

2 Epiphany	3	4	5	6	7	8 *Jonas Hill
9 Baptism of the Lord	10	11 *Carl Hemmelgarn	12 *Lizzy Geers	13 *Susan Schmid	14 *Pablo Rosales *Tom Wanner	15

**Music for Today's Liturgy**  
 Processional: #462  
*Epiphany Carol*  
 Response: #60  
*Every Nation on Earth*  
 Communion: #451 *Lo, How a Rose*  
 #444 *The People Who Walked in Darkness*  
 Recessional: #423  
*Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn*



**Winner-A-Day Winners:** 12/27-1/2  
 Rick Conroy, Alexis Benton, John Metz, Donna Bushman, Kathy Kihm \$100, (last day of month), Lois Glacken \$500, (Solemnity of Mary), Andrew Wangler. All others 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!



**Minister Schedule for January 9**  
Coordinator: Lois Biddle  
Greeters: Amy Dressman  
Lector 1: Diana Campbell  
Lector 2: Jeanette Tepe  
Intercessions: Dave Frondorf  
Eucharistic Minister: Lois Biddle  
Collection: Rita Reichert, Randy Ulses

*Your life may be the only Bible some folks read.*

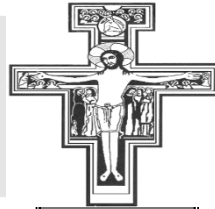
**Peace Prayer of St. Francis**  
 Lord, make me an instrument of your peace;  
 where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
 where there is injury, pardon;  
 where there is doubt, faith;  
 where there is despair, hope;  
 where there is darkness, light;  
 and where there is sadness, joy.  
 Grant that 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.



**ST. FRANCIS SERAPH WOMEN'S GROUP**  
 The January meeting of the St. Francis Seraph Women's Group will be held this Saturday, January 8, 2022 at 10:00am in the Friary Refectory. January is Catholic Schools Month. Reflection will be centered on the lives of educators St. Elizabeth Ann Seton and St. Katharine Drexel. Special guest speakers will be Phil McHugh, newly appointed Executive Director of CISE Schools, and Traci Hooks, Volunteer Coordinator at St. Francis Seraph School. Phil McHugh will explain the history/purpose of the CISE schools and present his vision going forward. Traci Hooks will present specific volunteer needs and opportunities at our own SFS School. Parking will be available in the SFS School parking lot. Enter Vine Street door. Thank you.

Today's Readings: Is 60:1-6  
 Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6  
 Matthew 2:1-12

Next Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7  
 Acts 10:34-38  
 Luke 3:15-16, 21-22



# 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.


## The Epiphany of the Lord




**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 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  
 Carol Metz  
 Anthony Newby  
 John Reder  
 Robb Wing

**PARISH/SCHOOL  
 Parish Office**  
 Joe Pearce  
 513-535-2719  
**Parish/School  
 Accountant**  
 Judy Cox  
 jcox@sfsparish.org

**Bulletin Editor**  
 Dave Frondorf  
 davedorf75@gmail.com  
**Worship Committee:**  
 Dan Nolan  
**SFS School: Principal**  
 Halsey Mabry  
 513-721-7778

**Stewardship - Week Ending Dec. 26**  
 Christmas Eve: \$3,632.00  
 Christmas Day: \$1,351.00  
 Sunday Collection: \$2,847.00  
 Mail in Collection: \$2,150.00  
 Total: \$9,980.00  
 Thank you to all who contribute on Sunday and to those who send your offerings during the week. You can donate online at sfsparish.org. We do not pass a collection basket during Mass.

**Christmas Flowers:** One last time, we have forms on the back tables in the church if you would like to make an offering in memory of a loved one(s). The flowers are beautiful and you can help us pay for them with a donation.

Please contact Br. Tim or the parish office if you or someone in your family is ill or if you have a special prayer request in order to be included in our weekly prayers for the sick.

## Pastor's Corner



*African American mystic and theologian, Howard Thurman (1900-1981) challenges us with two tasks during the Christmas Season:*

I would like to suggest that for those of you who care deeply about the meaning of your own lives and the significance of moments of high celebration, that you would do two things during this season.

One, that you seek reconciliation with a person or persons with whom you have, at the moment, a ruptured or unhappy relationship. During the year that is rapidly coming to a close (*the new one has begun!*), you have perhaps had many experiences with many kinds of people, those with whom you live, those with whom you work, play, and in the course of these goings-on there have been times when relationships heightened and were thrown out of joint, a desert or sea developed between you and someone else. And you were so busy with your own responsibilities, and perhaps so full of hostility yourselves, that there was no time to give the grace of reconciliation. So will you think about such a person, find a way by which you can restore harmony?

The second is just as simple. Will you with your imagination, with your fancy, will you conjure up into your minds a gift of grace that you might give to someone for whom you have no obligation, someone whose need is not so great that if you don't respond to it during this season you will feel guilty—but someone upon whom you might confer a private blessing? It may be just to pick up the telephone and call someone about whom you know something and with this knowledge as a background you say a word of reassurance, of comfort of delight, of satisfaction.

*Fr. Al*

**Thank you, thank you!** So many people helped make our Christmas at St. Francis Seraph a graced moment. Participation of parishioners and family members and friends, visitors from near and far; all the beauty of decorations and music people spent hours making possible. All of our parish staff and so many volunteers contributed to the joy of our celebrations. The cards and gifts given are all appreciated, too!

*Fr. Al*



## What Gifts Do You Bring to the Lord?



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.

**The school lot is closed and locked at 1pm.** There is also a parking lot on the left and right side of Moore Street. This is free parking for our parish while Sunday Mass is in session. There is also free parking in the lot at the southwest corner of Liberty and Race. At the kiosk, enter the code 4316. **You can park there until 1pm.**

Help us grow! REGISTER PLEASE! if you are attending St. Francis Seraph regularly, please register yourself and your family. Forms are available on the table in church.

### Christmas Schedule:

**TODAY:** Epiphany of the Lord, 10AM Mass  
 Commissioning of Mary Pat Raupach as the new Executive Director of our St. Francis Seraph Ministries. Coffee and donuts will be served in the dining room of the St. Anthony Center after Mass. All are invited!

Jan. 3. St. Francis Seraph School resumes classes  
 Jan. 3. College Student Night at SFS. 7, 8, 9, or 10 college students associated with our parish families will meet with Fr. Al and Br. Tim for a dinner and time of conversation, 6:30pm.

Jan. 8. Women's Group meets at 10AM. Enter Vine Street door.

Jan. 9. Baptism of the Lord  
Worship Committee meets at 11:30AM

Jan. 9. Tornado Victims' Collection: A special collection basket/urn will be designated if you would like to aid our Kentucky neighbors. Catholic Charities will use these as they see best.

**Preparatory Synod Session at SFS.** Prior to the January 29 session for our deanery, we will host a discussion here in our parish on **Tuesday, January 18, 6:30-8:30PM.** We'll have more information in next week's bulletin, but make note of this date now! We'll probably begin in the church with some light refreshments available beginning at 6pm. Hopefully, we can give you some leading questions to help you prepare to give you thoughts about the mission of the Church and how our Church can better do the mission of Jesus Christ.

**Fratelli Tutti discussion group** meets for the first of 8 sessions on Saturday, January 15, at 1pm in the chapel. About 20 people have already indicated their interest in reading and discussing Pope Francis' encyclical. If you would like to join us, contact Faith Kemper at [flkemper@gmail.com](mailto:flkemper@gmail.com)

**Archdiocesan Anniversary Books for sale:** We ordered some extra books (besides the ones that people ordered). See the display of **TREASURES of the Archdiocese** (\$30) and **Illustrated History of the Archdiocese** (\$15).

**Tornado Victims' Assistance:** We will have an opportunity next Sunday to contribute to helping Kentucky tornado victims. Or, you can donate now at the following site: [secure.kentucky.gov/formservices/finance/wkyrelief](http://secure.kentucky.gov/formservices/finance/wkyrelief).

**HVAC Update:** As of Dec. 23, we have raised over \$75,000 toward our \$100,000 goal. With more contributions and pledges, we will well exceed that goal, so we will need to take less from our reserves. **"Thank you"** is extended to everyone who has gifted the parish with small and large donations toward this effort to install an energy efficient heating system and AIR CONDITIONING! Installation is scheduled for the Spring, along with the refurbishing of the stained glass windows.

St. Francis reminds us for the new year (and every day): Let us begin again.