 Christmas Program in gym at 1:00, Early dismissal at 1:50.

Warm Christmas wishes from the staff and students at St. Joseph School!

~ PARISH NEWS ~

- **Thank you** to Kistler-Patterson Funeral Homes for providing our 2025 calendars. The calendars are available at the doors.
- **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.
- **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.

• **Opportunities for gift giving this Christmas:**

- **Adopt -a-Family:** (Gifts will be delivered on Sunday, December 15th)
- 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.

~ KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS ~

- **December 19th:** 4th degree meeting at 7 PM.

CALENDAR WINNERS - \$25

Dec. 2: Patton Mann (#294)
Dec. 3: Michelle Burgener (#245)
Dec. 4: Debby Zuber (#467)
Dec. 5: Amy Eubank (#284)
Dec. 6: Lynda Skelton (#779)

*** 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

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

This is the time of expectation, longing, and holy waiting. A time to be drawn closer to the purest and most perfect of Love. A Love that transcends and is waiting to be born, waiting in the first tabernacle. This tabernacle is the womb of Mary, his Mother-our Mother! Mary journeys onward in expectation, longing, and holy waiting! Are you sharing in the same journey as our Mother? Join with Her and begin this day journeying towards the stable where Love is born. There are many stops along the way-stop and share in the wonder and awe of our God. Journey with Mary this Advent and you too will experience a birthing of joy in your heart, and in your soul. The Whole World is Waiting on Love- can you wait? Light your third candle- pink for Gaudete Sunday - Joy Full Sunday! - and journey to Bethlehem with Joseph and Mary! Be Joyful, like Mary! He is coming soon! 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**

The true joy of Christmas is in the everlasting love of Christ. May you find His peace, love and joy now and in the coming new year. With deepest gratitude for your prayers and generosity.

**-Bishop Michael McGovern and
Ministries and Programs Funded by the CSMA**

Respect Life Corner: Sunday, December 15th

ASSISTED SUICIDE SENDS A MESSAGE TO PEOPLE THAT THEY ARE BURDENSOME:

In Oregon, where assisted suicide has been legal for years, data shows people request suicide drugs not for pain but because they cannot do the same activities that they could before, such as control bodily functions. They feel they've lost dignity or that they are a burden. Assisted suicide can also promote the view that elderly relatives are not persons to be loved but burdens to be managed. Suicide drugs are not the answer. Everyone deserves loving, supportive care, affirmation of their dignity, and to know that they are never a burden. **Tell your state legislators to Vote NO on SB 3499 - assisted suicide.** Visit www.ilcatholic.org for additional information and resources

**Give the Gift that keeps on Giving...The
Messenger!**

To subscribe online for Family or Friends go to: www.bellevillemessenger.org or **Call 618-233-8670.**



JUBILEE YEAR 2025

Pope Francis will open the Jubilee Year 2025 by opening the Holy Door in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome on Christmas Eve. Join Bishop Michael McGovern in opening the celebration of the Jubilee Year in our diocese at the 10:30am Mass at the Cathedral of St. Peter (200 W. Harrison, Belleville) on Sunday December 29. Our theme for the Jubilee Year is Pilgrims of Hope. For more information visit www.diobelle.org.

11 Day Majestic Germany Pilgrimage

April 21-May 1, 2025
Hosted by Fr. R Dean Probst
For more information, please contact Fr. R Dean Probst at (217) 494-6326 or by email at rdprobst@gmail.com

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



'Renewing the Vision'
Sunday, December 15, 2024
Third 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
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Caroline Trimble Pastoral Associate
Caroline's Cell 618-263-7106
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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 HartPrincipal
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 Kuentler, Lauren McClain, Sara Peavler, Doug Kocher (*St. Joseph-Stringtown Representative*), Holly Nettleton (*Holy Cross-Wendelin Representative*)