



JULY 20, 2025
16TH 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 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	Michele Girard	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 sfbulletin7717@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 7/21 8:30 AM Dăng Thi Sinh †
Tue 7/22 8:30 AM Herma Pechal †
Wed 7/23 **NO MORNING MASS**
Thu 7/24 8:30 AM Charlotte (Charlie) Graham †
Fri 7/25 8:30 AM Edward Szekely †
Sat 7/26 4:00 PM Lucille Weiland †
Sun 7/27 9:00 AM Cathy Pechal

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, Thomas Fay, Sofia Graziano, Dale DuRussel, Suzie Fay

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!



ST. CLARE GIFT SHOP

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

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. Thank You!



ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Mon 7/21 9:00 AM Church & Hall Cleaning
Tue 7/22
Wed 7/23
Thu 7/24
Fri 7/25
Sat 7/26 4:00 PM Vigil Mass
Sun 7/27 9:00 AM Sunday Mass

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTES
 TO PROMOTE DEVOTION
 TO JESUS IN THE EUCHARIST**

*St. John Paul II
 1920 - 2005*

*“In that little Host
 is the solution to
 all the problems
 of the world.”*





THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus affirms that to be a disciple we must also sit at his feet and listen to him. St. Vincent de Paul taught that it is only in prayer that we can give selfless loving service to those who are poor. This week, please say a special prayer each day for the poor and forgotten in our parish.

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 JULY "PRODUCT OF THE MONTH" SOUP



Thank You for your continued support of SVDP!

Nashville, TN
retrouvaille weekend:
A lifeline for married couples

August 29 - 31, 2025

email 3043@helpourmarriage.org, visit <https://retrouvaille.org> or call (931) 820-2115.



A VERY SPECIAL DAY WITH THE BISHOP

You are invited to join Bishop Mark Beckman for a faith-filled day of fun for special needs individuals and their families! "A Very Special Day with the Bishop" will be held on Saturday, August 2 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at St. John Neumann, 633 St. John Court in Farragut. Following Mass, there will be activities, skits, and lunch! Please register by July 26 if you plan to attend: <https://tinyurl.com/36wxf2d3> If you have questions, please contact Julie Radachy (knoxcvjulie@gmail.com).

CFO

DIOCESAN JOB POSTING - CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER (CFO)

The Diocese of Knoxville is seeking a mission-driven and highly experienced Chief Financial Officer (CFO) to lead the financial operations of the diocese. For detailed information about this position, please see the job posting document on the Diocesan bulletin board in Shea Hall. Please visit the diocesan website (dioknox.org/employment) to view additional job opportunities within the Diocese of Knoxville.

UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	DETAILS
8/2/2025	"A Very Special Day with the Bishop" St. John Neumann, Farragut (Knoxville)	Online: https://tinyurl.com/36wxf2d3 E-mail: knoxcvjulie@gmail.com Phone: 865-862-5753
8/3/2025	Parish Picnic at Concord Yacht Club Sunday 2:30PM - 7:30PM	Online: N/A E-mail: stfrancistownsend7717@gmail.com Phone: 865-448-6070
8/29-31/2025	Retrouvaille Weekend Nashville, TN	Online: https://retrouvaille.org E-mail: 3043@helpourmarriage.org Phone: 931-820-2115
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
9/21/2025	Liturgical Ministry Commissioning at both weekend Masses	Online: N/A E-mail: komesseger@gmail.com Phone:




CONCORD YACHT CLUB
11600 South Northshore Dr.
Knoxville, TN 37922
concordyachtclub.org

PARISH PICNIC

SUNDAY, AUGUST 3, 2025

2:30 - 7:30

- The Parish will provide burgers, hot dogs, buns, and condiments
- Parishioners, please BYO drinks and a side dish to share (Sign up in Shea Hall)
- Please BYO lawn chairs (picnic benches available in the pavilion)
- Both the indoor air-conditioned Clubhouse and the outdoor Pavilion are reserved for our use
- Buffet dinner will begin at 3:00 PM



SECOND COLLECTION - JULY 26 & 27

A second collection will be taken up next weekend in support of the Pastoral Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa. This national collection supports a wide range of essential and unique pastoral projects that build the capacity of the rapidly growing Church in Africa, so rich with faith, hope, and immense need. This fund supports essential pastoral projects throughout this vast continent that includes outreach programs, schools, evangelization, and education of clergy and lay ministers. Mindful of the priests and religious from Africa who assist us so unselfishly here in the Diocese of Knoxville, please show your appreciation with your generous support of this appeal for the Church in Africa.

MARTHA AND MARY - BE BOTH



DEACON'S
NOTES

In historical desert societies, hospitality was regarded as a necessary practice due to challenging travel conditions such as high temperatures and scarce water. Welcoming travelers became customary. The Hebrew tradition includes accounts of caring for strangers, with the rationale partly derived from past experiences of hardship.

Abraham is described in historical records as offering water for washing, selecting meat, providing curds and milk, and having bread prepared by Sarah for guests, demonstrating established hospitality practices. Martha is also noted for hosting Jesus, preparing bread and serving food, aligning with customary respect shown to visitors through meal offerings.

These examples indicate that desert hospitality involved welcoming all guests and that individuals who had previously received assistance were expected to extend help to others. Narratives depict Abraham's guests and Martha's guest as notable individuals. Such accounts demonstrate that, within Jewish tradition, hospitality toward guests was considered an essential social value.

In our Gospel, when Jesus comes to visit, Martha fusses about getting a meal ready while Mary sits listening at the feet of Jesus. Martha, the activist; Mary, the contemplative. Two sisters, yet very different. Many people have said "I'm a Martha, or I'm a Mary". I say that's too bad. The choice is not to be one or the other but to be both. We need to integrate our prayer and service.

There is a story attributed to St. Teresa of Avila that I like: Coming from chapel one morning, one of the nuns in her cloister relayed to St. Teresa that she had just had the most wonderful experience of God. In prayer. God had seemed very close to her. The nun said she felt so good. St. Teresa replied, "That's nice Sister. Now, I believe it's your turn to peel the potatoes." Prayer and service, listening and doing. They go together. How do we get this balance? How are we as Christians to live a life of praying and doing? How are we to be both Martha and Mary?

The first thing we can do is show up at Mass! Mass is our primary prayer as Catholics. When tempted to sleep late or go to Walmart, being a good Christian means we come to Mass before doing our shopping. Before we do anything, we must pray, we must show up for Mass.

Secondly, like Mary, we have to listen. God wants us to hear him. God is present in his word. By carrying the Book of Gospels in procession, we celebrate God's presence in his Word. As good Christians, we listen attentively to the readings; we hear God speaking to us. We listen to each other. At church we hear about life's ups and downs. Someone might tell us his wife is in the hospital, or someone else might tell us they're going to visit their grandchildren. As Christians caring for each other, we listen.

Thirdly, we must give of ourselves. That thing we have least of, our time, Christians give away. We do this by ministering to each other. At Mass we do this by serving as Lector, or EM, altar server, or usher, or by singing. After Mass is over, we go forth to serve the Lord. Perhaps as ministers to the sick and the homebound, we take Communion to show our love and concern for those who cannot come to Mass.

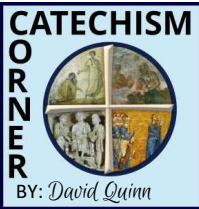


The life of Martha shows us that it's ok to be human - there's grace when we get distracted and Jesus receives us when we find our way back to him.



- Rachel Hunka (*Propel Women*)





THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

As humans, we are flawed. We fail to live up to the commands of God. These failures need to be confessed with true repentance in order to bring us back into favor with God. This is why we have the sacrament of Reconciliation (sometimes referred to as Confession or Penance), to cleanse our souls again as they were in Baptism.

The word “reconciliation” is Latin in origin. It can be broken down into multiple parts, with the main part being “cilia” or “eyelash.” Reconciliation is intended to bring us back to being eyelash-to-eyelash with the Father, just as the Son is eyelash-to-eyelash with the Father. Reconciliation is the ultimate act of love that we can share with God.

We can find the origins of the sacrament throughout Scripture. We know Jesus gave the Apostles the authority to forgive sins in John 20 when He blesses them with the Holy Spirit and tells them that any sins they forgive will be forgiven in heaven. However, it even goes further back than that as Zechariah, the father of John the Baptist, prays over the infant John “...to give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins.” [Luke 1:77]

This sacrament has always been there; how the Church has performed the sacrament has changed across history. In the early Church, it was thought you could only be forgiven once so many people waited until just before death to confess their sins. Being a sacrament though, the Church started to encourage people to go more often in order to receive more grace. Frequent reception of the sacrament of Reconciliation keeps us closer aligned with God.

Going to Confession requires a good examination of conscience to truly reflect on when we were not living God’s will. A well-formed conscience starts with the Ten Commandments, but fully understanding how to live out the Ten Commandments can be complex. This is why the Church provides greater guidance on when you may not be living God’s commands. There are various resources that can help you with a thorough examination of conscience.

We enter the Confessional and communicate to God all those sins for which we are wholeheartedly sorry. That is the true key to this sacrament – being completely repentant for our sins. It is difficult to say we are truly sorry for our sins if we are not able to say those sins aloud. This is based on the passage “confess your sins to one another and pray for one another.” [James 5:16]

The sacrament of Reconciliation is a beautiful gift that keeps us on the path to salvation. While the Church says we must to go to Confession at least once a year, you will find that more frequent reception of this sacrament will help you feel closer to God.



Reconciliation



LITURGICAL MINISTRIES QUARTERLY SIGN-UPS FOR AUGUST, SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER

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	komessenger@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