



Saint John XXIII University Parish/Catholic Center

1710 Melrose Place
Knoxville, Tennessee 37916
Telephone: (865) 523-7931
Fax: (865) 523-7979
Email: john23@utk.edu
Website: www.john23rd.org

The Paulist Fathers Serving the University of Tennessee

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 19, 2021

*Micah 5:1-4a
Hebrews 10:5-10
Luke 1:39-45*

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday-Thursdays at 5:05 pm

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:30 pm
Sunday: 9:00 am & 11:15 am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Monday and Thursday - 4:00 pm to 4:45 pm
Or by appointment

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Congratulations!

Please call the office at least 4 months before
your planned wedding date.

WANT TO BE CATHOLIC?

Please contact Fr. Rich at
(865) 523-7931 or frrich@john23rd.org

Christmas Decorating

We will be getting the Paulus
Room all dressed up for
Christmas THIS Sunday,
December 19 after the 11:15
mass. Come help, if you can!
Pizza will be served.

Synodality

You will probably start hearing the words "Synod" and "Synodality" more and more in the next few months. Synods are an integral part of our Church and invite us to actively listen to each other as we share our faith journey.

As we listen to the faithful, the clergy, lay people, the unchurched, those on the margins, and every other group, we intentionally invite the Holy Spirit into our lives.

Pope Francis has asked that we all prayerfully consider this process in the coming months. Our diocese has written a survey (online at <https://synodsurvey.org/>) which can be filled out anonymously at your leisure. This will provide valuable information on what stirs people's hearts right now and will be followed up with listening sessions in January and February. Please stay tuned for more details as we celebrate our Savior's birth and the New Year!

Special Collection

Our second collection this weekend is in support of the National Retirement Fund for Religious. This collection assists religious institutes in providing for the retirement needs of senior religious priests, brothers, and sisters. The fund also helps religious institutes plan and manage their retirement needs and programs.

The box and envelopes are available in the lobby.



Pray for a Seminarian

Paulist seminarian Eric Hernandez joined our novitiate on August 26, 2017. He made his first promise to our community on August 31, 2018. Eric hails from Corpus Christi, TX. He earned a B.A. in philosophy with a minor in religious studies from Texas A&M University at Corpus Christi. During his college years, he was involved in campus ministry and young adult ministry at his church.

Eric lives at the Paulist House of Mission and Studies at St. Joseph Seminary in Washington, D.C., and is pursuing his master's degree at the Catholic University of America.

Eric ministered at St. John XXIII during Lent of 2018 and will return in January to preach during the Paulist Appeal!

Thank You For Your Generous Donations This Year

We would like to remind all parishioners about the requirements for charitable donations to be considered deductible for the current year (2021): The check must be dated 2021 AND if the check is mailed, it must be postmarked in 2021 OR if it is given in a church collection plate or hand delivered to a church office, it must be given on or before December 31st.

Insights and Awareness

This week's topic is "Topic 14 - Co-Workers: Bishops and Lay Ecclesial Ministers in Conversation". Bishop William Wack, C.S.C. of the Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee joins lay ecclesial ministers for the second conversation in this series on laity, marriage, family life, and youth. You can view this topic at: <https://www.john23rd.org/insights> (Sponsored by the Social Concerns Committee).

Advent and Christmas Schedule

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday—5:30pm

Sunday—9:00am and 11:15am

Weekday Mass Times

5:05pm Monday through

Thursday

Christmas Eve Masses

5:00pm

9:00pm

Christmas Day Mass

10:00am

Mary, Mother of God

Mass times:

Friday, Dec. 31—5:30pm

Saturday, Jan. 1—10:00am

The building and office will be closed December 27-31.
No daily mass or confessions.

Our Chrismon Tree

In 1957 Frances Kipps Spencer from Danville, Virginia wanted to decorate the Christmas tree in her church to reflect the Christian faith. She came up with the idea of using symbols and monograms of Christ and made decorations using only the colors of white and gold, symbolic of purity, perfection, majesty and glory. White lights were added to signify Christ our Light, who has come into our world. And so the tradition of the Chrismon tree was begun.

Every year, we at St. John XXIII place our decorated Chrismon tree next to the altar. It stands in full glory symbolizing Christ who is our Light in the darkness.

Throughout the years, it has been filled with decorations made by parishioners of all ages. We hope this tree will add to the true meaning of Christmas that you experience in your hearts and homes this season.



Pope's Prayer Intention for December 2021

"Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit."

Loving Father, we pray today for our catechists. We thank you for their gift of ministry in your Church. Grant them your wisdom that they may grow in the understanding and teaching of your Word. Grant them also your love that they may be fruitful heralds of your Word and lead others to love you.



Focus on a Saint

Catherine Doherty was a pioneer among North American Catholic laity in implementing the Church's social doctrine in the face of Communism, economic and racial injustice, secularism and apathy. At the same time she insisted that those engaged in social action be rooted in prayer and that they incarnate their faith into every aspect of ordinary life. Catherine was a bridge between the Christian East and West. Baptized Orthodox and later becoming Roman Catholic, her spiritual heritage drew upon both of these traditions.

Catherine's talent as a speaker was discovered by an agent from a lecture bureau. She began travelling across North America, and became a successful lecturer. Once again she became wealthy—but she was not at peace. The words of Christ pursued her relentlessly: "Sell all you possess, and come, follow Me." On October 15, 1930 Catherine renewed a promise she had made to God during her ordeal in the revolution, and gave her life to Him. She marked this as the day of the beginning of her Apostolate. With the blessing of Archbishop Neil McNeil of Toronto, Catherine sold all her possessions and provided for her son, George. In the early 1930's she went to live a hidden life in the slums of Toronto, desiring to console her beloved Lord as a lay apostle by being one with his poor. The lay apostolate was still in its infancy in the 1930's. Dorothy Day, another pioneer in this field, was among the few who understood and supported what Catherine was trying to do.

Christmas Flower Donations

Richard and Moira Connely
for beloved members of the Connely and Ambrose families

Madeleine Hassil
for Hassil and Connolly families

Frank and Jamie Provenza
in memory of John and Inzia Provenza

Patricia and Dan Murphy
for Murphy and Campbell families

Rev. Dan Whitman
in memory of Virginia Whitman

**SAINT JOHN XXIII
UNIVERSITY CATHOLIC PARISH
AND STUDENT CENTER**

Rev. Donald Andrie, CSP, Pastor
frdon@john23rd.org

Rev. Richard Whitney, CSP, Associate Pastor
frrich@john23rd.org

**Rev. Robert O'Donnell, CSP,
Priest in Residence**
frbob@john23rd.org

Deacon Bob Ketteringham
bobbykett@outlook.com

Deacon Patrick Murphy-Racey
pat@pmrphoto.com

Andrea Sirek, Office Manager
andrea@john23rd.org

Mary Beth Aguilar, Secretary
john23music@gmail.com

**Nancy B. Strange,
Sunday morning Music Director**
nancybstrange15@gmail.com

**Kristofer Rucinski,
Sunday evening Music Director**
ksrucin@gmail.com

**Stephen Darnell,
Saturday evening Music Director**
soundofsteve@gmail.com

Prayer Requests: Let us pray for peace and justice throughout the world. Other prayers are needed for Jo Andrews, Connie Beeler, Beth Moser, Anne Kaminsky, Jerry Carney, Karen Pearson, Anne Pidkowicz, Ann Patterson, Doug Layman, Maria Theresa Walters, Etheleen Teaster, Peg Hart, Blanche Mackay, Linwood Kennon, Mark Miller, Alfred Prados, Edward Prados, Cliff Russell, Diane Dusichka, Margaret Dusichka, family of V. J. D'Innocenzo, Ed Seaver, Michelle D., George and Martha T., Patty Chen, Robert Tobey, Tom Walsh, Tom Mulligan, Kathy Croft, Joe Miller, Trudy Koehling, Debbie Davis, Cathy Barrington, Alex Hagan, Beth Long, Zachary and Torah Javel Ramsey-DeWerff, Richard Lamine, Jaci Fryxell and family, the Palmer family, residents of Serene Manor, those serving in the military, and for any too reserved to let us know.

December 12, 2021 Offertory: \$6,905.00

**SCRIPTURE READINGS
FOR THE WEEK OF
December 20-26**

Monday:	Isaiah 7:10-14.....Luke 1:26-38
Tuesday:	Song of Songs 2:8-14...Luke 1:39-45
Wednesday:	1 Samuel 1:24-28.....Luke 1:46-56
Thursday:	Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24....Luke 1:57-66
Friday:	Isaiah 9:1-6.....Luke 2:1-14
Saturday:	Isaiah 52:7-10.....John 1:1-18
Sunday:	1 Sam. 1:20-22,24-28...Luke 2:42-52

**NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS
December 20-26**

Monday:	4:00 pm - Confessions
	5:05 pm - Daily Mass
Tuesday:	5:05 pm - Daily Mass
Wednesday:	5:05 pm - Daily Mass
Thursday:	4:00 pm - Confessions
	5:05 pm - Daily Mass
Friday:	5:00 pm - Mass
	9:00 pm - Mass
Saturday:	10:00 am - Mass
Sunday:	9:00 am - Mass
	10:00 am - Adult Bible Study
	11:15 am - Mass

Check out our website at www.john23rd.org for online giving, alternate worship options, and updated information. If you are not comfortable with online donations, we are in the office to receive any mailed donations. Thank you for your help and we look forward to seeing you again!