

16 Feast of the Ascension	17 *Steve Rollinger	18	19 *Fred Robertshaw	20 *Helen Bender	21	22 *Scott Kiley
23 Pentecost	24	25 *Chris Wilson	26	27 *Christian Jenkins	28 *Vivian Winterhalter *Max Winterhalter	29 *Annabelle Johnson

Minister Schedule for May 23

Coordinator: Jeanette Tepe
Lector 1: Alec Reder
Lector 2: Diana Campbell
Eucharistic Minister: Dan Nolan
Collection: Dave Frondorf, 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.

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.

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: 5/10-5/16
 Ron Martini, Ben Wagner, Frank Fiorino, ADCO Heating, James Schuchter, Linda Goldschmidt, Peter Carusone. All are \$25 winners!
 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!

THANK YOU! to all who volunteered at our annual St. Francis Seraph Window Box Planting Day yesterday!
 Thanks to all who donated flowers and thanks to all those who helped prepare lunch. All the new flowers around the church building show all who pass by that we are growing! Fellowship, food, fun...and flowers made the day!

Good example has twice the value of good advice.



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St. Francis Seraph Church

at Liberty & Vine, in Over-the-Rhine

Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord

**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 May 9

Sunday Collection: \$2,382.00
 Mail in Collection: \$1,190.65
 Total: \$3,572.65



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 a 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



As we celebrate the Ascension today, I am looking ahead to the great Feast of Pentecost next Sunday, May 23. Sometimes this is referred to as the "Birthday" of the Church. I hope to have a way to express some of the ways we are being "birthed" here at St. Francis.



We are in a time of transition. Gradually, the parishioners who have been here for many years are returning after the long Covid exile. I know some of you who have been here at SFS for a while, had emigrated from St. Bonaventure Church when the Franciscans had to leave there. There is definitely something about a Franciscan way that is attractive. For that reason, it is not difficult to understand that we have a new migration of many households who have come from St. Monica-St. George. The departure of the Franciscans meant a big change in spirit there. And I acknowledge there was a major transition for some of our new members who have arrived from St. Anthony in Madisonville. Part of the new birth here at St. Francis is also due to the new arrivals living downtown and in OTR. It is wonderful that this church has wide open arms and declare that "all are welcome."

All of this new birth can cause some growing pains. Together we need to negotiate these changing times. We don't want new membership to overshadow all the long-time parishioners. At the same time, we want to incorporate new people in any way we can. It has been good to see all aspects of the parish involved in decorating for Christmas and Easter and the planting of flowers last Saturday. When it becomes safer to have more social times, we'll get to know one another better.



I see great years ahead for all of us here at the corner of Liberty and Vine!

Fr. Al

Your life may be the only Bible some folks read.

Today's Readings:
 Acts 1:1-11
 Eph 1:17-23
 Mark 16:15-20

Next Sunday:
 Acts 2:1-11
 1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13
 John 20:19-23



Do Something Wonderful for Someone Today!



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.



Picnics on the Plaza?

Another zoom meeting will be hosted by John Reder, tomorrow, May 17, 6:30pm to discuss ideas and plans for some summer cookouts in front of the church as a way for members of the parish to build relationships with our neighbors. It could also provide a needed meal for some of the folks who depend upon the agencies in the neighborhood, but there are limited servings on weekends. If you are interested in getting involved in planning, contact John at john.reder@cchmc.org.



Low-gluten hosts are available for those with gluten allergy. Simply come to Communion where Fr. Al is distributing and let him know you need such a host. He has them in a separate container.



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.

More capacity in church!

As announced last Sunday, a directive from the Archdiocese says we can expand our seating capacity, maintaining a section for those who need the social distancing we have been providing. So half of the church will now be fully open for seating while the other half will be every other pew in use. As we sense the needs, we might be able to open up even more benches. The chairs in the church will still be in place. This should make using chairs unnecessary behind the altar. Some semblance of normal is returning. Masks are still required and the sign of peace is still quite muted.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

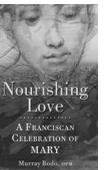
On Saturday, June 5, 7:30PM, James Loughery (our parish musician) and his wife, Mia Zlalanovic, will offer a free **Concert of Piano and Organ Music** in our church! More details will come later.



Parish Finance Council will meet on May 27. Along with regularly looking at our Financial picture, the members will be looking more closely at possible projects of window restoration, air conditioning and the renovation of the 1600 Vine building. We have a lot going on!

Fr. Mark Soehner, OFM, will celebrate the Sunday Mass on May 30. Fr. Al says: "People have heard me for almost 8 months, let's give them another voice!"

Fr. Murray Bodo, OFM, has authored a new book: **NOURISHING LOVE: A Franciscan Celebration of Mary**. Fr. Murray will join us today for Sunday Mass. He will introduce his book and copies will be available for sale and the author's signing.



In this month of May, you will have a chance to be some of the first to get a copy of this poetic and spiritually enriching book, recently published by Franciscan Media.