

March 2021

14 4th Sunday of Lent	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 5th Sunday of Lent	22	23	24	25	26	27

Minister Schedule for March 21
Coordinator: Jerry Diersing
Lector 1: Diana Campbell
Lector 2: Jerry Diersing
Eucharistic Minister: Rita Reichert
Collection: Anne Burkhart, Rita Reichert

Weekday Masses are celebrated at 8am in the chapel, 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.

Parish Staff Meeting, will be on Thursday, March 18. Your parish staff tries to meet monthly to keep each other informed and do some planning.

Worship Committee meets after Mass on Sunday, March 21, finalizing plans for Holy week and the Triduum celebrations.

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: 3/8-3/14
 Lee Ann Sander \$25; Donna Hartman \$25; Eileen Lakin \$25; Michael Fasce \$25; Gary Gruber \$25; Pam Forte \$25; Lindsey Mossburger \$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 [facebook.com/SFSCChurch](https://www.facebook.com/SFSCChurch) and the Mass and homily videos are generally posted to the parish website later in the day.



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.




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St. Francis Seraph Church

at Liberty & Vine, in Over-the-Rhine

Fourth 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!


 LIKE US ON 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 Mar. 7 
 Sunday Collection: \$1,751.00
 Mail in Collection: \$ 810.00
 Total: \$2,561.00
 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

The first 4 Saturdays of Lent we were pleased to feature 4 presentations looking at aspects of Franciscan Spirituality. With Covid 19 limitations and a couple of Saturdays with ice and snow, we were pleased that we averaged 35 or more participants each Saturday morning. Some of these presentations you will find on our Facebook page. We were able to “scratch the surface” of what the Franciscan charism can offer our world today. In the months and years ahead we hope to offer even more opportunities for parishioners and others to explore the refreshing insights from Franciscan sources.


I want to encourage you to look ahead to the Triduum. The three services of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil are the high points of the liturgical year. In the course of those three days we delve into the most important mysteries of our faith lives. These can be invigorating experiences to deepen your faith. These beautiful celebrations of the Last Supper, Jesus' Death on the Cross and His Resurrection speak deeply of God's overwhelming love for all of us. Try to carve out the time to participate this year.



On a personal note, I am entering my 6th month as your pastor. “Time flies when you're having fun.” I am certainly finding myself at home here. I want to keep getting to know you so I will continue to ask your names! I don't remember names as well as I once did. If there is anything I can do for you, please don't hesitate to ask.
Fr. Al

Volunteering in the Dining Room...St. Francis Seraph Ministries' Mother Calcutta Dining Room always needs volunteers. Soon we will have more information about how you can get involved. Generally, the need is greatest for Breakfast, M-F, 6:45-9:00AM and for the Thursday dinner, 3:45-6:00PM.

Your life may be the only Bible some folks read.


Today's Readings: 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19
 Eph 2:4-10
 John 3:14-21
 Next Sunday: Jer 31:31-34
 Heb 5:7-9
 John 12:20-33 





The Church is not the Building

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. 

CMA Update: Our parish has now surpassed the **Catholic Ministries Appeal** goal set for our parish of \$4,930.00. Twenty-eight gifts have been received for a total of \$5,685.00. All of us can be grateful that folks in our parish have shown interest in helping fund vital ministries in our Archdiocese. 50% of all gifts over our goal will be returned to the parish. The Archdiocese lists our parish as having 165 households. That may or may not be very accurate with almost 50 new registrations in the past year. 


And to keep our parishioner list and registrations up-to-date, if you have moved recently, please notify the parish office. 

 The Parish Penance Service is Wednesday, March 24, 7pm, with St. Clement Parish, at St. Clement Church. The Lord forgives you as we forgive others.



Holy Week and Triduum Schedule
Sunday of the Lord's Passion (Holy Week)
 (Palm Sunday) begins out on the plaza in front of church with the blessing of palms at 10:00AM. We will have all doors open to facilitate as much social distancing as we process into the church.
Commemoration of the Lord's Last Supper (Holy Thursday) begins at 7:00PM. With guidance from the Office of Worship we will make possible the ritual of washing of the feet.
Good Friday Service will be celebrated at 7:00PM.
The Easter Vigil will begin at 9:00PM. Because darkness can be a safety concern, our parish will arrange for extra security for the church and parking areas. This service, too, begins on the plaza with the lighting of the New Fire. This is another opportunity for folks in the neighborhood to know there is a community of faith alive in this church. 

The 2021 St. Francis Seraph Lenten Almsgiving Collection continues to be for **MARY MAGDALEN HOUSE** located at the Franciscan Ministries St. Anthony Center on Republic Street. Items needed 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 the bin located near the ramp to the sanctuary. 

Easter is fast approaching, and, as in past years we will ask for donations soon for flowers. This Easter season, consider volunteering to help water our flowers. Randy Ulses will have a sign-up sheet in the coming weeks for this. A little help will enhance the Easter beauty of our church throughout the season. 

Hearing Assistance Available. If you have difficulty hearing clearly, our church is now equipped with a hearing assistance system. Please ask for a receiver. 