

Mother of God Church

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www.mother-of-god.org • e-mail: motherofgod@mogcov.org



STAFF

Very Rev. Michael E. Comer V.F., Pastor

Cell: 859.816.3198 Email: mcomer@mogcov.org

Deacon Brian Cox

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Mary Ann Kelly, Pastoral Assistant

Email: mkelly@mogcov.org

Parish number: 859.291.2288

Ellen Habermehl, Secretary

Victor Canfield, Facilities Manager

Patricia Steinmetz, Business Office

Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday – 9:30 am-4:30 pm

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Sundays:

9:30 am – Traditional Music

11:30 am – Contemporary Ensemble

Cindy Duesing, Director

(ASL Interpreted)

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday – 12:05 pm

PARISH SCHOOL

Prince of Peace Catholic Montessori

625 Pike Street, Covington, KY – 859.431.5153

Please call the Parish Office (859.291.2288) to Register, to inform us of changes in your contact information, to let us know how our parish can serve you, or to inquire about volunteering in the parish.

SACRAMENTS

Baptism of Infants:

Contact
Ellen Habermehl
(M, TU, F)

Reconciliation:

Tuesday at 11:00 am
Saturday at 11:00 am
in Church

Marriages:

Contact Ellen Habermehl
at least 9 to 12 months prior
to the desired wedding date.

Anointing of the Sick:

Communion
and other home visits:
Contact Parish Office

Sacraments of Initiation:

For Adults:
Baptism, Confirmation,
and First Communion:
Contact Parish Office

For Children:
Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist,
and Confirmation:
Contact Parish Office

FEBRUARY 8, 2026
THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MOTHER OF GOD CHURCH

PURPOSE STATEMENT

We, the people of Mother of God Church, aspire to be instruments of the peace of Jesus Christ by:

- Worshipping God with joy and reverence
- Welcoming the stranger with love and compassion
- Serving those in need with humility and respect.

FROM THE PASTOR

YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

In the 8th chapter of the Gospel of Saint John, Jesus declares, "I am the light of the world." But in this week's Gospel, from The Sermon on the Mount, we hear Him proclaim, to the motley crew of disciples, "You are the light of the world." This is immediately after He has told His listeners, "You are the salt of the earth." These are very strange words to say to such a gathering.

When we think of church, we usually envision a group of well-groomed people in a beautiful building. That is not what we would have seen on that mountainside. Jesus' followers tended to be made up of former tax collectors, prostitutes, those who have been healed of leprosy, blindness, deafness, lameness, and other infirmities. They would have been what the Pharisees and Scribes and Roman officials would have considered the dregs of society. They would have been those who do not count in the eyes of those who truly matter, as the world sees things.

And yet, Jesus says that they do matter to God, and they do matter to the world, even though the world does not know it. These are the "Poor in Spirit" that we heard about last week, who will inherit The Kingdom of God. Pope John Paul II taught that God has made a preferential option for the poor. Psalm 34 tells us that "God hears the cry of the poor." And now He tells us that the poor are the salt of the earth and the light of the world. As Abraham Lincoln once said, "God must love the poor. He made so many of them."

In the poor, we see the face of Jesus Christ Himself. We are offered the opportunity to serve Him in them. What a blessing, what an honor that we are given. As we look into the eyes of the poor, however they present themselves, we encounter Jesus Himself. The poor remind us that we are all poor, no matter our material possessions, if we do not know Christ. The greatest poverty that we can know is to be without God in our lives.

REFLECTIONS ON SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Saint Francis of Assisi, the most beloved saint in the history of the Church, after the Blessed Mother, died 800 years ago. Because of that, Pope Leo has declared 2026 to be the Jubilee Year of Saint Francis. The Church will be focusing on Francis for the year, and I want to do the same.

Francis has been my favorite saint (after Mary) since I first entered into seminary. I was introduced to the story of Saint Francis through a book entitled, *Francis: The Journey and the Dream*, by Father Murray Bodo, a Franciscan Friar. Later, I saw the movie *Brother Sun, Sister Moon*. And I fell in love. Since then, I have read a number of books on Francis, and I have been privileged to visit Assisi a number of times. One of the highlights of my life was to say Mass on the tomb of Saint Francis.

On the Thursdays of Lent, I will be presenting a series of talks on Francis. The presentations will be at 10:30 am and 6:30 pm. Please note that on March 5, there will be no session, because of the DPAA dinner.

February 19	Overview of the Life of Saint Francis
February 26	The Call of Saint Francis
March 5	DPAA Dinner – No Session
March 12	Saint Francis – Apostle of Peace
March 19	Francis and the Song of Creation
March 26	Francis and the Cross

PREPARING FOR LENT

Lent is only a week-and-a-half away. Time to get ready.

The three spiritual practices of Lent are Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving. These are tools that help us grow in our relationship with Christ and should be part of our life throughout the year, but they take on special significance during Lent.

Prayer. A Christian who does not pray is like a body that does not breathe. He or she is spiritually dead. However much we pray now, we can always pray more. How will you incorporate more prayer into your life?

Fasting. We are called to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and all of the Fridays of Lent. We are called to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. This means that we are to eat only one full meal that day. What we eat the rest of the day should not add up to a full meal. Fasting also includes whatever other sacrifices we make (what we give up) during Lent.

Almsgiving. This includes our financial support of the poor, but also other acts of charity and kindness. Let us do more for others.

OUR LADY OF LOURDES

In 1858, the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared 18 times to Bernadette Soubirous in Lourdes, France. The apparitions took place at the grotto just outside of town. As always, Mary called all of us to deeper prayer and devotion to her Son, Jesus.

**PARISH NEWS**

Today, Sunday, Feb. 8. Coffee and donuts are available for you downstairs in the undercroft

**Today, Sunday, Feb. 8 – MOG St. Vincent de Paul
QUARTERLY COLLECTION**

Following each Mass today, volunteers or collection containers will be available at each church entrance. Envelopes are in the pews and **any checks should be made out to MOG SVDP**. We are grateful for your continued support that makes this outreach ministry to our neighbors possible.

We cordially invite you to attend one of our meetings on the 4th Monday of each month downstairs in the undercroft at 7:00 pm to see if this ministry would be something you might want to be a part of or just to learn more about SVDP opportunities.

Reminder for Next Sunday, Feb. 15**INTERNATIONAL MISSION NEEDS COLLECTION**

Next Sunday, Feb, 15, the International Mission Needs Collection will be conducted to help our suffering brothers and sisters throughout the world.

Your one gift is divided among five mission organizations: Catholic Relief Services, the Churches in Latin America, Central and Eastern Europe, Christians in the Holy Land, and the Pontifical Mission Aid Societies. This Collection makes it possible to send aid across the globe to those suffering from natural disasters, the violence of war, poverty, and unjust laws.

Your contribution to this Collection will continue to preserve and protect churches and Christians across the globe. *Please give with a joyful and sharing heart.*

CELEBRATE MARDI GRAS! SUNDAY, FEB. 15

Grab your beads and don your masks for our parish **Mardi Gras Party on Sunday, Feb. 15, immediately after 11:30 a.m. Mass.** Come enjoy festivity, fellowship, and a taste of New Orleans!

Freewill offerings will be welcome to cover the cost to the parish. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

We hope you will join us!

EXPANDING OUR HEARTS

You may recall that Mother of God Parish conducted a parish survey on discipleship called the Disciple Maker Index in Lent 2023. This Lent, we will be conducting the survey a second time, and we need to hear from you! As part of the diocesan With One Heart initiative, the survey will ask you to reflect on your own spiritual growth and on our parish's efforts to help you become the best disciple you can be. The information gathered will be used to measure the success of our current parish pastoral plan and to plan for the future, so we can become a more faith-filled, vibrant community. The greater the participation, the more reliable the information will be for effective decision-making. All parishioners 15 years and older are encouraged to participate.

The DMI will be accessible online from February 18 through March 23 and will take 10-15 minutes to complete (paper surveys will be available for those who need them). All responses will be confidential; the parish will receive only information about our community as a whole. Results will be shared with the parish in late spring/early summer.

In coming weeks, check the bulletin, the Connector email, the parish website, our new parish app and listen for pulpit announcements for more information, including how to access the survey online or complete a paper survey. Tell us what's on your heart! Take the *Disciple Maker Index* this Lent!

SUBSPLASH ONLINE GIVING PLATFORM

Mother of God now has Subsplash as its **Online Giving Platform**. The link to **Subsplash** giving is on the Mother of God website and in the new parish app. Download it for free from the Google or Apple Play Store by searching for "Mother of God Parish." It's easy to set up a one-time or recurring gift, linked to a credit card or bank account.

If you are currently giving a recurring gift online through FaithStreet, please log in and cancel it before setting up your Subsplash gift. For more information, go to "Giving" at <https://mother-of-god.org> or send an email to communications@mogcov.org.



Download Our New Parish App
Use the QR code to download the app.

**Come to Me,
all you who are weary and burdened,
and I will give you rest.**

Matthew 11:28



VIRTUS

A big Thank-You to all of the Mother of God Volunteers who stay current on their Virtus training bulletins. If you would like to volunteer and need to become VIRTUS-trained, please email Mary Ann Kelly.

If you have any questions regarding this process, call or email Mary Ann at any time. She can be reached by phone at 859-291-2288, ext. 16, or send an email to her at mkelly@mogcov.org.

AL-ANON has their Wednesday Noon Meetings at Mother of God Church. Enter through the courtyard and go down the steps to the undercroft of the church. Al-Anon has but one purpose: to help families and friends of alcoholics and addicted ones. Please come, for you are welcome.

Notice: If you are giving online or through a bank draft to our church and are still receiving budget envelopes, please let us know if you wish to cancel receiving budget envelopes.

Sunday Collection	February 1, 2026
Church Collection	\$ 9,548.00
Mailed In	\$ 2,101.00
Online Giving	\$ 1,289.22
Total Collection	\$ 12,938.22

Mother of God Memorial Trust Fund

In your kindness, please consider making bequests or financial donations to the Mother of God Memorial Trust Fund. These funds are used only for the preservation of the church.



Scan this QR Code
to view a video about the
Mother of God Church building!

welcome

Welcome to New Parishioners!

Avery Lang
Robert and Mary Luckhardt
Steve and Ellen Suetholz



DIOCESAN NEWS

Today, Sunday, Feb. 8 at 5:00 pm

Super Bowl Party – Mission Trip Fundraiser

St. Bernard Garvey Hall – 401 Berry Street, Dayton, KY

Join us for a Super Bowl Party to raise money for our **Mustard Seed mission trip to Jamaica**. At Halftime, we will present information about our upcoming mission to this home, which was recently devastated by Hurricane Melissa. ***We look forward to partying with you!***

All-You-Can-Eat Pancake and Sausage Breakfast!

Next Sunday, Feb. 15 from 8:30 am-Noon

Notre Dame Academy's Cafeteria

\$8.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children. Proceeds benefit the St. Julie Mission for the Sisters of Notre Dame and the ACUE schools for the Diocese of Covington.

Lenten Women's Retreat Come Back to me with All Your Heart Saturday, March 7, 8:30 am-3:00 pm

Blessed Sacrament Undercroft

2409 Dixie Hwy, Ft. Mitchell, KY..

Cost is \$45.00 before Feb. 23 and \$50.00 after Feb. 23.

Register – <https://www.rcohiovalley.org/events/womens-lenten-retreat-2026> **Questions?** Contact Robin Welch at rmwelch99@gmail.com. Please invite other women to join us! ***Sponsored by the Women of Regnum Christi.***

The 3rd Annual Kentucky March for Life will be held in **Frankfort, KY on Wednesday, March 11**. We are planning to have an adult / family bus that will leave from a location to be determined on Wednesday morning to arrive at Good Shepherd Parish in Frankfort for Mass at 9:30 am.

Following Mass, there will be a rally at the State Capitol, after which attendees will be invited to “march” to the Historic Frankfort Cemetery to the Memorial of the Unborn. For those unable to walk, a bus will be available to drop off attendees at the cemetery. Buses will be returning to the Northern Kentucky area by 4:30 pm. More information will soon be available.

34th Northern Kentucky St. Patrick's Day Mass

Thursday, March 12, 7:00 pm

Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption, Covington, KY

After the Mass, all are invited to gather at Molly Malone's, Fourth & Court in Covington.

Free In-person Adult Catholic Faith Formation Workshops, June 8-11 Thomas More University's

Administration Building, library classrooms

63 Workshops to choose from! Something for everyone!

All workshops are broken into two parts and scheduled for two consecutive days, 1.5 hours per day. Instructors will provide topical information, video content, and open discussion time. Create a free account under your parish or school to access these and 200+ additional workshops at <https://franciscanathome.com>.

Workshops are open to everyone who wants to learn more about their Catholic faith. **To Register:**

Visit <https://covidio.org/register> or contact Isaak A. Isaak at 859-392-1529 or iisaak@covidio.org.

To help you prepare for next Sunday's Mass

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sirach 15:15-20 Psalm 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34

Responsorial Psalm:

Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!

1 Corinthians 2:6-10 Matthew 5:17-37

Reminder – On Tuesday, Feb. 10, due to the Priests Study Day, there will be a Communion Service instead of Mass.

Eucharistic Adoration and Confession will not be available that day.

Mass Intentions

Feb. 8	9:30 am	Richard Sacksteder
	11:30 am	Parishioners and Benefactors
Feb. 9	12:05 pm	Lenna Elder
Feb. 10	12:05 pm	Communion Service
Feb. 11		No Mass
Feb. 12	12:05 pm	Tom Heidrich
Feb. 13	12:05 pm	Bob Cetrulo
Feb. 14	12:05 pm	Frank and Helen Wilbers
Feb. 15	9:30 am	Parishioners and Benefactors
	11:30 am	Greg Hunkemoeller



Message of Condolence

We offer our deepest sympathy to the Family and Friends of Thomas F. Schneider. You will be held in our prayers. May Tom rest in peace.

Remember in Prayer

Hannah Donoghue ♦ Lois Knochelmann ♦ Chris Haddix ♦ Frank Sutthoff ♦ David Verkamp ♦ Kenneth Schuler ♦ Nancy Correll ♦ Debbie Prior ♦ Lauri Boggs ♦ Joe Legner ♦ Faye Gosney ♦ Rita & Ron Hopper ♦ Kathleen Stevens Cox ♦ Freda Legner ♦ Jan Stahlheber ♦ Joan Miley ♦ Rob Feldman ♦ Gerri Losey ♦ Pat Landrum ♦ Bruce Hummel ♦ D.B. ♦ Amy Stiens ♦ Mary Estelle Roesel ♦ Amy Bates ♦ Joan and Kelse Murphy ♦ Eileen Concannon ♦ Greg Scanlon ♦ Keith Bosshart ♦ Frank Hlebak ♦ Joy Rolfsen ♦ Greg ♦ Mary Beth Ryan ♦ Charles Kania ♦ Justin Reeves ♦ Mary Ann Grimm ♦ Jack Hicks ♦ Ben Wolff ♦ Mickey Penman ♦ Marine Sgt. Edward M. Burke ♦ G.S. ♦ Ruthie ♦ Greg Dahlenberg ♦ Jennifer T. ♦ Anna F. ♦ Hannah Harris ♦ Renee Seward ♦ Meg Anne O'Brien ♦ The Barrett Family ♦ Debbie Klein ♦ Plymesser Family ♦ Mary Lou Wilson ♦ Katie Tignor ♦ Oliver Derrick ♦ Meg H. ♦ Steve Oberjohn ♦ NR ♦ John Kalker ♦ Charlotte McDermott ♦ Mary Kohorst ♦ Anne Halpin ♦ Mary Kelley ♦ Jerry Turner ♦ Cliff Wagner ♦ Cindy Losey ♦ John Phillip Pugh ♦ Connie Braedon ♦ Teresa Bowman ♦ Jenny Vellon ♦ Jim Skridulis ♦ Beverly Henn ♦ Susan Byrley ♦ Jean Byrley ♦ Bill Hambley ♦ Kathy Thamann ♦ Ben and Natalie Thamann ♦ Suzy Sneary ♦ David Wise ♦ Nikki ♦ Jamie ♦ Joyce Hamberg ♦ Staci Earls ♦ Peggy Bess Kratz ♦ Linda Wesley ♦ Jessica ♦ Damien Herold ♦ Melissa ♦ Karen Jansen ♦ Dorothy Willett ♦ Zadah Edmonds ♦ Bertha Neltner ♦ Karn Fields ♦ Caroline Olberding ♦ Rick Bronner ♦ Susan ♦ Caroline Raymond ♦ Jill Bland ♦ Janet Hatter ♦ Olivia Hollihan ♦ Mary Beth Lynch ♦ Theresa Lynch ♦ Trudy ♦ K. T. ♦ Karen ♦ Fred B. ♦ John K. ♦ Jeanne Bitter ♦ Tabitha Frye Family ♦ Greg Benning ♦ Edward Weeden ♦ Elizabeth King ♦ S. M. ♦ Linda ♦ Julia White ♦ Joan Hunkemoeller Racke ♦ Fred ♦ Jon Hickman ♦ Mark Amabile

To add or remove a name on this list, please contact the parish office.


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