



JUNE 21, 2026
12H 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

WEEKDAY MASS: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday at 8:30 AM (NO MASS ON WEDNESDAYS)
WEEKEND MASS: Saturday 4:00PM (Vigil Mass) The Rosary is prayed 35 minutes before each Weekend Mass
Sunday 9:00AM
HOLY DAYS: Vigil Mass 6:00 PM (evening before); Holy Day Mass 9:00 AM (day of)
CONFESSION: Saturday before Mass: 3:00 - 3:40 PM (Church confessional)
Sunday before Mass: 8:15 - 8:40 AM (Church confessional)
By Appointment: 865-448-6070

PARISH MINISTRY TEAM

PASTORFr. Antonio Giraldo
DEACON.....Dc. Jim Schmall
OFFICE MANAGERSKatrina Allocco & Lesa Schmall
BOOKKEEPERKathleen Halligan
LITURGY/MUSIC DIRECTOR.....JoAnne Romer-Aylward
DIR. OF RELIGIOUS ED.Julie Dew
OCIADc. Jim Schmall
ART & ENVIRONMENTMichele Girard & Norene O'Donnell
GARDENS & GROUNDS..... Ilene Rainwater
FACILITIES David Girard
SOCIAL MEDIA/WEBSITE JoAnne Romer-Aylward
PASTORAL CARE..... Suzie Fay
ST. CLARE GIFT SHOP Camilla Sorrell
COLUMBARIUM Bob Eberhardt
WELCOMING, EVENTS & All Parishioners
SOCIALS TEAM (WEST)
PARISH ASSOCIATIONS:
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY: Debbie Eberhardt
COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN: Ilene Rainwater

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 the church office at 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

Mon 6/22	8:30 AM	Communion Service
Tue 6/23	8:30 AM	Communion Service
Wed 6/24		NO MORNING MASS
Thu 6/25	8:30 AM	Communion Service
Fri 6/26	8:30 AM	Communion Service
Sat 6/27	4:00 PM	Bill Irby †
Sun 6/28	9:00 AM	Barbara Malocha †

To schedule a Mass intention, please contact the Parish Office via phone or email or in person during office hours. Mass cards are available at the church office. 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): Amy Frink, Pat Sanders, Doreen Mancuso, Claire Cheadle, Paul Fain, Joyce Fain, Julie Schirack, Marcus Bolte, John & Maria Bermudes, Michael Slater, Marion McCaughey, Sue Corsini, Teresa Williams, Jeffrey Garrison, Ann Day, Ed Welsh, Dale DuRussel, Robert Schumacher, German Giraldo, Jean Claude Augustin, Connor Dietrich, Sofia Graziano, Beryl Quinton, Obed Sexton, the Gruber Family, Betty Gonzalez, Carmen Milton, Carolyn & Bruce Haverkos, Marlene Doerrer, Michael Grier Jr., Cathy Luck

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: The sanctuary candle is lit in honor of Fr. Antonio Giraldo given by our St. Vincent de Paul group. 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!



INSPIRATIONAL QUOTES TO PROMOTE DEVOTION TO JESUS IN THE EUCHARIST



*“Friends,
do not be afraid
of silence or stillness.
Listen to God.
Adore Him
in the Eucharist.”*

*Pope Benedict XVI
(1927-2022)*

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Mon 6/22	9:00 AM	Church and Hall Cleaning
Tue 6/23		
Wed 6/24		
Thu 6/25		
Fri 6/26		
Sat 6/27	4:00 PM	Vigil Mass
Sun 6/28	9:00 AM	Sunday Mass



ST. CLARE GIFT SHOP
OPEN
after weekend Masses
and by request/appointment
after daily Mass



BE NOT AFRAID

600 years before Christ, Jeremiah was warning God's people that they could avoid the destruction that was on its way if they started living according to God's laws (most of which were being flagrantly ignored or violated). The people didn't like the message, so they decided to kill Jeremiah. His words in today's first reading reflect the pain and misery he experienced for being faithful to his mission. We should be shocked when we hear him pray that God take vengeance on his persecutors. After all, he was human and not as perfect as Jesus who was able to pray for those who crucified him.

Our First reading leads into the gospel. As we heard last Sunday, Jesus had just chosen his twelve apostles. In today's gospel he prepares to send them out as missionaries. He is warning them their message is not always well received, they may even suffer and die for it, but they must preach with courage and not be afraid of what might happen to them if they meet rejection.

As Christians, we too can feel the anxiety of Jeremiah. We live in a society where many people feel that God simply does not matter to them. Instead of being confined to a temple, as in Jeremiah's time, God is confined to the realm of personal sentiment.

When we as Christians try to speak on matters involving social justice and public policies, we can always be met with hostility. We are often told that faith has no place in the public square. Yet, as Christians we all share a common vocation to reconcile all things with God. Now, how are we able to do this? Is there a clear path forward? The path forward for us Christians is the Gospel. Jesus tells his disciples - and us today - "Be not afraid." Although he is aware, and cares, he does not guarantee that bad things will not happen to us. Ups and downs are part of our existence, and they even happen to God's holy prophets and to Jesus himself. Because God is aware and he cares, he tells us not to fear for he is in control and will make everything turn right for those who are faithful to him. When Jesus tells us not to fear, he's not talking about the spontaneous reaction we feel when we are threatened, he's telling us not to worry and to put our trust in him that things will come out alright in the end.

One thing Jesus tells us to fear is God! "Do not be afraid of those who can kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, be afraid of the one who can destroy both body and soul in Gehenna." Those who fear God in this way will approach him with awe, respect, and reverence frequently. In either case, a little healthy fear of God will greatly reduce our fear of other things in life, including death itself.

If we are at peace with God and know the Lord is with us, there will be fewer things in life that can upset us or frighten us.



Daily CATHOLIC WISDOM

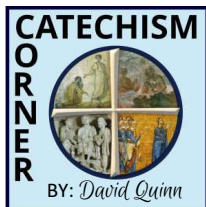


*We may not be able to avoid fear or stop hurt in our lives,
But we are promised the nearness of God
To help us face our fears and get through our hurt.*



- Dr. Joel Muddamalle

THE MISSING BOOKS - JUDITH



The next book not in Protestant Bibles that is in the Catholic Bible is the Book of Judith. This book is in dispute because there are some story details that do not exactly match up with historical events. However, from a Catholic Church perspective, some of the historical mismatches do not take away from the theological lessons of the book. And the historical background is close enough that the book can be taken as a story that actually happened.

The Assyrian king, Nebuchadnezzar, was battling the king of the Medes. He tried to enlist the help of other kings but he got rejected. He ended up beating the Medes but held a grudge against the other kingdoms. He decided to get revenge on the other kingdoms. Nebuchadnezzar appointed Holofernes to conquer all the other kingdoms. Holofernes had great success and finally came to attack the city of Bethulia. His army cut off the water and food supplies to the city.

Holofernes heard how the Jewish people were difficult to defeat when they were loyal to God so he decided to try and create a situation where the people would turn on God. He took away their food and water sources. The people began to pray for God's help. After a month though, they were struggling horribly and considered surrendering to the Assyrians. The leader of the Jews convinced them to hold out for five more days.

We then meet Judith, a beautiful widow who had great faith in God. She told the leaders that they were wrong to put a time limit on God. She told them that she had a plan but she would not tell them the plan but to have trust in the Lord. They said they would trust her. Judith prays to God and then prepares herself by bathing, perfuming, and dressing beautifully. She takes some food and dishes that follow Jewish eating ordinances. She took her handmaid and left the city for Holofernes' camp. The soldiers were taken by Judith's beauty and honored her request to go meet Holofernes. Holofernes is also taken by her beauty.

Judith is offering intelligence about what is happening with the Jews in the insulated city. Holofernes appreciated her cooperation and allowed her to stay in the camp unharmed as well as allowing Judith and her handmaid to eat the food Judith brought with them. On the fourth day, Holofernes got drunk and asked Judith to come eat with him. Judith agreed to come but Holofernes fell asleep shortly after she arrived.

While Holofernes slept, Judith took his sword and chopped his head off. She wrapped his head and left with her handmaid to return to Bethulia. She showed the head to the Jewish leaders and soldiers, emphasizing that she never had to compromise herself because she faithfully followed God's plan. The leaders displayed the head for the Assyrian soldiers to see. They found Holofernes' body in his tent and then panicked. The Jewish soldiers then attacked and the Assyrian soldiers are wiped out.

The book ends with everyone singing Judith's praises and Judith leading them in a prayer worshipping the Lord. Judith then lives the rest of her righteous life alone on her own property.



WELCOME JUBILEE YEAR PILGRIMS!



PLEASE
TAKE
ONE

With our parish designated as a St. Francis of Assisi pilgrimage site for the 800th anniversary of his transitus, we have developed a package for pilgrims to use as they visit our parish. There is a special program for the jubilee year that highlights different parts of our parish that could help in praying during your pilgrimage here. The package also has the parish history pamphlet that is available in the Narthex for all visitors. Also included in the package is a St. Francis prayer card. The packages are in a display box in front of the Parish Resource Center (PRC) near the sidewalk between the PRC and the church and are for you to keep. And for any visitors that did not realize that they are at a pilgrimage site, there is information in the package that explains how to gain an indulgence during your visit here. Welcome, Pilgrims!

PREGNANCY HELP CENTER & CLINIC



Donate to make a Difference

Your support makes a difference in the lives
of babies and mothers in our community.

-recurring -one time

877-990-4673

pregnancyhelp@cctn.org

www.cctn.org



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





THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

In the Gospel today, we hear Jesus say: "Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father." This week, know that you will be bringing hope to the poor through your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

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.



Image by pngtree.com

SVDP normally meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month at 5:00 PM in the PRC.

All are welcome when we meet, however **we are taking a summer break from meetings and will not meet again until August 5th!**

SVDP JUNE "PRODUCT OF THE MONTH"



Images by pngtree.com



SVDP DONATION GUIDELINES

- The preprinted SVdP church contribution envelope, (which is marked for the beginning of the month) can be placed in the collection basket **ANY** time of the month. If you are not using preprinted envelopes and want to place your donation in a weekend Mass collection basket, please put your donation in an envelope (of any kind) marked SVdP to make sure it gets into the SVdP account.
- Please make any checks out to: **St. Vincent de Paul** (not St. Francis of Assisi).
- Donations can also be placed in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box, located in the Narthex, to the right of the exit doors (just above the holy water station). Ushers can show you the location.
- Feel free to reach out to us with any questions.

865-312-0141



***Gather Good News* DONATES SUBSCRIPTIONS FEES TO SVDP FOOD BANK**

Gather Good News is a local Wears Valley monthly electronic publication via subscription. The editor, Bill Gathergood, and all the patrons/subscribers of the newsletter selected St. Vincent de Paul's Townsend Food Pantry as the recipient of their donated subscriptions fees.

Each year *Gather Good News* subscription fees are donated to the St. Francis Food Bank. The subscription fee for each reader is \$20 per year. This year subscribers were asked to consider making a larger donation due to the greater economic need at the Food Bank. The subscribers came through in a big way! The yearly donation amount usually ranges between \$700.00 and \$800.00 a year, however, the contribution this year is \$1,025!

Thank you Gather Good News subscribers!

Bill Gathergood, owner and content creator of *Gather Good News* has been donating all the subscription fees to SVDP since 2020. Since 2020 Bill has donated his subscription fees of \$5,082. Thank you Bill!

DIocese of Knoxville Special Friends Sensory-Friendly Mass



SENSORY-FRIENDLY MASS REGISTRATION

Join the Diocese of Knoxville Special Friends for a sensory-friendly Mass celebration on **Saturday, July 25th!**



Scan the QR code or visit the diocesan website to register by Saturday, July 18th.

We have a new ministry in our diocese called the Diocese of Knoxville Special Friends. This ministry is headed up by eight core members. It is dedicated to providing support and resources to our brothers and sisters with special needs and their caregivers throughout the diocese.

One of the missions we have taken on is ensuring that our people with special needs have accessibility to participate more fully in the celebration of the Sacraments. As such, through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we have organized a monthly celebration of Sensory-friendly Masses to take place on the last Saturday of every month at Knoxville Catholic High School. Our Inaugural Sensory-friendly Mass will take place on Saturday, July 25th, at 4 pm in Trinity Chapel at Knoxville Catholic High School.

Registration for our first Sensory-friendly Mass is due by July 18th. Please scan the QR code to the left or visit <https://www.dioknox.org/events/sensory-friendly-mass> to register.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to Sarah Warner Sperl, Assistant Director Office of Christian Formation: ssperl@dioknox.org ; 865-584-3307



Diocese of
KNOXVILLE

805 S. Northshore Drive Knoxville, TN 37919



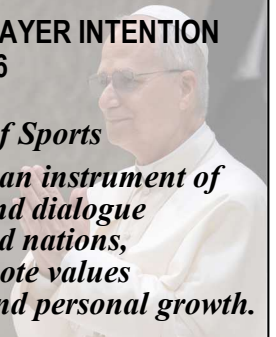
**ST. FRANCIS WORDS OF WISDOM
JUBILEE YEAR 2026**

“
*Where there is
charity and wisdom,
There is neither
fear nor ignorance.*

- St. Francis of Assisi
1181 - 1226

**POPE LEO'S MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTION
JUNE 2026**

*For the Values of Sports
Let us pray that sports be an instrument of
peace, encounter, and dialogue
among cultures and nations,
and that they promote values
such as respect, solidarity, and personal growth.*



UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	DETAILS
7/9/26	The Great Commission Parish St. Thomas the Apostle Church Lenoir City, TN (9AM - 2PM)	Online: Scan QR code in Shea Hall E-Mail: celeste@stthomaslc.com Phone: 865-986-9885 ext. 115
7/25/26	Sensory Friendly Mass Knoxville Catholic High School 4:00 PM	Online: https://www.dioknox.org/events/sensory-friendly-mass E-Mail: SSperl@dioknox.org Phone: 865-584-3307
8/2/26	Parish Picnic Concord Yacht Club - Knoxville 2:00 - 7:00 PM	Online: N/A E-Mail: StFrancisTownsend7717@gmail.com Phone: 865-448-6070
8/15/26	Ministries Day All Saints Church, Knoxville	Online: https://dioknox.org/events/ministries-day-2026 E-Mail: TBA Phone: TBA
10/3/26	Pet Blessing Outside behind the PRC 10:00 AM	Online: N/A E-Mail: StFrancisTownsend7717@gmail.com Phone: 865-448-6070
10/4/26	"Feasting" Potluck with St. Francis Shea Hall 4:00 - 7:00 PM	Online: N/A E-Mail: StFrancisTownsend7717@gmail.com Phone: 865-448-6070
11/1/26	Parish Movie Night with popcorn "Brother Sun, Sister Moon" A St. Francis/St. Clare Movie Shea Hall 4:00 - 6:00 PM	Online: N/A E-Mail: StFrancisTownsend7717@gmail.com Phone: 865-448-6070
12/6/26	Parish Christmas Party Tremont Lodge - Townsend 5:00 - 8:00 PM	Online: N/A E-Mail: StFrancisTownsend7717@gmail.com Phone: 865-448-6070

SAINTS BE PRAISED!

June 22 St. Paulinus of Nola, Bishop
St. John Fisher, Bishop and Martyr
St. Thomas More, Martyr

June 27 St. Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop and Doctor of the Church