



## AUGUST 11, 2024 19<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

<b>PASTOR:</b>	Rev. Antonio Giraldo
<b>DEACON:</b>	Deacon Jim Schmall
<b>OFFICE MANAGER:</b>	Kathy Meyerkord
<b>BOOKKEEPER:</b>	Kathleen Halligan
<b>LITURGY/MUSIC DIRECTOR:</b>	JoAnne Romer-Aylward
<b>DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:</b>	Julie Dew
<b>OCIA:</b>	Bruce Boudin
<b>WELCOMING, EVENTS AND SOCIALS (WEST):</b>	All
<b>GARDENS &amp; GROUNDS:</b>	Ilene Rainwater
<b>FACILITIES:</b>	David Girard
<b>SOCIAL MEDIA/WEBSITE:</b>	JoAnne Romer-Aylward
<b>PASTORAL CARE (SICK &amp; HOMEBOUND):</b>	Suzie Fay
<b>ST. CLARE GIFT SHOP:</b>	Camilla Sorrell
<b>COLUMBARIUM:</b>	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 [sfbulletin7717@gmail.com](mailto: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.)

<b>Mon</b>	<b>8/12</b>	8:30 AM	Pat Baker
<b>Tue</b>	<b>8/13</b>	8:30 AM	Brian Barker
<b>Wed</b>	<b>8/14</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>	
<b>Thu</b>	<b>8/15</b>	8:30 AM	Blessed Mary, Queen of Heaven
<b>Fri</b>	<b>8/16</b>	8:30 AM	LaRene Anderson
<b>Sat</b>	<b>8/17</b>	4:00 PM	Colleen Ness
<b>Sun</b>	<b>8/18</b>	9:00 AM	Anthony Harris

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, 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, Tony Lee Bertsch

**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:** 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**



Eucharisticrevival.org

*Servant of God, Dorothy Day  
1897 - 1980*

*"We cannot love God unless  
we love each other.  
We know Him in the breaking  
of bread,  
and we know each other in the  
breaking of bread,  
and we are not alone anymore.  
Heaven is a banquet and life is  
a banquet, too,  
even with a crust, where there  
is companionship."*

**ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH**

<b>Mon</b>	<b>8/12</b>	9:00 AM	Church & Hall Cleaning
<b>Tue</b>	<b>8/13</b>		
<b>Wed</b>	<b>8/14</b>	6:00 PM	Assumption - Vigil Mass
<b>Thu</b>	<b>8/15</b>	9:00 AM	Feast of the Assumption
<b>Fri</b>	<b>8/16</b>		
<b>Sat</b>	<b>8/17</b>	4:00 PM	Vigil Mass
<b>Sun</b>	<b>8/18</b>	9:00 AM	Mass



**ST. CLARE GIFT SHOP**

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



## BECOMING CATHOLIC OCIA (FORMERLY RCIA) ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) is the process for adults who desire to join the Catholic faith and for those seeking more information on the Catholic Church. OCIA can also be a method for Catholics to complete their reception of the initiation sacraments. The manual used in the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults states that the process is designed for adults “who after hearing the mystery of Christ proclaimed, consciously and freely seek the living God.” The manual also states when speaking about those in the process “By God’s help they will be strengthened spiritually during their preparation and at the proper time receive the sacraments fruitfully.”

### WHO IS OCIA FOR?

- Non-Catholics who want to find out more about the Catholic Faith
- Those who want to join the Catholic Church through Baptism, or Profession of Faith
- Those who were baptized Catholic as infants but never received religious education, Confirmation, or First Eucharist.

### How Long Does OCIA Take?

The OCIA process at St. Francis of Assisi (Townsend) is geared toward the Townsend community. Those who have not yet been baptized will be fully initiated into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil after participating in the OCIA process for at least one academic year.

Those who have been baptized into a non-Catholic Christian tradition will be received into Full Communion with the Catholic Church after completing their formation, respective to their particular needs. As such, this timeframe varies depending on the person.

### What About Bringing A Friend Or A “Sponsor”?

Each participant must have a sponsor to walk with him or her through each step of the process. You may choose your sponsor with our approval, or we will provide you with a community sponsor. The sponsor must be at least 16 years of age, a confirmed, practicing Catholic, and not a parent.

### Tips to Help You as you begin this Journey

St. Francis of Assisi (Townsend) is here to help you grow in your relationship with Jesus Christ, and the whole OCIA process is about growing in union with God. To start the process, you should: (1) begin learning prayers and building a habit of daily prayer; (2) be open to the fullness of Catholic teaching and life; and (3) begin to live according to the fullness of Catholic life even now (e.g., attend Mass, live the moral life).

### When Do We Start?

We will begin classes here at St. Francis, Townsend on August 27, 2024. Classes will begin at 9:30 AM and end by 11:00 AM. If you or someone you know is interested about the Catholic faith, please contact Deacon Jim at [sfadeacon7717@gmail.com](mailto:sfadeacon7717@gmail.com), or 901-493-2123(cell). If you are a practicing Catholic and wish to know more about your faith, you are welcome to attend!

Peace,

Deacon Jim



## CATECHISM

### CORNER



Good morning and happy Sunday St. Francis of Assisi Parishioners!

Today, in the Corner, we will be “talking” about St. John, the beloved disciple. John is a masculine name of Hebrew origin, derived from “Yohannan,” meaning “God is gracious.” Let’s begin!

As mentioned last week in the Corner, John was the brother of James, and we were introduced to his parents who were very well-to-do (wealthy fishermen with servants etc.). John was a very ambitious man with an explosive temper and an intolerant heart. (*The Twelve Apostles* by Spencer Coffman) As mentioned last week, John and his brother James left the family’s lucrative fishing business to follow Jesus. Over time, John learned to control his temper and follow the Lord’s command to love others. He wrote the Gospel of John, the three Epistles (letters) of John and the Book of Revelation. He was the youngest of all the Apostles. In addition, he was the last of the Twelve to die (Interesting that his brother James was the first to die!) and the only one to not have suffered a martyr’s death; even though “they” tried to kill him two different times. (More about that in a bit!)

Although historically he is always placed after his brother whenever the Apostles are listed in the New Testament, John also had – along with James and Peter – what seems like an Inner Circle status among all of the other followers of Jesus. The three of them were with the Lord when He raised the twelve-year-old daughter of Jarius from the dead. (Mark 5:21-14) They were at the Transfiguration and witnessed when God the Father spoke from the clouds. (Mark 9:2-13; Matthew 17:1-13; Luke 9:28-36) And although all three Apostles were physically with Jesus during His Agony in Gethsemane, the Lord had to suffer alone because the three had all fallen asleep! (Matthew 26:36-46) The Apostle John was also the first among the seven who were fishing in the Sea of Galilee to recognize the risen Jesus having breakfast on the beach. (John 21:1-17)

In the Gospels, John seems to have had another special bond with Peter as the two were often paired together on various missions. Think about the job of preparing the location for the Passover meal. (Luke 22:7-20) It was John who most likely helped Peter gain access to the home of the high priest after Jesus’s arrest. They were the first of the remaining Apostles to witness to Jesus’s Resurrection at the empty tomb.

As the youngest of the Twelve, John appeared in the Gospels to also have shared an especially close and devoted relationship to Jesus. He and his brother James shared the nickname, *Boanerges*, “Sons of Thunder” because of their temper and quick anger! John sat at the place of honor beside Jesus at the Last Supper. The most telling of all, my opinion of course, was the fact that John was the only member of the Twelve to have had the selfless dedication and unwavering courage to stay with the Lord as He died upon the Cross. And it is here that Jesus would give His last command as a human man: “Behold your Mother!” It is said John purchased a house for her with an inheritance from his father Zebedee and cared for Mary until her Assumption in 41 AD.

John began the first of several missionary journeys to Asia Minor, the region of the world that is today southwestern Turkey, strengthening and helping to expand the Church of Ephesus and the surrounding cities. While there, John helped establish and nurture the local churches, including the ones he would later address in his Book of Revelation. During this time (60-80 AD), is when John would write the three Epistles and the Gospel that bears his name. Even during his missionary times, John maintained a close contact with the Mother Church in Jerusalem and continued to help provide her apostolic guidance.

Around the year 92, John was brought to Rome, where he was accused of practicing magic and astrology. The Roman emperor Domitian commanded that the apostle John be boiled to death in oil, but John only continued to preach from within the pot. Another time, John was forced to drink poison, but, as promised in Mark 16:18, it did not hurt him. Thus John, the head of the church in Ephesus at the time, was banished to Patmos in 97 A.D.

**Continued on next page**

Both times John survived all of this because “God had not finished with him yet.” A “revelation” still had to come. The Roman authorities realized that trying to murder “the disciple who Jesus loved” was impossible, John was exiled to the present-day Greek island of Patmos. He is said to have lived to old age, dying of natural causes on the isle sometime after 98 AD, thus becoming the only apostle who did not die as a martyr.

Today, the Cave of the Apocalypse in Patmos is a museum and a world heritage site by UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization).

Here is a tidbit that I find VERY interesting. Even though there is a “Tomb of St. John,” there are no bones of his buried there. To this very day, no one church, city, or nation claims to have his relics! If you have a moment, please reflect on John 21:13-23 and Matthew 16:28. What was Jesus implying?????

St. John is the patron saint of authors, booksellers, burn victims, art dealers, editors, friendships, government officials, notaries, printers, scholars, tanners, and theologians to name a few! His feast day is December 27. St. John the Evangelist, pray for us! Next week the Apostle Philip!



### THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

In this Gospel the love that Jesus reveals through the symbol of the cross is: self-giving, sacrificial, healing, forgiving, in solidarity with the weak, and confident in the power of God.

During the hot summer months many of the elderly, especially those who are sick, are not able to find relief from the heat. Please help the Society of St. Vincent de Paul to bring respite and hope to them.

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 meets the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Wednesdays of the month at 5:00 PM  
in the PRC. All are welcome to attend!

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

### SVDP AUGUST “PRODUCT OF THE MONTH” CAKE MIXES AND FROSTING



### CROSS CATHOLIC OUTREACH CHRISTMAS BOX OF JOY PROGRAM

Our annual Boxes of Joy will be arriving in September. During the months of September and October you will be able to participate in this wonderful program where Christmas gifts are sent to children in developing countries like Haiti, Malawi and the Dominican Republic. Filled with toys, clothing, school supplies, a rosary and *The Story of Jesus*, these gifts represent Christ's love. Your donation will demonstrate Christ's compassion to a child who may have never before received a Christmas gift. You can also participate in the Box of Joy program online: <https://crosscatholic.org/box-of-joy/>





“ There is no one,  
after God,  
who loves us as much  
as this most loving  
Mother does. ”

- St. Alphonsus Liguori

## 2024 PICTORIAL DIRECTORY



If you have not yet picked up your copy of the directory, stop in the Church office Monday through Friday 9:00 AM until Noon or after any weekend Mass. While there is no charge for the new directory, if you would like to help offset the cost of printing and production (each directory cost \$18.00 to produce), a free-will offering will be gladly accepted!



## NEW HEALING MINISTRY AT ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH!

We would like to begin a healing ministry here at St. Francis of Assisi that will complement our First Friday of the Month Mass and Adoration.

If we are able to implement our Healing Ministry, immediately following the First Friday Mass, we will have our healing service, followed by adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and closing at Noon with benediction.

If you would like to be trained to be a part of the healing team that will pray over individuals after the Mass, please call Darlene Leitz at 574-238-1705 or email [darby321@comcast.net](mailto:darby321@comcast.net) for more information.

If response to this call for Healing Ministers is favorable, we plan on offering our first Healing Mass and Healing Service on Friday, September 6, 2024.

*“Heal me, Lord, that I may be healed;  
save me, that I may be saved,  
for you are my praise.” (Jeremiah 17:14)*

## SUNDAY MORNINGS COFFEE, PASTRIES, AND FELLOWSHIP

Each Sunday after the 9:00 AM Mass, the congregation is invited into Shea Hall for Coffee, Pastries, and Fellowship. Our parishioners and visitors have really been enjoying this ministry!

**YOUR** help is needed to supply the pastries each week and to keep this ministry active. If you are enjoying this ministry and would be able to help out supplying pastries, **please sign up** on the clipboard hanging in the kitchen area in Shea Hall. Please contact Donna Czerniewski with your questions or for more information: (847-668-4074).



## 2023-24 FISCAL YEAR ENDING AND THIS YEAR'S BUDGET

St. Francis of Assisi completed its recent fiscal year (FY2024) on June 30th with revenues (collections, donations, gift shop, etc.) totaling \$196,561.14 and incurred expenses of \$196,086.93. Therefore, we had a modest net income of \$474.21.

Fr. Antonio and the Parish Finance Committee met to set up our budget for the 2024-25 fiscal year. The budget process starts with the Diocese informing us how much our assessment for the coming year will be; calculating its assessments based on the income from the last reported fiscal year, which was the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023. For this new fiscal year, our assessment actually went down compared to last year and while a smaller assessment may seem like a good thing, it is actually an indicator that our collections went down in FY2022-23.

Over the past couple of years expenses have gone up. You've seen it at home and we too have seen it at the Parish. We have not made an ask since before the COVID pandemic, but, at this time, we are asking parishioners to consider adding a little extra to their weekly giving to help out the Parish. This will go a long way towards ensuring we meet our rising expenses.

Lastly, we continue to explore different ways of saving on expense items, while also trying to anticipate major expenses. However, focusing solely on trying to cut expenses is not going to allow us to avoid running a deficit in the coming years. We need parishioners to consider helping out with extra contributions.

In closing, thank you for all you have done to support our Parish this past year. It is through your continued generosity that we are able to maintain this beautiful Parish we call home and that visitors can enjoy the little church by the Little River.

## THE GOSPEL OF JOHN BIBLE STUDY BEGINNING WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, 2024 PARISH RESOURCE (PRC) AT 1:00 PM



Join the Dr. Allen Hunt Bible Study! This isn't your typical Bible study! It's a nine-session Bible study experience that's perfect for people who want to get to know Jesus in the Scriptures but don't know where to start.

This study will introduce you to people and stories in the Gospel of John that you won't find anywhere else in the Bible: the woman at the well; a man named Nicodemus; the woman caught in adultery; and Lazarus, the friend Jesus raised from the dead. You'll read stories about Jesus turning water into wine at the wedding in Ca-

na, Jesus washing the feet of his disciples, and Peter's marvelous redemption after he denies Jesus three times. It's an experience that will introduce you to eight miraculous encounters with Jesus in the Gospel of John that will help you encounter Jesus in a new and personal way. To learn more about this study please visit <https://www.dynamiccatholic.com> and search for (top left corner) The Gospel of John.

### DISCUSSION GROUP COMPLETED!



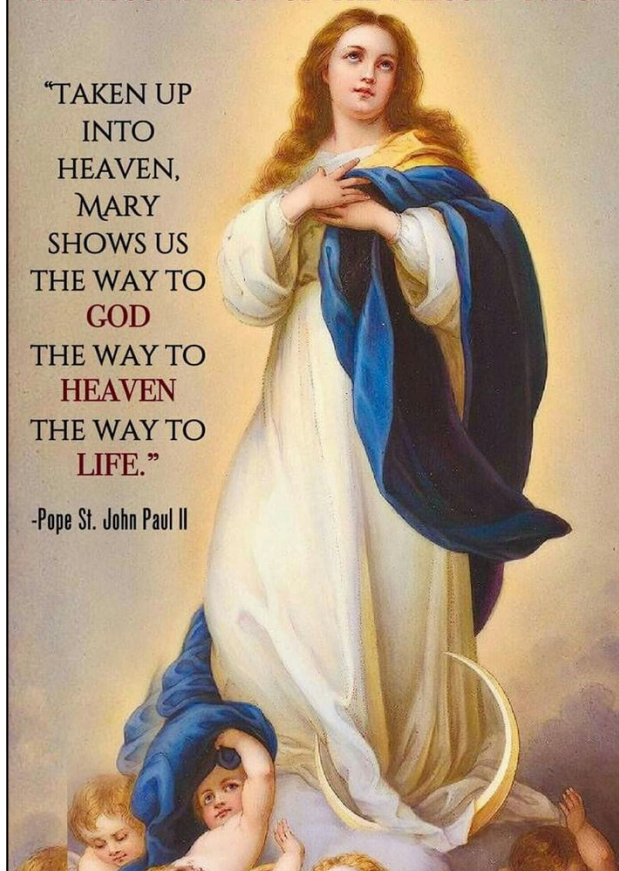
We have completed our Gus Lloyd Apologetics CD series! **Thank You** to all who participated in this discussion group!

Like the Gus Lloyd sessions, our Gospel of John sessions will last about an hour and are guaranteed to be 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; [jdewtrn2018@att.net](mailto:jdewtrn2018@att.net)

# UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	DETAILS
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
12/15/24	Parish Christmas Party at The Barn Event Center in Townsend	Online: N/A E-mail: <a href="mailto:stfrancistownsend7717@gmail.com">stfrancistownsend7717@gmail.com</a> Phone: 865-448-6070

## THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN



### O Mary,

You shine continuously on our journey  
as a sign of salvation and hope.  
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,  
who, at the foot of the cross,  
were united with Jesus' suffering,  
and persevered in your faith.  
“Protectress of the Roman people”,  
you know our needs,  
and we know that you will provide,  
so that, as at Cana in Galilee,  
joy and celebration may return  
after this time of trial.  
Help us, Mother of Divine Love,  
to conform ourselves to the will of the Father  
and to do what Jesus tells us.  
For he took upon himself our suffering,  
and burdened himself with our sorrows  
to bring us, through the cross,  
to the joy of the Resurrection.

Amen.

*Pope Francis's Letter to the Faithful  
May 2020*