

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. Louis Okot, MCCJ, Pastor
Deacon Dennis Edwards
Mrs. Shon Hubble, MM, Music Ministry*

MASS:

Sunday: 10:00 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, March 29: Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion: Matthew 21:1-11; Isaiah 50:4-7; Psalm 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24; Philippians 2:6-11; Philippians 2:8-9; Matthew 26:14--27:66

10 a.m. Mass St. Joseph Church

For: Spencer Leveille (SI)
By: S. Leveille

Monday, March 30: Monday of Holy Week: Isaiah 42:1-7 Psalm 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14; John 12:1-11;

Tuesday, March 31: Tuesday of Holy Week: Isaiah 49:1-6; Psalm 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17; John 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday, April 1: Wednesday of Holy Week: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34; Matthew 26:14-25

Thursday, April 2: Holy Thursday - Mass of the Lord's Supper: Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14; Psalm 116:12-13, 15-16c, 17-18; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:34; John 13:1-15

Friday, April 3: Good Friday of the Lord's Passion: Isaiah 52:13--53:12; Psalm 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25; Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9; Philippians 2:8-9; John 18:1--19:42

Saturday, April 4: Holy Saturday at the Easter Vigil: Genesis 1:1--2:2; or Genesis 1:1, 26-31a; Psalm 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35; or Psalm 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20 and 22; Genesis 22:1-18; or Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Psalm 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11; Exodus 14:15--15:1; Exodus 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18; Isaiah 54:5-14; Psalm 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13; Isaiah 55:1-11; Isaiah 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Baruch 3:9-15, 32--4:4; Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 11

Sunday, April 5: The Resurrection of the Lord: Easter Day: Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Psalm 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23; Colossians 3:1-4; 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8; 1 Corinthians 5:7; John 20:1-9; Matthew 28:1-10; Luke 24:13-35

10 a.m. Mass St. Joseph Church

For: Father Louis Olcot (SI)
By: SJCC

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 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, 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 for giving their talent for the greater good. Gwen Dukes is SVDP Conference President. Contact Linda Knight 513-344-3907 for more information.

Palm Sunday
of the
Lord's Passion
Sunday,
March 29, 2026

Palm Sunday

My Brothers and Sisters
in the Risen Lord,

*Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!
Lo, your king comes to you;
triumphant and victorious is he,
humble and riding on a donkey, on a
colt, the foal of a donkey.
(Zechariah 9:9)*

Today we celebrate Palm Sunday and all the pageantry and purpose of Jesus Christ as he rides into Jerusalem, as crowds follow him along his path proclaiming, "Hosanna in the highest!"

This moment is the culmination of all Jesus accomplished in his lifetime and foreshadows all the suffering he is to incur in the days to come.

He rode upon a donkey, in this instance, as a symbol of peace and humility to fulfill the prophecy of the Old Testament.

On this most special day, let us reflect on this occasion and prepare ourselves for Holy Week and the ultimate sacrifice Jesus made for our salvation and the salvation of all mankind.

On Palm Sunday in 2014, Pope John Paul asked the people assembled at St. Peter's Square these questions, all of us should ask ourselves this week: "Who am I before our Lord...am I ready to express my joy, to praise him? Or do I stand back?"

The pope then asked the group to consider the many names one hears during the Passion of Christ and whether we are like any of
(Continued on next page)

Liturgical Ministries for March 29 & April 5

them in our expression of faith.

For example, like the disciples, do we fall asleep when we are bored and exhausted from the grind of our daily lives, when we are asked to do more than what we are comfortable with?

Or, like Pilate, when faced with an uncomfortable decision of faith, do we dodge our responsibility and pass it on to another?

Or, like Judas, who claimed to be a disciple of Christ, do we feign righteousness and always choose any gain we might receive in embracing its tenets?

These are difficult examinations of conscience, yet this week, we should indeed look at ourselves and determine what more we can do to become better and brighter lights of faith.

Let us try to be more like Jesus' mother, Mary, who suffered silently, the Cyrenean who helped carry his cross, Joseph who lovingly buried him at his death, and all others, who were there, present, with loving hearts.

Today we hear, and hopefully breathe in, the Passion of Christ, as told to us by Matthew 26, beginning with the events at Gethsemane and ending with the stone being placed over the tomb and ultimately sealed by orders of Pontius Pilate.

Let us not seal our hearts to all that occurred during this momentous week: the suffering and death of Jesus Christ, who came into this world to save us, one and all.

Yours in Christ,
Father Louis

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

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

March 29:

10 a.m. Ron Hitzler, Liz Berry

April 5:

10 a.m. TBA

Announcers

March 29:

10 a.m. Mike McCoy

April 5:

10 a.m. TBA

Catechists

March 29:

10 a.m. Lead Catechist: Peggy
Nachtrab

Eucharistic Ministers

March 29:

10 a.m. Reggie Lee, Sharon Sanker

April 5:

10 a.m. TBA

Lectors

March 29:

10 a.m. Bob Sanker, Rachel Watkins

April 5:

10 a.m. TBA

Liturgical ministers will be contacted for Holy Week assignments.

Ushers' Roster

Robert Johnson and Robin Walker (lead ushers), David Stein, Willia Green, Yolanda and James Roper, Stan Carlross, Reggie Lee, Ron Garvin, Rob Harris, Marilyn Tribble, Bill Ware

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

Parish/Community News

Liturgy and Life

"As [Jesus] rode along" today's Gospel reading begins. All of us go on a journey with Christ, burdened with our cross. Though our travel is joyful, it also contains frustrations, disappointment, betrayals, and challenges. On each step of the way toward Jerusalem, Jesus is close at hand, united in our passion and sacrifice. Through this Holy Week, we have the opportunity to be transformed. Will you be open to being led to something new?

Holy Week Schedule

Holy Thursday, April 2nd 6 p.m.
Good Friday, April 3rd Noon
Holy Saturday, April 4th 8:45 p.m.
Resurrection Sunday, April 5th 10 a.m.

Calling all fish fry volunteers and donors

As a thank you for your contribution of time, talent or money, there will be an event in your honor. Please save the date Friday, April 17th 5 - 8 pm. More details to follow.

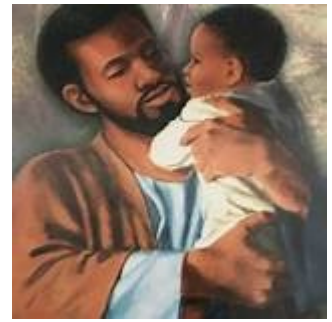
Sacrament of Penance, Reconciliation

Not only does it [the Sacrament of Penance] free us from our sins, but it also challenges us to have the same kind of compassion and forgiveness for those who sin against us. We are liberated to be forgivers. We will offer time for confession following mass on Sunday, March 29, 2026. Please make time for this experience of the gift of God's boundless mercy.

2026 Rice Bowl

Embracing God's Love, United in Generosity God created man and woman in his image, reminding us that every person is sacred and reflects God's love. Each of us has a purpose, woven into God's plan. Our support of CRS Rice Bowl provides hope and opportunity to families around the world. Let's reflect on how our prayers, fasting, and almsgiving can help our sisters and brothers fulfill their potential. Visit crsricebowl.org/week-5 to read this week's Story of Hope.

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.



Church staff

Please call the parish office
at 513-381-4526
Fax number: 513-381-5244
Email: church@stjosephcincinnati.org

- Rev. Louis Okot, MCCJ, Pastor
- Mr. Dennis Edwards, Deacon
- Mrs. Shon Hubble, Music Minister
- Ms. Mary Roberson, Business Manager (ext. 13)
- Mrs. Jean Brown, Receptionist (ext. 10)
- Mrs. Dionne Johnson, Parish Council chairperson
- Mrs. Gwen Dukes, President of St. Vincent dePaul
- Mrs. Gayle Burton, Grand Lady, KPC Ladies Auxiliary: 513-301-8151
- Mr. Robert Harris, Grand Knight, Knights of Peter Claver, 513-807-8501
- 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

Cure, Monika: Batavia Nursing Care Center
 Dysart, Richard: Covenant Village
 Edwards, Stephanie: Glendale Place Nursing Home
 Hogue, Susie: Hillebrand Nursing & Rehab center
 Hurst, Rev. Paul: Bayley Place
 Richards, Kathy: Chamberlain Healthcare
 Royston, Patty: Clovernook

Homebound/Sick; shut-ins

Edwards Joyce
 Hill, Hestella
 Mason, Pam
 Moye, Claudia
 Randolph, Mary Ann
 Cowherd, Diane
 Robinson, Shirley
 Jones, Emma

Prayer List

Cheeks, Newton
 Irby, Frances
 Menefield Family
 Reed, Margaret
 Walker, Shelly
 Monika Cure

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.

Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom. May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally. May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise forever. 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.)

Beacons of Light Information

The Beacons of Light website remains the primary source of information about the pastoral planning process underway in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. The website is: 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?

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.rg/Beacons-of-Lights Beacons of Light - Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

Sunday Collection March 22, 2026

Sunday Collection	\$3855.00
St. Vincent dePaul	\$70.00
E-Offering	\$1581.36
Sunday Saints	\$200.00
Other	\$320.00
Total	\$6026.36

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.

This QR code will take you to site to create an account to make electronic donations to St. Joseph Catholic Church.



From the Archdiocese

Chrism Mass: Join Archbishop Robert Casey and the priests and faithful of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati for the annual Chrism Mass, celebrated on Holy Tuesday, March 31 at 4 p.m. at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Peter in Chains. In this once-a-year Holy Week liturgy, the Archbishop will bless the Oils of the Sick and Catechumens and consecrate the Sacred Chrism to be used in sacramental celebrations throughout the archdiocese in the coming year. The priests will also renew the promises made at their ordination.

Good Friday Collection: Pope Leo has asked our parish to support the Pontifical Good Friday Collection for Christians in the Holy Land. Your support helps the Church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools, offer religious education, and preserve the sacred shrines. For information about Christians in the Holy Land, visit <https://www.eohsjnorthcentral.org/GoodFriday>.

Eastertide Choral Mass: The Sacred Music Institute at Mount St. Mary's Seminary & School of Theology will host On Sunday, April 12, MTSM will host its annual Eastertide Choral Mass, featuring an organ recital at 6:30 p.m. with Mass beginning at 7 p.m. Admission is free and open to the public. For more info, please visit www.athenaeum.edu/smi.

Welcome Weekend at the Seminary: On April 17-19, Mount St. Mary's Seminary & School of Theology in Cincinnati is hosting a welcome weekend for men ages 18-35 who are interested in learning about discernment and priesthood. Attendees will spend the night at the seminary and participate in community liturgies as well as prayer, social time, and talks about discernment and seminary life. Space is limited. Email Fr. Michael Willig at mwillig@catholicaoc.org for registration information.

Follow and Pray with Archbishop Robert Casey: Archbishop Casey has launched his own social media accounts! Follow him at: Instagram: [@archbishopcasey](https://www.instagram.com/archbishopcasey); Facebook: [facebook.com/archbishopcasey](https://www.facebook.com/archbishopcasey)

Catholic Day at Great American Ball Park on Sept. 5, 2026: Save the date for the second annual Catholic Day at Great American Ballpark will be held on Saturday, Sept. 5, 2026, which is the Saturday of Labor Day weekend. The Cincinnati Reds will host the Milwaukee Brewers that evening.

2026 Catholic Redhawk Gala on May 2, 2026: Save the date for the second annual Catholic Redhawk Gala benefitting the Catholic Newman Center at Miami University. Join us Saturday, May 2, 2026 at the Shriver Center on campus. For more information, visit CatholicRedhawk.com.

Consider Lay Missionary Ministry: There are dozens of Catholic lay missionary programs seeking volunteers ages 17-75 for short or long term to serve in the U.S.A. or overseas. For more information, contact the Archdiocese of Cincinnati Mission Office director, Dr. Mike Gable, at mgable@catholicaoc.org. You can check out: <https://catholicvolunteernetwork.org/begin/>.

Food for All: Nutritious, affordable food is not readily available to every person in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. Hunger exists in our communities. Catholic Charities Southwestern Ohio travels to where hunger is located in Adams, Brown, Clermont, Clinton, Hamilton and Highland Counties. Interested in reducing hunger and food insecurity, volunteering at a mobile pantry or learning more about hunger in our area? Call April Hoak, Food for All coordinator at 513-672-3720 or email ahoak@ccswoh.org.

Parenting Education Classes: Need encouragement or support in learning new ways of relating to your children? Call Catholic Charities Southwestern Ohio for information on our six-week Parenting Education Class that is offered every Monday via Zoom. Contact Patsy Bolden at 513-867-7072 or pbolden@ccswoh.org.

Help Local Refugees: Catholic Charities Southwestern Ohio Refugee Resettlement Services needs your help for the families we are receiving. We need donations of furniture and household items. Volunteers are needed to pick up furniture and set up housing. For information, visit www.ccswoh.org or call our office at 513-241-7745.



Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary Spiritual Retreat

**Saturday, April 18, 2026
From 10:00am until 2:00pm
St. Joseph Catholic Church
745 Ezzard Drive, 45203
In Father Rivers Hall**

RSVP TO

**Grand Lady Gayle Burton 513.301.8151
Vice Grand Lady Mary Richardson 513.708.7057
Please send: Your name and phone number
No Later Than April 11, 2026**

One day to renew, reconnect with God and one another.

