



## JANUARY 15, 2023 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH  
7717 RIVER ROAD - TOWNSEND, TN 37882  
865 - 448 - 6070

WEBSITE: [STFRANCISTOWNSEND.ORG](http://STFRANCISTOWNSEND.ORG)  
E-MAIL: [STFRANCISTOWNSEND7717@GMAIL.COM](mailto:STFRANCISTOWNSEND7717@GMAIL.COM)

### MASS & CONFESSION SCHEDULE

**HOLY MASS:** Saturdays – Vigil Mass - 4:00PM  
Sundays – 9:00AM

**DAILY MASS:** MON, TU, TH & FRI - 8:30AM  
(NO MASS ON WEDNESDAYS)  
*Check bulletin/website for changes*

**CONFESSION:** Saturdays before Mass:  
3:00 - 3:40 (Church confessional)

Sundays Before Mass:  
8:15 - 8:40 (Church confessional)

Confessions may also be scheduled by  
calling the parish office for an appoint-  
ment.

**HOLY DAYS:** Check bulletin or website

### PARISH MINISTRY TEAM

**PRIEST:** Rev. Antonio Giraldo

**OFFICE MANAGER:** Kathy Meyerkord

**BOOKKEEPER:** Kathleen Halligan

**LITURGY/MUSIC DIRECTOR:** JoAnne Romer-Aylward

**DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:** Julie Dew

**RCIA/ADULT Ed:** Bruce Boudin

**WELCOMING, EVENTS AND SOCIALS (WEST):** All

**GARDENS & GROUNDS:** Ilene Rainwater

**FACILITIES:** David Girard

**SOCIAL MEDIA/WEBSITE:** JoAnne Romer-Aylward

**PASTORAL CARE (SICK & HOMEBOUND):** Suzie Fay

**ST. CLARE GIFT SHOP:** Camilla Sorrell

**COLUMBARIUM:** Bob Eberhardt

### PARISH ASSOCIATIONS

**COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN:** Ilene Rainwater

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY:** Debbie Eberhardt

**NEW PARISHIONERS:** Please contact the pastor or ask an usher / welcoming member for a registration form, and then place the completed form in the offertory basket or mail it to the church office.  
For more information call 865-448-6070.

**PARISHIONERS:** Please report any change of contact information to the parish office via e-mail, mail or phone.

**BAPTISM:** Parents are required to attend the Baptismal Prep Class. Your family must be registered in the parish.

**MARRIAGE:** Contact the parish priest a minimum of six months before the wedding to allow for marriage preparation formation.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK:** Anyone entering the hospital or in serious ill health is encouraged to be anointed.

**BULLETIN DEADLINE:** Please email Microsoft Word articles to [sfbulletin7717@gmail.com](mailto:sfbulletin7717@gmail.com) with the subject of "Bulletin Announcement" by Tuesday 12:00PM. All submissions are subject to further editing to fit the format of the bulletin. THANKS!

**PASTORAL CARE AT ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI:** How can St. Francis of Assisi be of assistance/service to you & your loved ones? Please contact Suzie Fay at 423-829-5466 or contact the office at 865-448-6070.

**MASS INTENTIONS:** (Mass cards are available upon request)

The Rosary is prayed 35 minutes before each Weekend Mass

<b>MON.</b>	1/16	8:30 AM*	Paul Czerniewski
<b>TUES.</b>	1/17	8:30 AM*	
<b>WED.</b>	1/18		<b>NO DAILY MASS</b>
<b>THURS.</b>	1/19	8:30 AM*	
<b>FRIDAY</b>	1/20	8:30 AM*	
<b>SAT.</b>	1/21	4:00 PM	Logan Bell, Loretta †, Bob & Ron Eberhardt
<b>SUN.</b>	1/22	9:00 AM	Ed Welsh

To schedule a Mass intention, (at least two weeks in advance), please contact the Parish Office via phone or email. Please specify whether the Mass Intention is for a living or deceased loved one. The usual requested donation for a Mass intention is \$10.00 in the Diocese of Knoxville.

\* PRAYER/COMMUNION SERVICE



**PRAYER REQUESTS:** (Homebound, sick or recovering parishioners, friends and relatives): Charlotte Graham, Connie Gooden, Pat Sanders, Doreen Mancuso, Julie Bobo, Ann Sorvillo, Naomi Nwadike, Charlotte Stalder, Deacon Larry West, Jerome Hebert, Debi Hartman, Joanna Dogid, Chris Owens, Christopher Kramer, Rosemary Barker, Gayle Burnison, Cam King, David Holmes, Rusty Treadway, Amy Frink, Myra Montera, Ann Rizzo, Elizabeth Quinn, Debbie Williams, Kim Brown, Mitisha Mosley, Robert Modisett, Tony Foster, Mary Sellers, Julie Schirack, George Szekely

**SANCTUARY CANDLE:** *In Memory of Brian Barker given by John & Yvonne Peychal.*

If you would like to donate to the sanctuary candle fund in memory of or in honor of someone, please contact the Parish Office via phone or email. The cost is \$10.00



**SANCTUARY FLOWERS:** *In Memory of Brian Barker given by Myron C. Downs.*

If you would like to donate to the sanctuary flowers fund in memory of or in honor of someone, please contact the Parish Office via phone or email. The cost is \$40.00 for two weeks.



**SACRED ART RETREAT: MAKING MOSAICS**

Are you looking for a unique way to rejuvenate your spiritual health? February 17-18, the Catholic Conference Center in Hickory NC is offering an "Art as Spiritual Therapy" retreat. Using hands-on activities, skilled presenters will invite you to explore the mosaics of your own life. Assemble your very own cross from personal mementos, and offer prayers through the ancient practice of making Pysanky eggs. Plus have time to enjoy our beautiful setting and some delicious full-course meals prepared by our own chef. Visit [www.catholicconference.org/mosaics](http://www.catholicconference.org/mosaics), email [info@catholicconference.org](mailto:info@catholicconference.org), or call 828.327.7441 for more information.

**ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH**

<b>Mon</b>	1/16	9:00 AM	Church & Hall Cleaning
<b>Tue</b>	1/17		
<b>Wed</b>	1/18	5:00 PM	SVDP
<b>Thu</b>	1/19	Noon	WES Team Meeting
<b>Fri</b>	1/20		
<b>Sat</b>	1/21	4:00 PM	Vigil Mass
<b>Sun</b>	1/22	9:00 AM	Mass

## CATECHISM CORNER

Good and happy Sunday St. Francis Parish! Here we are! The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time! You may have heard about the “Eucharistic Revival”. And your first question is: What is the Eucharistic Revival? Well, simply put, it is a three-year initiative that aims to inspire, educate, and unite. In a world where not many people know Jesus intimately, the revival is meant to show everyone what wonders the **True Presence** of Jesus can do to heal the soul. Through a carefully planned timeline of events, after three years, the U.S. bishops hope to change the lives of many Catholics and non-Catholics alike. There will be more information forthcoming along with information specifically for our parish. We ask Mary, the Mother of God, to pray for us as we enter into this Eucharistic Revival as a Church.

I had a question asked of me how Mary and Joseph traveled to Bethlehem. Did they travel alone or with a group and how long did it take them to get to Bethlehem? The Gospels leave out such details because, when they were written, everyone knew at the time how people traveled. So, we need to look at the time and places in history when this happened. Mary and Joseph, more than likely were part of a group and walked. Yes, walked! On the average, during this time in history, people would/could walk between 7 to 20 miles per day to their destination, but remember Mary was pregnant so I’m assuming they didn’t walk that far every day. But Mary was on a donkey – right? Umm, maybe not because there is no mention of a donkey in the Gospels. You may ask where did this association with a donkey come from? Probably because of The Protoevangelium (first Gospel) of James, an ancient non-biblical account of Mary’s life that is traced to the 2nd century. What we do know is that the journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem was 70-80 miles and that Mary was pregnant. It is not likely Mary would have been able to travel the full distance on foot even though she was in her late teens, strong and healthy peasant stock; even pregnant and near delivery she could have managed walking it. Other than walking, the means of travel at that time would have included donkeys, camels, horses, or some type of cart drawn by a horse. Since Joseph was not a rich man, it seems most likely that he would not have been able to get a camel, horse, or cart for use in their journey. It does seem possible that he would have owned, or been able to borrow, a donkey for Mary to ride upon during the journey to Bethlehem (let’s hope so!).

These routes between cities were crowded with travelers. Nobody would consider taking a trip like this alone. It would not have been safe, as the territory between towns was not policed and bandits, pirates of the desert, and robbers would have been a real concern. The people probably traveled in great caravans for convenience and safety. I know I would have!! The consensus of many scholars states the journey takes four or five days as Nazareth is 65 miles north of Jerusalem (in a straight line), while Bethlehem is a hilltop town situated on a ridge near the edge of the Judaeen desert, 5 miles south of Jerusalem. But as I stated previously, this particular journey may have taken longer due to the pregnancy and given the hostility between Jews and Samaritans, the caravan likely skirted those areas and went around the longer way. Whatever the “mode” of transportation might have been, the road was arduous, and their journey encourages us along our own spiritual journey to the feast of Christmas. With that being said, I do pray that this past Advent Season was a most “spiritual journey” for you! And that “inn” that is always portrayed, well that’s for another Corner! ☺

Thank you, Martha Frink, for this question! Please keep those questions coming at [jdewtn2018@att.net](mailto:jdewtn2018@att.net)!



*Esteban Salazar*

TENOR



*Christian Correa*

TENOR



*Laura Gómez*

SOPRANO

NELLA FANTASIA  
CONCERT 

*Music Pieces By:*

*Andrea Bocelli*

*Il Divo*

*Leonard Cohen*

*Ernesto de Curtis*

*Bart Howard*

FEB.20.2023

7:00 PM

Admission is Free.



A Love Offering will be collected.

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church

7717 River Rd.

Townsend, TN 37882

[www.StFrancisTownsend.org](http://www.StFrancisTownsend.org)





## THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

In the Gospel after Jesus was baptized, John testified saying, "I saw the Spirit come down like a dove...and remain upon him."

**As you place your gift in the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box, know that you are a sign of God's Spirit of love to those who are suffering.**

Reminder: When contributing to St. Vincent de Paul by check, please make the check payable to The Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SVDP). The Poor Box is located in the church vestibule.

SVDP meets the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of the month at 5:00 PM in the PRC! All Are Welcome!  
***Thank You*** for your continued support of SVDP!

### SVDP JANUARY "PRODUCT OF THE MONTH"

For January, we are asking for **jars of jam or jelly—any flavor**. ***We've had quite a number of jars given to us but we can always use more.*** This is really helping us stock our pantry.



### WEEK 29—52 WAYS TO CARE FOR CREATION from [laudatosimovement.org](http://laudatosimovement.org)

#### Making a Plan to Waste Less Food

From the section on Global Inequality in his Laudato Si encyclical, Pope Francis tells us "we know that approximately a third of all food produced is discarded, and whenever food is thrown out it is as if it were stolen from the table of the poor" [LS 50]. This fact is backed up by research in the United States by the EPA and the USDA. Discarded food then becomes a major component of landfill waste (~22%), where it produces both CO<sub>2</sub> and methane gas as it decomposes (methane being many times more problematic than CO<sub>2</sub> at warming the environment). Our Week 29 Way to Care for Creation is to be more proactive regarding food waste at home, in our schools, our church, and the restaurants we visit. Planning ahead better, creatively using food waste, and home or municipal composting are excellent solutions.

The Care for Creation group meets twice a month on every other Tuesday at 3:00 pm at Our Lady of Fatima. All St. Francis parishioners are welcome to join them. For more information contact Mary Tankersley ([maryetank@hotmail.com](mailto:maryetank@hotmail.com)) or the OLOF Care for Creation Ministry, or [laudatosimovement.org](http://laudatosimovement.org).

### INVITATION TO VIEW "THE LETTER"

Our Lady of Fatima is showing "The Letter" at noon on Sunday, January 22. "The Letter" is a recently released 80-minute documentary about Pope Francis' invitation to a group of people from around the world impacted by development and climate change. They will be serving a light lunch (chili, soup, breads) and providing time for discussion after the film. Although very inspiring, the film is recommended for those over the age of 12 due to difficult topics. Any interested parishioners are very welcome to join OLOF. Let Mary Tankersley know ([maryetank@hotmail.com](mailto:maryetank@hotmail.com)) or contact the OLOF Office at 865-982-3672.

**UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS!  
SAVE THE DATES!**



**A WES Team Meeting will be held on Thursday, January 19 at Noon in Shea Hall.** We will be choosing our activities for 2023 in addition to finalizing details for the concert on February 20 (see announcement). All are welcomed and encouraged to come to the meeting. This is a group that is opened to all parishioners and we would welcome new ideas and help in planning these events. A light lunch will be served.



To receive the bulletin as an e-mail attachment every week, simply send an e-mail with "E-Bulletin" in the subject line to **SFABulletin7717@gmail.com.**

**WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP—1/8/2023**

The Epiphany of the Lord  
Attendance: 120

Sunday Offertory .....	\$ 2,724.50
Donation Box .....	100.00
Other Donations* .....	550.00
<b>Total Donations for the Week .....</b>	<b>\$ 3,374.50</b>
Year-to-Date Donations .....	\$ 101,449.76
Year-to-Date Budgeted Donations.....	99,008.28
<b>Year-to-Date Donation Deficit** .....</b>	<b>\$ 2,441.48</b>

Other Donations Not in Budget

Maintenance Fund .....	\$ 885.00
Parish Charity .....	485.00
Other .....	0.00
<b>Total Non-Budget Donations .....</b>	<b>\$ 1,370.00</b>

\* Mass Intentions, Flowers, Candles, Facility Use, etc.

\*\* Based on Year-to-Date Total Donations minus Year-to-Date Budgeted Donations

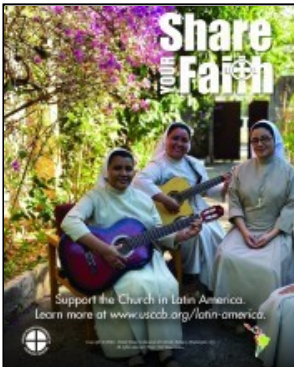
**AN INSPIRATION FOR JANUARY 15 FROM "THE WISDOM OF THE SAINTS"**

*"Learn to be stronger in spirit than you muscles. If you are, you will be real apostles of faith in God."*—Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati

**A REFLECTION FOR JANUARY 15 FROM "THE WISDOM OF FULTON SHEEN"**

*Why are those who are notoriously undisciplined and unmoral also most contemptuous of religion and morality? They are trying to solace their own unhappy lives by pulling the happy down to their own abysmal depths.*

**NATIONAL COLLECTION FOR THE CHURCH IN LATIN AMERICA.**



The weekend of January 21 & 22 we will take up the Collection for the Church in Latin America. For many in Latin America and the Caribbean, a rising secular culture, difficult rural terrain, and a shortage of ministers all present obstacles to practicing the faith. Your support for the collection provides lay leadership training, catechesis, priestly and religious formation, and other programs to share our Catholic faith with those who long to hear the Good News of Christ. To learn more about how your gifts make a difference, visit [www.usccb.org/latin-america](http://www.usccb.org/latin-america).