

26 Feast of the Holy Family	27 *Mary Lou Priestle *Emaline Weaver *Dirk Pruus	28 Parish Open House 7-10pm	29 *Veree Russell	30	31 *Trey Hughes *Lynn Wing	January 1 Solemnity of Mary, Mass at 10am *Jason Bruns
2 Epiphany	3	4	5	6	7	8 *Jonas Hill

Music for Today's Liturgy
 Processional: #435
Rise Up Shepherd and Follow
 Response: #86
Blest Are They Who Love You
 Communion: #460 *The First Nowell*
 #466 *What Child is This*
 Recessional: #428
Go Tell It on the Mountain



Winner-A-Day Winners: 12/20-12/26
 Deb Bachman, Winnie Boehm, Joyce Gardner, Anne Burkhart, Rick Sutter, Sandra Digman, Lawrence Babel. 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 January 2
Coordinator: Randy Ulses
Greeters: Gale LaWarre, Marilyn Meyer
Lector 1: Clarissa Irvin
Lector 2: Steve Sparks
Intercessions: Caroline Brock
Eucharistic Minister: Kathleen MacQueeney
Collection: Tina Candelaresi, Dave Frondorf

Come to the OPEN HOUSE hosted in the friary dining room this Tuesday, Dec. 28, 7-10pm. Enjoy food and drinks, a chance to tour all the Christmas delights, and mainly, an opportunity for parishioners to socialize with each other.

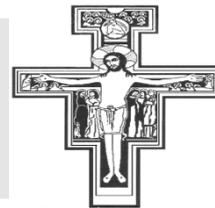
Your life may be the only Bible some folks read.

ST. FRANCIS SERAPH WOMEN'S GROUP
 The January meeting of the St. Francis Seraph Women's Group will be held on 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. Parking will be available in the SFS School parking lot. More info next week.

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.



Today's Readings: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 Col 3:12-21 Luke 2:41-52	Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6 Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6 Matthew 2:1-12
--	--



St. Francis Seraph Church

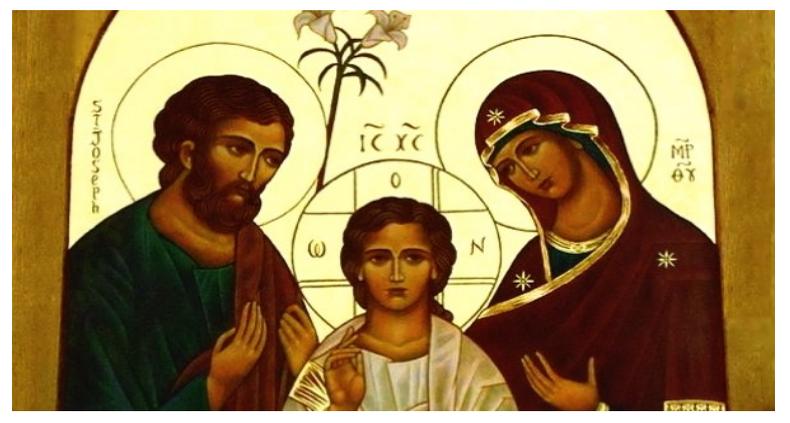
at Liberty & Vine, in Over-the-Rhine

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

**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@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

Bulletin Editor
 Dave Frondorf
 davedorf75@gmail.com

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

Worship Committee:
 Dan Nolan

SFS School: Principal
 Halsey Mabry
 513-721-7778

Stewardship - Week Ending Dec. 19

Sunday Collection: \$3,360.00
 Mail in Collection: \$3,225.00
 Total: \$6,585.00
 Christmas Flowers: \$475.00
 Religious Retirement \$2,455.00



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.

“The charity which burned in the household at Nazareth should be an inspiration for every family.” Pope John XXIII

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



Today’s Feast of the Holy Family is an occasion to reflect upon the holiness of that family of Joseph, Mary and Jesus, the holiness of each family and our church family. Holiness, of course, does not mean perfect. Every family struggles. The Holy Family began in homelessness, giving birth in a barn and quickly needing to become refugees in Egypt for several years. Presumably, Joseph died young, leaving Mary widowed. And this widow would have to watch the execution of her only son. Whew! I know our parish family has many families who have their struggles. I know, also, there is a whole lot of holiness in your families. And our Church family also is not perfect. After all, the family is composed of us, all imperfect! But holy we are. God finds a dwelling place in us, in your homes, in your loves, in our faith community. Happy Feast Day to you and your family!

Fr. Al

Synod on Synodality: Pope Francis wants to hear Spirit-led input from all the baptized. There is a special effort to reach out to those who find themselves on the margins (women, divorced, LGBTQ members, immigrants, disenfranchised for so many reasons, etc.) How can the Catholic Church become a better source of evangelization in our world today? The Archdiocese is sponsoring town hall meetings throughout the diocese. Our Cathedral Deanery meeting will be on Saturday, Jan. 29, 9-11AM at St. Francis Xavier Church Hall, 611 Sycamore St. You can sign up to participate using the Archdiocesan website: www.catholicaoc.org. St. Francis Seraph will try to schedule a listening session in preparation for the January 29th meeting. TBA

HVAC Update: As of Dec. 20, we have raised over \$70,000 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.



Jesus, Mary and Joseph, Pray for 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. **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:

Dec. 26 Feast of the Holy Family
 Dec. 28 Open House for parishioners, 7-10PM
 Jan. 1 Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, Mass at 10AM
 Jan. 2 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. 8 Women’s Group meets at 10AM. Enter Vine Street door.
 Jan. 9 Baptism of the Lord
Worship Committee meets at 11:30AM

THANK YOU to Jim and all the members of the choir for their hours of preparation to make our Christmas Eve and Day a musical spiritual experience! And thanks to the SFS parishioners who shared their musical talents on Christmas Eve.



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!

Tornado Victims’ Assistance: We will have an opportunity in early January to contribute to helping our neighbors in Kentucky. You can donate now at the following site: <https://secure.Kentucky.gov/formservices/Finance/WKYRelief>.

As we are soon to begin another year, many of us start with new resolutions. Mother Teresa had a few ideas for us:



- People are often unreasonable, illogical and self-centered.... **Forgive them anyway.**
- If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives.... **Be kind anyway.**
- If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true enemies.... **Succeed anyway.**
- If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you... **Be honest and frank anyway.**
- What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight.... **Build anyway.**
- If you find serenity and happiness, they might be jealous.... **Be happy anyway.**
- The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow... **Do good anyway.**
- Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough.... **Give the world the best you’ve got anyway.**
- You see, in the final analysis, **it is between you and God....** It was never between you and them anyway.