



OCTOBER 22, 2023
29TH 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
DEACON: Deacon Jim Schmall
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 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. 10/23 8:30 AM Poor Souls in Purgatory
TUES. 10/24 8:30 AM Teresa Moreno
WED. 10/25 **NO MORNING MASS**
THURS. 10/26 8:30 AM Alan Armenta
FRIDAY 10/27 8:30 AM Ann McTavish †
SAT. 10/28 4:00 PM Brian Barker †
SUN. 10/29 9:00 AM Joseph† & Gwendolyn† Gagliano

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 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, Bruce Haverkos, Ignacio Pendas, Dick DuRussel, Mike Scully, Paul Fain, Joyce Fain, Normand Messier, Jr., Charles Jones

SANCTUARY CANDLE *In memory of Joseph & Gwendolyn Gagliano given by Gloria & Randy Peifer.* 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 Robert 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

St. Pio of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio)

"It would be easier for the world to survive without the sun than to do without Holy Mass."

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

| | | | |
|------------|--------------|----------------|------------------------|
| Mon | 10/23 | 9:00 AM | Church & Hall Cleaning |
| Tue | 10/24 | | |
| Wed | 10/25 | | |
| Thu | 10/26 | | |
| Fri | 10/27 | | |
| Sat | 10/28 | 4:00 PM | Vigil Mass |
| Sun | 10/29 | 9:00 AM | Mass |

29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



The Gospel this Sunday is talking about a coin. Jesus said to his critics, the Herodians and the Pharisees: "Show me a coin." The coin was a Roman coin used to pay taxes to the Emperor. Jesus made this request because He was asked the question: "Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not?" (Mt 22:17). Jesus was quick to notice the malice behind this simple question. That is why he retorted: "Why are you testing me, you hypocrites?"

He called them hypocrites because they were actually trying to trap him. If he answers "yes", they will tell the people that Jesus is a supporter of the Roman Empire. If he answers "no," they will accuse him of sedition and report him to the Roman authorities so that he would be imprisoned. He called them hypocrites also because it is not proper for Jews, especially the Pharisees, to have in their possession a Roman coin, for such would be an acknowledgement of Roman power over the Jewish people.

Added to that, the coin has the blasphemous words inscribed on it: "Tiberius Caesar, Son of the Divine Augustus." Yet when he asked for a coin, the Pharisees readily gave him one. In fact, it is publicly known that they are already paying taxes to the Emperor.

They laid a trap for Jesus, but he eluded it masterfully by saying: "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and to God what belongs to God" (Mt 22:21).

While we are in this world, we abide by the principles of social life. No man is an island. We live with others in society. We should be useful and healthy members of society. And for a society to live in peace and harmony, there should be norms and laws, which must be followed for the common good and the protection of human rights. In this regard, legitimate authority is necessary to implement the laws and to lead and unite the people. That is the meaning of the first part of the statement of Jesus: "Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar." We have duties and obligations as members of society: loyalty to country, honest public service, payment of taxes, obedience to the laws of the land, respect for persons in authority and defense of basic human rights among many others. "Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar." I don't think we have problem with this. I believe we are all law-abiding citizens of the land. Otherwise, we will not be here but in jail.

God is generous to us. He gives us everything, even His own Son: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son." How generous are we to God? "Give to God what belongs to God." Everything.

Give God
everything.



Occasionally, we run out of paper bulletins after our weekend Masses. If we have run out of bulletins, you can always request a paper bulletin from the church office or access our bulletins online at our website www.stfrancistownsend.org. Just click on the "Bulletin" icon/button on our website's home page and then select the week you wish to view.

Additionally, you may choose to receive the weekly bulletin as an e-mail attachment simply by sending an e-mail with "E-Bulletin" in the subject line to:

SFABulletin7717@gmail.com.

CATECHISM CORNER

Today in the Corner we will discuss the Sixth Commandment of “You shall not commit adultery.” The two most basic instincts of man are self-preservation and preservation of the race. To preserve self, we eat and we drink. To preserve the race, we marry. To get us to eat and drink and to marry, God has attached an intense pleasure to these actions. The pleasure attached to the married act surpasses that attached to eating and drinking (and if you think this was difficult for me to write today, try speaking to 8th grade Confirmation students about this!), for the preservation of the race is more necessary than the preservation of an individual.

Real men love their wives as Christ loves His Church: “Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ loved the Church” (Eph. 5:25). The problem is most of us can’t just flip a switch and love our wives “as Christ loved the Church,” even if—especially if—we understand the true meaning and depth of Paul’s words AND there is SO much more to this scripture. Nonetheless, we realize that the apostle to the Gentiles is trying to give a blueprint for success as husbands and fathers. The key for Christian men is to realize that implementing Paul’s instruction requires training and hard work. You need to build virtues, which not only are godly habits, but spiritual muscles that will help attain “the full stature of Christ” (Eph. 4:13).

We all know that the world gives us a different blueprint for success. The secular model of a successful man is a rich, powerful womanizer. As an alternative, I offer three virtues, which also are fruits of the Holy Spirit, to help dismantle this model and rebuild our image of manhood on more solid ground.

One virtue is chastity. What does this virtue teach us about the gift of the male sexuality? Many men feel, once they’re married, chastity is no longer needed. This is an erroneous and immature way of looking at it. Loving our wives as Christ loves His Church is much deeper and richer than that. All Christians are called to chastity throughout their lives. Some embrace virginity or consecrated celibacy, some are called to live chastely whether married or single. Chastity is a virtue or spiritual muscle, just like prudence, justice, faithfulness, sobriety, courage, and a host of other virtues that are meant for every generation. Please read St. Paul’s letter to Titus 2:1-7 and CCC 2337, 2341.

Another crucial virtue for men is meekness. What does this virtue teach them about manly strength? At first glance, meekness may be the most unattractive Christian virtue to modern man. Today, many people think of meekness as weakness, the opposite of self-assertion. We picture a meek person as a wimp or doormat, not as a manly and brave Christian. Yet, those who are serious about following the Lord and growing in Christian virtue know that the Bible presents a different image of meekness. Meekness is sometimes used interchangeably with “gentleness” in biblical translations. Our faith admires meekness not only as a desirable virtue and fruit of the Holy Spirit, but also as a Beatitude. Meekness implies an openness to God that allows Him to act through us. When it comes to living as Christians today, meekness prevents us from “going ballistic” and allowing our anger to consume us. Meekness invites God’s presence, enabling us to do good in response to evil. This message is for everybody, but in a special way it goes out to today’s men, for whom meekness, sadly, is a rare commodity.

And the third virtue is generosity. What does this virtue say about our attitude toward possessions and wealth, as well as our priorities in life? We know that generosity entails “freely giving something of value away.” The origin of the word, generosity, is fundamentally life-giving. These distinct meanings come together in marriage. After all, marital love consists in a total gift of ourselves to our wives. Generosity in any context does not come easily. It’s a contradictory virtue, as our natural instinct is to try to make ourselves happy through obtaining possessions, not self-donation. Yet the Gospels are crystal-clear on this. Or as St. Francis of Assisi fittingly summarized, “It is in giving that we receive.” Two areas where families are especially called to be generous are tithing and openness to children. There may be others, but those are two of the biggest drains on the pocketbook I’ve come across as a married person. The challenge for us is to step out in faith in these areas and trust Christ. (catholic.com) Giving up our self for our spouse is a call to heroic chastity, meekness, and generosity, and as with Christ on the cross, this entails sacrifice.

The information today is focused on the husband, but it is definitely good advice for wives as well! Amazingly, through such sacrifice, we find true joy and happiness—in this life and in the glory of heaven. And, as if I haven’t given you enough to reflect on, here are some more good tips to help you with this commandment: go to monthly Confession, frequent Holy Communion, pray the Rosary daily, and read the lives of the saints! As we enter the most colorful time of the year, I pray ya’ll have a beautiful and blessed week!



Smile for the Camera!

We are updating our pictorial directory and



to help make it complete!

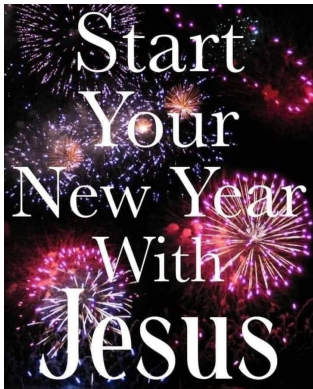
Sign-up sheets are hanging on the closet door in Shea Hall for picture times!
Please take a minute and sign up to have your picture taken for our new Parish Directory.

REMAINING PHOTOGRAPHY DATES AND TIMES:

October 27:.....4:00 - 5:15 PM

October 28:2:30 - 6:15 PM (No photos taken during Mass time)

October 29: 10:15 AM - Noon



NEW YEAR'S RETREAT: SPIRITUAL EXERCISES FOR THE NEW YEAR

2 NIGHTS: DECEMBER 30TH THROUGH JANUARY 1ST

CATHOLIC CONFERENCE CENTER IN HICKORY, NC

Let a certified 'coach' guide you through some time-honored spiritual practices in this year's retreat, "Spiritual Exercises for the New Year." Enter the year spiritually renewed and well-equipped with some techniques to keep you spiritually fit throughout the year. In addition to engaging presentations, there will be Mass, confession, Matins, Vespers, and Adoration. Additionally you will have the opportunity to reflect upon the New Year in our sacred spaces, enjoy the gas logs in our lounge, or explore the beautiful grounds of the Catholic Conference Center in Hickory, NC. As a special treat, there will be a New Year's Eve banquet with some traditional festivities. The last two

years have sold out, so register now at www.catholicconference.org/new-years. For more information email info@catholicconference.org or call 828.327.7441.



SUNDAY MORNINGS COFFEE, DONUTS, AND FELLOWSHIP RETURNS!

Back by popular demand: after a long COVID hiatus, we have returned to offering Coffee, Donuts, and Fellowship after each Sunday morning Mass. Donna Czernewski has graciously agreed to coordinate this wonderful ministry and is looking for some dedicated volunteers to help out!

A sign-up sheet is available on the counter in Shea Hall for anyone who would be interested in hosting any given Sunday. Hosting duties include (but are not necessarily limited to) providing a small assortment of pastries (donuts, cupcakes, muffins, scones, danishes, etc... no casseroles or main-course dishes, just light finger-food pastries please), setting up the coffee station, setting out paper plates, napkins, utensils, cleaning up after fellowship, and taking out the trash.

SHARE THE WARMTH



The St. Mary's Legacy Clinic (SMLC) is collecting donations for men, women, and children to distribute to their patients in December and January. Donations of new or

gently used winter clothing (coats, sweaters, pajamas, gloves/mittens, scarves, hats, snow gear, socks, and blankets) may be dropped off at the St. Mary Legacy Clinic or Chancery offices from now through November 30th. Contact Rebecca Pipkins at rpipkins@smlcares.com or 865-212-5570 with any questions.

Donations will be distributed at the mobile clinic sites in December and January to SMLC patients.

Because We Care

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP—10/15/2023

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time —Attendance: 203

Sunday Offertory \$ 3,216.00
 Donation Box 24.00
 Holy Days 20.00
 Other Donations* 100.00
 Donations for the Week \$ 3,360.00

Year-to-Date Donations \$ 53,936.20
 Year-to-Date Budgeted Donations 56,807.65
 Year-to-Date Donation **Deficit**** **\$ 2,871.46**

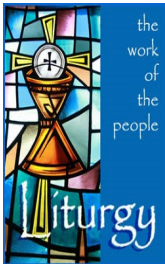
Other Donations Not in Budget

Maintenance Fund \$ 330.00
 Parish Charity 0.00
 Second Collection (Deaconate) 1,083.00
 Total Non-Budget Donations \$ 1,413.00

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

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

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES QUARTERLY SIGN-UPS FOR NOVEMBER, DECEMBER & JANUARY



This is the final weekend for Liturgical Ministries signup! The signup sheets are on the counter in Shea Hall. Please take some time after Mass to sign up for your ministry/ministries.

If you would like more information about our Liturgical Ministries, please check out our website, the bulletin board in Shea Hall or contact one of our ministry heads:

| | | | |
|---------------|------------------|--------------|--|
| Lectors | Martha Frink | 865-556-4684 | marthafrink00@gmail.com |
| EMHC* | Karen Messenger | 225-572-9400 | komessenger@gmail.com |
| Ushers | Paul Czerniewski | 847-877-7347 | paul.czerniewski@gmail.com |
| Sacristans | Kathy Meyerkord | 630-698-5563 | kmmeyerkord@gmail.com |
| Altar Servers | Dan Meyerkord | 708-846-4144 | dkam27@sbcglobal.net |

* Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI COLUMBARIUM

It has been several years since we've printed any information regarding our beautiful Columbarium which was installed in October 2019. There are a total of 96 niches in the Columbarium, each of which will hold two urns. To date, half of the niches have been sold.

The cost of a niche is currently \$2,500 which includes the two urns and a bronze nameplate. Cremation and interment service is not included in that fee. If you are interested and would like to get further information, Bob Eberhardt is chair of the Columbarium committee. He can be contacted at 630-542-9760 or R_B_Eberhardt@comcast.net.





THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

In the Gospel today Jesus says: "Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God." When God is the center of our lives there is no problem with giving others their due.

Through your gift to the Society of St. Vincent DePaul you are helping your neighbor who is hungry, hopeless and frightened to know that they belong to God.

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 OCTOBER
"PRODUCT OF THE MONTH"**



Peanut Butter and Jelly!

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!



THANK YOU FROM CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF EAST TENNESSEE

The green envelope in our envelope packets goes to Catholic Charities of East Tennessee. Following is an excerpt from a Thank You letter from them:

Thank you so much for your gift of \$6,205.00 to our Pregnancy Help Center here at Catholic Charities of East Tennessee. Your willingness to join with us to respect life and strengthen families is such a blessing! Please know that your gift is helping new parents learn how to be effective mothers and fathers. You are giving children a chance to grow up in a happy and healthy home.

We are told in Proverbs to "Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it" (Proverbs 22:6)



WES TEAM NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS

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



CROSS CATHOLIC OUTREACH BOX OF JOY PROJECT

Our St. Francis of Assisi Council of Catholic Women group is once again sponsoring the Cross Catholic Outreach Box of Joy project. You can fill your own box (available in the PRC or at the St. Clare Gift Shop) or purchase a box online at <https://crosscatholic.org/boxofjoy/create-a-box-online/>.

A Box of Joy is a Christmas shoebox that is donated and packed with toys, clothing, school supplies and other treasured items by U.S. parishes, schools and groups. Each child who receives a Box of Joy also receives a rosary and a booklet in their own language that tells *The Story of Jesus*. Box of Joy provides hope to children in need, each gift represents Christ's love, and may be the only Christmas gift they receive.

Your support to this project is greatly appreciated! If you have questions, contact Ilene Rainwater at (865)748-1873. If you decide to fill your own box, we need to collect them by **November 1** so we can get them to the Diocese drop-off point.



IN NOVEMBER WE REMEMBER

We honor the dead during the month of November. Our *Names of the Dead* book will be placed on the tables in the St. Padre Pio/St. Clare alcove in the church for the month of November.

BOOK OF THE DEAD: Please feel free to write the names of loved ones who have died **this past year** (November 1, 2022 - November 1, 2023) in the book so that the repose of their souls may be prayer for.

REMEMBRANCE TABLES: Please bring framed photos of loved ones who have died (not restricted to this past year) and place the photos on the remembrance table in the church alcove.

The book and the framed photos will remain in church throughout the month of November. The names written in the book will be honored (collectively) at each weekend Mass through the month of November.

VETERAN'S DAY CELEBRATION AT WEEKEND MASSES NOVEMBER 11TH AND 12TH



We will be honoring our veterans, both living and deceased at both weekend Masses on November 11th and 12th. All veterans are invited to participate in this special celebration. You are also invited (and encouraged) to wear your uniform (or any part thereof) for this special service! Additionally, please bring any memorabilia (medals, awards, etc) that you would like to have included in the display table.

Please see an usher before Mass since the procedures at each Mass may be slightly different. If you normally attend the Saturday evening Mass, please contact John Peychal (865-230-3410) for more information. If you normally attend the Sunday morning Mass, please contact Ron Andersen (954-303-1421) for more information. Father Antonio will give a blessing to all veterans at the end of Mass.