



Saint John XXIII University Parish/Catholic Center

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The Paulist Fathers Serving the University of Tennessee

Feast of Christ the King

November 26, 2023

*Ez 34:11-12, 15-17
1 Cor 15:20-26, 28
Mt 25:31-46*

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



Ed & Ghislaine Miller: 65 Years of Marriage!

Ed: Saturday, October 5, 1957, was a crisp, sunny day, and I was on a sightseeing bus waiting at a staging area to begin a tour of the Vienna Woods. The last two passengers, a white-haired man and a young woman, finally arrived.

The young woman came down the aisle, looking first at one then the other of the two remaining empty seats left on the bus, one next to me and one across the aisle.

She was an olive-skinned beauty with silky black hair pulled back into a tight bun.

I couldn't take my eyes off her. And I couldn't believe my good fortune when she chose the seat next to me instead of the one across the aisle. Her companion took the other seat, and they started conversing in a language I couldn't identify, despite my language training at the Army Language School and my efforts to learn to recognize all European languages. It gave me the opening I needed.

"Portuguese," she replied in heavily accented English.

"We are from Brazil."

I learned that she and her father were from Rio de Janeiro. I also learned that her father, a physicist, was Brazil's representative to the first International Atomic Energy Conference, a gathering organized under President Eisenhower's "Atoms for Peace" plan.

Her name was Ghislaine Costa Ribeiro.

Continued...

Pope Francis

Christmas
at the
Nativity



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Ghislaine: My father and I arrived in Vienna in autumn 1957 as the leaves were turning yellow and red.
I had never seen the change of seasons and it delighted me.

On our first afternoon there my dad had time off from conference activities and we decided to take a tour through the Vienna woods. We were the last arrivals and only two empty seats were left when we got on the bus. They were opposite each other on the aisle. At each window sat a young man. I looked at both of them, from one to the other and decided to sit next to the one on the left. He was tall and thin and had thick glasses. He looked serious, like someone who liked to read.

The Vienna Woods, Wienerwald in German, are about an hour's drive west of the city. My dad and I spoke Portuguese to each other, and at one point, the young man asked me what language we were speaking. "Portuguese," I told him, explaining that my father and I were from Brazil.

He then stood up and, very formally, said: "Allow me to introduce myself. Ed Miller ..." and we shook hands.
We talked on and off, between the explanations and stories the tour guide had for us.

When we got to the Heiligenkreuz Monastery, where the tour was to have its first stop,
Ed asked me as we got off the bus: "Are you Catholic?"

I said "yes," and before I asked the obvious: "And you?"...

"I decided to become a Catholic two weeks ago," he replied.
I was surprised because I had been sure that being an American, he would be a Protestant.

As we started back, the bus stopped at a small café deep in the woods, and we had tea and Sacher Torte, the most delicious chocolate cake I ever ate in my whole life. As we enjoyed the atmosphere of the café, Ed told me he was in the Army, and I understood he was from California. My English was really not that good, so I missed the part where he said he was from Tennessee but had been in California at the Army Language School.

When we got back in the bus, my dad suggested I ask him to come to dinner with us.
I had been asking my dad to take me to this restaurant where I saw they had dancing.

We met later at the hotel, then walked to the restaurant where we had a delicious meal and danced afterwards.
I remember my dad and Ed talking about all kinds of things, including literature and their love for Edgar Allan Poe.



Ed: The Sacher Restaurant where we stopped sat alongside a little brook. The bright red, orange and yellow leaves on the trees in the woods shimmered in the bright fall sunlight. Inside, a violinist played Hungarian love songs as we ate the delicious cakes and had tea. It was a setting for romance.

As the bus returned to Vienna, we watched a spectacular sunset, bringing to a close a perfect day, one I didn't want to end so soon. I wondered how I could arrange to see her again.

As the bus wound its way through the city streets, Ghislaine had a short conversation in Portuguese with her father, and as the bus stopped to drop them at their hotel, he asked me if I would like to join them for dinner. I eagerly accepted, arranging to meet them at the Ambassador Hotel later that evening.

In my mental scheming to find a way to see her again,
I never dreamed that she would take the initiative.

That evening, I joined them at their hotel and we to a large, elegant restaurant that had an orchestra. After dinner, we danced until 10:30 p.m.



The next day, we went to a Mass at the Imperial Palace sung by the Vienna Boys Choir and later, lunch together.

I had to get a train that afternoon to return to my base in Germany. When Ghislaine told me she and her father would be visiting relatives there in Paris in November, I made the spur-of-the-moment decision to go there.

On the train back to my base in Bad Aibling, Germany, I was so confident that I wanted to live the rest of my life with this girl, I wrote a postcard to my parents that said, "I had a terrific time (in Vienna). Incidentally I'm in love and plan to get married." It was dated October 6, 1957, the day after our meeting in the Vienna Woods.

We spent 12 of my 14-day leave in Paris seeing the sights, eating in the restaurants and walking along the Seine near her Tante Jeanne's apartment where they were staying. Usually her father accompanied us, but one day we went alone to visit the Eiffel Tower. We walked back in a misty rain and when we reached the apartment building, I asked her to marry me. She said: "Yes!"

They were returning to Brazil in a few days and had decided that when I got out of the Army, I would go straight there to marry her. As it turned out, Professor Costa Ribeiro was offered the position of director of Exchange and Training in the newly formed International Atomic Energy Agency and returned to Vienna with the whole family, Ghislaine, the oldest, and her eight siblings. Her mother had died earlier in 1957 giving birth to a 10th child.

We were married in Vienna on Oct. 24, 1958, in the little St. Aegyd parish church Pötzleinsdorf section of Vienna where they lived.

Since then we have lived in Bad Aibling, Germany, Knoxville, Nashville, Oak Ridge and Chattanooga in Tennessee, Alexandria, Va., Wheaton, Md., Bowie, Md., and Dover, Del., Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo, Brazil, and two years in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Along the way, I worked for The Knoxville Journal, The Associated Press, UPI, The Chattanooga Times, The Oak Ridger, The Catholic Standard (Washington Archdiocese), and as founding editor of The East Tennessee Catholic. I also worked for nearly two years as U.S. Sen. Howard Baker's press secretary and 18 years as a lecturer in the School of Journalism at the University of Tennessee.

Ghislaine, who is fluent in Portuguese, Spanish, French, and English, taught at various levels along the way, ranging early childhood to lecturer in Portuguese and Spanish at UTK, Roane State and Pellissippi Community College, in addition to raising our five children and helping out with our eight grandchildren.

We have been active in parishes everywhere we have lived, including serving on several parish councils. St. John XXIII is very special to us. We were on our honeymoon in Venice when Cardinal Roncali, the patriarch of Venice, was chosen as Pope John XXIII.

Father Don Andrie made our 65th anniversary very special by recognizing us and blessing our marriage and our rings, the same ones we put on 65 years ago.

When I put in my papers to get married, several people tried to talk me out of it. My first sergeant in the Army, MSgt. Aubrey Smith, a fellow Tennessean and a good friend, said, "You are going to take this young woman from a place like Rio de Janeiro back to the hills of Tennessee, and she won't last two months."

After 65 years, the last 33 in Knoxville,
I think we can safely say that he was wrong.





On Monday, November 13, at the Justice Knox Annual Assembly, 16 members from St. John XXIII gathered with hundreds of people from other faith congregations to hear updates on our work and to vote on adopting a new issue. The vote was taken and overwhelmingly the issue of Economic Instability/Barriers to Economic Opportunity, became the next problem we will focus on.

In some areas of Knoxville, the African American poverty rate is 42%! It's one of the highest of all cities in the South! People living in these areas often do not have access to pharmacies, supermarkets, and other services. Many do their primary grocery shopping at local gas stations that only sell processed food (high in sugars, fats, and salt) with no fresh fruits or vegetables available.

Here are a few stories of hard-working people who find themselves barely able to make it:

A beautician was fortunate to receive the chairs, equipment and the salon in the Lonsdale area from the previous owner who retired. This woman, the new owner, soon found out that she is barely able to pay the bills because so many of her customers are poor. She gives breaks to some of her clients because hair care is not a luxury when you have to look presentable to go on a job interview. Or their hair has been damaged by at-home treatments. A good hair cut can help relieve some of the stress and emotional turmoil of life. So, it's really not about pride and glamor. Many times, her clients have to cancel or don't show up. Their car breaks down. Or a utility bill is due. Or rent. So, there is not enough money to come to get their hair done. Ideally, she would like to expand her business and also train others. However, she has no credit of her own and no capital she can tap into to make this dream a reality.

A handyman can hardly keep his business going. Area clients are too poor to pay for his services. He may have to move to another location.

A single working mother of two little ones has to pay \$1800 a month for childcare. She makes \$17 an hour at a bank. Rents have increased for many people and they are forced to find another place to live or else do without necessities.

In December, we will form a research team to learn what is possible to address Economic Instability. We will begin to dissect it and see what can be done to address this problem. We do this because our God calls us to make things better for all of our siblings. All of God's people deserve and need a safe place to live, honest work, and whatever else it takes to live respectful, dignified lives. You are invited to join us in this work as we meet on **Monday, December 4, 6:00 pm** at the Episcopal Church of the Ascension, 800 S. Northshore Drive.

For more information contact any of the following St. John XXIII Justice Knox Team members:

Paul Schaffer: 865-389-2233
Peg Hart: 865-579-4278

Sue Stephens: 865-386-7480
Joan Clevenger: 865-233-7777

Joe Haas: 865-274-9030
Charles Jones: 404-277-2685





"The world in which we live is collapsing and may be nearing the breaking point"

In Laudate Deum, Pope Francis calls "all people of good will" to take action on the climate crisis and "move beyond the mentality of appearing to be concerned but not having the courage needed to produce substantial changes." (LD 56) He particularly calls on us in the United States to make personal changes to our consumerist lifestyles, reduce our fossil fuel use, and to also advocate for systemic actions to address the climate crisis.

If you are a member of the Catholic community in the United States, we invite you to take a pledge of action with us today to respond directly to Pope Francis' call for change (personal, within the Church, and wider systemic change). Together we can courageously commit to specific actions that will produce a much needed culture shift and produce a better future for our common home.

Use the following QR code to visit the website and make the pledge!



Use the QR code below to find prayers and worship resources that can be used during the COP28 session (Nov. 30th-December 12th, 2023) in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Pope Francis will be attending the COP session in early December and is expected to address the delegates. It is important that we pray that we see positive outcomes at this COP, for the safety and well-being of the Holy Father during his trip and that his message be heard, for people and communities affected by the climate crisis, and for the church to take action on climate.



Catholic Response to Climate Change: Upcoming Local Events

Catholic Response to Climate Change will air a video recording on Zoom of *Everything is Connected: A Guide to Finding Your Place in Creation*, a presentation on Pope Francis' Laudato Si' Encyclical by Sister Rose Marie Tresp, RSM, Director of Justice Ministries for the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas on **Thursday, November 30 at 7 p.m.** Parishioners interested in viewing the recording may RSVP to genrop@aol.com or contact Beth Carroll Hunley at 865-216-1827 to receive a link to the recording.



Walking the Synodal Journey

The parish Social Concerns Committee is offering a special beginning for Advent this year. The Insight and Awareness articles on the parish website now number 100.

That's quite a library on current Catholic events!

To celebrate, we are inviting parishioners to look up numbers 87, 88, 89, 90 and 100 in the archives of the parish website. They all focus on the first session of the Synod just completed in Rome.

Then, join us Sunday, December 3rd after the 11:15 Mass in the Paulus Room.

We will have a brief reflection, and then an open conversation about what's happened and where we are going.

All this in 60 minutes and, of course,
refreshments will be served!



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Insights and Awareness Topic 101 - Synod Synthesis

Fr. Reese finds 15 gems in the
Synod on Synodality Report.

You can view this topic at:

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

(Sponsored by the Social Concerns Committee)

U.S. Bishops Back Beatification Cause of New York Paulist Priest!

Cardinal Dolan called Father Hecker
“a son of our shores, a saint for our times.”

To see the video, please visit the following link:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IuWLqkB4H5c>

NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

November 27 - December 3

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

Tuesday: 5:05 pm - Daily Mass
7:00 pm - RCIA

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

Thursday: 4:00 pm - Confessions
5:05 pm - Daily Mass
6:30 pm - Spirit and Truth

Friday: 12:00 pm - Angelus/Rosary
3:00 pm - Divine Mercy Chaplet
4:30 pm - Evening Prayer
5:05 pm - First Friday Mass
5:30 pm - Exposition with Benediction

Saturday: 5:30 pm - Mass

Sunday: 9:00 am - Mass
10:00 am - Adult Bible Study
11:15 am - Mass
12:30 pm - Insights and Awareness
5:30 pm - Mass
6:30 pm - Sunday Supper
9:00 pm - Mass

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, Jean Soderberg, Jill Stephens, Charles, Rose Pourtier, Linda D., Garrity family, 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 December: For persons with disabilities

"We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation."

Lector Schedule

November 25-26

Sat. 5:30pm Game Day Mass

Sun. 9:00am Rosemary Ayelazuno - Adwoa Owusu

Sun. 11:15am Jim Dutkosky - Anna Dutkosky

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