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S F A NEWS
 SAINT FRANCIS ASSISI

February 19th, 2017 - Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church
 DIOCESE OF KNOXVILLE, TN
 7719 River Rd, Townsend, TN 37882
 (865) 448-6070
stfrancistownsend@comcast.net
stfrancistownsend.org



The Desert dilemma

This morning I would like to talk with you about something I call "the Desert Problem." We see it with the children of Israel during the Exodus. They had seen the ten plagues that were afflicted on their Egyptian oppressors. They had seen the Red Sea split before them. They heard God speak so powerfully and intensely with Moses at the mountain that they trembled. They accepted God's covenant. They saw, they heard, but then they forgot. The Israelites seem to always be sinning in the desert and we can feel annoyance at them. However, we should not judge them harshly, for their story is our own. We also struggle with the desert dilemma.

We come to dry and difficult places in our own lives, too. When we face difficulties we too often forget what we have seen and heard and give in to depression, despair, and sin. The solution to the desert dilemma is the refreshing water of memory. When you are in a desert you need water, but you don't need to dig a new well every time you need refreshment; you can go back to an old and reliable well.

Before you come to your next desert, think of times in the past when you knew God was close, perhaps an intense consolation experienced in prayer, or a providential miracle you've witnessed in life. And when you enter your next desert (or if you find yourself in one now) recall these "well moments" of grace to be refreshed in faith.

"When we hear people talk of riches, honors and amusements of the world, let us remember that all things have an end, and let us then say: 'My God, I wish for You alone and nothing more.'"

St. Alphonsus Maria de Liguori



Statement of Mission



The Parish of Saint Francis of Assisi, Townsend, in friendship With our Heavenly patron and in union with our local bishop, is a community of the Christian faithful in southeast Blount County, Tenn. We are determined to be:

- Diligent disciples, eagerly learning all Christ wants to teach us through His Apostles and bishops,
- Courageous missionaries, inviting all our friends and neighbors into a joyful encounter with Christ and His Church,
- Humble foot-washers, getting down on our knees to serve those among us suffering from any need,
- Generous hosts, welcoming all our visitors with the same joyful care with which we welcome Christ Himself,
- Effective reconcilers, celebrating the Lord's mercy and sharing it with each other, and
- Reverent worshipers, gathering around the Altar of God to offer Him His divine Son in gratitude for our many blessings.

Prayer Requests: Sick and recovering parishioners — Maryann Ashworth, Sarah Hebert, Marilyn Janke, Lorraine Crawford, Magdalena Ortiz, Charlotte Graham, and Kathy Janke.

Please pray for friends and family members:

Mollie Ross - Niece of Fr. Jerry - recovering from surgery

Please send your requests to Emmanuel Nwadike via nwadike@pawa.com or 786-387-2200.

MASS INTENTIONS (Mass cards are available upon request)

MONDAY February 20 th	8:30am Poor Souls in Purgatory
TUESDAY February 21 st	8:30am Claire Anderson – Repose of Her Soul
WEDNESDAY February 22 nd	8:30am Poor Souls in Purgatory
THURSDAY February 23 rd	8:30am Ivan Ashworth – Repose of His Soul
FRIDAY February 24 th	8:30am Poor Souls in Purgatory
SATURDAY February 25 th	4:00pm – Vigil – Dr. William King – Repose of His Soul
SUNDAY February 26 th	9:00am Pro Populo (People of the Parish)

Mass Intentions: To schedule a Mass intention (at least two weeks in advance), please contact Father Jerry Daniels at 865-448-6070. The usual donation is \$10.00 in our diocese.

HOLY MASS:

Saturday at 4pm
Sunday at 9am
Monday-Friday at 8:30am
First Saturday at 9:00am

CONFESSIONS:

Saturday at 3:00pm – 3:40pm
Sunday at 8:15am – 8:40am
Or by Request to Priest.

NEW PARISHIONERS:

Please ask an usher for a registration form, and then place the completed form in the collection basket at Mass.

OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM

PRIEST: Rev. Jerry Daniels

OFFICE MANAGER: Open

DIRECTOR OF LITURGICAL MUSIC: JoAnne Aylward

BOOKKEEPER (865-982-3672): Kathleen Halligan

HOSPITALITY COORDINATOR: Elizabeth Anderson

PRO-LIFE COORDINATOR: Ursula Beckmann

SOCIAL MEDIA COORDINATOR: JoAnne Aylward

COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN: Ilene Rainwater

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL: Sharon McKune

RCIA-RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS: Joyce Welsh

WEBMASTER: JoAnne Aylward

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR VOCATIONS:

Sister Francesca Silver, FSE

Collection for Aid to the Church in Central and Eastern Europe (CCEE)

Ash Wednesday
March 1, 2017
February 14, 2018

National Collection for Aid to the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. On Ash Wednesday, March 1st, a second collection will be taken up in support of the Church in Central and Eastern Europe that suffered so much under decades of harsh Soviet communist rule. Great need remains for the Church in many of these countries as they are still unable to support their own renewal and growth. Your donation will help with the training of seminarians and lay leaders, youth ministry, pastoral and catechetical centers, schools, church construction and renovation, and evangelization through Catholic media. Thank you for your generosity in support of the Church in Central and Eastern Europe.

Pulpit Brief:

- † Collection for Church in Central and Eastern Europe
- † Assists in rebuilding what decades of communism attempted to destroy
- † The Church in many areas still cannot support its own renewal and growth and needs your help

Hospitality Committee wants you to invite your friends and come to the Stations of the Cross @ 5:00 PM the Fridays in Lent with a Meatless Supper following immediately. SVDP Society will sponsor one of the Fridays.

Lenten Stations of the Cross @ 5:00 PM & meatless suppers to follow.

Sign up sheets are in Shea Hall for those wishing to participate in bringing dishes. No desserts. Dates are March 3rd, 10th, 17th, 31st, & April 7th. Martha Frink 556-4684

Divorce is so difficult

If you are searching for peace, truth, and hope we invite you on a journey back to a life of promise and peace. *Journey of Hope* is an 8 week program to help Catholics regain hope from the pain of divorce and separation. *Journey of Hope* addresses the key challenges brought on by divorce and helps participants recover using principals of their Catholic faith and a deep connection to Jesus Christ, the great healer and restorer of hope.

Sacred Heart Cathedral Divorce Ministry will once again offer the *Journey of Hope Divorce Healing Program*. Over eight Sundays the program utilizes the book *Divorced. Catholic. Now What?*, The Voices of Hope DVD presentation, and participant discussion to lead participants through the struggles of divorce. *Journey of Hope* uses the teaching and sacraments of the Catholic Church to transform the loss and tragedy of divorce into life-giving wisdom, sensitivity, and hope.

Location: Sacred Heart Catholic School Art Room

The art room has an east facing entry on the south end of the school.

There will be a sign to direct you to the correct entrance.

Dates: Sunday, March 12, 2017 – Sunday, May 7, 2017

Time: 6 – 7:30 PM

Cost: free

Contact: to register of more information

Deacon Walt Otey at 865-388-0690 or wotey@shcknox.org



You Can Help Your Marriage – 25% of surveyed couples say they are ‘Happily Married’. For everyone else, there is Retrouvaille. Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other?

Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille helps couples rebuild their marriages. For confidential information about or to register for the next program beginning with a weekend on March 3-5, 2017. Call 800-470-2230 or 615-523-0631 or email:

nrv3043@gmail.com or visit our web site at www.HelpOurMarriage.com.

Bulletin Deadline: Submissions are made to Emmanuel Nwadike via nwadike@pawa.com by Tuesday at noon. Submissions should be brief, pre-edited, employ only standard capitalization and punctuation, and should not contain any emboldened or underlined words or phrases. All submissions are subject to further editing for length and clarity.

Altar Flowers: Flowers are donated to thank all the volunteers of St. Francis of Assisi.

If you wish to donate Altar Flowers, please contact Yvonne Peychal at Yvonne.peo@comcast.net or 865-774-7991. The donation amount is \$35.00 which covers flowers for 2 weeks.

God Bless, Yvonne Peychal

Last Week’s Mass Participation:

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Contributions: \$1,300.00
In Attendance: 119

2/21 Colleen Bruno / Brian Aylward
2/27 Sharon McKune / Sharon Boudin } COUNTERS

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WWW.IGIVE.COM/STFRANCISOFASSISICHURCH

RCIA: Are you or is someone you know interested in joining the Catholic faith? For more Information, Contact Joyce Welsh at 865-382-4706

Before working with minors, all parish staff and volunteers must attend a “Protecting God’s Children” seminar, undergo a criminal background check and agree to follow all policies concerning the protection of minors from sexual abuse. Anyone who has actual knowledge of or who has reasonable cause to suspect an incident of sexual abuse should report such information to the appropriate civil authorities first, then to the bishop’s office, (865) 584-3307, or the diocesan victims’ assistance coordinator, Marla Lenihan, (865) 482- 1388.

BEST LENT EVER
DON’T GIVE UP chocolate FOR LENT

We all know the things that make us happy, but we don’t always do them. Lent is an opportunity to change that. This year we invite you to do something different.

Join Dynamic Catholic for Best Lent Ever, a free, video-based email program featuring internationally acclaimed speaker and *New York Times* bestselling author Matthew Kelly. From Ash Wednesday to Easter, Matthew will help you identify what stands between you and happiness . . . and what to do about it. Are you ready for your best Lent ever?

TO SIGN UP, VISIT **BestLentEver.com**

