



**JUNE 18, 2023**  
**11TH 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:** 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**

**PASTOR:** Rev. Antonio Giraldo  
**OFFICE MANAGER:** Kathy Meyerkord  
**BOOKKEEPER:** Kathleen Halligan  
**LITURGY/MUSIC DIRECTOR:** JoAnne Romer-Aylward  
**DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS  
EDUCATION:** Julie Dew  
**RCIA:** 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 at the office.)

**MON. 6/19 8:30 AM**  
**TUES. 6/20 8:30 AM** Francis<sup>†</sup> & Winifred<sup>†</sup> Adams  
**WED. 6/21** **NO MORNING MASS**  
**THURS. 6/22 8:30 AM** Barbara Angle<sup>†</sup>  
**FRIDAY 6/23 8:30 AM** Norma<sup>†</sup> & Edward B.<sup>†</sup> Ganley, Jr.  
**SAT. 6/24 4:00 PM** Ann McTavish<sup>†</sup>  
**SUN. 6/25 9:00 AM** Joe Eberhardt

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, Charlotte Fernandez, Lee Robey, Jennifer Reed, Dan Hogan, Elise Martin, Paula Watson, Mike Lauer, Tom Beasley, Cecilia Petroskey

**SANCTUARY CANDLE:** *In Honor of Jack Troupe given by the SFA Parishioners.* 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.



**ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH**

**Mon 6/19 9:00 AM** Church & Hall Cleaning  
**Tue 6/20**  
**Wed 6/21 5:00 PM** SVDP  
**Thu 6/22**  
**Fri 6/23**  
**Sat 6/24 4:00 PM** Vigil Mass  
**Sun 6/25 9:00 AM** Mass

*Thank You*

A special Thank You to Jack Troupe for donating a new water cooler for Shea Hall. This one also has the ability to dispense hot water, although for safety reasons that feature is currently turned off.

***Happy Father's Day!!!***



## 11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Almost daily in our television news we see suffering crowds of people. They are the victims of war, ethnic cleansing, floods, or famine. Millions of God's people are refugees without decent human housing and food. Among these crowds are millions of children, child laborers, child prostitutes, and the abandoned baby girls. For all of these, just as for the crowds in today's gospel, surely Jesus' heart "is moved with pity." Just as he

called his apostles, Jesus is calling us to be laborers for the harvest, to have compassion for the world's suffering people.

Matthew in this gospel is, in a way, summarizing the entire biblical story – yes, the story that begins in Genesis and concludes with the establishment of the New Jerusalem in the Book of Revelation. In Genesis we learn how humanity became alienated from God, its Creator. God did not abandon humanity, however. Beginning with Abraham and Sarah, God called and guided a people that would heal all humanity of its addiction to sin. We read on in the Bible how these chosen people struggle to live out their calling to reconcile the world to God.

Matthew tells of how Jesus is moved with pity because the people he encounters seem like sheep without a shepherd. Jesus takes on the role of his Father, wanting humanity to be truly free. Knowing that he is only one person, Jesus calls twelve of his disciples, symbolic of the twelve tribes of Israel, and gives them a mission. What was done before is now being done anew in Jesus Christ.

Our church has a long story of missionary work. Members of religious orders and lay women and men have given their lives to witness to Christ's message. And in this missionary endeavor, believers have worked for human dignity, against indecent housing, poor sanitation, and disease. All of these people were moved by the same faith and compassion that touched the heart of our Lord.

Certainly not all compassionate believers are able to become missionaries in other lands. You can always pray for missions, work for the missions and support economically the missions. During the last twenty years I have been able to do missions in a little town in Colombia, Marsella. It is a wonderful, rather safe place to experience some of the different situations of poor people. People know us, love us, and take care of us. We are open to those who want to come to this mission, pray for the mission, or generously support this mission. We know that all Christians, men and women, through the centuries have been witnesses to Christ's mission. They have been ordinary people of faith whose very lives have announced that "the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Faith engenders faith. Jesus' words to his apostles and to us are very clear, "Without cost you have received; without cost you are to give."

### AN INSPIRATION FOR JUNE 18 FROM "THE WISDOM OF THE SAINTS"

**Penance:** *"It is impossible to find a saint who did not take prayer and penance seriously."* -  
St. Francis Xavier

## CATECHISM CORNER

In today's Catechism Corner we will be "discussing" the Spiritual Work of Mercy to "Counsel the Doubtful." What does this mean? How can we live this work of mercy? Reflect about the tremendous gift it is from The Divine Mercy when you find someone who really listens to you, who really lets you pour out your heart and share your troubles and miseries, and who then really takes your whole situation in prayer to the Lord before presuming to dole out advice to you. Plenty of people are quick to give out half-baked, ill-considered advice. But how many people do you know who really listen to you and to the Holy Spirit before they speak?

To elaborate: many people today are confused. They might be looking for meaning in their lives, for answers to the biggest questions (Why do I exist? Is there a purpose for my life? What is my calling in life?, etc.). Sometimes, a person simply needs someone that they can talk to, that they can "bounce ideas off." If we are willing to listen, we have the first tool for living this work of mercy.

But being a good listener is not enough. It is also important that we understand the context of a person's questions. Where are they coming from? What was their childhood like? Do they have a strong family support system? Do they have a religious background? Do they currently practice their faith, and is it the Catholic Faith?

All of this is important if we are to be able to provide good counsel. Why does it matter? Because we have to know where a person IS, if we are to help him/her to find the way to where he/she is GOING. Our goal in life is to get to heaven, to spend all eternity in the presence of Almighty God. The ultimate goal of "Counsel the Doubtful" is to help the person who we are counseling to find Jesus Christ, who is the Way, the Truth and the Life. When they find the Lord Jesus, and embrace Him and His Teachings as the Way, they will find the real meaning and purpose in life.

In what practical ways can we counsel the doubtful? I have a few suggestions:

- Be a good listener and provide counsel to our own children, and other children within our circle of family and friends.
- Be a good listener to those struggling in their marriages, and encourage them to seek to base their marriages more perfectly on Christ.
- Be a good listener to those who are struggling with unplanned pregnancies, and help them to see their unborn child as a blessing from the Creator, rather than as a burden to be eliminated.
- Be a good listener to those struggling with various emotional struggles, and help them to turn to the Lord Jesus for healing of their emotions. It helps if we understand the way our emotions are supposed to work. Helpful writings of Dr. Conrad Baars (healing of neurosis) Dr. Theresa Burke (healing of emotional wounding from abortion) and Dr. Joseph Nicolosi (healing of homosexual attractions).

Above all, when we are seeking to practice the Spiritual Work of Mercy to Counsel the Doubtful, we need to pray to the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Truth, so that we may be open to His Guidance — so that the Holy Spirit can speak through us to give guidance to those in need of good counsel. AMEN to that!

As you read here, being a good listener is above all the most important element in a good relationship! Please reflect on this: listening is much more than simply hearing.....have a most blessed week St. Francis!

Next week, let's "talk" about the Spiritual Work of Mercy to "Pray for the Living and the Dead."



## THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

In the Gospel today we hear Jesus say to his disciples, "The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the master of the harvest to send laborers for his harvest."

### Have you considered answering the call to join the Society of St. Vincent de Paul?

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 MAY "PRODUCT OF THE MONTH"



Thanks for all of the wonderful donations in May.

Our Products of the Month for June are

**Laundry Detergent (smaller bottles) and Fabric Softener Sheets**



### *Thank You Parishioners!*

St. Francis of Assisi Church has received another check from the Kroger Company in the amount of

**\$ 82.89 !!**

If you would like to participate in this wonderful program (at no cost to you), simply designate St. Francis of Assisi Church (Townsend) as your charitable organization in the Kroger Community Rewards program:

1. Create (or sign into) your digital Kroger account at [www.KrogerCommunityRewards.com](http://www.KrogerCommunityRewards.com).
2. Link your card to SFOA. Our NPO (Non-Profit Organization) Number is **XP941**.
3. Shop and earn money for SFA!

### PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION

A second collection will be taken up on July 1 & 2 in support of "Peter's Pence" that assists the Holy Father with his charitable works. Your donations help the Holy Father to respond with emergency financial assistance to the neediest and most disadvantaged throughout the world—especially those who suffer as a result of war, oppression, and natural disasters. Your contributions will be combined with those of Catholics from around the world to help the Holy Father reach out to the voiceless and most vulnerable in need.



ST. CLARE GIFT SHOP  
OPEN FOR BUSINESS  
AFTER WEEKEND MASSES



**WES TEAM NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Next Meeting**—July 20 at Noon in Shea Hall; All are welcome! Lunch will be served.

**Smokies Baseball Game w/Fireworks**

June 23, 7:00 PM; Buffet at 6:00 PM

- ◆ Tickets will be distributed to you before game day.

**Pet Blessing**—September 30, 11:00 AM

**Fall Pot Luck**—October 8, 4:00 PM

**Christmas Party**—December 10, 4:00 PM at the Barn Event Center

**WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP—6/4/2023**

The Body & Blood of Christ—Attendance: 205

Sunday Offertory .....	\$4,375.00
Donation Box.....	7.00
Other Donations* .....	150.00
Total Donations for the Week.....	\$ 4,532.00

Year-to-Date Donations .....	\$ 174,005.83
Year-to-Date Budgeted Donations .....	176,800.50
Year-to-Date Donation ** ( <b>Deficit</b> ) ....	<b>(\$ 2,794.67)</b>

Other Donations Not in Budget

Maintenance Fund .....	\$ 345.00
Parish Charity.....	480.00
Other .....	0.00
Total Non-Budget Donations .....	\$ 825.00

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

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

**WEEK 51—52 WAYS TO CARE FOR CREATION** from [laudatosimovement.org](http://laudatosimovement.org)

Ecological Virtue 7- Humility

Nature is filled with words of love and awe. How many times have we looked at a sunrise, the backdrop of mountains, or a surprisingly colored insect, and seen God’s creation expressed anew? How awesome God’s expressions of love are through His creation, and it brings a sense of humility to our way of thinking about the world. “As the rising sun is clear to all, so the glory of the Lord fills all his works” (Sirach 42:16). Most of us are realizing that we cannot take these expressions for granted, as there are factors threatening their quality and quantity, usually due to human activity ([un.org/en/climatechange](http://un.org/en/climatechange)). We realize we need to take responsibility. “This responsibility for God’s earth means that human beings, endowed with intelligence, must respect the laws of nature and the delicate equilibria existing between the creatures of this world, for “he commanded and they were created; and he established them for ever and ever; he fixed their bounds and he set a law which cannot pass away” (Ps 148:5b-6) [LS 68].

The Care for Creation group meets twice a month on the **first and third Thursday of every month** 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).

**A REFLECTION FOR JUNE 18 FROM “THE WISDOM OF FULTON SHEEN”**

*“Truth is not something we invent; if we do, it is a lie, rather, truth is something we discover, like love.”*