



NOVEMBER 19, 2023 33RD 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. 11/20 8:30 AM Shirley Keeven †
TUES. 11/21 8:30 AM Brian Barker †
WED. 11/22 **NO MORNING MASS**
THURS. 11/23 9:00 AM Francis Angle †
FRIDAY 11/24 8:30 AM Brian Barker †
SAT. 11/25 4:00 PM Connie Mahaffey †
SUN. 11/26 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, Kelly Keran, Lori O'Toole

SANCTUARY CANDLE *In Memory of Irene Meyerkord given by Dan & Kathy Meyerkord.* 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 Oliver & Betty Bryant 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. Augustine of Hippo (354-430)

“Recognize in this bread what hung on the cross and in this chalice what flowed from His side.”

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Mon	11/20	9:00 AM	Church & Hall Cleaning
Tue	11/21		
Wed	11/22		
Thu	11/23		OFFICE CLOSED
Fri	11/24		OFFICE CLOSED
Sat	11/25	4:00 PM	Vigil Mass
Sun	11/26	9:00 AM	Mass



Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good
— Psalm 107:1 NIV

Thanksgiving Day Mass
9 AM, November 23



ST. CLARE GIFT SHOP
OPEN FOR BUSINESS
AFTER WEEKEND MASSES

33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



PASTOR'S NOTES

Today is the thirty-third Sunday of Ordinary time. Next Sunday we conclude the Liturgical year with the Solemnity of Christ the King of the Universe.

Both of our readings from Proverbs and Paul's letter to the Thessalonians are good reminders of our duties. Proverbs describe a woman with generous behavior who works hard and reaches out to help others. The example is a woman, but her example is for all of us. Paul praises the Thessalonians, reminding them that they are children of light and children of the day. Then he cautions them not to fall asleep but to stay awake and be sober, so they are not taken by surprise when the day of the Lord comes.

The God of Jesus loves freely but also makes demands. Our gospel reading makes this clear. Jesus shares the parable of the talents. Before leaving, a master distributes talents to his servants. While the master is gone, some of his servants take risks and are able to multiply their talents. Think of the man going on a journey as Jesus, and the workers as his disciples. Jesus has given them the Good News to spread throughout the world. We are those disciples with the Good News, and we are to share the Good News with others. This gospel challenges us to step out in faith and to share the gifts that God has given us in order to multiply the fruit. How are we doing? Think about yourself and how you have been doing the work of a disciple of Jesus. Would there be a reward for you? Would you be cast out?

The ones we need to learn from are the servants who doubled what they have been given. The servant who buried away what he was given is the wrong one to follow. He pretends to be in good terms with his owners but does not do his duty. He is like the person today that believes that the life of faith has nothing to do with anyone else but only with God. Faith is not private; it has to be lived and seen. You can think of persons, both from the past and in the present, who have lived their life in amazing faith, reaching out to others with generosity, love, and true concern. St. Francis of Assisi comes to mind, as does Mother Teresa of Kolkata.

They have lived their faith in the sight of the world. They show us how we are to live, even if our lives are not as dramatic as theirs. Gustavo Gutiérrez, a contemporary theologian from Perú, says it so well: "Faith is life which is expressed in love and gift to our neighbor." In the gospels, being afraid is equivalent to having no faith....The parable of the talents teaches us that the joy of the Lord, as well as our own joy, consists in a Christian life lived on grace, courage, and concern for others rather of formality, self-protection, and fear."

Faith in our Lord will not disappoint, but it will not bring payoffs every time we pray or do something good. If that were to happen, faith would be unnecessary. The reason we need faith is because we are not always immediately blessed for some good thing we do. The kingdom of heaven will be greater than anything we can imagine and will far outweigh any good thing we are able to do, but we have to wait for it with faith and hope.

Today, let us ask for the Spirit of God to help us to live with the same grace, courage, and concern for others so that we can be worthy disciples of Christ. May this Spirit inflame our hearts, enabling us to respond in love and gratitude.

CATECHISM CORNER

Good morning, St. Francis! We have arrived at the Tenth Commandment – “You shall not covet your neighbor’s goods.” We already know what covet means and you would think this is an easy one because we’ve explained the definition. Well, it’s not! Specifically, the Tenth Commandment forbids the capital sin of “avarice”, also known as greed or covetousness. Avarice refers to an excessive desire, or inordinate love, for wealth, status and power. It is characterized by a willingness to make the accumulation of these things the center of our lives, the purpose for which we alone live. I’ve always said that wealth (money) is not bad, but the love of money is evil. St. Paul states it in clear words in his letters, please read 1 Timothy 6:10 and Hebrews 13:5.

Poison is all right in the bottle, but don’t let it get into the bloodstream. Money, too, is all right, but don’t let it get into your blood! As you read the following statements, followed up with the Scripture, please take a moment to reflect.

- For money, Judas sold Jesus (Matthew 16:15).
- For money, soldiers lied about the Resurrection of Jesus (Matthew 28:13).
- For money, Ananias and Sapphira lied to the apostles and died on the spot (Acts 5:1-11).
- Money is behind abortions, drug pushing, pornography and trafficking.
- Jesus likened riches to thorns that can choke out the wheat of virtue (Matthew 13:7).
- Money has enriched thousands but has damned tens of thousands.

Money may be the key to everything but Heaven; it may provide everything but true happiness. Often in seeking everything that money can buy, we lose everything that money cannot buy. It is vital and our responsibility, therefore, to cultivate two virtues:

First, **detachment**. Blessed are the poor in spirit; not the poor, but the poor in spirit: those detached from wealth. I know you’ve heard this before, but I think it serves repeating: There are no U-hauls behind hearses. Here and now is not a lasting city. This world is a motel, not our home. Use it, but remember we pass on. To drive this fact home Jesus told the Parable of the Rich Fool. Please read Luke 12:16-21.

Second, **generosity**. It is in giving that we receive from Luke 6:38 and St. Francis highlighted that too in his famous prayer! Please read Jesus’ Parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus from Luke 16:19-31.

The Tenth Commandment says, “Be content.” Discontentment comes from envy, being unhappy about the good fortune of another as though it were a reflection on you; and covetousness, always wanting what you don’t have. St. Augustine said that the human heart is triangular, and the world is round: it cannot fill the corners of the heart – only the triune God can. So, Augustine confessed: “our hearts, therefore, are restless until they rest in Thee.” (One of my favorite quotes from one of my favorite saints!)

The following is something that Reverend Albert Joseph Mary Shamon, while on a plane, shared in his booklet *The Ten Commandments of God* and was used at my previous parish for middle and high school students. I would like to share it with you: “When Nelson Rockefeller died, the headline in the paper read: “Rockefeller leaves 70 million.” That morning I happened to be flying from the Caribbean to the States. A Chicago businessman sat next to me on the plane. He almost became ecstatic with the headline. “Think of it, Father,” he said to me, “he left 70 million. What an achievement!” I simply said, “He left it. What about his immortal soul?” A good question Father Albert, a good question for all of us.

Have a blessed week dear friends in Christ.



THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

The good news of today's Gospel is the extravagance of what is being given us. All we need do is be faithful in "small matters." The cost of fidelity has no comparison to the reward given.

When you give furniture, household items and clothing you no longer use to Knoxville Area Rescue Mission in the name of St. Francis of Assisi - Townsend, SVDP receives gift cards which we pass along to our Neighbors in Need.

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

CALENDARS FOR SVDP NEIGHBORS IN NEED



Each year, St. Vincent de Paul gives our Neighbors in Need calendars along with their Christmas Food Basket. If you have any 2024 Calendars that you will not be using, please leave them on the back counter in Shea Hall and we will collect them for our Christmas giveaway.

ANGEL GIVING TREE 2023



It's time again for our annual Angel Tree to benefit the foster children of Blount County. Please consider taking a tag (or 2) from the tree in Shea Hall and fulfilling the wishes listed.

We also offer another option for participating. Please consider buying a gift card or writing a check in any amount of your choosing. Please make checks out to Blount County Foster Association. Checks and gift cards can be mailed to: Laura Rapien at 126 Ridge Rd., Maryville, TN 37803 or dropped by the office.

Gifts should be returned to Shea Hall by December 3rd. Gift cards and checks should also be mailed or dropped off in time to be received by December 3rd. The children appreciate your generosity. Any questions, please call Laura at 865-983-3214.



CROSS CATHOLIC OUTREACH BOX OF JOY PROJECT

Finding the Voice

December 02



Advent Retreat with Deacon Jim Bello

Call the Office by November 27th to reserve a seat!

- 8:00 AMRegistration and light continental breakfast
- 9:00 AMAdoration/First talk
- 11:30 AMLunch (provided)
- 12:30 PMSecond talk
- 1:30 PMBreak for table talk
- 2:00 PMThird talk
- 3:00 PMQuestions and answers/ Sacrament of Reconciliation
available before Mass
- 4:00 PMMass

FR. ANTONIO, GOD BLESS YOU ON



OF PRIESTHOOD - NOVEMBER 22, 2023



**CROSS CATHOLIC
OUTREACH BOX OF JOY
PROJECT**

Thank You for contributing to the Cross Catholic Outreach Box of Joy event. We turned in 13 boxes and also had numerous online donations.

It is NOT too late to go online and help the needy children of the world have a special gift.. You can purchase a box online at <https://crosscatholic.org/boxofjoy/create-a-box-online/>.

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.

Congratulations!

Give yourselves a huge pat on the back! We have achieved 85% participation upon completion of our photography sessions for the new pictorial directory! The pictures are available on

<http://www.cheryns.smugmug.com>

Scroll down to “galleries” and select “**St. Francis Directory 2023.**” If you would like to purchase a photo, select an option from the menu on the left of the photo and follow the instructions (a printed 8x12 photo is only \$6.25 and a downloaded photo is only \$.01—ONE PENNY!).

Hopefully the new directories will be available some time in January, 2024. We are still looking for recent photos (from the last couple of years) of St. Francis of Assisi Parish life that you might be willing to share in our new pictorial directory! We are looking for pictures of any church gathering that celebrates the family life of this parish! If you have some pictures you would like to share, please email them (and any questions you might have) to JoAnneRA.726@gmail.com.



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.

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—11/12/2023

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time —Attendance: 165

Sunday Offertory	\$ 2,998.00
Donation Box.....	0.00
Holy Days (1/2 Christmas)	25.00
Other Donations*	<u>565.00</u>
Donations for the Week	\$ 5,594.40
Year-to-Date Donations	\$ 69,887.60
Year-to-Date Budgeted Donations.....	<u>70,951.70</u>
Year-to-Date Donation Deficit**	\$ 1,064.10

Other Donations Not in Budget

Maintenance Fund	\$ 410.00
Parish Charity	545.00
Catholic School Tuition Support	894.00
Misc. Second Collections	<u>335.00</u>
Total Non-Budget Donations	\$ 890.00

* 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 Rosemary Chicken, Black Angus Roast Beef Au Jus, Spring Mix Green Salad, Roasted Red Potatoes with garlic & parsley, Seasonal Vegetable Medley, Rolls, and Cobbler with Ice Cream. A wine bar and cheese platter will be provided for the social time before the food is served. Entertainment after dinner will include the return of our **Ornament Exchange game**. Please bring a wrapped, non-breakable ornament if you wish to play.

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. Make checks payable to St. Francis of Assisi. You may hand your check to Kathy Meyer-kord at mass, drop it off at the office or place it in the collection basket in an envelope

The Barn
EVENT CENTER OF THE SMOKIES