



## APRIL 16, 2023 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

**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:** Saturday – Vigil Mass - 4:00PM  
Sunday – 9:00AM

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

**CONFESSION:** Saturday before Mass:  
3:00 - 3:40 (Church confessional)  
Sunday Before Mass:  
8:15 - 8:40 (Church confessional)  
Confessions may also be scheduled  
by calling the parish office for an  
appointment.

**HOLY DAYS:** Check bulletin or website

The Rosary is prayed 35 minutes before each Weekend Mass

### PARISH MINISTRY TEAM

<b>PRIEST:</b>	Rev. Antonio Giraldo
<b>OFFICE MANAGER:</b>	Kathy Meyerkord
<b>BOOKKEEPER:</b>	Kathleen Halligan
<b>LITURGY/MUSIC DIRECTOR:</b>	JoAnne Romer-Aylward
<b>DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:</b>	Julie Dew
<b>RCIA:</b>	Bruce Boudin
<b>WELCOMING, EVENTS AND SOCIALS (WEST):</b>	All
<b>GARDENS &amp; GROUNDS:</b>	Ilene Rainwater
<b>FACILITIES:</b>	David Girard
<b>SOCIAL MEDIA/WEBSITE:</b>	JoAnne Romer-Aylward
<b>PASTORAL CARE (SICK &amp; HOMEBOUND):</b>	Suzie Fay
<b>ST. CLARE GIFT SHOP:</b>	Camilla Sorrell
<b>COLUMBARIUM:</b>	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 at the office.)

**MON. 4/17 8:30 AM** Edward B.<sup>†</sup> & Marion E. Ganley<sup>†</sup>  
**TUES. 4/18 8:30 AM** Marion Ganley<sup>†</sup>  
**WED. 4/19** **NO MORNING MASS**  
**THURS. 4/20 8:30 AM** Francis<sup>†</sup> & Winifred<sup>†</sup> Adams  
**FRIDAY 4/21 8:30 AM** Charlotte Histed<sup>†</sup>  
**SAT. 4/22 4:00 PM** Bob Fenrich  
**SUN. 4/23 9:00 AM** Norma<sup>†</sup> & Edward B.<sup>†</sup> Ganley, Jr.

To schedule a Mass intention, please contact the Parish Office via phone or email or in person during office hours. 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 REQUESTS:** (Homebound, sick or recovering parishioners, friends and relatives): Charlotte Graham, Connie Gooden, Pat Sanders, Judy Sanders, Doreen Mancuso, Ann Sorvillo, Naomi Nwadike, Charlotte Stalder, Deacon Larry West, Jerome Hebert, Debi Hartman, Joanna Dogid, Chris Owens, Christopher Kramer, Rosemary Barker, Cam King, David Holmes, Rusty Treadway, Amy Frink, Myra Montero, Ann Rizzo, Kim Brown, Robert Modisett, Tony Foster, Mary Sellers, Claire Cheadle, Bea Daily, Annette Zion Baker, Kathy Janke

**SANCTUARY CANDLE:** 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 for 1 week.



**SANCTUARY FLOWERS:** 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.



**NATIONAL COLLECTION FOR  
CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL**

Please be generous in supporting the Catholic Home Missions Appeal on April 29 and 30. This collection helps to strengthen the Catholic Church in the United States in its 87 mission territories. As the Diocese of Knoxville is one of the smallest dioceses in the nation, it is a direct beneficiary of Catholic Home Missions assistance. Your generosity in support of this appeal is greatly appreciated for the additional blessings it brings to our diocese. Thank you.

**ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH**

<b>Mon</b>	<b>4/17</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>Church &amp; Hall Cleaning</b>
<b>Tue</b>	<b>4/18</b>		
<b>Wed</b>	<b>4/19</b>	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>SVDP</b>
<b>Thu</b>	<b>4/20</b>		
<b>Fri</b>	<b>4/21</b>		
<b>Sat</b>	<b>4/22</b>	<b>4:00 PM</b>	<b>Vigil Mass</b>
<b>Sun</b>	<b>4/23</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>Mass</b>



**ST. CLARE GIFT SHOP  
OPEN FOR BUSINESS  
AFTER WEEKEND MASSES**

Please stop by the Gift Shop after mass. We still have some **Easter** items and we have gifts for **Baptism, First Communion** and **Confirmation** celebrations. We can also open the Gift Shop during the week by appointment.



## 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

The second Sunday of Easter is also referred to as the Octave of Easter, meaning that Easter is not just one day, but a string of eight days all tied together. Easter is such a great Feast that it is celebrated during the entire week that goes from Easter Sunday to the very next Sunday.



The readings for this Sunday are always about mercy, trust, and forgiveness of sins.

“Doubting Thomas” is an important figure for us as we seek to deepen our faith. This gospel passage is proclaimed in the second Sunday of Easter as an example of God’s great love and mercy for us and helps to clarify to future believers any doubt about the resurrection. Thomas was not present when Jesus appeared to some of the disciples. He gains his nickname “Doubting Thomas” when he doubts his friends’ encounter with the risen Lord and says, “Unless I see the marks of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nail marks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.”

When Jesus appears again to the disciples and Thomas was with them, Jesus invites him to put his finger into Jesus’ hand and the hand into his side and told Thomas to believe once again in the greatness of God. In a moment of awe, Thomas responds, “My Lord and my God.”

Today’s gospel gives a bit of relief when we find it challenging to believe. Even the people who were there had a hard time trusting what they saw and struggled to maintain faith. The important thing is not to lean too heavily on those doubts, because the life and peace that comes through Jesus is too essential. Jesus wants a relationship with each one of us. We just need to believe.

The Octave Sunday of Easter has been recently called Mercy Sunday or the Feast of Divine Mercy. It is a new feast proclaimed by John Paul II, in the year 2000, during the canonization of Sister Faustina, whom Jesus revealed himself to asking for this feast to be celebrated on this particular Sunday; following Easter Sunday. The Holy Father perceived a deep connection between the “The Easter Mystery of the Redemption – the suffering, death, and resurrection of the Lord – and this Feast of Divine Mercy.” This feast, the pope said, “adds so much more meaning to the Easter celebration.” The whole celebration is about God’s love and mercy for us through his only begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Like Thomas, we have the witness of the believing community: a more than two-thousand-year-old testimony of the people of God who continue to say, “We have seen the Lord.” The truth has not changed, and the promise of a personal encounter with Jesus remains as real as it did in the First Easter Sunday. We can have a personal encounter with Jesus every time we participate in the Eucharist through the Liturgy of the Word and, in a very special way, through the breaking of bread.

### A REFLECTION FOR APRIL 16 FROM “THE WISDOM OF FULTON SHEEN”

*God does not always spare the good from grief. The Father spared not the son, and the Son spared not the mother.*

## CATECHISM CORNER

Good and blessed Second Sunday of Easter!

I had a parishioner ask me a very good and important question. Why during the Eucharistic prayer, following the command of Jesus Himself, the celebrant raises the host and says, "Take this, all of you, and eat it: This is my body, which will be given up for you." Why do some people bow and take their eyes off Jesus in the Eucharist? I think it probably was something they were taught, but unfortunately, incorrectly. You are to gaze upon the host with great love and adoration. When the priest brings the host down and bows, this is your opportunity to respectfully bow also. Then he lifts the cup and says, "Take this, all of you, and drink from it: This is the cup of my blood, the blood of the new and everlasting covenant. It will be shed for you and for all so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me." Again, we bring our eyes to the cup with love and adoration and when the priest brings the cup down, and bows, and so do we. Simple – right?

When we go before the Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion (the lay person) or the Ordinary Minister of Holy Communion (the priest) to receive Jesus in Communion, we make a respectful bow before receiving Him. We don't "take" communion, we receive our Lord. We had a good and informative video on how to receive communion respectfully and properly at one of our Friday Lenten Suppers. It does not matter if you receive on the tongue or in the hands. Jesus gave out the bread of life at the Last Supper to all present in their hands, just remember to make that "throne" with your two hands so not to have an accident! And as you continue back to your seat, if you are not going to receive the Precious Blood from the Chalice, briefly pause, OR bow, a moment of respect as you pass the Extraordinary Minister with the Chalice. Here's something interesting: The chalice cannot be left on the altar for people to pick up and drink from, not even during lightly attended Masses. The celebrant must distribute the Sacrament (United States Bishops' Directory on Communion Under Both Species, 47). In fact, you're **not** allowed to dip your host into the chalice; you have to take the cup and drink from it. The GIRM  $\pi$ 281 states: "Holy Communion has a fuller form as a sign when it is distributed under both kinds. For in this form the sign of the Eucharistic banquet is more clearly evident and clear expression is given to the divine will by which the new and eternal Covenant is ratified in the Blood of the Lord, as also the relationship between the Eucharistic banquet in the Father's Kingdom."

No priest or extraordinary minister of Holy Communion may refuse to administer the Eucharist on the tongue. Your right to determine which lawful manner you use is stated in the GIRM (Appendix for the United States, 240b). Which brings up a very interesting point...Vatican II never mentioned receiving the host in hand. I guess that's for another Corner!!

Thank you, Yvonne for your question! Keep those questions coming at [jdewtn2018@att.net](mailto:jdewtn2018@att.net).

**Corpus Christi Retreat: Source and Summit.** "The Eucharist is 'the source and summit' of the Christian life. All ministries are bound up with the Eucharist and are oriented toward it." (CCC 1324) Come to this retreat and learn how to make the Eucharist the "source and summit" of your life. It's June 9-11 at the Catholic Conference Center in Hickory, NC. Renew your spirit with mix of Adoration, contemplation, and prayer, plus be guided by several thoughtful reflections on the Mass. Make this year's Feast of Corpus Christi the beginning of your new life in Christ. For more information, visit [www.catholicconference.org/eucharist](http://www.catholicconference.org/eucharist), email [info@catholicconference.org](mailto:info@catholicconference.org), or call 828.327.7441.



## THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

In the Gospel today, Jesus stands in the midst of us and says: "Peace be with you!"

**During Mass we turn to each other and say, "Peace be with you!" As you put your gift into the St. Vincent de Paul box you say, "Peace be with you!" to those who are poor and hungry.**

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 APRIL "PRODUCT OF THE MONTH"

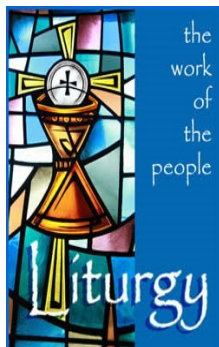
**Thank You** for all the paper towels and cereal in March.

Our Products of the Month for April are:

**Kleenex/Shampoo and Conditioner**



## LITURGICAL MINISTRIES QUARTERLY SIGN-UPS FOR MAY, JUNE AND JULY, 2023



It is time for Liturgical Ministries signup! The signup sheets are on the counter in Shea Hall. Please take some time this weekend and next and sign up for your ministry/ministries.

If you sign up for the "Commentaries," please remember that Father Antonio wants the commentary to be delivered by someone other than the Lector(s) scheduled to proclaim the readings for any given weekend Mass.

If you would like more information about our Liturgical Ministries, please check out our website, the bulletin board in Shea Hall or contact one of our ministry heads:

Lectors	Martha Frink	865-556-4684	marthafrink00@gmail.com
EMHC*	Karen Messenger	225-572-9400	komessenger@gmail.com
Ushers	Paul Czerniewski	847-877-7347	paul.czerniewski@gmail.com
Sacristans	Kathy Meyerkord	630-698-5563	kmmeyerkord@gmail.com
Altar Servers	Dan Meyerkord	708-846-4144	dkam27@sbcglobal.net

\* Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion



**Smoky Mountain Meals on Wheels** is holding a fundraiser for their benefit on April 24 from 5-9 pm. A copy of their flyer is posted on our bulletin board and on their FaceBook page (Blount County Community Action Agency). An electronic or paper copy of their flyer must be presented for them to benefit. Blaze Pizza will donate 20% of the proceeds to Smoky Mountain Meals on Wheels.

## 2023 KDCCW CONVENTION SERVICE PROJECT



**Isaiah 117**  
changing the way foster care begins

**providing physical  
and emotional  
support in a safe and  
loving home for  
children awaiting  
foster care placement**

### ITEMS NEEDED:

- \* Monetary gifts
- \* Walmart gift cards
- \* Adult & Teen sizes male and female clothes
- \* Adult & Teen sizes male and female pajamas
- \* Jeans in all sizes
- \* Underwear all sizes
- \* Socks all sizes

### Only new items NO USED ITEMS

Please contact Ilene Rainwater (865-748-1873) if you have items you wish to donate. She will need them by this Monday (4/17/2023). Or visit <https://a.co/cJDOK5c> to order from the House Wishlist on Amazon

### WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP—4/6 THRU 4/9/2023

Attendance: Holy Thursday-54    Good Friday-40  
Holy Saturday-67    Easter Sunday-150

Sunday Offertory .....	\$ 5,580.00
Holy Thursday .....	384.00
Donation Box .....	0.00
Other Donations* .....	10.00
<b>Total Donations for the Week .....</b>	<b>\$ 5,971.00</b>

Year-to-Date Donations .....	\$ 143,144.33
Year-to-Date Budgeted Donations .....	144,976.41
<b>Year-to-Date Donation ** (Deficit) ...</b>	<b>(\$ 1,832.08)</b>

#### Other Donations Not in Budget

Maintenance Fund .....	\$ 230.00
Parish Charity .....	145.00
Diocesan Seminary Fund .....	612.00
Holy Land Collection .....	690.00
CRS Rice Bowls .....	375.00
<b>Total Non-Budget Donations .....</b>	<b>\$ 2,052.00</b>

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

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

### WEEK 42—52 WAYS TO CARE FOR CREATION from [laudatosimovement.org](http://laudatosimovement.org)

#### Ecological Education

We are familiar with the realm of wisdom from our spiritual leaders, but when a Pope speaks about herbivores and carnivores, we might tend to stop and take a deeper look! “The way natural ecosystems work is exemplary: plants synthesize nutrients which feed herbivores; these in turn become food for carnivores, which produce significant quantities of organic waste which give rise to new generations of plants” [LS 22]. His larger message here is that God’s way of cycling materials through our earth’s ecosystem leaves nothing to waste or want, giving a model for our human economic system to follow. Having left Biology 101 behind in (possibly) high school, we find that we have so much to learn about the way natural ecosystems work, and why human activity is often destructive and counter to God’s plan. Our **Week 42 Way to Care for Creation** is to **immerse ourselves in Ecological Education** as more mindful stewards- Laudato Si Action Platform and USCCB Resources are good places to start!

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).

### AN INSPIRATION FOR APRIL 16 FROM “THE WISDOM OF THE SAINTS”

**Teaching:** “What is nobler than to rule minds or to mold the character of the young?”

St. John Chrysostom