

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

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The Paulist Fathers Serving the University of Tennessee

Epiphany

Jan 4, 2026

*Is 60:1-6;
Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6
Mt 2:1-12*

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



This year's Mardi Gras party will be held on **Friday, February 13th!** Please start thinking of some nice donations for our Silent Auction! Please bring in any donations before Monday, February 9th (the sooner the better). Information on ticket sales and Pot Luck sign up will be coming soon.

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

John Platfoot and Rosemary Mattson
In remembrance of Geneva Stewart,
Betty Harshbarger, Herb and Wilma
Platfoot, Mary Jean Hayes, Beth
Dennison,
and Fred and Lucile Mattson

Jaci Fryxell
In honor of Andrew Fryxell

Patricia and Cory Strobel
In Honor of Matthew Strobel

Connie Bucholz-Beahm
In honor of Jim Bucholz



We will be UN-Decorating the Church on
January 11th after the 11:15 Mass.
We would appreciate all the help we can get.
Food will be provided.

A Pastoral Message to Immigrant Brothers and Sisters From the Diocese of Knoxville

December 12, 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

As your bishop, I wish first to speak a word of deep gratitude and affirmation. You, our immigrant and refugee families, enrich the life of this local Church with your faith, your culture, your sacrifices, and your profound love for God and family. Your perseverance in the face of difficulty is a living witness to the Gospel. Please know that you are not strangers among us—you are a cherished and essential part of the Body of Christ.

The Church has always recognized in you the face of Christ Himself. In the Gospel of Matthew, our Lord says, "I was a stranger and you welcomed me". He was born far from home, fled persecution as a child, and lived His life without worldly security. Because of this, the Church stands with you—not only in charity, but in solidarity, defending your dignity and calling the whole community to see in you a sacred presence.

To those who feel fear, uncertainty, or isolation: the Church walks with you. We are committed to offering pastoral care, guidance, and support. Whether you are documented or undocumented, newly arrived or long established, you belong to the Church; your dignity does not depend on a legal status but on the image of God within you.

In these recent weeks, our community has witnessed a painful rise in detentions, deportations, and family separations. Many among us—our friends, neighbors, parishioners, and even our own families—are living with deep fear and uncertainty.

We see our brothers and sisters disappearing from our communities, being taken away without due process and without opportunities for us to provide them with pastoral care.

To the wider community, I remind all that Catholic teaching affirms the right of people to migrate when they cannot find security, livelihood, or life for their families. We also affirm the right of nations to regulate borders in a just manner. These two truths must never be placed in opposition. Justice and mercy must walk together. We therefore encourage policies that respect the law and uphold the dignity of the human person, protecting families and offering fair pathways to stability.

Dear brothers and sisters, do not lose hope. The Church sees you. The Church loves you. And Christ walks with you even in the most uncertain moments. May you always know that this is your home, and may the Holy Spirit give you courage, peace, and renewed strength every day.

I entrust you to the maternal care of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mother of the Americas and protector of migrants. May she guard your families and lead us closer to her Son, who is the hope of all nations.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most. Rev. Mark Beckman
Bishop of Knoxville

BISHOP'S APPEAL for **MINISTRIES**

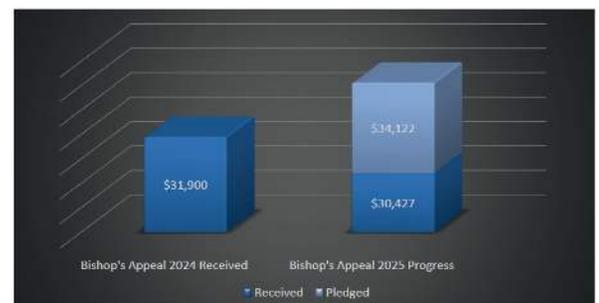
Building up the Church in East Tennessee

St. John XXIII

Through **November 2025**

BA24 Participants: 85

BA25 Participants to Date: 72



You make ministries possible!

MOVIE NIGHT

WITH A PRIEST

Film: Paul, Apostle of Christ
Where: Cathedral Hall
Who: Ages 18+
Food: Pizza and Drinks
Cost: Free (Donations Welcome!)
Times: Doors Open at 5pm Movie Starts at 6pm

Friday, January 16th

RSVP NOW!

St. John XXIII Staff

Rev. Larry Rice, CSP, Pastor
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Scripture Readings:

Sunday

The Epiphany of the Lord

Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13; Mt 2:1-12

Monday

Memorial of St. John Neumann, Bishop

1 Jn 3:22-4:6; Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday

1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8; Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday

1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13; Mk 6:45-52

Thursday

1 Jn 4:19-5:4; Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17; Lk 4:14-22

Friday

1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20; Lk 5:12-16

Saturday

1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b; Jn 3:22-30

NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

January 5 - January 11



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

Tuesday: 5:05 pm - Daily Mass

Wednesday: 5:05 pm - Daily Mass

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

Friday: No Daily Mass

Saturday: 5:30 pm - Mass

Sunday: 9:00 am - Mass
10:00 am - Adult Bible Study
11:15 am 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, 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, 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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John 1

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