

27 Advent *Casey Betz *Michael Flood *Jon Ruediceuli	28 *Julie Ruediceuli	29	30	December 1 *Sara Hughes *Kathy Meyer ← *Mark Weber	2	3 *Cadence Hamilton -Reconciliation Service 10AM -Christmas Concert 7PM
4 2nd Sunday of Advent	5	6 *Stephen Zeek	7 *Linda Hall	8 Immaculate Conception Mass at 8AM and 6PM	9	10 *Bob Hanneken *Carol Igoe *Henry Meyer *Pauline Sheard

Minister Schedule for December 4

Coordinator: Randy Ulses
Greeters: Gale LaWarre, Marilyn Meyer
 Karen Skillman
Lector 1: Clarissa Irvin
Lector 2: Steve Sparks
Intercessions: Brian Yacucci
Eucharistic Minister: K. Brogle, Tina Candelaresi
Collection: Rita Reichert, Dave Frondorf

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. call or text him at 513-404-3688.

The Parish Advent Penance Service will be held on Saturday, December 3, at 10AM in Church. There will be several priests available at this service. Parking available in the school lot. Join us as we prepare our hearts for the celebration of Christmas.

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: 11/21-11/27
 Shirley Federmann, Jean Calme, Michael Nagel, Steve Ulmer, Bonnie Vogel, Bernice Sutter, Lynda Menkhous. 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! All proceeds benefit our Church and School.



As in past years, SFS Parish is asking for your help again this Christmas season. Last year we asked for Kroger Gift Cards, and this program was a huge success. Many individuals in the neighborhood struggle to have food and household supplies in their homes. A basket for the gift cards will be in place **today and next Sunday**. We kindly ask for gift cards in a \$25 donation amount. Please indicate the gift amount of the card. If you are not able to pick up a gift card, monetary donations are also appreciated. Thank you.



St. Anthony Messenger
 Hopefully, we will have some copies of the December issue of the Messenger which features NATIVITY SCENES FROM AROUND THE WORLD—our very own Bro. Tim’s collection

Advent Booklets are available: “Daily Reflections with SAINT FRANCIS” and “Daily Reflections for ADVENT & CHRISTMAS.” You might like to choose one of these to enhance your praying in Advent.



St. Francis Seraph Church

at Liberty & Vine, in Over-the-Rhine

1st Sunday of Advent

**ST. FRANCIS SERAPH
 THE HEART OF
 OVER-THE-RHINE**
 1615 Vine Street
 Cincinnati, OH 45202
 Office: (513) 535-2719
 Parish Website:
sfsparish.org

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.

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We
 Welcome
 All
 Visitors!

 Like Us
 and
 Spread the
 Word!

Sunday Mass
 10:00 AM
Weekday Mass
 Mon.– Fri. 8:00 AM
Holy Days
 8:00 AM. & 6:00 PM

Parish Council
 Kay Brogle
 Gary Favors
 Mary Geers
 Carol Metz
 Rita Reichert
 Henry Stacey

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, Chair
SFS School:
 513-721-7778
 Principal:
 Joe Clements

Stewardship - Week Ending Nov. 20
 Sunday Collection: \$2,397.00
 Mail in Collection: \$6,035.00
 Total: \$8,432.00

Christmas Flower Donations : Forms are available in church to make a special donation in honor or in memory of another. Or simply make a donation to help us cover the cost of all the beautiful flowers.

Help Wanted! Come and help construct the church nativity and help with tree decorating on Thursday, December 15, 6:30pm, in time for Christmas. Food and drinks will be provided (after the work is completed!) A guaranteed good time will be had by all!

Greeters still needed. Email Randy Ulses at cintiowan@yahoo.com

Your life may be the only Bible some folks read.

Pastor's Corner

Last week, November 23, was the Feast Day of **St. Clement I.** Clement of Rome was the third successor of St. Peter and reigned as Pope during the last decade of the first century. History tells us that he died a martyr in 101. Probably the Basilica of St. Clement in Rome, one of the earliest parish churches of that city, is built on the site of Clement's home. Clement's First Epistle to the Corinthians was preserved and widely read in the early Church. It is a letter from the Church of Rome to the Church in Corinth concerning a split that alienated a large number of the laity from the clergy. Clement deplores the unauthorized and unjustifiable division in the Corinthian Church and urges unity. From the Epistle: *"Charity unites us to God....There is nothing mean in charity, nothing arrogant. Charity knows no schism, does not rebel, does all things in concord. In charity all the elect of God have been made perfect."*

St. Clement Church in Cincinnati was founded by the Franciscan Friars in 1850, nine years prior to the church of St. Francis Seraph. I guess we can think of them as our "older sister" in our "Family of Parishes." Perhaps Pope St. Clement's emphasis on unity and charity will inspire the efforts of our two parishes as we explore what being one parish may someday look like.



Fr. Al

A Note from a parishioner: *"Fr. Al, Thank you and folks of the parish for having the spirit of hospitality. My friend loved walking in and seeing folks being a community. She put out her hand at the Our Father and the man said thank you! A young mom with three young sons came in later with all of their enthusiasm. My friend told her it was amazing she could get it all together and the mom said she really wanted to come."*

The spirit of welcome seems to be affirmed almost every Sunday by someone coming to our parish. Let's keep that spirit of hospitality alive!

Greta asks for prayers for the repose of the soul of De'Juan Gray, and prayers for his mother, Keva Gray-Smith and family.

Stay Awake! Be Prepared for 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.** Another option is to park in the lot behind the Franciscan Media building. You gain access to this lot via Race Street, north of Liberty. (Race is one way going south into downtown.) It is a short walk around the corner on Liberty Street to church. **This gate will be locked at noon.** We are grateful to Northcrowne Properties, 3CDC and Franciscan Media for making available all of these parking options free to our members on Sunday. 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.

Retirement Fund for Religious I know the fall months have seemed to be an endless string of special collections. This is final special collection of the year: **The Annual Retirement Fund for Religious Collection** on Dec. 11. Religious Sisters, in particular, benefit from your donations to this fund. Sisters Communities who focused on teaching in the thousands of Catholic Schools now find themselves with limited resources to provide for the retirement needs of their sisters. So many of these women worked for decades in Catholic Schools with very little compensation and no retirement benefits. Now they need the help of the people who benefited from their ministries. The annual report for this fund recognizes what each diocese in the United States contributed in 2021. Our Archdiocese was the third most generous diocese with a contribution of \$604,000! Only two dioceses in New York gave more. I think the presence of many Religious Communities in our diocese makes us aware of the great gift that the Sisters have been. Please be generous in your donation to this collection.

Upcoming Events
Today. First Sunday of Advent
Nov. 29 Parish Council Meeting, 6:30PM
Dec. 3 Advent Reconciliation Service 10AM
 Undoing the Sin of Racism, final session, 1-3PM
 Southern Gateway Men's Chorus in Church 7PM
Dec. 8 Immaculate Conception Holy Day, Masses at 8AM and 6PM.
Dec. 10 Women's Group meets at 10AM
Dec. 11 Retirement Fund for Religious collection
Dec. 15 "Deck the Halls..." Church Decorating begins at 6:30PM

Franciscan Christmas is here! Our church is now open on Fridays, 4-7PM Saturdays, Noon-7PM and Sundays, Noon-5PM, All weekends until January 6. This is a great opportunity to invite people you know, even people who show no interest in church or religion—to come and visit us. Nativity sets from around the world and many other Christmas delights will be on display. (The parking lot behind the school will be open.) And outside in the courtyard, the Live Nativity is open every day from 1-7PM. Children will delight in seeing the live sheep, donkeys and goats! (no camel)

SFS Women's Group is Saturday, Dec. 10, at 10AM in the Friary Dining Room. You are invited to bring a brunch item to share for 4-6 people. Parking available behind the school RSVP to Pat Ruthemeyer by Dec. 7 at 513-910-9485, the parish office or email pruthemeyer@hotmail.com

