

**Collection Total for December 01, 2024**

Envelopes: \$871.00 (27)  
Loose: \$11.00  
**Total: \$882.00**

Weekly Amount Needed: \$1,400.00

**Building Fund: \$20.00 (1)**

**Retirement for Religious: \$50.00 (1)**

**Religious Education: \$155.00 (5)**

**Christmas Flowers: \$311.00 (11)**

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**December Bulletins: In Memory of Barbara Ann Ochs**

**December Missalettes: For the Parish**

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**PARISH EVENTS:**

**Sunday, December 8 – Family Catechesis Gifts of LOVE Gifts Shared at ALL PARISH Sunday Morning Masses!**

**Monday, December 9 – Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mass at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville 8:00am, Mass St. Joseph-Olney 8:05am, Mass at St. Joseph-Stringtown 6:30pm.**

**Donuts with Santa, St. Joseph-Stringtown Parish Center, Following 8am Mass**

**Tuesday, December 10 – ASAP Prayer Service and Adoration at St. Joseph-Stringtown, 9:30am**

Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament of St. Joseph-Olney, 12pm-3pm  
OCIA, St. Joseph-Olney, 6pm

**Thursday, December 12 – Parish Offices will close at 11am for Parish Staff Christmas Party!**

**BROTHERS IN CHRIST:**

Thursdays at 7:00pm at Holy Cross-Wendelin

**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!

**BLOOD DRIVE:**

The next Stringtown Community Blood Drive is scheduled for Sunday, January 5, 2025, from 7-11:30 a.m. Mark your calendar and schedule an appointment online today!

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/donation-time>

**CHRISTMAS CHOIR PRACTICE:**

Christmas Choir Practices will be held at 7pm on the following dates: Wednesday, December 11, Friday, December 13, Thursday, December 19, and Sunday, Dec 22. All are welcome to join!

**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE:**

**\*\*Christmas Eve\*\***  
4:00pm at St. Joseph-Olney  
4:00pm at Holy Cross-Wendelin  
**\*\*Christmas Day\*\***  
Midnight Mass at St. Joseph-Stringtown  
8:00am at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville  
8:00am at St. Joseph-Olney

**ADVENT:**

Advent always begins on the Sunday closest to November 30th, the feast day of St. Andrew the Apostle. St. Andrew Christmas Novena which is traditionally prayed from the feast of St. Andrew

(November 30<sup>th</sup>) until Christmas Eve (December 24<sup>th</sup>).

Prayer is an *essential* part of Advent. Reciting this special novena prayer each day is a simple yet beautiful way to celebrate the spiritual significance of the Advent season and to experience a deeper conversion to the heart of Jesus. *It is piously believed that whoever recites the St. Andrew Christmas Novena Prayer FIFTEEN times each day will obtain the favor requested.*

***Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in piercing cold. In that hour vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires through the merits of Our Savior Jesus Christ, and of His blessed Mother. Amen.***

**ADVENT/CHRISTMAS BOOKS:**

Little Blue Books still available in church to help you devote some minutes to prayer during the Advent and Christmas season.

**YOUNG ADULTS:**

**Bible Study** at the Holy Cross Parish House on Monday's at 7pm.

**THANK YOU:**

A special thank you to Jason Warfel for facilitating a server training at St. Joseph-Stringtown, as well as Janette Kocher for assisting and setting up the training. Thank you to all servers for attending this training and to the parents for making sure they were able to attend.

**CONGRATULATIONS:**

Congratulations to our second graders that received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time!

**THANK YOU:**

Thank you to Kistler-Patterson Funeral Home for providing our 2025 calendars! We appreciate your continued support of our parishes!

**SISTERS IN CHRIST:**

Join us this Advent for a 4-week journey of *Encountering Emmanuel*. Embark on a transformative journey this Advent with Heather Khym, cohost of the *Abiding Together* podcast, in *Encountering Emmanuel*. Each day will show you a unique way God can come into your life, including the following:

- *he comes in the darkness*
- *he comes to set us free*
- *he comes to awaken us from slumber*
- *he comes as a helpless child*
- *he comes as a gift to the world*
- *he comes as a person with a face*
- *he comes to be our food*

God will not force—love never does—but he asks, and we have a choice. Will you open wide your heart to the Savior and give your fiat as Mary did? Come and Encounter Emmanuel this Advent, the book cost is \$8.00.

Tuesday morning: St. Joseph Stringtown 10:00 am  
Wednesday evening: Holy Cross Wendelin 5:30 pm  
Contact Kristi Sandschafer, Janette Kocher or Caroline Trimble Pastoral Associate for more information.

**ST. JOSEPH OLNEY 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

**OLNEY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:**

**December 12<sup>th</sup>** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Meeting at 7pm.  
**December 19<sup>th</sup>** – 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Meeting at 7pm.  
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.

**ST. JOSEPH-OLNEY BIBLE STUDY:**

**Wednesdays at 9:15 AM, 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.

**RESPECT LIFE CORNER:**

**ASSISTED SUICIDE TARGETS THOSE WITH MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES**

The proposal pending in Illinois does not require a psychiatric evaluation for depression. Many people requesting assisted suicide are depressed. The lifetime risk of suicide among patients with untreated depressive disorder is nearly 20% and 75.94% of communities in Illinois did not have enough mental health providers to serve residents in 2021, according to federal guidelines. Thinking about suicide can be a common part of depression, rather than a rational choice. **Tell your state legislators to Vote NO on SB 3499 - assisted suicide.** Visit [www.ilcatholic.org](http://www.ilcatholic.org) for additional information and resources.

**2024 CATHOLIC SERVICE & 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.

**ARCHBISHOP MEMORIAL MASS:**

**Memorial Mass for Archbishop Keleher**

The Diocese of Belleville will host a Memorial Mass for Archbishop Emeritus James P. Keleher who died on November 9. Archbishop Keleher served as the sixth Bishop of Belleville (1984-1993). Bishop McGovern will offer Mass at 12:10 PM on Wednesday, December 11, in the Cathedral of St. Peter, 200 W. Harrison Street, Belleville, IL. Everyone is invited to pray together for the repose of Archbishop Keleher's soul.

**THE MESSENGER:**

Give the Gift that keeps on Giving...The Messenger! To subscribe online for Family or Friends go to: [www.bellevillemessenger.org](http://www.bellevillemessenger.org) or Call 618-233-8670. Please remember that current subscription prices are \$40 for print edition, \$35 for digital edition, \$45 for both print and digital.



**Remember In Our Prayers – Rick Rennie, Teresa Zehner, Luke G. Kocher, Judy Brown**

**Sunday, December 8, 2024**

**Second Sunday of Advent**

**Sunday, December 8, 8:00am at St. Joseph-Stringtown “Joseph Schneider+” “Bob & Francella Dhom+” “Mary & Holly Kocher+” “Nadine Zwilling+”**  
**Monday, December 9, 8:00am at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville, 8:05am at St. Joseph-Olney, 6:30pm at St. Joseph-Stringtown “Norman, Neil, & Dorothy Kocher+” “Herman, Ethel, & Kathleen Zwilling+”**  
**Tuesday, December 10, 5:00pm at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville**  
**Wednesday, December 11, NO MASS**  
**Thursday, December 12, 6:30 at Holy Cross-Wendelin**  
**Friday, December 13, 8:00am at St. Joseph-Olney**  
**Saturday, December 14, 9:00am at Holy Cross-Wendelin, 4:00pm at Holy Cross-Wendelin; 5:00pm at St. Joseph-Olney**  
**Sunday, December 15, 8:00am at St. Joseph-Stringtown “Alberta Zuber” “Louis & Lelia Volk+”**  
8:00am at St. Joseph-Olney; 10:00am at Holy Cross-Wendelin; 10:00am at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville  
**12/08/2024**  
**Servers:**  
Kerigan Kocher  
Gabriel Volk  
Will Volk  
**Lector:**  
Jocelyn Kocher  
**EMHC:**  
Janette Kocher  
Scott Seiler  
Jamie Kocher  
**Gifts:**  
Bill Zuber  
Ochs  
**Ushers:**  
Werner Kocher  
Evelyn Volk  
**Greeters:**  
Jean Kocher Family  
**Children’s Liturgy:**  
Jenny & Kylie  
**12/15/2024**  
**Servers:**  
Amity Zuber  
Mitchell Ochs  
Brady Ochs  
**Lector:**  
Kylie Kocher  
**EMHC:**  
Gary Kocher  
Beth Kocher  
Owen Kocher  
**Gifts:**  
Elmer & Mary  
**Ushers:**  
Lester Zuber  
Caden Kocher  
**Greeters:**  
Gary & Beth Kocher Family  
**Children’s Liturgy:**  
Anita & Anna

**St. Joseph Church  
In Stringtown, Illinois  
P.O. Box 10, Dundas, IL 62425**



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Web site: [www.stjosephstringtown.com](http://www.stjosephstringtown.com)

**Very Rev. Fr. Steven Beatty, V.G. \_\_\_\_\_ Pastor**  
Cell \_\_\_\_\_ 618-697-2632  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ [frsteven.beatty@gmail.com](mailto:frsteven.beatty@gmail.com)

**Reverend Felix Chukwuma \_\_\_\_\_ Pastor**  
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E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ [chibuchuma@yahoo.com](mailto:chibuchuma@yahoo.com)

**Caroline Trimble \_\_\_\_\_ Pastoral Associate**  
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E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ [ctrimblePA@gmail.com](mailto:ctrimblePA@gmail.com)

**Tyler Timm \_\_\_\_\_ Youth Minister**  
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Tyler's E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ [ttimm@stjoeolney.com](mailto:ttimm@stjoeolney.com)

**Ashley Hinterscher \_\_\_\_\_ Administrative Assistant**  
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E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ [stjoestringtown@hotmail.com](mailto:stjoestringtown@hotmail.com)  
**Parish Office Hours: Tuesday 9-2pm & Thursday 9am-1pm**