



**JUNE 15, 2025
THE MOST HOLY TRINITY**

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

<p>PASTORRev. Antonio Giraldo</p> <p>DEACONDeacon Jim Schmall</p> <p>OFFICE MANAGERSKatrina Allocco & Lesa Schmall</p> <p>BOOKKEEPERKathleen Halligan</p> <p>LITURGY/MUSIC DIRECTORJoAnne Romer-Aylward</p> <p>DIR. OF RELIGIOUS ED.Julie Dew</p> <p>RCIA/OCIADc. Jim Schmall</p> <p>ART & ENVIRONMENTMichele Girard</p>	<p>GARDENS & GROUNDSIlene Rainwater</p> <p>FACILITIESDavid Girard</p> <p>SOCIAL MEDIA/WEBSITEJoAnne Romer-Aylward</p> <p>PASTORAL CARESuzie Fay</p> <p>ST. CLARE GIFT SHOPCamilla Sorrell</p> <p>COLUMBARIUMBob Eberhardt</p> <p>WELCOMING, EVENTS & SOCIALS TEAM (WEST)All Parishioners</p>
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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	6/16	8:30 AM	
Tue	6/17	8:30 AM	Beatrice Bell, Fred Bell & Noah Bell
Wed	6/18	NO MORNING MASS/COMMUNION SERVICE	
Thu	6/19	8:30 AM	
Fri	6/20	8:30 AM	
Sat	6/21	4:00 PM	Joe & Eli Eberhardt
Sun	6/22	9:00 AM	Melissa Bailey

COMMUNION SERVICES

June 16th through July 3rd

While Fr. Antonio is away, Dc. Jim will be offering communion services on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays June 16th through July 3rd.

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, Claire Cheadle, Elise Martin, Paul Fain, Joyce Fain, Charles Tippitt, Emmanuel Nwadike, 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, Sue Corsini, Adela Mauer, Bill Irby, Teresa Williams, Jeffrey Garrison, Ann Day, Layla Sexton, Ed Welsh, Joyce Welsh

SANCTUARY FLOWERS:

The Sanctuary flowers are in memory of Cecilia Petroskey given by Eric and Gail Simons. 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!



ST. CLARE GIFT SHOP

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

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Mon	6/16	9:00 AM	Church & Hall Cleaning
Tue	6/17		
Wed	6/18		
Thu	6/19		
Fri	6/20		
Sat	6/21	4:00 PM	Vigil Mass
Sun	6/22	9:00 AM	Sunday Mass

SANCTUARY CANDLE:

The Sanctuary Candle is lit in memory of Marc Ruiz given by 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.





MAKING SENSE OF THE HOLY TRINITY

Today we celebrate the feast of the Holy Trinity- the core of our Christian faith. This is one truth of our faith that is hard to understand. In fact, this is one of the points that other faiths or some denominations use to criticize our Christian and Catholic faith.

Nine years ago, this weekend, I was ordained a permanent deacon. The very first homily I ever preached was the one I preached at the Vigil Mass that evening for Trinity Sunday. It has been said that it is far easier to preach to hundreds crowded into the church on Christmas or Easter than it is to discuss the doctrine of the Holy Trinity in front of your hometown crowd. But I did it.

Even now, theologians are still trying to make this truth more understandable and relevant for us. We need to understand first that the truth of the Holy Trinity is a mystery that could not be understood completely through our own reasoning (You Cat #36). However, this does not mean that we just take it as it is without at least trying to understand what the Holy Trinity has to do with us. It starts with our baptism. We are baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. And not only this, by virtue of our baptism, we can share the life of the Holy Trinity, the life of love and communion with one another. And we are here today because of this, so we begin the Mass by acknowledging the presence of 'the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit' in us all.

It still does not make much sense, does it? I hope this teaching from the YouCat or Youth Catechism of the Catholic Church can explain it to us further. It says: 'Christians do not worship three different Gods, but one single Being that is threefold and yet remains one. We know that God is triune from Jesus Christ: He, the Son, speaks about his Father in heaven (I and the father are one, '(Jn 10:30). He prays to him and sends us the Holy Spirit, who is the love of the Father and the Son.' (You Cat # 35)

It really is a challenge for us how to make sense of this intimate union of the Father, of the Son and of the Holy Spirit (three persons in one God). It is hard to explain. But here are some analogies that may help us realize how we may come to understand this mystery of our faith:

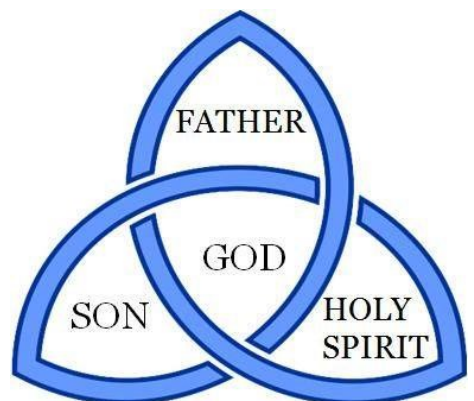
For the lovers of nature, God is like the sun. The Father is the Sun. The rays emanating from the sun is God- the Son. And the warmth we feel and the energy we get and benefit from it is the Holy Spirit.

For musicians, the piano can even be used as an analogy. The Father being the hand or the person playing, the Son as the piano, and the music that is produced is the Holy Spirit.

But I like the one analogy from the Celtic prayer addressed to the Trinity: It says: "Oh Father who sought me, Oh Son who bought me, and O Holy Spirit who taught me."

This last analogy is one that really helps us see what the Holy Trinity has to do with us. We are sought, bought, and taught by God himself because of love - because of God's great love for us.

As we continue our celebration of the Eucharist today, let us live out the gift of love that the Holy Trinity has shared with us by sharing it and letting it overflow to one another. Let us learn from the love and the perfect communion of the three persons in one God. If we love one another, we come to understand the love of the trinity and, we would be experiencing this love ourselves. So then let us be instruments of God's love for the Glory of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.



CATECHISM

CORNER



BY: David Quinn

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Have you ever heard of a Baptism being referred to as a christening? The two words are sometimes used interchangeably but they really are a little different in Catholic Church teaching. Christening is part of the Baptismal rite but Baptism is more than just the christening. Christening can be translated to “give a name to.” The Baptism rite for a child starts with naming the child before the Lord. It is similar to how Jesus got named in the temple shortly after His birth.

At the root of the word “christening” is “Christ,” which you may already know means “anointed one.” Part of the Baptismal rite is anointing with oil. Going back to Scripture, we see people being anointed as recognition of their being chosen by God. The first kings of Israel (Saul, David and Solomon) were anointed by prophets before they became king. The repentant woman anointed Jesus with her tears and oil right before His Passion and death. He asked her to save the remaining oil for anointing His body after His death. The child is anointed with oil as part of being chosen by God. The child is also blessed with chrism oil. Chrism is a special form of fragrant oil that frees us from sin through the Holy Spirit to start us on the way to salvation.

In the Gospels, Jesus lays His hands on the blind to help them to see. The priest or deacon lays his hands on the child to bring the Holy Spirit onto the person. Additionally, the parents and godparents make the sign of the cross on the child. Laying on of hands is a key part of almost every sacrament as Jesus and the Apostles did as part of founding our Church. This helps invoke the Holy Spirit as a faith community, not just one individual.

Then we light a candle from the Easter Candle, which is the symbol of Christ being the light of the world. We are passing that light onto the child through the parents and godparents, who will help guide the child’s faith journey until he/she is able to follow God’s guidance on his/her own.

Next, we place a white cloth on the child. This white cloth symbolizes the new life the child has now received through Baptism. Though the white cloth lays on the outside of the child’s body, it really is there to show the new life and cleanliness of the soul. Baptism takes away the stain of original sin and we pray that the child’s soul remains clean as he/she grows physically and spiritually.

The final key element is water but to keep this Catechism Corner a more reasonable length, we’ll discuss the importance of water in Baptism next week.



Baptism

DEACON FORMATION



BY: DAVID QUINN

BECOMING A DEACON – COMING TOGETHER

Our diocese is quite blessed that we have the Christ Prince of Peace (CPOP) Retreat Center in Benton, TN. It is a beautiful setting with lots of quiet space to spend time in contemplation with the Lord. There’s a trail with the stations of the cross. There’s a pathway that leads to a sitting area with a Mary statue overlooking the Hiwassee River. It is also a wonderful location because it has a number of facilities to host retreat events. It has a chapel that is about the size of our church. It has a kitchen for hosting group meals. It also has various housing capabilities for groups that are visiting.

Our Deacon formation class meets at CPOP for one weekend each month, from Friday at 7 PM until Sunday at 3 PM, except for June and July. When we first started, we each had a roommate so we quickly got to know each other. Usually on Friday and Saturday nights after class instruction, we gather together in one of the houses to talk about what we’ve been learning or events happening in the world. It is a bonding experience that you can only get from hanging out together for roughly 48 hours a month.



THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

As we celebrate the mystery of the Trinity we also realize the mystery of how much God loves and cares for us each day. Believing in this, our lives can then overflow in thanksgiving and praise. Is there a family you know who needs assistance? Please call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that together we can help those who are suffering.

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. However, we are going into a "summertime" meeting mode and our upcoming meetings for the summertime are: August 6th, and August 20th.

SVDP JUNE "PRODUCT OF THE MONTH"



Thank You for your continued support of SVDP!



HELP FILL OUR SVDP PANTRY

Are you a BJ's Member? If so, would you like to help fill our SVdP pantry too? Below is a list of products we use from BJ's (but of course we will take any non-perishable item!). These are some of the items we have identified as being a good value:

- | | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Bar Soap | Kleenex | Ramen Noodle Soup |
| Macaroni & Cheese | Saltine Crackers | Canned Chicken |
| Toothbrushes | Toothpaste | Canned Tuna |
| Paper Towels | Peanut Butter Crackers | Vienna Sausages (canned) |
| Bath Tissues | Microwave Popcorn | Chips (individual size) |

Purchased items can be placed in the St. Vincent de Paul food basket located in Shea Hall. We appreciate all you do to help us help those in need – Thank You!

INSPIRATIONAL QUOTES TO PROMOTE DEVOTION TO JESUS IN THE EUCHARIST

"The feast of the Most Holy Trinity renews our mission of living in communion with God and all people on the model of the divine communion."

*Pope Francis
1936 - 2025*



We should strive to keep our hearts open to the sufferings and wretchedness of other people, and pray continually that God may grant us that spirit of compassion which is truly the spirit of God.

- St. Vincent de Paul

Be a sign of **mercy.**
 lifeofthechurch.com/donate

JUNE 28-29

SUPPORT THE WORKS OF THE HOLY FATHER THROUGH THE **Peter's Pence Collection**

SECOND COLLECTION JUNE 28 & 29, 2025

The "Peter's Pence" collection that will be taken up on June 28 & 29 will assist the Holy Father with his charitable works.

Your donations help the Holy Father to respond with emergency financial assistance to the neediest and most disadvantaged throughout the world - especially those who suffer as a result of war, oppression, and natural disasters.

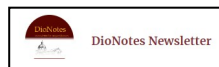
Your contributions will be combined with those of Catholics from around the world to help the Holy Father reach out to the voiceless and most vulnerable in need.

DioNotes
 a newsletter for our parishioners

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 all the way 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.



JUBILEE HOLY YEAR 2025 - PILGRIMS OF HOPE

2025 is the Jubilee Holy Year, the 2,025th anniversary of the Incarnation of our Lord, an "event of great spiritual, ecclesial, and social significance in the life of the Church." The concept of "Jubilee" has its origins in the Book of Leviticus (chapter 25) as a special year of reconciliation, pilgrimage, and coming home. Pope Francis has designated the 2025 Holy Year as a time to renew ourselves as "Pilgrims of Hope."

The United States Catholic Conference of Bishops (USCCB) has developed a page on their website that offers an abundance of information about the Jubilee year! Please visit

<https://www.usccb.org/jubilee2025>

to learn how we are celebrating the Jubilee year in the United States. This page also offers a link to the Vatican Jubilee 2025 webpage as well as a drop-down map for Pilgrimage Sites in the US. There is so much information here about the Jubilee Year! Please visit this webpage to learn more about the Jubilee year and how you might take advantage of some of the information to personalize your own Jubilee Year! This web page offers Catholics resources and ideas for celebrating the 2025 Jubilee locally or by making a special pilgrimage to Rome. The site is regularly updated with the latest news, so be sure to check back regularly!



THANK YOU NORENE AND MICHELE!

Our beautiful little church on the river has a lot of unsung volunteers who work tirelessly behind the scenes to make our church and church grounds beautiful!

Norene O'Donnell has been creating and arranging our Altar flower for many, many years and is now stepping away from that ministry. Norene will continue to be active in many Church ministries, Hall and PRC cleaning, Ordering Shea Hall supplies, SVdP, and wearing many other hats! If you see her, take a minute and thank her for the time and talent she has volunteered over the years to this beautiful ministry.

Michele Girard will now be taking on the mantle of creating and arranging Altar flowers. When you see Michele, take a minute and thank her for volunteering to share her time and talent with this beautiful ministry!



2025 MISSION TRIP ♥ JUNE 19 - JULY 1

Our St. Francis of Assisi missionaries Fr. Antonio, Ilene Rainwater, Grace Rapien, and Rose Rapien will once again be travelling to Marsella, Colombia for their 2025 Mission trip! Fr. Antonio began this Mission 20 years ago in 2005 as a non-profit Mission dedicated to helping the most vulnerable in Colombia and he has been taking missionaries to Colombia every year ever since. During the trip, missionaries walk through the streets of Marsella (pronounced mar-say-shuh) just like the Apostles did over 2000 years ago proclaiming the words of Christ to all the people they encounter. The people of Marsella look forward to this Mission trip every year and welcome our missionaries with open arms and hearts! The missionaries attend daily Mass, visit the homebound, assist in facilitating a Vacation Bible School (VBS) for approximately 150 children, distribute upwards of 250 food bags to needy families, and immerse themselves in daily Colombian life - all while enjoying fabulous Colombian food, fellowship, and the natural beauty of Colombia!

Please pray for a safe and bountiful mission trip, and a safe return of our missionaries with a lifetime of memories. If you would like to help support the One Heart Colombia Mission financially, donation envelopes have been placed in the church foyer. You may drop the envelope into the weekend collection basket or drop it off at the church office. To ensure your donation is credited to the mission effort, please make sure it is placed in some kind of envelope marked with "One Heart Colombia Donation." If you are writing a check, please note "One Heart Colombia Mission" in the memo field. Thank you for your generous support of this wonderful Mission effort!



Rose & Grace Rapien serving at Mass with Fr. Antonio in Marsella, Colombia

*Safe travels to our missionaries!
¡Viajes seguros a nuestros misioneros!*





UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	DETAILS
9/21/2025	Liturgical Ministry Commissioning at the Sunday 9:00 AM Mass	Online: N/A E-mail: komessenger@gmail.com Phone:
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
12/14/2025	Parish Christmas Party Tremont Lodge - Townsend, TN	Online: N/A E-Mail: stfrancistownsend7717@gmail.com Phone: 865-448-6070

God Our Father,

In Your wisdom and love You have created us
and called us Your own.

Bless our fathers, that they may be strengthened
as Christian fathers.

In moments of joy, rejoice with them.
In times of struggle, give them Your courage and perseverance.

Grant that we, their sons and daughters,
may honor and appreciate them always
with a spirit of profound respect.

May the example and prayer of St. Joseph
inspire them to live their vocation with courage.

Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Happy Father's Day