



AUGUST 4, 2024 18TH 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.

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 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	8/5	8:30 AM	Brian Barker †
Tue	8/6	8:30 AM	Charlie Graham
Wed	8/7	NO MASS	
Thu	8/8	8:30 AM	Gabriel Ruiz †
Fri	8/9	8:30 AM	Souls in Purgatory Jessie Bell & Samantha Eberhardt
Sat	8/10	4:00 PM	
Sun	8/11	9:00 AM	Granville Hart †

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 Mallo-ry, Louann Felske, Kathy Meyerkord, Stephanie Romer, John & Maria Bermudes, Anne Pate, Tony Lee Bertsch, Timothy Hall

SANCTUARY CANDLE *The Sanctuary Candle is lit in memory of Gabriel Ruiz given by Mark and Judy Ruiz.* 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.



“ Pray, hope,
and don't worry.
Worry is useless.
God is merciful
and will hear your prayer.”

- St. Padre Pio

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Mon	8/5	9:00 AM	Church & Hall Cleaning
Tue	8/6		
Wed	8/7	1:00 PM	Gus Lloyd Discussion Group—PRC
		5:00 PM	SVdP - PRC
Thu	8/8		
Fri	8/9		
Sat	8/10	4:00 PM	Vigil Mass
Sun	8/11	9:00 AM	Mass



ST. CLARE GIFT SHOP

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



BELIEVE IN JESUS

As I mentioned last week, for the next few weeks we will put the Gospel of Mark aside and concentrate on the 6th Chapter of the Gospel of John. Also known as the Bread of Life Discourse.

Last Sunday we heard the story from the beginning of that chapter of the multiplying of the loaves and fish. Today's story takes place the day after that multiplication miracle. The people were so impressed with what Jesus did yesterday, they hurried to see where he might be today. When they find Him, they strike up a conversation. They ask Jesus three questions, and He answers them each time. The first question, "Rabbi, when did you get here?" Jesus saw right through this because he knew they were looking for Him because they got a free meal yesterday. So, Jesus told them that they should work for the food that endures for eternal life, and not for food that perishes.

The second question, about work and God, leads to a straightforward answer. He tells them to "Believe in the one he sent." Believe in Jesus. This becomes more relevant each and every year. Believe in Jesus.

This leads to the third and final question. They ask Jesus what miracle he would perform so they could believe Him. This was a challenge to Jesus. They pointed out that their ancestors had Manna from Heaven. This Manna confirmed that Moses was their leader at that time. Now they want a sign that they should believe in Jesus. Do not forget that just the day before, Jesus multiplied the loaves and fish. That is why they went looking for him the next day. Why don't they get it? When Jesus answered them he told them that it was not Moses who gave them bread, but his Father gives them true bread from heaven. They then ask Jesus to give them that bread always. Jesus responds by telling them that he is the bread of life. This response goes on until the end of Chapter 6 in John's Gospel. Over the next few weeks until the twenty-first Sunday of Ordinary Time, we will continue chapter 6 and dive deeper into the Bread of Life Discourse because of its importance.

Jesus is the Bread of Life. Whoever comes to him will never hunger, and whoever believes in him will never thirst. So, if we do not go to Jesus we will hunger. If we do not believe in Jesus, we will thirst. The answer is simple. Go to Jesus.



OCIA AT ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

What is OCIA? (**Order** of Christian Initiation of Adults) OCIA used to be called RCIA (**Rite** of Christian Initiation of Adults). During their November 2021 U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops meetings, the U.S. Bishops changed the name of the **Rite** of Christian Initiation of Adults to **Order** of Christian Initiation of Adults.

The name change is intended to better reflect that an "order" is a collection of all the "rites" involved in the process through which adults become members of the Roman Catholic Church. This consists of steps, periods, and rites that make up the model of Christian Initiation as restored in the second Vatican Council.

If you or anyone you know are interested in exploring the Catholic Church as your church home or you have been sitting in the pew next to your Catholic spouse for years wondering what you have to do to become Catholic, or you are a practicing Catholic just wanting to learn more about your faith, please consider this a personal invitation to join us.

Classes will begin on Tuesday August 27, 2024. We will meet here at St. Francis of Assisi in Townsend in the PRC at 9:30 A.M. Classes will run for about an hour and a half (9:30-11:00 A.M.). We will also have an afternoon session in the PRC on Tuesdays from 4:00 P.M. – 5:30 P.M. Each Tuesday session will cover the same material. All are welcome!

If you have any questions, please contact Deacon Jim: sfadeacon7717@gmail.com OR 901-493-2123

CATECHISM

CORNER



Welcome to August St. Francis of Assisi parishioners! In today's "Corner," we will be "talking" about the Apostle James, the son of Zebedee, known as James the Elder and better known as James the Greater.

James, a favorite name among the later Jews, Saint James the Greater was one of the disciples of Jesus—named by Jesus as one of the Sons of Thunder. Coming from the Hebrew name of Jacob, his name means "supplanter" or "replacer." James was a man of extraordinary courage and without jealousy.

We know little of St. James's early life and every time he is mentioned in the Bible, he is with his brother John, the beloved disciple. We do know he was the son of Zebedee and Salome, who was a daughter of a priest. James is styled "the Greater" to distinguish him from the Apostle James "the Less," who was probably shorter of stature or maybe just because he was called first. His parents seem to have been people of means, as appears from the following facts: Zebedee was a fisherman of the Lake of Galilee, who probably lived in or near Bethsaida (John 1:44), perhaps in Capernaum; and had some boatmen or hired men as his usual attendants (Mark 1:20). Salome was one of the pious and wealthy women who afterwards followed Christ and ministered to Him. It is probable, according to Acts 4:13, that John and consequently his brother James had not received the technical training of the rabbinical schools; in this sense they were unlearned and without any official position among the Jews. According to the social rank of their parents, they must have been men of ordinary education, when talking of Jewish life.

James is thought to be a cousin of Jesus, by the sister of the Virgin Mary, and the brother of Saint Jude Thaddeus. As mentioned before, he was the brother of John, the beloved disciple, and probably the elder of the two. He was content living in the shadow of his brother John. They were an inseparable pair (Mark 1:19-20, Matthew 4:21, Luke 5:1-11). James worked as a fisherman with his brother John, his father Zebedee, and his partner Simon.

John and James were followers of John the Baptist and left their lives as a fisherman when Jesus called them to be fishers of men. James the Greater was chosen by Jesus to be one of the twelve apostles and was given the mission to spread the gospel of Jesus. He was one of the few who was able to discuss the meanings of the parables and Christ's direct questions and receive a direct answer. James followed Jesus as one of his disciples until Jesus was crucified.

He made a pilgrimage to Spain to spread the word. James was the first of the twelve to become a martyr. When James returned to Judea (Jerusalem), he was beheaded by King Herod Agrippa I (10 BC - 44 AD) in the year 44. This is detailed in the Bible in Acts 12 of the New Testament. James' accuser was so moved by his courage and willingness to face execution that he converted to Christianity on the spot and asked to be executed with James. The Roman officers beheaded both men simultaneously.

The remains, or relics, of Saint James the Greater are said to be buried in Santiago de Compostela in Galicia (Spain) explaining why Saint James the Greater is the patron saint of Spain. St. James the Greater is universally regarded as the patron of pilgrims to the Holy Land, because after establishing the Christian religion in Spain, he returned to Judea on a pilgrimage and was there beheaded. The scallop-shell is the recognized symbol of all pilgrims to the Holy Land, as it abounds on the shores of Palestine. When returning to their own country, pilgrims displayed the scallop-shell in their hats, to show that they had carried out their pious intentions. He is also the patron of laborers. The Feast Day of Saint James the Greater is July 25th. St. James pray for us! Next week we will discuss James' brother John! Enjoy your week!





THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

The Gospel tells us "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." By "listening" we are able to *live* the gospel. Gospel living is something so simple as taking the time to listen to those who need to spill out their hearts when seeking help.

Through your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul you enable the members of the Society to become a "listening heart" to the hungry, the homeless and the struggling poor.

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 1st and 3rd 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



INSPIRATIONAL QUOTES TO PROMOTE DEVOTION TO JESUS IN THE EUCHARIST



John 6:35

*Jesus said to them,
"I am the bread of life;
whoever comes to me
will never hunger,
and whoever believes in me
will never thirst."*

Eucharisticrevival.org



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; jdewtn2018@att.net



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/>



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 the First Friday Mass that we have each first Friday of the month.

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 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)*

SECOND COLLECTION AUGUST 10 & 11 CATHOLIC SCHOOL TUITION SUPPORT

The Catholic schools in our diocese provide spiritual and intellectual growth for over 3,100 students in our two high schools and eight elementary schools. Our Catholic schools not only equip children for the journey of life but, more importantly, help to guide them along their journey to Heaven.

In order to help ensure that a Catholic education is within every family's reach, your help is needed.

Over the past five years, the need for supplemental tuition support has more than doubled. And over this past year, a record of more than \$5.5 million dollars in tuition support was given to assist Catholic families.

With your help, additional children will experience the spiritual and academic advantages of a Catholic school education. Please be generous.

Diocese of Knoxville Catholic Schools



Preparing Scholars, Leaders and Saints



“I LOVE Townsend”

Bishop Mark Beckman celebrated a Mass of Welcome with the Smoky Mountain Deanery Parishes the evening of Wednesday, August 31, 2024. Eight St. Francis of Assisi parishioners were able to attend and visited with Bishop Beckman at the reception after the Mass. Bishop Beckman is looking forward to visiting St. Francis of Assisi in the near future and shared with those in attendance that he “LOVES Townsend!”



2023-24 FISCAL YEAR ENDING AND THIS YEAR’S BUDGET

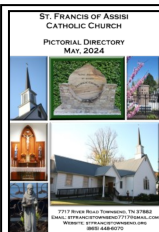
St. Francis of Assisi completed its recent fiscal year (FY2024) on June 30th with revenues (collections, donations, gift shop, etc.) totaling \$196,561.14 and incurred expenses of \$196,086.93. Therefore, we had a modest net income of \$474.21.

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.



DO YOU HAVE YOUR COPY OF OUR 2024 PICTORIAL DIRECTORY?

If you have not yet picked up your copy, 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!

UPCOMING EVENTS

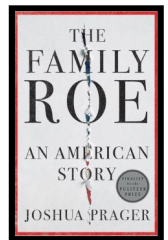
DATE	EVENT	DETAILS
8/10/2024	<i>Conversions</i> Mini-Conference Holy Cross Parish Hall - Pigeon Forge	Phone: 312-316-1977 Phone: 773-909-1402
9/10-19/2024	Pilgrimage to Fatima and Lourdes with Fr. Charles Robinson Coupon Code: Bulletin150	Online: www.QoHTours.com E-mail: info@qohtours.com Phone: 800-213-4295
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
12/15/24	Parish Christmas Party at The Barn Event Center in Townsend	Online: N/A E-mail: stfrancistownsend7717@gmail.com Phone: 865-448-6070

“CONVERSIONS MAKE HISTORY”

A mini-conference touching on the realities of faith, love, law, and life!



SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 2024
9:00 A.M. - NOON
HOLY CROSS PARISH HALL
144 WEARS VALLEY ROAD, PIGEON FORGE, TN



Daniel Vinzant, a former Baptist Minister, now Catholic Missionary, pastored Trinity Baptist church in Waco, Texas for 20 years. His love for the Blessed Mother and a deep respect for God's gift of life led him to Catholicism. Daniel played a key role in Norma McCorvey's conversion story, as she went from "Jane Roe" to a proud Catholic defender of life. Daniel's role in this nation-wide story is featured in the highly-acclaimed, best-selling book, *The Family Roe* by Joshua Prager. Come listen to these amazing conversion stories and pray about your own walk with the Lord.

Our mini-conference will begin with coffee and pastries following the 8:00 am Mass

For more information contact: Mary Lou Lasky 312-316-1977

or Fr. Tom Koys 773-909-1402