



# JUNE 7, 2026 THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
7717 RIVER ROAD - TOWNSEND, TN 37882  
865-448-6070

WEBSITE: [STFRANCISTOWNSEND.ORG](http://STFRANCISTOWNSEND.ORG)  
E-MAIL: [STFRANCISTOWNSEND7717@GMAIL.COM](mailto: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) Sunday 9:00AM The Rosary is prayed 35 minutes before each Weekend Mass  
**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

<p><b>PASTOR</b> .....Fr. Antonio Giraldo  <b>DEACON</b> .....Dc. Jim Schmall  <b>OFFICE MANAGERS</b> .....Katrina Allocco &amp; Lesa Schmall  <b>BOOKKEEPER</b> .....Kathleen Halligan  <b>LITURGY/MUSIC DIRECTOR</b>.....JoAnne Romer-Aylward  <b>DIR. OF RELIGIOUS ED.</b> .....Julie Dew  <b>OCIA</b> .....Dc. Jim Schmall  <b>ART &amp; ENVIRONMENT</b> .....Michele Girard &amp; Norene O'Donnell</p>	<p><b>GARDENS &amp; GROUNDS</b>..... Ilene Rainwater  <b>FACILITIES</b> ..... David Girard  <b>SOCIAL MEDIA/WEBSITE</b> ..... JoAnne Romer-Aylward  <b>PASTORAL CARE</b>..... Suzie Fay  <b>ST. CLARE GIFT SHOP</b> ..... Camilla Sorrell  <b>COLUMBARIUM</b> ..... Bob Eberhardt  <b>WELCOMING, EVENTS &amp;</b> ..... All Parishioners  <b>SOCIALS TEAM (WEST)</b>  <b>PARISH ASSOCIATIONS:</b>  <b>ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY:</b> Debbie Eberhardt  <b>COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN:</b> Ilene Rainwater</p>
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**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](mailto: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

<b>Mon 6/8</b>	8:30 AM	Bernadette (Jordan) Gaston †
<b>Tue 6/9</b>	8:30 AM	Herma Peychal †
<b>Wed 6/10</b>		<b>NO MORNING MASS</b>
<b>Thu 6/11</b>	8:30 AM	German & Pamela Giraldo & Maria & Rita
<b>Fri 6/12</b>	8:30 AM	German & Pamela Giraldo & Maria & Rita
<b>Sat 6/13</b>	4:00 PM	Duncan McRae †
<b>Sun 6/14</b>	9:00 AM	Elizabeth-Isave Dang Thi Sinh †

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:** 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!



*“How can we learn to fight  
without hating,  
To hate sins but not sinners,  
To love sinners without loving sins?  
Only one ever did it perfectly.  
The only way we can do it is  
His way.”*

*Peter Kreeft  
Making Choices*



[DynamicCatholic.com](http://DynamicCatholic.com)

### ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

<b>Mon 6/8</b>	9:00 AM	Church and Hall Cleaning
<b>Tue 6/9</b>		
<b>Wed 6/10</b>		
<b>Thu 6/11</b>		
<b>Fri 6/12</b>		
<b>Sat 6/13</b>	4:00 PM	Vigil Mass
<b>Sun 6/14</b>	9:00 AM	Sunday Mass



### ST. CLARE GIFT SHOP

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



## THE BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST: A REAL SACRIFICE AND A REAL GIFT

Today we celebrate one of the great feast days of our faith – the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ, also known as the feast of Corpus Christi. The greatest gift that Christ gave to the church was the total gift of self in the form of bread – truly, his body and blood. Every week, we are invited to the banquet table to feed on him, the source of our eternal life. We gather, as the apostles did on that first Holy Thursday, in remembrance of him, for he died for us, conquering sin and death and promising all who believed in him life everlasting.

In the Book of Deuteronomy, Moses admonishes the Israelites that while they wandered for forty years in the desert, God fed them with manna from heaven to sustain them and to show them that bread alone does not suffice. One must be nourished by the living bread of God's word. The Israelites were quick to forget all that God had done for them. God kept them safe for forty years as they wandered through the harsh and dry desert without food or water. He quenched their thirst and fed their hunger because he loved them and desired to be in intimate relationship with them.

In his first letter, Paul tells the Corinthians and us today, that we do not simply participate in the Body and Blood of Christ. No. We are one Body eating of the one loaf. The Eucharist unites us to Christ and to one another. The Eucharist makes us one with Christ Jesus – not male or female; not black, white, red, yellow or brown; but one family.

In today's gospel from John, Jesus tells us that he is God's supernatural provision both of eternal life and of all that is needed to sustain that life up to the very time of our resurrection. Christ is giving us a foretaste of the way in which he is going to bring salvation through his brokenness, when he says, "Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him. Just as the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me."

Every time we celebrate this mystery, that same sacrifice is made present to us. The Eucharist is a "memorial" in the biblical sense of the word: "not merely the recollection of past events but the proclamation of the mighty works wrought by God for men. In the liturgical celebration of these events, they become present and real.

The Eucharist is not just a reminder; it is a real sacrifice and a real gift. "In the Eucharist, Christ gives us the very body which he gave up for us on the cross." Whenever we celebrate the Mass, we participate in a representation of Jesus' death and resurrection. When we receive Jesus with a disposition of faith and love, we enter into those actual events of his life-giving sacrifice. We not only receive bread and wine – or flesh and blood, for that matter. We receive salvation.

Let us rejoice that Jesus has given this gift to all generations until he returns in glory.



## Daily CATHOLIC WISDOM



*When we eat the broken Bread, we unite ourselves with the love of Jesus, who gave his body for us on the wood of the Cross; when we drink from the chalice, we unite ourselves with him who even poured out his blood out of love for us.*



- YouCat (Youth Catechism of the Catholic Church) no. 208

## CATECHISM

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BY: *David Quinn*

### THE MISSING BOOKS OF THE PROTESTANT BIBLE

It is a subject that goes back 500 years. Some say it goes back even farther. Are there 73 books in the bible or just 66 books? Actually, you may hear the question asked differently. Protestants will ask why Catholics have seven extra books in the Bible. Catholics will ask why Protestants removed seven books from the Bible. And as I said, it is a debate that goes back a long time but did not cause division in the Church until 500 years ago.

The books of the New Testament were discussed because there were many new books being read and discussed by preachers in the first couple of centuries of the Church. Since multiple books were being used and it is hard to have a universal Church if everyone is using different books, there was finally a council in the year 328 AD (the Council of Rome) that addressed which books should be considered the New Testament. The primary criteria used was whether the books were written by the Apostles (e.g., Matthew and John), by someone in service to the Apostles (e.g., Mark and Luke), or by someone directly under one of the Apostles. This led to the agreement on the 27 books of the New Testament.

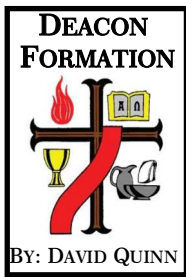
That same council discussed the Old Testament books as well. The big debate was on which Hebrew Scriptures to use as the basis for identifying the books of the Old Testament. There were three main options:

- (1) The Sadducees used the Torah, also known as the Pentateuch in Greek. These are the first five books of the Old Testament. The Sadducees called this the Mosaic Law and was the basis for all their teaching.
- (2) Most Jewish communities used the Tanak, which consisted of the Torah, the Nevi'im (which means The Prophets), and the Kethuvim (which means The Writings).
- (3) A few Jewish communities, those highly influenced by the Greeks who had conquered the Kingdom of Judah, used the Septuagint, which was a translation of the Jewish Scriptures from Hebrew into Greek plus the addition of several more books written in Greek.

The debate for the Old Testament really boiled down to use of the Tanak or the Septuagint. In other words, the debate was whether to restrict the Old Testament to only books written in Hebrew or to include inspired books written in Greek. Early Church leaders tended to use the Septuagint. This had a great influence on St. Jerome when he was tasked by Pope Damasus I with the job of translating the Bible into Latin, which became known as the Vulgate. St. Jerome started his translation work using the Septuagint and did most of his work in Rome. He was still translating the Bible into Latin when Pope Damasus I died. Wanting to ensure an accurate translation of the Bible, St. Jerome moved to Jerusalem so he could get copies of the Old Testament books in Hebrew. When he saw that some of the Old Testament books did not have Hebrew texts, he noted in his translation that several books stood out for not having Hebrew origins but Greek origins. These handful of books became known as the Apocrypha, or the Deuterocanonical books. The Church proceeded with the Bible having 73 books for roughly 1200 more years, though some biblical scholars continued to debate whether the Deuterocanonical books should continue to be used.

With the issue festering at the Church for centuries, Martin Luther finally made the loudest protest of all. Luther wanted to translate the Bible into German because the printing press had just been invented and Luther wanted common believers to have a copy of the Bible they could understand. While initially including the Deuterocanonical books in his translation, Luther had other issues with Church teachings on topics like Papal authority, the selling of indulgences, purgatory, and others. Several of the Deuterocanonical books conflicted with Luther's beliefs on these topics so he felt a good solution was not to include those books in the Bible anymore. As a result of this Reformation, the Protestant Bible now has seven fewer books. There are also some omissions from the Book of Daniel and the Book of Esther. To counter this movement, the Council of Trent in 1546 formally made it Church canon what the 73 books of the Bible are.

Over the next several weeks, we'll go over those seven additional books in the Catechism Corner, highlighting what they cover and how they are meaningful to our Catholic faith. We hope you enjoy seeing what makes our Catholic Bible complete.



## BECOMING A DEACON – PATRISTICS

The very beginning of the Church started with those people who were either followers of the Apostles (e.g., St. Polycarp) or learned directly from the followers of the Apostles (e.g., St. Irenaeus). In other words, they were only one or two generations from the Apostles who were spreading their interactions with Jesus. The next generation after these Church Fathers were the initial Church apologists. This generally covers the years 100-600 AD.

Many or most of the early Church Fathers were martyred for their beliefs. They looked to express their beliefs in philosophical ways, which was how arguments were made at that time.

We see a lot of that approach in St. Paul's epistles. These martyrs included people like St. Justin Martyr, Sts. Perpetua and Felicity, St. Blandina, and St. Sanctus (a deacon). Many of the Church Fathers were also having to deal with heresies that were starting to spread. The biggest defender of the faith was St. Augustine. The defense against heresies led to expanding the Apostles Creed to the Nicene Creed.



## ONE HEART COLOMBIA MISSION TRIP - JUNE 16-30, 2026

Our One Heart Colombia Mission Team is pleased to share with you the wonderful outcome of our recent Vidalia Onion fundraiser! Our parish alone sold 84 bags (\$840!) and received over \$1,500 in cash donations to be used for this year's mission trip in providing food bags to the marginalized families in Marsella, Colombia! Your generous hearts will help to feed hundreds of families and give hundreds of children the opportunity to attend a Vacation Bible School where they will strengthen their knowledge and love for Jesus!

The Mission Team of 8, representing 4 different East Tennessee Parishes, will be traveling to Colombia, South America, June 16 - 30 on Mission. The mission team is asking for donations of any travel size items - soap, shampoo, conditioner, tooth paste, tooth brushes, etc. Also, if you have any rosaries, medals and/or Prayer cards with photos on them, please bring all of the above requested items to church before **Sunday, June 14th and place them in the basket marked "Mission Trip" in Shea Hall**. These items will be given to the patients the mission team visits at the 40 bed Nursing Home and on Home Visits. All the money that has been raised thus far, will go toward purchasing Food Bags to feed 250 of the poorest families in the small village of Marsella, Colombia - our Mission Site. Please keep your mission team in prayer and your mission team will be praying for you and thanking God for your generosity, as they serve the Lord!



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



*“Material food first changes into the one who eats it, and then, as a consequence, restores to him lost strength and increases his vitality. Spiritual food, on the other hand, changes the person who eats it into itself. Thus the effect proper to this Sacrament is the conversion of a man into Christ, so that he may no longer live, but Christ lives in him; consequently, it has the double effect of restoring the spiritual strength he had lost by his sins and defects, and of increasing the strength of his virtues.”*

*St. Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274)  
Commentary on Book IV of the Sentences, d.12, q.2, a.11*



## THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Today as we celebrate the gift of the Body and Blood of Christ let us pray for those who are hungry, malnourished and starving. 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 hungry.

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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Wednesdays of the month at 5:00 PM  
in the PRC. All are welcome!

***Thank You***  
for your continued support of SVDP!

### SVDP JUNE "PRODUCT OF THE MONTH"

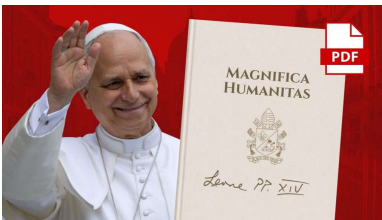


### SVDP DONATION GUIDELINES

- 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**

### MAGNIFICA HUMANITAS - MAGNIFICENT HUMANITY



The first encyclical from Pope Leo XIV is now available for all to read. EWTN is one of many organizations offering a free downloadable (PDF) link to the encyclical:

<https://ewtnvatican.com/articles/full-text-magnifica-humanitas>

This 82-page, 5-chapter encyclical develops the Church's social teaching in light of artificial intelligence, situating new questions of human dignity, labor, and the common good within the tradition that runs from *Rerum Novaum* through *Centesimus Annus* and *Laudato Si'*. More downloadable resources are listed on the poster in Shea Hall.

FROM THE HEART OF CHRIST



RENEWING OUR NATION,  
OUR PRIESTS,  
AND OUR HOMES.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) will consecrate the United States to the Sacred Heart of Jesus on June 11, 2026. This act coincides with the 250th anniversary (semiquincentennial) of the Declaration of Independence, aiming to entrust the nation to God's mercy and moral guidance. Similarly, there will be a special Mass, focused on **consecrating the Diocese of Knoxville to the Sacred Heart of Jesus at noon on Friday, June 12, at the Cathedral of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.**

You are invited to be a part of this movement. There are several ways you and your family can participate in this moment of prayer for unity, peace, healing, and renewal for our nation, such as:

- Pray the Sacred Heart Novena June 3-11, leading up to the national consecration
- Consecrate yourself or your family to the Sacred Heart of Jesus
- Commit to be part of national Works of Mercy and Holy Hour campaigns
- Attend Mass on the solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Friday, June 12
- Enthroned the Sacred Heart in your home, parish, school, or workplace



### 'PRAY WITH THE POPE' INITIATIVE

The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network and the Dicastery for Communication announced January 7, 2026 the "Pray with the Pope" project. According to a press release, this is a new initiative in which the pope will share his monthly prayer intentions through both video and audio, "inviting the universal Church and all people of goodwill to unite spiritually, using the same prayer that will now be led by the pope himself."

"This initiative aims to increase the visibility of the pope's prayer intentions, using a language suitable for prayer, in new formats, so as to better reach the faithful throughout the world, especially in today's world of digital communication," the press release stated.

In the full video shared on the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network website (<https://www.popesprayer.va/praywiththepope/>), Pope Leo recites an original prayer written specifically for each month of the year.



Pope's Worldwide  
Prayer Network



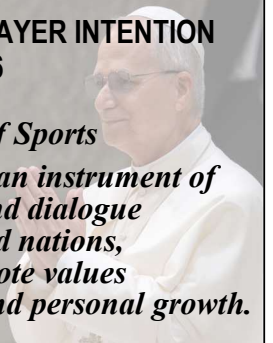
ST. FRANCIS WORDS OF WISDOM  
JUBILEE YEAR 2026

“ In this world there is nothing of the Most High Himself that we can possess and contemplate with our eyes, except His body and blood. ”

- St. Francis of Assisi (Letter to All Clerics)  
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
6/12/26	Consecration of the Diocese of Knoxville to the Sacred Heart of Jesus Mass at 12:00 Noon	Online: <a href="http://dioknox.org/events">dioknox.org/events</a> E-Mail: N/A Phone: 869-584-3307
8/2/26	Parish Picnic Concord Yacht Club - Knoxville 2:00 - 7:00 PM	Online: N/A E-Mail: <a href="mailto:StFrancisTownsend7717@gmail.com">StFrancisTownsend7717@gmail.com</a> Phone: 865-448-6070
10/3/26	Pet Blessing Outside behind the PRC 10:00 AM	Online: N/A E-Mail: <a href="mailto:StFrancisTownsend7717@gmail.com">StFrancisTownsend7717@gmail.com</a> Phone: 865-448-6070
10/4/26	"Feasting" Potluck with St. Francis Shea Hall 4:00 - 7:00 PM	Online: N/A E-Mail: <a href="mailto:StFrancisTownsend7717@gmail.com">StFrancisTownsend7717@gmail.com</a> 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: <a href="mailto:StFrancisTownsend7717@gmail.com">StFrancisTownsend7717@gmail.com</a> Phone: 865-448-6070
12/6/26	Parish Christmas Party Tremont Lodge - Townsend 5:00 - 8:00 PM	Online: N/A E-Mail: <a href="mailto:StFrancisTownsend7717@gmail.com">StFrancisTownsend7717@gmail.com</a> Phone: 865-448-6070

**SAINTS BE PRAISED!**

**June 9** St. Ephrem, Deacon and Doctor of the Church  
**June 11** St. Barnabas, Apostle  
**June 13** St. Anthony of Padua, Priest and Doctor of the Church