

Mother of God Church

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



STAFF

Rev. Michael E. Comer, 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

AUGUST 2, 2026
EIGHTEENTH 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

THE LOAVES AND FISHES

There are two accounts of the Miracle of the Loaves and Fishes. The one that we hear today, the "Feeding of the 5,000" is the only miracle included in all four Gospels. The other version is only found in Matthew 15.

In today's version, the Apostles recognize that they have a crisis on their hands. The crowd has been with them all day, and as evening approaches they recognize the need of food to provide for the crowd. They have only five loaves of bread and two fish, which is presumably their own food. Jesus tells them to distribute the food to the people, and somehow, miraculously, they are able to do so.

We have all gone through times that we could not imagine how we will get through. What do we do when we aren't sure what to do?

There is a quote that many saints have used that is informative here. "Work as if everything depends upon you and pray as if everything depends on God." Trusting in God to provide does not give us an excuse to not do our part. Life will always be difficult. Life will always be too much for us. But that is okay. Because nothing is too much for God - even feeding five thousand (not counting women and children) with two fish and five loaves of bread.

WHAT WILL SEPARATE US?

Saint Paul asks an important question. What will separate us from the love of God? He then lists all kinds of problems and hardships that we may face, but these cannot separate us from the love of God. God will love us no matter what. He will always be on our side.

The only reality that can separate us from God is us. He will never stop loving us, but we can reject His love, not see or acknowledge His love, and not believe in His love. Though we may be very, very loved, that love will seem very far away from us.

Through prayer we daily remind ourselves of His love, so that when the crisis comes, we know that He is there.

BECOMING CATHOLIC

Our Catholic Convert Classes (known as the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults, or OCIA) will begin on Tuesday, August 25, at 6:30 pm in the Undercroft. If you are interested, then you are invited. If possible, we would love to speak with you before the class begins to discern what we can do for you, and if there are any special needs that we can help you with.

Call me at 859-816-3198 or Mary Ann Kelly at the Parish Office at 859-291-2288.

SERMONS ON THE MASS

A number of people have asked me to do a series of Sunday sermons on the Mass. I have decided to do so, beginning on August 23. I will continue to do this for the following eight Sundays, excluding those on the third Sunday of the month, as that is when I go to Our Savior Church for Mass.

If you have particular questions about the Mass that you want me to address, email them to me at mcomer@mogcov.org, and I will try to help out.

ANNIVERSARY OF HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI

Thursday of this week, August 6, and next Sunday, August 9, are the anniversaries of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Let us pray that God will lead the world to embrace the love and peace of Jesus and bring all war to an end.

SAINT JOHN VIANNEY



On Tuesday, August 4, we celebrate the Feast of Saint John Vianney. He is known as the Curé of Ars. (Curé was the French name for a priest, translated into English as Curate.) He died in 1859, known for his compassion in the Confessional, as well as his powerful preaching. John Vianney is the patron saint of parish priests.

DEDICATION OF THE BASILICA OF SAINT MARY



There are four major basilicas in Rome. These are Saint Peter's Basilica, Saint John Lateran Basilica, the Basilica of Saint Paul Outside the Walls, and the Basilica of Saint Mary Major. The Feast of the Dedication of the Basilica of Saint Mary Major is Wednesday, August 5.

In 431 AD the Council of Ephesus declared Mary to be the Theotokos, the God Bearer, or the Mother of God, emphasizing that her child was both divine and human. Pope Sixtus then built and consecrated the first, and still the largest, church dedicated to the Blessed Mother. It is the most elaborate and beautiful of the four basilicas. Pope Francis had a particular love of that Church, and whenever he returned to Rome in his travels he went directly from the airport to Saint Mary Major to pray.

TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

This Thursday is the Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord, recalling the moment on Mount Tabor, when Jesus took Peter, and James, and John, and was transfigured before them in His Resurrected Glory, though He had not yet been crucified. With Him were Moses the Lawgiver, and Elijah the Prophet, to emphasize that the Law and the Prophets both testified to Him. Finally, the voice of God the Father proclaimed: "This is my beloved Son. Listen to Him."



PARISH NEWS

Today, Sunday, Aug. 2

Coffee and donuts are available after both Masses downstairs in the Undercroft.

10:30-11:30 am FREE TRADE EQUAL EXCHANGE COFFEE, TEA, AND CHOCOLATE PRODUCTS will be available for sale downstairs in the Undercroft.

Next Sunday, Aug. 9 Due to the Parish Picnic, coffee and donuts will **Not** be available after both Masses.

Next Sunday, Aug. 9 MOG ST. VINCENT DE PAUL QUARTERLY COLLECTION

"Love is not patronizing and charity isn't about pity, it is about love. Charity and love are the same - with charity you give love." St. Teresa of Calcutta

Next Sunday, Aug. 9, following each Mass, MOG Vincentians will be taking up our quarterly collection to bring charity and love to our neighbors in need.

When we make our home visits we help with food, clothing, furniture, rent, utilities, transportation and needs that may be specific to each neighbor. We visit with the generosity and love from this MOG faith family.

Envelopes are available in the pews and boxes at the Church entrances. **Any checks should be made to MOG SVDP.** We also have a QR code on each collection bucket if that is convenient for you.

We thank you for your continued generosity, and we let the neighbors that we visit know that it is your love and generosity that makes this help possible.

SURVIVORS OF SUICIDE LOSS SUPPORT GROUP

The Survivors of Suicide Loss Support Group here at Mother of God is for family members and friends of persons who have ended their own lives. Group meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month in the **St. Aloysius Conference Room at the Parish Office.**

Next meeting – Wednesday, Aug. 5, 6:30-8:00 pm.

For additional information,
please contact Jeff Duell at 859-801-8213.

MOG Catholic Social Teachings in Action Committee

THE WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

Matthew 18:5 "Whoever welcomes one such child in My name welcomes Me." World Day of Migrants goes back as far as 1914. Pope Pius X called on all Christians to pray for migrants as millions of Italians had migrated abroad. This year, Pope Leo XIV has chosen the theme, **"Even just one of these children"** for the 112th Edition of The World Day of Migrants and Refugees. It focuses on the need for pastoral care for minors on the move because new challenges seriously threaten the rights and dignity of the youngest among us.

Our Diocesan Prayer Service for the World Day of Migrants and Refugees will be hosted by Mother of God Church on Sunday, Sept. 27, at 2:00 pm. More information will follow in future bulletins.

All parishioners and friends are invited to participate in the Prayer Service.

KENTUCKY REFUGEE MINISTRIES COLLECTION FOR "BACK TO SCHOOL"

This ministry for refugees, here legally, will be collecting back-to-school hygiene products for the children until Aug. 10. **There is a box in the back of church to collect the following items:** shampoo, conditioner, body wash, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, hairbrushes, combs, culturally appropriate toiletries and laundry detergent. They are also collecting gently used or new children's clothing and shoes for K through grade 12 families. **Donations can also be dropped off at any date at the KRM Office, 632 Russell Street, Covington, between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm on weekdays.**

KRM is located in the alley directly behind the West parking lot of Mother of God Church.



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

OUR NEW OCIA SEASON WILL SOON BEGIN!

We will meet for an inform first session on Tuesday, Aug. 25, at 6:30 pm. After this introductory session, we will meet every Tuesday night through mid-April of 2027 in the church Undercroft from 6:30 to 8:00 pm.

We are preparing for this season and are eager to meet everyone who will be participating. If you are interested in joining OCIA this year, please stop by the OCIA table in the back of church so that we can meet you and get your contact information.

You can invite anyone to come with you who is seeking to learn more about the Catholic Church, with no pressure to commit. We are here for you wherever you are in your journey.

Even if you are currently Catholic but have a desire to learn more about our faith and life in the Church, you are welcome to join us!

For more information or any questions,

Call Father Mike Comer at 859-816-3198, or

Call / Email Mary Ann Kelly at the Parish Office at

859-291-2288 / mkelly@mogcov.org.

BIG PHOTO CONTEST UPDATE – WOW!**10 PRIZES WORTH OVER \$100**

This year, we have over **40 prizes** which will be awarded to our **Photo Contest Winners** – practically everyone who enters will be a winner!!!

Yes, we have 10 Prizes worth \$100.00 or more! Add to that all our \$50.00 and \$25.00 prizes, and we have a treasure trove of excitement lined up for our winners!

You've still got One week left to work on your entries! Entry Forms are available in the **Bulletin** this week and last, in our weekly email **Connector** newsletter, on our MOG website under **Upcoming Events**, and in the **back and front of church**.

When your Entries are complete, just drop them in the tote in the back of church by the Pieta Statue.

So, let's get to work and everybody can be a winner too!



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

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	July 26, 2026
Church Collection	\$ 7,059.00
Mailed In	\$ 2,085.00
Online Giving	\$ 2,830.42
Total Collection	\$11,974.42

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.

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.

**DIOCESAN NEWS****Free backpacks in Covington –****BACKPACKS BONANZA**

Next Saturday, Aug. 8, 9:00 am-Noon

St. Elizabeth Healthcare in Covington

Free backpacks will be given away at the Backpacks Bonanza at St. Elizabeth Healthcare in Covington from 9:00 am to Noon on Saturday, Aug. 8, to Northern Kentucky students in preschool through the 12th grade, including home schoolers.

Parents/guardians should bring photo IDs for themselves, a recent piece of mail or lease with their current address, and Social Security or medical cards for their kids. If you know of families who could benefit from this event, please share this ad with them.

For more details, email paulgottbrath@gmail.com.

CASSBA 2026

Sunday, Aug. 23, 3:00-7:00 pm

The Drees Pavilion, Covington, KY

CASSBA is coming! Join us for an unforgettable afternoon celebrating America at 250 and Catholic Charities at 95 years of Love and Action.

Tickets and raffles are available now at www.cassba.com.

Thank you!



Mother of God
Catholic Church

PICNIC

2026 Annual Summer Picnic Please Join Us!

Come enjoy the fun, food and friendship...

WHEN: Sunday, August 9, 4:00 – 7:00 PM

**WHERE: Pioneer Park
3952 Madison Pike, Covington, KY 41017**

FOOD: Fried Chicken, Beverages (soft drinks and water) provided

BRING: You & Family

**Side Dish of Choice
(Appetizer, Salad, Vegetable, or Dessert)**

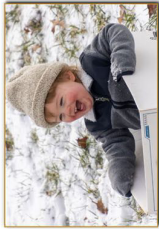
Chairs recommended

Other beverages – BYOB

**To Volunteer Or for more INFO:
Call or Text Andrea at
859-750-7000**

And Please Enter the PHOTO CONTEST





Mother of God Church Picnic

Pioneer Park 3952 Madison Pike, Covington, KY 41017

15th Annual Photo Contest

Join the FUN

Theme: Treasures
In Our Lives!

MORE PRIZES

Deadline to
enter is
August 9, 2026

Drop-off photographs with contact
information on back of mounted prints
during any Sunday Mass
now through August 9



Last Year We Had Over \$1000 in Prizes!!!

Here's a Partial Listing of Anticipated Prizes so far!
Silverlake Family \$249; Gliers Goetta \$200; Performance Lexus of
NKY \$250; Cincinnati Zoo \$128; .Skyline Chili \$100; Riverfront
Pizza \$50; Anchor Grill \$50; Braxton Brewing \$100

Rules and Guidelines

- All entries submitted must be 5x7 print or larger up to 11x14 and mounted on **11x14** mount board. Mat boards, hard cardboard are required to properly display images. Photographer's name, age and print title should appear on back of mount board.
- Limit 6 entries per person.
- Permission granted for Mother of God to display copies of photographs on website, blog, and facebook page.
- All entries will be on display at the Mother of God Annual Church Picnic on August 9, 2026 at Pioneer Park - 3952 Madison Pike, Covington, KY 41017
- 1st, 2nd & 3rd place prizes will be awarded in the following age categories: 1. *Adults 16 and older* 2. Children 15 and under Participants need not be present to win.
- Photographs will be judged on impact, creativity, print presentation, center of interest, story telling, subject matter, technique and style.
- Drop-off prints during any Sunday Mass now thru the end of 11:30 Mass on August 9, 2026.
- Prints will be displayed in the undercroft & will be available for pick-up after Mass on August 30, 2026.
- For further information contact:
David Ziser at 859.250.8855 david@ziser.com
LaDawn Ziser at 859.250.8833 ladawn@ziser.com

Name: _____ Age: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Print Title: _____

Cut and attach contact information to each print

PRAYER FOR THE POOR

God of Justice, open our eyes to see You in the face of the poor. Open our ears to hear You in the cries of the exploited. Open our mouths to defend You in the public squares as well as in private deeds. Remind us that what we do to the least ones, we do to You. *Amen.*

To help you prepare for next Sunday's Mass

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kings 19:9a, 11-13a Psalm 85:9, 10, 11-12, 13-14

Responsorial Psalm:

**Lord, let us see your kindness,
and grant us your salvation.**
Romans 9:1-5 Matthew 14:22-33



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

Mass Intentions

Aug. 2	9:30 am	Parishioners and Benefactors
	11:30 am	Mary Silva
Aug. 3	12:05 pm	Goebel Family
Aug. 4	12:05 pm	Katie and Camden Ebbitt
Aug. 5		No Mass
Aug. 6	12:05 pm	Cathleen Gilday
Aug. 7	12:05 pm	Memorial Mass for Lawrence Mersch
Aug. 8	12:05 pm	Richard Kallmeyer
Aug. 9	9:30 am	Andrew and Mildred Lonneman
	11:30 am	Parishioners and Benefactors

Messages of Condolence

We offer our sincere sympathy to the Family and Friends of Lawrence Mersch. You will be remembered in our prayers. May Lawrence rest in peace.



Remember in Prayer List

Most of the names from our *Remember in Prayer* list have been moved to our Parish Book of Intentions. We will keep our parishioners on the prayer list as we are more familiar with their needs.

If you wish to keep a non-parishioner on the Remember in Prayer list, add someone new, or remove someone from the list, call or email our parish secretary, Ellen Habermehl, at the Parish Office. She will gladly help you. Keep praying! Call 859-291-2288 or email motherofgod@mogcov.org.

Remember in Prayer

Frank Sutthoff ♦ Kenneth Schuler ♦ Joe Legner ♦ Freda Legner ♦ Gerri Losey ♦ Pat Landrum ♦ Bruce Hummel ♦ D.B. ♦ Amy Stiens ♦ Mary Estelle Roesel ♦ Greg Scanlon ♦ Joy Rolfsen ♦ Mary Beth Ryan ♦ Mary Ann Grimm ♦ Jack Hicks ♦ Ben Wolff ♦ Greg Dahlenberg ♦ Hannah Harris ♦ Plymesser Family ♦ Mary Lou Wilson ♦ Steve Oberjohn ♦ Cliff Wagner ♦ Cindy Losey ♦ Jenny Vellon ♦ Jim Skridulis ♦ Jeanne Bitter ♦ Edward Weeden ♦ Greg Benning ♦ Joan Hunkemoeller Racke ♦ Jim Kiger ♦ Dolores Donovan ♦ Michelle Berning ♦ Chip Ritter ♦ Brad Lark ♦ Peter G. ♦ N.R. ♦ G.S. ♦ Mrs. Ralph Stephenson ♦ Braylon Thornberry ♦ Joan Miley ♦ Micky Penman ♦ Hannah Donoghue ♦ Dorothy Shroat ♦ Michael Wolfe ♦ Mickey Penman

To add or remove a name on this list, please contact the Parish Office.



Monday-Friday: 8 am-6 pm
No appointment necessary.

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