



**NOVEMBER 17, 2024**  
**33<sup>RD</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 [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:** (Mass cards are available upon request at the office.)

**Mon 11/18** 8:30 AM Shirley Keeven  
**Tue 11/19** 8:30 AM Marie Allocco  
**Wed 11/20** **NO MASS**  
**Thu 11/21** 8:30 AM Monica Nouhan  
**Fri 11/22** 8:30 AM Poor Souls in Purgatory  
**Sat 11/23** 8:30 AM Francis Angle  
**Sun 11/24** 9:00 AM Faith (Bashton) McCoy

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, Rocky Brach, Dennis Richards, Jeff Herzog

**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 Raymond Simons given by Eric and Gail*



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 St. John Paul II  
(1920 - 2005)*

*“From the Eucharist  
comes strength  
to live the Christian life,  
and zeal  
to share that life  
with others.”*



Eucharisticrevival.org

**ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH**

**Mon 11/18** 9:00 AM Church & Hall Cleaning  
**Tue 11/19** 4:00 PM RCIA Class - PRC  
**Wed 11/20** 1:00 PM Bible Study - PRC  
**Thu 11/21**  
**Fri 11/22**  
**Sat 11/23** 4:00 PM Vigil Mass  
**Sun 11/24** 9:00 AM Mass



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*. Questions? Please contact Deacon Jim: sfadeacon7717@gmail.com OR 901-493-2123.

## ALL OF GOD'S PROMISES WILL BE FULFILLED



As we approach the end of the liturgical year, we are invited to reflect on the return of Christ at the end of time and the judgment that this coming will entail. We, who live in the "in-between" time, are reminded to live in harmony with the earth. The treasures of the earth, the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and the charisms of the church are in our safekeeping.

St. Lawrence Justinian (1381 – 1456) lay on his deathbed and said, "Until this hour all was child's play, but now comes the serious moment for the bridegroom is approaching and I must go forth to meet him. He raised his eyes to heaven, his face beaming with heavenly light, and cried out fervently, "I am coming sweetest Jesus. This day I have always kept before my mind. Thou knowest it, O Lord."

Whether we meet Jesus at our physical deaths (like Lawrence Justinian) or at the second coming, whichever comes first, we on earth are awaiting Jesus to take us to the heavenly kingdom. Like the ten virgins, our lamps are in our hands; we have been infused with the oil of grace and God's Holy Spirit dwells within us (Mathew 25; 1-13). Jesus said that the day will surely come, but that only the Father in heaven would know the day and hour (Mark 13:32). In the meantime, Jesus knew his followers would have to endure trying times. He knew that de-ceivers would come and try to lure them from God or that they would be distracted with their own cares and pur-suits.

"Take heed," says the Lord (Mark 13:23). Scripture uses this mode of expression to exhort us to holy watchful-ness and to serious preparation for the second coming (13: 28-29). The Lord delays in order that all may come to repentance and true faith.

At the second coming, the angels in heaven will accompany their King to his court of justice. Their voices will resound like trumpets.

The book of Daniel says: "At that time Michael will arise, the great prince who has charge of your people. And that shall be a time of trouble... but at that time your people shall be delivered, every one whose name shall be found written in the book." (Daniel 12:1)

In the meantime we must pray and be alert. The devil will try to rob us of our peace or lull us into a false sense of security. We can find consolation in Psalm 16 (verses 1-2, 8): "Preserve me, o God, for in you I take ref-uge.... You are my Lord. I have no good apart from you... I keep the Lord always before me." You can be certain that all of God's promises will be fulfilled. We must trust the plan that God has for us and set our hearts on things above. We can be confident that if we die with him, we will also rise with him.



## HEALING MINISTRY AT ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH

Our healing ministry is currently designed to complement our First Friday of the Month Mass and Adoration. Healing ministers are available in Shea Hall and the sacristy while Adoration is available in the church. If you would like to be trained to be a part of the healing team, please call Darlene Leitz at 574-238-1705 or email [darby321@comcast.net](mailto: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)*

## CATECHISM

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## THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Let's begin this "Corner" with more tidbits about the word "gospel." The emperor often was regarded as the son of a god, and his person represented the peace and security of the empire. Whatever he announced was at least supposed to be good news for the people, and so it would be declared to be "good news" – whether it really was or not!

St. Luke was not a Jew, and his style of writing proves that he was a Greek. Luke's Gospel and his second book - the Acts of the Apostles - gives special attention to the Gentile converts, holding them in an important position. Thus, Luke was most likely the only one of the four Gospel writers who was not of Jewish origin. This is further evidenced by the fact that Luke's Gospel appears to have been written in Greek. His Greek grammar and structure are excellent, suggesting he is well educated in Greek language, literature, and culture. St. Paul calls him "the most dear physician" (Col. 4:14). This career implied a liberal education, and his medical training is evidenced by his choice of medical language. The Gospel of Luke is symbolically represented by a "winged ox."

Early Christian tradition from the late second century on, identifies the author both of the Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles as being written by the same person. Luke was a Syrian from Antioch, who is mentioned in several of St. Paul's letters. (FYI-Antioch was also one of the earliest Christian communities, initially evangelized by Saints Paul and Barnabas, and whose first bishop was Saint Peter, "and it was in Antioch that the disciples were first called Christians" (Acts 11:26). Saint Luke the Evangelist was most likely born, raised, and discovered the faith in this city.) No Gospel writer is more concerned than Luke with the mercy and compassion of Jesus, with the role of the Spirit in the life of Jesus and of the Christian disciple, with the importance of prayer, or with Jesus' concern for women. Luke's Gospel presents Jesus as both the promised Savior of Israel and as the Savior of all people. The Gospel of Luke records that Jesus was called by the Spirit of the Lord to "bring good news to the poor," and this Gospel is filled with a concern for people with all kinds of needs. The note of joy is also prominent in the Gospel of Luke, especially in the opening chapters that announce the coming of Jesus and again at the conclusion, when Jesus ascends to heaven. The story of the growth and spread of the Christian faith after the Ascension of Jesus is told by Luke in the book *the Acts of the Apostles*.

There are differences between modern biographies and ancient lives. Today, authors may write biographies about people just because they've had interesting lives. However, ancient lives had an instructional purpose. Readers were meant to learn lessons from the lives of the people they read about. Thus, there is much information/material that is found only in this Gospel, such as the stories about the song of the angels and the shepherds' visit at the birth of Jesus, Jesus in the Temple as a boy, and the parables of the Good Samaritan and the Prodigal Son. Throughout the Gospel of Luke great emphasis is placed on prayer, the Holy Spirit, the role of women in the ministry of Jesus, and God's forgiveness of sins.

When you read the first three gospels, you will notice a similar message or theme or view. The "first three gospels" are known as the synoptic gospels, a Greek word meaning "shared view," because they present parallel accounts. Another interesting fact you may want to know is the four canonical Gospels were all written during the first century A.D., most likely in the second half!

Have a most blessed week, St. Francis, filled with many gifts of our heavenly Father!





“ Who you become is infinitely more important than what you do or what you have. ”

- Matthew Kelley  
From his book *The Rhythm of Life*



### ANGEL GIVING TREE 2024

It is time again for our annual Angel Tree, benefitting the foster children of Blount and surrounding counties. Please consider taking a tag or two from the tree and filling the wishes of a foster child in need.

If you would like to participate, but would rather not shop, there is the option of donating by check made out to the Blount County Foster Association, or with a gift card.

Gifts can be wrapped or not, whichever you prefer and need to be brought in by Sunday, December 8th to allow for time to get them to the children. Feel free to contact Laura Rapien (865-258-2022) with any questions. St. Francis has always been so generous and supportive of our foster children and on behalf of the children and our foster association, sincere thanks to all of you for your help with the Angel Tree.

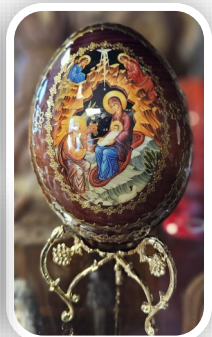
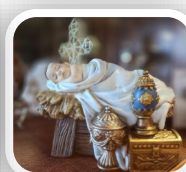


### ST. CLARE GIFT SHOP

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



all gift shop items until December 15th!



The Gift Shop is fully stocked with Christmas items awaiting your early Christmas Shopping! The gift shop is open after weekend Masses and by request/appointment after daily Masses.



### IN NOVEMBER WE REMEMBER

We honor the dead during the month of November. Our *Names of the Dead* book is on the table 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 (collectively) at each weekend Mass during the month of November.

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

***Advent Retreat with Fr. Julian Peters, OSB***  
***“Give me again the joy of your help”***

***Saturday, December 7***  
***9:00 AM - 3:00 PM***

***&***

***Sunday, December 8 (Following Mass)***  
***10:20 AM - 12:30 PM***

***Sign up in Shea Hall!***

The words from Psalm 51 “Give me again the joy of your help” provide us with a very simple prayer to help us “keep on keepin’ on” when we are faced with taking on tasks like getting ready for the holidays, cleaning and decorating, shopping, giving and receiving gifts, facing a new year. During the retreat we will talk about the exciting and the ordinary; celebrations and bewilderments; joys and sorrows - and how to find and keep God in the basic stuff of life.

Come and be a part of this retreat opportunity! Start your Advent season off on a prayer filled note!



Fr. Julian Peters, OSB, a monk and priest of Saint Meinrad Archabbey, currently serves as director of the Institute for Priests and Presbyterates at Saint Meinrad. He is also a member of the Archabbot's Council, and one of the commuting chaplains for the Benedictine Sisters of the Monastery Immaculate Conception in Ferdinand, IN.

Fr. Julian was born October 29, 1960, in Toledo, OH. He entered the monastery on August 5, 1982, and professed his solemn vows on August 15, 1986. He was ordained a priest on May 7, 1988. Fr. Julian attended both Saint Meinrad College and School of Theology, receiving a bachelor's degree in Classics (Latin) in 1982 and a Master of Divinity in 1988. In 1994, he received a master's degree in non-profit administration from the University of Notre Dame.



## THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

The Gospel predicts end times; our challenge though is to live faithfully now. When we live in conformity to the Word, hearing Jesus' words and living them out, the future holds no fear for us. As you place your gift in the Society of St. Vincent de Paul poor box, know that you are hearing the words of Jesus and living them out.

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 NOVEMBER "PRODUCT OF THE MONTH" DISH SOAP AND SPONGES



### NOVEMBER 30 & DECEMBER 1 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 30th and December 1st. 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



# UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	DETAILS
12/7-8/2024	Parish Advent Retreat Shea Hall and Church Sat 9 - 3:00 / Sun 10:20 - 12:30	Online: N/A E-mail: jdewtn2018@gmail.com Phone: 954-749-3929
12/14-16/2024	The Nativity Pageant of Knoxville, Inc. Knoxville Civic Coliseum 3:00, 3:00, and 7:00 PM Respectively	Online: KnoxvilleNativity.com QRcode: See flyer in Shea Hall Donation: See flyer in Shea Hall
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
12/22/2024	Santa Visits St. Francis of Assisi! After Mass ~10:30 AM	Online: N/A E-mail: stfrancistownsend7717@gmail.com Phone: 865-448-6070
2/21/2025	<b>SAVE THE DATE!!!!</b> Esteban Salazar & Friends in Concert Church and Hall	Online: N/A E-mail: joannera.726@gmail.com Phone: 859-361-4561

## Parish Christmas Party

December 15<sup>th</sup> - 4 - 7:00 PM

The Barn Event Center

**\$53 per person - Please sign up in Shea Hall**

**Full payment due by Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Bring a wrapped **NON-BREAKABLE** ornament if you would like to participate in the ornament exchange game.**

**Please make your checks (preferred payment method) payable to St. Francis of Assisi Church**