

28 Palm Sunday  *Robbie Dressman	29	30	31 *Nancy Kathman	April 1 Holy Thursday 7pm *Yvonne Foley	2 Good Friday 7pm	3 Church Cleaning/ Decorating 9am Easter Vigil 9pm
4 Easter! 10am Mass  *Bill Fisher	5	6	7	8	9	10

**Minister Schedule for April 4**  
**Coordinator:** Jerry Diersing  
**Lector 1:** Jerry Diersing  
**Lector 2:** Moe Nieman  
**Eucharistic Minister:** Mary Geers  
**Collection:** Anne Burkhardt, Joan Monnin Callahan

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 this 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: 3/22-3/28**  
 Chet Closson \$25; Walt Anneken \$25;  
 Paul Westrich \$25; ADCO Heating \$500  
 (feast of Annunciation); Frank Listermann \$25;  
 Mike Stock \$25; Ann Keefer \$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

**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.

## Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion



**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 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: 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

**Parish/School**  
**Accountant**  
 Judy Cox  
 jcox@sfsparish.org

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

**Stewardship - Week Ending Mar. 21**   
 Sunday Collection: \$1,492.00  
 Mail in Collection: \$ 1,570.00  
 Total: \$3,062.00  
 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 sfsparish.org. We do not pass a collection basket during Mass. Instead, we have collection urn behind the lectern.

**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  
 Monday thru Thursday

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

## Pastor's Corner

Each Sunday we are “welcoming back” more SFS parishioners who have had to stay safe over the many months of this virus. As folks get their vaccination, we are feeling safer to return to church. And each week, we are “welcoming new parishioners” and visitors becoming attracted to this Franciscan expression of church life.

Unfortunately, we can't socialize much at a sign of peace or mingling after Mass with coffee and donuts. Even after-Mass mingling in church is still somewhat distant while we continue to comply with masks and social distancing. Both the long-standing members and the many new members are trying to adjust as we see this parish come to life after a full year of pandemic.

We will continue to stretch our socially-distant seating arrangement in church. We might try to make better use of the middle of the pews, not just sitting on either end. We continue to make chairs available in the back, front and up in the sanctuary when we need to expand.

We are once again able to use our hymnals, not fearing so much the possibility of a virus spread on objects. We will keep trying to make a way for our cantors to be better heard.

Each of us can do what we can to continue welcoming, greeting, meeting one another and trying to deepen a sense of belonging.



*Fr. Al*

Easter is fast approaching, and, as in past years we are asking for donations for flowers. (See insert.) This Easter season, consider volunteering to help water our flowers. Randy Ulses will have a sign-up sheet on hand today and next Sunday 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:  
 Isaiah 50:4-7  
 Phil 2:6-11  
 Mark 14:1—15:47

Next Sunday:  
 Acts 10:34, 37-43  
 Col 3:1-4  
 John 20:1-9



## Have a Very Holy Week

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.

### Letter from Archbishop Schnurr:

In a March 15<sup>th</sup> letter, the Archbishop writes: *“As good news in overcoming the pandemic continues to develop each day—and as we approach the Paschal Triduum, the center of the liturgical year—please prayerfully consider returning to in-person celebration of the Mass this Easter season. As more and more of the social aspects of our lives approach normalcy, so should our communal worship of God, who “so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him might not perish but might have eternal life” (Jn 3:16).”*

He goes on to remind us how central the Eucharist is to our Christian life, that nothing can adequately replace gathering for the celebration. At the same time, he knows there are still many who cannot safely venture out. The dispensation from Sunday Mass obligation will remain in place for now.

“No pain, no palm. No thorns, no throne. No gall, no glory. No cross, no crown.” William Penn



### Holy Week and Triduum Schedule

#### Sunday of the Lord's Passion

Today, begins out on the plaza in front of church with the blessing of palms. 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.

### 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.

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.