



Saint John XXIII University Parish/Catholic Center

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The Paulist Fathers Serving the University of Tennessee

4th & 5th Sundays of Easter

May 3 & 10, 2020

May 3

Acts 2:14a, 36-41
1 Peter 2:20b-25
John 10:1-10

May 10

Acts 6:1-7
1 Peter 2:4-9
John 14:1-12

Happy Mother's Day!!

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Masses Cancelled Until Further Notice

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Masses Cancelled Until Further Notice

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

(Confession)

By Appointment Only

MARRIAGE PREPARATION:

Congratulations! Please call the office at least 4 months before your planned wedding date.

WANT TO BE CATHOLIC?

Please contact Deacon Bob at 523-7931

Farewell From Rich Whitney, CSP

It's never easy to say goodbye and, for me, it's even harder because of how warm, welcoming, and inviting all of you are. The congregation of St. John XXIII will always have a special place in my heart and it has been my honor to join you, pray with you, get to know you, and, sometimes, cry and mourn with you. As much as I have appreciated all the kindness you have shown me, I deeply appreciate you and the guidance each and every one of you have given me on my spiritual journey.

What happens next for me? I go back to our seminary in Washington, DC and continue classes for another year. I have been approved to be ordained a Transitional Deacon on September 5. God and my superiors willing, I will be ordained a priest at our Mother Church in New York City on May 22, 2021. I am forever grateful for the role you have played in my journey toward those events, especially in helping me to better understand the call. You are in my prayers regularly and I look forward to seeing you all the next time I have the good fortune to be in Tennessee!

Pray with Us-Celebrate With Us

We are live-streaming our weekend Mass on our Facebook Group. Just look for "Saint John XXIII Catholic Center at UTK." There are also great resources on the USCCB website, the Diocese of Knoxville website, and Paulist.org/WatchMass. Be sure we have your email address so you can get information about our Zoom meetings as well for more seminars and activities!

Diocese of Knoxville Statement on Public Masses

Bishop Richard F. Stika has expressed his desire to resume public Masses at all of the parishes and mission churches in the Diocese of Knoxville the weekend of Pentecost Sunday, May 30-31. “I understand how much our parishioners want to return to their churches, see their priests, and once again have a personal connection with the sacraments. However, there are steps we need to take to ensure that we can do this safely,” Bishop Stika said. “I realize that some businesses and churches may open their doors sooner, but we have 51 parishes and mission churches in our diocese, which covers all of East Tennessee. I feel it is necessary to carefully review the state, county, and municipal guidelines that have been issued, some as recently as this week. It is my hope that by the Solemnity of Pentecost, which we celebrate as the day the Holy Spirit came to the Apostles, and the day our Church began, we can, in some fashion, return to public Masses in our diocese.” Bishop Stika is working with diocesan pastors, priests, and health-care experts to consider ways to implement the safety guidelines and mandates recently issued by public-health authorities. “We will need to be in compliance with these guidelines,” Bishop Stika said. “We will use the next few weeks to make sure we’re doing things properly, and I know that all of our priests join me in looking forward to celebrating the Mass with our parish families once again.”

St. John XXIII Parish Outreach

In this time of solitude and uncertainty, the parish would like to ensure that all our members are safe and comfortable. Some parishioners are meeting over the Internet for dinner. Others are joining the staff for telephone or online discussions on religious themes or personal interests. However, we are concerned that some are alone and could benefit from some social contact in the form of a telephone chat. If you or someone you know would enjoy a regular telephone call from the St. John XXIII community or if you would like to volunteer to call parish members and let them know you care about them, please contact to suggest a person and phone number.

Thank you for caring.

Check out our website at www.john23rd.org for online giving, alternate worship options, and updated information. If you are not comfortable with online donations, we are still in the office to receive any mailed donations. Thank you for your help and we look forward to seeing you again!

A Note From Our Social Concerns Committee

COVID-19 is bringing out the goodness in people as we live through this crisis. However COVID-19 is also exposing the weaknesses in our communities that may be causing this crisis to be much worse for some people, especially for those already struggling. After COVID-19 will we address these underlying weaknesses that will remain? Will we speak up for changes that truly address the root causes of poverty, regardless how hard people try to overcome it?

Currently, government checks are beginning to help many. If you are able to use some of this to make a contribution to our parish above what you normally do, half of it would go to the parish and half could be channeled by the Social Concerns Committee to people with urgent needs during this pandemic. Our God calls us to take care of one another. Jesus lived compassionately and taught us speak out for justice to bring about God's kingdom on earth for all people. Pope Francis, in a recent letter, wrote on the pandemic: "I hope that this time of danger will...shake our sleepy consciences and allow a humanist and ecological conversion that puts an end to idolatry of money and places human life and dignity at the centre. Our civilization - so competitive, so individualistic, with its frenetic rhythms of production and consumption, its extravagant luxuries, its disproportionate profits for just a few - needs to downshift, take stock and renew itself." Let us heed Pope Francis' words and find ways to not only extend charity, but also to ensure justice for all people, especially the marginalized. Be informed. Speak out. Contact and communicate with helpers, leaders and those with power. Above all, pray that each of us hear God's call and faithfully answer, "YES. AMEN."

Pandemic Emergency Fund

Our parish continues to serve the community, while experiencing a budgetary shortfall. At the same time we all face increased demand for assistance to others. St. John XXIII has established the "Pandemic Emergency Fund" designed to supplement our parish deficit (50%) and to assist the following groups (50%): Smokey's Food Pantry (UT campus); FISH Pantries; Office of Hispanic Ministries; Catholic Charities of East Tennessee; Holy Ghost parish outreach and the Volunteer Ministry Center all of which work to meet food and housing needs. Your donation to the Pandemic Emergency Fund will be divided equally between the parish budget and outreach to the community and greatly appreciated. Donations can be made online at www.john23rd.org or the memo line of your checks should be marked "Pandemic Emergency Fund" and mailed to the parish.

How Is Your Spiritual Growth?

As Catholics, faith is critical to our spiritual growth, but sometimes misunderstood. Beginning at 7 p.m., Thursday, May 7th we will read and discuss the book: "The Spark of Faith - Understanding the Power of Reaching Out to God" by Fr. Wojciech Giertych, O.P. The book is available online for purchase. We will meet through a conference call due to the pandemic. Please join us. Contact: Charles Jones - cbjones2@gmail.com

**SAINT JOHN XXIII UNIVERSITY
CATHOLIC PARISH AND STUDENT CENTER**

*The Paulist Fathers Serving
The University of Tennessee*

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Rich Whitney, CSP, Paulist Seminarian
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Prayer Requests: Let us pray for peace and justice throughout the world. Other prayers are needed for Karen Rich; Frank Carney; Alfred Prados; Mary Tobey; Anne Pidkowicz; Ann Patterson; Julie Allis; Cliff Russell; Susan Beckham; Patty Bowman; Peg Hart; Judy Sirois; Shelly McDonald; Roberto Lenarduzzi; Gwen Woodard; Alvin Todd; Diane Dusichka; Mary K. and Clyde Letsinger; Marge Merimee; Lisa Robben; Tom Mulligan; Dottie Hight; Bill Kennedy; Betty Small; Sutton Williams-Gurly; Fred and Ann McMurray; Megan McMurray Dugan; Mary Jane Fuller; Rita Charron; Linda Charron; Joe Hannifin; Lisa Jones; Mary Shusta; residents of Serene Manor; those serving in the military and for any too shy or reserved to let us know.

**April 19 & 26 Combined Offertory:
\$11,535.00**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS
FOR THE WEEKS OF
April 27-May 3 & May 4-10**

Monday: Acts 6:8-15.....John 6:22-29
Tuesday: Acts 7:51-8:1a.....John 6:30-35
Wednesday: Acts 8:1b-8.....John 6:35-40
Thursday: Acts 8:26-40.....John 6:44-51
Friday: Acts 9:1-20.....John 6:52-59
Saturday: Acts 9:31-42.....John 6:60-69
Sunday: Acts 2:14a, 36-41.....John 20:19-31

Monday: Acts 11:1-18.....John 10:11-18
Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26.....John 10:22-30
Wednesday: Acts 12:24-13:5a.....John 12:44-50
Thursday: Acts 13:13-25.....John 13:16-20
Friday: Acts 13:26-33.....John 14:1-6
Saturday: Acts 13:44-52.....John 14:7-14
Sunday: Acts 6:1-7.....John 14:1-12



**Please See Online Calendar at
www.john23rd.org
for
NEXT TWO WEEKS' EVENTS**