



JULY 23, 2023
16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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. 7/10 8:30 AM Ralph † & Irene † Meyerkord
TUES. 7/11 8:30 AM Brian Barker †
WED. 7/12 **NO MORNING MASS**
THURS. 7/13 8:30 AM Dan Meyerkord
FRIDAY 7/14 8:30 AM Poor Souls in Purgatory
SAT. 7/15 4:00 PM Helen Andrews †
SUN. 7/16 9:00 AM Patricia Andrews †

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, Jennifer Reed, Dan Hogan, Elise Martin, Paula Watson, Mike Lauer, Tom Beasley, Julie Schirack, Donna Ashley, Savannah Bishop, Kathy Davis, Bruce Haverkos

SANCTUARY CANDLE: *For the Van Rhein Family given by Mike Polak.* 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 \$15 for 1 week.



SANCTUARY FLOWERS: *In Memory of Helen & Patricia Andrews given by Eric & Gail Simons.* 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.



INSPIRATIONAL QUOTES TO PROMOTE DEVOTION TO JESUS IN THE EUCHARIST

St. Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274)

"Sweetest Jesus, Body and Blood most Holy, be the delight and pleasure of my soul, my strength and salvation in all my temptations, my joy and peace in every trial, my light and guide in every word and deed, and my final protection in death. Amen"

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Mon	7/24	9:00 AM	Church & Hall Cleaning
Tue	7/25		
Wed	7/26		
Thu	7/27		
Fri	7/28		
Sat	7/29	4:00 PM	Vigil Mass
Sun	7/30	9:00 AM	Mass



16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Our first reading today could be difficult to follow. It is from the Book of Wisdom, a book written 100 years before Christ. At that time the Jews were being persecuted for their faith. Many Jewish were giving up their belief in God and going to the pagan ways. The author of this book was struggling with the question: "Why is God allowing this evil to go on? His conclusion is that God's power is not directed toward evil people, but it shows itself in God's patience, wanting people to repent and allowing them time to do so. This then prepares us for the gospel, which also deals with the problem of evil.

The parable of the weeds among the wheat provides much food for thought on the Christian journey. We learn that we must take the good with the bad that arises in life. The farmer tells his servants not to pull the weeds (that is, not to remove the difficulties and pains of life), for if they do, then the life they have might be lost as well. That might seem odd to us; it does not seem to connect with the idea of a loving and compassionate God. However, we must be able to see that the hurdles and challenges from life are what many times strengthen us and, in the process, teach us to live in our sometimes-difficult world. The Christian life is not always easy. Pain and suffering, obstacles and hurdles, and challenges and difficulties are part of life. These are the weeds of our existence, and Jesus tells us that if they are removed, we might die, for we will not be able to grow as we should.

We live in a very challenging world, and I believe most of us would be more than happy if a few of the weeds of our lives were removed.

In faith, however, we know that God's timing is perfect. We may long for the day when evil is completely destroyed, but we know that God in his wisdom has a plan for his kingdom and the harvest. For now, it would be premature to uproot the darnel. At the end of time, however, when the new heaven and the new earth have come, every hint of sin and evil will be wiped away.

In the meantime, we must endure the evil that is in the world. Even Jesus underwent temptation by Satan (Matthew 4: 1-11). The Father permits us to be tempted too, and yet our victory lies with Jesus. With the eyes of faith, we must learn to detest the weeds among the wheat. We must resist evil wherever we see it and stand up for righteousness. In this, we can depend on God's help, relying on the truth of his word, the power of his love, and his grace and strength. As the Father sent angels to minister to Jesus in the desert after his confrontation with the devil (4:11), we too, can count on our Father to care for us.

Someday the weeds and the wheat will be separated. The weeds will be burned, while the wheat will be gathered together. At this final judgement, evil will be defeated, and the righteous "will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father" (13:43).



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.

CATECHISM CORNER

Happy 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time and here we are towards the end of July! WHAT! Where does the time go? I sincerely hope that you enjoyed reading a little more about the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. Of course, as with any topic within the Catholic Church, I just skimmed the subject! There are loads of information available in our Church Library – check it out!

After reviewing my information that I used in teaching CCD and I used in the Catholic School I worked at, I have some “reflection questions and Saints we can look at for guidance” for you to “discuss” at the family dinner table!

I mentioned St. Faustina last week, but another Saint that I love and who dedicated her life clearly to the Works of Mercy is St. Teresa of Calcutta. She said that there are “two kinds of “Real Presence” of our Lord in this world: the Lord’s Real Presence in the Blessed Sacrament, and our Lord’s real presence in the poor, both in those materially poor and those spiritually poor. St. Mother Teresa dedicated her life to picking up the poor and the suffering from the streets of Calcutta and other major cities in India and providing for them the most basic necessities: food, shelter, a blanket, and a bit of human warmth and kindness.

“Many Scripture passages make it clear that Christians ought to imitate Christ. Jesus’ life on earth and the Scriptures inspired by God leave us clear examples. If we are children of God, then we must act as children of God. We are to courageously and generously care for our needy brothers and sisters.” This is a quote from Father Antonio’s homily from Good Shepherd Sunday, April 30th this year!

Here are some questions to reflect on:

- Why is “admonishing sinners” so difficult today? Have you ever been effectively “admonished” by someone else?
- What new way could you find to “instruct the Ignorant/Uninformed” in the truth of the Catholic Faith?
- What new way could you find to “forgive offenses,” praying for those who mistreat you?
- In what new way could you practice one of the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy on a personal level or on a wider social or even political level?
- People often say that practicing the Works of Mercy is very rewarding. What do you think they mean by that?

I would like to conclude with a quote from St. Theresa of Avila: “Christ has no body on earth now but yours, no hands but yours, no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes through which the compassion of Christ must look out on the world. Yours are the feet with which He is to go about doing good. Yours are the hands with which He is to bless His people.”

Dear St. Francis parishioners, please pray how you can be Christ’s hands and feet here in our community of Townsend in East Tennessee by being active in (or donating to) our St. Vincent dePaul Society, our Council of Catholic Women’s group and/or our Homebound Ministry. Let us remember that in practicing these spiritual works we too will be transformed and made into an image of Christ. “For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned.”

Thank you for giving me this opportunity on how to share our love and hearts to anyone in need whom we meet along life’s journey. Next week, you will have a “guest” writer for the Corner! Have a most grace filled week filled with the love of Christ!



THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Hearing this Gospel, we can trust that God knows our love and good deeds, and that he will mercifully gather us into his kingdom.

This week, please say a special prayer each day for the poor and forgotten in our parish and our community.

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 JULY "PRODUCT OF THE MONTH"

Our Products of the Month for July are
Dish Soap and Toothpaste



Light of the World
PARISH RETREAT

LIGHT OF THE WORLD RETREAT

What is the purpose of your life? Ever wonder what you are living your life for? What gives your life meaning and purpose? Can you really know God's plan for your life? These are the question of our hearts and souls, and the Light of the World Retreat seeks to answer them.

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church will be facilitating this retreat on August 22 & 23 from 8 am—5 pm each day. This retreat is free with all meals provided. Registration is limited to the first 40 people with the deadline of July 31 for registration. Further information and a registration form are posted on the bulletin board in Shea Hall.

PARISH SUPPLY WISH LIST

Thank you to all who have donated supplies or funds to purchase supplies. Here is an updated list of our current needs:

Office/Church Supplies

8 1/2 x 14 Paper– White, 24#, 98 Bright
Postage – Forever stamps
Printer Cartridges (*Amazon has best prices*):
Lexmark 74C1SY0 (Yellow), 74X1SC0
(Cyan), 74C1SM0 (Magenta), & 74C1SK0
(Black); HP 134A Black Toner

Monetary Donations Towards:

Utilities—Propane, Electric, Water
Candle Oil
Sanctuary Candles
Grounds Maintenance



WES TEAM NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS

Next Meeting—September 28 at Noon in Shea Hall; All are welcome! Lunch will be served.

Pet Blessing—September 30, 11:00 AM

Fall Pot Luck—October 8, 4:00 PM

Parish Directory Photography Session—November 8; 2-8 pm

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

More info on the Photography Session for the new Parish Directory will be posted in upcoming bulletins but please save the date. November 8 is the only date they will be here.

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP—7/16/2023

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time—Attendance: 190

Sunday Offertory	\$ 2,203.00
Donation Box.....	0.00
Other Donations*	295.00
Total Donations for the Week.....	\$ 2,498.00

Year-to-Date Donations	\$ 11,409.50
Year-to-Date Budgeted Donations	10,839.53
Year-to-Date Donation Surplus**	\$ 569.97

Other Donations Not in Budget

Maintenance Fund	\$ 60.00
Parish Charity.....	0.00
Assumption of Mary.....	5.00
Total Non-Budget Donations	\$ 65.00

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

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

A REFLECTION FOR JULY 23 FROM “THE WISDOM OF FULTON SHEEN”

“Self-discipline brings back to us the excitement of our childhood, when our pleasures were rationed—when we got our dessert at the end of the meal and never at the start..”

AN INSPIRATION FOR JULY 23 FROM “THE WISDOM OF THE SAINTS”

Our Crosses in Life: *“Apart from the cross, there is no other ladder by which we may get to heaven.”*
St. Rose of Lima



REDISCOVER YOUR MARRIAGE

Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi with a long i) simply means “rediscovery”. The program offers the chance to rediscover yourself, your spouse, and a loving relationship in your marriage. 10’s of 1000’s headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending. Retrouvaille is not a spiritual retreat, not a sensitivity group, not a seminar, not a social gathering. For confidential information about or to register for the September program beginning with a weekend on Sept. 8-10 call 800-470-2230 or 615-838-6724 or email: nrv3043@gmail.com or visit the web site at www.HelpOurMarriage.com