

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, April 12: *Second Sunday of Easter: Acts 2:42-47; Psalm 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24; 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:29; John 20:19-31*

10 a.m. Mass St. Joseph Church

For: Sandy Reed (SI)
By: SVDP-SJ conf
For: Shirley White (SI)
By: SVDP-SJ conf
For: Marcella Hill (AD)
By: Shirley Robinson

Monday, April 13: *Monday of the 2nd Week of Easter: Acts 4:23-31; 2:1-3, 4-7a, 7b-9; Colossians 3:1; John 3:1-8*

Tuesday, April 14: *Tuesday of the 2nd Week of Easter: Acts 4:32-37; Psalm 91:1ab, 1cd-2, 5; John 3:14-15; John 3:7b-15*

Wednesday, April 15: *Wednesday of the 2nd Week of Easter: Acts 5:17-26; Psalm 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; John 3:16; John 3:16-21*

Thursday, April 16: *Thursday of the 2nd Week of Easter: Acts 5:27-33; Psalm 34:2 and 9m 17-18, 19-20; John 20:29; John 3:31-36*

Friday, April 17: *Friday of the 2nd Week of Easter: Acts 5:34-42; Psalm 27:1, 4, 13-14; Matthew 4:4b; John 6:1-15*

Saturday, April 18: *Saturday of the 2nd Week of Easter: Acts 6:1-7; Psalm 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19; John 6:16-21*

Sunday, April 19: *Third Sunday of Easter: Acts 2:14, 22-23; Psalm 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11; 1 Peter 1:17-21; Luke 24:32; Luke 24:13-35*

10 a.m. Mass St. Joseph Church

For: Our Lady of Guadalupe (SI)
By: SJCC
For: Father Louis Okot (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.

The Second
Sunday
of Easter
April 12, 2026

Sunday of Divine Mercy

My Brothers and Sisters
in the Risen Lord,

Because we are human beings and reside in a world of ever-changing circumstances, we seem to thrive on certainties.

We rely on the numbers, the costs, the facts, the evidence — the proofs, so we can navigate, move forward, and make decisions with a semblance of consensus and dependability.

According to scientists and philosophers, certainty is part of our six basic human needs, which comes from the idea that our brain likes to know what is going on to direct us toward positive feelings of control and security.

Our mental notebooks are filled with such data, yet in our faith lives, we believe with a knowledge deep within our hearts.

We rely on our faith to fill our souls.

Today is the Second Sunday of Easter and we are poised to hear the story of Thomas who, when confronted in learning about Jesus appearing to his disciples following his death, expresses doubt about the validity of what he has just been told.

How many of us might have done the same thing?

Thomas was a good and sincere disciple, but his relationship with our Lord changed dramatically following Jesus' death.

(Continued on next page)

Liturgical Ministries for April 12 and 19

In the ensuing days, he no longer felt his deep and abiding presence, so he reacted in a probing manner when confronted with the news of his appearance. Can we truly blame him for his reticence?

We all, at one time or another, go through the dark night of the soul when we doubt and question whether our faith is real, perhaps even if God is real...

When everything is progressing nicely in our lives, it's easy to believe, and we can feel the presence of our Lord surrounding and guiding us.

But when things go wrong or tensions are high and tenuous, it is much more difficult to grasp onto faith as our lifeline, because things look so unclear and worrisome.

It is interesting to note there are a number of saints who struggled with doubt in their lives.

I urge you to learn more about their labors and times of darkness.

St. Paul of the Cross, St. Therese of Lisieux, St. Padre Pio, and St. Teresa of Calcutta wrestled with skepticism and doubt and suffered greatly on account of it, but were able to transform their crises and commit themselves to a stronger, deeper relationship with Christ.

We, in turn, might follow them and act with like minds and hearts in difficult trials and sufferings we all endure at one time or another.

Remember: I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. (Philippians 4:13)

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

April 12:
10 a.m. Howard Tribble, James Roper Sr.

April 19:
10 a.m. Howard Tribble, Nat Powers

Announcers

April 12:
10 a.m. Mike McCoy

April 19:
10 a.m. Mike McCoy

Catechists

April 12:
10 a.m. Lead Catechist: Peggy
Nachtrab

Eucharistic Ministers

April 12:
10 a.m. Reggie Lee, Mary Dixon-Richardson

April 19:
10 a.m. Reggie Lee, Sharon Sanker

Lectors

April 12:
10 a.m. Vanessa Rozier, Rob Harris

April 19:
10 a.m. Bruce Seidel, Jan Seidel

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

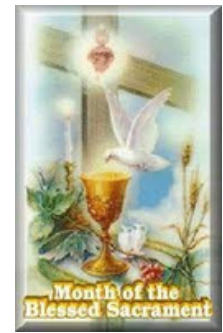
Liturgy and Life

"Peace be with you." Christ's closest friends had run away in fear at his time of greatest need.

The risen Christ begins not with scolding, but with the gift of peace. Perhaps you have relationships that are in need of this gift of peace.

We know that human beings are prone to hurting one another, failing one another, falling short of their own ideals when it comes to love of God and love of neighbor.

Until Pentecost, strive to carry out a corporal work of mercy each week. The corporal works of mercy are to feed the hungry, to give drink to the thirsty, to clothe the naked, to shelter the homeless, to visit the sick, to visit the imprisoned and to bury the dead.



Church staff

Please call the parish office
at 513-381-4526

Fax number: 513-381-5244

Email: church@stjosephcincinnati.org

KPCLA sponsors Spiritual Retreat

Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary
Spiritual Retreat

Saturday, April 18, 2026
10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

At St. Joseph Catholic Church
In Father Rivers Hall

Please text or call in your RSVP to:

Grand Lady Gayle Burton 513-301-8151

Vice Grand Lady Mary Richardson 513-708-7057

One Day to renew, reconnect with God and one another

- 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

**Calling
all
fish fry
volunteers
and donors**



This event is for all fish fry volunteers and Donors. Please join us for dinner on Friday, April 24th 5:00 until 8:00 pm In Fr. Rivers Hall. Thank You!

Catholic Relief Services Collection

Next Sunday, April 19th our parish will take up the Catholic Relief Services Collection. Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees and bring Christ's love and mercy to vulnerable people here and abroad. Please give generously to the collection and reveal Christ's love to those most in need. Learn more about the collection at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.

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.

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 April; 5, 2026

Sunday Collection	\$8727.00
Holy Week Collection	\$322.00
Sunday Saints	\$215.00
Other	\$127.00
Total	\$9391.00

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

World Day of Prayer for Vocations: *The Church will observe the World Day of Prayer for Vocations on Sunday, April 26, 2026, inviting the faithful to pray that the Lord “send out laborers for His harvest” (Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2) and to support a culture of vocational discernment.*

Hispanic Night at the Seminar: *On Sunday, May 3, single men aged 18-35 are invited to the seminary for an evening of fraternity. The evening will include a tour of the seminary, talks, evening prayer and a dinner and social with the seminarians. All activities and presentations will be in Spanish. Register here.*

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.*

Saint Joseph Catholic Church
Financial Report
Joyful Living & Grateful Giving

	<u>Jul 2025 – Mar 2026</u>	<u>Full Year Budget*</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Income	Actual	Needed	
Collections - Sunday & Holidays	154,661	217,349.00	71%
Christmas Appeal	38,275	37,610.00	102%
Fund-raisers	42,473	75,120.00	57%
Designated to Roof Replacement	35,600		
Other Income	31,406	43,160.00	73%
Total Income	<u>302,415.00</u>	<u>373,239.00</u>	81%

*The full year is 07/01/2025 – 06/30/2026. This report represents the first nine months of the fiscal year with three months remaining. The “Actual” column reports income from July 2025 through March 31, 2026.

For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be. Matthew 6:21
 At this point, we are exceeding our budget. Thank you for sharing your treasure and heart with your St. Joseph Family!

Walk up Produce Pantry

with fresh Fruits and Vegetables
 2nd Tuesday of every month

St. Joseph Catholic Church, 745 Ezzard Charles Dr.



Catholic Charities
Southwestern Ohio
Serve | Engage | Empower

Eligibility Guidelines: TEFAP Household income at or below 200% the federal poverty line

Tuesday, April 14th, 2026 from 11:00-1:00pm

Tuesday, May 12th, 2026 from 11:00-1:00pm

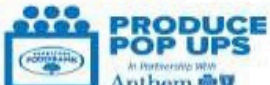
Tuesday, June 9th, 2026 from 11:00-1:00pm

If local schools close or delay due to inclement weather, the Mobile Pantry will be cancelled or rescheduled.

Questions or willing to volunteer... Contact CCSWO Food for All Coordinator at 513.672.3720

Made possible by Catholic Charities Southwestern Ohio, Freestore Foodbank, Anthem strong support of St. Joseph Catholic Church and volunteers.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



In Partnership With
Anthem