



JUNE 30, 2024 13TH 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 – Vigil Mass - 4:00PM
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 (Church confessional)
Sunday Before Mass:
8:15 - 8:40 (Church confessional)
Confessions may also be scheduled
by calling the parish office for an
appointment.

HOLY DAYS: Check bulletin or website

The Rosary is prayed 35 minutes before each Weekend Mass

PARISH MINISTRY TEAM

PASTOR:	Rev. Antonio Giraldo
DEACON:	Deacon Jim Schmall
OFFICE MANAGER:	Kathy Meyerkord
BOOKKEEPER:	Kathleen Halligan
LITURGY/MUSIC DIRECTOR:	JoAnne Romer-Aylward
DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:	Julie Dew
OCIA:	Bruce Boudin
WELCOMING, EVENTS AND SOCIALS (WEST):	All
GARDENS & GROUNDS:	Ilene Rainwater
FACILITIES:	David Girard
SOCIAL MEDIA/WEBSITE:	JoAnne Romer-Aylward
PASTORAL CARE (SICK & HOMEBOUND):	Suzie Fay
ST. CLARE GIFT SHOP:	Camilla Sorrell
COLUMBARIUM:	Bob Eberhardt

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 parish priest a minimum of six months before the wedding to allow for marriage preparation formation.

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 to fit the format of the bulletin. THANKS!

PASTORAL CARE AT ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI: How can St. Francis of Assisi be of assistance/service to you & your loved ones? Please contact Suzie Fay at 423-829-5466 or contact the office at 865-448-6070.

MASS INTENTIONS: (Mass cards are available upon request at the office.)

Mon	7/1	8:30 AM	Gabriel Ruiz †
Tue	7/2	8:30 AM	Brian Barker †
Wed	7/3	NO MASS	
Thu	7/4	8:30 AM	
Fri	7/5	8:30 AM	Ann McTavish †
Sat	7/6	4:00 PM	Elias Ventura † & Genoveva Fuentes †
Sun	7/7	9:00 AM	Cam King †

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): Charlotte Graham, Pat Sanders, Judy Sanders, Doreen Mancuso, Naomi Nwadike, Chris Owens, David Holmes, Amy Frink, Myra Montera, Claire Cheadle, Elise Martin, Mike Scully, Paul Fain, Joyce Fain, Raymond Payne, Sue Ann Tippitt, Charles Tippitt, Emmanuel Nwadike, Kay Walker, Julie Schirack, Jay Ladner, Deb Koehler, Laken DuRussel, Marcus Bolte, Johnny Mallory, Louann Felske, Kathy Meyerkord, Stephanie Romer, John & Maria Bermudes, Anne Pate

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.



SANCTUARY FLOWERS: If you would like to donate to the sanctuary flowers fund in memory of or in honor of someone, please contact the Parish Office via phone or email. The cost is \$40.00 for two weeks.



ST. CLARE GIFT SHOP

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



**Thursday
July 4, 2024**



**DISCUSSION GROUP
WEDNESDAYS AT 1:00 PM
PARISH RESOURCE CENTER**

We are wrapping up our discussions based on the Gus Lloyd Apologetics CD series. Our sessions last about an hour and are filled with lively, thought-provoking discussions. Please come and join in the discussions! A few bibles and support materials can be made available during the sessions, but feel free to bring your own! Any questions, please contact Julie Dew: 954-749-3929; jdewtn2018@att.net

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Mon	7/1	9:00 AM	Church & Hall Cleaning
Tue	7/2		
Wed	7/3	1:00 PM	Gus Lloyd Discussion Group—PRC
Thu	7/4	Parish Offices Closed	
Fri	7/5		
Sat	7/6	4:00 PM	Vigil Mass
Sun	7/7	9:00 AM	Mass



LIVING FAITH THAT WE PUT INTO ACTION

We all want to go to heaven some day, but none of us are in a hurry to get there. But indeed, some day we will die.

There was a man who was a workaholic, and he paid a high price for his fanatic dedication to his job. He got to the point where his relationship with his wife and family was suffering. He was nervous, irritable, had high blood pressure, couldn't sleep and was - in general - falling apart. He went to see the doctor along with his wife. The doctor told him that he was physically exhausted, and he had to get some rest, or he wouldn't survive. He prescribed six months away from work and total rest at home. The doctor then wanted to talk with the man's wife, alone. He told her that her husband was critically ill, and his recovery depended on her. She had to see that he got all the rest he could, not argue with him, wait on him as much as possible and make life as peaceful and pleasant as she could. If she didn't her husband was going to die. On the way home the husband asked his wife "What did the doctor have to tell you?" She answered him, "the doctor said that you were going to die."

So are we all - but hopefully not in the near future. We may make jokes about death, but we can't take it lightly. Our eternal happiness depends on whether we are ready to meet our God when the time comes. So, as unpleasant a thought as it may be, we have to always keep it in mind so we are prepared when it comes.

God didn't create us to live in this world forever. He created us to live with him forever in eternal life. Our readings today speak of these profound truths.

Our first reading from the Book of Wisdom tells us God did not make death. God formed us to be imperishable, in God's own image and likeness, but it was through the devil that death came into the world.

Jesus in today's gospel, shows too that he has the power of life and death and that his mission was to bring life to us. The life he gave to the little girl was a dramatic and visible sign of what he wishes to give us in an invisible realm, for the little girl would eventually grow up and die a natural death, but the life he wishes for us is eternal. Jesus said: "I came that they might have life and may have it abundantly" (Jn. 10,10). We don't know what that might be like, but we have a sense of it in Jesus' resurrection. Today's gospel tells us that life will be characterized by peace and love and joy.

Mark is showing us in today's gospel that the way to this life is through faith - not dead faith but living faith that we put into action. Our faith leads us to hope, without which we are hopeless. And there is no joy without hope. Today is built on hope. And our faith also leads us to love which St. Paul is talking about today, a love that reaches out to those who are not richly blessed as we are.



INSPIRATIONAL QUOTES TO PROMOTE DEVOTION TO JESUS IN THE EUCHARIST

Pope St. Leo the Great
(c. 400 - c. 461)

"Our sharing in the Body and Blood of Christ has no other purpose than to transform us into that which we receive."



“Do not let the past disturb you. Leave everything in the Sacred Heart of Jesus and begin again with joy.”

- St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta



DEATH NEVER HAS THE LAST WORD; LIFE ALWAYS DOES.

Typically, during the Sunday liturgy, the first reading, and the Gospel are connected, today is no exception. The subject however is one in which we do not like to talk about... death. For Christians, however, death has as many positive connotations as negative. True, the life we live today will end, but when it does, an entirely new life begins. For Christians, death is never the last word; life is, as the reading from Wisdom implies.

The Book of Wisdom is a treasure trove of theology concerning the afterlife. It was composed by an anonymous Greek-speaking Jew during the First Century BC. You'll hear Wisdom 3:1-9 at Catholic funeral liturgies as the first reading. "But the souls of the righteous are in the hands of God, and no torment shall ever touch them." The Book of Wisdom is where the concept of life with God begins to emerge. Still, there is a reference today to the nether world which was simply the abode of the dead with no distinction between those who led godly lives and those who did not. Nonetheless, the thought that life once created is never destroyed appears in shadowy form here.

The Gospels are full of stories about death. The widow's son, Lazarus, and the daughter of Jairus in today's Gospel, all experienced death. The same death that will come to all of us. My mom has been gone for two years now, my dad nearly 6 years. In both cases we knew they were dying and yet when it happened, we were still unprepared. Most of us do not want to or cannot understand it. For Christians, however, these episodes prefigure Jesus' own victory over death.

Christians live in a life/death/LIFE continuum. If you have been to a Catholic funeral Mass you will hear these words, "Life is changed, not ended." But resuscitation is not the same as resurrection. The people whom Jesus brought back to life would at some point die again. They would leave their earthly existence and move on to their Heavenly reward. Jesus, on the other hand, conquered death once and for all. The risen Christ who emerged from the tomb on that first Easter still lives, and he always will.

We all fear death in some way. So, when Jesus brings someone back to life, He does so to comfort our fears. He is demonstrating to us His power over death. So, although the first reading and the Gospel both speak of death, they are in reality, all about life. Death never has the last word; life always does.

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION - 7/5/24



*"Always remain close to the Catholic Church,
because it alone can give you true peace,
since it alone possesses Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament,
the true Prince of Peace."*

- St. Padre Pio

Mass: 8:30 AM
Adoration: 9:00 - Noon
Benediction: Noon

If you are interested in committing to a Holy Hour, please contact Jackie Wagner at 330-807-8663.

CATECHISM

CORNER



Good and happy Sunday St. Francis parishioners! Today's corner concludes our focus on the Nicene Creed! In this corner we will concentrate on: ***I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.***

"This is the sole Church of Christ, which in the Creed we profess to be one, holy, catholic and apostolic. These four characteristics (also called the four Marks of the Church), inseparably linked with each other, indicate essential features of the Church and her mission. The Church does not possess them of herself; it is Christ who, through the Holy Spirit, makes his Church one, holy, catholic, and apostolic, and it is He who calls her to realize each of these qualities." (Catechism of the Catholic Church, paragraph 811)

The Church of Jesus Christ is His Mystical Body. Therefore, the Church is holy, even if the human beings who comprise it are not always holy. The Church is one because Christ is one. The Church is catholic because the Church is "universal." Catholic (lower case "c") means universal. And the Church is apostolic because Christ founded it upon the Apostles.

We enter into this Church through the one Baptism of Christ, by which we are cleansed of original sin, are grafted onto Christ, and become adopted sons and daughters of God. We believe that when Christ comes again, we will be reunited with our bodies in a glorified way, similar to Christ's resurrected Body. We do not know exactly what this will look like.

And we look forward to the life of the world to come which is eternal blessedness in the company of the angels and the saints in constant praise and love of God. We will want for nothing and all suffering will be no more.

Conclusion – ***Amen!*** And finally... amen! Amen means "yes," "so be it," and "I believe." It is the only ending to the Creed that we can offer as human beings. God has revealed all He is and all that He has done for us, and our confident and faithful "Amen" is the response of our heart.

This is the **essence** of our faith. The Nicene Creed is one of the Catholic Church's most foundational statements of faith and summary of orthodox belief. It expresses the deepest of mysteries, the Holy Trinity.

Some have asked why, if the Creed is so central, it does not say anything about the Eucharist, which the Church says is the "source and summit" (CCC, 1324) of our faith? There are a couple of ways to respond. **First**, while the Eucharist is essential, the Catechism teaches that the Trinity is the central mystery of our faith (see CCC, 261). Reception of the Eucharist brings us into communion with the Trinity. **Second**, creeds and other statements of faith are written in response to particular challenges of the moment, and in the early fourth century, no one was seriously denying the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. It is not contained in the Creed precisely because it was uncontroversial! Isn't that interesting!

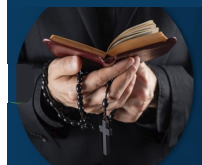
The Catechism teaches that the Trinity is the central mystery of our faith. The Creed communicates the essence of our faith. Its formation was fueled by the love of God, despite periods of debate.

The next time you pray the Creed during Mass, imagine faithful Catholics doing battle over an article of faith. Imagine 300 bishops arrayed in the great hall of a Byzantine palace. Imagine the Creed being chanted in Latin and Greek in basilicas and cathedrals for centuries. Imagine the gift of the Trinity that we profess. Maybe it won't seem so monotonous then! (Catholic digest April 2020)

For more information, please read Dr. Scott Hahn's book: *The Creed: Professing the Faith through the Ages*.

Have a most wonderful week filled with many Holy Moments!

What Is the
Nicene Creed and
What Does It Mean
for Catholics?





THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

In today's Gospel we see how in faith, Jairus asked Jesus to heal his daughter and how Jesus then answered his prayer. In prayer we also come to know that we are loved by God, and in that trust we ask for healing for ourselves, our loved ones and all those who are suffering.

This week, please join with the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in praying for the healing of all those who are ill and especially those who have no one to pray 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 will not meet again until the 7th of August.** At that time (and as always) all are welcome to attend!

Thank You
for your continued support of SVDP!

SVDP JUNE "PRODUCT OF THE MONTH"



Episcopal Ordination and Installation of Bishop Mark Beckman July 26, 2024



Bishop-elect James Mark Beckman will be ordained and installed as the fourth Bishop of the Diocese of Knoxville on

**Friday, July 26 at 2 p.m.
at the Knoxville Convention Center**

Tickets are required to attend. The registration link for tickets, located below, will open on Monday, June 24, at 9 a.m. Eastern Time. Tickets will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis. For links, and more information, please visit:

<https://dioknox.org/episcopal-ordination>

- Ticket link - opens Monday, 6/24 at 9:00 AM E.T.
- Hotel link - opens Monday, 6/24 at 9:00 AM E.T.
- Parking Map and Shuttle Schedule
- Bishop, Priest, and VIP Parking Map
- Convention Center Map
- DioKnoxTV (live-stream hosting information)



**SMOKIES BALL GAME
AUGUST 9TH**

**Yee-Haw at the Yard
Group Section**

**\$35 for adults
\$33 for children
(12 and under)**

BUFFET DINNER FROM 6:15 - 7:45

FIRST PITCH AT 7:00 PM

Reserve your tickets on the sign up sheets in Shea Hall. Payment is due by July 28th. Please make your checks payable to St. Francis of Assisi Church.

Fireworks image courtesy of pngtree.com

**WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP—6/23/2024
12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Attendance: 223

Sunday Offertory.....	\$2,067.00
Donation Box	00.00
Holy Days (Assumption of Mary)	5.00
Other Donations*	60.00
Donations for the Week	\$2,132.00
Year-to-Date Donations	\$178,384.73
Year-to-Date Budgeted Donations.....	192,213.84
Year-to-Date Donation Deficit**	(\$13,829.11)

Other Donations Not in Budget

Maintenance Fund	\$00.00
Parish Charity	00.00
Second Collection (Peter's Pence)	30.00
Other:.....	00.00
Total Non-Budget Donations.....	<u>\$30.00</u>

* Mass Intentions, Flowers, Candles, Facility Use, etc.

** Based on Year-to-Date Total Donations minus Year-to-Date Budgeted

Please note that an error was detected in the spreadsheet used to calculate the Year-to-Date Actual Income versus the Year-to-Date Budgeted Income.

It is important to remember that this information is based only on budgeted versus actual **INCOME** and doesn't take into consideration actual **EXPENSES**.

The Actual Year-to-Date numbers are calculated by our bookkeeper and take into account all other miscellaneous income such as interest income.

Once all year end expenses and miscellaneous income information is received from the various sources, the final balance sheet will be prepared and will be shared with the Parish.

*Have a
Safe, Blessed,
& Happy
4th of July!*

Image courtesy of Rawich at FreeDigitalPhotos.net

Upcoming EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	DETAILS
7/17-24/2024	Eucharistic Congress Pilgrimage to the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis, IN	Online: DioKnox.org/Revival E-mail: Revival@DioKnox.org Phone: 423-596-0181
7/26/24	Installation/Ordination Mass at 2:00 PM for Bishop Elect Mark Beckman at Knoxville Convention Center	Online: https://dioknox.org/episcopal-ordination E-mail: To Be Announced Phone: To Be Announced
8/9/2024	Tennessee Smokies Baseball Game Yee-Haw At the Yard Group Section	\$35.00 for adults; \$33.00 for children (12 and under) Signup on sheets in Shea Hall
9/10-19/2024	Pilgrimage to Fatima and Lourdes with Fr. Charles Robinson Coupon Code: Bulletin150	Online: www.QoHTours.com E-mail: info@qohtours.com Phone: 800-213-4295
10/6-11/2024	Yellowstone National Park Retreat with Fr. Michael Cummins	Online: https://www.saintdominickpt.org/ E-mail: secretary@saintdomchurch.com

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! Our visitors have shared with us their travel stories and what brought them to St. Francis of Assisi for weekend Mass and worship.

YOUR help is needed to supply the pastries each week. 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.

We need your help to keep this ministry active! Please contact Donna Czerniewski with your questions or for more information: (847-668-4074).



NATIONAL Eucharistic Pilgrimage July 17-24, 2024 INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

The diocesan pilgrimage will include round trip transportation, a four-night hotel stay, and admission for all Eucharistic Congress events, speakers, and the closing Mass. Pricing ranges from \$541-\$1,098 per pilgrim, depending on the occupancy of the room. There is also a tickets only option, which excludes transportation and lodging. Buses will depart from Knoxville on July 17, 2024 and return on July 21, 2024. See the table above for additional information.