



AUGUST 6, 2023 THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

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.	8/7	8:30 AM	Marion Ganley †
TUES.	8/8	8:30 AM	Poor Souls in Purgatory
WED.	8/9		NO MORNING MASS
THURS.	8/10	8:30 AM	Marsha Webster †
FRIDAY	8/11	8:30 AM	Brian Barker †
SAT.	8/12	4:00 PM	Jessica & Noah Bell, Samantha Eberhardt
SUN.	8/13	9:00 AM	Normand † & Therese † Messier

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, 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

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

Matthew 26:26

While they were eating, Jesus took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and giving it to his disciples said, "Take and eat; this is my body."

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Mon	8/7	9:00 AM	Church & Hall Cleaning
Tue	8/8		
Wed	8/9		
Thu	8/10		
Fri	8/11		
Sat	8/12	4:00 PM	Vigil Mass
Sun	8/13	9:00 AM	Mass



THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

Today's gospel about Jesus' transfiguration proves especially challenging to many contemporary readers who demand to know how things happen. With the exception of learning that Jesus' clothes became dazzling white, we know very little about this event.

Mark simply, and perhaps frustratingly, only states that Christ "transfigured" which literally means, "to change form" and shares its root with our English word "metamorphosis." Not entirely like the metamorphosis of a caterpillar to a butterfly, Jesus transformed in an indescribably magnificent way. So amazing was the sight, that Jesus' apostles were terrified. In his glory, Jesus was accompanied by Elijah and Moses, heroes of the Jewish people, and God's own voice names Jesus as the "beloved Son".

Like the apostles, we cannot fully explain the beauty and importance of this moment. We cannot rationalize how Jesus transformed. There is beauty in this, however, as it helps us better understand that God is not some mystery to be solved. Instead, no matter how much we learn about God or grow in relationship with God, there is an insatiable vastness that we cannot comprehend. Rather than looking for rational explanations, may we bask in the moments where God reveals God-self to us.

According to St. Thomas Aquinas, at his transfiguration Christ showed his disciples the splendor of his beauty, to which he will shape and color those who are his: "He will reform our lowness configured to the body of his glory." The transfiguration was to expand the disciples' understanding of Jesus. It called for a response of obedience, even in the midst of their lack of understanding. Mathew's community understood the transfiguration as a proclamation of Jesus as Messiah.

God wants to transform us, just as he transformed his Son. He has saved us and called us with a holy calling. The transformation that God wants to work in us is not merely for our own well-being. All of us as members of the Church of Christ, are meant to reflect his glory and, by this reflection, to change the world. By the power of his Spirit, the Father wants to transform us all into radiant sons and daughters shining like the sun in this darkened world.

As we come to Jesus with eyes of faith, his Spirit is willing to work within us, transforming our lives and giving us a share in his perfect holiness. The transfiguration reminds us that we share God's wonderful glory and life. But paradoxically we share his suffering too. Today Jesus reminds us who we are and where we are headed. The degree of which we are transformed is the degree to which we will be effective in convincing the world of the glory of Christ and the truth of his salvation.

Jesus' transfiguration helped prepare the apostles for the salvation he was to win for all humanity. Our transformation and the transformation of the church can prepare the world to receive and accept the salvation He has won for us. Let us allow the Holy Spirit to transform us. As we are transformed, the whole church will reflect God's glory, and the whole world will be touched.

A REFLECTION FOR AUGUST 6 FROM "THE WISDOM OF FULTON SHEEN"

"We begin to act differently when we recognize the immensity of our possibilities."

AN INSPIRATION FOR AUGUST 6 FROM "THE WISDOM OF THE SAINTS"

Generosity: *"If you wish to help someone, give secretly and avoid arrogance." - St. Ephrem*

CATECHISM CORNER

Happy and joyful Sunday St. Francis! I wish to thank my “guest writer” Yvonne Pechal. I truly enjoyed reading your Corner on how to become a saint. Here’s a little tidbit: in the early Church the followers would reference each other as “saints.” So, Saint Yvonne, thank you again! A question came up while I was reading your Corner and this is why I would like to invite other parishioners to send me questions at jdewtn2018@att.net or just see me after Mass AND offer anyone who has a good idea for the Corner and would like to write one – OR – I can give you a suggestion, right Yvonne. ☺

Well, the question I had was: How does a Saint become a Doctor of the Church? As with our previous Corner, it is a long and laborious procedure to become a saint. So, what about becoming a “Doctor of the Church” process? It wasn’t until the 13th century that the Church “formalized” the process of a Saint becoming a Doctor of the Church! The title “Doctor of the Church” is a title given by the Catholic Church to saints recognized as having made a **significant** contribution to theology or doctrine.

According to “simplycatholic.com”: there are three requirements for being named a Doctor of the Church. **First**, is great sanctity. Thus, only those who have already been declared to be saints by the Church may be named a doctor. A **second** requirement is being well-known and a distinguished person for learning. This is often demonstrated by the fact that they were known to be great teachers of the Faith. The **third** requirement is a proclamation by the Church. Usually, such an announcement is made by the pope.

After reading this, you may ask who can recommend a saint to become a Doctor of the Church? Actually, anyone can! You, me, the bishop, but it is the Congregation for the Causes of Saints that presents possible cases to the Holy Father. This is done after more “in depth” verification of the Saint’s truth, theological foundation, and their works. That is insane when you think of the research/work already done for that person to become a saint!

Here are some FYIs that may interest you: the first church doctors were declared by Pope Boniface VIII in the 13th century: Saints **Ambrose** (bishop of Milan, Italy, a major opponent of Arianism), **Jerome** (he translated the Old Testament from Hebrew into Latin and revised the Latin translation of the New Testament to produce the Vulgate version of Bible; he is called “Father of Biblical Science”), **Augustine** (North African bishop, author of Confessions, City of God, and numerous treatises, countered heretical movements, one of the most influential theologians of the Western church; he is called “Doctor of Grace” thanks to his Momma!), and **St. Pope Gregory the Great** (pope, strengthened papacy and worked for clerical and monastic reform). The first women to be named as church doctors were Saints **Teresa of Ávila** (Spanish Carmelite, initiated discalced Carmelite movement, prolific spiritual and mystical writer) and **Catherine of Siena** (Italian Third Order Dominican, mystical author, also active in support of Crusades and in papal politics) . Both women were named Doctors of the Church in 1970 by Pope Paul VI.

The last time a Doctor of the Church was declared was in 2015 by Pope Francis for Armenian St. Gregory of Narek. Before that, Pope Benedict XVI named 16th century St. John of Avila and 12th century German nun St. Hildegard of Bingen.

My favorite? Hands down is Saint Thomas Aquinas, who was an Italian Dominican, wrote systematically on philosophy, theology, and Catholic doctrine; he is the patron of Catholic schools and education, one of the most influential theologians in the West! Best saint quote, my opinion, “There is no saint without a past, no sinner without a future.” – St. Augustine. Proof: there is hope for all of us! Blessings always!



THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

In the Gospel, the Lord's voice says: "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." The disciples were afraid, but Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and do not be afraid."

Know that in making your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul you are listening to Christ, and helping others not to be afraid.

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 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. 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.

UPDATED MEMBERS LIST

If you did not pick up an updated membership list this weekend, they are available in the office or you may call the office and we will arrange to have one for you at mass.

PARISH SUPPLY WISH LIST

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:

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

Save the Date!

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.



WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP—7/30/2023

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time—Attendance: 179

Sunday Offertory	\$ 2,547.00
Donation Box.....	50.00
Other Donations*	50.00
Total Donations for the Week.....	\$ 2,647.00

Year-to-Date Donations	\$ 16,299.69
Year-to-Date Budgeted Donations	17,911.55
Year-to-Date Donation Deficit**	\$ 1,611.86

Other Donations Not in Budget

Maintenance Fund	\$ 70.00
Parish Charity.....	0.00
Total Non-Budget Donations	\$ 70.00

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

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



YEAR-END FINANCIAL SUMMARY



The parish ended another fiscal year on June 30. Our 2022-23 fiscal year as a parish had collections, donations, and the gift shop totaling \$182,413.22. Total expenses were \$179,415.91. Therefore, we had a savings of \$2,997.31. This is the first time we had a savings in a fiscal year since 2018.

For our next budget, we are expecting expenses to increase by roughly 9%. We constantly look to trim expenses by taking steps, like adding programmable thermostats in our three buildings. We are also encouraging people to help us lower expenses by donating office supplies and other goods and services so the parish does not have to spend funds on them. You'll see a list of potential items throughout the year in the bulletin.

It is important that our parish be a spiritual gift to our parishioners and our visitors. We've improved the buildings and grounds to enhance everyone's spiritual experience.

We hope you will continue to support us financially in order to keep this little church by the Little River vibrant.

As a special note, we were notified by the Diocese on July 26 that they finished ahead of their budget for the 2022-2023 fiscal year. They will be distributing \$195,000 back to the parishes in the Diocese which amount to a 1% rebate on our assessable income. For St. Francis, this is \$1,511 and will be credited to our account for the 2023-2024 fiscal year.