

HOLY CROSS - WENDELIN

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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Holy Cross Ministries January-March 2026		
JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
Servers	Servers	Servers
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 - CVM	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 & 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
Open/Lock/Greet	Open/Lock/Greet	Open/Lock/Greet
Sat. - Dave & Tammy Rudolphi	Sat. - Keith & Pam Blank	Sat. - Derek & Kasey Iffert
Sun. - Brent & Sharon Edwards	Sun. - Danny & Lori Quinn	Sun. - Henry & Sandi Kessler
Eucharistic Ministers	Eucharistic Ministers	Eucharistic Ministers
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.		
Lectors	Lectors	Lectors
Sat. - Victoria Rudolphi	Sat. - Maria Rudolphi	Sat. - Jennifer Rudolphi
Sun. - Robin Deckard	Sun. - James Kistner	Sun. - Amy Heuerman
Money Counters	Money Counters	Money Counters
Gerald & Diane Shackmann	Herb & Martha Deimel	Henry & Sandi Kessler
Ushers	Ushers	Ushers
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
CRMH Communion:	CRMH Communion:	CRMH Communion:
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
Children's Liturgy of the Word:	Children's Liturgy of the Word:	Children's Liturgy of the Word:
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
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

Wednesday, January 7th

- 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 11th

- Donuts after 8am mass at Olney.

Monday, January 19th

- Martin Luther King Jr. Day, No school

Saturday, January 24th

- 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 25th

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

- PBS watch party
- Classroom door decorating.
- Dress head to toe in one color!

Wednesday, January 28th

- 8:00 am, Alumni mass.
- Sweet treats for students.
- 8th grade vs. staff competition.
- School Spirit Day!

Thursday, January 29th

- Movie and PJ day.
- Cozy dress day!

Friday, January 30th

- PBS Assembly
- Staff lunch
- Living Rosary
- Dream job dress up day!

Family Catechesis

- **Jan. 7th:** Twelve Night Epiphany Dinner beginning at 6:30 pm at Holy Cross. Family dinner, CYM saint skit, and special guests.
- **Feb. 4th:** Family Catechesis meets at 6:30 pm at Holy Cross.
- **Feb. 7th:** 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 20th for Olney and Stringtown, and on January 21st 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 4th Saturday of the month.

The first meeting will be on January 24th 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 UsParish Offices

St. Joseph, Olney
618-392-8181

Holy Cross, Wendelin
618-752-5671

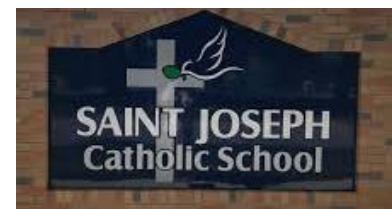
St. Joseph, Stringtown
618-754-3676

School office: 618-395-3081



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

Catholic Schools Week 2026

Kickoff Masses: Saturday, January 24 (Olney and Wendelin) and Sunday, January 25 (Olney and Stringtown)
 VFW Pasta Dinner- Sunday, January 25

	Monday, January 26	Tuesday, January 27	Wednesday, January 28	Thursday, January 29	Friday, January 30
Special Events	<p>Soup-er Bowl Food Drive and Saving Change to Save Hearts Kickoff</p> <p>Buddy Classrooms Join for PE Games</p>	<p>5th Grade Saints Wax Museum</p> <p>PBS Watch Party</p> <p>Classroom Door Decorating</p>	<p>Alumni Mass</p> <p>Sweet Treats for Students at Lunch</p> <p>8th Grade vs. Staff Competition</p>	<p>Student Movie and Pajama Party</p> <p>Bring your favorite stuffy and/or pillow</p>	<p>PBS Assembly</p> <p>Staff Lunch</p> <p>Living Rosary</p>
Special Dress	<p>Athletic Apparel Day</p>  <p>Grab your gear and cheer! Deck yourself out in your favorite team's merch or a player's jersey.</p>	<p>Monochromatic Mania</p>  <p>Pick a hue and see it through—dress head-to-toe in a favorite single color for Monochromatic Day!</p>	<p>School Spirit Day</p>  <p>Go Wild! Drench yourself in our awesome blue and white today to show that unstoppable Wildcat spirit!</p>	<p>Sandler Slumber Party</p>  <p>Cozy is the Code! Classic Adam Sandler comfort with oversized clothes or go for ultimate comfort in your PJs</p>	<p>Dream Job Dress Up</p>  <p>Time travel to your dream job! Show up today dressed as the successful future professional you are destined to be.</p>



St. Joseph School

Olney, Illinois

Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community

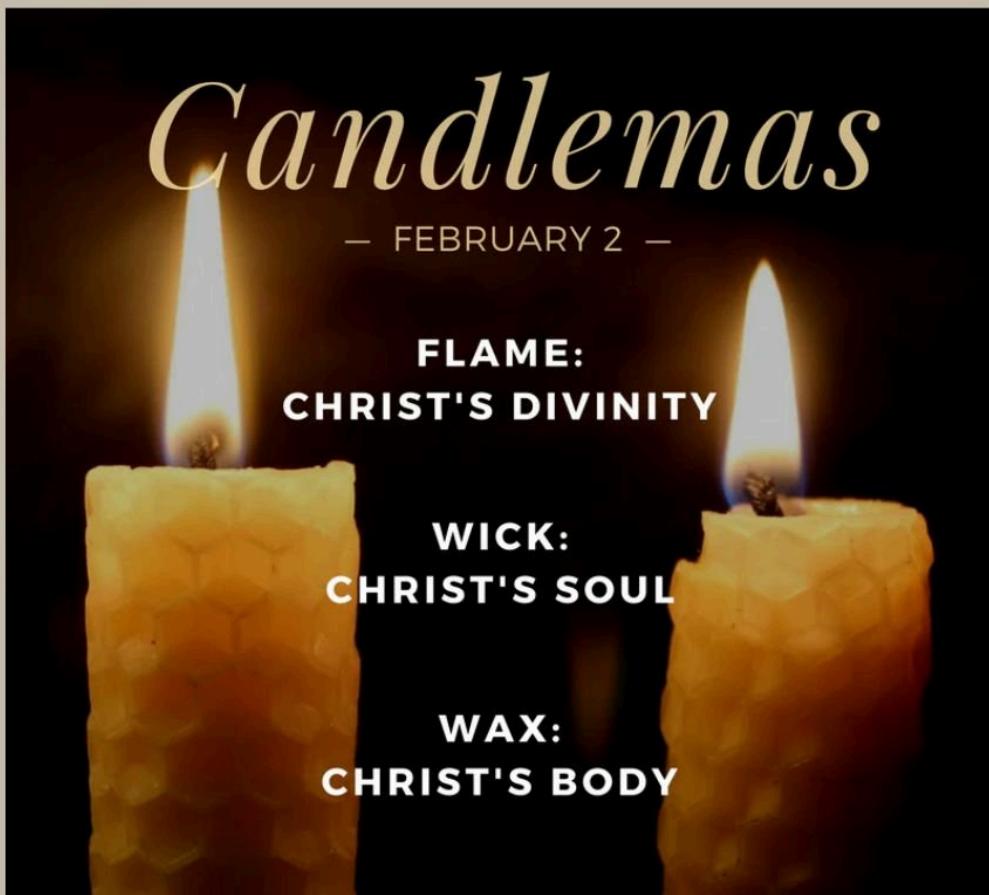
WE ARE A PROUD
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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

CANDLEMAS

BRING YOUR CANDLES TO MASS
JANUARY 31 & FEBRUARY 1
FOR A BLESSING

IT IS TRADITION ON THE FEAST OF
CANDLEMAS [PRESENTATION OF THE LORD]
TO BLESS AND LIGHT CANDLES, WHICH
REMIND US THAT THE DARKNESS SHALL NOT
OVERCOME THE LIGHT OF CHRIST.
AS CATHOLICS, WE ARE CALLED TO BE
LIGHT IN A WORLD THAT IS
OVERSHADOWED BY DARKNESS.



- ANNUAL -

WINE TASTING

Kick Back & Relax!



\$15

Saturday, January 31st, 2026 • Newton Knights of Columbus

Doors Open at 5:30pm

Please Join Us For An Evening Of Fun & Relaxation

Enjoy a delightful night featuring
WINES FROM AROUND THE WORLD & SPECIALTY BEERS,
along with a **DELICIOUS SPREAD OF APPETIZERS AND HORS D'OEUVRES.**

The evening will also include **DOOR PRIZES** and a **LIVE AUCTION** featuring:

Adult Drink–Themed, Flip-Top, Wood-Crafted Tables,
Two All-Inclusive St. Louis Blues Hockey Tickets,
Handcrafted Porch Swing and Custom Centerpieces.

Great Tastes, Great Company, And A Great Time Await!

SPECIAL THANKS & APPRECIATION TO
Wood-Iron-Stone Design, Schmid Auction, J&J Gaming,
Brummer's Cabinets & Customs and friends of St. Thomas!

Sponsors:

Donnewald Distributing Company, Newton Knights of Columbus and St. Thomas Angels



Sunday, February 15, 2026

Holy Cross Parish Center in Wendelin, IL

1:00p.m.-4:00p.m.

CASH Prizes

**4 games
for \$1.00**

**Refreshments provided by
the Ladies Altar Sodality
for donation**

**Public is WELCOME
Doors open at 12:00**

Sponsored by Family Life Committee

SAVE THE DATE

HOLY CROSS WINE TASTING

MARCH 21, 2026



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.



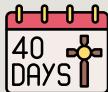
Register for a free **Formed** account at signup.formed.org Use Zip Code: 62448

An offering from the  AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE

Family Catechesis

Schedule of Events

“Following in the Footsteps of Saints”

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

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

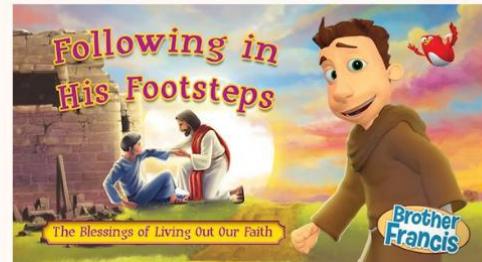
- Jan 1: Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
- Jan 2: Saints Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen
- Jan 4: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (first American-born saint)
- Jan 5: St. John Neumann (first American male saint)
- Jan 7: St. Raymond of Peñafort (Dominican priest, canon lawyer)
- Jan 13: St. Hilary of Poitiers (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)



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.”

JANUARY formed™



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.

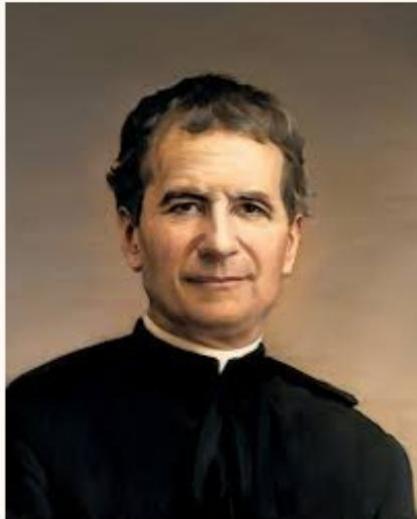
*Reminder to bring your Family Catechesis Tote and Binder and Sacrament books for check-in.

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 Teresas

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.