



# Saint John XXIII University Parish/Catholic Center

1710 Melrose Place  
Knoxville, Tennessee 37916  
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Email: john23@utk.edu  
Website: www.john23rd.org

*The Paulist Fathers Serving the University of Tennessee*

4th Sunday of Advent, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day

Dec 21-25, 2025

*Is 7:10-14;  
Rm 1:1-7;  
Mt 1:18-24*

## WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday-Thursday at 5:05 pm

## WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

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

**5:30 or 9 PM Masses on Sunday will  
Return on Jan 18th**

## 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

## Christmas Pageant

Every year, the children of our parish put  
on a **Christmas Pageant at 4:45 PM**  
**before the 5:00 PM Christmas Eve**  
**mass.**

It's always so much fun for parishioners  
of all ages and is a wonderful way to  
celebrate our community and the joy of  
Christmas. If your child would like to  
participate in this year's pageant,  
please contact Delaney Klee at  
delaneyklee121@gmail.com



## *Poinsettia Flower*

### *Donations*

**Madeline Hassill**

**Jeanne Fair**

In honor of the Living and Deceased members  
of the Fair Family

**Rev. Dan Whitman**

In memory of Virginia Whitman and Joann  
Tacl

**Patricia and Daniel Murphy**

In honor of Campbell and Murphy Families

**Janet and Allen Pearson**

In honor of Rita and Frank Feaster and  
Christin Pearson Lawson

**Claradon Woody**

In honor of Ruth Queen Smith

**Zara Dewhirst**

In honor of H. Daley Dewhirst

## Thank you for your Generous Donations this Year

We would like to remind all parishioners about the requirements  
for charitable donations to be considered deductible for the  
current year (2025): The check must be dated 2025 AND if check  
is mailed, it must be postmarked in 2025 OR if it is given in a  
church collection plate or hand delivered to the church office, it  
must be given on or before December 31st.

## ***Christmas Events and Holiday Mass Schedule***

**Decorate St. John  
XXIII for Christmas**  
Sunday, December 21  
after the 11:15 am Mass  
(lunch will be provided)

**Christmas Eve**  
Wednesday, December  
24th  
4:45 pm - Christmas  
Pageant and  
Christmas Eve Mass  
9:00 pm - Evening Mass

**Christmas Day**  
Thursday, December 25th  
Mass - 10:00 am

**Church and offices  
closed**  
December 26-Jan 2  
No Daily 5:05 pm Mass

**New Year's Day**  
Mass - Monday 10:00 am

A special Thank you to all who have participated in the Advent Tree. It is a blessing to see all the beautiful presents under the tree for those in need.



**From our Staff  
to you!  
We all wish you  
a Merry  
Christmas!**

*Staff had some fun decorating  
Houses at our Christmas Lunch!*



### **December 25, Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord**

Tree limbs adorned with colored lights trace nighttime beauty. Candles light up windows with their glow. Wreaths decorate doors. Inside, trees with multi-colored lights offer a warm affirmation to the season. "All the ends of the earth will behold the salvation of our God." Lights, designs, dancing forms, giant shapes, music – all proclaim this special season. How different this is from ordinary time.

The sound of the radio changes and special programs are scheduled on TV. The greetings we give each other in the most casual of encounters changes. Conversations turn to gifts, parties, time off, trips and visits to families and friends. The human environment in which we live is shaped by Christmas. However, what happens in the realm of the human heart?

Think of the season within our hearts, what we share with those we love most. All these external lights and events emerge from our memories, proclaiming the joy within our hearts. Our schedules change offering time, personal resources, and leading us to open our hearts to bless those with fewer resources. It seems we want everyone, especially children, to experience the joy of an unexpected gift in this season.

However when we pull back the externals, the wrapping paper of this season, we see the story of two parents forced to give birth in a stable, since they were offered no other room. An autocrat forced this family into exile with no thought of right or wrong. Soldiers took the lives of innocent children. The ones who greeted Jesus at birth either smelled of the sheep they watched or were foreigners. May God's way of loving give us courage to support this holy family among us now. Charles Mulligan

**St. John XXIII Staff**

**Rev. Larry Rice, CSP, Pastor**  
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**Rev. Richard Whitney, CSP, Associate Pastor**  
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**Josh Adkins, Campus Minister**  
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**Ashley McGlynn, Campus Minister**  
ashleymcglynn@gmail.com



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 Advent**

Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Rm 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24

**Monday**

1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd; Lk 1:46-56

**Tuesday**

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14; Lk 1:57-66

**Wednesday**

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29; Lk 1:67-79

**Thursday**

**The Nativity of the Lord**

**Vigil Mass:** Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 or Mt 1:18-25

**Mass during the Night:** Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

**Mass at Dawn:** Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20

**Mass during the Day:** Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14

**Friday**

**Feast of Saint Stephen, First Martyr**

Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17; Mt 10:17-22

**Saturday**

**Feast of Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist**

1 Jn 1:14; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a and 2-8

**NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS**

**December 22 - January 4**

**Friday, Dec. 26 -Friday, Jan 2:**

**Building and Office Closed**

**No Daily Mass or Confessions**

**Monday, December 22:** 4:00 pm - Confessions  
5:05 pm - Daily Mass

**Tuesday, December 23:** 5:05 pm - Daily Mass

**Wednesday, December 24:** 4:45 pm Christmas Pageant  
5:00 pm - Children's Mass  
9:00 pm - Mass

**Thursday, December 25:** 10 am Christmas Day Mass

**Friday, December. 26 - Jan 2:** No Daily Mass

**Saturday, December. 27:** 5:30 pm - Mass

**Sunday, December 28:** 9:00 am - Mass  
11:15 am - Mass

**Thursday, January. 1:** 10:00 am - Mass for Mary Mother of God

**Saturday, January. 3:** 5:30 pm - Mass

**Sunday, January. 4:** 9:00 am - Mass  
10:00 am - Adult Bible Study  
11:15 am - Mass



# PRAYER REQUESTS

Let us pray for peace and justice throughout the world. Other prayers are needed for Allen McGinley, August Hunter Newell, Bernice Flowers, Bruce Whitcomb, Cheryl & John Newell, Diego Puigserver, Eleanore Hartrick and Family, Ellen Wavrek, Erin Evans, Fiorina Buckner, Fr. John Mulligan, Fred Boucher, Grace and Jack Newell, Gwen Sweden, Jim Romain, John R Sweat, Jordan Family, 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, Peg Hart, Pete, Newell, Raegan Burcham-Hall, Shelly McDonald, Sonny, 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](http://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!  
Please scan the QR code to donate:



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