

# **HOLY CROSS - WENDELIN**

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

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<b>Holy Cross Ministries January-March 2026</b>		
<b>JANUARY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<b>MARCH</b>
<b><u>Servers</u></b>	<b><u>Servers</u></b>	<b><u>Servers</u></b>
Sat. January 3 - Hank, Clara, & Boyd Weidner	Sun. February 1 - Cora Warfel, Ellee Bare, Stella Warfel	Sun. March 1 - Lane Smithenry, Cora & Stella Warfel
Sun. January 4 - Alex Street, Brooke & Braden Weidner	Sat. February 7 - CYM	Sat. March 7 - Kaleb and Kelby Iffert, Ellee Bare
Sat. January 10 - Levi Rudolphi, Noah Rudolphi, Mattux Hart	Sun. February 8 - Lane Smithenry, Alex Street, Ian Kessler	Sun. March 8 - Alex Street, Brooke & Braden Weidner
Sun. January 11 - Lane Smithenry, Cora & Stella Warfel	Sat. February 14 - Levi Rudolphi, Noah Rudolphi, Mattux Hart	Sat. March 14 - Hank, Clara, & Boyd Weidner
Sat. January 17 - Hank, Clara, & Boyd Weidner	Sun. February 15 - Ellee Bare, Brooke and Braden Weidner	Sun. March 15 - Ian Kessler, Brooke & Blaine Bergbower
Sun. January 18 - Ian Kessler, Brooke & Braden Weidner	Sat. February 21 - Mattux Hart, Kaleb & Kelby Iffert	Sat. March 21 - Levi Rudolphi, Noah Rudolphi, Mattux Hart
Sat. January 24 - Levi Rudolphi, Mattux Hart, Ellee Bare (St. Joseph School)	Sun. February 22 - Bailey Kistner, Alex & Nora Street	Sun. March 22 - Bailey Kistner, Alex & Nora Street
Sun. January 25 - Bailey Kistner, Brooke & Blaine Bergbower	Sat. February 28 - Hank, Clara, & Boyd Weidner	Sat. March 28 - Kaleb and Kelby Iffert, Mattux Hart
Sat. January 31 - Karly, Ethan, & Chloe Deckard		Sun. March 29 - Lane Smithenry, Chloe & Ethan Deckard
<b><u>Open/Lock/Greet</u></b>	<b><u>Open/Lock/Greet</u></b>	<b><u>Open/Lock/Greet</u></b>
Sat. - Dave & Tammy Rudolphi	Sat. - Keith & Pam Blank	Sat. - Derek & Kasey Iffert
Sun. - Brent & Sharon Edwards	Sun. - Danny & Lori Quinn	Sun. - Henry & Sandi Kessler
<b><u>Eucharistic Ministers</u></b>	<b><u>Eucharistic Ministers</u></b>	<b><u>Eucharistic Ministers</u></b>
Sat. - Tammy Rudolphi, Emma Tinder, Lynn Weidner, Josy Hart	Sat. - Jeannie Nix, Kathy Kuenstler, Kristy Weidner, Sherry Geier	Sat. - Celia Rudolphi, Bev Weidner, Josy Hart, Tammy Rudolphi
Sun. - Phyllis Eggers, Diane Shackmann, Paul Kocher, Travis Weber	Sun. - Ginny Zwilling, Martha Deimel, Ellen Weber, Kristi Sandschafer	Sun. - Breanne Jones, Missy Buerster, Jason Warfel, Marcia Street
Please note (4) EMHC are being scheduled. One will need to take communion to choir.		
<b><u>Lectors</u></b>	<b><u>Lectors</u></b>	<b><u>Lectors</u></b>
Sat. - Victoria Rudolphi	Sat. - Maria Rudolphi	Sat. - Jennifer Rudolphi
Sun. - Robin Deckard	Sun. - James Kistner	Sun. - Amy Heurman
<b><u>Money Counters</u></b>	<b><u>Money Counters</u></b>	<b><u>Money Counters</u></b>
Gerald & Diane Schackmann	Herb & Martha Deimel	Henry & Sandi Kessler
<b><u>Ushers</u></b>	<b><u>Ushers</u></b>	<b><u>Ushers</u></b>
Sat. - Michael Kuenstler, Daniel Baker, James Rudolphi, Hank Weidner	Sat. - Mark Rudolphi, Kelly Geier, Carl Weidner, Tim Weidner	Sat. - Dave Rudolphi, Michael Kuenstler, James Rudolphi, Derek Iffert
Sun. - Paul Lybarger, Ben Niebrugge, Brent Edwards, Aaron Eggers	Sun. - Danny Quinn, Austin Zwilling, Herb Deimel, Michael Kistner	Sun. - Jordan Jones, Tony Buerster, Henry Kessler, Gary D. Fehrenbacher
<b><u>CRMH Communion:</u></b>	<b><u>CRMH Communion:</u></b>	<b><u>CRMH Communion:</u></b>
January 11 - Maria Rudolphi	February 8 - Diane Herdes	March 8 - Ellen Weber
January 18 - Marge Kessler	February 15 - Sheryl Klingler	March 15 - Martha Deimel
		March 29 - Lynn Weidner
<b><u>Children's Liturgy of the Word:</u></b>	<b><u>Children's Liturgy of the Word:</u></b>	<b><u>Children's Liturgy of the Word:</u></b>
January 4 - Marcia & Nora Street	February 1 - Stephanie Geier & Kinley Workman	March 1 - Robin & Karly Deckard
January 11 - Anna Land & Audrey Smith	February 8 - Marcia Street & Clara Weidner	March 8 - Kaila & Bailey Kistner
January 18 - Holly Nettleton & Ellee Bare	February 15 - Nicki Himelick & Hope Zuber	March 15 - Gracey Himelick & Clara Weidner
January 25 - Kaila & Bailey Kistner	February 22 - Melissa Weidner & Brooke Weidner	March 22 - Alli Kirts & Nora Street
		March 29 - Holly Nettleton & Ellee Bare
<b>If you cannot attend as scheduled, you are responsible for your own replacement.</b>		

# 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

**Wednesday, January 7<sup>th</sup>**

- 6:30 pm, Family Catechesis at Holy Cross. Twelfth Nigh Epiphany Dinner. Join us for a family dinner, CYM saint skit, and special guests.

**Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup>**

- Donuts after 8am mass at Olney.

**Monday, January 19<sup>th</sup>**

- Martin Luther King Jr. Day, No school

**Saturday, January 24<sup>th</sup>**

- 4:00 pm, Catholic Schools Week Kickoff mass at Holy Cross.
- 5:00 pm, Catholic Schools Week Kickoff mass at St. Joseph, Olney.

**Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup>**

- 8:00 am, Catholic Schools Week Kickoff mass at St. Joseph, Stringtown
- 11 am - 1 pm, VFW Pasta Dinner in Olney.

**Catholic Schools Week Activities**

- **Monday, January 26<sup>th</sup>**
  - Soup-er Bowl Food Drive and Saving change to save hearts Kickoff.
  - Athletic Appeal Day!
- **Tuesday, January 27<sup>th</sup>**
  - 5<sup>th</sup> grade saints wax museum.

- PBS watch party
- Classroom door decorating.
- Dress head to toe in one color!
- **Wednesday, January 28<sup>th</sup>**
  - 8:00 am, Alumni mass.
  - Sweet treats for students.
  - 8<sup>th</sup> grade vs. staff competition.
  - School Spirit Day!
- **Thursday, January 29<sup>th</sup>**
  - Movie and PJ day.
  - Cozy dress day!
- **Friday, January 30<sup>th</sup>**
  - PBS Assembly
  - Staff lunch
  - Living Rosary
  - Dream job dress up day!

**Family Catechesis**

- **Jan. 7<sup>th</sup>:** Twelve Night Epiphany Dinner beginning at 6:30 pm at Holy Cross. Family dinner, CYM saint skit, and special guests.
- **Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>:** Family Catechesis meets at 6:30 pm at Holy Cross.
- **Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>:** Married Catholics for Christ and Engaged Couples Valentine Dinner and Dance begins at 5:00 pm at Holy Cross. CYM babysitting is available.

**Sisters in Christ**

Sisters in Christ will resume January 20<sup>th</sup> for Olney and Stringtown, and on January 21<sup>st</sup> for Holy Cross. More information will be in next week’s bulletin. We will be continuing our book, The Reed of God.



**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.

**VOCATIONS GROUP FOR YOUNG MEN**

For young men from high school through age 35. This group will be meeting every 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month.

The first meeting will be on January 24<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm in the MPR at St. Joseph in Olney.

If interested please contact Fr. Levi at 618-240-3638.

**Epiphany Home Blessing Kits**

Epiphany blessing kits will be available by the doors for you and your family to take home.

**20+C+M+B+26**

**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

**Contact Us**

**Parish Offices**

St. Joseph, Olney  
618-392-8181

Holy Cross, Wendelin  
618-752-5671

St. Joseph, Stringtown  
618-754-3676

School office: 618-395-3081



Catholic Schools  
United in Faith and Community

**St. Joseph School**

Olney, Illinois

**WE ARE A PROUD CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

Share why you love Catholic Schools on social media using #CSW2026



**St. Joseph School News**

- Jan. 5: School resumes for students
- Jan. 8: Picture retakes, basketball, & band
- Jan. 9: Girl’s Diocesan Basketball Tourney
- Jan. 14: Freshman orientation
- Jan. 16: Boy’s Diocesan Basketball Tourney
- Jan. 19: No School
- Jan. 21: RC spelling bee
- Jan. 24-30: Catholic Schools Week!

"He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" -Micah 6:8 ESV



The Holy Cross Ladies Altar Sodality would like to thank all the parishioners who have donated to the cake & craft drawing each month. In the next coming year, we plan to continue the cake & craft drawing to help raise money for certain church organizations or functions. The cake & craft drawing will usually be held the first weekend of the month unless it coincides with another church function. Each month we will donate half the proceeds to the following church organizations or functions:

- January – Children’s Liturgy
- February – Married and Engaged Catholics 4 Christ
- March – Catholic Youth Ministry/Mission Trip
- April – Vacation Bible School
- May – Cemetery Flowers
- June –August – No cake and craft drawing these months.
- September – Family Catechesis
- October – Catholic Youth Ministry/Mission Trip
- November – Gas and grocery gift cards for parishioners in need.
- December - Family Catechesis

\*The other half of the proceeds each month will go towards various church items such as gifts for those celebrating a sacrament such as First Communion and Confirmation. The proceeds will also go towards church events like a celebration for those receiving their Confirmation and many more events. There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the back of Holy Cross church where you can sign up to donate a cake and/or craft item. You can also contact Kimberly Smithenry 217-663-8591 or the church office to reserve a date to donate an item.

We thank you for your support and generosity,

*Ladies Altar Sodality*

# DONUTS & COFFEE

**Sunday  
January 11<sup>th</sup>  
after 8:00 am mass**

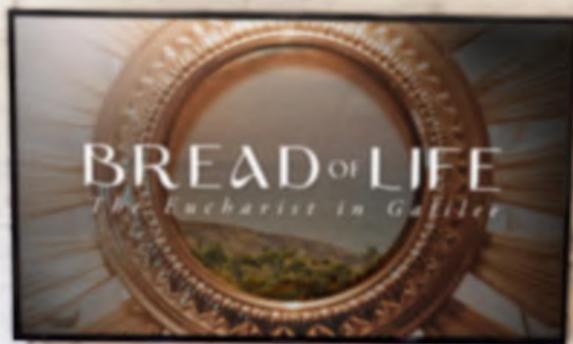
Enjoy donuts and coffee on  
Sunday morning with your  
families and fellow parishioners

**JAN.  
11**

**St. Joseph, Olney  
Multipurpose Room**

# formed™

Forming Catholics for *Life*.



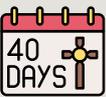
Diving into the beauty of the Faith has never been easier! Discover small group Bible studies, inspiring children's shows, sacramental preparation resources, family-friendly movies, and more! There is something for every member of the family and your Catholic community to help them grow closer to Jesus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



Register for a free **Formed** account at [signup.formed.org](https://signup.formed.org) Use Zip Code: 62448

# Family Catechesis Schedule of Events

## “Following in the Footsteps of Saints”

<p><b>2025 August</b></p>  <p><b>27 Wed. Opening Mass</b> Holy Cross 6:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>Families:</b> 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.</p>	<p><b>September</b></p>  <p><b>3 Wed. Family Gathering</b> Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center</p> <p><b>Families:</b> 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. <b>Sacrament Meeting for:</b> Reconciliation/Confirmation</p> <p><b>13-14- Red Plate Blessing for 1<sup>st</sup> graders</b></p> <p>*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder for updates.</p>	<p><b>October</b></p>  <p><b>1 Wed. Family Gathering</b> Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center</p> <p><b>Adults:</b> Presentation <b>Youth:</b> Activity Saint presentations and “Following in the Footsteps of the Saints” items.</p> <p><b>4-5 Confirmation Commitment Weekend</b> <b>11-12 Cup Blessing for 2<sup>nd</sup> graders</b> <b>30-All Saint-Family Rosary-Trunk n’ Treat after Mass</b></p> <p>*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder and Sacrament book for check-in.</p>
<p><b>November</b></p>  <p><b>5 Wed. Family Gathering</b> Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center</p> <p><b>Families:</b> 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.</p> <p><b>8-9 Candle Blessing for 3<sup>rd</sup> graders</b> <b>29-30 -Gift of Love Mass Weekend</b></p> <p>*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder and Sacrament book for check-in.</p>	<p><b>December</b></p>  <p><b>3 Wed. Family Gathering</b> Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center</p> <p><b>Adults:</b> Presentation <b>Youth:</b> Activity Saint presentations, Advent party, and “Following in the Footsteps of the Saints” items.</p> <p><b>7 -Advent tradition of “Evensong” at Holy Cross</b> <b>8 &amp; 11- First Reconciliation</b></p> <p>*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder and Sacrament book for check-in.</p>	<p><b>Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year</b></p> 
<p><b>2026 January</b></p>  <p><b>7 Wed. Family Gathering</b> Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center</p> <p><b>Families:</b> Saint presentations, Three Kings and 12<sup>th</sup> Night Dinner Party and “Following in the Footsteps of the Saints” items.</p> <p>*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder and Sacrament book for check-in.</p>	<p><b>February</b></p>  <p><b>4 Wed. Family Gathering</b> Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center</p> <p><b>Adults:</b> Presentation <b>Youth:</b> Activity Saint presentations and “Following in the Footsteps of the Saints” items.</p> <p><b>7-M.C.4.C. Valentine Dinner/Dance at Holy Cross</b></p> <p>*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder and Sacrament book for check-in.</p>	<p><b>March</b></p>  <p><b>4 Wed. Ash Wednesday</b> <b>15- Divine Mercy Book begins</b></p> <p><b>19 -Families:</b> St. Joseph Table tradition with Mass and Dinner at St. Joseph Stringtown Saint presentations and “Following in the Footsteps of the Saints” items.</p> <p>*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder and Sacrament book for check-in.</p>
<p><b>April</b></p>  <p><b>1 Wed. Family Gathering</b> Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center</p> <p><b>Adults:</b> Presentation <b>Youth:</b> Activity Saint presentations and “Following in the Footsteps of the Saints” items.</p> <p><b>5 -Easter</b> <b>12 -Divine Mercy Sunday</b> <b>(17,18,19)Confirmation at St. Joseph Olney</b></p> <p>*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder and Sacrament book for check-in.</p>	<p><b>May</b></p>  <p><b>3 Sun. Holy Cross May Crowning</b> <b>2-3 First Communion</b> <b>6 Wed. Closing Family Gathering</b> Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center</p> <p><b>Families:</b> Final Saint presentations, catered meal, and year end video presentation, and “Following in the Footsteps of the Saints” items.</p> <p>*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder</p>	<p><b>“Let us become saints so that after having been together on earth, we may be together in Heaven.”</b></p> <p><b>St. Pio Pietrelcina (Padre Pio)</b></p>



## Following in the Footsteps of the Saints

The **Catholic Extension Grant** contributed:  
 Silver Star, Three King ensemble and  
 Twelfth Night Epiphany Dinner.  
 Let us continue to stay  
 "Following in the Footsteps of the Saints."

## JANUARY formed™

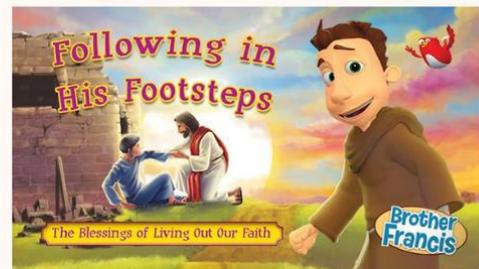
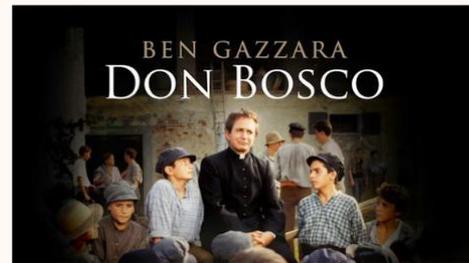
CYM provided the mealtime entertainment,  
 with a skit on the life of St. John Bosco,  
 the patron saint of youth.

The Three Kings  
 (Eric Sandschafer, Victor Sandschafer and  
 Isaac Street) arrived and shared with us  
 to always follow the True Light-  
 the Bright Shining Star -which is Jesus!

*"The people who walked in darkness  
 have seen a Great Light!"*

### January the month of the Holy Name of Jesus

- Jan 1: Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
- Jan 2: Saints Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen
- Jan 4: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (first American-born saint)
- Jan 5: St. John Neumann (first American male saint)
- Jan 7: St. Raymond of Penyafort (Dominican priest, canon lawyer)
- Jan 13: St. Hilary of Poitiers (Bishop, Doctor of the Church)
- Jan 17: St. Anthony the Abbot (Father of Monasticism)
- Jan 20: Saints Fabian (Pope) & Sebastian (Martyr)
- Jan 21: St. Agnes (Virgin & Martyr)
- Jan 24: St. Francis de Sales (Bishop, Doctor of the Church)
- Jan 25: The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle (Feast)
- Jan 27: St. Angela Merici (Founder of the Ursulines)
- Jan 28: St. Thomas Aquinas (Priest, Doctor of the Church)
- Jan 31: St. John Bosco (Founder of the Salesians, patron of youth)



## Upcoming February Events

### Holy Cross Wendelin

**4** Wed. Family Catechesis Gathering 6:30 pm  
 Join us for an eye opening Adult presentation, a  
 CYM Candlemas service, and a "Saint"  
 presentation for all ages.

**7** M.C.4.C. Valentine Dinner/Dance- CYM  
 babysitting in parish house, R.S.V.P.  
 \*Reminder to bring your Family Catechesis Tote  
 and Binder and Sacrament books for check-in.



### Prayer for the New Year

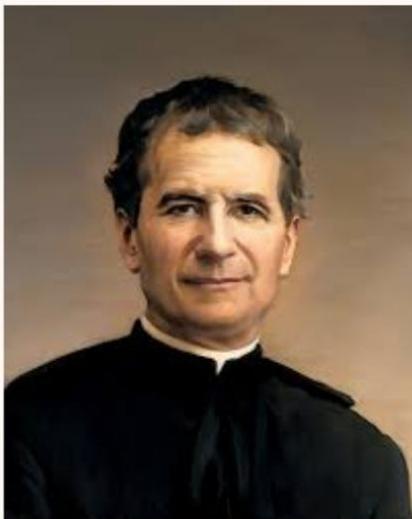
*"Come, Holy Spirit, be our Light and Guide  
 in this new year. Renew our minds and  
 hearts, strengthen us in virtue, and help us  
 grow closer to You and one another.  
 Through Christ our Lord. Amen!"*

# FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE SAINTS

January 2026



## Our January Saints



### Saint John Bosco

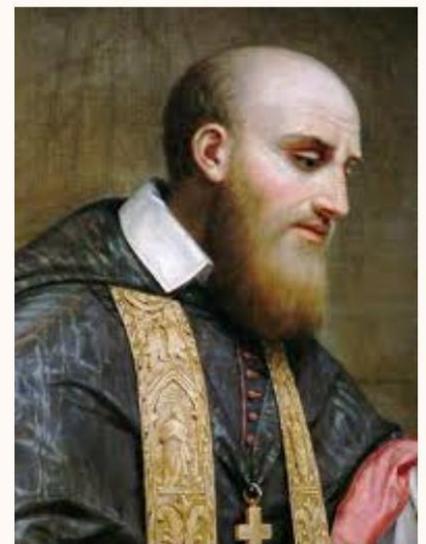
(Don Bosco) 1815-1888)

was an Italian Catholic priest, educator, and writer who dedicated his life to disadvantaged youth, developing the Salesian Preventive System (reason, religion, loving-kindness) to educate poor, orphaned, and delinquent children through vocational training and spiritual guidance, becoming the "Father and Teacher of Youth" and patron of apprentices, editors, publishers, and young people, with his work continuing through the Salesians worldwide.



### Mother of God

Mary the mother of Jesus, holds a unique and highly venerated position within Christianity, particularly in Catholicism and Orthodox Christianity, where she is honored as the Mother of God (or Theotokos, a Greek term meaning "God-bearer"). She is considered the greatest of all saints.



### St. Francis de Sales

(1567-1622) was a French bishop, theologian, and writer known for his gentle approach to faith, authoring Introduction to the Devout Life, co-founding the Sisters of the Visitation, and becoming a Doctor of the Church, serving as patron for writers, journalists, and educators for making holiness accessible to all. He famously used "a spoonful of honey" over "vinegar" to win back Calvinists, slipping pamphlets under doors, and emphasized "Humility, Humility, Humility" before his death.

# *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](http://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.