


4 2nd Sunday of Advent	5	6 *Stephen Zeek	7 *Linda Hall	8 Immaculate Conception Mass at 8AM and 6PM	9 Women's Group 10AM →	10 *Bob Hanneken *Carol Igoe *Henry Meyer *Pauline Sheard
11 3rd Sunday of Advent	12 *Jeanette Yacucci	13	14 *Jason Kreinbrink	15 *Jerry Diersing -Church Decorating 6PM	16	17 *Sean Hill *Clarissa Irvin *Yvette Moon

Minister Schedule for December 11

Coordinator: Lois Biddle
Greeters: Mary Geers, Steve Sparks,
 Gregory Weber
Lector 1: Caroline Brock
Lector 2: Diana Campbell
Intercessions: Sr. Theresa Falkenstien
Eucharistic Minister: C. Sherman, K. MacQueeney
Collection: Tina Candelaresi, Denise Ratterman


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.


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. 

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: 11/28-12/4
 Lonnie Kuhl, John Rauf, Larry Babel 
 \$100, last day month, Ann Williams, Ed Jung, Jared Newport, Tom Donnelly. 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! 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**. 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. 

Pathways Team. When you read this our Pathways Team will have met for the second time. There are three members from St. Clement and three from our parish (Bro. Tim, Amy Dressman and Dave Frondorf), along with both pastors. This small group of folks is charged with helping our Parish Family come together and help eventually figure out what kind of leadership team (staff) such a family will need. We are in no hurry and hope this can organically evolve.



St. Francis Seraph Church

at Liberty & Vine, in Over-the-Rhine

2nd 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.

Al Hirt, OFM, Pastor
 (513) 535-2719
 alhirt@sfsparish.org
Tim Sucher, OFM
Pastoral Associate
 (513) 404-3688
 tsucher@franciscan.org
Don Meyer, Deacon
 (513) 235-3430
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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. 27
 Sunday Collection: \$971.00
 Mail in Collection: \$520.00
 Total: \$1,491.00

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

National Eucharistic Revival:
 A six-week study will begin January 8, using a video series of *The Mass* from Bishop Robert Barron's Word on Fire Ministries. Each Sunday, the 25-minute episode will be sent to those who subscribe. You can sign up now at CatholicAOC.org/theMass. You can watch these episodes as an individual or as a family, maybe a small group of friends would like to engage in this study together.

Your life may be the only Bible some folks read.

Pastor's Corner

St. Bonaventure, one of the great early Franciscans, wrote:

"It was most fitting...that prophets with many testimonies, both explicit in words and implicit in figures, should precede the coming of Christ. By these numerous and powerful witnesses, what had been hidden became clear and unquestionable for belief. Repeated promises and intense desires also were to precede the coming of Christ so that the promised benefit would be expected, that what was expected would be long-awaited, that what was long-awaited would be more intensely desired, and what was intensely desired would be loved fervently, received more gratefully and heeded with greater care."

This time of Advent, if we can use our 28 days well, could lead us to that intense desire and fervent love. Imagine, holding that baby in your arms, knowing that this is God dwelling among us. Holding the Body of Christ for that moment in our hands before taking and eating is an awesome moment of God dwelling among us.

Fr. Al

How about this?!

A recent winner of \$25 in our Winner-A-Day raffle, sent the \$25 back as a donation and then wrote a check for \$250 to Fr. Al to take the staff out for lunch! That very morning, Fr. Al was starting to organize our staff Christmas lunch! ***"This is really great—I won your raffle! Please do two things. First accept the check back—this is a good way to celebrate. Second, there is another check made to you personally—for a nice lunch for you and your staff, as appreciation for all you and they do every day. It's very appreciated!"*** We are grateful to so many people who extend their generosity to our church at this time of year!

The spirit of Christmas is not in the presents, but in *HIS* presence.

It's not what's under the Christmas tree that matters, it is who is around the tree.

Faith makes all things possible. Hope makes all things work. Love makes all things beautiful. May you receive all three for Christmas.



O Come, O Come Emmanuel!



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 the 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
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 6PM
Dec. 18 Social Action Committee meet 11:30AM
Dec. 21 Christmas Break begins for our school.
Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Mass at 4PM
Dec. 25 Christmas Day Mass at 10AM

Franciscan Christmas is here! Our church is now open on Fridays, 4-7PM, Saturdays, Noon-7PM and Sundays, Noon-5PM, 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!

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

