

21 1st Sunday of Lent	22	23	24	25	26	27 Lenten Speaker Series 10am
28 2nd Sunday of Lent	March 1	2	3	4	5	6 Lenten Speaker Series 10am

Minister Schedule for February 28

Coordinator: Lois Biddle
Lector 1: Robert Dahlstrom
Lector 2: Tina Candelaresi
Eucharistic Minister: Kay Brogle
Collection: Rita Reichert, Randy Ulses

Weekday Masses are celebrated at 8am in the chapel of our church, Monday-Friday. You can request that a Mass be celebrated for a particular intention. A number of parishioners participate in this Mass on a daily or weekly basis. You are invited.

Please contact Br. 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 power of prayer is powerful.

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: 2/15-2/21
 Kathy Miele \$25; Betty Lehr \$25;
 Colette Kersting \$25; Jeff Reid \$25;
 Mike Sepate \$25; Ken Barnhorst \$25;
 Norb Kinross \$25.
 The Winner-A-Day Hopper has lots of room. Have you purchased your tickets yet? If not, call the parish office at 513-535-2719 so your name can be in the hopper for the daily drawing. If your name is drawn, the ticket goes right back in so that you have the possibility of winning again!

Our parish is now able to provide live-streaming of the 10AM Mass. You can view Mass live on Sunday mornings at 10am at <https://www.facebook.com/SFChurch> and the Mass and homily videos are generally posted to the parish website later in the day. Thanks to a new parishioner, Ron Callahan, for taking on this task and to parishioners who are pledging to donate to the expense. Those of you who are able to come to church might want to advise other parishioners that they can feel more included even if they have to be at home.



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St. Francis Seraph Church

at Liberty & Vine, in Over-the-Rhine

First Sunday of Lent



**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.




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@sfparish.org
Tim Sucher, OFM
Pastoral Associate
 (513) 404-3688
 tsucher@franciscan.org
Parish Website: sfparish.org

We
 Welcome
 All
 Visitors!


 **facebook** 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
 Nataliya Kravchenko
 Anthony Newby
 John Reder
 Robb Wing

Visit the parish website: sfparish.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
Parish/School Accountant
 Judy Cox
 jcox@sfparish.org

Bulletin Editor
 Dave Frondorf
 davedorf75@gmail.com
Elementary School
 Halsey Mabry
 Principal
 513-721-7778

Stewardship - Week Ending Feb. 14 
 Sunday Collection: \$1,300.00
 Mail in Collection: \$1,010.00
 Total: \$2,310.00
 Thank you to all who contribute on Sunday and to the many faithful who send your offerings during the week. You can donate online at sfparish.org. We do not pass a collection basket during Mass. Instead, we have collection urn behind the lectern. Contribution statements have been sent, per IRS, for donations over \$300.

SFS MINISTRIES
 Sfsministries.org
Executive Director
 Chris Schuermann,
 513-549-0542
Office Manager
 Annise Anderson
 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
 Monday thru Thursday

Pastor's Corner

“Grant, O Lord, that we may begin with holy fasting this campaign of Christian service, so that, as we take up battle against spiritual evils, we may be armed with weapons of self-restraint.”
 --Collect (Opening Prayer) for Ash Wednesday

This opening prayer almost sounds like we are going to war! We'll "battle spiritual evils" and we'll be "armed with weapons of self-restraint." This is not language and imagery that we usually employ. I think I prefer the first thought in the prayer, seeing this Lent as a "campaign of Christian service." I often hear Jesus talk about serving others. I don't hear many battle words from Him. That campaign in our parish this Lent is being directed toward our involvement with Mary Magdalen House. If we properly fast and show self-restraint in some areas of our lives we will be able to direct some of our resources toward the purchase of items this social service center needs. Maybe even a portion of a stimulus check can be used to buy the products that we can donate to this cause. The pandemic and the snow and ice and freezing temperatures kept many of us away from the traditional ritual of receiving ashes, but we have begun, never-the-less, this holy season of renewal, rebirth, focusing again on our Baptism and the more faithful living of our Christian vocation. May the Lord grant us a spiritually enriching Lent.



Fr. Al

Items for Mary Magdalen House include personal clothing items, laundry detergent, and personal care items for local homeless clients who use this facility. Items may be brought on **any Sunday during Lent** and placed in a bin located near the ramp to the sanctuary.

Your life may be the only Bible some folks read.

Today's Readings:	Next Sunday:
Gn 9:8-15	Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13
1 Pt 3:18-22	Rom 8:31b-34
Mark 1:12-15	Mark 9:2-10




This Lent, Don't Give up...Give to God and Others





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.

Catholic Ministries Appeal... Thank you to those who have already pledged/contributed. Your donations are sent directly to the Archdiocese, so each parish will not know how much has been raised until a monthly report is issued. It is safe to assume we have not yet reached our \$4,930.00 goal! So if you have received a pledge card in the mail or have picked one up on the tables in back of church (more are available) your contribution to support these vital ministries is still needed. The basket marked **CMA** is next to the urn for regular Sunday collections.

 God of the exodus, you have blessed us with this season of the Lenten journey, an acceptable time, a time to return home. With your pillar of cloud by day, guide us to the promised land. With your pillar of fire by night, deliver us from evil until at last we reach our destination, the glorious Passover of your Son, Jesus Christ, who is Lord for ever and ever. Amen.

Growing in Faith
Lenten Saturday Speakers' Series
 Lent provides an opportunity to reflect on our Baptismal call and to take steps to grow in faith and love for Jesus Christ. This Lent, **St. Francis Seraph Parish** is looking at the ways the charism of the Franciscan way of life enhances our spiritual journey. Each Saturday session (this will be the 2nd of 4) begins at **10:00 am** with **Morning Prayer** followed by a spiritual talk. This Saturday, Tina Neyer will talk to us about "Clare of Assisi, the Contemplative Dimension of Franciscan Life."


The Catholic Inner-city Schools for Education is sponsoring a week-long virtual "Party @Home" fundraiser from February 28 through March 6. Go online at cisekids.org to purchase raffle tickets and/or bid on over 100 Silent Auction items. The proceeds from this fundraiser are geared to keep over 2,300 inner-city kids learning and engaged with quality Summer School projects. St. Francis Seraph School is a beneficiary of the CISE program.


Beacons of Light
 The Archdiocese of Cincinnati has launched a new planning process taking into account shifting demographics, parish resources and projected availability of priests. In the coming year some plan for creating pastoral regions is expected. A "region" or a "family of parishes" will have one pastor and additional priest assistance. With over 200 parishes now in the archdiocese, the number of these regions could be down to 65-75. How churches staffed by Religious Orders will be considered is still a question. Each parish has submitted data: Sunday attendance, numbers of families, financial data, number of Sacraments, parish boundaries, school information, etc. As news about the process of Beacons of Light is made available, it will be shared in the parishes.
