

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](http://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)***

**Sunday, June 28:** Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time: 2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16a; Psalm 89:2-3, 16-17, 18-19; Romans 6:3-4, 8-11; 1 Peter 2:9; Matthew 10:37-42

10 a.m. Mass St. Joseph Church

For: Father Bill Cross (D)  
By: Bruce and Jan Seidel

**Monday, June 29:** Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles: Acts 12:1-11; Psalm 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18; Matthew 16:18; Matthew 16:13-19

**Tuesday, June 30:** Tuesday of the 13<sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time: Amos 3:1-8; 4:11-12; Psalm 5:4b-6a, 6b-7, 8; Psalm 130:5; Matthew 8:23-27

**Wednesday, July 1:** Wednesday of the 13<sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time: Amos 5:14-15, 21-24; Psalm 50:7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13, 16b-17; James 1:18; Matthew 8:28-34

**Thursday, July 2:** Thursday of the 13<sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time: Amos 7:10-17; Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 11; 2 Corinthians 5:19; Matthew 9:1-8

**Friday, July 3:** Feast of Saint Thomas, Apostle: Ephesians 2:19-22; Psalm 117:1bc, 2; John 20:29; John 20:24-29

**Saturday, July 4:** Saturday of the 13<sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time: Amos 9:11-15; Psalm 85:9 and 10, 11-12, 13-14; John 10:27; Matthew 9:14-17

**Sunday, July 5:** Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Zechariah 9:9-10; Psalm 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13-14; Romans 8:9, 11-13; Matthew 11:25; Matthew 11:25-30

10 a.m. Mass St. Joseph Church

For: Rev. Louis Okot (SI)  
By: SJCC  
For: Rev. Samuel Yacob (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.

# Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time June 28, 2026

## The costs and rewards of discipleship

My Brothers and Sisters in the Risen Lord,

As I write to you today, my message is simple, yet for many of us, it is so difficult to understand, embrace, and be truly alive in our hearts.

It is this: God must be the central focus of our lives.

He must be loved beyond all others in order for us to love at all.

Through God's grace and mercy, and yes, his love, we are able to maneuver through our human lives and fulfill our destiny.

And, in this intimate, committed, and passionate relationship with our Lord, we will find all that we are looking for.

On this Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, we hear in Matthew's Gospel Jesus's words about our mission as disciples of Christ.

It might be a bit jarring to hear Christ's instructions that we must love him beyond our loved ones, yet it is exactly what we must do because it is in our relationship with him that we are able to extend it outward toward others so that we may love them without ego or need for reciprocity.

This gospel of love means the selfless ability to move out of ourselves in service and sacrifice.

The idea of Christianity, then,

**(Continued on next page)**

# Liturgical Ministries for June 28 and July 5

*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.*

birthed in the sacrament of our Baptism, enhances and develops our vision of the world and allows us to transform our lives, especially in our relationship with family, friends, and colleagues.

Because we have a deep and abiding love of Christ, we are called to give of ourselves, sometimes in sacrifice and suffering for the benefit of others.

In thinking about examples of those saints who gave up their lives for their faith or even those ordinary heroes whose stories inspire us daily, we, as human beings, are called to do the same. There may, indeed, be a cost to us, but alternatively, there is often a reward.

Even in a simple act of kindness that takes us out of ourselves, we know the delight in someone's eyes in doing so. A generous spirit, a generous action, a generous love – may we all be inspired in his name to transform lives so we may transform our own.

*Batter my heart, three-person'd God, for you  
As yet but knock, breathe, shine,  
and seek to mend;  
That I may rise and stand,  
o'ethrow me, and bend  
Your force to break, blow, burn,  
and make me new. . .*

–John Donne, English poet,  
Holy Sonnet 14

Yours in Christ,  
Father Louis

## Acolytes

- June 28:**  
10 a.m. Liz Berry, Ron Hitzler
- July 5:**  
10 a.m. Liz Berry, Ron Hitzler

## Announcers

- June 28:**  
10 a.m. Mike McCoy
- July 5:**  
10 a.m. Mike McCoy

## Catechists

- June 28:**  
10 a.m. Lead Catechist: Peggy Nachtrab

## Eucharistic Ministers

- June 28:**  
10 a.m. Sharon Sanker, Reggie Lee
- July 5:**  
10 a.m. Willia Green, Anne Shaffer

## Lectors

- June 28:**  
10 a.m. Bob Sanker, Lester Freeman
- July 5:**  
10 a.m. Barbara Wright, John Heatherman

## 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](mailto:tchurch@stjosephcincinnati.org)

*Live Stream: Sunday Mass from our Website: [www.stjosephcincinnati.org](http://www.stjosephcincinnati.org) Every Sunday at 10 a.m. or watch the video at a later date.*

# Parish/Community News

## *Liturgy and Life*

Absorbed through baptism into Christ's death, we now share in his resurrection. A "newness" is what Jesus is asking for, a reorientation in what we have been taught to value. Nothing in our lives, now or to come, offers us the promise that Jesus des. Ask yourself, why am I Christian? Seen through the lens of my Christian identity, what things do I value that I shouldn't? Support a Catholic mission with prayer, time or a donation. If you have children, involve them in these efforts.

---

### *Father Tolton Presentation*

A formal presentation on Fr. Augustus Tolton's life will be held Monday, June 29, 7-8:30 p.m., at St. Andrew Church: 552 Main St., Milford. Guest speaker will be Most Rev. Joseph N. Perry, vice president for the sainthood cause for the Venerable Fr. Tolton.

---

### *Senior Luncheon and Bingo*

Mark your calendar: Sunday July 12, August 9 and September 13 immediately following mass. All are welcome to join our seniors during this time of fun, food and fellowship. Senior Luncheon and Bingo is scheduled for the second Sunday each month.

---

### *Peter's Pence Collection*

Today is the Peter's Pence Collection, a worldwide collection that supports the work of the Universal Church, including the work of the Holy See and the charitable works of Pope Leo XIV. Take this opportunity to join with Pope Leo XIV to be a sign of hope to our suffering brothers and sisters. Please be generous today. For more information, visit [www.usccb.org/peters-pence](http://www.usccb.org/peters-pence).

---

### *Donuts for Dads*

Thank you to the Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary Court 363 for honoring our men on Father's Day. The men enjoyed the sweet treat.

---

### *Pancake Cook-off Fund-raiser*

The men of the Knights of Peter Claver are looking for five contestants to compete, showcase their talents and battle for the Pancake Champion Trophy July 19, 2026. To register or for more information, please contact any Knight from the Knights of Peter Claver today.

**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](http://www.sacredheartradio.com).



### *Church staff*

Please call the parish office  
at 513-381-4526  
Fax number: 513-381-5244  
Email: [church@stjosephcincinnati.org](mailto: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](http://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  
 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

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

## Prayer List

Checks, Newton  
 Irby, Frances  
 Kinley Jr., Lawrence  
 Menefield Family  
 Reed, Margaret  
 Walker, Shelly  
 Reed, Sandy

## 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.catholicac.org/beacons-of-light-info-sessions.rg/Beacons-of-Lights](http://www.pathway.catholicac.org/beacons-of-light-info-sessions.rg/Beacons-of-Lights) Beacons of Light - Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

## Sunday Collection June 21, 2026

<i>Sunday Collection</i>	<b>\$3771.00</b>
<i>E-offering</i>	<b>\$1356.06</b>
<i>Sunday Saints</i>	<b>\$200.00</b>
<i>St. Vincent dePaul</i>	<b>\$210.00</b>
<i>Other</i>	<b>\$200.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5737.06</b>

## 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](http://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

**Ladies of Charity Treasure Mart:** On Saturday, July 18, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., the Cincinnati Chapter of Ladies of Charity will host its 45th annual Treasure Mart at St. Gertrude Parish Center, 6543 Miami Avenue, Madeira. All funds raised provide critical support to the neediest of our neighbors throughout the archdiocese. Buyers will find great bargains, just in time for back-to-school shopping!

**Become an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion:** Formation and training for new and veteran extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion will take place this spring. Some sessions will focus on ministry to the sick, hospitalized, and homebound, and all sessions will prepare you to serve as an EMHC. You can find more information and register at [www.catholicaoc.org/worship](http://www.catholicaoc.org/worship).

**Verso L'Alto Track Club:** Verso l'Alto Track Club is a seminarian led initiative, sponsored by the archdiocese Vocations Office, to build a competitive Catholic men's run club in the Greater Cincinnati area. Inspired by the life of St. Pier Giorgio Frassati, the club seeks to combine the pursuit of excellence in running and in faith. With over 30 members, the club meets for weekly run, competes in local races, and comes together periodically for intentional faith-based activities such as Mass, Adoration, or talks. For more information, go to <https://versolaltotc.wixsite.com/verso>.

**Verso L'Alto Summer XC Race Challenge:** On August 7, the Verso l'Alto Track Club and the archdiocese Vocations Office will be hosting the Verso l'Alto Summer XC Challenge, a two-mile race specifically featuring our Catholic high schools. The schedule will include High School Boys and Girls Races, as well as a Men's/Women's Open. Located at Corwin Nixon Park in Mason. Race website and registration can be found at: <https://runsignup.com/Race/OH/Mason/VersoLAltoSummerXCChallenge>. Contact David Admits at [atadamitisdavid@gmail.com](mailto:atadamitisdavid@gmail.com) for more details.

**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.

**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](mailto:mgable@catholicaoc.org). You can check out: <https://catholicvolunteernetwork.org/begin/>.

**Share Your Experience:** Have you ever cared for a loved one with chronic illness or disability? Do you wish someone would have shared with you all the things you had to learn the hard way from your experience? Bring hope to those in need by volunteering with our Caregiver Assistance Network programs. We offer a monthly new volunteer training for Peer Mentors and Support Group Facilitators. We also have our annual leader training for Powerful Tools for Caregivers scheduled June 11-12, 2026. For more information, please contact Angie Homocelle at 513-672-3834 or email [can@ccswoh.org](mailto:can@ccswoh.org).

**Positive Parenting Skills Program:** Join this 6-week parenting series offered through Catholic Charities Southwestern Ohio, which is designed to strengthen family relationships and reduce everyday challenges. Learn positive discipline, boost your child's confidence, manage stress, and gain practical tools you can use at home right away. Because confident parents raise confident kids! Zoom classes are held each Monday evening all year round (excluding holidays). Email Patsy Bolden at [pbolden@ccswoh.org](mailto:pbolden@ccswoh.org) for more information



## Join us in celebrating stories of hope. The tour is coming to Cincinnati!

Step inside the People of Hope Museum, a nationwide storytelling experience that brings to life more than 40 powerful video stories of neighbors helping neighbors through Catholic Charities agencies. The museum is an immersive, retrofitted tractor-trailer museum, free and open to the public. Bring a group, bring a friend!

**HOSTED BY:** Catholic Charities Southwestern Ohio

**DATES:** Thursday, July 16, 1:00–7:00 PM and Friday, July 17, 3:00–6:00 PM

**LOCATION:** Freedom Way in front of the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center