

Collection Total for December 30, 2018

Envelopes: \$1122.00
Loose: \$47.00
Total: \$1169.00

Weekly Amount Needed: \$1,400.00

Religious Education: \$40.00 (2)
Collection for the Needy: \$20.00 (2)
Solemnity of Mary: \$80.00 (3)
Christmas Offering: \$425.00 (8)
Building Fund: \$15.00 (1)
Human Development: \$15.00 (1)
Christmas Flower: \$10.00 (1)
Immaculate Conception: \$15.00 (1)

Collection Total for January 1, 2019

Envelopes: \$230.00
Loose: \$53.00
Total: 287.00
First Offering: \$41.00 (12)
Past & Future: \$40.00 (3)

January Bulletins:
January Missalettes:

FR. MARK’S SCHEDULE

Monday, January 7, 1:30pm Personal Board at Chancery, Belleville
Wednesday, January 9, 6:30pm, PSR at Holy Cross-Wendelin
Friday, January 11, 12:00pm (Noon), Finance Council at St. Joseph-Olney

Contributions to the Parish

If you are attending Sunday Mass in any of our three partnership churches: St. Joseph-Olney, St. Joseph-Stringtown, Holy Cross-Wendelin, please use your contribution envelope. Your contribution will be deposited and your contribution will be credited to the parish stated on the envelope.

Tri-Parish Mass Schedule

Saturday, 4:30pm, St. Joseph Olney
Saturday, 6:30pm, St. Joseph Stringtown
Sunday, 8:00am, St. Joseph Olney
Sunday, 10:00am, Holy Cross Wendelin

Mass Intentions - Are now being scheduled until June 1st 2019

PARISH NEWS

IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER,
Mass will be canceled, when school has been canceled due to the weather. Or better yet, receive real time information, sign up for Flocknote which allows us to reach all our members at a moment’s notice. Members can text the unique keyword of **stjoeholycross to 84576** to get connected with the church (which we call text-to-join). Free-text-to-join.

St. Joseph-Olney School:

Good luck to our girls at the Diocesan tournament!

Monday, January 7th - School Resumes

***Wednesday, January 9th - No School Mass due to painting in the church

Thursday, January 10th - PTO 6:30 p.m. in the MPR

Friday, January 11th - Report Cards Posted

COMMUNITY NEWS:

The January meeting of the Stringtown Community Club will be held at the Stringtown Parish Center on January 7th at 7 pm. The program will be Hank Ginder, speaking about his work with Special Olympics.

Holy Cross Wendelin:

EUCHRE TOURNAMENT – Sunday January 13th 2019 at the HCW Parish Center. CYM will have sandwiches, desserts, popcorn, soda/water & more available for donation after 10:00 Mass until card playing begins. Come eat & socialize, Stay and play cards. Card Playing begins at 12:30, \$3.00 Per Player Admission. Cash Prizes Awarded 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place. (You may bring your favorite adult beverage. Public Invited) Sponsored by: Family Life of Holy Cross

Blood Drive is scheduled for Sunday January 27th from 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. It will be held in the Parish Center at **Holy Cross Church** of Wendelin at 5782 Ingraham Lane, Newton, IL.

St. Thomas Catholic Church:

11th Annual Wine Tasting & Hors d’oeuvres featuring wines from around the world. \$10 Donation. Join us to sample some of the best new wines and brewed beers available (sold by the glass, bottle or case)
Saturday, January 26, 2019 6:30 PM at the Newton Knights of Columbus.
Sponsored by: Donnewald Distributing Company, Knights of Columbus and Friends of St. Thomas

Journey Onward Ye Sojourners + J.O.Y.S.

Caroline Trimble Pastoral Associate

A Star guided the Magi to the King of Kings, and Lord of Lords. What Star is guiding you this New Year? What will you find once you reach the Star? Will it be life-giving, fruitful and “of God” or prideful and “of the world”? The moment of your Epiphany is closer than you might think! Seek to be

guided by the One True Star for it is there where you will find your *life of love*! Journey onward this New Year, being guided by the Star to Peace and Love!

Keep to the J.O.Y.S.

Knights of Columbus:

Wednesday, January 9: Deadline for Christ in Christmas Posters. Submit Posters to your respective teachers.

Thursday January 10: 3rd Degree meeting, 7:00PM

Thursday, January 17: 4th Degree meeting, 7:30PM

Thursday, February 14: Deadline for 8th grade students Essay Contest; "The Importance of Religious Freedom" 500 to 750 typed words. Cash Prizes: \$50, \$25, \$15, & \$10. Submit essays to your respective teachers.

FROM FR. MARK:

Today we celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord. Epiphany comes from a Greek verb meaning “to reveal,” and all the various events celebrated by the Feast of the Epiphany are revelations of Christ to all humankind. Many have heard of the “12 days of Christmas.” They begin with Christmas Day and end on January 6, Epiphany.

Of course, our readings on this solemnity all refer to the Epiphany as we know it — the time that the divinity of Jesus was revealed, made manifest, to the entire world, not just Israel and the Jewish people. The world is represented by the three magi — the wise men as most of us know them. They came from the east and were, like most of us, Gentiles.

There are certain passages in Holy Scripture almost universally known, and certainly well known to even a lukewarm Christian. The story of the Magi, the wise men or the three kings, falls into that category. As Matthew shares it in today’s Gospel, they were “magi from the east.” At no time does Matthew tell us there were three of them nor does he indicate that they are kings. Most likely, according to scholars, they were astronomers or astrologers, thus their knowledge of and fascination with

the star which led them. Who they were and how many of them there was not important. What is important is that they represent all of us, and their actions suggest to us how we need to respond to Jesus Christ and what He is and represents.

Holy Scripture is filled with subtleties we sometimes miss. Matthew tells us that “on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother.” Joseph is evidently not present, and there is a reason for that. He was not, as we know, the true father to Jesus. They presented gifts to Jesus, not to His mother or His parents. When we give to Jesus today, we do not do it directly, but to the Lord’s people through the parish and other charities.

Finally, these visitors worshipped the Lord (“They prostrated themselves and did him homage.”). We, too, need to worship the Lord; we, too, need to acknowledge His holiness and His kingship. Worshipping is more important than the gifts, but we are reminded in this Gospel that both are significant.

SATURDAY JANUARY 5 SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE FOR WEEK OF December 30

Monday 01/07 No Mass
Tuesday 01/08 8:00am at St. Joseph-Stringtown “For the Parish”
Wednesday 01/09 8:05am at St. Joseph-Olney
Thursday 01/10 8:00am at Holy Cross-Wendelin
Friday 01/11 10:00am at Brookstone Estates
Saturday 01/12 6:30pm at St. Joseph-Stringtown “For the Parish”

Parish Ministries

<u>This Sat. (Jan. 5th)</u>	<u>Next Sat. (Jan. 12th)</u>
<u>Servers:</u> Eli Sager	Luke Seiler
Sean Joyce	Natalie Zwilling
Owen Kocher	Owen Sager
<u>Lector:</u>	
Hank Ginder	Ethan Steber
<u>Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion</u>	
Raymond Zwilling	Bill Zuber
Theresa Zwilling	Cheryl Zuber
Beth Kocher	Brittany Ochs
<u>Offertory:</u>	
Brian Ochs Family	Bryan Cummins Family
<u>Ushers:</u>	
Jim Schneider	Doug Kocher
Justin Sager	Elmer Ochs
<u>Greeters:</u>	
Tom & Karen Zuber	Werner & Janette Kocher

Remember in our prayers . . .
Mary Beth Sifferlen, Kim Dallmier, Janice D. Zuber,
Marcia(Hahn)Zanellato , Bob Dallmier, Emma Kocher

Bulletin News: Deadline Wednesday 3:00 PM

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



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Very Rev. Mark D. Stec, V.F. Pastor
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Caroline Trimble Pastoral Associate
Cell phone 618-263-7106
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Savannah Coan, Administrative Assistant
Office phone 618-754-3676
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Parish Office Hours:
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday
9:00 AM to 2:00 PM