



## JULY 14, 2024 15<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH  
7717 RIVER ROAD - TOWNSEND, TN 37882  
865-448-6070

WEBSITE: [STFRANCISTOWNSEND.ORG](http://STFRANCISTOWNSEND.ORG)  
E-MAIL: [STFRANCISTOWNSEND7717@GMAIL.COM](mailto: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.

**ANOIDING 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 [sfabulletin7717@gmail.com](mailto:sfabulletin7717@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 7/15** 8:30 AM Brian Barker†  
**Tue 7/16** 8:30 AM Joseph Angle†  
**Wed 7/17** **NO MASS**  
**Thu 7/18** 8:30 AM Gabriel Ruiz†  
**Fri 7/19** 8:30 AM Charlie Graham  
**Sat 7/20** 4:00 PM Elias Ventura† & Genoveva Fuentes†  
**Sun 7/21** 9:00 AM Normand Messier†

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, Claire Cheadle, Elise Martin, Mike Scully, Paul Fain, Joyce Fain, Raymond Payne, Sue Ann Tippitt, Charles Tippitt, Emmanuel Nwadike, Kay Walker, Julie Schirack, Jay Ladner, Deb Koehler, Laken DuRussel, Marcus Bolte, Johnny Mallory, Louann Felske, Kathy Meyerkord, Stephanie Romer, John & Maria Bermudes, Anne Pate

**SANCTUARY CANDLE** *The Sanctuary candle is lit in memory of Jack Troupe given by St. Vincent de Paul.* 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 Gabriel Ruiz, given by Mark & Judy Ruiz.* 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



“All creation is an extravagant gift, a love song, a work of poetry from a God madly in love with us.”

- reCatholic Novenas from  
*A Rushing Wind: A Novena with the Holy Spirit*

**ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH**

**Mon 7/15** 9:00 AM Church & Hall Cleaning  
**Tue 7/16**  
**Wed 7/17** 1:00 PM Gus Lloyd Discussion Group—PRC  
**Thu 7/18**  
**Fri 7/19**  
**Sat 7/20** 4:00 PM Vigil Mass  
**Sun 7/21** 9:00 AM Mass



## WE ARE ALL PROPHETS WITH A MISSION

Today's liturgy teaches us what it means to be sent by God. We know that prophets are people sent by God. Sometimes they predicted the future but most of the time they tried to direct God's people to live by God's commands. Their efforts to do so were not always appreciated.

Today in the first reading we hear from the prophet Amos who lived over 700 years before Christ. At that time in Israel there were people who made a career out of being prophets.

Whether called by God or not, they would speak for God, telling people how to solve their problems, giving them advice, predicting the future, etc., all for an appropriate fee. They told people only the things they would like them to hear to make them happy. As he says in today's first reading, the prophet Amos was not one of these professionals. He was a farmer, but God called him to go to Bethel, a major city of Israel, to confront the people about their sinful lives and to warn them their immoral lives would lead to their destruction. His blunt and honest message did not make people happy, and the high priest there told him to "get out of town." Today's passage prepares the way for the gospel where Jesus sends his apostles out to preach and warns them, they may not always be welcome.

In our gospel reading Jesus sends his disciples out to preach repentance. Jesus prepares his disciples telling them how they must go out to the people. First, they must go two by two. The reason for that is because they are witnessing to what Jesus taught them. For a valid testimony back in Jesus' time, two witnesses were needed. Upon seeing this, the people of the towns and villages would trust them from the start. In addition, Jesus instructed them to go simply: they had nothing and were dependent on the people. They wouldn't always be accepted, they had nothing to fall back on. Still, they went off, preached repentance, chased out demons, and cured many who were sick.

Amos and Jesus' disciples had much in common: they were sent to prophesy to the people of their time. They did as they were told to do. They were traveling missionaries.

We are also sent, and here is the best news of all: God has blessed us in Christ. In love God destined us for adoption to himself through Jesus Christ. This means we belong to God as sons and daughters, and God chose us in Jesus before the foundation of the world. We have heard this many times over the years. Perhaps it struck us as so amazing that it is unbelievable. But it is the truth, and with this gift comes responsibility.

Sometimes we forget that as we go through life, we're just tourists visiting this planet; we're on a long trip but we're not here forever. As St. Paul tells us, our destination, our real home is heaven. We're not going to take anything with us, except our good deeds. How about all the stuff we're dragging with us through life? Is it helping us move forward to our final goal or is it slowing us down, or even worse, is it a distraction that makes us forget where we're going? Sometimes it is the quest for material things that loads us down on this journey; but it can also be other things too. Sports can hold such a priority in people's lives that they never have time to pray or get to church on Sunday or spend quality time with their family. An excessive love for entertainment or always being too busy can do the same thing. Maybe it is a lot of anger and resentment that we keep holding on to, or addictions and bad habits. St. Paul tells us that God chose us before the world began to be holy and blameless in his sight. If we were created to be saints what is getting in our way?

We are sent as Jesus our brother was sent. We are all prophets with a mission. This means we must speak up for others when it would be easier and more comfortable to be quiet. Just remember that we are sent as God's son or daughter. God will never leave you alone.

## CATECHISM

### CORNER



A most happy weekend, St. Francis of Assisi Parishioners!

In this Catechism Corner, I would like to highlight, again, the Apostle Peter. Peter was singled out for the authority when Jesus told the apostles: "Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven" (Matt. 16:19). In addition, Peter alone was promised something else: "I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven" (Matt. 16:19). Jesus here promises infallible authority

to Peter that would empower him to speak in the place of Christ, or as his vicar on earth. Catholics believe just what the text says. When St. Peter (and his successors) "binds" something on earth, it is "bound" in heaven. That's infallible authority with the power of heaven to back it up!

Peter's prestigious position among the apostles was symbolized at the very beginning of his relationship with Christ. At their first meeting, Christ told Simon that his name would thereafter be Peter, which translates as "Rock" (John 1:42). The startling thing was that - aside from the single time that Abraham is called a "rock" (Hebrew: Tsur; Aramaic: Kēpha) in Isaiah 51:1-2 - in the Old Testament only God was called a rock. The word rock was not used as a proper name in the ancient world. If you were to turn to a companion and say, "From now on your name is Asparagus," people would wonder: Why Asparagus? What is the meaning of it? What does it signify?

Indeed, why call Simon the fisherman "Rock"? This is a good question to contemplate! Let's begin with some basic facts about the verse. Please note in Jesus' time on earth, the Greek terms Petros (Peter) and petra (rock) were interchangeable, and the original Aramaic form of Peter's nickname that Jesus probably used (kēphas) means simply 'rock.' Jesus would have vocalized the Aramaic word kēphas twice for both "Peter" and "rock," revealing his intention to use the word as a pun. This shows the human side of Jesus with His humor! To our English eyes, the saying should read, "You are Rock, and on this rock I will build my Church. Think about this: Matthew is trying to preserve Christ's Aramaic pun in his written Greek Gospel. To clarify this point, consider an analogy from World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE) and one of its best-known stars: Dwayne Johnson, also known as "The Rock":

The Rock is The Rock of the WWE.

The Rock is the rock of the WWE.

If Matthew used Petros twice, it would look like the first sentence above. To Greek-speaking Christians, it might read: "You are Peter, and on this Peter I will build my Church." Think about how we know that "The Rock" is named after "rocks" (object), but when we see "The Rock," we naturally picture the person as opposed to the object. Having "The Rock" twice makes the first sentence a redundant identity statement and not a pun. To have the Greek form of Peter's name, Petros, also repeated might appear similarly strange in the reader's understanding.

However, the second sentence lends us a different reading. The second "rock" does not repeat the name "The Rock," but allows us to see an aspect of The Rock highlighted: he's of foundational importance to the WWE. It therefore makes perfect sense that the word "rock" would be used both times here but with different distinctions. It makes the pun more obvious.

I hope this helped you understand why Jesus called the Apostle Peter "the Rock". As with all translations, meanings can be lost or confusion can arise!

Have a most wonderful week in our beautiful part of the world we call Townsend!







## THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

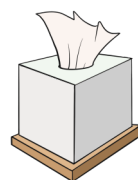
In the Gospel today we see how Jesus sent his Apostles out two by two. From the beginning of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, members visit in pairs "two by two," those who are poor and needy in their homes. It is there, in the family setting, that Vincentians listen, offer humble advice, and render assistance.

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 typically meets the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of the month at 5:00 PM in the PRC. However, **we will not meet again until the 7th of August.** At that time (and as always) all are welcome to attend!

**Thank You**  
for your continued support of SVDP!

## SVDP JULY "PRODUCT OF THE MONTH" TOILET PAPER AND TISSUES



## SMOKIES BALL GAME AUGUST 9<sup>TH</sup>

Yee-Haw at the Yard  
Group Section

\$35/adults  
\$33/children (12 and under)

BUFFET DINNER FROM 6:15 - 7:45

FIRST PITCH AT 7:00 PM

Reserve your tickets on the sign up sheets in Shea Hall. Payment is due by July 28<sup>th</sup>. Please make your checks payable to St. Francis of Assisi Church.

Fireworks image courtesy of pngtree.com

## WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP

As most of you know, the Parish (and Diocesan) fiscal year ended on June 30<sup>th</sup>. Our bookkeeper will be preparing a year-end financial statement in the next few weeks. She is waiting for the Diocese to provide the financial information for June. Once the financial statement is completed and reviewed by Father and the Finance Committee, it will be published in the bulletin and presented to the Parish.

Please keep in mind that what has been published in the bulletin this past year only compared budgeted income to actual weekly income. Expenses were not included in this analysis.



## INSPIRATIONAL QUOTES TO PROMOTE DEVOTION TO JESUS IN THE EUCHARIST

**St. Thomas Aquinas  
(1225 - 1274)**

*"Sweetest Jesus, Body and Blood most Holy,  
be the delight and pleasure of my soul,  
my strength and salvation in all my temptations,  
my joy and peace in every trial,  
my light and guide in every word and deed,  
and my final protection in death. Amen."*

## 2024 ONE HEART COLOMBIA SUMMARY

### MISSION TEAM ROSTER:

#### St. Francis Catholic Church - Townsend, TN

Fr. Antonio Giraldo – Pastor / Executive Director of One Heart Colombia

Ilene Rainwater – V.P. of One Heart Colombia

Gracie Rapien - Youth

Rosie Rapien - Youth

#### St. Therese of Lisieux Catholic Church – Cleveland, TN

Annette Govero – President of One Heart Colombia

#### St. Mary's Catholic Church – Athens, TN

Vivian Brocato – Secretary of One Heart Colombia

#### St. Mary's Catholic Church – Johnson City, TN

Tyler Hopson – Youth (Godson and Great Nephew to Vivian)

One Heart Colombia is a 501c3 Non Profit Organization. The Mission Team has been going to Marsella, Colombia in South America, since the summer of 2005. Every year fundraising and donations are obtained for the Mission with all proceeds going toward purchasing food bags for the poorest of the poor in Marsella. This year 250 food bags were purchased. A food bag costs \$35.00, and each food bag feeds a family of 4 for about a month.

#### 2024 Food Bag Distribution (250 Food Bags)

Vacation Bible School (VBS) Children (and their families).....	150 bags
Colombian Catechists and Volunteers .....	20 bags
Sponsor Children .....	38 bags
Marsella Nursing Home Pantry .....	10 bags
Marsella Elderly and Handicapped .....	32 bags

The 2024 One Heart Colombia Mission Team consisted of 7 North Americans from Tennessee, plus 20 Colombian Catechists and Volunteers for a total of 27 missionaries.

The Team was able to host a VBS for 150 of the poorest children in the area. The Theme was ***God's Love is Healing, Forgiving and Everlasting***. The Bible Stories focused on the Paralytic Man, the Prodigal Son and Jesus' Resurrection.

During the 10 days that the Missionaries were in Marsella, they were able to visit several homes. The team prayed with and for these families, while distributing several rosaries and prayer cards. They were also able to attend Daily Mass with the local Marsella residents to thank God for the many blessings of being the hands, face, feet and heart of Jesus.

The Mission Team was able to bring ***Hope*** once again to the small village of Marsella, high in the Andes Mountains of Colombia, South America.



## 2024 ONE HEART COLOMBIA MISSION TRIP TO MARSELLA, COLOMBIA, SOUTH AMERICA



## Episcopal Ordination and Installation of Bishop Mark Beckman

Bishop-elect James Mark Beckman will be ordained and installed as the fourth Bishop of the Diocese of Knoxville on

**Friday, July 26 at 2 p.m.  
at the Knoxville Convention Center**

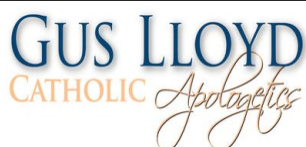
Tickets are required to attend and will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis. For links, and more information, please visit:

<https://dioknox.org/episcopal-ordination>



# Upcoming EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	DETAILS
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
7/26/24	Installation/Ordination Mass at 2:00 PM for Bishop Elect Mark Beckman at Knoxville Convention Center	Online: <a href="https://dioknox.org/episcopal-ordination">https://dioknox.org/episcopal-ordination</a> E-mail: To Be Announced Phone: To Be Announced
8/2/2024	The Firing Squad Movie in Theaters	Online: FiringSquadFilm.com E-mail: <a href="mailto:service@firingsquadfilm.com">service@firingsquadfilm.com</a> Phone: 424-360-9306; 833-310-1196
8/9/2024	Tennessee Smokies Baseball Game Yee-Haw At the Yard Group Section	\$35.00 for adults; \$33.00 for children (12 and under) Signup on sheets in Shea Hall
9/10-19/2024	Pilgrimage to Fatima and Lourdes with Fr. Charles Robinson Coupon Code: Bulletin150	Online: <a href="http://www.QoHTours.com">www.QoHTours.com</a> E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@qohtours.com">info@qohtours.com</a> Phone: 800-213-4295
10/6-11/2024	Yellowstone National Park Retreat with Fr. Michael Cummins	Online: <a href="https://www.saintdominickpt.org/">https://www.saintdominickpt.org/</a> E-mail: <a href="mailto:secretary@saintdomchurch.com">secretary@saintdomchurch.com</a> Phone: 423-288-8101



## DISCUSSION GROUP WEDNESDAYS AT 1:00 PM PARISH RESOURCE CENTER

We are wrapping up our discussions based on the Gus Lloyd Apologetics CD series. Our sessions last about an hour and are filled with lively, thought-provoking discussions. Please come and join in the discussions! A few bibles and support materials can be made available during the sessions, but feel free to bring your own! Any questions, please contact Julie Dew: 954-749-3929; [jdwtn2018@att.net](mailto:jdwtn2018@att.net)



## NATIONAL Eucharistic Pilgrimage July 17-24, 2024 INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

The diocesan pilgrimage will include round trip transportation, a four-night hotel stay, and admission for all Eucharistic Congress events, speakers, and the closing Mass. Pricing ranges from \$541-\$1,098 per pilgrim, depending on the occupancy of the room. There is also a tickets only option, which excludes transportation and lodging. Buses will depart from Knoxville on July 17, 2024 and return on July 21, 2024. See the table above for additional information.