

Feb/March 2023 (* birthday)

26 1st Sunday of Lent *Maria Vanderweker	27	28 *Richard Hutchins *Grace Harley	March 1 *Susan Fahler Feb 29	2 *David Miller	3 *Nancy Aniskovich *Tina Gallagher *Estellena McConnell	4 *Aaron Burns
5 2nd Sunday of Lent	6	7 *Sr. Joyce Moeller	8 *Lucille Mary Kotzbauer	9	10 *Martha Helmick	11 *Jane Hader Women's Group 10am

Minister Schedule for March 5
Coordinator: Randy Ulses
Greeters: Gale LaWarre, Marilyn Meyer, Karen Skillman, Jeanette Yacucci
Lector 1: Bob Dahlstrom
Lector 2: Clarissa Irvin
Intercessions: Kathy McConkey
Eucharistic Minister: Kay Brogle, Carla Sherman
Collection: Joan Callahan, Tina Candelaresi

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.

...and speaking of Br. Tim, his email address has changed. His new email is: tsucher@friars.us

The best vitamin for a Christian is B1.

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: 2/20-2/26
 Julie Candelaresi, Ann Donoghue, James Koenig, Janice Fessel, Sue Krizmanich, Kathy Kihm, Marilyn Schutte. 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.



Greetings St. Francis Seraph Parish, As we start the Lenten season, I wanted to take the opportunity to thank you all for the generosity you have shown our school over the past few months. We are incredibly lucky to have such a wonderful group supporting us. We have raised close to \$25,000 towards our new boiler, about half what we need. In the coming weeks we will have envelopes in church for anyone who would like to contribute to our fund. We thank you in advance for all that you do for our school. Sincerely,
Joe Clements, Principal St. Francis Seraph School



The Way of St. Francis A small lending library of Franciscan books will be "rolling out" this weekend. These books will be available for you to take home and read. A simple sign out sheet will be provided. And if you have books to contribute to this little library, please do! Look for the little library in the back of church.

Your life may be the only Bible some folks read.



St. Francis Seraph Church

at Liberty & Vine, in Over-the-Rhine

First Sunday of Lent



**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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Tim Sucher, OFM
Pastoral Associate
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 tsucher@friars.us (new address)
Don Meyer, Deacon
 (513) 235-3430
 themeyer10@gmail.com

We
 Welcome
 All
 Visitors!
 LIKE US ON
 facebook
 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
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Parish/School
Accountant
 Judy Cox
 jcox@sfsparish.org
Bulletin Editor
 Dave Frondorf
 davedorf75@gmail.com

Director of Faith
Formation: Pat
 Ruthemeyer
Pastoral Musician:
 Jim Loughery
SFS School:
 513-721-7778
 Principal:
 Joe Clements

Stewardship - Week Ending Feb 19
 Sunday Collection: \$2,861.00
 Mail-in Collection: \$1,010.00
 Total: \$3,871.00

Upcoming Events
Today: Day of Caring Breakfast at
 St. Clement (see note below)
Today: Social Action Committee 11:30
Today: Worship Committee 11:30
March 9: Pathways Team at St. Clement

Day of Caring Pancake Breakfast...Today!
 Some churches in Dayton and Cincinnati host this Brunch where all the proceeds are donated to food pantries. St. Clement is a host church for this Brunch **Today**, in the school cafeteria, 10:30AM-2:30PM. Proceeds support the St. Clement Free Choice Pantry. Adult donation is \$6.00. Seniors and children under 12, \$4.00.

Pastor's Corner

This season of Lent invites us into a period of days that is always challenging. What's the change needed in me? Is there some conversion I need to go through? Every Lent, I see the days between Ash Wednesday and this First Sunday of Lent as a kind of prelude to the full 40 days. Is prayer the aspect I am supposed to focus on? Or is there some kind of almsgiving being asked of me? Is there something from which I should be fasting? As the years go by, I find myself trying to ask God what will be best for my human, spiritual growth. One Lent I realized how much I was overworking, so for the 6 weeks of Lent my "sacrifice" was to do one fun thing a week: a concert, a play, etc. Like most Lenten resolutions, I really didn't do so well the final weeks! But it sure was a different kind of Lent, and I really did feel like I was the better for having taken in more entertainment! As your Lent begins, try to listen for the Lord's direction. Don't assume your traditional practices are what is best this year. So today, the Gospel invites us into the desert, into this 40-day period of renewal. I want to encourage you to look forward to the Triduum, how you might make those three days of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil special times to join together in the liturgical holy days. Individually or as a family, look ahead to see how you can participate in the events after you complete the 40 days. I am praying for all our members to have a blessed Lent.

Fr. Al

Race and Racism in Cincinnati
 There are two remaining Saturdays, (the first was yesterday) March 11 & 18, to participate in IJPC's excellent program on this topic which is presented here at SFS. We will meet in the school auditorium—access by way of the school parking lot, 1:00-3:30PM. Register for this event by email: flkemper@gmail.com with the subject line "IJPC-Racism Docuseries." The Docuseries is a people's history of how race shaped neighborhoods, education and culture in Cincinnati.



You Can't Have Testimony without going through a Test.



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.

Disciple Maker Index
 Last Call! As of Feb. 21, 127 parishioners have completed the Catholic Leadership Institute's survey. You can still complete this survey and help our Family of Parishes have a picture of where we are in our Catholic Faith, level of participation---are we set for more growth as disciples of Jesus. The survey is available at <http://portal.catholicleaders.org/d/yt1g1y>. Of the 127 completed surveys, all but 3 were done on line.

Franciscan Family of Parishes
 With the Archdiocesan renewal program of Beacons of Light, St. Clement and St. Francis Seraph are a family. Please mark your calendars for **Saturday, April 29, 10AM-Noon.** A luncheon will follow. ("Feed them, they will come!") Please come. We want many of our parishioners to come to this "town hall" style meeting where we can hear the goals and hopes of Beacons of Light. We want to hear from the grass roots. What do you think? How does a family of these two parishes plan to work together? We are 4 miles apart, St. Bernard and Over-the-Rhine. Quite distinct! Both of our parishes are of moderate size. We each have a school. As of now, we each have a pastor. This plenary session will take place in the Fine Arts auditorium at Roger Bacon High School. As plans unfold, we will let you know. But right now, try to make this date a priority.

Catholic Ministries Appeal
 As of Feb. 10, 14 parishioners have made donations totaling \$2,000 toward our goal of \$11,093. We are 19% of the way to our goal. It is still early, I know. But please consider making a pledge/donation soon. These are vital ministries in the Archdiocese which depend on the funds from the CMA.

SAINT FRANCIS SERAPH WOMEN'S GROUP MEETING
 All women of the parish are invited to attend the next meeting of the **Women's Group** on **Saturday, March 11th at 10:00 am.** Continuing our Marian theme, this month we will be taking a look at "**Our Lady of Fatima**". Our speaker will be Theresa Kearney, who has served numerous times as an aide at Fatima and will share photos of Fatima and her own personal story. *Parking will again be available in the SFS School Parking Lot. Please use the 1615 Vine Street Friary entrance. We hope you will be able to join us on this Marian spirituality tour!!*