

Sept 14, 2025, The Exaltation of the Cross

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church

The Exaltation of the Cross

"So to them he addresses the parable, "What man among you having a hundred sheep and losing one of them would not leave the ninety-nine in the desert and go after the lost one until he finds it?"

Luke 15: 3-5



MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday, 10:30am
11:00am-noon Adoration & Confession

Thursday, 10:30am
11:00am -noon Adoration & Confession

WEEKEND MASS

Sunday, 11:30am

CONTACT US

755 Hwy 49
Tennessee Ridge, TN 37178

931-721-3769

seastnoffice@aol.com

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday and Thursday
9:00am-3:30pm

OUR CLERGY

12TH BISHOP OF NASHVILLE

Most Rev. J. Mark Spalding,
DD, JCL

PASTOR

Rev. Fr. Aby Thanickal, CMI
frabyfrancischurch@gmail.com

ONLINE GIVING

Go to our website or scan QR code



St Elizabeth Ann Seton Tn



www.seastn.com

From the Pastor's Desk Rev. Fr. Aby Thanickal, CMI



(Ex 32:7-11, 13-14)(Ps 51)
(1 Tm 1:12-17) (Lk 15:1-32)

Dear Friends,

This Sunday's readings draw us into the heart of God's mercy, a mercy so great that it seeks out the lost, forgives the repentant, and restores life where there was only brokenness. Each passage reminds us that sin is real and destructive, yet God's compassion is stronger than our failures.

In the first reading from Exodus, we hear the dramatic account of the Israelites turning away from God to worship a golden calf. The Lord is justly angered, but through Moses' prayer of intercession, God relents from punishing his people. This moment reveals to us the power of prayer and the patience of God. Even when we go astray, God listens to the voice of those who intercede for us, and His mercy triumphs over His wrath.

The Responsorial Psalm echoes this cry for forgiveness: "I will rise and go to my father." It is the voice of the prodigal son, but it is also our voice whenever we humble ourselves and ask the Lord for mercy. A contrite heart, the psalmist reminds us, God will never spurn.

In the second reading, St. Paul offers his personal testimony. Once a blasphemer and persecutor, he was transformed by the grace of Christ. He proclaims the Good News that Jesus came into the world to save sinners, and Paul calls himself "the foremost" of them. If Christ's mercy could reach Paul, it can surely reach us too. His conversion is a powerful reminder that no sin is too great for the love of God.

Finally, in the Gospel, Jesus gives us three parables of mercy—the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the prodigal son. Each story highlights the joy of heaven when even one sinner returns. God is not a harsh judge waiting for us to fail but a loving Father who runs out to embrace us the moment we turn back. The father in the parable of the prodigal son does not wait with accusations but restores his son with robe, ring, and feast. This is the image of God's love—lavish, merciful, and filled with joy over our repentance.

At the same time, the Gospel challenges us with the older son's reaction. How often do we, like him, cling to resentment when others receive forgiveness? The Lord reminds us that His mercy is not limited. We too are called to share in His joy and extend forgiveness to those who return.

My dear friends, these readings invite us to trust in God's endless mercy, to rise and go to our Father with humility, and to be ready to rejoice when others are welcomed home. Let us never grow tired of turning back to the Lord, for His arms are always open.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, we thank You for Your boundless mercy that seeks us when we are lost and welcomes us when we return. Create in us a clean heart and a steadfast spirit. Help us to forgive as we have been forgiven, and to rejoice in the gift of salvation. May we always walk in Your love and lead others back to You. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Fr. Aby Thanickal CMI
Pastor
St. Francis of Assisi and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Churches.

NEWS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church, Tennessee Ridge, Tn. 37178

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Bonnie Lill
Dave Higingbottom
Tom Vorholt
Diane Lill
Seth Rye
Larry Walker
Haydee Perez

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Tony Arthon
Gregg Lill
Marilyn Jurgovan

PARISH STAFF

**SECRETARY/
BOOKKEEPER/DRE**
Valerie Brown

MASS INTENTIONS

St Elizabeth Ann Seton
Sun, Sept 14, St Elizabeth
Ann Seton Parishioners

11:10am Rosary

11:30am Mass

Mon, Sept 15 +Alfredo Perez

10:30am Mass

11:00am-Noon Adoration/
Confessions

Thurs, Sept 18 + Carlos Perez

10:30am Mass

11:00am-noon Adoration/
Confessions

St Francis of Assisi

Sun, Sept 14, St Francis parishioners

8:10am Rosary

8:30am Mass

Wed, Sept 17, Albert Tundag

4:30-5:30pm Adoration/
Confessions

5:30pm Mass

Fri, Sept 19

8:00am Mass

8:30-9:30am Adoration/
Confessions

Sat, Sept 21 +Alfredo Otero, Jr

5:10pm Rosary

5:30pm Vigil Mass

WEEK IN A GLANCE

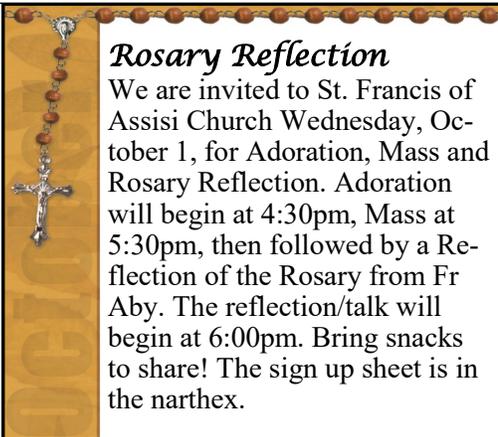
Sunday, September 14

10:00am-11:15am CCD

Potluck after Mass

Wednesday, September 17

4:00-5:30pm Scripture Study



Rosary Reflection

We are invited to St. Francis of Assisi Church Wednesday, October 1, for Adoration, Mass and Rosary Reflection. Adoration will begin at 4:30pm, Mass at 5:30pm, then followed by a Reflection of the Rosary from Fr Aby. The reflection/talk will begin at 6:00pm. Bring snacks to share! The sign up sheet is in the narthex.

Save the Date

Parish Picnic in the Park

Saturday, October 11, at Lick Creek Park in Dover Tn.
Details soon....

Welcome Party!

We are invited to St. Francis for a welcome party for Fr. Aby hosted by the Filipino community of St. Francis. The party is on Saturday, Sept 20, from noon-3:00pm. Pinoy dishes will be served! Bring a dish to share if you would like.



Purchase tickets for a ham!

St Francis of Assisi Church Charity Outreach group is selling tickets for a Clifty Farm Ham! All proceeds go toward the purchase of gifts for the residents in the nursing home in Dover who have a birthday in the month of November. Ticket prices: one for \$2.00/ three for \$5.00/seven for \$10.00. See Valerie for your tickets! A shout out to Piggly Wiggly in Dover for donating the ham. Drawing for ham on Sept 28!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Healing Mass

During Mass on Sunday, September 28, anyone who is suffering from any kind of sickness are welcome to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. This sacrament brings spiritual strength, peace, and courage and when it is God's Will, even physical healing. The anointing has a six month validity, which means a person can receive it again after six months if needed. We warmly invite all parishioners, especially the sick and homebound, to join us in prayer and encounter the healing love of Christ.



Have you signed up to participate in creating our Family Directory?

We have several families that have signed up to participate in our picture directory. We encourage all families to participate in our directory. **Your family will receive a free 8x10 and a free directory just for participating!!** Not only do these directories come in handy, they are part of our parish history! Please sign your name on the sign-up sheet in the narthex if you plan to participate in having your family photo taken and be a part of our history.

OCIA

We will begin OCIA [formerly RCIA] on Tuesday, September 23, at 4:30pm. If you or someone you know is interested in the Catholic Faith, please call the office.

Reminder: Daily Mass times have changed. Instead of Mass at 8:00am the daily Masses are at 10:30am with Adoration/confessions after – 11:00am-Noon]

Liturgical Ministers

Minister	Sept 14	Sept 21	Sept 28	Oct 5	Oct 12
Lector	Diane Lill	Seth Rye	Diane Lill	Tom Vorholt	Bonnie Lill
E.M.H.C	Sue Resler	Glenn Hake	Dave Higingbottom	Janet Hake	Bill Resler
E.M.H.C	Bonnie Lill	Janet Hake	Gregg Lill	Glenn Hake	Sue Resler
Gift Bearer	Bonnie Lill	Gregg & Diane Lill	Long, James and Sandy	Perezes	Rood Family
Money Counters	Lill/Walker	Arthon/Jurgovans	Lill/Walker	Arthon/Jurgovans	Lill/Walker
Greeters	Gregg/Diane	Larry and Tony	Gregg/Diane	Zwolak	Larry and Tony

READNGS FOR THE WEEK/FEAST DAYS

Sept 14 thru Sept 21

- Sunday Nm 21:4b-9 Phil 2:6-11 Jn 3:13-17
- Monday 1Tim 2:1-8 Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35
- Tuesday 1Tim 3:1-13 Lk 7:11-17
- Wednesday 1 Tim 3:14-16 Lk7:31-35
- Thursday 1 Tim 4:12-16 Lk 7:36-50
- Friday 1 Tim 6:2c-12 Lk 8:1-3
- Saturday 1Tim 6:13-16 Lk 8:4-15
- Sunday Am 8:4-7 1Tm 2:1-8 or 16:1-13 or 16:10-13

Prayer Intentions

Tammy Arthon, Bonnie Lill, Gregg Lill, David Russell, Dale Edwards, Ken Simpson, Frank Visconi, Robin Frederick Laws and Sue Resler.



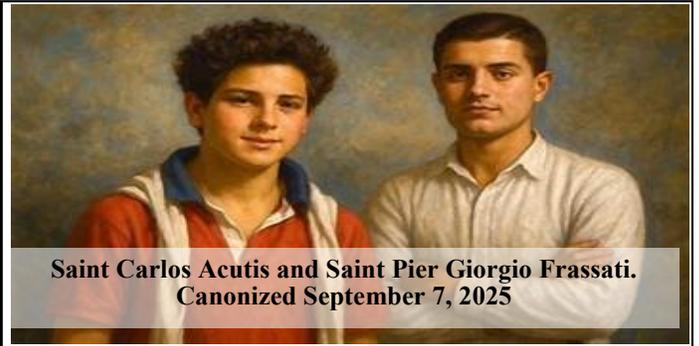
Thank you for your support!
Our Gifts to the Lord

Last Week's Collection: Online **\$ 246.06**
Cash & checks: **\$ 1248.00**
Total: \$1494.06

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Flocknote:



If you are not receiving our emails or texts and would like to receive our communications, please let the office know. We send out texts for any changes, reminders, etc., and once a week there is an email which comes out on Friday which contains the bulletin and any other news. Emails may also arrive in your box for a parish announcement, etc.

A & S CONTRACTING

ASK FOR TONY OR GARY
615-351-8649

FIRE & FLOOD DAMAGE



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