



JUNE 4, 2023 THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

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

WEBSITE: STFRANCISTOWNSEND.ORG
E-MAIL: 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 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. 6/5 8:30 AM
TUES. 6/6* 8:30 AM Philip Peychal †
WED. 6/7 NO MORNING MASS
THURS. 6/8* 8:30 AM Clyde Odom †
FRIDAY 6/9 8:30 AM Bernard Eberhardt †, Rex Bell
SAT. 6/10 4:00 PM Bill & Bonnie Gathergood
SUN. 6/11 9:00 AM

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/Communion Service**



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

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.



EUCCHARISTIC CONGRESS PILGRIMAGE

The Diocese of Knoxville is ready to roll to Indianapolis for the **10th National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis July 17-21, 2024**. An overview and details are posted on the bulletin board in Shea Hall. These details can also be found at Dioknox.org/Revival, by email at Revival@Dioknox.org, or by phone at 423-596-0181.

The pricing ranges from \$541-\$1,098 per pilgrim, depending on the occupancy of the room. This includes 4 night hotel accommodations and admission to all events and speakers.

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Mon	6/5	9:00 AM	Church & Hall Cleaning
Tue	6/6		
Wed	6/7	5:00 PM	SVDP
Thu	6/8		
Fri	6/9		
Sat	6/10	4:00 PM	Vigil Mass
Sun	6/11	9:00 AM	Mass



PASTOR'S NOTES

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

Today we celebrate the mystery of the Holy Trinity – Three persons – One God. The Holy Trinity is about relationship, God in three persons living in total union and communion. They are indeed one, while remaining three distinct Persons.

In our first reading from the book of Exodus, Moses returns to Mount Sinai and is given new tablets to replace those he broke after first receiving God's covenant, when he returned only to find people worshiping idols and living in debauchery. As expressed in several dialogues between God and Moses, what is revealed is God's desire to be in relationship with his people. The law is not so much given as "a list of thou shalt not;" rather, by being faithful to the law, the Israelites will be in right relationship with their God. The Ten Commandments are a blueprint for being in right relationship.

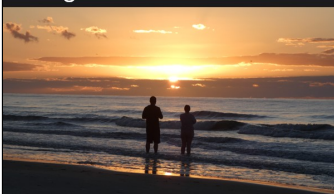
Our Lord is a "merciful and gracious God. Slow to anger and rich in kindness and fidelity." He is a God who forgives our faults and shortcomings over and over again because he is love. Paul continues to express this unconditional love in his second letter to the Corinthians when he writes, "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit."

Our God, the Holy Trinity, is not a God of division and conflict. God will only dwell in our midst if we are willing to live in communion, in peace, and in forgiveness in imitation to the Trinitarian Godhead.

Our gospel reading continues to emphasize love and relationship. God has an intense desire for a relationship with God's creation. God does not wait for us to turn to God or become God's friends. Instead, even when we are enemies, God demonstrates God's love for us by sending God's only-begotten Son, Jesus, to suffer and die for us.

God invites us to live in the reality of God's love – to know that we are forgiven and that there is nothing we need to do in order to impress God. God invites us to live in the new relationship that we have with God because of what Christ did for us. We are able to live each day in the knowledge of God's love, knowing that God is present in our lives and loves us unconditionally. As we celebrate Trinity Sunday, we are filled with gratitude that God has touched our lives with God's love and that we will never be the same. May we always be one with God in loving relationship.

Living the Beatitudes Retreat



"Blessed are the pure of heart, they shall see God."

In his sermon on the mount, Jesus outlined the secret to true happiness in eight simple yet paradoxical blessings, or beatitudes. Deepen your appreciation of this divine wisdom and learn how to make these beatitudes a part of your daily life.

The retreat is August 25-27 at the Catholic Conference Center in Hickory, NC. There'll be a mix of thoughtful presentations and practical applications, plus time for Adoration, confession, spiritual direction, and more...

Visit www.catholicconference.org/beatitude, email info@catholicconference.org, or call 828.327.7441. Register before July 31 and receive a \$50 Early Bird discount!

CATECHISM CORNER

Welcome St. Francis to the Feast of the Most Holy Trinity! The Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Three Persons – one God – the Trinity. A fundamental belief of all Christians, but hard to explain and not mentioned in the Bible anywhere! If we think about the Trinity as a “relationship” a Greek word called *oikonomia* describes the Trinity accurately, which in turn is composed of two words: *oikos*, which is usually translated as “household”; and *nemein*, which is best translated as “management and dispensation.” Kinda like the “family business.” “The inner workings of the Blessed Trinity is relationship: the Father pouring out His love to His Son, the Son reciprocating that love as He pours it back into the Father and They do it to the Third Person of the Blessed Trinity, the Celestial AT&T – the Holy Spirit!” as told by Father Chapin from his Daily Living television show. I believe that St. John of Damascus explained the Holy Trinity best by comparing the Father to the big yellow sun, and the rays from the sun as Jesus, and the warmth we receive from the rays as the Holy Spirit!

Ok, now to continue with the Works of Mercy, today we will begin the Spiritual Works of Mercy “admonish sinners.” This work of mercy – “tough love,” you could call it – is one of the hardest to practice in the western world today. Why? Because we live in the “I’m-OK-you’re-OK” culture. As such, I have my own personal set of values, and you have your own personal set of values, and we are each free to practice those values to our heart’s content just as long as we do not do grievous bodily harm to others in the process (although that limitation is waived when the “others” in question are unborn children, the chronically ill and elderly).

If you really want to be unpopular – indeed, if you really want to risk getting a punch in the nose – try admonishing someone today for, say, swearing in public or wearing provocative clothing or talking loudly in Church or availability of pornography, or try engaging in non-violent protests outside an abortion clinic, or try explaining to a gay friend/relative that his/her lifestyle is unnatural and the he/she will never find true fulfillment, peace, or healing but through Jesus Christ. Nine times out of ten, the end result of these attempts to “admonish sinners,” no matter how gently and compassionately they are performed is that one is branded an intolerant bigot. (I know I’ve been called a “few names” before!) After all, what could be a worse or more politically incorrect attitude in an I’m-OK-you’re-OK culture than to tell others, “You’re not OK; you’re harming yourself and others, at least spiritually and psychologically, if not also physically and sociologically?”

The problem is that we live in a society dominated by people who have not made any real psychological or moral progress since they reached adolescence. Thus, they stumble through life with an adolescent understanding of love. They are prime candidates to be manipulated by the evil one. In their minds to be “loved,” means to be affirmed in everything they want to do that does not cause anyone else (except unborn children, the chronically ill and elderly) grievous bodily harm. Imagine telling someone like that, “Hey, I think you are doing something wrong; I think what you are doing can lead you to spiritual self-destruction and, perhaps to the spiritual destruction of others, too.” They’ll likely complain that you are practicing intolerance and bigotry (experience tells me – yep!)

Yet, it is to spiritually adolescent people like this – to a whole society dominated by such people – that we are called to “speak the truth in love,” as St. Paul put it (please read Ephesians 4:15), with both courage and compassion. This is not EASY to do. It takes the virtue of prudence as well as finding just the right moment and just the right words and saying them in a way that clearly affirms the human dignity of the person you are speaking with, even as they are challenged to fulfill his/her highest potential. St. Paul pray for us!!

Next week – the Spiritual Work of “Instruct the Ignorant (Uninformed)!”



THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

As we celebrate the mystery of the Trinity we also realize the mystery of how much God loves and cares for us each day. Believing in this our lives can then overflow in thanksgiving and praise.

Your gift in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box will help the poor to believe in the mystery of God's love for them.

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 1st and 3rd 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



LAST DAY TO SIGN UP!!! PLEASE PAY BY JUNE 5.

What: Tennessee Smokies Baseball Game
When: June 23; 6:00 pm
Where: Yee-Haw at the Yard; TN Smokies Stadium
Cost: \$32 for adults, \$30 for children (12 and under)

We are once again planning an event at Smokies Stadium. We had over 40 people attend last year and we had a great time, in spite of the rain. The price includes a ticket to the game, access to the Yee-Haw at the Yard Party Deck (in left field) and a buffet which includes hickory smoked pork BBQ, smoked BBQ chicken, baked beans, coleslaw, spinach artichoke dip w/tortilla chips, hot dog bar, chocolate cookies and Pepsi products. Also included are fireworks after the game. If you plan on attending, please contact Kathy or Ilene at the office (865-448-6070) to make a reservation or a sign-up sheet is available on the table in Shea Hall.



One item to note this year: the ballpark is a cashless venue. The parking lot, concession stands and Go-Teez Locker Room Team Store will accept Visa, Mastercard, Discover, American Express, Apple Pay, and Google Pay only.

Payment will be due by June 5. Please make checks payable to St. Francis of Assisi. You may drop your payment in the collection basket in an envelope marked "Smokies Ball Game", mail it to the church office, or drop it off during office hours. Hope to see you all.



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
See article in this bulletin. **Payment due by Monday, June 5!**

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—5/28/2023

Pentecost Sunday—Attendance: 183

Sunday Offertory	\$ 2,470.00
Donation Box.....	0.00
Other Donations*	100.00
Total Donations for the Week.....	\$ 4,332.00

Year-to-Date Donations	\$ 165,337.83
Year-to-Date Budgeted Donations	169,728.48
Year-to-Date Donation ** (Deficit)	(\$ 4,390.65)

Other Donations Not in Budget

Maintenance Fund	\$ 80.00
Parish Charity.....	355.00
Catholic Communication Campaign	628.00
Total Non-Budget Donations	\$ 1,063.00

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

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

WEEK 48—52 WAYS TO CARE FOR CREATION from laudatosimovement.org

Ecological Virtue 4- Justice

As children, we live in that existential “me” world where we cry (literally!) for justice for ourselves- my things, my food, my time with Mom/Dad. As mature Catholics, we became aware of the slate of Catholic Social Teachings that encourage us to work for justice for all God’s children- those we encounter and those across the globe. And more recently, Pope Francis has called us all to “listen to the cry of the poor and the cry of the earth”, and work for Justice for all God’s creation- “This sister now cries out to us because of the harm we have inflicted on her by our irresponsible use and abuse of the goods with which God has endowed her” [LS 2]. The awareness that all creatures and their homes should be treated equitably and with care is a foundation of our ecological conversion, our choices. “A change in lifestyle could bring healthy pressure to bear on those who wield political, economic and social power. This is what consumer movements accomplish by boycotting certain products. They prove successful in changing the way businesses operate, forcing them to consider their environmental footprint” [LS 206].

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) or the OLOF Care for Creation Ministry, or laudatosimovement.org.

AN INSPIRATION FOR JUNE 4 FROM “THE WISDOM OF THE SAINTS”

Humility: *“Not every quiet man is humble, but every humble man is quiet.”* St. Isaac the Syrian

A REFLECTION FOR JUNE 4 FROM “THE WISDOM OF FULTON SHEEN”

“Our hatred of a person often decreases as we learn to know him better.”