



**JULY 30, 2023**  
**17TH 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. 7/31 8:30 AM** Brian Barker †  
**TUES. 8/1 8:30 AM** John F. Jackson †  
**WED. 8/2** **NO MORNING MASS**  
**THURS. 8/3 8:30 AM** LaRene Anderson †, Jeannine Korth  
**FRIDAY 8/4 8:30 AM** Mark Shaw †  
**SAT. 8/5 4:00 PM** Brian Barker †  
**SUN. 8/6 9:00 AM** Hank Caruso †

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 Montera, Ann Rizzo, Kim Brown, Robert Modisett, Tony Foster, Mary Sellers, Claire Cheadle, 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:** 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 LaRene Anderson given by Ilene Rainwater.* 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. John Vianney (1786-1859)**

*"There is nothing so great as the Eucharist. If God had something more precious, He would have given it to us."*

**ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH**

<b>Mon</b>	<b>7/31</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>	Church & Hall Cleaning
<b>Tue</b>	<b>8/1</b>		
<b>Wed</b>	<b>8/2</b>		
<b>Thu</b>	<b>8/3</b>		
<b>Fri</b>	<b>8/4</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>	Adoration
<b>Sat</b>	<b>8/5</b>	<b>4:00 PM</b>	Vigil Mass
<b>Sun</b>	<b>8/6</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>	Mass



## 16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

King David died about 970 years before Christ. His son, Solomon, succeeded him as king of Israel. Today's first Reading is Solomon's prayer as he begins his reign. He prayed for an understanding heart that he would reign well. Of all the gifts he could have asked for, he valued wisdom more than anything else. God's commands guide to wisdom, so in today's responsorial psalm we pray to God for this gift.

The kingdom of heaven can be found, but it can only be found with great effort and with great discernment. It is like a treasure in a field; when you know it is in the field, you must buy the field, but you must also dig through mounds of dirt to discover it. It is like the pearl of great price that is worth more than our earthly possessions, but it must be harvested with care and patience. It is like a haul of fish that is so valuable that it is worth tearing our nets to haul it in, even if the catch has the good and the bad.

Finding the kingdom of heaven can be messy. If we are seeking the kingdom of heaven, we must tune our vision to discern what is of God and what is not.

This Sunday, we hear Jesus again teaching us about the kingdom of heaven. The parable about the net thrown in the sea was explained and the first two parables about the treasure and the pearl, are pretty obvious. However, Jesus helps us think more deeply about the idea of a treasure.

Jesus is telling us that the kingdom of God and living in God's grace is of the highest values to us. Going to Mass, prayer, keeping the Commandments, loving God and each other is not just a form of insurance that we will be happy in the next life. It is something that we make part of our lives. The man who found the treasure was lucky, but the treasure wasn't legally and fully his until he sacrificed his possessions in order to buy the field. The man who wanted the pearl had to do the same. The kingdom of heaven doesn't come automatically. We have to invest in it to really possess it, or rather I should say, to have it possess us. The most important thing we have to invest is our time, time to pray and to reflect on the Scriptures, perhaps, even to serve God or the Church with some of our gifts and talents. But it also requires an investment of our will, choosing to guide our lives by Christ's teachings rather than making up our own rules about what's good or bad. It even takes an investment of our own finances, since if we value our faith, we will adequately support it.

When this life is over, we will have to leave most of our treasures. But we will take with us our good works and our love for God, and others; these will be our joy for all eternity. A life of holiness and goodness is a treasure that will not fail.



## AUGUST 5 & 6 SECOND COLLECTION MAINTENANCE FUND

Your donations to this fund will help pay for the rising cost of maintaining our aging buildings and to continue with preventative maintenance. Thank you for your support of this fund! You may use the envelope that came in your envelope packet or mark on a plain envelope or on the check that it is for the Maintenance Fund.

## CATECHISM CORNER

Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Francis of Assisi, this weekend's Catechism Corner is: Steps to becoming a saint. Did you know that each one of us, as Christians, are called to be saints? Saints are persons in Heaven canonized or not. So, that being said, we all have family members or friends that are saints.

However, to be canonized there are several steps that need to be taken. I have listed them below and hopefully will be able to explain the definitions clearly.

- 1) **Request for Canonization.** Five years after a person dies, yes you must die before the path to sainthood can start. A formal request is submitted to the Bishop of the Diocese where the person died. The request states how the person lived a life of holiness. If the bishop feels there is enough evidence to consider sainthood, he then asks the Vatican to open a special tribunal. Witnesses are called to attest the candidate's devotion to God and other virtues. If a person passes this step, he/she is named a "Servant of God".
- 2) **Determination.** Once the Bishop sends a formal report/request to Rome, it is reviewed by the Congregation for the Causes of the Saints, a group of nine theologians, who read the material sent and determine if there is enough cause to present it to the entire Congregation. The candidate's life is studied on how he/she practiced and lived a life according to the teachings of the Church. During this step, a person called "devil's advocate" raises questions to the candidate's sainthood. This is to make sure that the candidate is truly faithful to the teachings of the church. Once this step is completed, the candidate is declared "Venerable".
- 3) **Beatification.** If the candidate was a martyr, he/she may be named "Blessed" and can be venerated or officially honored in their city, diocese, region or religious community. However, if the candidate was not a martyr, a miracle must be verified by the congregation that was performed through the intercession of the candidate. Once the person is beatified and named "Blessed" he/she can be venerated or officially honored (in their city, diocese, region or religious community).
- 4) **Canonization.** WOW! I bet you thought we'd never get here. The work of our candidate is not complete yet. He/she needs to have another miracle verified. It could be something as simple as praying to this candidate, asking to intervene in a health issue or mental anguish, or just appearing to someone for comfort. It is not easy to verify but oh so worth it. After this determination, the Prefect of the Congregation sends the cause for canonization to the pope who makes the final decision. Once the candidate is canonized, he/she is officially declared a "Saint". A special Mass in honor of the new saint is declared by the Pope to make it official. We now have a new "Saint". Congratulations St. (Fill in the Blank)!

This has been quite a journey and experience for me and I have just touched the surface of Sainthood. For example, did you know the youngest Saint is just 11 years old? St. Maria Goretti (died in 1902, Canonized in 1950 by Pope Pius XII) was stabbed to death for refusing advances from a man. Also, the first Saint to be canonized was Saint Ulrich of Augsburg, who was canonized in 993 by Pope John XV.

I hope you enjoyed our corner this weekend and if you would like to learn more about the saints, do not hesitate to ask, or check out our library for some very interesting material on Sainthood. Have a wonderful week with lots of Angel Hugs! *Special Thanks to our Guest Editor, Yvonne Peychal!*



## THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

In the Gospel, we find that the demand of daily Christian living is to spend our life primarily searching for the kingdom of God.

**This month through your gifts to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able to assist local families by providing food and assisting with utility and rent bills, etc. Thank You!**

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 AUGUST "PRODUCT OF THE MONTH"

Our Products of the Month for August are  
**Cake Mix and Frosting**



## DIocese OF KNOXVILLE COLLECTION FOR DIOCESAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL TUITION SUPPORT

A 2nd collection will be taken on August 12 & 13 for Diocesan Catholic School Tuition support. The Catholic schools in our diocese provide spiritual and intellectual growth for over 3,000 students in our two high schools and eight elementary schools. During the pandemic years, our Catholic schools outshined all other public and private schools, meeting all the associated challenges while ensuring the quality of our children's education remained the same. With numerous awards, unbeatable graduation rates, and a passion to develop the youth of today into the leaders of tomorrow – our Catholic schools not only equip children for the journey of life but, more importantly, help to guide them along their journey to Heaven. In order to help ensure that a Catholic education is within every family's reach, we need your help. Over the past five years, the need for supplemental tuition support has more than doubled. And over this past year, a record of more than \$5.5 million dollars in tuition support was given to assist Catholic families. But with your help, additional children will experience the spiritual and academic advantages of a Catholic school education. Please be generous.

## 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 is included in this bulletin. Please save the date. November 8 is the only date they will be here for photos.**

### WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP—7/23/2023

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time—Attendance:

Sunday Offertory .....	\$ 2,198.19
Donation Box.....	0.00
Other Donations* .....	45.00
Total Donations for the Week.....	\$ 2,243.19

Year-to-Date Donations .....	\$ 13,652.69
Year-to-Date Budgeted Donations .....	<u>14,375.54</u>
Year-to-Date Donation <b>Deficit**</b> .....	<b>\$ 722.85</b>

#### Other Donations Not in Budget

Maintenance Fund .....	\$ 15.00
Parish Charity.....	0.00
Pastoral Solidarity Fund for Church in Africa .....	<u>837.00</u>
Total Non-Budget Donations .....	\$ 852.00

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

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

### A REFLECTION FOR JULY 30 FROM “THE WISDOM OF FULTON SHEEN”

*“The humble are not cast down by the censures or the slights of others. If they have unconsciously given occasion for them, they amend their faults; if they deserve them not, they treat them as trifles.”*

### AN INSPIRATION FOR JULY 30 FROM “THE WISDOM OF THE SAINTS”

**Love:** *“The proof of love is in the works. Where love exists, it works great things. But when it ceases to act, it ceases to exist.” - St. Pope Gregory the Great*




### 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](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.com)



### HAPPY ??TH BIRTHDAY TO JOANNE!

JoAnne was surprised this past weekend by her husband Brian who arranged to have a special birthday blessing for her from Father Antonio and provided cake for everyone attending Mass. Although her birthday is now past, we hope she enjoyed her special day.

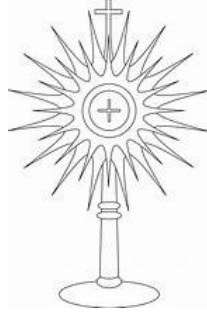



**FIRST FRIDAY  
EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**

**Friday, July 7**

**Mass: 8:30 AM**  
**Adoration: 9 AM—Noon**  
**Benediction: Noon**

If you are interested in committing to a Holy Hour for First Friday Eucharistic Adoration, please contact Jackie Wagner at 330-807-8663.



**Prayer Before the  
Blessed Sacrament**

By Pope St. John XXIII (1881-1963)

O Jesus, present in the Sacrament of the Altar, teach all nations to serve you with a willing heart, knowing that to serve God is to reign.

May your sacrament, O Jesus, be light to the mind, strength to the will, joy to the heart.

May it be the support for the weak, the comfort for the suffering, the wayfaring bread of salvation for the dying, and, for all, the pledge of future glory.

**PARISH PICTORIAL DIRECTORY -  
PHOTOGRAPHY SESSION; 11/8 FROM 2-8 PM**

The Welcoming Events and Social Team has decided it's time to get an updated pictorial directory of our parishioners. **There will only be one photo session so please mark this date on your calendars.** Each family will receive a free 8x10 photo for participating in this. There is no obligation or pressure to purchase any other photos.

We are looking for about 10 volunteers to help so please contact the office if you would be able to assist.

**UPDATED MEMBERS LIST**

Next weekend (8/5 & 8/6) we will be handing out updated contact information lists to parishioners. These will be distributed at the back of Shea Hall both before and after the Saturday and Sunday masses.

## AN EMAIL FROM BISHOP BARRON'S WORD ON FIRE

We received the following email from Word on Fire Catholic Ministries. This is a wonderful offer for those of you interested in attending the National Eucharistic Congress.

*"We're thrilled to announce the culmination of America's 3-year National Eucharistic Revival: the National Eucharistic Congress, set to take place in July 2024.*

*This extraordinary gathering of over 80,000 devout Catholics will feature dozens of speakers, including Bishop Barron, and will be a life-changing opportunity for grace and encounter with Jesus Christ in the Eucharist.*

*Word on Fire is proud to be a mission partner and premier sponsor of the National Eucharistic Congress.*

*When you register today using the Word on Fire Group Code, **WOF**, you'll receive a 20% discount on your registration!*

*Learn more about this incredible event and secure your tickets at <https://special.wordonfire.org/eucharisticcongress>."*



## VISIT OUR CHURCH LIBRARY!



Julie Dew mentioned in the Catechism Corner visiting our church library to get more information on the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy as well as almost any other topic regarding Catholicism that you are interested in. Please stop by to see the extensive variety of books, mostly donated by our parishioners. The library is open weekday mornings from 9 am until noon. An appointment can also be made by calling the church office.



Have you stopped by the St. Clare Gift Shop recently? Camilla has added many new items: jewelry, rosaries, statues. Stop by to see what new merchandise is on display.

Also, we will begin displaying our Christmas merchandise in the next few weeks. There will be many different statues and, back by popular demand, the handmade nativity scenes. Start thinking now of what new decoration you just "have to have"!

