



**Saint John XXIII
University Parish/Catholic Center**

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Website: www.john23rd.org

The Paulist Fathers Serving the University of Tennessee

Good Shepherd Sunday

May 11, 2025

*Acts 13:14, 43-52
Rev 7:9, 14b-17
Jn 10:27-30*

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 rmwhitney3@gmail.com

Food for Finals



Finals are almost here! We like to support our students by having what we call a Groaning Table or Food for Finals. All kinds of

food are appreciated: fruits & veggies, chips & dip, sandwich fixings, soups & chili, casseroles, cookies, desserts, chocolate... Please sign up on the poster in the lobby to help make our students' lives a little easier and to show them how much we care for and support them!



Summer hours are starting May 18th:

We **WILL NOT** have a 5:30 PM or 9 PM on Sundays until August 17th

There will also not be a Friday daily Mass during this time.

NEW SCHEDULE!!

Confessions:

Monday and Thursday - 4 PM - 4:45 PM

Daily Mass:

Monday - Thursday - 5:05 PM

Saturday Mass - 5:30 PM

Sunday Mass - 9 AM and 11:15 AM



Spring Swing!

What a fantastic time we had together! A heartfelt thank you to everyone who played a role in making this celebration such a resounding success. We are especially grateful to our generous donors for their wonderful auction items and to the enthusiastic auction winners. The proceeds will greatly support our beloved church and its mission!

Catholic Response to Climate Change

As the world mourns the death of Pope Francis, and prays for our future Pope, we remember our dear Pope Francis and celebrate his shining legacy. And it seems the awareness in the world of his inspiring words and deeds is greater than ever.

This month marks the tenth anniversary of *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis' encyclical, Praise Be To You, On Care for Our Common Home, calling the people of the world to honor and revere God's holy gift of Creation and to a deeper understanding between God, humans, and Earth.

Here in East Tennessee, Bishop Mark Beckman will celebrate a *Laudato Si'* Mass in honor of the tenth anniversary of the encyclical on Tuesday, May 27, at 6:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Fatima in Alcoa. All are invited.

Earlier, on April 28th, Bishop Beckman presided at a Mass for the repose of the soul of Pope Francis. In his homily, Bishop Beckman lifted up the Pope's call to all of us to care for creation, our common home, as well as Pope Francis' focus on mercy for every living creature.

In these days of transition, the *Laudato Si'* Movement reminds us to "both pray for our new Pope and commit to carrying on the legacy of Pope Francis with hope and courage," and offers many resources, including a prayer guide to support us in our efforts and "deepen our reflection and action:"

The Catholic Response to Climate Change Committee meets on **Zoom on the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m.** All parishioners are invited to join our meetings. For information, please contact Beth Carroll Hunley at genrop@aol.com or by text or phone at 865-216-1827.

Almost Four Months of Weekly Witness

Weekly Witness began to stand with the lineup at the ICE Office at 8 am. Wednesday, January 22. About eight people from Blount and Knox County came to be with our immigrant neighbors from East Tennessee.

Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) calls them in to verify addresses and contact info. Most await court dates. They come from Newport, Johnson City, Sevierville, and Knoxville. They come because they respect the law and know they might lose their privilege of being here if they don't come.

Gloves and handwarmers were items in January. We pass out hot coffee, chocolate, a snack from a table next to our 5' x 2.5' sign proclaiming "Love Your Neighbor" in English and Spanish. We are there as neighbors to accompany people living in our communities, who work in construction, go to our churches and send their kids to our schools. 90% are Latino, some are Vietnamese, Ukrainian, or Philippine. Almost all have jobs.

Our volunteers come from Knox, Blount, and Anderson Counties. Many are Unitarian, some are Catholic, Lutheran, and Episcopal. Some are members of Indivisible and AKIN. The five teams of WW stay with the line from 8am to 12 pm Wednesdays. Two or three of the volunteers speak Spanish, but many don't. Our 4th Wednesday team has 6 volunteers from St. John 23rd, 2 from Our Lady of Fatima, one from Campus Ministry, a friend had to do something, and an Anderson County woman present weekly with stuffed animals for kids. .

ICE management of the Wednesday Line-up is remote and cruel. A sign suddenly appears cancelling appointments on February 19 (really cold) telling people to come back next week. No one knew so they take a selfie by the sign to prove they were there. March 19, the office suddenly closed again. Come back again! (So another day off from work.) Up to and including March 19, they had detained perhaps 6 people. The office was closed four weeks in a row through April 9. ICE called no one so people were confused and afraid. Was it a plan to deport them for not showing up? There was no effort by ICE to explain.

Then April 16, the ICE office opened, the officer came out and took the papers from everyone. They detained 9 men and 4 women. Everyone was shocked and dismayed. As you might imagine, the next week was particularly tense and heavy with dread. Both print and TV media were present. The Wednesday after Easter, the officers announced that the ICE Office in Knoxville was now not open for appointments and all those with dates must go to Nashville! ...and they implied right away! This holds through May 9.

WW goes on during May at the Knoxville ICE office. Maybe it is the closest thing to the field hospital that Pope Francis used to talk about. What they put these hard working, law abiding immigrants through does not seem right and just. They do what they are supposed to and neighbors stay with neighbors during hard times.

Reflection on Sunday May 11th:

The argument that broke out in the Synagogue was bitter. Paul and Barnabas were outsiders preaching a message of inclusion that appealed to recent converts. Leaders and maybe the older members of this community resented not only their new message but also were suspicious of recent converts. What do they know? They pointed to familiar teachings and the synagogue's rules. The new message of the Holy Spirit was startling, dramatic, and sounded not quite right to them. So Paul and Barnabas were driven out leaving the tradition bound Jews behind. "We now turn to the Gentiles," was their conclusion.

Today's events help us to understand the perspective of traditional Jewish believers. How could we know for sure that their staunch resistance to Paul and Barnabas was not divinely inspired? "My sheep hear my voice. I know them and they follow me." Really, how do we recognize his voice today in a polarized church?

Jesus' teachings created our church to be one, holy, Catholic (open to all) and apostolic. His Spirit calls us to community: "People from every race, nation, people, and tongue."

The church

pays special attention to sinners and those who live on the margins of society. Like Jesus, the Spirit helps us to notice the people that many in secular society prefer to overlook. Jesus' words speak of forgiveness and reconciliation more than judgment and rejection.

The Gospels offer little defense based simply on "how we have always done it." Part of

Easter's challenge is listening to the one who shapes us into a community yet also challenges us to grow by responding to the needs of the 'outsiders' seeking help. Can we welcome a person fresh out of jail or an out of work single Mom? How well do we hear the shepherd's voice today? Easter celebrates the leader who both opens our hearts and wipes away our tears. Charles Mulligan



A Mother's Day Blessing

Blessed is the *Mother*

Who lets the *Lord* be *Her* guiding hand,

Whose faith brings *Her* family courage,

Whose wisdom comes from *God*, and whose

children still stand and honor *Her*.



St. John XXIII Justice Knox members brought 74 people to the Nehemiah Action Assembly on April 8. Overall, 1,557 people of faith attended the Justice Knox Nehemiah Action Assembly. With this great number of people present we showed that we support changes in our community for those at risk. Here is a summary of the commitments from that evening.

Mayor Jacobs :

- Committed to implement his plan by 2026 to build 100 tiny homes targeted for Veterans who are homeless.
- Committed to develop a plan and fund housing for 120 veterans currently homeless.
- Committed \$300,000 in stop-gap funding for the Eviction Prevention Program and participate in the assessment of this service.

Mayor Kincannon:

- Committed \$300,000 in stop-gap funding for the Eviction Prevention Program and participate in the assessment of this service
- Committed to continue to partner with Justice Knox around homelessness, housing and gun violence reduction.
- Acknowledged that there is a need in our community for reliable access to transportation.
- Expressed a willingness to discuss using the federal grant KAT has for possible expansion and refinement of the current KAT Connect (micro-transit) pilot program.

**We would not have gotten these commitments without the presence of a great number of people!
We are grateful for all your support!**

Each of these commitments from the mayors are being followed up with meetings to firm up details, dates and monitor progress.

To come to a better consensus over transportation needs and plans, we have scheduled meetings with Councilman Roberto, Councilwoman Helsley, and KAT director Isaac Thorne. We will also meet with the city budget director and City Mayor Kincannon, We will also attend KTA board meetings, and research, research, research!

The Nehemiah Action Assembly is over for this year, but the work to bring about these changes is on-going!

For further information, contact:

Paul Schaffer-865-389-2233 S

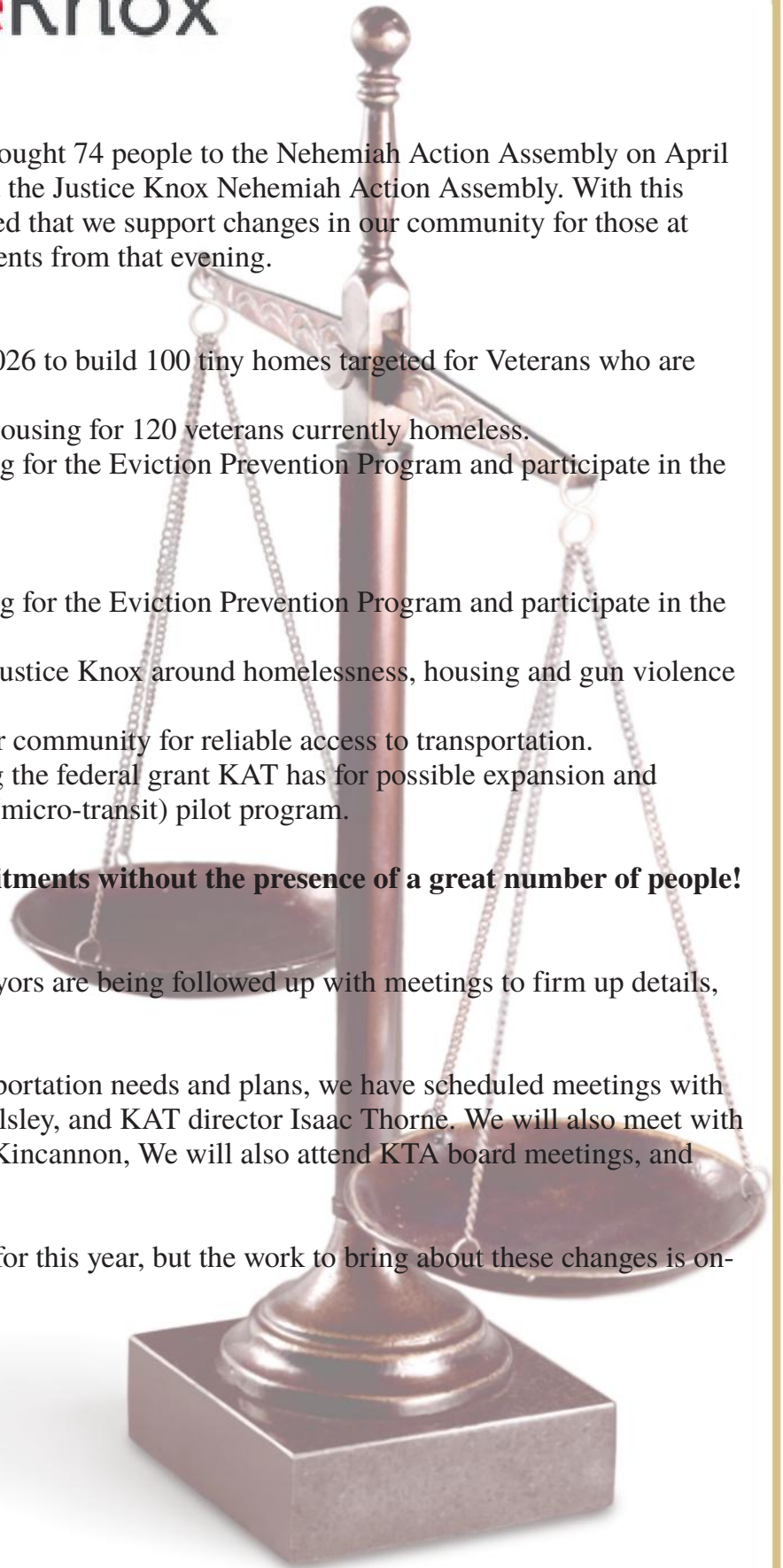
Sue Stephens-865-386-7480


Joe Haas 865-274-9030

Peg Hart- 865-579-4278

Joan Clevenger-865-233-7777


Charles Jones 404-277-2685



 **DIocese of KNOXVILLE**

Ordination Mass

The Cathedral of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
Saturday, June 7, 2025, 10:30am




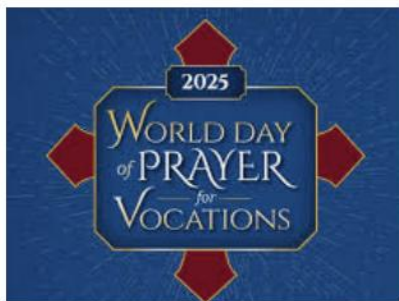
**DEACON RENZO
ALVARADO
SUAREZ**



**DEACON A.J.
HOUSTON**

**Ordination to the
Priesthood**


A reception will follow in
the Cathedral Hall.


On Sunday, May 11, 2025, the Church will celebrate the World Day of Prayer for Vocations—a time to pray for and encourage vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and consecrated life.

**“TAKE UP YOUR CROSS
AND FOLLOW ME”**
MT 16:24


EVERY VOCATION INVOLVES JOY AND SACRIFICE. BE NOT AFRAID!




**HOLY
MARRIAGE**




**DIOCESAN
PRIESTHOOD**



**CONSECRATED
LIFE**



**GENEROUS
SINGLE LIFE**



Pray for Vocations!
 As Catholics, we firmly believe that God has a plan for our lives! He calls some to marriage, some to the priesthood, and others to religious life or to live as generous single people. Fully living our own vocations—and teaching young people how to discern God’s call—is a serious duty, but also a joyful one. During this week, please encourage the young people in your life—children, grandchildren, students, and friends—to be open if God calls them to priesthood or religious life.



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If you still have not signed up for Flocknote please do so now. We will be using this to help with announcing Weather closures and other immediate changes to schedules. We also send out a weekly email through this to keep you informed.



If you're not a fan of QR codes, you can use your computer to go to:
<https://l.ead.me/bf4g2M> and register.



Scripture Readings:

Sunday

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 13:14, 43-52; Ps 100:1-2, 3, 5; Rev 7:9, 14b-17; Jn 10:27-30

Monday

Acts 11:1-18; Ps 42:2-3, 43:3,4; Jn 10:1-10

Tuesday

Acts 11:19-26; Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7; Jn 10:22-30

Wednesday

Feast of Saint Matthias, Apostle

Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; Ps 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8; Jn 15:9-17

Thursday

Acts 13:13-25; Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25 and 27; Jn 13:16-20

Friday

Acts 13:26-33; Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab; Jn 14:1-6

Saturday

Acts 13:44-52; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Jn 14:7-14

NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

May 12- May 18

Monday: 4:00 pm - Confessions
5:05 pm - Daily Mass

Tuesday: 5:05 pm - Daily Mass

Wednesday: 5:05 pm - Daily Mass
7:00 pm - Vol Catholic

Thursday: 4:00 pm - Confessions
5:05 pm - Daily Mass

Friday: 5:05 pm - Daily Mass

Saturday: 5:30 pm - Mass

Sunday: 9:00 am - Mass
11:15 am - Mass



PRAYER REQUESTS



Let us pray for peace and justice throughout the world. Other prayers are needed for Augusta Ingadottir, Alice Peterson, Allen McGinley, Becky, Chance Adams, Charles, Christine Hassil, Cindy Cunningham, Connie Beeler, Dale Lockett, Diego Puigserver, Dominic Mackey, Dominic, Elizabeth Bowman, Erin Evans, Faruk and his family, Floyd, Glen W., Ian Wolff, Isabella Bleu, Isabella Linguidi, Jackson Igou, Jerry Carney, Jeyden, Jim Foster, Jim Romain, Joe Lee, John Fox, John Prados, Karen Pearson, Kari Stefansson, Katie Busscher, Kylie Hemphill, Liz Mattson, Lorelai, Lynn Prados, Mary Pat Hable, Melissa Cupp, Mets Family, Millie Geib, Patrick Metts, Peg Hart, Rich, Rowan Haylett, Schramm Family, Sheila M. Murphy, Thordis Ingadottir, V. J. D'Innocenzo and his family, Vic and Barbara Kaminsky, Wayne Jones, and those serving in the military, residents of NHC North, and for any too reserved to let us know.

Heading Home At The End Of The Semester?

Donate your unwanted but gently used clothing, furnishings and appliances to **K.A.R.M.** (Kingston Pike near Northshore) and the **UT Free Store** (22nd Street on campus). Keep items out of the landfill while helping those in need.

Donate Online to St. John XXIII!

Your help is needed for us to continue to serve the students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends at the University of Tennessee.

We are contracted with Vanco Services for the processing of both one time and on-going electronic donations! Please scan the QR code to donate:



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John 1

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