



**OCTOBER 13, 2024**  
**28<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**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**

**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**

<b>PASTOR</b> .....Rev. Antonio Giraldo	<b>GARDENS &amp; GROUNDS</b> ..... Ilene Rainwater
<b>DEACON</b> .....Deacon Jim Schmall	<b>FACILITIES</b> ..... David Girard
<b>OFFICE MANAGER</b> .....Kathy Meyerkord	<b>SOCIAL MEDIA/WEBSITE</b> ..... JoAnne Romer-Aylward
<b>BOOKKEEPER</b> .....Kathleen Halligan	<b>PASTORAL CARE</b> ..... Suzie Fay
<b>LITURGY/MUSIC DIRECTOR</b> .....JoAnne Romer-Aylward	<b>ST. CLARE GIFT SHOP</b> ..... Camilla Sorrell
<b>DIR. OF RELIGIOUS ED.</b> .....Julie Dew	<b>COLUMBARIUM</b> ..... Bob Eberhardt
<b>RCIA/OCIA</b> .....Bruce Boudin	<b>WELCOMING, EVENTS &amp;</b> ..... All Parishioners
<b>ART &amp; ENVIRONMENT</b> .....Norene O'Donnell	<b>SOCIALS TEAM (WEST)</b>

**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 [sfabulletin7717@gmail.com](mailto:sfabulletin7717@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 10/14** 8:30 AM Donna Seiz  
**Tue 10/15** 8:30 AM Berta Giraldo  
**Wed 10/16** **NO MASS**  
**Thu 10/17** 8:30 AM Charlie Graham  
**Fri 10/18** 8:30 AM Brian Barker  
**Sat 10/19** 8:30 AM Michele Mularski  
**Sun 10/20** 9:00 AM Dale Girard

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, Deb Koehler, Laken DuRussel, Marcus Bolte, Johnny Mallory, Louann Felske, Kathy Meyerkord, Stephanie Romer, John & Maria Bermudes, Anne Pate, Michael Slater

**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:** *The Sanctuary Flowers are in memory of Robert & Helen Gibson given by Suzie Fay.*



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 for sanctuary flowers is \$40.00 for one week.

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

***St. Irenaeus***  
***(c. 130-c. 202)***

*“For as the bread, which is produced from the earth, when it receives the invocation of God, is no longer common bread, but the Eucharist, consisting of two realities, earthly and heavenly; so also our bodies, when they receive the Eucharist are no longer corruptible, having the hope of the resurrection to eternity.*



[Eucharisticrevival.org](http://Eucharisticrevival.org)

**ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH**

**Mon 10/14** 9:00 AM Church & Hall Cleaning  
**Tue 10/15** 4:00 PM RCIA Class - PRC  
**Wed 10/16** 1:00 PM Bible Study - PRC  
 5:00 PM SVdP - PRC  
**Thu 10/17**  
**Fri 10/18**  
**Sat 10/19** 4:00 PM Vigil Mass  
**Sun 10/20** 9:00 AM Mass



## WHAT IN OUR LIVES KEEPS US FROM GOD ?

Why does being rich make it hard to get into the kingdom of God? The answer is this: because money might control you. And when money controls us, greed follows close behind. Greed delights in owning what money can buy until that deadly sin of greed makes us so preoccupied with money there is no room for God.

Remember Scrooge in *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens? As the story opens, Bob Cratchit asks his boss Scrooge to be off on Christmas day. Scrooge says, "Christmas, bah humbug." There will be no Christmas party, no Christmas bonus for his employees. With Christmas day off, Scrooge tells Bob Cratchit to be all that much earlier the following day. Scrooge counts every penny, pinches every penny. In winter, to save on heating costs, all workers had to wear heavy coats. Scrooge would have a hard time getting into the kingdom of God, because his idol, his god, was money.

But money itself is not the problem. Abraham was a wealthy man, and we remember Abraham as the father of our faith. Likewise, David was king with all the wealth and trappings of royalty, yet we remember King David as the psalmist who sang praises to God.

The real question is, do we have burdens that weigh us down? Does something about our lives contradict talk about Christ? It might be money, but other things also can block out Christ.

What's a Christian to do? As followers of Christ, we make a deliberate decision to declutter, to simplify how we live, to divest and disperse our material wealth, to give up bad habits, so as to be more wholly dedicated to God.

Here are some suggestions:

First, buy things for their usefulness, not for their status. Now, there's a radical idea! Our society says buy the biggest, the latest i-phone or car. As Christians, we are called to simplify, to buy only what we need. So, buy things for their usefulness.

Second: develop a habit of giving things away. One Christmas, a friend decided instead of buying presents, he would give away something of his which he really liked. He gave away his twenty-four-speed bicycle; he gave away a wood carving from the Holy Land. Carefully the man chose a special gift for each family member and friend. Joy filled his heart. I'll bet most of us could easily give away a lot of what we have.

A final suggestion: learn to enjoy things without owning them. The public park, a place to stroll, the Little River. So many things can be enjoyed without having to buy something. The walking and biking trails around here are awesome. How about the public library? The one in Maryville is awesome! They always have the latest best seller, just get your name on the reservation list. Enjoy it without owning it and turn it back in when you are done. It helps with the declutter.

So, let's ask ourselves, what in our lives keeps us from God? What do we own, or do, or like so much that we forget about Christ? If something blocks out God, Christ says, get rid of it "Then, come, follow me."



Our RCIA classes continue! Whether you are inquiring about the Catholic faith or are already a Catholic wishing to learn more about your faith, please join us in the PRC (Parish Resource Center) on Tuesdays at 4:00 PM! All are welcome—even if you haven't been with us since the first session!

Bring your Bible and a copy of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. If you have any questions, please contact Deacon Jim: [sfadeacon7717@gmail.com](mailto:sfadeacon7717@gmail.com) OR 901-493-2123.

## CATECHISM

### CORNER



Good and happy fall weekend, St. Francis brothers and sisters! In today's "Corner" we will be talking about the Apostle Matthias. The name Matthias is of Hebrew origin and means "gift of God" or "gift of Yah." He is the patron of carpenters, tailors, those with smallpox, and in prayers for perseverance and for hope and his feast day is May 14<sup>th</sup>.

You may agree with me or not, but of all of the Twelve Apostles, Matthias is given the least respect. He is not listed in any of the four Gospels and doesn't even make an appearance until the Book of Acts. Some say Peter acted too quickly in his replacement of Judas Iscariot with Matthias. These people say that if he had waited, Paul would have been a better candidate. Regardless, of what these people felt about the whole thing, Matthias would go on to selflessly serve his lifelong friend and Lord, Jesus, performing his duties as an apostle with great dedication and distinction and ultimately his martyrdom.

Right after the Ascension of Jesus and just before the first Christian Pentecost, Peter makes the case in the beginning chapter of The Acts of the Apostles for the need to elect someone to replace Judas Iscariot. Peter makes it clear that this person must have been with Jesus from the moment of Jesus's baptism until His ascension. Only two members of the assembled (120 followers!) on that springtime day in Jerusalem met these strict criteria: Matthias and Joseph, also called Barsabas. It has been said that just before the final vote was taken, a beam of brilliance shone down upon Matthias, making the choice almost a divine one!

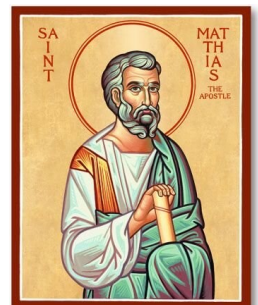
It is said Matthias was born in Bethlehem and was of the tribe of Judea. He was taught the law of God at the feet of Simeon the righteous, the elder who received the infant Jesus on His presentation to the Temple (Luke 2:25-35). Tradition further says that the apostle was a follower of John the Baptist and then became a believer of Jesus after witnessing His baptism (*The Twelve apostles of Jesus* – Richard Orzeck).

Shortly after Matthias's election to the Twelve, he departed on his spiritual mission. He first traveled to the region of Syrian Antioch (modern-day Turkish city of Antakya). He next traveled northward to what is today the central Turkish region of Cappadocia. Paul and Matthias would meet in the ancient Asia Minor Province of Cilicia, which was just south of the Cappadocia region. It is here, that the two men would share their love of Jesus and His message. In Cappadocia, both Paul and Matthias would have interacted with Peter. There is even a story of Peter's brother Andrew rescuing Matthias from a prison in the Black Sea port city of Sinope!

After his rescue, Matthias and Andrew preached for three years together in the region. Try to imagine on their long walks together as they traveled from town to town on the Roman roads, sharing memories of their earlier days' experiences while in the wilderness with John the Baptist. And then recalling their wonder and profound awe at witnessing firsthand the miracles Jesus performed and of His sharing with them the sacred Word of God. They may have even shared their secret fears of their upcoming missions. After spending time together, they all said goodbye to one another for the last time. Peter and Paul were off to Rome and their eternal glory; Andrew went to Macedonia and martyrdom in Greece; and Matthias left for Colchis to die for his Lord as well.

Matthias concluded his preaching of the Gospel in the area of the world now known mostly as the Republic of Georgia. Matthias was martyred in the year 63. When a first attempt to execute him by stoning failed, he was then beheaded by a Roman soldier's battle-ax. It is said that many of the Roman authorities were members of the cult of Mithras and very popular with the Imperial Roman army. (Mithra was called the Mediator and also called the god of Sun. Mithraism was the greatest competitor of Christianity and vice versa. So, you can understand how this would enrage some of the Roman authorities.)

To visit the original burial site of the Apostle Matthias, you must travel to the modern-day country of Georgia to the region just south of the Black Sea port city of Batumi.



**Continued on next page**

There, within the ruins of the Roman fortress of Gonio, you can find the site of his martyrdom and his now empty original grave. The modern-day tomb of the Apostle Matthias is in the western German city of Trier - brought to the city by St. Helena over 1,700 years ago. Here's a little tidbit: the tomb has the distinction of being the only final burial site of any of the Twelve Apostles located north of the Alps.

St. Matthias, pray for us! Have a glorious week St. Francis!

**Thank You,  
St. Francis of Assisi Parishioners!**

Through your generous donations in last weekend's second collection, we collected

**\$3,315.00**

for the victims of Hurricane Helene in the East Tennessee Knoxville Diocese area! Your monetary donation and your prayers will be greatly appreciated by all those in need as they heal, recover, and begin the process of rebuilding their lives.



*“If we truly love the poor, our first contact must be with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Then it will be easy to bring our love for Jesus to the poor.”*

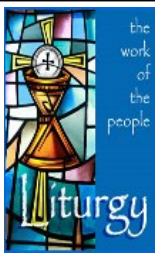
- St. Teresa of Calcutta  
from the book *Love: A Fruit Always in Season*



**Second Collection - October 19 & 20  
Pontifical Collection for World Mission Sunday**

*“Go and invite everyone to the banquet.”*

A second collection will be taken up on October 19th and 20th for World Mission Sunday. As a theme for this year's World Mission Sunday, Pope Francis has chosen: “Go and invite everyone to the banquet,” inspired by the parable of the wedding banquet in Matthew 22:9. By baptism, all Catholics are called to participate in the mission of the Church and to share their faith as missionaries of the Gospel. This collection supports the pastoral and evangelizing programs and needs of nearly 1,200 mission dioceses in Africa, Asia, the Pacific Islands, and remote regions of Latin America. Funds are distributed in the Holy Father's name by the Society for the Propagation of the Faith—a Pontifical Mission Society. Pope Pius IX first instituted Mission Sunday for the whole Church with the first worldwide collection in 1927 in order to help emphasize our catholicity and universal solidarity in sharing in our common responsibility for evangelizing the world.



**LITURGICAL MINISTRIES  
QUARTERLY SIGN-UPS  
FOR NOVEMBER, DECEMBER  
AND JANUARY**

Liturgical Ministries 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. For more information about our Liturgical Ministries, please visit our website, or the Liturgy/Worship bulletin board in Shea Hall.



**MARRIAGE MINISTRY  
PARTNERS NEEDED**

The Diocesan Marriage Office is looking for Marriage Ministry Partners. If you would be interested in supporting marriage and family topics please contact Carolyn Krings at [ckrings@dioknox.org](mailto:ckrings@dioknox.org) or 865-584-3307 x5739.

One aspect of our ministry is working with engaged couples and we are pleased to work alongside you sharing your life-experiences in supporting marriages and families in our diocese.





## Second Collection - October 12 & 13 Diocesan Deacon Formation Program

Please be generous in supporting our Diocesan Deacon Formation Program on October 12th and 13th. Our diocese is greatly blessed with over 100 deacons, 24 of whom were ordained in 2022. Your donation will assist not only with the ongoing formation and development of our deacons now serving in the diocese, but will also help with funding the instruction of the 17 men who began their five-year process of formation in 2022 and will be ordained, God willing, in 2027.

Deacons are ordained to the service of the Bishop, his priests, and the people of God. They are a bridge between the sanctuary and the world in which they love. They bring the altar to the neighborhood and bring the needs of the neighborhood to the altar. They teach and help organize charitable resources within the parish and diocese. They bring the Gospel and the gift of themselves to the soup kitchens, the food banks, prisons, hospitals and wherever else a need exists as well as to the parish they are assigned to. Thank you for your support and generosity.



**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2024**

**DIocese OF KNOXVILLE - RITE OF ADMISSION TO CANDIDACY FOR HOLY ORDERS  
AND RENEWAL OF ORDINATION PROMISES OF PERMANENT DEACONS**



### **CONGRATULATIONS, DAVID QUINN!**

One of the worst kept secrets of the parish can be confirmed now! I, David Quinn, (Second row, right end, circled in picture above) am officially in the Diocese of Knoxville Deacon Formation program. The Deacon Formation program has five distinct phases, not including some informational sessions before the program begins. The first phase, which started in September 2022, is the Aspirant phase, where applicants are discerning if they want to proceed officially into the program or not. It is also a time for the Diocese to discern if they want the applicant to move forward in the program. For the current cohort/class, 20 people started but six discerned out already. I just entered the second phase as I became a Candidate on Oct 3. The next milestone will be becoming a Lector/Reader next October. The fourth phase is to become an Acolyte, which will be October 2026. Finally, June 2027 will be the actual ordination into the permanent diaconate. I thank those who have been praying for my formation so far and ask for continued prayers throughout the remainder of the formation program. God willing, I hope to see this formation program through to the end.



## THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

In today's Gospel, Jesus says: "Go, sell what you have, and give to the poor and you will have treasure in heaven; then, come follow me."

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 to attend!

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

### SVDP OCTOBER "PRODUCT OF THE MONTH" PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY



### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20<sup>TH</sup>

Find comfort,  
strength & hope at

### Surviving the Holidays

3:00 - 5:00 PM

The holidays are challenging when you are grieving a loss.

Sponsored by:  
Church of the Cove  
Highland Manor Inn  
Conference Center  
7766 Lamar Alex. Pkwy.  
Townsend, TN

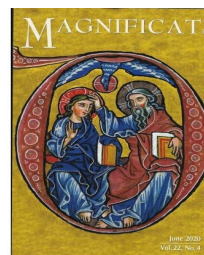
Contact James or Peggy Steele  
plsteele68@yahoo.com  
865-306-1956



### RECYCLE YOUR USED MAGNIFICAT AND THE WORD AMONG US ISSUES

The local Franciscan Fraternity is collecting outdated *Magnificat* or *The Word Among Us* issues to recycle and repurpose.

Parts of these wonderful monthly prayer books are being used to create Mass Booklets for RCIA participants in the Diocese. The Franciscan Fraternity is hoping to make 600 Mass Booklets that will be distributed to RCIA candidates throughout the diocese to help them learn about the faith they are studying and preparing to enter into. If you would like to be a part of this effort, please place your prayer books in the designated basket in Shea Hall (near the SVdP basket).



### HEALING MINISTRY AT ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH!



We have begun our healing ministry here at St. Francis of Assisi that will complement our First Friday of the Month Mass and Adoration.

If you would like to be trained to be a part of the healing team that will pray over individuals after the Mass, please call Darlene Leitz at 574-238-1705 or email darby321@comcast.net for more information.

*"Heal me, Lord, that I may be healed;  
save me, that I may be saved,  
for you are my praise." (Jeremiah 17:14)*

# UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	DETAILS
10/14/2024	Call to Action: All Day Prayer Vigil Planned Parenthood Opening 710 Cherry Street, Knoxville, TN	Online: N/A E-mail: cmr.easttennessee@gmail.com Phone: N/A
10/19/2024	Season of Creation Retreat with Fr. Michael Cummins Bays Mountain Park - Kingsport, TN	Online: N/A E-mail: vickiverik@aol.com Phone: N/A
10/20/2024	Surviving the Holidays Highland Manor Inn 3:00 - 5:00 PM	Online: griefshare.org/olidsays E-mail: plsteele68@yahoo.com Phone: 865-306-1956
11/3/2024	Parish Family Fall Fun Fest Shea Hall 4:00 PM	Online: N/A E-mail: stfrancistownsend7717@gmail.com Phone: 865-448-6070
11/16/2024	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Com- munion Training Shea Hall 10:00 AM	Online: N/A E-mail: komessenger@gmail.com Phone: 225-572-7663
12/15/2024	Parish Christmas Party at The Barn Event Center in Townsend	Online: N/A E-mail: stfrancistownsend7717@gmail.com Phone: 865-448-6070

## Fall Fun Fest



**Benton's  
Hot Dogs**

**SUNDAY, NOV 3<sup>RD</sup>**

**SHEA HALL 4-7 PM**

**Chili  
& fixins'**

**MUSIC**

**TRIVIA**

**DIY  
Dessert Table**

**FUN**

**YOUR FREE-WILL OFFERING WILL BE GLADLY  
ACCEPTED TO HELP COVER FOOD COSTS!**

*Save the Date!*

*Parish Family  
Christmas Party*

*December 15<sup>th</sup>*

*The Barn Event Center  
in Townsend*

