



Saint John XXIII University Parish/Catholic Center

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

The Paulist Fathers Serving the University of Tennessee

Exaltation of the Holy Cross

September 14, 2025

*Nm 21:4b-9;
Phil 2:6-11;
Jn 3:13-17*

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

**NO Saturday MASS on HOME FOOTBALL
GAMES**

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

No Saturday Masses on Home Game days!!

HOME GAMES - NO MASS



Sept. 6: ETSU
Sept. 13: Georgia
Sept. 20: UAB
Oct. 11: Arkansas
Nov. 1: Oklahoma
Nov. 15: New Mexico State
Nov. 29: Vanderbilt



Religious Education



**Religious Education at Saint John XXIII is starting up for
the 2025-2026 school year!**

Religious Education at Saint John XXIII Parish's main goal is to
help your child foster a love for the beauty and goodness of the

Catholic faith. If you are wanting to register your child for
Religious Ed (K - 8th grade), please scan the QR code and fill
out the form. The registration fee is \$35.00 for the first child,
and any additional child is \$10.00 more. Classes will start on

Sept. 28 from 10 am - 11 am in Lounge. Thank you for
considering Saint John XXIII for the Religious Education of
your child!



WILL YOU HELP?

- \$5000 Insurance for medical licence
- \$300 One Tank of fuel
- \$100 Training for a volunteer
- \$50 Access to initial Medication
- \$25 Blood work for one patient

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WHAT WE DO:



FREE PRIMARY CARE
We provide free primary
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Just like a regular doctor's
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**HEALTH COACH
AND RESOURCES**
We empower health
through education and
connecting to community
resources for success!



**ADVANCED
CARE THROUGH
PARTNERS**
More complicated health
needs? We find a way
through community partners.

Meet Our New Assistant Director of Music: Natalie Kimbro

Natalie Kimbro's journey in Catholic music ministry began the way many great stories do: by surprise. Years ago, her middle school religion teacher, Deacon Jim Lawson discovered she played the "fiddle" and immediately recruited her for the Sunday contemporary choir at Sacred Heart. From that moment, she was hooked, and she has been joyfully involved in church music ever since, whether as a choir member, cantor, director, or as a music educator in the diocese of Knoxville.

Outside of parish life, Natalie is an accomplished violinist and vocalist who has performed with symphonies, bluegrass and country bands, and professional touring productions. Natalie is a member of Symphony of the Mountains and has performed alongside artists such as The Temptations, Béla Fleck, and Edgar Meyer. In September 2025, she will share the stage with Don Felder of the Eagles.



A Knoxville native, Natalie is an alumna of Sacred Heart Cathedral School and Knoxville Catholic High School. She earned both her bachelor's and master's degrees in Music Education from the University of Tennessee and has also pursued advanced coursework in audio production and engineering, with plans to continue her studies in the field of A/V.

Already, several of her music students have joined her in the St. John XXIII parish choir for Sunday masses, and she looks forward to expanding opportunities for youth and adult musicians alike. Each year, she also prepares large ensembles, often more than 50 performers, for appearances at Fantasy of Trees, and she is eager to incorporate St. John XXIII parishioners into this joyful tradition.

Natalie is honored to serve as Assistant Director of Music at St. John XXIII, supporting the mission of the parish's gifted music director, Mrs. Mary Beth Aguilar. She is deeply grateful for the encouragement of this vibrant community and is dedicated to fostering a welcoming, inclusive music ministry where people of all ages can share their God-given gifts in praise of the Lord. Her only regret? That she didn't join the St. John XXIII family sooner.



The Catholic Men's Emmaus Retreat is coming to East Tennessee in April of 2026! We are looking for Emmaus Brothers who would like to be part of the Team. Please contact Michael Hart at 423-414-4532.

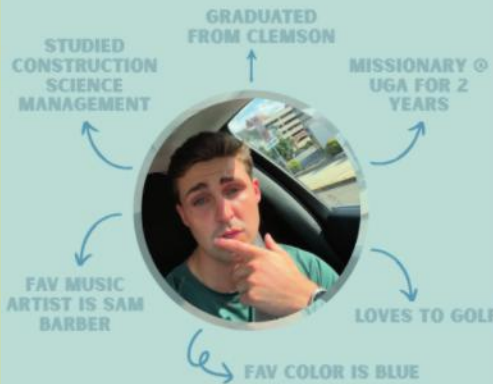


Meet our FOCUS Ministers for 2025-2026!



**BEN
DELAUGHTER**

2025-2026!



"I'M EXCITED TO PLAY GOLF WITH THE BOYS"



**EMILY
WILLIAMS**



KΔ

"I'M SO EXCITED TO MEET EVERYBODY + FOR THIS FIRST YEAR @ UTK!"



**AVA
KEATING**



KΔ

"I CAN'T WAIT TO BE BACK @ UTK + MEET ALL THE INCOMING FRESHMEN. I AM SO EXCITED TO CONTINUE LIVING LIFE W/ THE STUDENTS HERE-I LOVE THEM DEARLY"

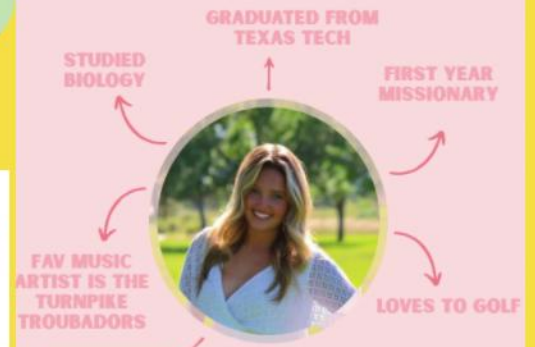
**CONNERY
VANDYKE**



"I'M EXCITED TO HANGOUT AT J23 AND GO TO FUN RESTAURANTS + TRIVIA WITH FRIENDS AND STUDENTS!"



**JAYDEN
BATES**



AXΩ

"I'M SO EXCITED TO GET TO KNOW THE STUDENTS @ UT, GAIN SOME NEW MASS BUDDIES, CHEER ON THE VOLS @ NEYLAND, + EXPLORE THE SMOKY MOUNTAINS FOR THE FIRST TIME!"



REDEEMED MEET OUR EXEC

2025-26



Pictured: Jaclyn Owens, Social Chair; Lauren Nypaver, Treasurer; Mallory Garand, PR & Social Chair, Kendal St. Charles, President; Hannah Burkhardt, Service Chair; Meredith Mooney, Prayer Chair; Rebecca Hosty, Fundraising; Not Pictured - Dara Burton, Vice-President and Maggie Kuhels, PR & Social Chair



Knights of Columbus®



Our Knights for 2025-2026: Grand Knight is Ben Watson and the Deputy Grand Knight is John Knighton

Meet the VolCatholic Executive Board for 2025-2026!!



Joe Furka (Co-Director) -

Hey y'all! My name is Joe Furka and I am a rising Junior studying Finance and Economics. I was raised Catholic, but it wasn't until I got involved with VolCatholic and Focus that I truly made my faith my own. Now I get the incredible opportunity to help others make the same step in their journey. I am so excited to see how the Lord works in the hearts of students this upcoming semester. Know of my prayers for you and please pray for us as we make this journey towards heaven together!



Rachel Rines (Co-Director) -

Hi everyone! My name is Rachel Rines and I'm blessed to be serving as co-director of VolCatholic this school year. I'm so excited to reach out to students at the University of Tennessee with the sacraments and connect them with the Catholic faith through evangelization and catechesis. Through campus outreach, I hope to connect students to the person and love of Jesus Christ in His Church as we offer opportunities to grow in personal prayer, holy friendship, and service to the community. I'm so excited to see the impact that Catholic college students can have on the culture of UTK as we strive to let each student on campus know the incredible and infinite love Christ has for each of them and of His True Presence in the Catholic Church.





PEACE WITH CREATION SEASON OF CREATION 2025

Catholic Response to Climate Change

The Season of Creation began earlier this month with World Day of Prayer for Care of Creation on September 1 and continues through the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, October 4. The theme for this year's Season of Creation is "Peace with Creation."

This year's Season of Creation takes place as the Church marks both the 800th anniversary of Saint Francis' "Canticle of Creation" and the 10th anniversary of Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'*.

In East Tennessee, Bishop Mark Beckman in June appointed a Commission for Creation Care to continue and expand the ministry of Care for Creation in our Diocese. The Commission is composed of representatives of Catholic Response to Climate Change and parishes engaged in Creation Care. Commissioners are meeting this month to begin planning an agenda focusing on the work and activities for Care for Creation in the Diocese of Knoxville.

The Catholic Response to Climate Change Committee meets on the second Thursday of the month on Zoom at 7:30 p.m. Members of all Catholic parishes are invited and encouraged to participate. We welcome your ideas!

To receive the zoom link for CRCC meeting or for additional information, please contact Beth Carroll Hunley at 865-216-1827 or genrop@aol.com.

Season of Creation 2025 Prayer

~Irish Catholic Bishops Conference

Creator of all,

we praise you for the gift of life
and for the faith that unites us in care for our common home.
We confess how estranged we have become—
from one another, from your Creation, and from our truest selves.
We acknowledge that our greed and destructive impulses
have fractured our relationships with you, with others, and with
the Earth.

Fertile fields have become barren,

forests lie desolate,

oceans and rivers are polluted.

Thriving communities have become places of suffering,
and the earth cries out.

Beloved Christ,

who spoke "Shalom" to frightened hearts,
stir us to compassionate action.

Inspire us to work for the end of conflict,
and for the full restoration of broken relationships—
with you, with the ecumenical community,
with the human family,
and with all Creation.

Prince of Peace,

through your wounds, teach us to stand in solidarity
with the woundedness of others,
of creation, and of the world.

Through your resurrection,

make us people of hope—

with a vision of swords turned into ploughshares
and tears transformed into joy.

May we come together as one family,

to labor for your peace—

a shalom where all your people

may dwell in safety,

and rest in quiet places.

Amen.

Justice Knox is a coalition of local faith congregations who believe that in addition to doing works of mercy, our faith calls us to work for Justice as Jesus and the Prophets of the Old Testament showed us. Over twenty congregations are working to do just that. Together we have made our officials aware of the needs of our community. Some of the actions and commitments we have gotten from our local officials are:

- Crisis Intervention Training for all city and county patrol officers
- Dedicated funds of \$50,000,000 over 10 years from the city to for affordable housing.
- \$300,000 of city money for eviction prevention this year
- \$500,000 of county money for emergency rental assistance this year
- Mental Health summit
- Coordinated information system with all agencies that serve the homeless
- Contract between the Knox County Schools and the International Institute of Restorative Discipline to address discipline disparities.

We continue to monitor these commitments and also work on Violence Reduction and Transportation needs.

Our parish Justice Knox Team will have House Meetings from September 16-October 19. This is an opportunity to learn more about what we do and what you can do to get involved. If you would like to join us, contact any of our Team Members:

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

Looking ahead....Save the Date for our Nehemiah Action Assembly that will be held on Monday, April 13, 2026 at the Knoxville Civic Auditorium!



St. John XXIII Staff

Rev. Larry Rice, CSP, Pastor
lrice@paulist.org

Rev. Richard Whitney, CSP, Associate Pastor
rmwhitney3@gmail.com

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

Jennifer Stambaugh, Admin Asst
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Robert Edenfield, Facilities Manager
facilities@john23rd.org

**Mary Beth Aguilar,
Music Director**
john23music@gmail.com

**Kristofer Rucinski,
Assistant Music Director**
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**Natalie Kimbro
Assistant Music Director**
natalie.s.kimbro@gmail.com

**Delaney Klee,
Director of Religious Education**
delaneyklee121@gmail.com

Josh Adkins, Campus Minister
jblaine20@gmail.com

Ashley McGlynn, Campus Minister
ashleymcglynn@gmail.com

Scripture Readings:

Sunday

Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Nm 21:4b-9; Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38; Phil 2:6-11; Jn 3:13-17

Monday

Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows

1 Tm 2:1-8; Ps 28:2, 7, 8-9; Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35

Tuesday

Memorial of Saints Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop and Martyrs

1 Tm 3:1-13; Ps 101:1b-2ab, 2cd-3ab, 5, 6; Lk 7:11-17

Wednesday

1 Tm 3:14-16; Ps 111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Lk 7:31-35

Thursday

1 Tm 4:12-16; Ps 111:7-8, 9, 10; Lk 7:36-50

Friday

1 Tm 6:2c-12; Ps 49:6-7, 8-10, 17-18, 19-20; Lk 8:1-3

Saturday

Memorial of Saint Andrew Kim Taegon, Priest, and Paul Chong Hwang, and Companions, Martyrs

1 Tm 6:13-16; Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5; Lk 8:4-15

NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

Sept 15 - Sept 21

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

Tuesday: 5:05 pm - Daily Mass

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

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

Friday: 5:05 pm - Daily Mass

Saturday: **NO MASS FOOTBALL GAME**

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



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.



PRAYER REQUESTS



Let us pray for peace and justice throughout the world. Other prayers are needed for Allen McGinley, Bruce Whitcomb, Cheryl & John Newell, Diego Puigserver, Eleanore Hartrick and Family, Erin Evans, Fiorina Buckner, Fr. Gwen Sweeden, John Mulligan, Fred Boucher, Jerry Carney, Jim Romain, John R Sweat, Julia Biagiarelli, Karen Pearson Rich, Kathy Buckingham, Kevin and Melissa Brott, Mary Ann Haggerty, Mary Pat Hable, Michelle & Scott O'Connell, Pamela Roane, Pauline Lemieux, Raegan Burcham-Hall, Stephen Tracy, Susan Herndon, Tom Mulligan, Tom O'Brien, Troy Tagget, Vance Hutchings, Vic and Barbara Kaminsky, and those serving in the military, residents of NHC North, and for any too reserved to let us know.

To watch the 11:15 Mass Online, visit our Website at John23rd.org, where you will find a link at the bottom of the page. or Use the QR Code.



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!
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John 1

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