

March 2023 (* birthday)

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
19 4th Sunday of Lent *Maggie Mascunana	20	21	22	23	24	25 *Annie Davis *Isaac Hill *Jayne Yager

Minister Schedule for March 19

Coordinator: Jerry Diersing
Greeters: Matt Cavanaugh, Don and Kathy Meyer
Lector 1: Joan Monnin Callahan
Lector 2: Casey Betz
Intercessions: Ed Aug
Eucharistic Minister: Mary Geers, Clarissa Irvin
Collection: Anne Burkhart, Ken Horne

Please contact Br. Tim or the parish office if you or someone in your family is in need of prayer. Call or text him at 513-404-3688.

Email Address

The office has not recently sent an all-parish email, but the last several times we learned that some people are not receiving these notices. There are sheets on clipboards on the back tables if you want to give us your email address.

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: 3/6-3/12

Joe Metz, Mark Weber, Garry Raffenberg, Celise Bealer, Laura Riley, Kathleen Glaser, martha Kunkemoeller. 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.



A new Winner-a-Day season begins April 1.

Tickets have been mailed. If you did not receive them or need more, please call the parish office at 513-535-2719.



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!



St. Francis Seraph Church
 at Liberty & Vine, in Over-the-Rhine

Third 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.

Al Hirt, OFM, Pastor
 (513) 535-2719
 alhirt@sfsparish.org
Tim Sucher, OFM
Pastoral Associate
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 tsucher@friars.us (new address)
Don Meyer, Deacon
 (513) 235-3430
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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
 513-535-2719
Parish/School
Accountant
 Judy Cox
 jcox@sfsparish.org
Bulletin Editor
 Dave Frondorf
 davedorf75@gmail.com

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


Stewardship -Week Ending March 5 
 Sunday Collection: \$3,689.00
 Mail-in Collection: \$1,235.00
 Total: \$4,924.00
 Thank You!

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.


Hearing Assistance Available...If you have difficulty hearing clearly, our church is equipped with a hearing assistance system.

Pastor's Corner

With every change there are challenges, hopefully, challenges that can lead us into goodness and fresh beginnings.

While there are major shifts in Catholic Church life in our archdiocese we also have a big change in regard to the Franciscans. As you know, in October, 6 Provinces of Friars from California to New York will become “one big happy family!” This provincial change certainly affects 1615 Vine Street. The friary that has been home to St. John the Baptist Province and all of its offices, has been home to as many as 25 friars (now 4) and has provided our parish with offices and meeting spaces; this building is in the process of being sold. We are exploring moving our parish offices into what has been the Franciscan Media building, next to St. Anthony Center. In March and April a committee of the St. Francis Seraph Ministries Board (including myself) will be discerning if the Ministries is willing to take responsibility for that building. Hopefully, that will come about and will give our parish some very good space for offices, meeting rooms, classrooms on Sundays, etc. Meanwhile, the parishes of St. Clement and St. Francis Seraph are beginning to see how this Family of Parishes is going to unfold for us. All of this while  St. Clement is still trying to blend the Anglo and Hispanic populations and St. Francis Seraph is still feeling the growing pains of an original group of parishioners helping people from two other parishes “move in” and reaching out to new folks from various places. All the while, trying to see our parish put its arms around so many folks who are poor and homeless. AND, we are all still dealing with the changes that Covid-19 forced upon us. I pray that our community here at St. Francis Seraph can grow through all these challenges and become an ever more alive Gospel presence.

Fr. Al


St. Francis says it is in pardoning that we are pardoned. Who do I need to pardon or forgive? Seek ways to do so this Lenten season. 



Lord, may your Living Water wash us clean.



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.

Upcoming Events

March 18: Final Session of Race and Racism
March 21: Parish Council Meeting
March 25: Reflection on Way of the Cross, here at SFS, 10-11:30AM
March 26: Open House at our School, 11:30AM to 1:00PM. Parishioners are invited along with prospective families with children.
March 29: Communal Reconciliation at 7:00PM at St. Clement Church.
April 2: Palm Sunday!

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.

DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?

A Message from Pope Francis:
 FAST from hurting words and say kind words.
 FAST from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
 FAST from anger and be filled with patience.
 FAST from pessimism and be filled with hope.
 FAST from worries and have trust in God.
 FAST from complaints and contemplate Simplicity. 
 FAST from pressures and be prayerful.
 FAST from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.
 FAST from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
 FAST from grudges and be reconciled.
 FAST from words and be silent so you can listen -The Pope's March 2023 prayer intention is that we all pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; that they may find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.

Your life may be the only Bible some folks read.