

**December 13, 2020**  
**Third Sunday of Advent**

**+Eucharistic Celebrations +**

**Sat., Dec. 12, 4:00pm: Robert N. & Bernadette Kocher & Family +**

**Sun., Dec. 13, 10:00am: Sharon Correll and Clifford & Gertrude Rauch +**

**Thurs., Dec. 17, 6:30pm: Smithenry/Weber Families, Living & Deceased**

**Sat., Dec., 19, 4:00pm: Herman J. Hinterscher +**

**Sun., Dec. 20, 10:00am: Harold & RoseMarie Buerster and Robert N. & Bernadette Kocher +**

**Mass Schedules:**

On each of the individual parish websites, there is a link to sign up for mass this weekend or next weekday. At the top of the website, click on Mass Sign-Up You Must Register to Attend. This will take you to 'Sign-Up Genius'. Then scroll down to choose the Mass you wish to attend. Click on a box to "Sign Up" and then scroll all the way down to the bottom of the screen and click on "Submit and Sign Up". This will take you to another screen where you can enter your name and the number of people coming. Then click on "Sign Up Now". It is really very simple!

**Mass will be celebrated at:**

**4:00pm Saturdays at Holy Cross-Wendelin**

5:00pm Saturdays at St. Joseph-Olney

8:00am Sundays at St. Joseph-Olney

8:00am Sundays at St. Joseph-Stringtown

10:00am Sundays at Holy Cross-Wendelin

10:00am Sundays at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville

Also:

Monday at 6:30pm at St. Joseph-Stringtown

Tuesday at 6:30pm at St. Lawrence-Lawrenceville

Wednesday at 8:00am at St. Joseph, Olney

Thursday at 6:30pm at Holy Cross-Wendelin

**\*\*Reservations** for mass are necessary for two reasons: 1. I want you to be made aware that we can accommodate you, and 2. the reservation system is crucial in the event that a parishioner who attended Mass discovers he/she has COVID-19, for the parish must be prepared to provide a list of Mass attendees to the health department for contact tracing.

**\*\*Remember:** All the faithful of the Diocese of Belleville continue to be dispensed from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation until further notice.

**\*\*Mass will continue to be Live Stream** at St. Joseph-Olney at 5:00pm on Saturday and 8:00am on Sunday and at 8:00am and 6:30pm on Wednesday

**\*\*The Sacrament of Reconciliation** is available by appointment or at 6:00pm Monday through Thursday at the individual parish that has the scheduled weekday mass at 6:30pm.

**KEEP CONNECTED** with the church and receive important messages and updates via text and email. Sign up for Flocknote by texting **stjoeholycross to 84576** to get connected

**CHRISTMAS MASSES:**

**(Please use SignUp genius to reserve your space).**

**CHRISTMAS EVE, December 24:**

\*3:00pm: Ginder Family Farm Building, St. Joseph,

(Stringtown parishioners will be given priority.)

\*4:00pm, St. Lawrence, Lawrenceville

\*5:00pm, St. Joseph-Olney

\*6:30pm, St. Joseph, Olney (if needed)

\*8:30pm, Holy Cross-Wendelin

\*10:00pm, Holy Cross-Wendelin

**CHRISTMAS DAY, December 25:**

8:00am, St. Joseph, Olney

9:00am, St. Lawrence, Lawrenceville

10:00am, Holy Cross, Wendelin

**SUNDAY COLLECTION - Dec. 6, 2020**

Loose 60.00 (36) Sun. Env. 1,685.25;

(15) Building 865.00; (7) Christmas Flower

Memorials 415.00; (1) Human Development

10.00; (1) Christmas Offering 50.00

**TOTAL: \$3,085.25**

**REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS OUR SICK**

\*Elizabeth Weidner; \*Donald Coffey; \*Sister

Simona Frohning; \*\*All Covid patients

**ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL NEWS:** St. Joseph School will

be in attendance Wednesday, December 23 from

7:50am to 12:50pm. We will not have bus service

that day.

**THANK YOU to Kistler-Patterson Funeral Homes**

for providing our 2021 calendars. These

complimentary calendars are available on the card

table - as you enter church.

**AROUND OUR PARISH:**

**HOLY CROSS CHOIR- Thursday, December 24,**

**Christmas Eve, the choir will be begin singing at**

**8:15pm - "outside"- before the 8:30pm Mass and**

**again begin singing "outside" at 9:30pm before**

**the 10:00pm Mass.**

**Friday, December 25, Christmas Day – the choir**

**will begin singing "outside" at 9:45am – before**

**the 10:00am Mass.**

**CARD SHOWER – Dan Bangert has his 80<sup>th</sup>**

**birthday coming up on December 25, Christmas**

**Day.** Please send him **"Birthday Wishes"** at 520

Sapphire Lane, Clay City, Il 62824

**CARD SHOWER – Vernatha Kessler will be**

**celebrating her 100 Birthday,** Monday, December

14. To make her 100 birthday special - she would

really appreciate receiving cards. Send birthday

wishes to: 400 West Mack Ave., Olney, Il. 62450

**CYM NEWS:** We are planning our CH/WC Mission Trip for July 11-16 to Kansas City, KS or Stuebenville, OH. Call or text Kristi Sandschafer at 217-994-2754 to reserve a spot.

**OLNEY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS:**

**\*\*Vocation Raffle** drawing delayed until January 16, 2021 – due to Covid-19.

**\*\*The Christmas Dinner has been canceled this year, due to Covid-19.**

**Journey Onward Ye Sojourners**

**+J.O.Y.S.+**

**Caroline Trimble-Pastoral Associate**

Our journey into Advent brings us further into the humility that should be lived and sought. The humility like that of John the Baptist who was sent to testify of the one that is to come. Another person whose humility we should seek is Mary. The one who said, "Yes, be it done unto me according to your word." The one who was chosen to bear the Christ child in her womb-*Mary-the New Eve- The Immaculate Conception-Our Lady of the Rosary-Our Mother.* Are you living a life saying, Yes? Go in haste this Advent like never before and follow the True Light, and ask our Mother to help you. Then your journey will bring you truly to a Life of Light and Love.

**Keep to the J.O.Y.S.**

**Third Sunday of Advent – Respect Life Corner**

**"I am he voice of one crying out in the desert,**

**Make straight the way of the Lord."** In John's

Gospel, we learn of the joy John the Baptist found

in Christ. Even in his mother's womb, the unborn

Baptist leapt for joy at the nearness of the

Messiah. John's joy is manifested in his testimony

to the Lord's coming. Large groups of people

gathered in the desert to hear John's good news

and his call to repentance and baptism in Christ's

name.

John's purpose and ministry was preparation for Christ as He began his public ministry. His enthusiasm and love for Christ brought joy to others and they wanted to feel that joy of Christ and never let it go.

**Learn, Act, Connect and Pray** – Free of worldly trappings and pleasure, John rejoices in the only true happiness that exists, joy in Christ's love for each one of us. Let's learn from John the virtue of joy and the humility he possessed by sharing our faith and really listening to one another. In a group setting, try "speaking fourth, not first." Allowing others to speak first offers a place of honor and a chance to really listen before speaking. Our humility and joy can win souls for Christ. Without his love, the world is a dark and gloomy place. Let's stay close to Christ in love and humility towards all those He places in our midst.

**DIocese OF BELLEVILLE: WHAT DO TIER 3 MITIGATIONS MEAN FOR OUR PARISHES AND SCHOOLS?**

As of now, the Catholic Conference of Illinois advises that parishes and Catholic schools are permitted to continue in-person worship and learning, even under the Tier 3 requirements that go into effect on Friday, November 20, 2020. This presumes that our parishes are diligently complying with current protocols and schools are operating under approved COVID-19 prevention plans.

Reopening protocols are available at [www.diobelle.org](http://www.diobelle.org). Key components of these protocols that must be followed include:  
\*\*Limit attendance to 20% of church capacity or 100 worshippers, whichever is smaller  
\*\*Register worshippers and maintain attendance records to assist in contact tracing  
\*\*Ask screening questions before admittance  
\*\*Wear well-fitted face masks that always cover the mouth and nose  
\*\*Sanitize hands when entering the building and before receiving Holy Communion

\*\* Always maintain social distancing of at least six feet  
\*\*Sanitize pews and commonly touched surfaces between Masses/services

We encourage everyone to dedicate themselves to these precautions as a work of charity and mercy that we do for love of our neighbors.

Those who have elevated health risks should consider staying home and participating online or by watching Mass on television.

If you have any symptoms or have been exposed to someone who likely has COVID-19, please worship from home and be especially cautious.

Remember, during this pandemic, the obligation to attend Sunday Mass is dispensed. It is not a sin to miss Mass if we do so because of a concern about contracting or spreading the corona virus.

Please pray daily and diligently for an end to this pandemic.

A special word about weddings and funerals. Although funerals are specifically mentioned in the Tier 3 mitigation guidelines, funeral Masses and funeral liturgies in church buildings can operate under our protocols for Mass. The 20 percent occupancy rule (maximum of 100 people) applies to any act of public worship. Please follow all the other protocols, including the presence of sufficient staff or volunteers to screen and usher the worshippers, sanitize commonly touched surfaces, etc.

Special care should be taken to maintain social distancing before and after the funeral liturgy, as people enter and leave the church building. Gatherings such as wakes are subject to Tier 3 mitigation limits on gatherings (10 family members) and are not advised at this time. This same guideline applies to weddings.

**NEXT BLOOD DRIVE** at Holy Cross Parish Center will be **Sunday, January 31, 2021**, from 7:00am to 11:00am.

\*\*It is extremely important to book your appointment early by downloading the American Red Cross App. Call 1-800-733-2767 or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter: HolyCrossWendelin. You can make your appointment now!

**GIFTS AVAILABLE:** Due to the Covid-19, you don't want to get out to shop, there are several **"Welcome To Our Table" cookbooks** (Green) available and also **Fr. David's Journal** - - if you need a quick nice gift. Contact the rectory 752-5671.

**December 13 , 2020  
Third Sunday of Advent**

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.  
Indeed, the Lord is near.

**Holy Cross Church-Wendelin  
5782 Ingraham Lane, Newton, IL 62448  
Website - - [www.holycrosswendelin.com](http://www.holycrosswendelin.com)**

**Mass Schedule:  
Saturday 4:00pm, Sunday 10:00am  
Thurs., 6:30pm**

**Very Rev. Fr. Mark D. Stec, V.F., Pastor**  
Fr. Mark's Cell \_\_\_\_\_ 618-841-7324  
E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ [mstec88@msn.com](mailto:mstec88@msn.com)

**Caroline Trimble \_\_\_\_\_ Pastoral Associate**  
Caroline's Cell \_\_\_\_\_ 618-263-7106  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ [CtrimblePA@gmail.com](mailto:CtrimblePA@gmail.com)

**Martha Buerster Administrative Assistant**  
Parish Office \_\_\_\_\_ 618-752-5671  
Monday-Thursday 8:30am-12:00 Noon  
Parish Office Fax \_\_\_\_\_ 618-752-6006  
E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ [holycrosschurch@frontier.com](mailto:holycrosschurch@frontier.com)

**Ashley Hinterscher (CRE) Cell 618-843-1892**  
E-mail.....creholycross@gmail.com  
Trustees \_\_\_\_\_ Carl Will & Sherry Geier

**Pastoral Council: Tony Kuentler-Chair;  
Kevin Blank-Vice-Chair; Heather Blank-Secretary;  
Cindy Blank, Gregg Weber, Sheryl Klingler**