



**APRIL 20, 2025
EASTER SUNDAY**

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 4:00PM (Vigil Mass) The Rosary is prayed 35 minutes before each Weekend Mass
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 PM (Church confessional)
Sunday Before Mass: 8:15 - 8:40 AM (Church confessional)
Confessions may also be scheduled by calling the parish office for an appointment.
HOLY DAYS: Check bulletin or website

PARISH MINISTRY TEAM

PASTOR	Rev. Antonio Giraldo	GARDENS & GROUNDS	Ilene Rainwater
DEACON	Deacon Jim Schmall	FACILITIES	David Girard
OFFICE MANAGERS	Katrina Allocco & Lesa Schmall	SOCIAL MEDIA/WEBSITE	JoAnne Romer-Aylward
BOOKKEEPER	Kathleen Halligan	PASTORAL CARE	Suzie Fay
LITURGY/MUSIC DIRECTOR	JoAnne Romer-Aylward	ST. CLARE GIFT SHOP	Camilla Sorrell
DIR. OF RELIGIOUS ED.	Julie Dew	COLUMBARIUM	Bob Eberhardt
RCIA/OCIA	Dc. Jim Schmall	WELCOMING, EVENTS &	All Parishioners
ART & ENVIRONMENT	Norene O'Donnell	SOCIALS TEAM (WEST)	

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 office a minimum of six months prior to the wedding for planning and preparation.

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 sfabulletin7717@gmail.com with the subject of "Bulletin Announcement" by Tuesday 12:00PM. All submissions are subject to further editing.



How can St. Francis of Assisi be of assistance/service to you & your loved ones?
Please contact Suzie Fay with our Pastoral Care Ministry at 423-829-5466 or the Parish office at 865-448-6070.

MASS INTENTIONS: (Mass cards are available upon request at the office.)

Mon 4/21 8:30 AM Elias, Genoveva, & Graciela Ventura
Tue 4/22 8:30 AM Celerino Mondragon Ortiz
Wed 4/23 **NO MORNING MASS**
Thu 4/24 8:30 AM Juan Chavez Reyez
Fri 4/25 8:30 AM Lucas, & Mary Simons
Sat 4/26 4:00 PM Jeanne Vilardo
Sun 4/27 9:00 AM Pam Moretti

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):

Pat Sanders, Doreen Mancuso, Naomi Nwadike, David Holmes, Amy Frink, Myra Montero, Claire Cheadle, Elise Martin, Paul Fain, Joyce Fain, Charles Tippitt, Emmanuel Nwadike, Kay Walker, Julie Schirack, Laken DuRussel, Marcus Bolte, Louann Felske, Stephanie Romer, John & Maria Bermudes, Michael Slater, Rocky Brach, Dennis Richards, Jeff Herzog, Marion McCaughey, Sue Wood, George Murr, Sue Corsini, Adela Mauer, Bill Irby

SANCTUARY FLOWERS: If you would like to donate to the altar flowers fund in memory of or in honor of someone, contact the Parish Office via phone or email. The cost is \$40.00 for 1 week. Thank You!



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.



**Easter Monday
4/21/25**



ST. CLARE GIFT SHOP

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

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Mon 4/21 9:00 AM Church & Hall Cleaning
Tue 4/22
Wed 4/23
Thu 4/24
Fri 4/25
Sat 4/26 4:00 PM Vigil Mass
Sun 4/27 9:00 AM Sunday Mass
"The Chosen" Bible Study
10:30 AM PRC



EASTER SUNDAY

The primary concern of these women as they approached the tomb was determining who would roll away the stone. They had observed its dimensions when it was placed, noting that it was approximately seven feet in diameter and weighed at least a ton. However, upon their arrival, they found that the stone had been moved. The significance of this minor detail is profound. It symbolizes the essence of Easter, which is about the act of rolling back the stone. Opening our hearts and lives to Christ is the same as rolling back the stone of the tomb.

Throughout history, humans have attempted to overcome obstacles and find spiritual connection. The concept of original sin represents an initial separation from divinity. Various forms of challenges and ethical dilemmas have emerged from this idea. Across different eras and cultures, people have sought to achieve spiritual unity, but their efforts were often hindered and redirected by these challenges. God rolled back the stone, and Christ emerged from the tomb offering eternal happiness, forgiveness, grace, and the power of Resurrection to all who follow Him.

This weekend, churches are filled for Easter not only to mark the joyous conclusion of Jesus' crucifixion and death but also to signify a new beginning for humanity. The Church was founded not merely on Jesus' moral teachings or His sacrificial death; it was established through His Resurrection. The Resurrection of Jesus is significant both for Him and for the promise of new life for us.

Sunday was just another workday for the people of Jerusalem. Their sabbath had already ended. They were going about their busy workday. So, many people in Jerusalem were unaware of the Resurrection that morning. Some heard about it later but remained unaffected. Despite happening nearby, it didn't impact everyone. Today, millions of believers are touched by the Resurrection, thanks to faith. Faith brings Christ into our lives, enabling us to experience conversion and receive His grace and mission.

Don't let Easter be a spiritual day trip for you. Make it the renewal of your journey with Christ in His Church. In a world that knows so much death, physical death, spiritual death, moral death, a culture in crisis, here is the Lord of life. Today, He approaches us as He did His initial disciples with one word, "Peace." This encompasses peace with the Father, peace with others, and peace within ourselves—a profound peace that provides fortitude in any adversity. We understand how a fierce storm can agitate the waters, yet there remains tranquility deep beneath. Our life in Christ can reflect this calmness.

We all face challenges, but Christ offers peace in any storm. God removed the barrier of sin; now it's up to us to embrace Christ. Don't be indifferent. The power of His Resurrection is available through the Church's sacraments and rituals.

That first Easter, the stone of sin was rolled away. This Easter let's open the door to new life in Christ. Open the door! See how much Christ has to offer you!



CATECHISM



BY: Julie Dew

Welcome to the beautiful celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I certainly hope you enjoyed all the information in the Corner this past Lent with Leonardo's fresco of the Last Supper. As I have stated before, Michael and I had the opportunity to view this in Milan. There are no words to express my reaction. It's just overwhelming! My jaw hit the floor! The beauty, the distinctiveness, the history of the artist! And this magnificent piece of art is in what we would call a dining hall! Thank you so very much, Ilene Rainwater, for enlightening us with your research and knowledge of this well-known artwork. I truly appreciate the time that you put in and graciously shared with us during all of Lent!

I wish to welcome our new members that were initiated into the Church this Easter Vigil! It truly is a blessing for us as a community to welcome you, Angela, Jeff, Summer, Jacob, Terry and Carolyn! Our RCIA class was educational, but more importantly, extremely inspiring because of all of you!

Now, you may ask what is RCIA? RCIA stands for Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. It is primarily designed for adults who have not been baptized and are seeking to join the Catholic Church. However, many parishes also include baptized Christians in the RCIA program for convenience and community building. The program involves learning about the Church's teachings and preparing for the sacraments of initiation, such as Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist. The RCIA is a journey of faith and conversion, guided by the Holy Spirit, and is rooted in the Church's mission to evangelize and bring people to Christ (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1212-1233). This is normally a full year program!!

While visiting another state, you may have heard the process called OCIA at a Catholic Church. You heard or read right! The process by which adults formally join the Catholic Church has traditionally been referred to as the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). Two years ago, in November of 2021, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops approved a new translation of the process and its corresponding curriculum, now known as the **Order** of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA). The decision to change the name stems from the idea that the Catholic journey is continual. It is a lifelong commitment each catechumen or candidate is making to the Church. Another reason for the name change is to more accurately portray the fact that there are multiple rites integrated into the larger process of becoming Catholic. The process itself is not one "rite" there are multiple rites. These rites include a discovery stage, a learning and consideration stage, a deep reflection period, and continued learning and growing. And while there are rites integrated into the process of becoming Catholic, not all their timelines vary in length. Hence, OCIA more accurately depicts the varied rites' different timelines. Our diocese will be initiating the OCIA program starting with instruction this year.

Have a wonderful and joyous Easter Season St. Francis!



*Angela, Jeff, Summer,
Jacob, Terry and Carolyn*

*Congratulations and
Welcome Home!*





THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Today as we celebrate the feast of Easter, like Mary Magdalene and the Disciples we find the challenge of also seeing and believing the resurrection. As you put your gift into the St. Vincent de Paul box you help those who are poor and hungry to "see and believe" in the Resurrection.

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 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 APRIL "PRODUCT OF THE MONTH" PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY



INSPIRATIONAL QUOTES TO PROMOTE DEVOTION TO JESUS IN THE EUCHARIST

Tanner Kalina - (1991 -)

*"Jesus knows
that the Last Supper
is His last meal
with His apostles....
So why does He tell them,
"I have eagerly desired
to eat this Passover with you
before I suffer?"
...Jesus is excited
to share this meal,
not so He can say "goodbye,"
but so He can say "hello"
in a different way."*

*Paraphrased excerpts
from Revival
A Lenten Devotional
for Eucharistic Renewal*



St. John Baptist de La Salle

*Patron Saint of
Educators,
School Principals,
and Teachers*



*How long has Jesus been
knocking at the door of your
heart, waiting to enter?*



*"For those of us who believe that God exists
and that human beings have eternal souls, the
second half of life, and the fourth quarter in
particular, are about letting go of the culture's
delusions and embracing God's vision for this
life and the next."*

THE FOURTH QUARTER OF YOUR LIFE

embracing what matters most

Allen Hunt & Matthew Kelly



DIOCESAN JOB OPENING

The Diocese of Knoxville Chancery Office is searching for an Administrative Assistant to the Office of Christian Formation and the Diaconate. Please see the diocesan website at <https://dioknox.org/employment> for a specific job description. Send cover letter and resume to Maura Lentz at mlentz@dioknox.org.

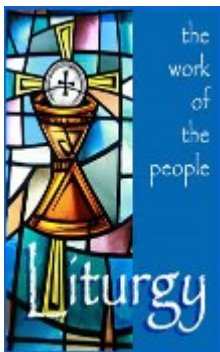
Quatro

Cinco De Mayo PotLuck

We're partying a day early!

May 4, 2025 4:00 - 7:00 PM Shea Hall

See the poster in Shea Hall for details and sign-up!



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 after Mass this weekend 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	kommessenger@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

Easter Flowers

This year's Easter Flowers have been donated by several parishioners in memory or honor of someone they know.

In Memory of

Mary Hopman	Ding Thi Sinh	Frank & Betty Czerniewski
Joseph & Betty Tkatch	John Jackson	Kathleen Denning
Katherine Kirkham	Ralph & Irene Meyerkord	Jesse & Gloria Colvin
Ted & Violet Jastrab	John & Theresa Peacock	Mario & Natalie Bummara
Joseph & Marlena Rytel	Tom & Rita Gaudern	Walter & Sue Fallat
Barry Rytel	Cam King	Jack Troupe
Normand & Therese Messier	Edward Murphy	Virginia Ann Welsh
Anne McTavish	Larene Anderson	Philip Peychal
Bill & Mollie Corsini	Earl & Catherine Miller	Rita & Ray Polak
Ralph & Herma Peychal	Norman & Lucille Weiland	Marion Ganley
Lois Zehnder	George Szekely	Edward Szekely
Lois & Elmer Szekely	Doug DuRussel	Mary Hopman
The Reddan Family	The Polak Family	
Friends & Relatives and those who gave their lives in service to others		

In Honor of


Fr. Antonio Giraldo
Fr. Tony Mulderry
Fr. Eric Zeeger
Dc. Jim Schmall
Claire Martin
Norene O'Donnell
John & Yvonne Peychal
The Harbit Family
The Davis Family
Jacob Simons
Brock Simons
Bryton Simons
The Bruno Family
The Kirkpatrick Family



UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	DETAILS
4/24-26/2025	Knoxville Diocesan Council of Catholic Women Biennial Convention St. Mary's Church - Johnson City, TN	Online: www.kdccw.org AND See poster in Shea Hall Phone: 407-252-0320 (Karen Agnello) OR: Phone: 901-485-1965 (Amy Schaefer)
5/4/2025	Cinco de Mayo Potluck (on SUNDAY) Shea Hall 4-7 PM	Online: Sign-up Sheets in Shea Hall E-mail: StFrancisTownsend7717@gmail.com Phone: 865-448-6070
9/20-10/9/2025	11-Day Jubilee Pilgrimage to the Shrines of Italy with Fr. Bill McNeeley	Online: Scan QR code on poster in Shea Hall E-mail: ascensiontourstravel@gmail.com Phone: 800-351-9893

SUNDAYS AT 10:30 AM



The CHOSEN
SEASON ONE

BIBLE STUDY & DISCUSSION
PARISH RESOURCE CENTER




KNOXVILLE DIOCESAN COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

34th BIENNIAL CONVENTION — APRIL 24 - 26, 2025
St. Mary's Catholic Church, Johnson City, TN
For more information and registration, visit us at www.kdccw.org

2025 CONVENTION SPEAKERS

Dr. Anne DeSantis Evelyn Garcia Michele Marquis

STRENGTHENING
the **CHURCH AT HOME**

SECOND COLLECTION - CATHOLIC HOME MISSION APPEAL APRIL 26 & 26, 2025

Please be generous in supporting the Catholic Home Missions Appeal on April 27. This collection helps to strengthen the Catholic Church in the United States in its 87 mission territories. Nearly 40% of dioceses in the United States and its current and former territories struggle to meet basic pastoral need. 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!