

A TOWER OF FAITH IN THE WEST END AND CUMMINSVILLE

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH



745 Ezzard Charles Drive, Cincinnati, Ohio 45203

Parish Phone: 513-381-4526

Fax: 513-381-5244

www.stjosephcincinnati.org

Rev. Rodolfo Coaquira-Hilaje, MCCJ, Pastor

Rev. Gianluca Rosa, MCCJ, Parochial Vicar

Deacon Dennis Edwards

Mrs. Shon Hubble, MM, Music Ministry

MASSES:

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

OUR MISSION IS OUR FAITH

*"You, however, are a
chosen race, a royal
priesthood, a holy
nation, a people He
claims for His Own
to proclaim the
glorious works.
(1 Peter 2:9)*

Liturgical Calendar, Mass Intentions and Readings

Sunday, April 21: Fourth Sunday of Easter: Acts 4:8-12; , 17-19; Psalms 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29; 1 John 3:1-2; John 10:14; John 10:11-18

9 a.m. Mass St. Joseph Church For: Robert C. Driscoll (SI)
By: Alfred Brown
11 a.m. Mass St. Joseph Church For: Roger Brabender (SI)
By: Diane Brabender

Monday, April 22: Monday of the Fourth Week of Easter: Acts 11:1-18; Psalms 42:2-3; 43:3, 4; John 10:14; John 10:1-10

Tuesday, April 23: Tuesday of the Fourth Week of Easter: Acts 11:19-26; Psalms 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7; John 10:27; John 10:22-30

Wednesday, April 24: Wednesday of the Fourth Week of Easter: Acts 12:24--13:5a; Psalms 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8; John 8:12; John 12:44-50

Thursday, April 25: Feast of St. Mark, evangelist: 1 Pt 5:5b-14; Psalms 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17; 1 Cor 1:23a-24b; Mark 16:15-20

Friday, April 26: Friday of the Fourth Week of Easter: Acts 13:26-33; Psalms 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab; John 14:6; John 14:1-6

Saturday, April 27: Saturday of the Fourth Week of Easter: Acts 13:44-52; Psalms 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; John 8:31b-32; John 14:7-14

Sunday, April 28: Fifth Sunday of Easter: Acts 9:26-31; Psalms 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32; 1 John 3:18-24; John 15:4a, 5b; John 15:1-8

9 a.m. Mass St. Joseph Church For: Robert C. Driscoll (SI)
By: Anonymous
11 a.m. Mass St. Joseph Church For: Daranee Teapthong (SI)
By: Anonymous

Requesting a Mass Intention: You may request a mass intention for a loved one or to commemorate an important occasion. A \$5 donation is offered along with the Mass intention request. To request a Mass, please call or stop by the parish office, or you may complete an envelope with your request and drop it in the collection box. A Mass intention is a lovely way to honor a friend, family member or an important event in one's life.

Check
out these
podcasts



The National Black Catholic Congress offers several podcasts on its website.

Your Questions Answered Ask Father Josh

Each week Father Josh answers questions submitted by listeners about life, faith, morality and relationships

For the Voices Unheard The Gloria Purvis Podcast

Discover opinions, stories and experiences of individuals who have been marginalized in the Catholic Church and in society.



Please help the Society of St. Vincent de Paul to bring the love and mercy of Jesus to those who feel left out and abandoned for indeed we are only doing "what we are obliged to do".

Have you considered answering the call to "help the poor find forgiveness and healing in their life" by joining the Society of St. Vincent dePaul? As a volunteer with SVDP, you can help others in a way that will fit into your busy life. Vincentians are volunteers who are people just like you from all walks of life -- those who want to help their community by giving their talent for the greater good. Gwen Dukes is SVDP president. Contact Linda Knight, 513-344-3907 for more information.

Fourth Sunday of Easter April 21, 2024



Shepherd Me, O God

My Brothers and Sisters
in the Risen Lord

As we gather on this Fourth Sunday of Easter, I am reminded of the comforting refrain of the song "Shepherd Me, O God." For me and many others, these lyrics evoke peace, tenderness, and a sense of reassurance, beckoning us to trust in the guidance of our Good Shepherd, who leads us beyond our wants, beyond our fears, from death into life. This refrain is especially purposeful today as we celebrate Jesus as the Good Shepherd in John's beautiful, metaphorically rich Gospel and pray for vocations on our annual commemoration day, now in its sixty-first year.

The recognition of Jesus as the Good Shepherd is life-affirming, as we consider the state of the world today, marked by disappointment, abandonment, abuse, neglect, unrest, and the lack of nurturing among families and friends. It is true to say many souls wander about without the loving guidance of a shepherd. Human beings who have suffered, or even those who have not, seem to yearn for direction, for someone to lead them with love and compassion, and coupled with the deep uncertainties of this time, the call to shepherding others becomes even more urgent.

We know Jesus, our Good Shepherd, exemplifies the selfless love and sacrifice of a true,

(Continued on next page)

dedicated shepherd who not only loves his flock, but like no other before him, has laid down his life for his sheep.

This commitment demonstrates the depth of his care and his personal relationship with us. He knows our voice, and we know his. And no sheep is forgotten in his flock.

This Good Shepherd boldly goes beyond human expectation to protect his sheep.

Remarkably, he gave his life for ours with mercy, grace, and abiding love.

On this World Day of Prayer for Vocations, we reflect on the profound responsibility entrusted to us.

We are called not only to follow the example of Jesus but also to seek a personal journey to spread God's love and mercy to all.

As we contemplate the theme of this year's vocation day, "Sowing Seeds of Hope," let us consider how we can actively contribute to building a more peaceful and hopeful world.

We can offer solace to the weary, strength to the discouraged, and hope to the despairing.

And in our distinctive roles as priests, religious, and lay faithful, we are called to cultivate environments where vocations can flourish.

By fostering communities of prayer, support, and discernment, we can help others to hear God's call in their lives. We are called to be beacons of hope in a world overshadowed by darkness.

Through acts of kindness, compassion, and reconciliation, we can bear witness to the transformative power of God's love.

May our lives be a testament to the abundant blessings that flow from answering God's call with a joyful heart.

Yours in Christ,
Father Rudy

Collection for April 14, 2024

Sunday collection	3485.00
myEoffering	313.04
Sunday Saints	200.00
Other	1150.00
Total	5148.04

Live Stream

Sunday Mass from our Website:
www.stjosephcincinnati.org
Every Sunday at 11 a.m. or watch the video at a later date.

Liturgical Ministries for April 21 and 28

If you cannot make your scheduled date, please arrange a sub in your place or call the church office at 513-381-4526. All ministers -- Please arrive 10 minutes before Mass, check at the Sacristy for attendance and any further instructions from the Pastor. Thank you.

Acolytes

April 21:

9 a.m.

Liz Berry, Ron Hitzler

11 a.m.

Howard Tribble, Nate Powers,

April 28

9 a.m.

Liz Berry, Ron Hitzler

11 a.m.

Howard Tribble, Nate Powers

Announcers

April 21:

9 a.m.

Deacon Dennis Edwards

11 a.m.

Deacon Dennis Edwards

April 28:

9 a.m.

Deacon Dennis Edwards

11 a.m.

Deacon Dennis Edwards

Catechists

April 21:

11 a.m.

Catechists: Joyce Edwards, Gayle Burton, Peggy Nachtrab, Patricia Charlton and Michael Townsend

April 28:

11 a.m.

Lead Catechists: Joyce Edwards, Peggy Nachtrab and Patricia Charlton

Eucharistic Ministers

April 21:

9 a.m.

Willia Green, Anne Shaffer

11 a.m.

Mike McCoy, Joyce Edwards

April 28:

9 a.m.

Willia Green, Anne Shaffer

11 a.m.

Gail Smith, Joyce Edwards

Lectors

April 21

9 a.m.

George Kinley, Dave Stein

11 a.m.

Lester Freeman, Bruce Seidel

April 28:

9 a.m.

Barbara Wright, John Heatherman

11 a.m.

Pam Franklin, Mark Patel

Ushers' Roster

9 a.m.

Shirley Colbert, Willa Green, Stan Carlross, Thomas Penland

11 a.m.

Head Usher: Robin Walker, Marilyn Tribble, Bill Ware, Reggie Lee, Ronald Garvin, Robert Harris, James R. Roper Jr., Yolanda Roper, Larry Jerdo

If you have a special announcement to share, please call the Parish Office or send your news to church@stjosephcincinnati.org

Parish/Community News

Liturgy and Life

Jesus espouses the characteristics of a Good Shepherd. He is selfless, willing to lay down his life for the sheep. He is welcoming, willing to lead those inside and outside his flock. He is faithful, willing to use his power for the greater glory of God. These are the sorts of characteristics we might hope for in all leaders.

Unfortunately, buses of power are all too common in public life. How can we hold our civic leaders accountable? What would it be like to have "good shepherds" in positions of power within the government? Study up on your local politicians and commit to voting in the next election for morally strong leaders.



Church staff

Please call the parish office
at 513-381-4526

Fax number: 513-381-5244

Email: church@stjosephcincinnati.org

Catholic Relief Services Collection

Thank you for your generous support of The Catholic Relief Services Collection and for revealing Christ's love to those who are poor and marginalized around the world. If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give! Just visit www.usccb.org/nationalcollections for more information. #iGiveCatholicTogether also accepts donations for this collection (usccb.igivecatholictogether.org).

Bible Quiz

Bible Quiz is starting May 5th. Each week, parishioners will be asked a question based on the Old Testament of the New American Bible Revised. Submit your answer for a chance to win a \$50 gift card. Each correct answer gives you a chance to win the gift card.

Winners will be drawn the first Sunday of each month starting June 2nd.

Bereavement Group

Plans are in the works for a Bereavement Support Group at Little Flower Parish.

If you have lost a loved one and want to join the group, or want more information, please contact Anita Bechtold at 513-708-3318 or adelunab@fuse.net.

Your loss is important to us, as the Body of Christ.

Listen to Sacred Heart Radio: Sacred Heart Radio brings you the most sought-after Catholic speakers and authors at any time: on the radio at 740 AM and 910 AM, or online at www.sacredheartradio.com. Listen live or scan our QR code for the free app to hear Sacred Heart Radio on your phone from anywhere.

- Rev. Rodolfo Coaquira-Hilaje, MCCJ, Pastor (aka Father Rudy)
- Rev. Gianluca Rosa, MCCJ, Parochial Vicar (aka Father Luca)
- Mr. Dennis Edwards, Deacon
- Mrs. Shon Hubble, Music Minister
- Ms. Mary Roberson, Business Manager (ext. 13)
- Mrs. Jean Brown, Receptionist (ext. 10)
- Ms. Lee Wilson, President of Parish Council
- Mrs. Gwen Dukes, President of St. Vincent dePaul
- Mrs. Vanessa Rozier, Grand Lady, Knights of Peter Claver and Ladies Auxiliary: 513-313-6900
- Mr. Reginald E. Lee, Grand Knight, Knights of Peter Claver, 513-652-7122
- SJCS Alumni Association: Mrs. Joan Smith Beason, 513-641-0763 or Mrs. Joyce Edwards, 513-281-0727

Sacraments

Baptisms: If you have an infant to be baptized, please call our parish office or use church website,

www.stjosephcincinnati.org

Marriages: Schedule through church website

Anointing of the Sick: If you or a loved one is in the hospital or expecting surgery, call the parish office or use church website

Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA):

Please call the parish office or check church website for more information



Hear Our Prayer

Father of goodness and love, hear our prayers for the sick members of our community and for all who are in need. Amid mental and physical suffering may they find consolation in your healing presence. Show your mercy as you close wounds, cure illnesses, make broken bodies whole and free downcast spirits. May these special people find lasting health and deliverances, and so join us in thanking you for all your gifts. We ask this through the Lord Jesus who healed those who believed. Amen.

Hospital/Nursing Home

Dysart, Richard: Covenant Village
Hurst, Rev. Paul: Bayley Place
Duffy, Rev. Patrick, Majestic Care of Fairfield
Richards, Kathy: Chamberlain Healthcare
Royston, Patty: Clovernook
Schafer, Sandy: Brookwood Retirement
Foster-Waller, Alberta: Mercy Health West Park
Hogue, Susie: Hillebrand Nursing & Rehab center
Brumfield, Bonnie, Mercy Health West Park

Homebound/Sick; shut-ins

Blair, Diane
Hill, Hestella
Knight, Melda
Mason, Pam
Moye, Claudia
Randolph, Mary Ann

Prayer List

Byndon-White, Shirley
Checks, Newton
Ford, Walter
Heatherman, Christine
Irby, Frances
Jackson, Elizabeth
Knight, Linda
Menefield Family
Reed, Margaret

Prayer for Vocations

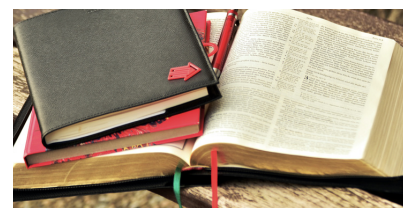
Almighty Father: You have created for us some definite purpose. Grant us the grace to know the path You have planned for us in this life and to respond with a generous "Yes." Make our archdiocese, parishes, homes and hearts fruitful ground for Your gift of vocations. May our young people respond to Your call with courage and zeal. Stir among our men a desire and the strength to be good and holy priests. Bless us with consecrated religious and those called to a chaste single life, permanent deacons, and faithful husband and wives who are a sign of Christ's love for His Church. We commend our prayer for vocations to You, Father, through the intercessions of Mary our Mother, in the Holy Spirit, through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Prayer for Protection

St. Joseph, you are the faithful protector of and intercessor for all who love and venerate you. I have special confidence in you, for you are all-powerful with God and will never abandon your faithful servants.

I humbly invoke you and commend myself with all who are dear to me to your protection and intercession. Do not abandon me or them during life and assist me and them when we die.
Amen.



Zoom Bible Study Mondays at 6:15 p.m.

Be a part of our Mondays evenings -- all are welcome to join us. Zoom can be used on your computer, your tablet or even your smartphone.

To get logged in:
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/3386881613>. Meeting ID: 338 681 613. If only able to join by phone, call 312-626-6799. Meeting ID: 338 681 613. (Please log in about 5-10 minutes ahead of time.)

My eOffering

Our electronic giving program is an easy way to send your offerings online. We are offering this service as a convenience, so you no longer have to write checks or remember to bring cash with you on Sunday. Simply log into myEOffering through the SJCC website www.stjosephcincinnati.org. Online giving has many benefits to our parish, especially during these difficult times. It is safe, secure and easy to manage.

Beacons of Light Information Sessions

Want to learn more about Beacons of Light and how this process will enable your parish to continue to fulfill the mission of the Church in the 21st century? Parish leaders - e.g. council and commission members, staff members, ministry leaders, et al. - are particularly invited to participate in a Beacons of Light Information Session to hear from archdiocesan leadership and ask questions. Sessions will be offered in each of the six deaneries with a few online options as well. Go to www.pathway.catholicaoc.org/beacons-of-light-info-sessions.

From the Archdiocese

Ember Days 2024: Ember Days are run by seminarians for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. This event is for high school boys to learn about prayer, discernment, seminary, and the priesthood. Ember Days 2024 are on Friday, June 7 at Mount St. Mary's Seminary & School of Theology in Cincinnati and Saturday, June 8 at Sacred Heart in McCartyville. More information will soon be available at www.cincinnati vocations.org.

The National Eucharistic Congress July 17-21 in Indianapolis: Join thousands of fellow disciples from across the U.S. and beyond for the event which will include prayer, workshops, concerts, and more. The National Congress is a centerpiece of the multi-year Eucharistic Revival initiated and led by the U.S. Catholic Bishops. Groups or individuals may register for the entire event or for just a day. For more information, go to <https://www.eucharisticcongress.org/>

Workshop on Grief: On May 9, the Office for Consecrated life will host the annual IMAR (Intercongregational Ministry to Aging Religious) Workshop, featuring Sheila Munafa-Kanoza on the topic of grief. This workshop is for those who work with our aging religious, especially those serving in our 14 regional health care centers such as Mount Notre Dame, the Sisters of Charity and the St. Charles Senior Living Community, to name a few. To register go to <http://tinyurl.com/IMARGrief> or contact Maria Reinagel at mreinagel@catholicaoc.org.

Wedding Anniversary Certificates: Are you celebrating a significant wedding anniversary in 2024? 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, or 75 years ... Request a certificate signed by Archbishop Dennis M. Schnurr by visiting the Archdiocese of Cincinnati web page at: <https://bit.ly/3IgyXfv>. Questions? Please contact the Archdiocese of Cincinnati Marriage & Family Evangelization Office at cnc@catholicaoc.org.

Are You Celebrating Your 50th Wedding Anniversary in 2024?: Married couples celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary in 2024 are invited to attend one of the following Golden Anniversary Masses: • Saturday, Sept. 7 at 4:00 p.m. at St. John the Baptist, Tipp City. Celebrant: To be determined • Sunday, Sept. 8 at 11:00 a.m. at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Peter in Chains, Cincinnati. Celebrant: Archbishop Dennis M. Schnurr. Registration is required to attend one of the Golden Jubilee Wedding Anniversary Masses. Please register online by completing the anniversary certificate request form linked here: <https://bit.ly/3IgyXfv>. Questions? Please contact the Archdiocese of Cincinnati Marriage & Family Evangelization Office at cnc@catholicaoc.org

Career Opportunities at Catholic Charities Southwestern Ohio: Catholic Charities Southwestern Ohio continues to grow and serve more people in our community. If you or someone you know is seeking a career change, keep an eye on our career page at www.ccswoh.org/careers2.

Help Local Refugees: With a large influx of refugees coming to Cincinnati, Catholic Charities Southwestern Ohio Refugee Resettlement Services needs your help for the families we are receiving. We need donations of furniture and other household items (linens, dishes, pots and pans, etc.). Volunteers are greatly needed to pick up furniture and set up housing, as well as to serve as mentors for refugee youth. To find lists of needed items or to learn more about volunteering, visit www.ccswoh.org or call our office at 513-241-7745.

Project Rachel: A ministry of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati that serves anyone who has experienced the loss of a child due to abortion. Individuals can engage in this ministry for healing through one-on-one conversation with peers, consultation with a priest (including in Spanish), support groups, retreats for mothers who lost a child, and a day of reflection for anyone (father, grandparent, friend, etc.). Go to <https://projectrachelohio.org/> or call the Project Rachel Help Line at 513-784-0531 for information.

Interested in the Catholic Faith: Do you want to know more about the Christian Catholic faith? Are you thirsting for a good refresher review on the Christian Catholic faith? If so, we invite you to sign up for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. If you would like to join a group for this faith journey, baptized or not baptized, our series of weekly sessions will begin in the fall and run through spring. For more information, please contact Little Flower's Director of Faith Formation, Greg Niehaus at gniehaus@littleflower-church.org or at 513-541-5560 or 513-598-8880, or Deacon Dennis Edwards at dfirst@aol.com or at 513-741-3070.

MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR THE 61st WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

21 April 2024

Called to sow seeds of hope and to build peace

Dear brothers and sisters!

Each year, the World Day of Prayer for Vocations invites us to reflect on the precious gift of the Lord's call to each of us, as members of his faithful pilgrim people, to participate in his loving plan and to embody the beauty of the Gospel in different states of life. Hearing that divine call, which is far from being an imposed duty – even in the name of a religious ideal – is the surest way for us to fulfil our deepest desire for happiness. Our life finds fulfilment when we discover who we are, what our gifts are, where we can make them bear fruit, and what path we can follow in order to become signs and instruments of love, generous acceptance, beauty and peace, wherever we find ourselves.

This Day, then, is always a good occasion to recall with gratitude to the Lord the faithful, persevering and frequently hidden efforts of all those who have responded to a call that embraces their entire existence. I think of mothers and fathers who do not think first of themselves or follow fleeting fads of the moment, but shape their lives through relationships marked by love and graciousness, openness to the gift of life and commitment to their children and their growth in maturity. I think of all those who carry out their work in a spirit of cooperation with others, and those who strive in various ways to build a more just world, a more solidary economy, a more equitable social policy and a more humane society. In a word, of all those men and women of good will who devote their lives to working for the common good. I think too of all those consecrated men and women who offer their lives to the Lord in the silence of prayer and in apostolic activity, sometimes on the fringes of society, tirelessly and creatively exercising their charism by serving those around them. And I think of all those who have accepted God's call to the ordained priesthood, devoting themselves to the preaching of the Gospel, breaking open their own lives, together with the bread of the Eucharist, for their brothers and sisters, sowing seeds of hope and revealing to all the beauty of God's kingdom.

To young people, and especially those who feel distant or uncertain about the Church, I want to say this: Let Jesus draw you to himself; bring him your important questions by reading the Gospels; let him challenge you by his presence, which always provokes in us a healthy crisis. More than anyone else, Jesus respects our freedom. He does not impose, but proposes. Make room for him and you will find the way to happiness by following him. And, should he ask it of you, by giving yourself completely to him.

This Day is dedicated in a particular way to imploring from the Father the gift of holy vocations for the building up of his Kingdom: "Ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest" (Lk 10:2). Prayer – as we all know – is more about listening to God than about talking to him. The Lord speaks to our heart, and he wants to find it open, sincere and generous. His Word became flesh in Jesus Christ, who reveals to us the entire will of the Father. In this present year, devoted to prayer and preparation for the Jubilee, all of us are called to rediscover the inestimable blessing of our ability to enter into heartfelt dialogue with the Lord and thus become pilgrims of hope. For "prayer is the first strength of hope. You pray and hope grows, it moves forward. I would say that prayer opens the door to hope. Hope is there, but by my prayer I open the door" (*Catechesis*, 20 May 2020).

Let us rise up, then, and set out as pilgrims of hope, so that, as Mary was for Elizabeth, we too can be messengers of joy, sources of new life and artisans of fraternity and peace.

Excerpt from Rome, Saint John Lateran, 21 April 2024, Fourth Sunday of Easter.