

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, July 26: Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time: 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12; Psalm 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-28, 129-130; Romans 8:28-30; Matthew 11:25; Matthew 13:44-52; Matthew 13:44-46

10 a.m. Mass St. Joseph Church

For: Tammie Robinson (AB)
By: Shirley Robinson

Monday, July 27: Monday of the 17th Week in Ordinary Time: Jeremiah 13:1-11; Deuteronomy 32:18-19, 20, 21; James 1:18; Matthew 13:31-35

Tuesday, July 28: Tuesday of the 17th Week in Ordinary Time: Jeremiah 14:17-22; Psalm 79:8, 9, 11 and 13; Matthew 13:36-43

Wednesday, July 29: Memorial of Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus: Jeremiah 15:10, 16-21; Psalm 59:2-3, 4, 10-11, 17, 18; John 8:12; John 11:19-27

Thursday, July 30: Thursday of the 17th Week in Ordinary Time: Jeremiah 18:1-6; Psalm 146:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6ab; Acts 16:14; Matthew 13:47-53

Friday, July 31: Memorial of Saint Ignatius of Loyola, Priest: Jeremiah 26:1-9; Psalm 69:5, 8-10, 14; 1 Peter 1:25; Matthew 13:54-58

Saturday, August 1: Memorial of Saint Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and Doctor of the Church: Jeremiah 26:11-16, 24; Psalm 69:15-16, 30-31, 33-34; Matthew 5:10; Matthew 14:1-12

Sunday, August 2: Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Isaiah 55:1-3; Psalm 145:8-9, 15-16, 17-18; Romans 8:35, 37-39; Matthew 4:4b; Matthew 14:13-21

10 a.m. Mass St. Joseph Church

For: Karen Roberson (AB)
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 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.

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time July 26, 2026

Finding happiness and deep joy

My Brothers and Sisters
in the Risen Lord,

How does a person attain not only happiness but a deep joy? Jesus offers, in today's Gospel, two parables to help. They are the "the treasure and the pearl of great price."

They ask us to consider the joy experienced when someone searches, or simply finds a treasure. Can you imagine digging a hole for a fence post and finding a pearl? Planting a garden and discovering a gem. Or opening a draw to see the sparkle of precious metal. This exhilarating feeling draws one to a new place.

The parable emphasize how overjoyed one is at the find. The focus of both parables on the individual's life is the discovery of the kingdom. It changes a person's life. The message Jesus preaches is that of grace in the reign of God.

If you had the opportunity to ask God for whatever you wanted, would you respond as Solomon did in our first reading from 1st Kings [3:5; 7-12] - "Give your servant an understanding heart..."

Today we celebrate the World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly. It was established by Pope Francis in 2021 and celebrated on the fourth Sunday of July.

The wisdom of the elderly - the care of grandparents through understanding hearts reflect the love of God in our time and place. Our Elders are indeed a gift to be cherished.

Each one of us is a builder of the Kingdom. The Catechism of the Catholic Church tells us that Jesus' invitation to the kingdom comes in the form of parables.

We are invited to the feast in the kingdom, but he also asks of us a radical choice - one must give everything. Words are not enough deeds are required. [#546]

What are you willing to do for God over your lifetime? This is not a one and done decision but something that evolves over a lifetime. Have a blest week!

Yours in Christ
Father Len

Sacraments of the Catholic Church

What is a sacrament?

Sacraments are outward signs of inward grace, instituted by Christ, for our sanctification.

According to the United States Council of Bishops their “visual reality is their outward expression, the form they take, and the way in which they are administered and received.

Alternately, their invisible reality goes far beyond the senses and these physical signs, so that individuals can receive the very life and holiness of God

The sacraments give us God’s help and grace and show Jesus’ presence in our lives.

Guided by the Holy Spirit, there are seven sacraments of the Church, organized into three categories: (1) Sacraments of Initiation that lay the foundation of Christian life – Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist; (2) Sacraments of Healing that celebrate the restorative power of Jesus – Reconciliation and the Anointing of the Sick; and (3) Sacraments of Service – Matrimony and Holy Orders.

As the Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches, Christ instituted these sacraments to sanctify and nourish those who receive them worthily as part of the saving work of Christ. God shares his holiness with us, so we can make the world a better and more reverent place.

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

Liturgical Ministries for July 26 and Aug. 2

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

July 26:

10 a.m.

Liz Berry, Ron Hitzler

August 2:

10 a.m.

Nate Powers, Howard Tribble

Announcers

July 26:

10 a.m.

Mike McCoy

August 2:

10 a.m.

Mike McCoy

Catechists

July 26:

10 a.m.

Lead Catechist: Peggy
Nachtrab

Eucharistic Ministers

July 26:

10 a.m.

Dave Stein, Mark Patel

August 2:

10 a.m.

Willia Green, Anne Shaffer

Lectors

July 26:

10 a.m.

Bill Jefferson, Bob Sanker

August 2:

10 a.m.

George Kinley, Mark Patel

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

What will you give up in exchange for the kingdom of God? That is the question that today's Gospel poses. To us, giving up everything seems very risky; only faith can enable us to take such a drastic step. But faith is not only the thing that gives us courage to do what is necessary to reach the kingdom; faith allows us to recognize the kingdom. Through discernment over time, faith hones our ability to distinguish dross from gold. Our faith helps us to see the pearl for what it is, and then do whatever it takes to make it ours. This week, pray for a greater ability to see God in the ordinary details of your life.

Sacramental Preparation

Are you or your child ready for Sacramental preparation?

We are taking registration for Baptism, First Holy Communion, Confirmation or Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA).

If so, please stop by the usher table and list your contact information on the registration list. We are also looking for teachers/assistance to lead and/or assist with the preparation classes.

Please consider giving your time to help further the Christian journey of others in our St. Joseph family.

The Romel Key Scholarship

The Knights of Peter Claver have started up a scholarship fund in the memory of Romel Key. The inaugural scholarship was awarded to Junior Knight Robert Green. He received a check for \$500 from the Knights of Peter Claver. An additional \$500 was awarded by Dr. Johnathan Rozier and John & Vanessa Rozier.

Robert is planning to attend the University of Cincinnati to study Nursing. Congratulations to Jr. Knight Robert Green.

Senior Luncheon and Bingo

Mark your calendar: August 9 and September 13 and October 11 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.

Pancake Cook-off winner

The Knights of Peter Claver would like to thank each person that attended and/or donated to the fundraiser. The contestant/cooks were Grand Knight Rob Harris and Knight Jerry Lanier. Knight Lanier is the 2026 Pancake Cook-Off Champion. Congratulations!

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. Jan Schmidt, Pastor*
- *Rev. Len Wenke, Pastoral Care*
- *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*

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
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 Beacons of Light - Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

Sunday Collection July 19, 2026

Sunday Collection	\$3677.00
E-offering	\$1376.00
Sunday Saints	\$200.00
St. Vincent dePaul	\$179.00
Other	\$1006.00
Total	\$6438.00

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

Nominate an Outstanding Caregiver for Recognition: Caregiver Masses honor all those who work or volunteer as a caregiver - family members and friends, nurses and physicians, dietary staff and lab workers, social workers and home health aides, those who volunteer at healthcare facilities, retirement communities and in parishes. People from all faiths are welcome at the Masses. You can nominate an individual for this year's Mass and reception here: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/q70NuT3gqf>, email nominations to can@ccswoh.org or call the Caregiver Assistance Network at 513-869-4483. All nominations are due by 9/25/26. The 22nd Annual Caregiver Mass is scheduled for November 22, 10 a.m., at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Peter in Chains.

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.

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 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. 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.

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 for more information



CINCINNATI FESTIVAL of FAITHS



9th Annual
Sunday, August 2, 2026 · 1 - 5 PM
Cintas Center · Xavier University
Compassion Through Action: Unity in Diversity

St. Joseph Free Produce Pantry Report

Update 2026	January	February	March	April	May	June	July
Total Families:	122	123	117	134		138 Not Rec'd	127
New families:	35	33	29	44		45 Not Rec'd	29
Total Individuals:	359	385	383	465	418	Not Rec'd	367
Large Families (5 or More):	28	32	32	40		33 Not Rec'd	26
Total Volunteers:	13	12	*23	13	14	Not Rec'd	12

*CCSWOH Board members included

The food is provided by Catholic Charities of Southwestern Ohio Food for All program with a small monetary donation by the St. Joseph Family.

THE SAINTLY SEVEN

Black Candidates for Sainthood



**Servant of God
Julia Greeley**

Sunday, August 23, 12:30-2:00pm
Lunch at 12:00pm
Lehman High School, Door 10
2400 St Marys Ave., Sidney, OH 45365

RSVP Here



or join the Zoom!





ARCHDIOCESE OF CINCINNATI
CATHOLIC SOCIAL
ACTION OFFICE

Contact Andrew Musgrave for more information
amusgrave@catholicaoc.org | (513) 263-6691

<https://zoom.us/j/91370876545>