

Mother of God Church

119 West 6th Street, Covington, KY 41011 • Phone: 859.291.2288 • FAX 859.291.2065
www.mother-of-god.org • Email: motherofgod@mogcov.org



STAFF

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

Cell: 859.816.3198 Email: mcomer@mogcov.org

Deacon Brian Cox

Cell: 859.663.1822 Email: bcox@mogcov.org

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

MARCH 22, 2026
THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

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

WELCOME, HANNAH!!!

This Sunday, March 22, the Fifth Sunday of Lent, will be a very special day here at Mother of God. Hannah Harris, wife of Jay Harris, will officially become a member of the Catholic Church. She has already been a member of Mother of God for many years but has decided that she now wants to become Catholic.

Hannah was baptized in the Lutheran Church. She has considered becoming Catholic for a very long time but has finally decided that she is ready to join the Catholic Church. Chances are that many of you presumed that she was Catholic already.

PARISH FEAST DAY – THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

On Wednesday of this week, March 25, we celebrate the Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord, when the Angel Gabriel appeared to Mary and announced that she was to be the mother of the Savior of the World. That day is also the parish feast day of Mother of God Church. The full title of our parish is “The Annunciation of the Ever Virgin Mary, the Mother of God.”

PREPARING FOR HOLY WEEK

Next Sunday, March 29, begins the most sacred time in the Church’s year – Holy Week. The following is the schedule for those days.

Sunday, March 29	<u>Passion/Palm Sunday</u> 9:30 am Mass and 11:30 am Mass
Tuesday, March 31	<u>Chrism Mass (at the Cathedral)</u> 7:00 pm Mass
Thursday, April 2	<u>Holy Thursday</u> 5:30 pm Dinner in undercroft 7:30 pm Mass of the Lord’s Supper
Friday, April 3	<u>Good Friday</u> 12:00 pm The Passion of the Lord Followed by Stations of the Cross
Saturday, April 4	<u>Holy Saturday</u> 8:30 pm The Easter Vigil
Sunday, April 5	<u>Easter Sunday</u> 9:30 am Mass and 11:30 am Mass

THE RAISING OF LAZARUS

A few weeks before Jesus’ Passion, Death and Resurrection, He was called to the tiny village of Bethany, to the home of Martha, Mary and Lazarus. Martha and Mary had sent a desperate message to Jesus that His dear friend, their brother Lazarus, was gravely ill. Jesus waited for two days before setting off to their home. When He arrived, He was met by Martha who told Him that her brother was dead. She also said, in an almost accusatory tone, “If you had been here my brother would not have died.” Mary comes out to Jesus and speaks almost exactly the same words. “If you had been here my brother would not have died.” In other words, why weren’t you here.

Many of us have asked similar questions of Christ: Were you here when we were going through this terrible suffering? Why did you allow this tragic situation to happen? Where is God when we are going through tough times?

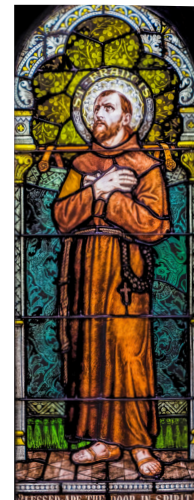
Jesus assures both Martha and Mary, and us, that He does care about our struggles, and that He is “the Resurrection and the Life.” He is the victory over suffering, sin and death. Saint Paul, after listing many of the struggles that we face, wrote that “we are more than conquerors through Him who loves us.” By raising Lazarus from the dead, He demonstrated that power.

Many years ago, I learned a saying that I have leaned on when in situations that seem overwhelming. I invite you to make it your own. “There is nothing that will happen to me today, or tomorrow, or any other day of my life, up to and including the day of my death, that God and I cannot handle together.”

ICON OF SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI

You may remember that we had two relics in one of the display cases in the parish hall. Someone recently asked me whose relics we had, and I had forgotten. We got them out and discovered that one of them is of Saint Francis of Assisi. The verification papers were also found, and we discovered that it is a first-class relic. A first-class relic is a piece of the saint. A second-class relic is something that the saint wore or owned or handled. A third-class relic is something that has been touched to a second-class relic. Our relic is a tiny piece of bone from Saint Francis, that, after 800 years since he died, has deteriorated to just dust. But it is still Francis. How it came to us, and what kind of journey it has been on since Francis died, we have no idea. I will put it on the altar this weekend.

The other relic is of Saint Arnold, a German who is the patron saint of brewers. More on him later.



SAINT OSCAR ROMERO

Oscar Romero was a priest, and then, a bishop, in El Salvador, during the time of the military death squads in that country. The oppression of the poor, and those who opposed the military regime, was severe, including the murder of many thousands. As a bishop, Romero stood up to the regime and fought for the rights of the poor. He became such a thorn in the side of the regime, that they had him killed. He was murdered on March 24, 1980, as he was saying Mass. On October 14, 2018, Bishop Romero was canonized as Saint Oscar Romero, by Pope Francis.

One of the most famous of Romero's sayings was, "When I fed the poor, they called me a saint. When I asked why the poor were poor, they called me a Communist." The Feast of Saint Oscar Romero is this Tuesday, March 24.



Coffee and donuts are available for you today downstairs in the undercroft after both Masses.

DIOCESAN PARISH ANNUAL APPEAL 2026

TODAY IS COMMITMENT SUNDAY

This weekend, every parish in our Diocese celebrates Commitment Weekend for the 2026 Diocesan Parish Annual Appeal. Your generous gifts support vital ministries that serve thousands by sheltering the homeless, feeding the hungry, counseling those in crisis, educating children, and caring for retired priests.

Please prayerfully consider supporting the DPAA as we complete our pledge forms today.

God bless you for your generosity!

LIVE AS CHILDREN OF LIGHT

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 Campus Ministry • Hispanic Ministry • Thomas More University
 Evangelization • Clergy Formation • Tuition Assistance
 Priest Retirement, Nursing & Health Care Coverage

2026 DIOCESAN PARISH ANNUAL APPEAL

TO SUPPORT: [COVDIO.ORG/GIVE](https://www.covdio.org/give)

HOLY THURSDAY SUPPER – APRIL 2, 5:30 PM

We invite you to share a simple meal as a parish community on Thursday, April 2, prior to the Holy Thursday Liturgy. We will gather for dinner downstairs in the undercroft at 5:30 pm. Mass will follow at 7:30 pm.

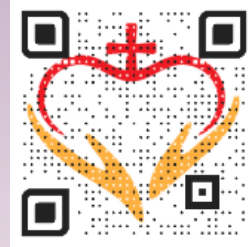
There will be no charge for the meal; however, freewill offerings will be most appreciated. Please be generous if you can.

ONLY ONE MORE DAY TO TELL US WHAT'S ON YOUR HEART! The Disciple Maker Index survey is live and will only be open until tomorrow, Monday, March 23.

Complete the survey **online** at <https://survey.catholicleaders.org/d/ppg3bp>.

Or Scan this QR Code.

Select our parish name from the list.



If you prefer a **paper copy** instead, they will be available for you at the New Parishioner Table near the Baptistry; or contact Mary Ann Kelly at 859-291-2288 at the parish office.

LIFE IS COLORFUL WITH JESUS!

Have you ever wondered why jellybeans are so many colors? Starting next Sunday, March 29, you can pick up a kit in the back of church to learn why. It will contain a prayer, materials to make a cross and a small coloring book that will help you and your child have fun while learning their significance.

Reminder for Next Sunday – Palm Sunday

Since next Sunday, March 29, is Palm Sunday, Father Comer will not make announcements at the end of Mass. We will exit after Mass in silence. Just stop by as you leave to pick up a kit and quietly exit the church.

Father Comer's Talks Series concludes this week.

Reflections on St. Francis of Assisi

Thursday, March 26, 10:30 am and 6:30 pm.

Topic: Francis and the Cross

Reminder – Good Friday Holy Land Collection

At the Good Friday Service on April 3, when you contribute to the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, you join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land. For more information about Christians in the Holy Land, visit www.myfranciscan.org or www.custodia.org.



DONATIONS FOR EASTER FLOWERS

Contribution envelopes are available in the pews if you wish to make a donation for flowers for our Easter liturgies in memory or honor of a loved one.

Thank you for your generosity!



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.

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!

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	March 15, 2026
Church Collection	\$ 8,166.00
Mailed In	\$ 2,525.00
Online Giving	\$ 1,464.50
Total Collection	\$12,155.50

One-time Donation \$3,000.00

Subsplash Online Giving

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.

MOTHER OF GOD SENIOR SOCIAL GROUP

The Senior Group has decided to share established overnight and day trips that have already been organized. On the bulletin board at the bottom of the steps leading to the undercroft is the **Golden Age Travel Schedule for 2026**. It includes overnight and day trips.

If there are no notices left on the board, please notify Carol Fausz at 859-409-3730 and she will get a copy to you.



DIOCESAN NEWS

FISH FRY at Our Savior Church
246 East Tenth Street, Covington
Friday, March 27, Noon to 6:00 pm
Invite a friend to join you!

Annual Lenten Pilgrimage – Walk! Pray! Adore
Saturday, March 28 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Begin at any time and start your journey at any one of these churches: **The Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption, St. Benedict, St. Augustine, St. John the Evangelist and here at Mother of God!**

For more details,
visit <https://www.covdio.org/lenten-pilgrimage>

CHRISM MASS – Tuesday, March 31, 7:00 pm
Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption

The Most Reverend John C. Iffert, Bishop of Covington, invites *all* the faithful of the diocese: priests, deacons, consecrated religious, and laity, to join him for the Chrism Mass on Tuesday, March 31, at 7:00 pm, at the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption.

The Sacrament of Penance will be available prior to Holy Mass beginning at 6:00 pm.

RELIEF IN ACTION – KENTUCKY REFUGEE MINISTRIES

Across from our west parking lot in the alley is Kentucky Refugee Ministries. This is the agency that helps to resettle refugees. Refugee resettlement funds were discontinued in January of 2025 and funds for existing Centers were cut. Our NKY Center serves over 800 of these refugees. On **Saturday, April 11, at the Carnegie**, 1028 Scott Street, Covington, a **fundraiser, Relief in Action**, will be held to help continue this ministry.

- **The Market** opens at 5:30 pm with a community raffle featuring unique items, a curated vendor market highlighting vendors of diverse backgrounds and an ethnic food truck in the parking lot.
- **The Showcase of Performances** begins at 7:30 pm and will include performances by Kentucky Refugee Ministries clients and other artists that show the diversity of our region.

Your presence reinforces to our refugee and immigrant clients how much our NKY community supports and cares for them. Several of our Mother of God parishioners are already volunteers with Kentucky Refugee Ministries, and you are welcome to join. If you are interested, email Mini Masih at MMasis@kyrm.org.

Lord, Lord, Open Unto Me

Open unto me, light for my darkness.
 Open unto me, courage for my fear.
 Open unto me, hope for my despair.
 Open unto me, peace for my turmoil.
 Open unto me, joy for my sorrow.
 Open unto me, strength for my weakness.
 Open unto me, wisdom for my confusion.
 Open unto me, forgiveness for my sins.
 Open unto me, tenderness for my toughness.
 Open unto me, love for my hates,
 Open unto me, Thy Self for myself,
 Lord, Lord, open unto me. Amen.

To help you prepare for next Sunday's Mass

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

Procession with Palms Gospel – Matthew 21:1-11
 Isaiah 50:4-7 Psalm 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24

Responsorial Psalm:

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?
 Philippians 2:6-11 Matthew 26:14 – 27:66



STATIONS OF THE CROSS / Fridays of Lent

Please join Deacon Brian Cox, who will lead the Stations of the Cross after the 12:05 pm daily Mass on the Fridays of Lent.



Mass Intentions

Mar. 22	9:30 am	Parishioners and Benefactors
	11:30 am	Maury Price
Mar. 23	12:05 pm	Connie and Heidi Wiehoff
Mar. 24	12:05 pm	Ebbitt Family
Mar. 25		No Mass
Mar. 26	12:05 pm	Recorded Memorials
Mar. 27	12:05 pm	Schuerman, Baker, Neltner Families
Mar. 28	12:05 pm	Krista Wilmink
Mar. 29	9:30 am	Cecelia Lux
	11:30 am	Parishioners and Benefactors



Please join us on Tuesdays, 11:00-11:45 am for **Eucharistic Adoration**. The **Sacrament of Reconciliation** is also available at this time.

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 ♦ Freda Legner ♦ Kathleen Stevens Cox ♦ 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 ♦ Karn Fields ♦ Caroline Olberding ♦ Rick Bronner ♦ Susan ♦ Caroline Raymond ♦ Jill Bland ♦ 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 ♦ White Family ♦ Joan Hunkemoeller Racke ♦ Fred ♦ Jon Hickman ♦ Mark Amabile ♦ Jim Kiger ♦ Janice Northcutt ♦ Joe Weidenbach, Jr. ♦ Mary and Lou Lococo ♦ Dolores Donovan ♦ Amber and Michael Neuroth ♦ Mary Ruth

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



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