



APRIL 14, 2024 THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

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 4/15 8:30 AM Carrie Qualkenbush
Tue 4/16 8:30 AM Pat Baker†
Wed 4/17 **NO MASS**
Thu 4/18 8:30 AM Louis Simons†
Fri 4/19 8:30 AM Cam King†
Sat 4/20 4:00 PM Cam King†
Sun 4/21 9:00 AM

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, Naomi Nwadike, Chris Owens, David Holmes, Amy Frink, Myra Montero, Robert Modisett, Mary Sellers, Claire Cheadle, Elise Martin, Mike Scully, Paul Fain, Joyce Fain, Normand Messier, Jr., Raymond Payne, Sue Ann Tippitt, Charles Tippitt, Emmanuel Nwadike, Julie Schirack, Kay Walker, Jay Ladner, Deb Koehler, Laken DuRussel, Layla Sexton, Lori O'Toole, Marcus Bolte, Johnny Mallory, Louann Felske

SANCTUARY CANDLE 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: The sanctuary flowers are *in memory of Cam King given by Theresa Murphy*. 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



John 20:28

“Thomas answered and said to him: ‘My Lord and my God!’”

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Mon 4/15 9:00 AM Church & Hall Cleaning
Tue 4/16
Wed 4/17 1:00 PM Gus Lloyd Apologetics
Thu 4/18
Fri 4/19
Sat 4/20 4:00 PM Vigil Mass
Sun 4/21 9:00 AM Mass



THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus explains the meaning of the scriptures. Like the disciples, when we offer and receive forgiveness our hearts burn because we encounter the risen Christ within us.

Have you considered answering the call to "help the poor find forgiveness and healing in their life" by joining the Society of St. Vincent de Paul? Please contact Debbie Eberhardt at 865-312-0141 for more information.

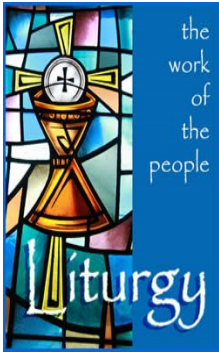
SVDP meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month at 5:00 PM in the PRC. All Are Welcome!

Thank You
for your continued support of SVDP!

SVDP APRIL "PRODUCT OF THE MONTH"



PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY



LITURGICAL MINISTRIES QUARTERLY SIGN-UPS FOR MAY, JUNE AND JULY

It is time for Liturgical Ministries signup! The signup sheets are on the counter in Shea Hall. Please take a few minutes this week and next 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



GENEVIEVE KINEKE
RENOWNED SPEAKER
AND AUTHOR

COME TO THE TABLE: A RENEWED ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS

SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2024

9:00 AM - 4:45 PM (MASS AT 5:00 PM)

A Retreat Day for Women

All Saints Parish - 620 N. Cedar Bluff Rd. - Knoxville

All are welcome! Please register at KDCCW.ORG.
(there is no fee for this retreat, but we'd like to know how many to plan for)

(A KNOXVILLE DIOCESE CCW EVENT)



*Catechesis for the soul...
Comfort for the heart ...*

and maybe even some coffee!

WEDNESDAYS AT 1:00 PM

PARISH RESOURCE CENTER

Come and join your parish family in lively, thought-provoking discussions centered around Gus Lloyd's Apologetics CD series. Please feel free to bring your catechisms and/or bibles (a few can be made available).

Weekly Wednesday sessions will last around 45-60 minutes. Any questions, please contact Julie Dew: 954-749-3929; jdewtn2018@att.net



**WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP—4/7/2024
DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**

Attendance: 162

Sunday Offertory	\$4,157.00
Donation Box.....	5.00
Holy Days	50.00
Other Donations*	00.00
Donations for the Week.....	\$4,212.00

Year-to-Date Donations	\$146,089.73
Year-to-Date Budgeted Donations	145,207.91
Year-to-Date Donation Surplus	\$881.82

Other Donations Not in Budget

Maintenance Fund	\$1,058.00
Parish Charity.....	00.00
Second Collection	13.00
Total Non-Budget Donations.....	\$1,071.00

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

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

CCW AND CCETN BABY BOTTLE FUNDRAISER

4/20/24 - 5/26/24



Please consider participating in our Baby Bottle Fundraiser! The proceeds will be used to help young families in our community. Baby Bottles will be available on April 20th and can be returned on or before May 26th.

For more information please contact:

pregnancyhelp@ccetn.org

www.ccetn.org

877-990-4673



**SUNDAY MORNINGS
COFFEE, DONUTS, AND FELLOWSHIP**

Each Sunday after the 9:00 AM Mass, we like to invite the congregation into Shea Hall for Coffee, Donuts, and Fellowship. We need the help of our parishioners to supply the donuts/pastries each week. If you are enjoying this ministry and would be able to help out supplying pastries, please sign up on the clipboard hanging near the bulletin board in Shea Hall. We need your help to keep this ministry active! Please contact Donna Czerniewski (847-668-4074) with questions or for more information.



SECOND COLLECTION FOR CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL

APRIL 27-28, 2024

Please be generous in supporting this collection. This collection helps to strengthen the Catholic Church in the United States in its 87 mission territories. As the Diocese of Knoxville is one of the smallest dioceses in the nation, it is a direct beneficiary of Catholic Home Missions assistance. Your generosity in support of this appeal is greatly appreciated for the additional blessings it brings to our diocese. Thank you!



INCRECULOUS FOR JOY

Today's gospel begins with the disciples on the road to Emmaus telling others about the recent encounter with the risen Lord: what had taken place on the way, and how Jesus was made known to them in the breaking of bread. You can imagine their surprise when Jesus again stands in their midst, shows his hands and feet, and invites them to feel his flesh and bones. Luke describes the disciples in this scene as "incredulous for joy," a rather unusual pairing of words. The disciples' utter disbelief is wrapped up in the joyful hope that their friend has returned. If we think about it, we can all name times in our own lives when we have been incredulous for joy – a simultaneous feeling of doubt and joy, of fear and hope, of uncertainty and trust. When we do this, Luke's description seems not so unusual at all.

As humans, we constantly hold multiple feelings and emotions in tension. We might experience the same mix of emotions as we hear today's reading from St. John, reminding us that Jesus "is expiation for our sins, and not for our sins only but of those of the whole world." Through Jesus and his death and resurrection, we know the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Similarly, we must also be willing to die to self, putting the needs of others above our own. As Catholics, we are invited to step out into the world and become the church walking around for others. It is out there, outside church walls, that we have the opportunity and the obligation to reflect Jesus' love to others.

We are still very much in the Easter season, but at this point we turn a bit from our overt celebrations. We turn, perhaps, from the Easter feast to the Easter project. Remember, our Easter task is to construct the kingdom of God in our family, place of work, and our community. Our Easter project also includes joy, and it is now our job to figure out how to celebrate in an ongoing way. We commit to the joy of the resurrection even in the midst of everyday tedium.

In today's gospel, the disciples witness Jesus eating, that most ordinary and earthbound of human activities. We, too, insist on finding Christ present in all the ordinary stuff of life. We continue to feast on those things that make God's presence evident: on gratitude, on relationships, on beauty. We remember that the things we feast on in this life are just a foretaste of the fullness of the joy that awaits us. And yet we turn back to them regularly, because they make our work feasible amid its frustrations.

Our work as Christians is always frustrating because even as we celebrate Jesus' victory over death, pain and suffering remains. Sickness and poverty relentlessly plague the world. Despite our fervent Lenten repentance and our heartfelt Easter gratitude, our sin still holds us back. This also happened with the first Christian community, John reminds us in his letter today. The disciples are living in fear even right after the resurrection. We join Peter in the first reading as he continues preaching, to which we are all called.

There is a challenging tension between our own need for conversion and our call to invite others to conversion as well. But we know we don't do this alone. The peace we speak to the world is the peace that only Christ can give. We offer hope and peace and comfort from within the various circumstances of our life because he promised his presence will be always with us. We constantly celebrate the renewal, hope, and resurrection of Jesus in our daily lives.

Today, may our encounter with Christ in the Eucharist strengthen us to share the love of Jesus with all the world. We might not have all the answers. In fact, we probably don't. But like the disciples, we pray that we, too, might be filled with incredulous joy as we encounter the living Christ among us.

CATECHISM

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Today, in this Catechism Corner, I would like to share something during my Lenten journey that profoundly struck me. During one of my sessions listening to the Hallow App's *Lenten Pray40*, "Here is the reality: God chose to die, rather than risk eternity without us." Without me..... To say that I was overwhelmed with emotions cannot be explained completely with mere words. I questioned myself, do I believe this? Which brings me to what I would like to "talk" about in the next several Catechism Corners: What do we believe?

We proclaim what we believe at every Sunday Mass. We say what we believe during the Mass when we recite the Nicene Creed. The Nicene Creed is the profession of faith, common to the churches of East and West, which came from the first two ecumenical councils - Nicaea and Constantinople - 325 and 381 AD respectively.

You may ask, "What is the difference between the Apostles' Creed and the Nicene Creed?" Well, **time** for one and **length** for another. Ancient theory or legend adopted the belief that the 12 apostles were the original authors of the Apostles' Creed, and that each contributed a special article. Actually, an early version of what later became the Apostles' Creed, called the "Old Roman Creed," was in use as early as the second century. It has been said that the Apostles' Creed was formulated around 125 AD.

As I stated earlier, the two ecumenical councils of Nicaea (thus we have the Nicene Creed!) in 325 and Constantinople in 381 AD were called to specifically address the major heresies of Arianism, Gnosticism, and Macedonianism. While Christianity as a religion is greatly divided (this is NOT what Christ wanted), the Apostles' Creed affirms the common heritage and basic beliefs that unite Christians around the world and throughout history. However, some evangelical Christians reject the creed - specifically its recitation, not for its content - simply because it is not found in the Bible. (This would be Tradition with a capital "T" and the Church Fathers would be frowning.)

The Apostles' Creed, like the Nicene Creed, is widely accepted as a statement of faith among Western Christian churches (both Roman Catholic and Protestant) and used by a number of Christian denominations as a part of worship services. It is the simplest of all the creeds. Here is something interesting to note: Instead of "holy catholic church," some Protestant churches, particularly in the Lutheran tradition, recite "holy Christian church" to avoid misinterpreting the phrase as a reference to the Catholic Church. The creed seems to use "catholic" in the sense of "universal" or "global" (the Latin uses the adjective *catholicam*); this interpretation fits with the historic nature of the creed, which predates in its tradition the split of the Orthodox and Catholic churches. Catholic with the lower case "c" means universal – duh! Which is why Jesus came to save everyone from eternal death. Just as I stated earlier: "God chose to die, rather than risk eternity without us." Pretty profound – wouldn't you say? During the coming weeks, I'm going to try to "break down" the Nicene Creed to try to understand what our Church Fathers were trying to say to us. Have a wonderful week!



The washing of the feet and the sacrament of the Eucharist: two expressions of one and the same mystery of love entrusted to the disciples, so that, Jesus says 'as I have done ... so also must you do' (Jn 13:15).



- St. John Paul II