

HOLY CROSS - WENDELIN

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Holy Cross Ministries October-December 2025		
OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
<u>Servers</u>	<u>Servers</u>	<u>Servers</u>
Sat. October 4 - Levi & Noah Rudolphi, Ian Kessler	Sat. November 1 - Hank, Clara & Boyd Weidner	Sat. December 6 - Hank, Clara, & Boyd Weidner
Sun. October 5 - Alex Street, Brooke & Blaine Bergbower	Sun. November 2 - Brooke & Blaine Bergbower, Stella Warfel	Sun. December 7 - Alex Street, Cora & Stella Warfel
Sat. October 11 - Mattux Hart, Ethan & Chloe Deckard	Sat. November 8 - Karly, Ethan, & Chloe Deckard	Sat. December 13 - Ellee Bare, Kaleb & Kelby Iffert
Sun. October 12 - Braden & Brooke Weidner, Ellee Bare	Sun. November 9 - Nora & Alex Street, Cora Warfel	Sun. December 14 - Lane Smithenry, Brooke & Braden Weidner
Sat. October 18 - Hank, Clara, & Boyd Weidner	Sat. November 15 - Levi & Noah Rudolphi, Mattux Hart	Sat. December 20 - Hank, Clara & Boyd Weidner
Sat. October 19 - Lane Smithenry, Kaleb & Kelby Iffert	Sun. November 16 - Lane Smithenry, Brooke & Braden Weidner	Sun. December 21 - Nora & Alex Street, Cora Warfel
Sat. October 25 - Levi & Noah Rudolphi, Mattux Hart	Sat. November 22 - Hank, Clara, & Boyd Weidner	Sat. December 27 - Kaleb & Kelby Iffert, Ian Kessler
Sun. October 26 - Ethan & Chloe Deckard, Alex Street	Sun. November 23 - Ellee Bare, Brooke & Blaine Bergbower	Sun. December 28 - Brooke & Blaine Bergbower, Stella Warfel
	Sat. November 29 - Levi & Noah Rudolphi, Ian Kessler	
	Sun. November 30 - Ethan & Chloe Deckard, Alex Street	
<u>Open/Lock/Greet</u>	<u>Open/Lock/Greet</u>	<u>Open/Lock/Greet</u>
Sat. - Marge Kessler/Marty Klingler	Sat. - Brent & Sharon Edwards	Sat. - Holly Nettleton
Sun. - Eric & Kristi Sandschafer	Sun. - Kevin & Heather Blank	Sun. - Cindy Blank
<u>Eucharistic Ministers</u>	<u>Eucharistic Ministers</u>	<u>Eucharistic Ministers</u>
Sat. - Kristy Weidner, Celia Rudolphi, Bev Weidner, Emma Tinder	Sat. - Tammy Rudolphi, Josy Hart, Lynn Weidner, Dave Rauch	Sat. - Jeannie Nix, Kathy Kuentler, Celia Rudolphi, Sherry Geier
Sun. - Kim Smithenry, Diane Schackmann, Phyllis Eggers, Paul Kocher	Sun. - Martha Deimel, Missy Buerster, Marcia Street, Ellen Weber	Sun. - Jason Warfel, Sandi Kessler, Ginny Zwilling, Penni Kuentler
Please note (4) EMHC are being scheduled. One will need to take communion to choir.		
<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Lectors</u>
Sat. - Maria Rudolphi	Sat. - Victoria Rudolphi	Sat. - Jennifer Rudolphi
Sun. - Kristi Sandschafer	Sun. - Travis Weber	Sun. - Marge Kessler
<u>Money Counters</u>	<u>Money Counters</u>	<u>Money Counters</u>
Keith & Pam Blank	Kevin & Heather Blank	Tony & Penni Kuentler
<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
Sat. - Michael Kuentler, Daniel Baker, James Rudolphi, Hank Weidner	Sat. - Tim Weidner, Carl Weidner, Dave Rauch, Brent Edwards	Sat. - Dave Rudolphi, Mark Rudolphi, Kelly Geier, Hank Weidner
Sun. - Paul Lybarger, Ben Niebrugge, Aaron Eggers, Danny Quinn	Sun. - Ben Street, Herb Deimel, Tyler Buerster, Garrett Buerster	Sun. - Dusty Smithenry, Austin Zwilling, Eric Sandschafer, Jim Rauch
<u>CRMH Communion:</u>	<u>CRMH Communion:</u>	<u>CRMH Communion:</u>
October 12 - Marge Kessler	November 9 - Maria Rudolphi	December 14 - Ellen Weber
October 19 - Sheryl Klingler	November 16 - Martha Deimel	December 21 - Lynn Weidner
	November 30 - Diane Herdes	
<u>Children's Liturgy of the Word:</u>	<u>Children's Liturgy of the Word:</u>	<u>Children's Liturgy of the Word:</u>
October 5 - Melissa and Brooke Weidner	November 2 - Kaila and Bailey Kistner	December 7 - Alli Kirts and Nora Street
October 12 - Alli Kirts and Nora/Alex Street	November 9 - Holly Nettleton and Ellee Bare	December 14 - Nicki Himelick and Kinley Workman
October 19 - Nicki Himelick and Hope Zuber	November 16 - Anna Land and Audrey Smith	December 21 - Melissa and Brooke Weidner
October 26 - Gracey Himelick and Nicole Kuhl	November 23 - Robin and Karly Deckard	December 28 - Gracey Himelick and Hope Zuber
	November 30 - Stephanie Geier and Clara Weidner	
	If you cannot attend as scheduled, you are responsible for your own replacement.	

TRI PARISH NEWS

ST. JOSEPH, OLNEY

Mass times

Wed. & Fri 8:00 am
Sat. 5:00 pm
Sun. 8:00 am

HOLY CROSS, WENDELIN

Mass times

Thurs. 6:30 pm
Sat. 4:00 pm
Sun. 10:00 am

ST. JOSEPH, STRINGTOWN

Mass times

Mon. 6:30 pm
Sun. 8:00 am



✚
ST. JOSEPH
OLNEY



✚
HOLY CROSS
WENDELIN



✚
ST. JOSEPH
STRINGTOWN

AROUND OUR PARISHES

Saturday, November 1st

- 9:00 am, All Saints Mass/First Saturday at Holy Cross.
- Directory photos at Olney 10-4pm.

Sunday, November 2nd

- 7-11:30 am, Stringtown Community Blood Drive.
- 4-6 pm, Stringtown Soup Supper.

Wednesday, November 5th

- 6:30 pm, Family Catechesis All Saints Maze at Holy Cross. There will be smores and a bonfire. Adult gathering afterwards.

Saturday, November 8th

- Candles will be given out at all masses for all third graders as part of the kitchen table catechesis.

Sunday, November 9th

- Candles will be given out at all masses for all third graders as part of the kitchen table catechesis.
- Donuts and coffee social after the 8 am mass in Olney.
- Donuts with Veterans after the 8 am mass in Stringtown.
- 5:30 pm, High School Youth Group at Holy Cross.

Monday, November 10th

- 1:30-5:30 pm, Blood Drive at Holy Cross.
- Directory photos at Holy Cross 1:30-8:36 pm.

Tuesday, November 11th

- Happy Veteran's Day! Thank you to all Veterans!
- Directory photos at Holy Cross 1:30-8:36 pm.

Wednesday, November 12th

- Directory photos at Holy Cross 1:30-8:36 pm.
- 7 pm, Knights of Columbus memorial mass at Olney.

Saturday, November 15th

- 5 pm, CYM mass at Olney.
- 6 pm, Middle School Youth Group at Olney.

Sunday, November 16th

- 6 pm, Young Adults Gathering. Topic and location TBA.

AROUND OUR PARISHES

Monday, November 17th

- Directory photos at Olney 2-8:36.

Tuesday, November 18th

- 6:30pm, Bibles & Brews at HV's in Olney. Topic and speaker TBA.

Friday, November 21st

- 7 pm, CYM dance at Holy Cross.

Saturday, November 22nd

- 5 pm, Middle School Youth Group at Holy Cross.

Sunday, November 23rd

- 5:30 pm, High School Youth Group at Holy Cross.

Monday, November 24th

- Directory photos at Holy Cross 2-8:36 pm.

Thursday, November 27th

- Happy Thanksgiving! Wishing you and yours a very blessed day.

Saturday, November 29th

- 6:30 pm, High School Youth Group movie night at Holy Cross.

Sunday, November 30th

- Gifts of Love for all families of the deceased.

Sisters in Christ

Our new book will be the spiritual classic, **The Reed of God**, the cost is \$15.00. This is an excellent Advent read for those seeking a profound reflection on Mary and how to be open to God's will. We will resume on Tuesday Nov. 4th 10:00 am St. Joseph Stringtown, and 5:00 pm St. Joseph Olney, and Wednesday, November 5th 5:30 p.m. Holy Cross. Kindly respond to the Flocknote and/or text Caroline Trimble Pastoral Associate to confirm a book.

"We shall learn what sort of purpose God has for us. In what way are we to fulfill the work of giving Christ life in us?"



Following in the Footsteps of the Saints Library

Be sure to check out the library and take home a book to read! The libraries are located in the vestibules of the tri-parishes.

Congratulations Kristen!

A heartfelt thank you to Kristen Eagleson for her many years of dedicated service to St. Joseph School and parish. Her commitment and hard work have been a true gift to our community. We wish her a joyful retirement!

Book of Remembrance

During the month of November, we especially remember and pray for those who have passed away. You are welcome to write the names of your deceased loved ones in the Book of Remembrance, which will be located in your parish beginning November 1st.



Family Catechesis Gift of Love

This is for our families who lost a loved one- a parishioner- within the parish this past year. Our hope is that his small token of love will help ease their sadness and bring them comfort this Advent and Christmas season. **Sunday, November 30:** St. Joseph Olney 8:00 am, St. Joseph Stringtown 8:00 am, and Holy Cross 10:00 am.

ADORATION

There must always be at least 2 people in the church

St. Joseph, Stringtown

Prayer service & adoration every Tuesday at 9:30 am.

Holy Cross, Wendelin

Thursdays at 5:30 pm until mass time at 6:30 pm.

St. Joseph, Olney

Every Tuesday from 12-3 pm



St. Joseph in Olney will be collecting gift packed shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child this year. Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse, an international relief organization. Their mission is to provide local partners around the world with shoeboxes filled with small toys, hygiene items, and school supplies as a means of reaching out to children in their own communities with the Good News of Jesus Christ. These boxes will bring joy to many children during the Christmas season. We will be collecting shoeboxes now, until **November 17th**. Shoeboxes will be available in the vestibule (or any shoebox will do). Please drop off packed shoeboxes to the parish office in Olney or leave in the tub in the back of the church. There is also a shipping fee that is needed to ship each box. Please include \$10 in an envelope, along with a label (which can be found on the back table of church) for shipping, or purchase your own shipping label online.

Please join us as we pray, pack, and ship these gifts in the spirit of Christmas!

St. Joseph School News

The annual St. Joseph School Benefit Calendars will be available for purchase the week prior to Thanksgiving! This is one of the most vital fundraisers for our school, and your support directly benefits the students and mission of St. Joseph School. Each calendar costs \$25 and gives you a chance to win cash prizes every single day of the year! That's 365 opportunities to win, making it a great value and a fun way to support the school. The calendars will be available for purchase starting the week prior to Thanksgiving at the St. Joseph School and Parish Offices. Thank you for your support of St. Joseph School! Be sure to pick up your calendars early—they make fantastic Christmas gifts for family and friends.

- 3rd Grade candles at weekend masses, Nov. 8-9th
- No school on November 11, 26, 27, & 28th



"But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him". 1 Corinthians 2:9

ADVENT IN WENDELIN EVENSONG



**DECEMBER 7, 2025
4:00 P.M.**

*A Candlelight Service with Scripture and Organ Music,
with English Advent Hymns,
and Austrian Christmas Music
sung in German by the Kloepfen Singers*

**TRADITION OF
HOLY CROSS WENDELIN**

AUSTRIAN AND GERMAN DESSERTS AFTERWARDS

formedTM

Forming Catholics for *Life*.



Diving into the beauty of the Faith has never been easier! Discover small group Bible studies, inspiring children's shows, sacramental preparation resources, family-friendly movies, and more! There is something for every member of the family and your Catholic community to help them grow closer to Jesus Christ and his Church.



Register for a free **Formed** account at signup.formed.org Use Zip Code: 62448

Family Catechesis Schedule of Events

"Following in the Footsteps of Saints"

2025 August

27 Wed. Opening Mass
Holy Cross 6:30 p.m.



Families: You will receive the Family Tote with Family Catechesis Saint Binder, and "Following in the Footsteps of the Saints" items, and Special Blessing for the year.

September

3 Wed. Family Gathering
Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center



Families: Parent meeting, youth activity, Saint presentation and Birthday party for Mary with The Word of Life Workbook, and other "Following in the Footsteps of the Saints" items.

Sacrament Meeting for:
Reconciliation/Confirmation

13-14- Red Plate Blessing for 1st graders

*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder for updates.

October

1 Wed. Family Gathering
Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center



Adults: Presentation

Youth: Activity
Saint presentations and "Following in the Footsteps of the Saints" items.

4-5 Confirmation Commitment Weekend

11-12 Cup Blessing for 2nd graders

30-All Saint-Family Rosary-Trunk n'Treat after Mass

*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder and Sacrament book for check-in.

November

5 Wed. Family Gathering
Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center



Families: All Saint Maze and special Saint presentations, with bonfire and s/mores. Gift of Love information and "Following in the Footsteps of the Saints" items.

8-9 Candle Blessing for 3rd graders
29-30 -Gift of Love Mass Weekend

*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder and Sacrament book for check-in.

December

3 Wed. Family Gathering
Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center



Adults: Presentation

Youth: Activity
Saint presentations, Advent party, and "Following in the Footsteps of the Saints" items.

7 -Advent tradition of "Evensong" at Holy Cross
8 & 11- First Reconciliation

*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder and Sacrament book for check-in.

Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year



2026 January

7 Wed. Family Gathering
Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center



Families: Saint presentations, Three Kings and 12th Night Dinner Party and "Following in the Footsteps of the Saints" items.

*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder and Sacrament book for check-in.

February

4 Wed. Family Gathering
Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center



Adults: Presentation

Youth: Activity
Saint presentations and "Following in the Footsteps of the Saints" items.

7-M.C.4.C. Valentine Dinner/Dance at Holy Cross

*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder and Sacrament book for check-in.

March

4 Wed. Ash Wednesday
15- Divine Mercy Book begins



19 -Families: St. Joseph Table tradition with Mass and Dinner at St. Joseph Stringtown Saint presentations and "Following in the Footsteps of the Saints" items.

*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder and Sacrament book for check-in.

April

1 Wed. Family Gathering
Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center



Adults: Presentation

Youth: Activity

Saint presentations and "Following in the Footsteps of the Saints" items.

5 -Easter

12 -Divine Mercy Sunday

(17,18,19)Confirmation at St. Joseph Olney

*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder and Sacrament book for check-in.

May

3 Sun. Holy Cross May Crowning
2-3 First Communion
6 Wed. Closing Family Gathering
Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center



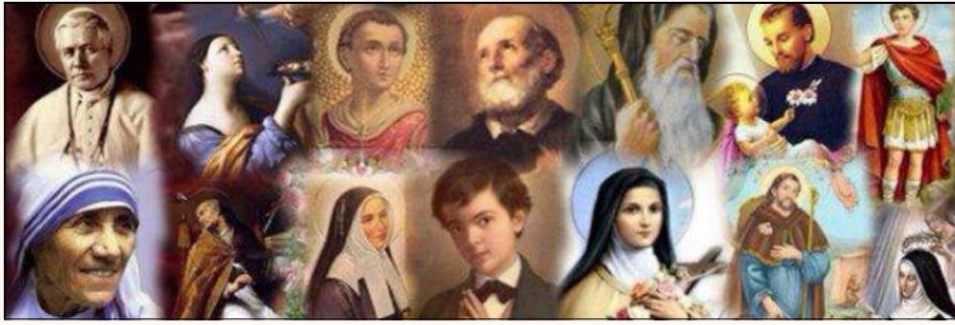
Families: Final Saint presentations, catered meal, and year end video presentation, and "Following in the Footsteps of the Saints" items.

*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder

**"Let us become saints so that
after having been together on
earth, we may be together in
Heaven."**

St. Pio Pietrelcina (Padre Pio)

FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE SAINTS



November 2025

Our November Saints



St. Elizabeth of Hungary

A Hungarian princess who became a symbol of Christian charity, known for her work with the poor and sick after becoming a widow. After her marriage to Landgrave Louis IV of Thuringia at age 14, she dedicated herself to charity, inspired by Franciscan ideals. Following Louis's death in 1227, she used her dowry to build a hospital and serve the needy until her own death at 24, after which she was swiftly canonized in 1235. She is revered as the patron saint of nurses, the poor, Catholic charities, and is also associated with bakers and brides.



St. Catherine Laboure

A French nun who in 1830 experienced visions of the Virgin Mary at the Daughters of Charity convent, leading to the creation of the Miraculous Medal. Born in 1806 and dying in 1876, she lived a life of humble service, first as a child caring for her family after her mother's death, and then for 46 years as a Sister of Charity, caring for the elderly and sick. Her body was found incorrupt after her death and is now displayed in Paris.



St. Gertrude the Great

A German Benedictine nun and mystic who became a profound spiritual writer and theological figure. After a transformative mystical vision in 1281, she experienced a deep, personal union with Christ, particularly focusing on the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Awarded the title "the Great" by Pope Benedict XIV for her spiritual depth, she is also known as a patron of the holy souls in purgatory.



Following in the Footsteps of the Saints

The **Catholic Extension Grant** contributed:
Miraculous Medals, Wooden Saint Magnets,
and our Stringtown Team Members made loaves of bread-
(in honor of St. Elizabeth of Hungary).

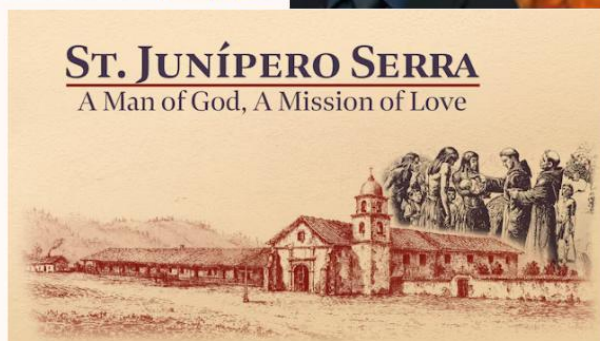
Let us continue to stay
"Following in the Footsteps of the Saints"

All Saint's Maze this month, was
offered with the support and
assistance of our CYM.
They presented some of our
North American Saints:

Marianne Cope
Kateri Tekakwitha
Mother Theodore Guerin
Rose Philippine Duchesne
Damien of Molokai
Junipero Serra and Issac Jogues

The evening concluded with
S'mores and an Adult Gathering
afterwards with fellowship and fun.

November formed™



Gift of Love



Nov 29 Saturday St. Joseph Olney 5:00 pm

Nov 30 Sunday St. Joseph Stringtown 8:00 am
Holy Cross Wendelin 10:00 am

A **Gift of Love** offered by our
Family Catechesis families done in memory of their
loved one who died this past year.

Upcoming December Events Holy Cross Wendelin

- 3** Wed. Family Catechesis Gathering 6:30 pm
- 7** **Advent EvenSong** with Family Catechesis
children offering a "Following in the
Footsteps of the Saints" tribute 4:00 pm
- 8** First Reconciliation -Stringtown 6:00 p.m.
- 11** First Reconciliation -Holy Cross 5:30 p.m.

Family Catechesis Pictures



Comments from our families



Goodness where do I start!

I'm learning so much about Saints I've always heard about but never knew their history. Love seeing the priests & other parishioners put them in person for us to hear their stories. Also, I am really enjoying seeing the parishes coming together learning, laughing & praying together as one Body of Christ. Love the joint activity & really want to see more.

I think my favorite Saint so far has been Padre Pio. I loved him before but loved Fr. Levi's interpretation! Thanks for all the hard work!! Great job to all of you!
~Sondra Geiger

From the time I step thru the door till I leave I find Family Catechesis Amazing-Powerful-Spiritual. The binders are especially wonderful. I have learned so much from it. They are packed full of information of the Saints, Prayers, Holy Cards and even recipes. I really like listening about different Saints that have been portrayed by different ones.

The Human Rosary with the lighted candles was beautiful, watching the kids and parents pick up the binders and receiving a special gift each month and especially receiving the statue of Mary was Awesome.

I truly Love everything about Family Catechesis!
~Debbie Workman

I have enjoyed the Saints presentations, the variety of recipes, and the binder itself. Inside the binder is a resource folder which is like a treasure chest filled with awesome activities to share as a family.

My favorite is the word search on the different amazing Saints. I have learned abundantly about the various Saints and the hardships they endured and their perseverance. Each Saint had a zeal for God! They grew spiritually by prayer, service, scripture, and the sacraments. The Saints radiated joy in knowing and serving the Lord. My favorite memory is making meal placemats with the children and then blending our voices together in song singing Happy Birthday to our Blessed Mother at the grotto. Everything has enhanced my personal relationship with my Creator!!
~Elaine Grimes



SUPPORT ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL JUST BY SHOPPING!

Did you know you can help raise money for our school without spending anything extra? When you purchase gift cards through RaiseRight, a portion of every purchase goes right back to St. Joe School — and even helps your family earn money!

🎄 **Perfect Time for the Holidays!** 🎄
Now's a great time to stock up on gift cards for Christmas shopping or holiday giving!
Order early to make sure you have them in time
Last day to order for Christmas delivery is December 15th!



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3. Earn rebates that support our school and your family account.

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2. Enter our enrollment code: 676DF5D387LL
3. You can also stop by the school office with your order and check
4. Start earning while you shop!

Every purchase helps our school grow — thank you for your support!
Questions? Contact the school office at 618-395-3081 or office@stjoeolney.com

Saints, Eucharist and the Catholic Faith



*Stringtown Study
The Four Terezas*

**TUESDAY
ST. JOSEPH
STRINGTOWN
10:00AM**

*Sisters in Christ
The Devil in the Castle*

**WEDNESDAY
HOLY CROSS
5:30 PM**

OCIA
*Order of Christian
Initiation of Adults*

INTERESTED IN JOINING THE
CATHOLIC CHURCH OR JUST
WANT MORE INFORMATION?

WE ARE ALWAYS EXCITED TO
WELCOME NEW
MEMBERS/FAMILIES.

MEETINGS WILL BE
STARTING SOON.

CONTACT
FR. STEVEN OR CAROLINE
FOR MORE INFORMATION.



*Olney Study
The Eucharist*

**WEDNESDAY
ST. JOSEPH OLNEY
9:15 AM & 7:00 PM**

*Brother's in Christ
Into the Breach*

**THURSDAY
HOLY CROSS
7:00PM**

A great way to provide scholarship support for students attending a Catholic School and earn a tax credit for yourself.

Donate through Empower Illinois

<https://empowerillinois.org/>



Empower Illinois is the state's largest and most comprehensive Scholarship Granting Organization, expanding quality education options for low-income and working-class families through scholarships to private schools.

You can make a charitable investment in education through the tax credit scholarship program!

How it works:

- Donate to St. Joseph School's or St. Thomas School's scholarship fund through Empower Illinois.
 - Visit www.empowerillinois.org/donors
 - Find St. Joseph Grade School, Olney or St. Thomas-Newton in Region 5 on the website
- Earn a 75% Tax Credit back to offset your tax liability!
 - For more information, contact an Empower Illinois tax credit specialist at 312-392-0250

Schools can receive a \$10,000 match for donations between February 1-March 31.