



## Saint John XXIII University Parish/Catholic Center

1710 Melrose Place  
Knoxville, Tennessee 37916  
Telephone: (865) 523-7931  
Email: [john23@utk.edu](mailto:john23@utk.edu)  
Website: [www.john23rd.org](http://www.john23rd.org)

*The Paulist Fathers Serving the University of Tennessee*

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 27, 2023

*Is 22:19-23*  
*Rom 11:33-36*  
*Mt 16:13-20*

### WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday-Friday at 5:05 pm

### WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:30 pm  
Sunday: 9 am, 11:15 am,  
5:30 pm and 9 pm

### 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 [frich@john23rd.org](mailto:frich@john23rd.org)

### World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation

The origins of the day go back to Ecumenical Patriarch Dimitrios who proclaimed September 1 as "Creation Day" for the Orthodox in 1989, followed by other Christian European Churches in 2001, and by Pope Francis in 2015.

Our 5:05pm Daily Mass on Friday, September 1  
will be offered for the Care of Creation.

### Thoughts on Today's Readings

The disciples report to Jesus what people say about him: "He is like John the Baptist come back to life...or Elijah come back down to earth." They were trying to find someone in the past similar to Jesus. Peter saw him as defining the future: "You are the anointed one of God. God's reign on this earth begins with you!"

Then Jesus says those famous words that Catholics use to mark the beginning of the role of the Pope: "You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld will not prevail against it."

Let's speak of the present day. What do you hear people saying about Pope Francis? Is he like Pope John or Pope John Paul II? I think most people would say no. Pope John convened the Second Vatican Council. Pope John Paul II was a staunch hero, calling all believers to hear and follow the teachings of the church fearlessly.

What about Pope Francis? I believe we cannot find anyone in the past to which we can compare him. He calls us to turn our attention to the needs of all peoples as we walk into the future. I will give three examples of his actions and words leading us into the future:

1. Wars disrupt millions of lives all over the globe. Wars in Afghanistan, Syria, Ukraine, Sudan, Somalia all force people to flee. Drug wars and gangs ravage Mexico and Guatemala. Since the beginning, Francis has not let us forget to welcome the stranger.
2. The agonies of nature call us to have compassionate restraint in our treatment of the earth.
3. Finally, he convenes all peoples of the earth to the synod in Rome to listen to one another and chart a path together to the future.

Today, God's reign on earth calls for a new way.



## Social Concerns Committee's New Projects for the Coming Year

Here are St. John XXIII Social Concerns Committee's plans for this year and next, which we hope will inspire you. Join us in our work or take advantage of these programs.

**Opportunities!:** We are putting together a booklet of ways you can get involved and use your talents to help others in Knox County. New arrivals may be willing to get involved but are not sure how to do it. This booklet will list groups who need help and how to contact them. In upcoming months, a few selections will be highlighted in the 8-page bulletin. You may find just what you are looking for.

**Insight and Awareness Conversations:** A weekly feature of our parish is an article or video on topics pertinent to our Catholic faith. In Advent and Lent, we will offer an in-person session on two different topics offering parishioners a chance to listen to others and offer their own reaction. One session is planned for the first Sunday of December (after the 11:15 AM Mass) and another for the first Saturday evening of Lent (after the 5:30 PM Mass). Watch for more information in the bulletin and online. Articles or videos on the chosen topics will be published prior to the gathering.

**Promoting Justice Knox among Catholic Parishes:** St. John XXIII is the only Catholic parish involved in Justice Knox among 25 member congregations. We are hoping to meet on January 16th with our Catholic brothers and sisters from other Knox Country parishes to inform them about Justice Knox and present a Justice Knox issue being addressed this year. In Lexington and Louisville Kentucky, many Catholic parishes are involved a group like this, so we will invite their leaders to attend, sharing why Catholic parishes are involved there. Watch for information in December and January, and we will be counting on you to help us spread the word in the Catholic Community of Knoxville.

**John Dear Book tour:** Noted author Fr. John Dear, SJ is doing a speaking tour on his forthcoming Orbis book: "The Gospel of Peace: A Commentary on Matthew, Mark and Luke from the Perspective of Nonviolence." We are looking forward to partnering with other churches to bring Fr. Dear to Knoxville to speak on his book pointing out Jesus' practice and teachings of nonviolence.

As you can see, we have a lot planned and we need your help. Our committee is open to new ideas and would welcome your presence. We meet for 90 minutes on the third Sunday of the month. Or maybe just help with one of these exciting projects. Email Mary Beth Aguilar at [john23music@gmail.com](mailto:john23music@gmail.com) to let her know of your interest and you will receive a call!



"What does the Lord require of you? Do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God." Micah 6:8

Most of us would agree that our church offers many ways to walk with God. We have very meaningful liturgies with beautiful music, the sacraments, Bible studies, discussion groups to develop our faith, etc.

We also are committed to merciful, charitable works. We support and volunteer with the Ladies of Charity, fill pantries with food, donate money to the Pregnancy Help Center and contribute money to various worthwhile organizations each week in special collections. We visit the sick and imprisoned, take in refugees, and assist immigrants. These are just some of the things we do.

God also requires us to do justice. What is justice? Here is a quote from the late great South African Bishop Desmond Tutu that gives insight into what justice is: "There comes a time when we must stop just pulling people out of the river. We need to go upstream and find out why they are falling in." That is what

Justice Knox tries to do. We listen to people's stories and then go "upstream" to see why people are so adversely affected. Some members do research and find best practices. Then, we present these to officials and ask for changes to better the lives of those in the river.

We have had successes with affordable housing, crisis intervention training, and restorative practices in the schools. But there is so much more to do. Our community still reels from gun violence, homelessness, and mental health issues. There are pockets of citizens that keep being pulled down river. We, as people of faith, can make changes if we have the will. Justice Knox is a way to join with other faith congregations to do justice for all of God's people. There are many different ways to join in the work of Justice Knox that can fit your busy life. We invite you to join us.

For more information contact:

Paul Schaffer: 865-389-2233

Sue Stephens: 865-386-7480

Joe Haas: 865-274-9030

Peg Hart: 865-579-4278

Joan Clevenger: 865-233-7777

Charles Jones: 404-277-2685



# Catholic Response to Climate Change

The Season of Creation is approaching! It begins on September 1, The World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, and continues through October 4, the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi. The Catholic Response to Climate Change Committee (which includes parishes in Knoxville and Alcoa) have been planning a variety of events and activities. All parishioners are invited to attend all of the events scheduled on the calendar for the Season of Creation.

## 2023 Season of Creation Calendar of Events

Friday, September 1 12:10 pm	Mass for the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation Immaculate Conception Church (414 West Vine Avenue) Light refreshments to follow
5:05 pm	Mass for the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation St. John XXIII University Parish (1710 Melrose Place)
Sunday, September 10 1:00-3:00 pm	Picnic and Electric Vehicle Show All Saints Parish (620 N Cedar Bluff Rd)
Sunday, September 17 1:00-3:30 pm	Care for Creation Presentation Sister Rose Marie Tresp, RSM All Saints Catholic Church Parish Hall
Sunday, September 24 4:00 pm	Bluegrass Mass Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church (858 Louisville Road, Alcoa, TN)
Monday, September 25 8:00 am	Smoky Mtn hike along Middle Prong (8.3 miles total) Meet at Our Lady of Fatima to carpool RSVP: maryetank@hotmail.com or elizmccac@icloud.com
Saturday, September 30 8:00 am	Ranger guided walk at Seven Islands State Birding Park Meet at All Saints Catholic Church 7:00 A.M. to carpool There is a \$6 per person fee. Register at: <a href="https://tnstateparks.com/parks/event_details/Seven-Islands/#/?event=private-group-hike-sept-30">https://tnstateparks.com/parks/event_details/Seven-Islands/#/?event=private-group-hike-sept-30</a> Questions: Ann Hill: ahutonahill@icloud.com
Sunday, October 1 1:00 pm	All Saints Catholic Church Blessing of Animals Young Williams Animal Shelter will be joining us
Wednesday, October 4 4:00 pm	Feast of St. Francis Outdoor Mass Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church

The Catholic Response to Climate Change Committee meets on zoom on the second Thursday evening of each month. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. For information, please contact Beth Carroll Hunley at 865-216-1827 or at [genrop@aol.com](mailto:genrop@aol.com)



2023

# SEASON OF CREATION PRAYER



## **Creator of All,**

From your communion of love life sprung forth like a mighty river  
and the whole cosmos came into being.

On this Earth of overflowing love, the Word was made flesh and  
went forth with the life-giving waters proclaiming peace and justice  
for all creation.

You called human beings to till and keep your garden. You placed us  
into right relationship with each creature, but we failed to listen to  
the cries of the Earth and the cries of the most vulnerable. We broke  
with the flowing communion of love and sinned against you by not  
safeguarding the conditions for life.

We lament the loss of our fellow species and their habitats, we  
grieve the loss of human cultures, along with the lives and  
livelihoods that have been displaced or perished, and we ache at  
the sight of an economy of death, war and violence that we have  
inflicted on ourselves and on the Earth.

Open our ears to your creative, reconciling and sustaining Word that  
calls to us through the book of Scripture and the book of creation.  
Bless us once again with your life-giving waters so that the Creator  
Spirit may let justice and peace flow in our hearts and overflow into  
all creation.

Open our hearts to receive the living waters of God's justice and  
peace, and to share it with our suffering brothers and sisters, all  
creatures around us, and all creation.

Bless us to walk together with all people of good will so that the  
many streams of the living waters of God's justice and peace may  
become a mighty river all over the Earth.

In the name of the One who came to proclaim good news to all  
creation, Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**



**Let Justice  
and Peace Flow**  
Season of Creation 2023

A Mighty River  
Amen 5-28

**SEASON OF  
CREATION**



## First Fridays Devotions

In the late 17th century, St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, who had experienced a childhood filled with illness and a difficult home life, decided to reject the possibility of marriage. Instead, she joined the Order of the Visitation nuns. She had a rocky start in her vocation but eventually found her rhythm in the monastery where she lived. Then, she started having visions.

These visions were of Jesus, asking her to spread the word about devotions to his Sacred Heart. As Catholics, we understand this to mean the entire mystery of Christ and everything about Jesus: Son of God, Savior, part of the Trinity, and our salvation. The Church celebrates the Sacred Heart of Jesus on the Friday following the second Sunday after Pentecost. As you may have guessed from that oddly specific dating, Fridays are an important part of the Sacred Heart devotion and Sister Margaret Mary's vision.

In her visions, Jesus asked her to share his promises of good things that could happen if we could spread this devotion. This was a time when most people received the Eucharist only rarely, and it created new interest in both the sacraments of Eucharist and Reconciliation.



Many parishes offer First Friday observances. In order to fully participate, on the First Friday of each month, attend Mass, receive Communion, and go to confession. That's it!

If you're finding prayer life a little flat, trying new devotions may be enough to help yourself out of that slump. First Fridays may be the first step to a renewed and refreshed spirit!



## **St. John XXIII Staff**

**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 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

**Gabriella Marie,**

**Saturday evening Music Director**

gabriellacheij@gmail.com

## **Insights and Awareness**

### **Topic 88 - Synodwatch**

#### **Session 1: Communion that Radiates**

This discussion covers the overall structure of the working document (Instrumentum Laboris) for the October 2023 Synod and the first priority addressed - "A Communion that Radiates".

You can view this topic at:

<https://www.john23rd.org/insights>

(Sponsored by the Social Concerns Committee)

## **Sunday Giving Update**

### **Basket Collection**

August 20: \$7,962.96

## **NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS**

### **August 28-September 3**

**Monday:** 4:00 pm - Confessions  
5:05 pm - Daily Mass  
7:00 pm - Finance Committee Meeting

**Tuesday:** 5:05 pm - Daily Mass

**Wednesday:** 5:05 pm - Daily Mass  
7:00 pm - VolCatholic

**Thursday:** 4:00 pm - Confessions  
5:05 pm - Daily Mass  
7:00 pm - Adult Enrichment

**Friday:** 5:05 pm - Daily Mass  
for Care of Creation

**Saturday:** 5:30 pm - Mass

**Sunday:** 9:00 am - Mass  
10:00 am - Adult Bible Study  
11:15 am - Mass  
5:30 pm - Mass  
6:30 pm - Sunday Supper  
9:00 pm - Mass

## **Bulletin Sponsor of the Week!**



**Will Brewer**

Attorney at Law

**865-246-6782**

*"Let Will  
Write Your Will"*

Please patronize our bulletin supporters whenever possible!

Their generous support keeps our bulletin free of charge for the parish.  
For more information about supporting the bulletin or advertising a business,  
please contact Scott Franz at 614-915-4118 or [sfranz@diocesan.com](mailto:sfranz@diocesan.com)



## Prayer Requests

Let us pray for peace and justice throughout the world. Other prayers are needed for Jo Andrews, Isabella Bleu, Isabella Linguidi, Mateo, Silas Templeton, Karen Pearson Rich, Mary Ellen Howley, Elizabeth Sirk, Charles, Sharon Garrity, Peg Hart, Jerry Carney, Vic and Barbara Kaminsky, Larry and Anne Kaminsky, Suzanne Lenhart, Christine Wade, Jackson Igou, Alice Peterson, Liz Mattson, Cindy Cunningham, V. J. D'Innocenzo and his family, Beth Long, Connie Beeler, Hal Leiner, Margaret Dusichka, Diane Dusichka, Ray Bieniek, Al McGinley, residents of Serene Manor, those serving in the military, and for any too reserved to let us know.



## Pope Francis' Prayer for August: For World Youth Day

"We pray the World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young people to live and witness the Gospel in their own lives."

## Lector Schedule

### August 26-27

Sat. 5:30pm Stan Zelasko - LuAnne Zelasko  
Sun. 9:00am Adwoa Owusu - Lindsay Walton  
Sun. 11:15am John Long - Ed Howley

**Petrees Florist**  
Order by 1:30pm  
for same day delivery  
3805 E. Magnolia Ave.  
865-525-9447  
[www.PetreesFlorist.com](http://www.PetreesFlorist.com)

**Little Valley Mountain Resort**  
1-800-581-7225  
2229 Little Valley Road • Sevierville, TN  
[LittleValleyMountainResort.com](http://LittleValleyMountainResort.com)

**CHESTERTON ACADEMY**  
OF ST. MARGARET CLITHEROW  
A CLASSICAL HIGH SCHOOL  
IN THE CATHOLIC TRADITION  
[knoxchesterton.com](http://knoxchesterton.com)  
205.481.3500  
[st.margaretclitherow@knoxchesterton.com](mailto:st.margaretclitherow@knoxchesterton.com)  
*"The cultivation of wisdom and virtue through the nourishing of the body and soul with the true, good, and beautiful by way of the seven liberal arts."*



**Will Brewer**  
Attorney at Law

**865-246-6782**

*"Let Will  
Write Your Will"*

Estate Planning  
and other legal services

catholicmatch\*  
Tennessee



[CatholicMatch.com/goTN](http://CatholicMatch.com/goTN)

**What are you looking for?  
Come and see.**

John 1



**beapaulist.org**

**ADVERTISE  
HERE**

Promote your Business **Give us a call!**  
AND support your Parish. **800-282-5106**



**Get this bulletin emailed to  
you every week.**

Simply go to

[www.DM.CHURCH/2558](http://www.DM.CHURCH/2558) ...or scan →



DISCOVERMASS



**Knights of  
Columbus**  
Schachle Agency

**Joshua W Florea, FICF, CLTC**  
Field Agent  
865-335-1590  
[joshua.florea@kofc.org](mailto:joshua.florea@kofc.org)



[www.ourkofcinsurance.org/joshua-florea/](http://www.ourkofcinsurance.org/joshua-florea/)

Life Insurance • Disability Income Insurance  
Long-Term Care Insurance • Retirement Annuities

**THE SHOTWELL TEAM**  
  
**REALTY EXECUTIVES**

**Work With Us To Find A Home You Love**

Realty Executives Associates  
8915 Linksvue Dr  
Knoxville, TN 37922



**The Shotwell Team**  
Sales: 865-531-2020  
Leasing: 865-262-8858  
[agent@shotwellteam.com](mailto:agent@shotwellteam.com)

