



OCTOBER 29, 2023
30TH 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.	10/30	8:30 AM	(CS) Brian Barker †
TUES.	10/31	8:30 AM	(CS) Sheila Edgeworth †
WED.	11/1	9:00 AM	Rich Fallat (All Saints Mass)
THURS.	11/2	8:30 AM	Joseph † & Gwendolyn † Gagliano
FRIDAY	11/3	8:30 AM	Dave Fricke
SAT.	11/4	4:00 PM	Kerry † & Michael † O'Brien
SUN.	11/5	9:00 AM	Donna † & Bob † Mihalsky

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.

CS = COMMUNION SERVICE



PRAYER REQUESTS: (Homebound, sick or recovering parishioners, friends and relatives): Charlotte Graham, Pat Sanders, Judy Sanders, Doreen Mancuso, Ann Sorvillo, Naomi Nwadike, Deacon Larry West, Jerome Chris Owens, Christopher Kramer, Cam King, David Holmes, Amy Frink, Myra Montero, 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 Bob & Donna Mihalsky 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

Pope St. Pius X (1835 - 1914)

“The Eucharist is the shortest and safest way to Heaven.”

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Mon	10/30	9:00 AM	Church & Hall Cleaning
Tue	10/31	6:00 PM	All Saints Vigil Mass
Wed	11/1	9:00 AM	All Saints Mass
		5:00 PM	SVdP Meeting
Thu	11/2		
Fri	11/3	9:00 AM	Adoration (9 - Noon)
Sat	11/4	4:00 PM	Vigil Mass
Sun	11/5	9:00 AM	Mass

30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



PASTOR'S NOTES

In asking which is the greatest commandment, the Pharisees expected Jesus to tell them what he felt was most essential about the law. Jesus' answer – love of God and neighbor – centers all observance on the law of love. To those who heard him, people whose culture and way of life was based on the law, Jesus was saying that every detail of their lives depended on love.

St. Paul understood this. "Love is the fulfilling of the law" (Romans 13:10). It draws our souls willingly to God. The Father demonstrated love by sending his only Son to bring us forgiveness and to reconcile us with the Father.

Our English language with its vast vocabulary, uses only one word, love, for a multitude of emotions, attitudes, expressions and activities.

The world has saturated our thoughts about love with human ideology. We are steeped in popular notions absorbed from television, movies, magazines, and books of all kinds. We tend to think of love as emotional, sensual, uncontrollable; we fall in love as if we stumbled over it in the dark or wake up to find that love has gone as if it were a coward that had fled at daylight.

For us Christians, this concept of love seems deficient and superficial. A physical or psychological attraction, we understand, is momentary, transitory. When difficulties, doubts, or infidelities break the relationship, this type of love ends. But we are called to will and to do what God wants and are empowered to do this by his love for us. That, and not a feeling inside, is love of God.

Our Lord Jesus presents us today with what true love is. To love one's neighbor as oneself is to want and actively seek the benefit of the other with words and deeds, to work tirelessly for the well-being and happiness of the other regardless of the effort it will require. True love is giving one's own life for the other. It is helping the other in a selfless, honest, and authentic way. It is a commitment that lasts a lifetime and is built on trust, joy, and mutual respect.

Sensible and true love always forgives because it respects differences and maintains the relationship through reconciliation, because it knows that both parties want to solve problems and overcome offenses. There is a sincere commitment that requires the ability to work through misunderstandings and anxieties. It is an unreserved love of soul and body, of feelings and mind.

Love of God means that we worship him only, not our families, jobs, or possessions; loving our neighbors means that we are patient, and "bear all things" (1 Corinthians 13: 4, 7). To understand this, we must first ask God to teach us what his love is, to teach us how these injunctions work in our lives. Only if our love is rooted in the love of God will it bear fruit for the salvation of others. We love God when we choose his will and obey it. The power comes from God – the decision is ours. Let us open ourselves and ask him to teach us. Then we will be able to love our neighbor as God loves – freely, generously, and without reservation.



CATECHISM CORNER

The Seventh Commandment, “You shall not steal” is the topic today for the Corner, but what does that mean? While the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) does admit of extraordinary circumstances where it can be moral to take another’s property (e.g., it’s not wrong to take an apple from someone’s orchard to feed someone who is starving, though, the farmer may disagree), the essence of the seventh commandment is this: “It’s wrong to make something yours if it belongs to someone else.” The Seventh Commandment, “You shall not steal,” is unique in that it encompasses all the other commandments: Murder is the stealing of another person’s life. Adultery is the stealing of another person’s spouse. Giving false testimony is stealing justice. And coveting is the desire to steal what belongs to another person. This commandment is unique in another way: It is the only completely open-ended commandment. All the other commandments are specific. The Fourth Commandment, for example, states whom one must honor— one’s parents. The Fifth Commandment, prohibiting killing/murder, is about taking the life of an innocent human being. The Sixth Commandment, prohibiting adultery, is also specific to a married person. But the commandment against stealing doesn’t even hint at what it is we are forbidden to steal. It essentially means we cannot take anything that belongs to another person. What is mine is not yours! And what is yours is not mine – of course, my husband would laugh with me on that because what is mine is mine and what is his is mine! 😊

CCC 2409 references the following sins against the seventh commandment:

- Stealing from employees by paying them less than what their work is worth.
- Stealing from employers by making poor quality work or by wasting time at the office.
- Stealing from a consumer by using deception or an unfair advantage to sell goods for much more than they’re worth.
- Not paying one’s taxes.
- Cheating at games or unfair wagers (e.g., fixing boxing matches, operating carnival games that can’t be won, etc.).
- Not paying back money that you freely borrowed and justly owe.

There’s been quite a number of articles and news reports recently about that last one when talking about student loans! A loan usually involves a contract that says you will repay the money you borrowed along with reasonable interest. Paying interest is an important part of the process, because, in taking the money, you deprived the lender of the opportunity to invest it and make money. Simply put, it is a matter of justice that we give back what we borrow, whether it’s a friend’s bowling ball or a bank’s \$50,000. To not give it back is on par with taking the bowling ball when our friend is not home or taking \$50,000 out of a bank vault without permission. Please read CCC 2411.

Now, there are cases where it might not be a sin to fail to repay a loan. This could occur with fraudulent loans, loans with exorbitant interest rates that exploit the poor (something Pope Benedict spoke against in *Caritas in Veritate*, 65) or a borrower’s inability to repay the loan. The last reason can happen if a borrower becomes ill, has been unable to find gainful employment, or uses what little money he makes for necessities like food and shelter for himself or his dependents.

In addition to the above mentioned, another enormously important meaning of the commandment against stealing concerns stealing the many non-material things each person owns: his or her reputation, dignity, trust, and intellectual property.

As I close today, please reflect on this from the booklet: *The Ten Commandments of God* by Rev. Albert Joseph Mary Shamon: The temptation for those who do not have is to steal. The temptation for those who have is to want more. Both extremes are bad: to have nothing or everything. The middle of the road is to “seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be given you besides” from the Gospel of Matthew 6:33.

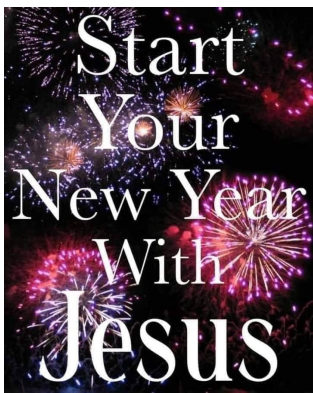
Have a beautiful week St. Francis!



SUNDAY MORNINGS COFFEE, DONUTS, AND FELLOWSHIP

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! We need YOUR help if we are to keep this ministry viable!

A clipboard with sign-up sheets is available on the wall in Shea Hall next to the bulletin board 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.



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.

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 prayed over.

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 tables 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.

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.

ADDITIONALLY, DONATIONS MAY BE DROPPED OFF IN THE SMLC DONATION BOX IN SHEA HALL AND A PARISHIONER WILL DELIVER THEM TO SMLC.

Contact Rebecca Pipkins at rpikins@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

FIRST FRIDAY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Friday, November 3

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.

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP—10/22/2023

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time —Attendance: 241

Sunday Offertory	\$ 3,525.00
Donation Box	40.00
Holy Days	0.00
Other Donations*	0.00
Donations for the Week	\$ 3,565.00

Year-to-Date Donations	\$ 57,501.20
Year-to-Date Budgeted Donations.....	60,343.67
Year-to-Date Donation Deficit**	\$ 2,842.47

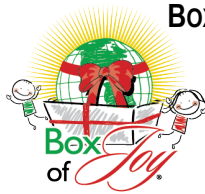
Other Donations Not in Budget

Maintenance Fund	\$ 0.00
Parish Charity	0.00
Second Collection (World Mission).....	475.00
Total Non-Budget Donations	\$ 475.00

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

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

CROSS CATHOLIC OUTREACH BOX OF JOY PROJECT



This is the final week to participate our Cross Catholic/CCW 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/>.

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.

FILLED BOXES OF JOY ARE DUE NOVEMBER 1ST.

If you would like to drop your Box of Joy off at the office (or Shea Hall) CCW will pay the shipping fees to get the boxes sent off to the children!

Questions? Please call the office 865-448-6070.



THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

In this Sunday's Gospel we find the truth that loving God isn't merely a matter of fervor in our hearts, but that it must be expressed in doing good for the sake of others.

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 NOVEMBER "PRODUCT OF THE MONTH"



Dish Soap & Sponges

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!



WES TEAM NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS

TEAM MEETING.....Tuesday, November 14 at Noon

CHRISTMAS PARTYDecember 10, 4:00 PM at the Barn Event Center

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.

Finding the Voice in Silence

02

December

Advent Retreat with Deacon Jim Bello

8:00 AM	Registration and light continental breakfast
9:00	First talk
11:30	Lunch (provided)
12:30 PM	Second talk
1:30	Break for table talk
2:00	Third talk
3:00	Questions and answers
3:20	Sacrament of Reconciliation available before Mass
4:00	Mass

DIOCESAN SECOND COLLECTION - NOVEMBER 11 & 12 - CATHOLIC SCHOOL TUITION SUPPORT



A second collection will be taken on November 11th and 12th for Diocesan Catholic School Tuition support. The Catholic schools in our diocese provide spiritual and intellectual growth for over 3,100 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.

Your Commitment Changes Lives!