



SEPTEMBER 10, 2023 23RD 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. 9/11 8:30 AM Gary Trower[†]
TUES. 9/12 8:30 AM Cheryl Korth[†]
WED. 9/13 **NO MORNING MASS**
THURS. 9/14 8:30 AM Parker Stanford[†]
FRIDAY 9/15 8:30 AM Debbie Eberhardt, Brooks Watson
SAT. 9/16 4:00 PM Al Pawlowski[†]
SUN. 9/17 9:00 AM Frank[†] & Hilman[†] Barks

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, Joanna Dogid, Chris Owens, Christopher Kramer, Rosemary Barker, Cam King, David Holmes, 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, Ignacio Penas, Dick DuRussel, Mike Scully

SANCTUARY CANDLE *In Memory of Normand & Therese Messier given by Joyce & Ed Welsh.* 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 Dorothy Simons & Molly Pickett 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. Angela of Foligno (1248-1309)

“If we paused for a moment to consider attentively what takes place in this Sacrament, I am sure that the thought of Christ’s love for us would transform the coldness of our hearts into a fire of love and gratitude.”

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Mon	9/11	9:00 AM	Church & Hall Cleaning
Tue	9/12		
Wed	9/13		
Thu	9/14		
Fri	9/15		
Sat	9/16	4:00 PM	Vigil Mass
Sun	9/17	9:00 AM	Mass



FOR THE ELECTION OF A NEW BISHOP

This is a portion of the letter we received this week from Archbishop Fabre regarding the election of a new bishop. It begins:

"... and He chose from them Twelve" (Luke 6:13).

To all the faithful of the Diocese of Knoxville,

The choice of the Twelve Apostles by Christ after a night of prayer (cf. Luke 6:12) is a mystery that continues to unfold in the life of the Church with the appointment of bishops as their successors. Truly, the selection of a bishop is as important today as was the choice of the Twelve for Jesus. And at this particular time within the Diocese of Knoxville, we too, as members of Christ's Mystical Body, are called to participate in His prayer in asking the Heavenly Father, through the Holy Spirit, to "appoint" a new shepherd after the heart of His Son, the eternal shepherd.

It is most fitting then, that we begin praying for the future shepherd of this diocese, both as a community of the faithful, and individually in your daily prayers. Therefore, I have asked that all the Masses on the weekend of September 10, 2023 be celebrated for the appointment of a bishop, in accordance with the norms established by the Church. Furthermore, at the conclusion of all Masses and after the prayer to St. Michael the Archangel, I ask that a special prayer also be prayed until such time as the appointment of a new bishop is announced.

When we live in the unity that Jesus intends for us, we know God's love, fellowship with him, and the power of his name. Jesus' purpose is broader than that, however. He calls us to communicate this unity to the world. He wants us to share with all men and women the good news that the intimate, loving relationship that he enjoys with the Father is possible for them, too. When we are united, the presence of Jesus – all the power of his name and the love of God – will be found in us.

This is the mission of the church, to share the gospel with all people. The Lord God who is one, is himself the life that Jesus wants all men and women have. As those called to bring that message to others, we must reflect the life and the unity that come from God alone.

The only way to bring this unity is to look to Jesus' life and follow the way he established for us. The unity he had with the Father radiated throughout his life in his obedience to and reliance on God. To experience this kind of unity, we must open our hearts to Jesus and receive the blessings of unity, which is God's love for others manifested in lives transformed by the Spirit.

Let us examine our relationships and repent for the ways we allow, and even encourage, disunity in our families, communities, parishes, and places of work. Let us ask the Holy Spirit to show us where we are intolerant of others because of their race, religion, economic status, or even with their appearance, dress or way of speaking. As we ask forgiveness, God himself will build up his church through our witness; his work will be furthered by our unity.

CATECHISM CORNER

Good and happy 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time! A couple of weeks ago, I talked about having a relationship with our God. After listening to “The Bible in a Year” podcast with Father Mike Schmitz, I wondered if anyone else had the question why God gives us “laws” or guidelines to follow like the Ten Commandments? It’s ALL about relationship(s)! You need to know that God first taught His people: this is Who I am and then established a covenant prior to the commandments. The difference between a covenant and a contract is that a covenant is profoundly deeper, profoundly more significant, because where a contract is an exchange of goods or services based off of a condition, a covenant is an exchange of persons and there are no conditions. God established a relationship, a covenant, with the Israelites prior to the rules. These “rules” will preserve and deepen this relationship and strengthen this covenant.

So, why did God give us the Ten Commandments? To answer simply: we are all traveling through this worldly life to our home in Heaven, but as so often has happened in history, we can lose our way. You just need to read the Pentateuch, the first five Books of the Bible (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy) and you’ll realize they needed guidance and we still do today just as much as the Israelites in the first five Books!

Christians have long understood the gift of the Law to Moses to be divided up into the moral law, the ritual law, and the judicial law. The moral law is found principally in the Ten Commandments. The ritual law refers to matters such as the liturgical sacrifices, ritual purity, and clean and unclean foods. The judicial law includes various case laws and provisions pertaining to the specific context of ancient Israel. In the New Covenant, the moral law is reaffirmed and deepened, whereas the ritual and judicial laws are set aside, having fulfilled their purpose. (The Great Adventure Catholic Bible pg. 89)

God gave Moses the Ten Commandments to teach Jews about the covenant God made with all Jewish people at Mount Sinai. The commandments were given to regulate human behavior, prevent people from sinning, and to let people know what sin is and what things are cursed by God. The commandments were also given to help free humanity from the tendency to sin and to help each of us lead our best lives. The commandments summarized the absolutes of spiritual and moral living that God intended for his people.

When looking at the Ten Commandments, you will notice that the first three concern the love of God and the other seven the love of neighbor. The CCC states in paragraph 2068: The Council of Trent teaches that the Ten Commandments are obligatory for Christians and that the justified man is still bound to keep them, the Second Vatican Council confirms: “The bishops, successors of the apostles, receive from the Lord....the mission of teaching all peoples, and of preaching the Gospel to every creature, so that all men may attain salvation through faith, Baptism and the observance of the Commandments.” (Please note that the Council of Trent was held between 1545 and 1563 and the Second Vatican Council was held between 1962 to 1965. But you knew that!)

In the next few weeks, for the Corner we will “talk” about each commandment and try to answer questions that you may have. If you have a specific question(s), please don’t hesitate to ask by contacting me via my email jdewtn2018@att.net or after Mass! Have a most blessed week!



THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

In today's Gospel, Jesus says: "...where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

Is there a family you know who needs assistance? Please call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that together we help them to know that indeed "God is in the midst of 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 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 SEPTEMBER 10 FROM "THE WISDOM OF FULTON SHEEN"

"If we use our lives for other purposes than those given by God, not only do we miss happiness, but we actually hurt ourselves and beget in us queer little 'kinks'."

A INSPIRATION FOR SEPTEMBER 10 FROM "THE WISDOM OF THE SAINTS"

Devotion: *"Love Him totally, who gave Himself totally for your love."*

St. Clare of Assisi

SURVEY

We want to hear from you!

Would you take just a couple of minutes to answer a brief 5-question survey regarding Adult Catechesis in our parish? The survey is accessible from the home page of our website: www.stfrancistownsend.org. Simply click on the SURVEY icon and follow the on-screen prompts.

If you cannot access the online survey, you are welcome to pick up a paper copy from the table in the church vestibule and return it to Julie Dew or to the Parish Office. Thank You! Your feedback will help us tremendously!

ST. MARY'S LEGACY MOBILE MEDICAL CLINIC

On September 16 & 17, a second collection will be taken in support of the Diocese's St. Mary's Legacy Mobile Medical Clinic that visits 8 medically underserved rural areas of East TN monthly providing healthcare and telehealth to the poor and uninsured. This "doctor office on wheels", is run by a small staff and the help of over 75 volunteer physicians, nurses, and community members who donate their time and talent to this great ministry. The Clinic provides primary health care, and access to advanced care through community partnerships. As an osteopathic physician, and the Clinic's Medical Director, Sr. Mary Lisa Renfer, RSM, DO provides a "whole-person" approach, which considers both the physical and mental needs of SMLC patients. To learn more, visit www.SMLCares.com. Please be generous in supporting this great medical ministry.

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP—9/3/2023

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time —Attendance: 207	
Sunday Offertory	\$ 5,115.00
Donation Box.....	27.00
Other Donations*	380.00
Total Donations for the Week.....	\$ 5,522.00
Year-to-Date Donations	\$ 34,902.39
Year-to-Date Budgeted Donations	35,591.60
Year-to-Date Donation Deficit**	\$ 689.21
<u>Other Donations Not in Budget</u>	
Maintenance Fund	\$ 1,075.00
Parish Charity.....	50.00
Total Non-Budget Donations	\$ 1,125.00

* Mass Intentions, Flowers, Candles, Facility Use, etc.
 ** Based on Year-to-Date Total Donations minus Year-to-Date Budgeted Donations



EUCHARISTIC 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**.

THE ABBEY "SPECIAL ARTISTS" NEXT WEEKEND

On Friday, September 14, our parishioner, Juan Quinton, and his friend Jim are performing at The Abbey here in Townsend. The performance will start about 6:30 pm. Stop by to hear them play!



Smile for the Camera!
We are updating our pictorial directory and



to help make it complete!

Sign-up sheets are on the counter in Shea Hall for picture times! Please take a minute and sign up to have your picture taken for our new Parish Directory.

PHOTOGRAPHY DATES AND TIMES:

Week 1:	October 3 rd through October 6 th	4:00 - 7:30 PM
Week 2:	October 27 th	4:00 - 7:30 PM
	October 28 th	2:30 - 6:00 PM (No photos taken during Mass time)
	October 29 th	10:15 AM - 12:30 PM



ST. CLARE GIFT SHOP

Christmas in September Sale

ALL MERCHANDISE 15% OFF

9/2 – 9/30

Including our exclusive "Artistic Nativity Scene" which is made and painted by hand here in Townsend, TN. Each one is a unique design.

Regularly: \$149.95

This month only: \$127.50



WES TEAM NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS

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

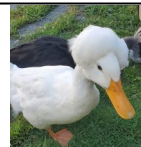
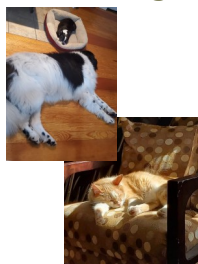
Pet Blessing—September 30, 11:00 AM, Behind the PRC Building

Fall Pot Luck—October 8, 4:00 PM

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

BLESSING of the ANIMALS Saturday, September 30, 11 AM, Behind the PRC Building

ALL PETS ARE WELCOME



Please Note: There will be a special "Drive-By" Blessing following the group blessing. This is for those who wish for their animal to remain in their vehicle during the group blessing. Follow the directions for where to park your vehicle during the service.



Do you have some recent photos (from the last couple of years) of St. Francis of Assisi Parish life that you would be willing to share in our new pictorial directory? They could be pictures of any church gathering that celebrates the family life of this parish! For example: The Smokies baseball game, Potluck Dinners, Food Drives, Christmas Party, the Sacraments, Decorating the church or church grounds, Cleaning the church or church grounds.... If so, please e-mail your pictures (and/or questions) to JoAnneRA.726@gmail.com.