



2025 Reds Opening Day Parade Participant Guide

ARRIVAL AND ASSEMBLY

Arrival Time

Xavier University representatives will be on site in the parade unit location by 9:15 AM. Participants should aim to be assembled at the Xavier parade truck by 12 pm for the beginning of the parade. Once the parade begins, it will take a while before the Xavier contingent will begin moving.

Parking

The streets in the staging area will be closed starting at 8 AM sharp. This includes access to the **Findlay Market South** and **North Parking Lot**.

Please arrive early to find parking accommodations outside of the staging area and avoid a last-minute rush. The [Findlay Garage](#) is one of the closest locations open after 8 AM but there are multiple garages and lots in the OTR neighborhood within walking distance. Please identify your target parking location and a backup before leaving home.

Xavier University is unable to reimburse parking expenses for this volunteer opportunity.

Assembly Location

The Xavier University parade unit (104) will assemble on Elm St., in between Findlay St. and W Elder St.

Please see both of the following maps for more precise location information:





**UNITS
#100-
119**

PARADE DETAILS

Parade Start

The parade begins at 12 PM to accommodate the length of the parade and ensure that all spectators have sufficient time to get to the ballpark by the start of the game at 4:10 PM.

Parade Route

The Parade will follow the same route as last year. Beginning at 12 PM, it will move South on Race from Findlay Market, turn on Fifth Street, and end at the Taft Museum of Art.

The parade route is approximately 1.4 miles and will require up to a few hours to complete. Additionally, participants will need to account for the distance required to return to their modes of transportation.



Exiting the Parade

The parade ends on Fifth Street between Sycamore and Sentinel streets near the Taft Theatre. Entries will not be permitted to remain in this area after their unit has completed the parade. If you wish to view the remainder of the parade, you must move to the sidewalk area. Parade Marshals and police officers will be in the demarshaling area to ensure the streets remain as clear as possible.

PARADE PARTICIPANT RULES

Attire

Please wear your favorite Xavier University gear, Cincinnati Reds gear, or both, as well as comfortable footwear. The parade route is 1.4 miles in length and there is limited room in the truck to accommodate participants that cannot walk the entire distance.

Hand-Outs

Per a City of Cincinnati ordinance, hand-outs of any kind are prohibited during parades.

Alcohol

Consumption of alcoholic beverages during the parade or in the parade staging area is strictly prohibited.

FINDLAY MARKET SUPPORT STAFF

Parade Marshals

Parade Marshals will ensure that the Parade is staged and proceeds in as orderly a manner as possible. They will be wearing neon yellow vests. Please follow their instructions. If you need assistance, seek out a Parade Marshal or call **513-504-6886**.

ADDITIONAL USEFUL INFORMATION

Food and Drink

Several Findlay Market Merchants will open at 9 AM. You can find more information on which Merchants will be open, and the Opening Day Specials they'll be serving here: <https://www.findlaymarket.org/news/openingday2025>

Restrooms

There will be a number of portalets stationed at Findlay Market's North parking lot.

Weather

Unless the game is canceled, the parade will go on, rain or shine. Please make sure to check the weather on parade day and bring any items necessary to ensure your comfort (umbrella, rain jacket, sunscreen, warm clothing, etc.).

XAVIER UNIVERSITY CONTACT

Kent Brazzle

Phone: 513-745-3794

Email: Brazzlek@xavier.edu

Please confirm if you are able to join the parade by March 21st:

<https://www.xavier.edu/alumni/events/reds-rsvp>