



OCTOBER 20, 2024
29TH 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 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

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

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

Mon 10/21 8:30 AM Poor Souls in Purgatory
Tue 10/22 8:30 AM David Holmes
Wed 10/23 **NO MASS**
Thu 10/24 8:30 AM Pat Baker
Fri 10/25 8:30 AM Timothy Hall
Sat 10/26 8:30 AM Elias Ventura & Genoveva Fuentes
Sun 10/27 9:00 AM Juan Diego Giraldo

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, Stephanie Romer, John & Maria Bermudes, Anne Pate, Michael Slater

SANCTUARY CANDLE: *The Sanctuary Candle is lit in appreciation of Susan Quinn given by her husband David Quinn.* 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 is \$40.00 for one week.



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

*Pope Saint John Paul II
(1920-2005)*

“The Eucharist educates us to this love in a deeper way; it shows us, in fact, what value each person, our brother or sister, has in God’s eyes, if Christ offers Himself equally to each one, under the species of bread and wine. If our Eucharistic worship is authentic, it must make us grow in awareness of the dignity of each person.”



Eucharisticrevival.org

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Mon 10/21 9:00 AM Church & Hall Cleaning
Tue 10/22 4:00 PM RCIA Class - PRC
Wed 10/23 1:00 PM Bible Study - PRC
Thu 10/24 4:00 PM WEST Meeting - Shea Hall
Fri 10/25
Sat 10/26 4:00 PM Vigil Mass
Sun 10/27 9:00 AM Mass



ST. CLARE GIFT SHOP

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



PASTOR'S NOTES

CONSUMED BY A COMPELLING LOVE TO LIVE FOR OTHERS

Today's readings are about service. Our first reading is a portion of Isaiah's fourth Servant Song. Isaiah tells us God's servant was a mysterious person or persons whose faithfulness and suffering would bring redemption to many people. The four Servant Songs of Isaiah were written 500 years before Christ. This passage was chosen because it corresponds with Jesus' revelation in today's gospel to his apostles that he came to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many. The entire fourth Servant Song is part of the Good Friday service every year.

When James and John asked Jesus for places of honor in his kingdom, Jesus took the opportunity to teach his disciples that to be great in the kingdom of God, they must become servants – just like him. He knew that in his Father's eyes, it was the servants who would receive the high positions, not the highly honored. Throughout his life Jesus was consumed by a love that compelled him to live for others, never for himself. In Jesus' eyes, this is what it meant to be a king – to lay down his life for his friends.

Jesus offered James and John the privilege of sharing in his sufferings, but this did not mean that their sufferings would take away people's sins. Only Jesus could redeem the whole world by his death and resurrection. No other sacrifice was needed. Still, he offered them the privilege of bearing his burdens as well as his joy and so becoming as compassionate as he was.

When we return love for hatred, when we are misunderstood and spoken against, when we sacrifice our time and energy to perform thankless, hidden acts of love, we share in Jesus' suffering. What could cause more pain than to love so deeply, and not to be loved in return? Yet it was Jesus' very act of self-giving that was so pleasing to God, precisely because it did not seek reward, but sought only the blessing of those he loved.

In our own ways, each of us is called to drink of Jesus' cup. Who among us does not face opportunities every day to lay down our lives for others? Who does not sense the call to draw closer to the Lord by giving up our lives – even in the smallest ways – for our friends? By our willingness to serve, we reflect the life and love of Jesus, the humblest of servants. What a privilege, to share in Jesus' sufferings that we may also share in his glory!



IN NOVEMBER WE REMEMBER



We honor the dead during the month of November. Our *Names of the Dead* book will be placed on the tables in the St. Padre Pio/St Clare alcove in the church for the month of November.

BOOK OF THE DEAD: Please feel free to write the names of loved ones who have died **this past year** (November 1, 2023 - November 1, 2024) in the book so that the repose of their souls may be prayed over.

REMEMBRANCE TABLES: Please bring framed photos of loved ones who have died (not restricted to this past year) and place the photos on the remembrance tables in the church alcove.

The book and framed photos will remain in church throughout the month of November. The names written in the book will be honored (collectively) at each weekend Mass throughout the month of November.

CATECHISM

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THE APOSTLE JUDAS ISCARIOT

A glorious autumn day to you St. Francis parishioners! This Catechism Corner we will talk about the Apostle Judas Iscariot. I feel it is important because in the beginning Judas was intrigued with Jesus and just like his other brother apostles, Jesus called and loved him.

Judas Iscariot was the son of Simon who lived in Judah, a city near Jericho. Judas was a Judean while most of the disciples were Galileans. Judas, from the start, was the odd man out. He was an excellent disciple and in charge of all the finances, the treasurer, of the ministry of Christ. He was a naturally greedy man, who most likely gave in to the temptation of robbing the “company” purse for his personal gain. Judas was very outspoken and also a Jewish Nationalist like Simon the Zealot. He likely had a high disregard for Rome and strictly followed the Jewish laws. Why he would steal from his friends, then, is beyond my comprehension. Judas ended up betraying Jesus because his greed and love of money overcame his love for Christ – he made money his top priority.

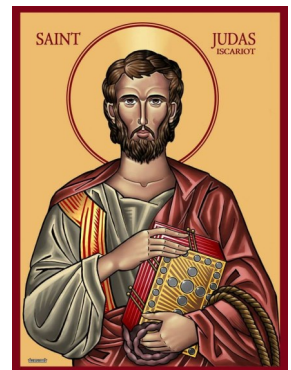
I’m wondering if you have the same questions as I do. Namely: Is Judas Iscariot in hell? Was Judas part of God’s salvation plan? To address the first question the overwhelmingly common interpretation over time of such expressions is that Judas has been, is, and ever will be among the damned. St. John Chrysostom, St. Augustine, St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Alphonsus – the list could go on and on; Judas is clearly in hell. Father Hugh Barbour states, “I for one cannot say that I have any joy in the thought, and still less in the conviction, of a soul’s damnation, much less of the soul of a chosen apostle. I am sure that these saints didn’t, either. Nonetheless, I can’t bring myself to contradict such weighty authorities with any certainty. The sad fact seems to be well established in the tradition” (catholic.com).

Please read what Pope Benedict had to say of Judas: “The choice (of Our Lord in making Judas an apostle and companion) darkens the mystery around his eternal fate, knowing that Judas “repented and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders, saying, “I have sinned in betraying innocent blood” (Matt. 27:3-3). Even though he went to hang himself (Matt. 27:5), it is not up to us to judge his gesture, substituting ourselves for the infinitely merciful and just God. The mystery of the Lord’s choice remains, all the more since Jesus pronounces a very severe judgement on him: “Woe to that man by whom the Son of man is betrayed!” (Matt. 26:24).” He also stated on October 17, 2006, “Even Judas’ negative role is part of God’s mysterious plan of salvation. God takes Judas’ inexcusable gesture as an occasion for the total donation of the Son for the redemption of the world.”

Origen in his commentary on Matthew holds out hope for Judas who was so filled with remorse that he impulsively wanted to precede our Lord in death so as to be able to encounter Him in his “naked soul” and beg for pardon. FYI, this did cause some good old fashion arguments. Until St. Pius V streamlined the Roman Missal in 1570, it contained a set of prayers for holy Mass for a soul whose salvation is doubted. And they were not referring to Purgatory!

St. Thomas teaches with St. Augustine that the remission of one mortal sin is a greater work of God than the creation of the entire external universe. And this happens ALL the time in hundreds of thousands of sacramental confessions! “Between the next-to-the-last and the last breath, a new world can come to be. Between the bridge and the water, salvation can be obtained.” St. John Vianney.

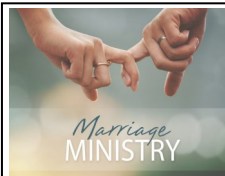
“A good confession and a penance imposed by the priest and well performed will be our best offering at this holy time. The absolution of the priest will do for us far more than we can desire or hope for. Let us hope for all, and cling to the means of grace, and then we will escape the fires of hell for sure! Or, infinitely better, we will be fit for the glory of heaven and the resurrection!” (Father Hugh Barbour).





“ Our day has 24 hours in it. It is not asking a great deal to set aside a quarter of an hour for the spiritual life, for our intimate and familiar converse with God. ”

- Sr. Lucia of Fatima
from *Calls from the Message of Fatima*



MARRIAGE MINISTRY PARTNERS NEEDED

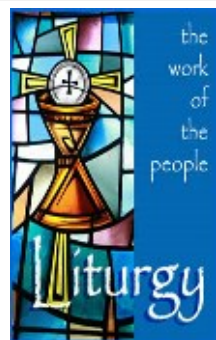
The Diocesan Marriage Office is looking for Marriage Ministry Partners. If you would be interested in supporting marriage and family topics please contact Carolyn Krings at ckrings@dioknox.org or 865-584-3307 x5739.

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. Please consider sharing your life experiences with young couples contemplating entering into world of married life.



RECYCLE YOUR USED ISSUES OF *MAGNIFICAT* AND *THE WORD AMONG US*

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).



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

This is the final week for ministry signups. Liturgical Ministries signup sheets are on the counter in Shea Hall. Please take a few minutes after Mass this weekend 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, or contact one of our ministry heads:

Lectors	Martha Frink	865-556-4684	marthafrink00@gmail.com
EMHC*	Karen Messenger	225-572-9400	komessenger@gmail.com
Ushers	Paul Czerniewski	847-877-7347	paul.czerniewski@gmail.com
Sacristans	Kathy Meyerkord	630-698-5563	kmeyerkord@gmail.com
Altar Servers	Dan Meyerkord	708-846-4144	dkam27@sbcglobal.net

* Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion



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: sfdeacon7717@gmail.com OR 901-493-2123.



WELCOMING EVENTS & SOCIAL TEAM MEETING

Thursday, October 24, 2024

4:00 PM in Shea Hall

If you are a member of this parish, you are automatically a member of this team! 😊

A special “shout-out” to all of our new parishioners: we would love to add your fresh faces and perspectives to our team meetings! Please come and join in the Fall and Winter planning activities for our parish!

NOVEMBER 2 & 3 SECOND COLLECTION - MAINTENANCE FUND



Your donations made to this fund will help pay for the rising cost of maintaining our aging buildings and to continue with preventative maintenance. Most recently, we have utilized this fund to repair our aging air conditioning unit in the church. And, we are in the planning process of replacing the steps and ramp surrounding the PRC building. This would not be possible without your generous contributions to the Maintenance Fund! Thank you for your support!

Visitors to our beautiful little church on the Little River frequently ask where their donation would be of the most use. We are very thankful for our visitor’s financial contributions, especially during our lean winter months when tourism typically declines. This Maintenance Fund would be a great choice for making your donation!

To contribute to this fund, please place your pre-printed envelope in the second collection basket the weekend of November 2-3. If you do not have a pre-printed envelope, you may place cash or check in the second collection basket.

PLEASE MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH.

If you choose to mail in your donation, mark on the envelope or check that it is for the “Maintenance” Fund and send it to:

St. Francis of Assisi Church (Maintenance Fund Contribution)
7717 River Rd.
Townsend, TN 37882



CROSS CATHOLIC OUTREACH CHRISTMAS BOX OF JOY PROGRAM



Our St. Francis of Assisi Council of Catholic Women (CCW) group is once again sponsoring the Cross Catholic Outreach Christmas Box of Joy project. A Box of Joy is a Christmas shoe-box that is donated and packed with toys, clothing, school supplies and other treasured items by U.S. parishes, schools and groups. Each child who receives a Box of Joy also receives a rosary and a booklet in their own language that tells the story of Jesus. Boxes of Joy are sent to children in developing countries like Haiti, Malawi and the Dominican Republic and provide hope to children in need: Each gift represents Christ’s love, and may be the only Christmas gift they receive.

You can fill your own Christmas Box of Joy (available in the PRC or at the St. Clare Gift Shop) or purchase a box online at <https://crosscatholic.org/box-of-joy/> and then click on “Donate a Box of Joy Online.” If you choose to fill your own box, please return the box to the church by November 1st so that we can get them to the Diocese drop-off point. CCW will pay the \$9.00 shipping fee. If you have any questions, please contact Ilene Rainwater at 865-748-1873.





THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

In the Gospel today Jesus tells his disciples: "Anyone among you who aspires to greatness must serve the rest; whoever wants to rank first among you must serve the needs of all."

When you give furniture, household items and clothing you no longer use to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, you give hope to your neighbors who have nothing.

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 1st and 3rd 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

HEALING MINISTRY AT ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH

Do you know that we have a healing ministry here at St. Francis of Assisi that complements 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)*

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!

YOUR help is needed to supply the pastries each week and to keep this ministry active. 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.

Please contact Donna Czerniewski with your questions or for more information: (847-668-4074).

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20TH

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

GRIEF SHARE



UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	DETAILS
10/20/2024	Surviving the Holidays Highland Manor Inn 3:00 - 5:00 PM	Online: griefshare.org/holidays 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 Communion 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
2/21/2025	SAVE THE DATE!!!! Esteban Salazar & Friends in Concert Church and Hall	Online: N/A E-mail: joannera.726@gmail.com Phone: 859-361-4561

Fall Fun Fest



**Benton's
Hot Dogs**

SUNDAY, NOV 3RD

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 15th

*The Barn Event Center
in Townsend*