

12 3rd Sunday of Advent *Jeanette Yacucci	13	14 *Jason Kreinbrink	15 *Jerry Diersing	16 *Deb Winterhalter	17 *Clarissa Irvin *Sean Hill *Yvette Moon	18
19 4th Sunday of Advent	20 *Jim Murphy	21 *Lauren Reder *Emily Sheard	22 *Ed Ratterman	23 *Julie Murray	24 Christmas Eve! Carols: 3:30pm Mass: 4pm *Moe Nieman	25 Christmas Day! Mass at 10am

Music for Today's Liturgy
 Processional: #405
Advent Gathering Song
 Response: #97
With Joy You Shall Draw Water (refrain II)
 Communion: #409
People Look East
 Recessional: #766
City of God



Winner-A-Day Winners: 12/6-12/12
 Emily Huber, Jean Frolicher,
 Ginny Summe, Gayle Woulms,
 Janet Creed, Lois Allen, Martha Schueler.
 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!



Minister Schedule for December 19
Coordinator: Jeanette Tepe
Greeters: Matt Cavanaugh, Dan Nolan
Lector 1: Joan Monin Callahan
Lector 2: Dan Nolan
Intercessions: Steve Sparks
Eucharistic Minister: Clarissa Irvin
Collection: Anne Burkhart, Joan Callahan

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.



Styrofoam Recycling...The neighborhood of
 Wyoming is sponsoring a program to collect and
 recycle styrofoam on January 7. Parishioner Joan
 Callahan and family are willing to collect what
 you bring to church to be recycled. Only clean
 styrofoam that is not for food packaging is ac-
 ceptable. Please remove any twist ties, tape, etc
 and put in a clear plastic bag and bring to church
 on a Sunday prior to January 7.

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.



THANKS! To those who helped construct the
 church stable and decorate the trees this past
 Wednesday. And a special thanks goes to Jim
 Imholte for providing and cooking for all of us!

Today's Readings: Zep 3:14-18a Phil 4:4-7 Luke 3:10-18	Next Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a Heb 10:5-10 Luke 1:39-45
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St. Francis Seraph Church

at Liberty & Vine, in Over-the-Rhine

3rd Sunday of Advent

**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 corner-
 stone 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
 Carol Metz
 Anthony Newby
 John Reder
 Robb Wing

PARISH/SCHOOL
Parish Office
 Joe Pearce
 513-535-2719

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 Dave Frondorf
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Parish/School
Accountant
 Judy Cox
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Worship Committee:
 Dan Nolan

SFS School: Principal
 Halsey Mabry
 513-721-7778

Stewardship - Week Ending Dec. 5
 Sunday Collection: \$4,168.00
 Mail in Collection: \$1,610.00
 Total: \$5,778.00
 Paypal Collection for November: \$7,158.43
 Catholic Campaign for Human Development:
 \$680.00
 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.



*Jesus noticed a poor widow putting in two small
 coins. He said, "I tell you truly, this poor widow
 put in more than all the rest."*

Luke 21:1-2

Certainly the Lord values our sacrificial efforts.

Faith is a journey, not a destination.

Pastor's Corner



"Tidings of Great Joy!" We are moving closer and closer to a partnership with Miami University to use our 1600 Vine Building as a communal residence for graduate teachers seeking a Master's degree while teaching in our school, other CISE schools or urban public schools. This program would somewhat mirror their current program with Architecture students who rent housing from OTRCH while pursuing their studies and taking an active part in some projects in OTR. How exciting that Miami University wants to help train teachers for the challenges of urban populations can present. Another "GREAT JOY" is that we have received a grant for \$283,429 to help with the renovation of this building. In the renovation, we envision a mixed use of the ground floor area that could also serve some purposes of our parish.

Fr. Al

Come to the OPEN HOUSE hosted in the friary dining room on Tuesday, December 28, 7-10pm. Food and drinks, a chance to tour all the Christmas delights, and mainly, an opportunity to socialize with each other. With all the covid restrictions, no real sign of peace at Masses, such a large influx of new members, we've missed the opportunities to get to know one another. Folks who have been members of St. Francis for a good number of years have enjoyed the strong sense of family, knowing almost everyone by name. There can be some unsettledness brought on by so many new people, a new pastor, whatever other changes. The Beacons of Light changes going on throughout the Archdiocese could have even more people checking out our parish. Brothers Tim and Al would be happy to hear from anyone finding it hard to make the adjustments.



The 200th Anniversary of the Archdiocese spawned two commemorative books. *Seeking the Lord* is an illustrated History of the Archdiocese (\$15) and *TREASURES of the Archdiocese of CINCINNATI* (\$30) is a pictorial of so many beautiful churches (including SFS). If you ordered one or both of these books you can pick them up now after Mass or even come during the week. We have ordered a few extra so you might be able to buy one now.



Rejoice in the Lord...Always!

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.



Synod News: Each deanery in the Archdiocese will host a listening session open to all. Rita Reichert, from St. Francis Seraph, and Mike Guarasci, St. Francis Xavier, have been appointed as our deanery coordinators. We need to take seriously that Pope Francis wants to hear from the people of God. Find out more about the Synod and how our Archdiocese will gather the thoughts of folks. Our official deanery meeting will be hosted at St. Francis Xavier, 9-11 AM on January 29. You can go to www.catholicaoc.org to learn more and to sign up to participate. More information will continue to be posted in the bulletin each week.

Donations are now being accepted to decorate the Church with flowers during the Christmas season. An insert form was in last Sunday's bulletin. Check the back tables for additional forms. Thank you.



Retirement Fund for Religious. Help Aging Religious. Elderly Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests have offered their lives in service to others—educating the young, comforting the sick, ministering to the less fortunate. Today, many are frail and need assistance. Your gifts to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps furnish medications, nursing care and much more. Please give generously to this collection. Special envelopes are provided.



FIRST RECONCILIATION

Congratulations to our Second Graders Isaac Hill, Elise Kleinschmidt, Kellen McDevitt, and Henry Meyer who all celebrated their First Reconciliation yesterday (December 11th) at our parish Advent Penance Service. This was a happy day and start of an important year in the journey of faith of these young people. They will be joined by Lilliane Luebbe (already celebrated her First Reconciliation in May) and soon begin preparation for celebration of their First Eucharist in the spring 2022. Please keep our children and their families in your prayers as they grow in faith and love for Jesus.



Christmas Schedule:

Christmas Eve Mass is at 4:00PM, come early for a prelude of singing and instrumental Christmas delights, starting at 3:30.
 Christmas Day Mass is at 10:00AM. With fewer choir members, the prelude will be simpler.
 Feast of the Holy Family is Sunday, with the usual 10:00AM Mass.

The Franciscan Christmas display is open here in the church and Friary through January 1!



Fridays: 4-7pm; Saturdays: Noon-7pm and Sundays: 1pm-5pm. Free admission!
 And...The Live Nativity is open daily in the Vine Street Courtyard from 1-7pm. Bring your family and friends and show them the sights and sounds of a Franciscan Christmas!