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| 5 2nd Sunday of Lent | 6 *Jim Loughery | 7 *Sr. Joyce Moeller | 8 *Lucille Mary Kotzbauer | 9 | 10 *Martha Helmick | 11 *Jane Hader -Women's Group 10am -Race and Racism 1pm |
| 12 3rd Sunday of Lent *Janet Cavanaugh *Jacob Yacucci | 13 *Bob Burns *Steve McDevitt *Denise Ratterman | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 *Olivia Allen | 18 -Race and Racism 1pm SFS School |

Minister Schedule for March 12

Coordinator: Lois Biddle
Greeters: Mary Geers, Gregory Weber, Steve and Jennifer Sparks
Lector 1: Caroline Brock
Lector 2: Cindy Lewis
Intercessions: Veree Russell
Eucharistic Minister: Lois Biddle
Collection: Denise Ratterman, 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.

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

Lenten Practices (suggested)

Prayer: 8:00AM Mass is celebrated Monday-Friday in the chapel of our parish church. Enter by way of the open gate to the right of the front of the church and come in that side door. Maybe you would like to share this prayer experience with other members of the parish and the friars.

Almsgiving: We are encouraged to sacrifice a little during Lent, to give alms. Our parish is choosing to make our **School Boiler Fund Campaign** the focus of our Lenten charitable giving. Special envelopes are provided.

Fasting: Try fasting from negativity, gossip, judging others. I know, it would be easier to give up chocolate or beer!



Winner-A-Day Winners: 2/27-3/5

Sharon Welte, Kathy Hengstebeck, \$100, Anthony Schaefer, Winnie Boehm, Rose Segbers, Ted DeMatteo, Rosalind Burgett. 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.

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!!*

Upcoming Events

- Today:** Social Action Committee 11:30
- Today:** Worship Committee 11:30
- March 5:** Race and Racism 1pm SFS School
- March 9:** Pathways Team at St. Clement
- March 11:** Women's Group 10am, Friary Bldg.

Your life may be the only Bible some folks read.



St. Francis Seraph Church

at Liberty & Vine, in Over-the-Rhine

**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.

Second Sunday of Lent



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

Stewardship - Week Ending Feb 26 
 Sunday Collection: \$2,111.00
 Mail-in Collection: \$ 417.55
 Total: \$2,528.55
 Ash Wednesday/Eastern Europe: \$570.00

Earthquake Assistance Rather than make a special effort to collect funds in our parish through envelopes, the Parish Council suggested making known to parishioners how you can directly provide a donation. Catholic Relief Services is one of the most dependable world-wide agencies. You can go on line: **Catholic Relief Services, Earthquake in Turkey and Syria** and find who you can donate right there.

Randy Ulses sent an email to all ministers regarding Holy Week availability. Please respond to cintiowan@yahoo.com by March 6 so he can schedule ministers. Thank you.

Pastor's Corner

I want to thank all the parishioners who completed the Disciple Maker Index. All of the responses will be tabulated and analyzed by the Catholic Leadership Institute. The hope is that we get a picture of our parish in regard to faith development, level of participation, satisfaction, etc. I have spoken with several parishioners who wish they could have made individual comments or that some questions could have been added or some eliminated. I'm just glad that so many of you did take the time to participate in this survey. Results will be coming in early summer and I hope this will be one piece in our discernment of bringing our two parishes together in this Franciscan Family.

I am also grateful to those of you who have already made a pledge/donation to the Catholic Ministries Appeal. I'm aware of how many requests there are for your financial gifts. People have to choose which causes they want to support. There can be resistance to giving to the Archdiocese, since we have somewhat complicated relationships with the larger church, however, some of the ministries supported by the CMA are so important. Whatever you can do, know that I am grateful.

Fr. Al

Lenten Events:

Way of the Cross is prayed every Friday evening, 7pm, at St. Clement Church. This is a bilingual service.

Lenten Reflection on Way of the Cross will be here at St. Francis Seraph on Saturday, March 25, 10am-noon. Fr. Mark Soehner, OFM, will speak about the meaning of this devotion and then we will have opportunity to pray this devotion with some reflections offered by members of our parish. More details soon.

Communal Reconciliation Service for our two parishes will be celebrated at St. Clement Church at 7PM on Wednesday, March 29.


Lenten Weekday, March 30, is also the Reds Opening Day!!! No school because of the traffic connected with the parade!



Live Prayerfully This Week and be Transfigured.



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 Northcrown 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.

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.

Parish Council Notes: The full Council membership was present for our February meeting. A good amount of time was spent reviewing reports from Worship, Social Action, Faith Formation and Finance. Because the council is new, it does take some time to familiarize everyone with the affairs of the church. The Pastor's Report initiated some conversation about evangelization, something we want to further explore at our next meeting. The unsettledness of Beacons of Light, the pending sale of the friary—thus need for new office space—will continue to be topics for the future. Outreach to our neighbors will be the main issue on our March agenda. We need clarity about what our church can provide for the folks on the streets and what we do not need to do. Part of this involves becoming more familiar with all the services that are already provided. We know we can't be a social service center. At some point, we want to address the whole congregation on who we want to be. To Fr. Al's question about another special collection--earthquake victims—it was suggested we direct our parishioners to a trusted agency where they can make contributions. Our next meeting is March 21.

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.