



AUGUST 27, 2023
21 ST 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
OCIA: 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. 8/28 8:30 AM Edward Murphy †
TUES. 8/29 8:30 AM Brian Barker †, David Quinn
WED. 8/30 **NO MORNING MASS**
THURS. 8/31 8:30 AM Ann McTavish †
FRIDAY 9/1 8:30 AM Loretta Eberhardt †
SAT. 9/2 4:00 PM To St. Joseph for the Intentions of
German, Pamela, & Father Antonio
Giraldo
SUN. 9/3 9:00 AM Dorothy Simons †, Molly Pickett †

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, Margaret Jordan, Ignacio Penas, Dick DuRussel

SANCTUARY CANDLE: *In Memory of Ann McTavish given by Ilene Rainwater.* 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 Gibson given by Suzie Fay.* 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

Acts 2:42
They devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers.

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Mon	8/28	9:00 AM	Church & Hall Cleaning
Tue	8/29		
Wed	8/30		
Thu	8/31		
Fri	9/1	9:00 AM	Adoration
Sat	9/2	4:00 PM	Vigil Mass
Sun	9/3	9:00 AM	Mass

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



PASTOR'S
NOTES

In today's gospel, Jesus is curious to know how the disciples interpret his life and mission. He questions them about how they view his identity. Jesus' curiosity becomes a birthplace of heavenly grace upon the disciples. The questions that come from Jesus' mouth are, indeed, divine. We find two important ideas in today's gospel. First of all, there are many places in the Scriptures that emphasize the preeminent position of Peter among the Apostles, but there are two places where Peter's position is spelled out more

clearly than anywhere else. One is in John's gospel where Jesus tells Peter after the resurrection: "Feed my lambs, feed my sheep." Also, in today's Gospel where Peter's position of importance is clearly emphasized. Such insistence on the position of Peter is what underlies our belief that after Christ, the Holy Father is chief shepherd and head of the Church. His role is to be the visible representative of Christ. This doesn't mean he has perfectly represented Christ at all times in history, but that is still the position he holds. He has the final word on any issue related to the Church. The keys Jesus said he would give Peter symbolize this authority. The keys Jesus gave to Peter were not buried with him and that position of authority did not end when Peter died. It was passed on to his successors.

A second important idea in today's gospel is the answer to the question Jesus asked his apostles "Who do you say that I am?" How we answer this question will determine how each of us relates to him. Is he, for example, someone worth our time on Sunday or even during the week? Is he someone we can trust? Is he someone who loves us, forgives us, wants only the best for us? Is he someone who has the authority to tell us how to live, what we should do, what we may not do? Is he someone we look forward to spending eternity with? Jesus is Son of God, or as we say in the creed each week: Jesus is "God from God, light from light, true God from true God, etc." The apostles could tell Jesus what others said about him, and we can also say what others have said about Jesus. That's okay, for that's how we begin to learn who Jesus is, by what others tell us. But have we moved beyond what others have told us to know Jesus in a personal way, a way that Jesus could say has not been revealed to us by "flesh and blood, but by the Heavenly Father?" If we do not know Jesus personally, what can we do that can help us to know him, not just by hearsay, but in a deeply personal way? How we do it is how we get to know anyone in a more personal way, by spending time with a person. Spending time with God, with Jesus, in prayer, is how we get to him in a more personal way.

This dialogue is for every believer under heaven, even for all eternity. Jesus is curious about our response as well. His curiosity is full of grace. He desires us as we learn to desire him. He wants the best for us in our pain, in our loneliness, in our ill-health and aging. He wants us to be just as curious about him as he is about us. He desires an open space in our hearts so we may interpret his dying and rising. He wants us all to find within our hearts the place where we really need him. For our response to his divine questions does not come from earthly power or our place of leadership in the world. Our response, if we are truthful, flows from our humility, our sure need for the grace of his mercy and forgiveness. The questions of Jesus form a place of encounter within our hearts. Only with authentic hearts and faithful lives do we respond to such divine questions. Only when we face loss and adversity do we turn to the living God as we ache for salvation. The real truth of our lives does not come from memorizing a formula of Jesus' identity; it comes from our willingness to be broken enough to find God as refuge, our Healer and our Redeemer. Our relationship with Jesus Christ then becomes sacred communion. This is how the Church is built, from the vulnerability of human condition in need of the mercy of God.

CATECHISM CORNER

Good and Happy 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time! The Corner has had numerous pieces on prayer in the past, especially during Lent. All of us carry a longing to know God and enter into a relationship with Him. Those who live a deep relationship with God attract us by the peace and tranquility of their lives. They know they are loved, and they can handle the difficulties of life with joy and serenity. Reading scripture, the disciples see how deeply and spontaneously Christ talks with the Father, and they realize they are far from that; so, they ask Christ to teach them to pray.

A question that comes up in discussion, though, is “Why does the Catholic “Our Father” have a different ending than the Protestant one?” The first thing to note is that the prayer differs even among the Gospels themselves. When we read the Gospel of Matthew 6:9-13 and a similar, but shorter version of the “Our Father” in Luke 11:2-4, (where it ends with “lead us not into temptation” (v.4)) one would be completely, biblically justified in simply ending the prayer there. You will notice that both scriptures do not include the ending sentence found in the Protestant version, “For thine is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory now and forever.” This is technically termed a doxology. In the Bible, we find the practice of concluding prayers with a short, hymn-like verse which exalts the glory of God. The Jews frequently used these doxologies to conclude prayers at the time of our Lord.

A second interesting thing is that the verse in question is not included in the “oldest and best” biblical manuscripts, and is therefore not considered by the majority of biblical scholars today, whether Catholic or Protestant, to be part of the original biblical text. The King James Version of the Bible is based on the Textus Receptus, which itself was not based on the oldest manuscripts we have today. It was first published by Erasmus in 1516! Today's scholars note that Erasmus only had six late Greek New Testament manuscripts available in his research. Even modern versions of the King James includes a footnote stating that the phrase is omitted in older manuscripts. Furthermore, although early Church Fathers such as Jerome, Gregory the Great, Ambrose, and Augustine wrote of the importance and beauty of the “Our Father” prayer, none of them included the phrase when they referenced it. The commentaries on the prayer by Tertullian, Origen, and Cyprian do not include it either.

Scriptural and traditional evidence points to a fourth-century addition of the phrase to the original prayer. It is likely that around this time, a scribe familiar with the liturgy added the doxology to Sacred Scripture while copying the Our Father passage, and it found its way into later translations of the Bible itself. In England, Tyndale's translation included it, and when Henry VIII split from the Catholic Church, he decreed its inclusion in worship. Finally, the extremely anti-Catholic Queen Elizabeth had it included in the Anglican Book of Common Prayer. These copies eventually outnumbered the more ancient documents, and the phrase was included in the Gospels in the majority of ancient Bible manuscripts from then on. Once it was brought over to America by the Puritans, the phrase's addition was further solidified.

So, in conclusion, it seems that English Protestants added a traditional Catholic prayer to the Bible in order to distance themselves from what they thought were unbiblical Catholic traditions. Although Protestants have corrected many of their modern Bible translations, it seems their tradition of adding a Catholic doxology to the scriptural Lord's Prayer may take a bit more time to overcome. (Catholic.com)

Totally interesting stuff, right?



THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Like Peter in today's Gospel, we can find that when we open our eyes to see, our ears to hear and our hearts to experience Jesus' presence in our daily lives, God reveals himself to us.

Have you considered answering the call to help serve the poor by joining the Society of St. Vincent de Paul? Please join us for our next meeting on September 20th at 5PM in the PRC.

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 SEPTEMBER "PRODUCT OF THE MONTH"



THANK YOU so much for all the cake mixes and frosting you donated during the month of August. Our September Product of the month will be:

Paper Towels and Tissues



A REFLECTION FOR AUGUST 27 FROM "THE WISDOM OF FULTON SHEEN"

"The worldly are willing to let anyone believe in God if he pleases, but only on condition that a belief in God will mean no more than belief in anything else. They will allow God, provided that God does not matter. But taking God seriously is precisely what makes the saint."

AN INSPIRATION FOR AUGUST 27 FROM "THE WISDOM OF THE SAINTS"

Sacrifice: *"The devil is afraid of us when we pray and make sacrifices. He is also afraid when we are humble and good. He is especially afraid when we love Jesus very much. He runs away when we make the Sign of the Cross." - St. Anthony of Padua*



FIRST FRIDAY EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Friday, September 1

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.



SEPT. 2 & 3 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.

Directory Update

There has been a change to how we are going to complete the update of our parish pictorial directory. **Juan Quentin** has graciously agreed to do the photography and **JoAnne Romer-Aylward** has agreed to coordinate and lead this effort.

We will be scheduling the photography in October with 7 or 8 dates available. More details will be available in next week's bulletin.

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



WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP—8/20/2023

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time —Attendance: 167

Sunday Offertory	\$ 2,143.70
Donation Box.....	5.00
Feast of the Assumption.....	713.00
Other Donations*	125.00
Total Donations for the Week.....	\$ 2,986.70

Year-to-Date Donations	\$ 26,676.39
Year-to-Date Budgeted Donations	28,519.58
Year-to-Date Donation Deficit**	\$ 1,843.19

Other Donations Not in Budget

Maintenance Fund	\$ 25.00
Parish Charity.....	0.00
Total Non-Budget Donations	\$ 25.00

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

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

2023 SEASONS OF CREATION

The Season of Creation, an ecumenical observance embraced by our Holy Father, Pope Francis, begins with the *World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation* on September 1 and ends with the *Feast of St. Francis of Assisi* on October 4. A calendar of events for the greater Knoxville/Alcoa area has been planned by several of the Care for Creation Ministries in the Diocese and is posted on the bulletin board.

EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL NEWS AND EVENTS



The International Eucharistic Miracles of the World Exhibit will visit two parishes in the Diocese of Knoxville in September. This is a traveling display designed by Blessed Carlo Acutis. It contains an extensive assortment of photographs and historical descriptions of Eucharistic miracles, recognized by the Catholic Church that have taken place throughout history. Parishioner Sherry Hartz of the Basilica of Sts. Peter and Paul in Chattanooga, and Deacon Jim Bodine of St. Thomas the Apostle in Lenoir City were instrumental in organizing these events:

Basilica of St. Peter and Paul, Chattanooga

Saturday, September 16th from 10 am—8 pm

Sunday, September 17th from 8 am—2 pm

St. Thomas the Apostle, Lenoir City

Saturday, September 23rd from 10 am—8 pm

Sunday, September 24th from 8 am—2 pm

All are welcome to these events and parishes are encouraged to organize groups to make this rare and magnificent pilgrimage as part of the **Eucharistic Revival Year of the Parish**.