



APRIL 28, 2024 FIFTH 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 | 4/29 | 8:30 AM | Father David Tokarz |
| Tue | 4/30 | 8:30 AM | Brian Barker † |
| Wed | 5/1 | | NO MASS |
| Thu | 5/2 | 8:30 AM | Brian Barker † |
| Fri | 5/3 | 8:30 AM | Pam Moretti † |
| Sat | 5/4 | 4:00 PM | Evelyn Provenzo † |
| Sun | 5/5 | 9:00 AM | Mary Simons † |

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 Montera, 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 Lucas and Mary Simons given by Eric and 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.



ST. CLARE GIFT SHOP

Open after weekend Masses and by request/appointment after daily Mass

Our gift shop has many items that will make perfect First Communion, Mother's Day and special occasion gifts just waiting to be purchased!

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

| | | | |
|------------|-------------|---------|---|
| Mon | 4/29 | 9:00 AM | Church & Hall Cleaning |
| Tue | 4/30 | | Church Office Closed |
| Wed | 5/1 | | NO Gus Lloyd meetings until 6/5/24 |
| Thu | 5/2 | | |
| Fri | 5/3 | 9:00 AM | Adoration until Noon |
| Sat | 5/4 | 4:00 PM | Vigil Mass |
| Sun | 5/5 | 9:00 AM | Mass |



**Tuesday
April 30, 2024**

STAYING CONNECTED TO THE VINE



DEACON'S NOTES

Last weekend I was at a friend of my son's house preparing for a surprise birthday party for my son's wife. She turned 40 and is seven months pregnant. So please keep them in your prayers. My son's friend has 10 acres out in the country. Our job was to gather up all the leaves, branches, brush, and twigs, so we could build a bonfire that evening during the party.

As we finished gathering all the dead stuff, I was reminded of today's Gospel reading. "I am the true vine; you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing" (Jn 15:5).

Those leaves and branches that were once a part of the beauty of nature, had now become nothing more than an eyesore. They had become separated from their life source and had withered and died. As I stood there looking at this huge pile of dead leaves, branches, and twigs, I realized this is what happens to us when we separate ourselves from God. We become dead spiritually.

How do we become separated from the Lord? It's easy. People start by giving way to small things. Like praying the rosary, or going to confession, or attending Mass regularly. After a while they give up completely and become completely separated from God.

We need to stay in contact with the living Lord. We do this through the community of church. Here are some examples of staying connected with the Vine:

PRAYER: The easiest and most simple way to remain in Him is to have a dialogue with Him. Pray every day. Find what works for you and make it personal.

CONFESSION: Going to confession regularly keeps us grounded and keeps Jesus close to us and ensures we are in a state of grace.

HOLY EUCHARIST: Frequent reception of Holy Communion also helps our state of grace.

PRESENCE OF GOD: Keep God with you during the day whether at work or school or wherever by performing acts of love and thanksgiving.

DEVOTION TO MARY AND JOSEPH: These were the people closest to Jesus. They can help bring us closer as well.

COMMANDMENTS: Keep our Lord happy by following His Commandments every day.

As we lit the branches for the bonfire that night, I saw the old growth give way to the flames. As I gazed over the flames, in the distance, I noticed a Dogwood in full bloom. I was reminded once again that if we stay connected to the Vine, then we will bear much fruit.



CATECHISM

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Happy 5th Sunday of Easter, St. Francis of Assisi Parishioners!

This week we will concentrate on the following statements from the Nicene Creed: **I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten not made, consubstantial with the Father;**

I believe in one Lord. In Jesus' time on earth, "lordship" meant absolute, undisputed ownership. By our profession of Jesus as "Lord," like His disciples, we signify that He is undisputed master over our lives and is worthy of worship.

The name Jesus Christ is very symbolic. The name Jesus means "God saves." It was significant that Jesus was given a human name because it demonstrates His humanity. Jesus is fully human and fully God. We've become accustomed to calling Jesus the Christ, but in reality "Christ" is not a name, it's a title, a job description. Christ means, "Anointed." In the Old Testament, priests, prophets, and kings were anointed with oil as a sign of being chosen by God. At His Baptism, Jesus was anointed, not by oil, but by the Holy Spirit, which descended on Him like a dove. He became the Christ. (stspchurch.com)

Jesus is the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father. This section of the Creed was, without a doubt, the most highly debated of all. There were many theologians proposing different ideas concerning Jesus and His relationship to the Father. Some said Jesus was only a human person with special gifts given to Him by God; they denied the belief that He was truly God. A group called the Arians claimed that Jesus was subordinate (inferior) to God the Father – that He was created like us. The Council of Nicaea (325) would ultimately define the Church's teaching on this matter by saying that Jesus was not created, but rather existed from all eternity with God the Father. There was never a time when Jesus, the Son of God, did not exist. Thus, we proclaim that He was begotten, not made.

You may ask: "What is the difference between "begotten" and "made"?" When a man and a woman conceive and bear a child, it shares in the similarities of its parents. However, the child is a separate, independent being; it has its own unique nature. This is not true with Jesus. He was not just similar to the Father; He was one in being with Him. Notice the change in the creed, which says Jesus is "consubstantial" with the Father. Many have asked what this means. It basically means Jesus is of the same substance or nature with the Father. Begotten means bringing forth something of the same nature or substance.

Maybe an analogy would help to understand this. For instance, consider the reflection of a person in a mirror. It's only a reflection, not real. It would be real if that image was standing right beside you. The Church uses the language, God from God, light from Light to show that Jesus is the "perfect" image of the Father (of the same divine nature). There is no imperfection between the Father and the Son. (stspchurch.com)

Have a most wonderful grace filled week St. Francis!



GUS LLOYD
CATHOLIC *Apologetics*

RESUMES
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5TH

1:00 PM - PARISH RESOURCE CENTER

Our discussion group **WILL NOT** be meeting during the month of May. Any questions, please contact Julie Dew: 954-749-3929; jdewtn2018@att.net

CCW AND CCETN BABY BOTTLE FUNDRAISER

4/20/24 - 5/20/24



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 20th.

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.



WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP—4/21/2024
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Attendance: 178

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Sunday Offertory | \$2,888.00 |
| Donation Box..... | 20.00 |
| Holy Days | 00.00 |
| Other Donations* | 100.00 |
| Donations for the Week..... | \$3,008.00 |
| Year-to-Date Donations | \$151,752.73 |
| Year-to-Date Budgeted Donations | 152,279.93 |
| Year-to-Date Donation Deficit | (\$527.20) |

Other Donations Not in Budget

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| Maintenance Fund | \$80.00 |
| Parish Charity..... | 320.00 |
| Second Collection | 600.00 |
| Total Non-Budget Donations..... | <u>\$1,015.00</u> |

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

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

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION - 5/3/24

“Always remain close to the Catholic Church, because it alone can give you true peace, since it alone possesses Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, the true Prince of Peace.”

ST. PADRE PIO

Mass: 8:30 AM
Adoration: 9:00 - Noon
Benediction: Noon



If you are interested in committing to a Holy Hour, please contact Jackie Wagner at 330-807-8663.



THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

In the Gospel today, Jesus says “Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing.” Indeed, by helping the poor we can “bear much fruit” and we find that with Jesus we can do everything.

Your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will show that you are indeed the disciple of Jesus as it will bring your love to those who live in fear and doubt, loneliness and dread.

Have you considered answering the call to serve the poor by joining the Society of St. Vincent de Paul? Contact Debbie Eberhardt at 865-312-0141 for more information.

SVDP normally meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month at 5:00 PM in the PRC. **However, during the month of May, we will not be meeting.** When we resume our meetings, all Are Welcome!

Thank You
for your continued support of SVDP!

SVDP APRIL “PRODUCT OF THE MONTH”



PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY



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.

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI
CATHOLIC CHURCH

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY
MAY, 2024



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EMAIL: STFRANCISTOWNSEND7717@GMAIL.COM
WEBSITE: STFRANCISTOWNSEND.ORG
(865) 448-6070

OUR 2024 PICTORIAL DIRECTORY IS READY!!!!

Our 2024 Pictorial Directory **is READY** and can be picked up after weekend Masses or from the church office Monday through Friday 9:00 AM - noon. While there is no charge for the new directory, if you would like to help offset the cost of printing and production, a free-will offering will be gladly accepted! A huge “THANKS” to everyone who made this directory possible!

REMINDER: your individual pictures can be viewed and purchased online. Simply direct your browser of choice to

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

and 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!).



The National Eucharistic Pilgrimage is Coming to Chattanooga on June 24, 2024

Join in the pilgrimage as it passes through our diocese on its way from Texas to Indianapolis!

All are invited to attend the following events:

- **Holy Hour** (11AM at Basilica of Sts. Peter and Paul)
- **Mass** (12PM at Basilica of Sts. Peter and Paul)
- **Eucharistic Procession, Music, and Fellowship** (7:30PM starts at Basilica of Sts. Peter and Paul and ends at UTC Newman Center)



For more details and to register for the events, please scan the QR code.



INSPIRATIONAL QUOTES TO PROMOTE DEVOTION TO JESUS IN THE EUCHARIST



Pope St. John Paul II (1920-2005)

“The Eucharist is the secret of my day. It gives strength and meaning to all my activities of service to the Church and to the whole world... Let Jesus present in the Blessed Sacrament speak to your hearts. It is he who is the true answer of life that you seek.

He stays here with us:

He is God with us.

Seek him without tiring;

welcome him without reserve:

*Love him without interruption:
today, tomorrow, forever!”*



We do not go to Holy Communion because we are good; we go to become good.

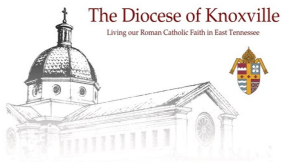


—St. John Bosco

Support the Catholic Communication Campaign

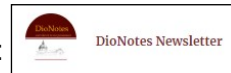


Second Collection - May 11 & 12



Are you receiving your weekly Diocesan DioNotes e-mails? DioNotes is an electronic/online newsletter covering the news, events, and the ministries of the Diocese of Knoxville. If you are not yet on the mailing list, and would like to be, go to www.DioKnox.org, scroll down to the bottom of the page and

❶ click on the DioNotes Newsletter area:



❷ fill in the form that pops up

❸ click on the **SUBMIT** button at the bottom of the form.

DioNotes will be delivered (for free 😊) to your email inbox every Friday.

DioNotes

a newsletter for our parishioners

UPCOMING EVENTS

| DATE | EVENT | DETAILS |
|--------------|--|--|
| 5/15/2024 | Vocations Story Night St. Alphonsus Catholic Church— Crossville, TN | Online: KDCCW.org E-mail: BParsons@DioKnox.org Phone: 865-584-3307 |
| 6/15/2024 | Marriage Retreat: Living the Marriage God Desires for You St. Thomas in Lenoir City | Online: Tinyurl.com/KnoxMarriageRetreat E-mail: regnumchristi.knoxville@gmail.com Phone: 865-584-3307, ext. 5739 |
| 6/24/2024 | National Eucharistic Pilgrimage in Chattanooga 11:00 AM - 7:30 PM | Online: dioknox.org/revival Other: Scan QR code (Bulletin or Shea Hall poster) |
| 7/17-24/2024 | Eucharistic Congress Pilgrimage to the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis, IN | Online: DioKnox.org/Revival E-mail: Revival@DioKnox.org Phone: 423-596-0181 |
| 7/26/2024 | Tennessee Smokies Baseball Game Yee-Haw At the Yard Group Section | \$35.00 for adults; \$33.00 for children (12 and under) Contact the Parish Office to reserve tickets |
| 9/10-19/2024 | Pilgrimage to Fatima and Lourdes with Fr. Charles Robinson Coupon Code: Bulletin150 | Online: Www.QoHTours.com E-mail: info@qohtours.com Phone: 800-213-4295 |
| 10/6-11/2024 | Yellowstone National Park Retreat with Fr. Michael Cummins | Online: https://www.saintdominickpt.org/ E-mail: secretary@saintdomchurch.com Phone: 423-288-8101 |