

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

SEPTEMBER 20, 2026
TWENTY-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

MY THOUGHTS ARE NOT YOUR THOUGHTS



Jesus tells the most baffling of His sermons this week. He tells of a landowner who goes out at four different times to hire laborers for his vineyard, agreeing to pay them the traditional wage. At the end of the day, he pays each of them the same, which upsets the ones hired first and thrills those who were hired last.

Jesus tells them that the landowner paid what he had contracted for, and asked, "Am I not free to use my money as I please?" Jesus' punchline is, "My ways are not your ways."

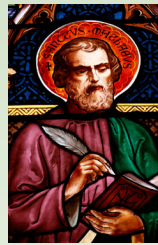
There will be any number of situations in which we are baffled by what God allows and does not allow. We are reminded that God's ways are not our ways. Very often when things do not make sense to us, we decide that God is the one that is wrong. We make ourselves into His judges, putting God on trial, because we think that our ways are superior to His.

It takes a lot of humility to surrender to the ways of God, and to accept that He sees more clearly than we do. It is like a nine-month-old not understanding why he or she cannot freely roam about the house unsupervised. They do not understand the notion of falling down steps or pulling something over on themselves. Like them, we do not see all, as God does, so we cannot make a judgement on God's plan or will.

SERMONS ON THE MASS

Today, Sunday, Sept. 20, is the Third Sunday of the month, when I go to say Mass at Our Savior Church. Since I will not be at the 9:30 am Mass at Mother of God, I will not be doing a Sermon on the Mass today. I will continue Sermons on the Mass next Sunday.

SAINT MATTHEW, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST



Matthew, of course, is one of the Twelve Apostles, and one of the four writers of the Gospels. He is the tax collector, despised by his fellow Jews because he is a collaborator with the Romans in fleecing his own people. Jesus accepted him and invited him to be one of His followers. He may very well have been appointed by Jesus, along with Saint John, to take notes and to write the story of His words and actions.

Monday, September 21, is the Feast of Saint Matthew.

SAINT PADRE PIO

Francesco Forgione (better known as Padre Pio) was born May 25, 1887, in Pietrelcina in Italy. He is a remarkable saint who has left quite an impact on the Church. He became a Franciscan Friar and spent most of his life in a monastery named San Giovanni Rotundo.

Padre Pio is especially known for his great holiness, including a number of special spiritual gifts. He is most noted for the gift of the stigmata. He bore on his body the wounds of Christ - on his hands, his feet, his side and on his head. He was known for hearing confessions, which he did for several hours a day, and in being able to "read souls" where God filled him with knowledge of the state of the souls who came to him. He also could bilocate. One woman was in London and he came to her even though he was in his monastery in Italy. Padre Pio was also known to go into such deep ecstasy during prayer that he would levitate. The Feast of Padre Pio is this Wednesday, September 23.

PARISH NEWS

Coffee and donuts are available for you downstairs in the Undercroft, today, Sunday, Sept. 20, after both Masses.



Music of the Mystics: Hildegard von Bingen
CONCERT here at Mother of God Church

Join us for a beautiful afternoon of music at Mother of God Church **today, Sunday, Sept, 20, at 3:00 pm.** This **free** concert is called "**Music of the Mystics: Hildegard von Bingen.**" Freewill offerings welcome. Invite your family and friends to join you. **See you there!**

**40 Years Ago – MAJOR FIRE
IN THE DOME OF MOTHER OF GOD CHURCH
SEPTEMBER 25, 1986**

Forty years ago on Thursday evening, September 25, 1986, near 7:10 pm, the first call was received by the Covington Fire Department. The call stated the dome of Mother of God Church was on fire. While workmen were making final repairs to the outside of the dome damaged in the March 10th storm, they accidentally ignited the fire. When Covington fire crews arrived, flames and smoke billowed from the dome. Covington put a call for assistance from other Northern Kentucky fire departments. Newport, Erlanger, Ft. Mitchell and others responded. An estimated 2,000 gallons of water per minute from multiple hoses were put on the fire. Half of the water cascaded off the outside of the building, the other half flowed down the inside support columns of the dome.

Hundreds of people gathered on nearby streets. Others were glued to their TV sets, hoping and praying that Mother of God would be saved. They did not want to see Mother of God Church suffer the complete devastation that St. Aloysius Church suffered the spring of 1985.

When the fire was nearly extinguished, a news conference was held by Mayor Tom Beehan, Bishop William Hughes, and our Pastor, Father Ralph Hartman. Bishop Hughes said he was committed to putting Mother of God Church back just like it was before the fire. The fire was extinguished by 11:00 pm.

This author entered the church near 11:30 pm. There was relief that even though there was significant water damage to the dome plaster and the plaster capitals had been blown off, no major elements had been lost.

The parish remembers and thanks the many firefighters who risked their lives to extinguish the stubborn fire that nearly consumed the church building.

Submitted by Victor Canfield.

Our OCIA Sessions are off to a great start!

Mother of God Parish been blessed with over 20 inquirers. OCIA is the work of the entire parish as we welcome, give witness to, and accompany our participants. We are asking for help from all of you in this work. Would you consider supporting our inquirers by praying for one (or more) of them over the next several months as an OCIA Prayer Partner?

If you are interested, please call or email Mary Ann Kelly at 859-291-2288 (ext. 16) or mkelly@mogcov.org.

**Please join us here at Mother of God Church for the
Diocesan Celebration 112th Edition of the
WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES
Next Sunday, Sept. 27, 2:00-3:00 pm**

This year's theme is, *"Even just one of these children."*
"And whoever receives one child such as this in my name receives Me." Matthew 18:5

The hour of reflection will include –

Father Michael Comer, Pastor of Mother of God Church and Our Savior Church; Meg Booker, Bachelor of Music in Performance, Master's Candidate in Vocal Performance, and Organist / Vocalist at here at Mother of God Church since September 2024; and Mini Masih, Volunteer Specialist at Kentucky Refugee Ministry.

Following the prayer service, please join us downstairs in the Undercroft for a **social gathering** including the televised Bengals/Steelers game.

"Even just one of these children"

From Pope Leo XIV

**In honor of World Day of Migrants and Refugees
next Sunday, Sept. 27**

"Let us entrust migrant and refugee children to the maternal protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary who, together with Saint Joseph and the child Jesus experienced the cruelty of Herod's violence and the tragedy of exile in Egypt (cf. Mt 2:13-15).

May she accompany their steps and help our communities to become living and credible signs of the Gospel."

*From the Vatican, 11 August 2026,
Memorial of Saint Clare of Assisi,*

LEO PP. XIV

Note: The Survivors of Suicide Loss Grief Group will NOT meet Wednesday, Oct. 7. Their next meeting will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 4, at 6:30 pm.



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



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

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR BLINK**THURSDAY-SUNDAY EVENINGS, OCT. 8-11**

BLINK returns to Mother of God Church. We use this event to offer a tour of the church interior and **need volunteers to hand out information sheets and direct guests.** Volunteers also help with the **gift shop and parking lot management.** Free parking will be provided on the evenings that you are scheduled.

Please scan the QR code, complete the form and click SUBMIT.

This form is also available at
<https://mother-of-god.org>.



Contact Bob Stevie at RobertWStevie@hotmail.com or 513-236- 3333 with any questions.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD Will Begin**Next Sunday, Sept. 27, during the 11:30 am Mass**

We are excited to bring Children's Liturgy of the Word back to Mother of God Church! Beginning next Sunday, Sept. 27, during the 11:30 am Mass, children age 3 (who are potty-trained) through 2nd grade are invited to participate.

During the Liturgy of the Word, Father Comer will invite the children forward before they head to the Undercroft with two Virtus-trained and compliant adult volunteers, assisted by high-school volunteers. Children will hear the Sunday readings and Gospel in an age-appropriate, engaging way through discussion, prayer, and activities. Children will return upstairs after the readings and homily to rejoin their families for the remainder of Mass.

Interested in volunteering? Scan the QR code to sign up!

**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.

Subsplash Online Giving Reminder

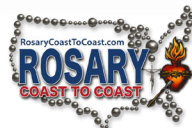
If you are currently giving a recurring gift online through FaithStreet, please log in and cancel it before setting up your Subsplash gift. For more information, go to "Giving" at <https://mother-of-god.org> or send an email to communications@mogcov.org.

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	September 13, 2026
Church Collection	\$7,091.00
Mailed In	\$2,285.00
Online Giving	\$2,616.27
Total Collection	\$11,992.27

One-time Donations \$3,000.00

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.

**DIOCESAN NEWS**

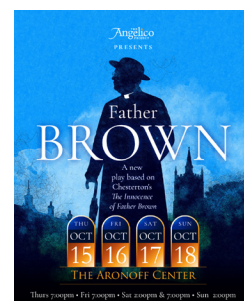
On **Sunday, Oct. 4**, people across the United States will gather to pray the Rosary together. Parishioners and friends across the Diocese of Covington are invited to **meet at the Grotto of the Two Hearts at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Burlington, KY at 4:00 pm. Bring a chair** and join us as we fill the field with voices lifted in prayer. **The event will occur rain or shine.** If you are not able to attend, please join us in spirit by praying the Rosary that Sunday.

Father Brown: A new play based on G.K. Chesterton's The Innocence of Father Brown, Oct. 15-18

Aronoff Center – Fifth Third Bank Theater

Step into an intimate theatrical experience unlike any other as The Angelico Project presents its first-ever Black Box Theatre production. Debuting in the Aronoff Center's Fifth Third Bank Theater, *Father Brown*, based on the beloved stories of G.K. Chesterton, follows a humble Catholic priest whose deep understanding of human nature enables him to solve mysteries that confound everyone else.

This immersive production brings audiences closer to the action than a traditional theatre experience, creating an unforgettable evening of mystery, wit, and timeless storytelling.



ANNUAL DIOCESAN PRO-LIFE MASS

Monday, Oct. 12, at 7:00 pm

Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption

The Rosary will be prayed at 6:30 pm, prior to Mass.
Our greatest defense of life – Celebrating the Eucharist!

A Prayer for Nepal (Catholic Charities)

Loving God, Draw near to the people of Nepal in this time of fear and loss. Receive into Your mercy all who have died, and surround those still waiting for news about their loved ones with Your steady presence. In the silence after the rushing water, be present to every family facing loss, every community clearing a path forward and every person wondering what comes next.

May we respond with compassion, generosity and courage, trusting that Your love does not abandon Your people in their time of need. Amen.

To help you prepare for next Sunday's Mass

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ezekiel 18:25-28 Psalm 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9

Responsorial Psalm:

Remember your mercies, O Lord.

Philippians 2:1-11 or Philippians 2:1-5

Matthew 21:28-32

Daily Mass readings are available for you at <https://bible.usccb.org/readings/calendar>.



Mass Intentions

Sept. 20	9:30 am	Parishioners and Benefactors
	11:30 am	Chad Wagner
Sept. 21	12:05 pm	Pat McPeck
Sept. 22	12:05 pm	Ken and Donna Kinnemeyer
Sept. 23		No Mass
Sept. 24	12:05 pm	Gary and Wilma Brown
Sept. 25	12:05 pm	Funeral Mass - Bernard Wehrmeyer
Sept. 26	12:05 pm	Nicholas Ditzel
Sept. 27	9:30 am	Parishioners and Benefactors
	11:30 am	Anita Trenkamp

Message of Condolence

We offer our sincere sympathy to the Family and Friends of Bernard "Bernie" M. Wehrmeyer. You will be held in our prayers. May Bernie 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

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 Bennings ♦ Jim Kiger ♦ Joan Hunkemoeller Racke ♦ Dolores Donovan ♦ Michelle Berning ♦ Chip Ritter ♦ Brad Lark ♦ Peter G. ♦ N.R. ♦ G.S. ♦ Mrs. Ralph Stephenson ♦ Braylon Thornberry ♦ Joan Miley ♦ Hannah Donoghue ♦ Dorothy Shroat ♦ Michael Wolfe ♦ Mickey Penman ♦ Charlotte McDermott ♦ Mary Kohorst ♦ Laurel Greis ♦ Lori Siemer ♦ Haley Wright ♦ David O'Brien ♦ Jill Bland ♦ Tyler Runge ♦ R. Roberts

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

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