

21 5th Sunday of Lent	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 Palm Sunday *Robbie Dressman	29	30	31 *Nancy Kathman	April 1 Holy Thursday 7pm	2 Good Friday 7pm	3 Church Cleaning/ Decorating 9am Easter Vigil 9pm

Minister Schedule for March 28
Coordinator: Randy Ulses
Lector 1: Joan Monin Callahan
Lector 2: Katie Callahan
Eucharistic Minister: Randy Ulses
Collection: Nataliya Kravchenko, Mike Smith

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.

Helpers Needed. In preparation for Easter, the annual Church cleaning and decorating will take place Saturday, April 3, at 9am. Lunch will be provided. This is a great volunteer opportunity to help make our church shine even brighter during the Easter season. Many hands make for light work. Please lend a hand.

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: 3/15-3/21
 Janet Wallace \$25; Leslie Hendricks \$25;
 Mary Ann Restle \$25; Ron Walters \$25;
 Madeline Korb \$25; Robert Dochtman \$25;
 Tom and Tina Sikes \$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

Fifth 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 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

Bulletin Editor
 Dave Frondorf
 davedorf75@gmail.com

Parish/School
Accountant
 Judy Cox
 jcox@sfparish.org

Elementary School
 Halsey Mabry
 Principal
 513-721-7778

Stewardship - Week Ending Mar. 14

Sunday Collection: \$1,024.00
 Mail in Collection: \$ 454.00
 Total: \$1,478.00

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

Volunteer Director
 Theresa Diersen
 513-276-7037

Office Manager
 Annise Anderson
 513-549-0542

Breakfast 7-9am
 Dinner 4-6pm
 Monday thru Friday.
 Bag Lunch 8:30 to 10:30am
 Monday thru Thursday

Pastor's Corner

Catholic Church in the news:

Pope Francis approved a two-page document from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith that reaffirms that there can be no Catholic blessing of same-sex unions. While Francis has spoken positively of the need for civil unions and has tried to be a bridge-builder with the LGBTQ community, there is only so far that he seems to be able to go. The Catholic Church relies heavily upon "Natural Law", a concept that took shape with St. Thomas Aquinas in the 13th century. In recent centuries, there has been a growing dissatisfaction among moral theologians, raising a host of serious questions about the fundamental conceptions of natural law and its role in Christian life and Catholic moral teaching. Some will say that this latest document is definitive. I would say it is definitive "for now." The German Bishops will continue to seek ways to move forward a hope that the Catholic Church can go beyond respecting individuals and find a way to affirm the goodness of love that resides in many same-sex unions.

I believe there are serious reasons for the Catholic Church to explore many of its teachings regarding sexuality. Meanwhile, we hold to the important priority of honoring peoples' consciences and not judging our brothers and sisters' lives. St. Francis Seraph welcomes all!

Fr. Al



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 on hand today and next week for this purpose. A little help will enhance the Easter beauty of our church throughout this joyful season. Thank you.



Your life may be the only Bible some folks read.

Today's Readings:
 Jer 31:31-34
 Heb 5:7-9
 John 12:20-33

Next Sunday:
 Isaiah 50:4-7
 Phil 2:6-11
 Mark 14:1—15:47



God Loves All of Us!

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.

Communal Reconciliation Service: On Wednesday, March 24, 7:00PM, our parish will join with the other Franciscan parish in Cincinnati, St. Clement, for a shared experience of Reconciliation with the availability for individual experiences of the Sacrament. Fr. Al will be among the priests present for this night. St. Clement is in St. Bernard, 4536 Vine Street. Parking is on the street and in public lots across from the church. This is an opportunity as Lent comes close to Holy Week to receive the grace of God's forgiving love.

Pontifical Good Friday Collection: Pope Francis asks our parish to support the Good Friday collection which helps Christians in the Holy and. Your support helps the church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools and offer religious education. It also helps preserve the sacred shrines under the care of the Franciscans. A generous donation on Good Friday will be much appreciated.



Holy Week and Triduum Schedule

Sunday of the Lord's Passion (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 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.

Way of the Cross for Justice: End the Death Penalty. On Good Friday, April 2, you will have the opportunity to engage in a self-guided "Way of the Cross" using the Cincinnati Bell Connector (which is now free). Our parish is a sponsoring partner of this Covid-19 approach to this devotion. At noon, and at 15 minute intervals until 2PM, you can begin this way of the cross in front of our church and then proceed to the streetcar. You can do this as an individual, as a family, with a few friends, keeping social distance and wearing masks. Look for more information on signs in the church and on the website and Facebook page for IJPC.



Holy Week

