

seemed reasonable to move forward earlier than expected.

Parishioners have been asked to make final donations by Easter 2025. The Holy Cross Building fund can cover these bills until all donations are made.

Two projects that will be researched and estimated costs projected:

- Accent lights for the church, safety lighting (both sides of the road), and landscaping the church
- Statues for the reredos

No action will be taken immediately on these "Phase Two" projects. The Council will be included in decision making and budgeting for these items.

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS MINISTRIES:

Christmas Eve Mass Ministries are been fulfilled. Thanks to those that volunteered to fulfill these ministries.

HOLY CROSS CHOIR:

Holy Cross Choir will begin singing at 3:30pm on Tuesday, December 24th prior to the 4pm Mass.

CAROLINE TRIMBLE, PASTORAL ASSOCIATE:

The gift that surpasses all understanding is drawing nearer! Do you know this gift? Do you know where to find it? This precious gift is more than an heirloom. This gift is timeless, and it is always in the right size, color, and quantity. This gift is Love- the Love that is being carried in the womb of Mary. This same Love wants to live within each and every one of us! When this Love truly lives within you - it radiates and illuminates your journey! This joyous time of waiting and longing is about receiving the Gift above all gifts. Take time to pause, stop, pray, and receive the Love that is being poured out... let Love be the gift that is received and given! Like Mary, we're waiting for Jesus, we're waiting for Jesus, the Lord. Light your fourth purple candle of *Love* and journey to

Bethlehem with Joseph and Mary! Come, Lord Jesus! Come quickly, Lord Jesus! The whole world is waiting for Love! Live a Jubilee year as a "Pilgrim of Hope." Our Lady of Fatima, *pray for us!*

FR. DAN ADDRESS:

We really enjoyed having Fr. Dan here with us as a substitute priest while Fr. Felix was away at officer training. If anyone is interested in sending Fr. Dan a card while he is undergoing some health issues, please send them to:
Hincke-Sense Home for Retired Priests
2620 Lebanon Avenue
Belleville, IL 62221

FRIDAY – ST. JOSEPH-OLNEY MASSES:

Friday mass will be held on December 27th at 8am at Olney. After the 27th there will only be First Friday masses at Olney until further notice.

YOUNG ADULTS: Bible Study at the Holy Cross Parish House on Monday's at 7pm. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Tyler Timm.

SISTERS IN CHRIST:

Wednesdays, Holy Cross-Wendelin 5:30pm
Contact Kristi Sandschafer or Caroline Trimble for more information. **Tuesdays**, 6:30-7:30pm. If interested, contact Amy Sandschafer at 217-240-1599.

ST. JOSEPH OLNEY SCHOOL NEWS:

Thank you to Mischelle Doll for her many years of hard work coordinating Santa's Workshop! We are so grateful for her service and dedication that has brought joy to so many students and families over the years. **School resumes** for students January 7. **Have a very Merry Christmas from the students and staff at St. Joseph School!**

OLNEY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:

Sunday, December 29th: The Knights lead the Rosary at 7:40 am.

Sunday, December 29th: Mass ministries led by the K of C 4th degree members, and a fellowship breakfast after mass.

Knight of the Month: Steve Kuenstler Family

RESPECT LIFE CORNER:

Lord Jesus Christ, you chose to share our human nature and redeem all people. We ask for help for our brothers and sisters who are ill. Support them with your power and shelter them from sadness. Keep them firm in faith and serene in hope. Also help those who assist the sick and care for them in their time of illness. Inspire our society to resist the temptation of assisted suicide for the elderly, the sick, the vulnerable and all your people. May life's beauty and sanctity be respected among all our brothers and sisters. All this we ask in your holy name. Amen.

<https://www.ilcatholic.org/stop-assisted-suicide/>

2024 CATHOLIC SERVICE & MINISTRY APPEAL:

Serve the Lord with gladness -Psalm 100

The true joy of Christmas is in the everlasting love of Christ. May you find His peace, love and joy now and in the coming new year. With deepest gratitude for your prayers and generosity,
*-Bishop Michael McGovern and
Ministries and Programs Funded by
The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal*

JUBILEE YEAR 2025:

Pope Francis will open the Jubilee Year 2025 by opening the Holy Door in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome on Christmas Eve. Join Bishop Michael McGovern in opening the celebration of the Jubilee Year in our diocese at the 10:30am Mass at the Cathedral of St. Peter (200 W. Harrison, Belleville) on Sunday December 29. Our theme for the Jubilee Year is Pilgrims of Hope. For more information visit www.diobelle.org.

On behalf of Fr. Steven, Fr. Felix, and all parish staff, we wish you a Merry Christmas!

Sunday, December 22, 2024

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Drop down dew from above, you heavens,
and let the clouds rain down the Just One;
let the earth be opened and bring forth a Savior.



Holy Cross Church-Wendelin

5782 Inghram Lane, Newton, IL 62448

Website - - www.holycrosswendelin.com

Mass Schedule: Thurs., 6:30pm

Saturday 4:00pm, Sunday 10:00am

****Very Rev. Steven L. Beatty, V.G – Pastor**

Fr. Steven's Cell: 618-697-2632

E-mail: frsteven.beatty@gmail.com

****Reverend Felix Chukwuma – Pastor**

Fr. Felix's Cell: 812-899-2415

E-mail: chibuchuma@yahoo.com

****Caroline Trimble – Pastoral Associate**

Caroline's Cell: 618-263-7106

E-mail: ctrimblePA@gmail.com

****Ashley Hinterscher – Administrative Assistant**

Ashley's Cell: 618-843-1892

Parish Office: 618-752-5671

Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 9-3pm,

Friday 9-1pm

Parish E-mail: holycrosswendelin@outlook.com

Ashley CRE E-mail: creholycross@gmail.com

****Tyler Timm – Youth Minister**

Tyler's Cell: 507-530-2911

E-mail: timm@stjoeolney.com

Trustees: Carl Will & Sherry Geier

Pastoral Council: Tony Kuenstler-Chair; Kevin Blank-Vice-Chair; Cindy Blank, Pam Blank, Sharon Edwards, Kelly Geier, Tonya Hall, Tammy Rudolphi, Holly Nettleton, Dusty Smithenry