



NOVEMBER 5, 2023
31 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
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. 11/6 8:30 AM Nicholas C. Provenzo †
TUES. 11/7 8:30 AM Kerry O'Brien †, Michael O'Brien †
WED. 11/8 **NO MORNING MASS**
THURS. 11/9 8:30 AM Poor Souls in Purgatory
FRIDAY 11/10 8:30 AM Raymond Nieman †
SAT. 11/11 4:00 PM Brian Barker †
SUN. 11/12 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, Pat Sanders, Judy Sanders, Doreen Mancuso, Ann Sorvillo, Naomi Nwadike, 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, Elise Martin, Paula Watson, Mike Lauer, Tom Beasley, Donna Ashley, Savannah Bishop, Bruce Haverkos, Mike Scully, Paul Fain, Joyce Fain, Normand Messier, Jr., Charles Jones

SANCTUARY CANDLE *In Honor of Father Dan Whitman given by St. Francis CCW.*

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

St. Maria Goretti (1890-1902)

“The Holy Eucharist is the perfect expression of the Love of Jesus Christ for man.”

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Mon	11/6	9:00 AM	Church & Hall Cleaning
Tue	11/7		
Wed	11/8		
Thu	11/9		
Fri	11/10		
Sat	11/11	4:00 PM	Vigil Mass
Sun	11/12	9:00 AM	Mass



**ST. CLARE GIFT SHOP
 OPEN FOR BUSINESS
 AFTER WEEKEND MASSES**

31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



The readings of today's liturgy are an extended meditation of what it means to be a Christian leader. I am reminded immediately of my old hometown pastor. Contrary to the Pharisees, he was a model of Christian leadership. If the gospel calls us to model our own Christian service after the witness of good and sound example, I feel very confident in modeling my own ministry after the example he provided. He was not perfect, and I have not placed him on a pedestal. However, I admired him because he was a man of prayer and action. He was objective, fair, and honest in his dealings with people. He was quick to forgive and every person received equal treatment from him.

He, like Paul, was extremely pastoral and allowed love to guide his counsel, rather than rigid adherence to the law. He was approachable and very understanding. He challenged people when necessary and was quick to offer compassion. He was not threatened by the giftedness of those around him – he empowered and celebrated it. He acknowledged his own mistakes and had an uncanny ability to put himself in other peoples' shoes – even people who disagreed with him and caused him annoyance. He was not showy or pretentious. I felt honored to have him as pastor and call him friend.

I am also reminded of the natural leaders of our parish who live the word of God in their everyday lives. No one ever named them leaders; they simply are leaders. They have earned the title through the witness of their lives. When certain ones of them speak, everyone listens, including me. They speak with authority and authenticity. Their credentials are their humility and their self-sacrificing love. There are at least five people who come to my mind. I have learned more from them about Christian leadership than I have from all my experiences of church. They put the imperatives of today's gospel into recognizable action. The best Christian witness is a well-lived life.

Jesus' words remind us that even when we are doing his work, we must be careful that we serve by washing the feet of others – not by asking others to wash our feet. The "greatest" of those in positions that involve leadership and visibility – must possess the largest heart, a servant's heart. Their motivation for serving must be love for others, not to bring glory to themselves.

When we serve others, letting go of our need to feel important or valued, we imitate our Lord Jesus. He who was truly the greatest among us was also a servant who washed the feet of his disciples.

When we find ourselves consumed by prideful attitudes, we need to repent and ask the Lord to help us serve as he served. The more we become aware of our prideful tendencies, the more we can rise above them, with God's grace.



To receive the bulletin as an e-mail attachment every week, simply send an e-mail with "E-Bulletin" in the subject line to
SFABulletin7717@gmail.com.

The Eighth
Commandment

"You Shall Not Bear False Witness
Against Your Neighbor"

CATECHISM CORNER

Today's Corner focus is on the Eighth Commandment "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor." The CCC 2464 states: "The eighth commandment forbids misrepresenting the truth in our relations with others....." Simply put: lying. And lying is contrary to the nature of God, who is Truth. St. Augustine provides a saintly witness that lying is always morally wrong, regardless of the circumstances. Always tell the truth, no matter the cost. So, that little "white lie" – wrong!

Words are the bridges between people. Lies rot the bridges and isolate man/woman. Lies destroy society and intercommunication, for you can't trust a liar. Think about this: the lie of Satan robbed us of the earthly paradise! The CCC in paragraph 2482 states: "A lie consists in speaking a falsehood with the intention of deceiving." The Lord denounces lying as the work of the devil: "You are of your father the devil,... there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks according to his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies."

The definition in the Catechism has the virtue of anchoring a lie in objective reality. To be properly termed a lie, a statement must fulfill two conditions: (a) It must be objectively false; (b) It must be spoken with the intention to deceive. This is the BRUTAL truth! With the advent of the different social media platforms, "experts" state that lies spread like wildfire on social media, getting quicker and longer-lasting pickup than the truth. This is a very sad state of our society. With that being said, please reflect on this small excerpt from the booklet: The Ten Commandments of God by Rev. Albert Joseph Mary Shamon: (FYI – this could also be a man!) "A malicious gossip came to Confession to St. Philip Neri. Before giving her absolution, Philip gave her as a penance to take a pillow of feathers to the wind. After doing that, the woman came back for her absolution. Philip said, "You've done only half your penance; now go and collect the feathers you scattered." She protested that she should not do this. "So," said Philip, "it is equally impossible to undo the damage your lying tongue has caused." Like I said earlier, brutal truth!

Not sure where I found this, but I carry "it" to remind me Who I belong to and I'd like to share "it":

Words can bring laughter.

Words can bring tears.

Words can create enemies.

Words can take away fears.

Words can be critical.

Words can be kind.

Words can silence you.

Words can open your mind.

Words can be powerful.

Words can be strong.

Words can tear apart.

Words can help them belong.

Words can help you feel warm.

Words can make you feel cold.

You are a word,
the Word of the Lord.

I always told my students to be kind with their words and that being two-faced never doubled anybody's face value! So, as you reflect on the above "poem", please also reflect on this scripture passage from Sirach 28:12 "The tongue can build up or destroy."

St. Philip Neri, pray for us! Please have a wonderful week and remember to pray for peace in the Middle East.



THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

In the Gospel today, we hear the good news that when we keep our focus on God and serve one another, God exalts us!

As you place your gift in the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box, please say a special prayer for the poor who have no one to pray for 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 NOVEMBER "PRODUCT OF THE MONTH"



Dish Soap & Sponges



WEST TEAM NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS

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

CHRISTMAS PARTY December 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

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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!



SUNDAY MORNINGS COFFEE, DONUTS, AND FELLOWSHIP

A clipboard with sign-up sheets for our Sunday morning coffee, etc. 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. If you have questions, please contact Donna Czerniewski who is coordinating this ministry.



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.



NATIONAL COLLECTION FOR THE CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development collection will be held on November 18 & 19 to help promote and support non-Catholic community-controlled, self-help organizations and education programs. Envelopes are available in the vestibule. Please be generous.

KNIGHTS CUP LACROSSE TOURNAMENT CALL FOR SPONSORS/ADVERTISERS

The Sixth Annual Knights Cup Lacrosse Tournament will be held 9-10 February 2024 at Knoxville Catholic High School. The Knights Cup, benefiting the Catholic Charities Pregnancy Services Office, will feature five college games over two days with teams coming in from Iowa, Missouri, Alabama, Tennessee, and Florida.

We are seeking corporate sponsors and game program advertisers to participate in what promises to be an exciting event on the early Spring sports landscape of Knoxville. Information on the event can be found at www.knightscup.org

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.

Because We Care

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP—10/29/2023

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time —Attendance: 190

Sunday Offertory	\$ 2,560.00
Donation Box	128.00
Holy Days (All Saints).....	10.00
Other Donations*	306.00
Donations for the Week	\$ 3,004.00

Year-to-Date Donations	\$ 60,505.20
Year-to-Date Budgeted Donations.....	63,879.68
Year-to-Date Donation Deficit**	\$ 3,374.48

Other Donations Not in Budget

Maintenance Fund	\$ 0.00
Parish Charity	0.00
Second Collection (World Mission).....	5.00
Total Non-Budget Donations	\$ 5.00

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

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

PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY—DECEMBER 10; 4 -7 PM



Our annual parish Christmas Party will be held **Sunday, December 10th at 4 PM**. This year we are holding the party at **The Barn Event Center of the Smokies**. Come enjoy a buffet style meal of roast beef, chicken and sides. A wine bar and cheese platter will be provided for the social time before the food is served. Entertainment after dinner will include Christmas Music and other fun activities



Sign-up sheets are available in Shea Hall. You may also make a reservation by contacting the church office at stfrancistownsend7717@gmail.com or 865-448-6070 by November 27.

The cost per person is \$50. Full payment will be due to the church by November 28. You may hand your check to Kathy Meyerkord at mass, drop it off at the office or place it in the collection basket in an envelope marked Christmas Party .

The Barn
EVENT CENTER OF THE SMOKIES