



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

25th Sunday of Ordinary Time

September 21, 2025

*Am 8:4-7;
1 Tm 2:1-8;
Lk 16:1-13*

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

Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, September 14

Reflection:

I attended a seminar about the newly elected Pope Leo XIV. One speaker, a longtime activist, recalled the times of Pope Leo XIII in the late 1800s. Europe's Industrial Revolution ended the rural agrarian character of West Europe as peasant families moved to cities and became factory workers. Shanty town living and working conditions were terrible. Legal and social structures protecting workers and children did not yet exist. Socialist parties were organizing. Leo XIII spoke up calling the Catholic Church to step forward involving itself in these new struggles. This activist turned to our times when immigrants live in fear, laws protecting creation are weakened, and wars are everywhere. He reflected that perhaps Pope Leo XIV chose that name because we were now in a period similar to the one Leo XIII faced, a time of massive changes.

This activist felt that everything was coming apart. Why?. Of course, some will say it is just politics talking but there is a growing sense of insecurity everywhere. People pray but lament the fact that prayer alone seems ineffective. Today's feast calls for a long look at the cross. What do you see? Some see terrible suffering and others a reminder of tragic human failure. In Catholic churches, the cross is always visible. For believers, it calls us to salvation – a compassionate love and forgiveness which can't be obscured or destroyed. It is the lasting bedrock of a divinely inspired path to a realm where God rules. Also the cross is a disturbing reminder of Jesus invitation to follow him. Many are willing to do so but hope to place limits on how far.

In fact, what does the command to follow him imply? Do we seek out suffering to join him on the cross? The only reason Jesus sought out suffering was to offer healing or loving relief. Our call is to allow the Spirit's love that is poured into our hearts to govern our lives. Our trust is placed in God's provident love enabling us to imitate the Samaritan or the Father of the prodigal son. The church community nourishes us and offers rest. No news, a life like that leads to suffering but what we will remember is the love. Looking at the cross will help us to find the narrow gate. Lift high the cross and expect a good and abundant life.

Charles Mulligan

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, 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!



Men's Discernment Group

Starts with Mass at 9am closes at noon
with lunch

Meets the 4th Saturday of each month at
the Chancery- 805 S Northshore Dr,
Knoxville



please pre-register using the QR code
or visit dioknox.org/vocations



Women's Discernment Group

First gathering planned
January 2026



Please fill out interest
questionnaire using QR code
or visit dioknox.org/vocations

Praise the
Lord
who lifts up
the poor.



CHESTERTON ACADEMY
OF ST. MARGARET CLITHEROW

Open House

Tuesday, Oct 14 - 6:30pm
217 Fox Road, Knoxville, TN

Text RSVP to
office@knoxchesterton.com

knoxchesterton.com

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

When the Roman Empire turned a favorable eye toward the once-persecuted Christians, among the effects was a population explosion in the baptismal font, as Christian sympathizers stepped from the shadows. With more and more people becoming Christians, laws were passed to protect Sunday as a work-free day. Soon, it became possible to celebrate Mass later in the morning, rather than the older custom of gathering before dawn to celebrate Eucharist. Amazingly, despite the increasing numbers of Christians, there was great resistance to adding to the number of worship events; the Eucharist that began as a few friends around a table soon was transformed into a more formal event with throngs crowding a large hall. All the Christians in a city or town would gather around the bishop for the one Sunday Eucharist, and only when the crowds became unmanageable was there an impulse to divide the assembly by splitting off a new bishop and flock.

Now, sixteen hundred years later, many parishes see a need to trim or combine Mass schedules. This is often seen as tough surgery. Yet our forebears in the faith would see it as a gain: a filling up of the Eucharist with a large and vigorous assembly, a fullness of ministry, an opportunity to make the Church more fully visible and stronger for service.
—James Field

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
john23@utk.edu

Robert Edenfield, Facilities Manager
facilities@john23rd.org

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

**Kristofer Rucinski,
Assistant Music Director**
ksrucin@gmail.com

**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

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Am 8:4-7; Ps 113:1-2, 4-6, 7-8; 1 Tm 2:1-8; Lk 16:1-13

Monday

Ezr 1:1-6; Ps 126:1b-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6; Lk 8:16-18

Tuesday

Memorial of Saint Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest

Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20; Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5; Lk 8:19-21

Wednesday

Ezr 9:5-9; Tb 13:2, 3-4a, 4befghn, 7-8; Lk 9:1-6

Thursday

Hg 1:1-8; Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b; Lk 9:7-9

Friday

Hg 2:1-9; Ps 43:1, 2, 3, 4; Lk 9:18-22

Saturday

Memorial of Saint Vincent de Paul, Priest

Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a; Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13; Lk 9:43b-45

NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

Sept 22 - Sept 28

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: 5:30 pm - Mass

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.

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John 1

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