

29 1st Sunday of Advent	30 *Laura Dressman	December 1 *Lily Luebbe	2	3	4	5
6 2nd Sunday of Advent *John Back *Christina Back	7	8 Feast of the Immaculate Conception Mass at 8am and 5:45pm	9	10	11	12

**Minister Schedule for December 6**  
**Coordinator:** Randy Ulses  
**Reader 1:** Sophia Cunningham  
**Reader 2:** Tim Candelaresi  
**Eucharistic Minister:** Clarissa Irvin  
**Collection:** Tina Candelaresi, Mike Smith

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**  
 Fr. Al will be available the Sundays of Advent if anyone wishes to celebrate this sacrament. He will be in the greeting areas as you enter the church, and the use of the Family Room will be used for this purpose. Feel free to ask Fr. Al.

*Exercise daily... Walk with the Lord.*  
*Your life may be the only Bible some folks read.*

**Peace Prayer of St. Francis**

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace;  
 where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
 where there is injury, pardon;  
 where there is doubt, faith;  
 where there is despair, hope;  
 where there is darkness, light;  
 and where there is sadness, joy.  
 Grant that I may not so much need  
 to be consoled as to console;  
 to be understood, as to understand,  
 to be loved as to love;  
 for it is in giving that we receive,  
 it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
 and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.



**Winner-A-Day Winners:** 11/22-11/29  
 \$25 winners: Shirley Schmitz, Carol Burns, Walter Carroll, Mary Fessel, John Gardner, Roger Pierson, Jean DeLay. The Winner-A-Day Hopper has lots of room. Have you purchased your tickets yet? Download them at [www.sfsparish.org](http://www.sfsparish.org). The Winner-A-Day fundraiser has continued everyday throughout the spring, summer and fall. All winner names will be posted as space allows until current. All winners have received \$25 or otherwise noted.  
**March 16-22:** Roger Grein, Barry Bray, Joseph Luehrmann, Denise Espelage, Lee Moeller, Gloria Hawkins.  
**March 23-29:** Barbara Teague, Barbara Whitmer, Donald Popelar \$500 (feast of the Annunciation) Carol Apke, Robert Manning, Jim Forte, Janet Fette.  
**March 30- April 5:** Ken Korb, Angeline Kremer, Angie Dadosky, Cindy Bosse, Maria Timmerman, Gary Hehemann, Doug Gutzwiller.  
**April 6-12:** ADCO Heating, Barbara Nagel, Lester Kraemer, Aloysius Humbert, Eileen Lakin, Mike McKeon, Theresa Borgman.



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# St. Francis Seraph Church

at Liberty & Vine, in Over-the-Rhine

**ST. FRANCIS SERAPH  
 THE HEART OF OVER-  
 THE-RHINE**  
 1615 Vine Street  
 Cincinnati, OH 45202  
 Office: (513) 535-2719

A Roman Catholic  
 Community of Faith  
 welcoming *all* people of faith  
 in the Franciscan  
 Tradition since 1859.

**Sacraments**  
**Baptism - Infants:** Sunday during or immediately following 10am Mass. Expectant parents plan to attend Baptismal Preparation Program.  
**Baptism - Adults:** Usually celebrated at Easter Vigil. Preparation in stages through the year.  
**Reconciliation -** Sundays 9:30am or by appt.  
**Anointing of the Sick:** Schedule by calling the Office before surgery/medical procedure, or in event of serious illness. In event of medical emergency or death, call 513-404-3688.  
**Matrimony -** registered Parishioners should contact the Pastor at least 6 months prior to the anticipated wedding date to begin the process of marriage preparation.



## First Sunday of Advent



**OUR MISSION:**  
 Saint Francis Seraph is a Catholic faith community. We are called to serve with and among the people of Over-the-Rhine. Our mission is to share the powerful love of Jesus Christ, which changes lives and communities. In the spirit of Saint Francis, we proclaim the Gospel through worship, education and social justice.

**A Short History of St Francis Seraph Parish**  
 Saint Francis Seraph Church is a Roman Catholic parish in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, established by the Franciscan Friars of the Province of St. John the Baptist. In November 1858, the cornerstone was laid for the present St. Francis Seraph Church, and it was consecrated December 18, 1859, with the School opening the same year. In 2000, the church building underwent a major remodel. The social ministries of the Franciscans continued to develop into the 21st century, maintaining the friars historic commitment to Over-the-Rhine in the area of social service. St. Francis Seraph Parish and School continue the friars' parochial and educational ministry. The Parish, School and Ministries are affiliated in a covenant, which expresses the relationship which they share.

**Al Hirt, OFM, Pastor**  
 (513) 535-2719  
 alhirt@sfsparish.org  
**Tim Sucher, OFM**  
**Pastoral Associate**  
 (513) 404-3688  
 tsucher@franciscan.org  
**Parish Website: sfsparish.org**

We  
 Welcome  
 All  
 Visitors!  


 Like Us and Spread the Word!

**Sunday Mass**  
 10:00 a.m.  
**Weekday Mass**  
 Mon.– Fri. 8:00 a.m.  
**Holy Days**  
 8 a.m. & 5:45 p.m.

**Parish Council**  
 John D. Back  
 John E. Back, Jr.  
 Nataliya Kravchenko  
 Anthony Newby  
 John Reder  
 Robb Wing

Visit the parish website: sfsparish.org for a history of our parish and the latest news about our church and school, and parish life.

**PARISH/SCHOOL Parish Office**  
 Joe Pearce  
 513-535-2719

**Bulletin Editor**  
 Dave Frondorf  
 davedorf75@gmail.com

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 Judy Cox  
 jcox@sfsparish.org

**Elementary School**  
 Halsey Mabry  
 Principal  
 513-721-7778

**Stewardship - Week Ending Nov. 22**  
 Sunday Collection: \$2,807.00 

Our Weekly Stewardship Needs are \$2,000.00. You can also donate online at sfsparish.org. *We do not pass a collection basket during Mass. Anyone wishing to help support our Church may place a donation in the collection urn behind the lectern. Thank You!*

**SFS MINISTRIES**  
 Sfsministries.org  
**Executive Director**  
 Chris Schuermann,  
 513-549-0542

**Volunteer Director**  
 Theresa Diersen  
 513-276-7037  
 Breakfast 7-9am  
 Dinner 4-6pm  
 Monday thru Friday.  
 Bag Lunch 8:30 to 10:30am

**Office Manager**  
 Annise Anderson  
 513-549-0542

## Pastor's Corner

Fr. Al offers these quotes from “The Pastoral Conversion of the Parish Community in the Service of the Evangelizing Mission of the Church”, a July 2020 instruction of the Congregation for the Clergy.

A renewed vitality is required that favors the re-discovery of the vocation of the baptized as a disciple of Jesus Christ and a missionary of the Gospel... (11)  
 Pope Benedict XVI taught, “The parish is a beacon that radiates the light of faith and thus responds to the deepest and truest desires of the human heart, giving meaning and hope to the lives of individuals and families.” (12)

...the current Parish model no longer adequately corresponds to the many expectations of the faithful, especially when one considers the multiplicity of community types in existence today. It is true that a characteristic of the Parish is that its rootedness at the center of where people live from day to day. However, the Parish territory is no longer a geographical space only, but also the context in which people express their lives in terms of relationships, reciprocal service and ancient traditions. It is in this “existential territory” where the challenges facing the Church in the midst of the community are played out. As a result, any pastoral action that is limited to the territory of the Parish is outdated, which is something the parishioners themselves observe when their Parish appears to be more interested in preserving a nostalgia of former times as opposed to looking to the future with courage. (16)

If the parish does not exude that spiritual dynamic of evangelization, it runs the risk of becoming self-referential and fossilized, offering experiences that are devoid of evangelical flavor and missionary drive, of interest only to small groups. (17)

*Fr. Al*

Today's Readings: Is 63:16-17, 19; 64-2-7 1 Cor 1:3-9 Mark 13:33-37	Next Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11 2 Pt 3:8-14 Mark 1:1-8
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## Happy Church New Year!

My Parish is composed of people like me. I help make it what it is. It will be friendly, if I am. It will be holy, if I am. Its pews will be filled if I help fill them. This we pray.

**WELCOME GUESTS!...**If you are visiting with us today, we want you to know how welcome you are, whether you have come from another parish here in the Archdiocese, from across the river, or from further reaches. Thank you for praying with us. Feel free to join us as often as you can! If you are new to the parish, parking is available in the school lot and the Moerlein Tap room lots over on Moore Street-- Turn from Liberty to Moore Street at the Shell station and there are two parking lots immediately after the school on the left and right across from the tap room. This is free parking for our parish while Sunday Mass is in session. **HELP US GROW!! REGISTER PLEASE!** if you are attending St. Francis Seraph regularly and consider us "your parish"-please register yourself and your family. Forms are available on the table in church.

Hello St. Francis Seraph Parishioners and Guests! The Bulletin has returned! We have a tradition of announcing birthdays near the end of Mass. The bulletin has not been published since March, and we have lots of new people in the pews! If you would like to have your birthday announced and are unsure if your name is on the list, please see me after Mass, or send me an email to davedorf75@gmail.com.

 **Help Wanted!** Come and help construct the church nativity and help with tree and overall decorating on Wednesday, December 16, at 6pm.

Friarworks has provided a daily reflection booklet for Advent. They are on the tables as you come in church. Please take one home with you.

Please contact Brother Tim or the parish office at 535-2719 if you or someone in your family is ill in order to be included in our weekly prayers for the sick. 

The Franciscan Christmas display is open and will continue in the Christian Moerlein Tap Room Event Center on Moore Street through January 1. Hours: Fridays: 4pm-7pm; Saturdays: Noon-7pm; Sundays: 1pm-7pm. Free admission! Reservations are helpful at sfsparish.org. Donations help support our church and school. And, of course...masks required. The Live Nativity is open in the Vine Street Courtyard from 1-7pm through December 31.



**THE ULTIMATE GUIDE TO ADVENT:** Go to [thecatholictelegraph.com/advent-guide](http://thecatholictelegraph.com/advent-guide) to get a free copy sent to you via email. The guide includes Advent traditions, favorite recipes, events for families (too bad it doesn't include our Franciscan Christmas display and outdoor nativity :). It includes movie suggestions and music recommendations, pages for children activities and more.

**Christmas Mass Schedule:**  
 December 24: 4pm (subject to change)  
 December 25: 10am 

**LIVE** Live Streaming of Masses: We are exploring how we might be able to start this procedure since this pandemic is going to be with us for many months to come. Stay tuned. Two of the past three Sundays, a parishioner has recorded the homily at Sunday Mass with his phone, so you might find that on Facebook.

The Catholic Education Foundation for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati is once again providing needs-based tuition assistance to elementary students for the 2012-2022 school year. Applications will be accepted through February 8, 2021. For more information and to apply, please visit [catholicbestchoice.org](http://catholicbestchoice.org).

“At this Christmas when Christ comes, will He find a warm heart? Mark the season of Advent by loving and serving others with God's own love and concern.” Mother Teresa 