



JUNE 8, 2025 PENTECOST 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.

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.



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	6/9	8:30 AM	Brian Barker
Tue	6/10	8:30 AM	Herma Peychal
Wed	6/11	NO MORNING MASS	
Thu	6/12	8:30 AM	All Souls in Purgatory
Fri	6/13	8:30 AM	Sally Ann Roth
Sat	6/14	4:00 PM	Mark Ruiz
Sun	6/15	9:00 AM	Elias, Genoveva, & Graciela Ventura

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	6/9	9:00 AM	Church & Hall Cleaning
Tue	6/10	Noon	WEST Mtg. Shea Hall
Wed	6/11		
Thu	6/12		
Fri	6/13		
Sat	6/14	4:00 PM	Vigil Mass
Sun	6/15	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.





THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Today is indeed a special feast, the third most important feast in the Church year, the feast that celebrates the completion of Jesus' saving work with his sending of the Holy Spirit. Today we celebrate the birth of the Church. We are sent forth to be the good news. Advent is about waiting and anticipating, Christmas is about celebrating the birth of Jesus, the Savior, and Easter is about Christ's victory over sin and death, but Pentecost is about receiving the Holy Spirit in the name of Jesus.

Pentecost was an ancient Jewish feast, one of the three most important among all the Jewish feasts. God the Father and Jesus chose this feast as the time to send the Holy Spirit upon God's new Kingdom. For this occasion, God gave special gifts to his apostles, allowing them to proclaim God's favor to people of every nation. In the earlier events, we are passive participants, we have received all power and authority in the name of Jesus, and when we have the power and authority of the Holy Spirit, the evil one will tremble and flee.

The Church with the power of the Holy Spirit will increase the level of expectancy, become an instrument of God's healing power, and be a cause of great joy. An unbelieving world will experience awe and amazement as it witnesses God's signs and wonders, finally becoming a credible witness of God's kingdom of love and justice. As a church that has received the Holy Spirit, we will be able to transform any situation. We will have the power to heal and renew our families, we will bring peace to the communities; we will care for one another and for Mother Earth.

It is because of the power of the Holy Spirit that Jesus warned his disciples that the world will hate them and all who believed in him. He warned them that they would be thrown out of the temple, ridiculed, persecuted, and, yes, even killed. But there was no need to worry or live behind locked doors trembling in fear, because he would not leave them or us alone. He would send his Spirit, the gift of wisdom, the counselor and Spirit of truth, who would remain with them and Christ's church until the end of time.

The great Feast of Pentecost is the fulfillment of that promise. On that day, the power of God turned despairing, fearful people into dynamic disciples. They had received the Holy Spirit and were clothed with power from on high. In his death and resurrection, Jesus' mission on earth was completed according to God's plan, but he knew that the mission of proclaiming the Good News – of setting the captives free – needed to be proclaimed to the far ends of the earth unto all generations until the end of times. Jesus gives his disciples and he gives us, with the power of the Holy Spirit, to be and proclaim the Good News wherever we go. If we are faithful in bearing witness to the life-changing gospel we will find joy in seeing God's favor bestowed in the poor, the suffering, and rejected.

Pentecost is about the miracle of God's transformative grace – seeing those who have been broken in life becoming oaks of righteousness. Let us go forth as church filled with the anointing and power of the Holy Spirit and renew the face of the earth. Let us go out to the far corners of our neighborhoods, cities, nations, and world to be the people of the way; let us be the God-lovers wrapped in the authority and power of the Holy Spirit and proclaim to the world that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father! Amen.



CATECHISM

ORNER



BY: David Quinn

PREPARING FOR SACRAMENTS

Our Church has seven amazing sacraments that were instituted by Christ. Each sacrament is a true blessing and we should look to witness to them whenever possible. From the Baptism of a baby to the First Communion of a young person to the ordination of someone to the priesthood or diaconate, we are truly blessed whenever we see a sacrament being conferred. There are beautiful ceremonies and rites associated with each sacrament. While a specific event (a wedding, a baptism, etc.) is important and we want the event to be glorious, we need people to look

beyond the event and into a life-long relationship with God. This is why our Church does not just allow people to jump into a sacrament unprepared. We want to ensure that people understand the sacrament, appreciate its salvific meaning, and integrate the sacrament into their spiritual life.

For baptism, the priest or deacon meets with the parents (and preferably the godparents) to discuss why they want their child baptized. We usually look for an answer beyond "to wash away original sin." The question is important because baptism is a commitment to introduce God and the Church to the child continually throughout their life. The parents should know that the Church does not expect the next time we see the child to be at First Communion but at Mass every Sunday. The role of the godparent is not ceremonial but spiritual as well. They are promising to help raise the child in the Catholic Church too.

We are in that time of year when we typically see first or second graders making their First Communion. Many of these young ones have been getting instruction through school as well as through their family. It looks so precious seeing all these young ones wearing white dresses or suits but they've been preparing, understanding that they are receiving the true flesh of Christ. Again, this is a sacrament not about family photo opportunities but about spiritual growth.

Perhaps one of the more underappreciated preparation periods is for the sacrament of Confirmation. While in Baptism, someone else spoke up for the child being baptized, this is the chance for the individual being confirmed to reflect on personal responsibility for their continued spiritual growth. They identify a sponsor, who provides one-on-one mentoring about the faith and allows the person being confirmed (whether a youth, teen, or grown adult in RCIA/O CIA) to ask more personal questions about the Church.

The Catholic Church perhaps has given greatest attention to marriage preparation. It is easy for a couple to get so fixated on their wedding that they fail to prepare for their marriage, the true sacrament that starts at the wedding. For many of us old-timers, we went through Pre-Can a, a series of classes meant to ensure the engaged couple was talking about what was really involved in a marriage and a sacrament. No, it was not intended to make couples fight with each other but it was intended to ensure they talked meaningfully about life after the wedding, including topics that couple sometimes find uncomfortable.

In many parishes, Pre-Can a has been replaced with Marriage Mentoring, a process of matching an engaged couple with a married couple. This allows the marriage preparation to be more personalized to the engaged couple. It provides the engaged couple with many tools to use to help in future communication with each other.

There is also highly specialized preparation for the other sacraments, especially Holy Orders, but hopefully you get the point that the Church does not view sacraments as a one-time event in order to have family and friends over for a party. They are deep, meaningful starts to continued growth in our relationship with God. The Church ensures we approach them appropriately through preparation.



Baptism



Confirmation



Eucharist



Reconciliation



Matrimony



Holy Orders



Anointing
of the Sick



THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Today as we celebrate Pentecost the Holy Spirit wants to make us advocates of God's presence to bring new life to others, especially those who do not know the love of God in their lives. Your gift in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box will help the poor to believe in the mystery of God's love for 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 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: June 4th, 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)

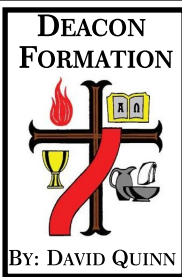
Purchased items can be placed in the St. Vincent de Paul food basket located in Shea Hall. We appreciate all you do to help us help those in need – Thank You!



*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



BECOMING A DEACON – APPLYING FOR THE PROGRAM

Applying for the deacon formation program is a foreshadowing of the workload we will encounter in the actual program. As you might imagine, they have a form you need to complete to gather basic background information. They have you also get copies of your sacramental records (baptism, first communion, confirmation, and marriage). They even want copies of education records from high school, college, and certification programs. The aspirant writes a letter to the bishop expressing interest in entering the diaconate. If married, his wife completes a series of questions indicating her impression on whether her husband is fit for the program.

The most involved part of the application is writing an autobiography of your life. They want to know about your family upbringing, your marriage, your employment, and your involvement in parish activities. It then wraps up with an essay answering the question about how you think you are being called to the diaconate. It gives the diocese a sense of whether you are willing to put in the work for the program as well as insight into who you are.



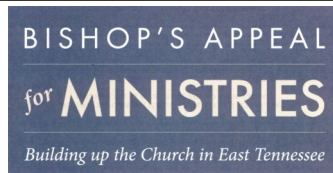
WELCOMING EVENTS & SOCIAL TEAM MEETING

Tuesday, June 10, 2025

NOON in Shea Hall

If you are a member of this parish, you are automatically a member of this team! 😊

Please come and join in the Summer and Fall planning activities for our parish!
A light lunch will be served.



APRIL 2025

Pledged: \$15,500

Collections to Date: \$11,895

Collections Needed to Reach Goal:

\$3,605.00

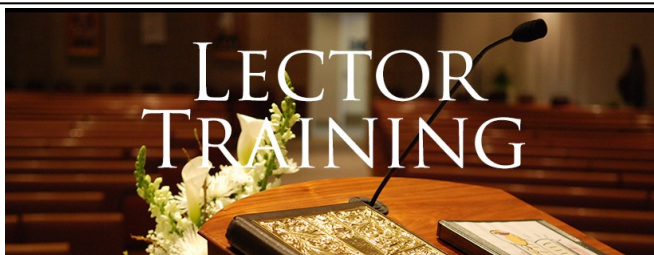
Due to your tremendous support, the Bishop's Appeal for Ministries continues to support and strengthen the programs, services, and ministries of our Church. Thank you St. Francis of Assisi, Townsend—you are making ministries possible!

INSPIRATIONAL QUOTES TO PROMOTE DEVOTION TO JESUS IN THE EUCHARIST



*“Jesus is sent by the Father
for the salvation of the world.
At the very end of
the celebration of the Eucharist,
we who have received
the Body and Blood of Christ
and have been incorporated
more profoundly into his Mystical Body
are likewise sent out
to proclaim the Good News
for the salvation of the world:
‘Go in peace,
glorifying the Lord by your life.’”*

*The Mystery of the Eucharist
in the Life of the Church (USCCB 2021) P. 56*



SATURDAY, JUNE 14TH **10:00 AM** **IN THE CHURCH**

If you are currently a Lector for our beautiful little church, or would like to be one, please mark your calendars for a very important training session/workshop on Saturday, June 14 at 10:00 AM in the Church.

Martha Frink and Deacon Jim will lead this interactive training session on how to not merely READ the readings, but how to PROCLAIM Scripture! All of the other intricacies that go along with this ministry will be discussed as well.

This training session is for both Proclaimers of the Word and for those who read the Commentaries at the beginning of the Liturgy of the Word. It is also for "seasoned Lectors" and new Lectors alike - there will be something for everyone at this training session! Please mark your calendars and plan on attending! For more information and/or questions please contact Martha (865-556-4684) or Dc. Jim (901-493-2123).



We do not need to wait for the Holy Spirit to come;
 he came on the day of Pentecost.
 He has never left the church.
 Bethlehem was God with us,
 Calvary was God for us, and
 Pentecost is God in us.

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. **The signup sheets for the next couple of weeks are on the light side, and some weeks we do not have any parishioners signed up to bring in pastries.** 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. If you are enjoying this ministry but are unable to help out supplying pastries, perhaps you would be able to help out by supporting this ministry financially. Contributions may be placed in the small collection box on the counter in Shea Hall on Sunday mornings or may be directed to the church office. If you choose to write a check, please make sure that "Sunday Fellowship" is clearly marked in the memo area so that it is recorded accurately. All monies collected will go toward future purchases of coffee, creamer, sweetener, paper products, and plastic utensils. Please contact Donna Czerniewski with your questions or for more information: (847-668-4074).



UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	DETAILS
6/14/2025	Lector Workshop 10:00 AM In the Church	Online: N/A E-mail: marthafrink00@gmail.com E-mail: junglejim1908@gmail.com (Dc. Jim)
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



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! 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!*

