



The Diocese of Knoxville

Living our Roman Catholic faith in East Tennessee

MEDIA ADVISORY
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Cathedral dedication stone visits area parishes Stone was blessed by Pope Francis in 2015

KNOXVILLE--- The marble dedication stone blessed by Pope Francis for the new Cathedral of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus that is under construction in Knoxville is making a pilgrimage across East Tennessee. The stone's next stops are:

April 8-9: Holy Family Catholic Church, 307 Black Oak Ridge Road, Seymour, TN 37865

April 15-16: Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, 414 West Vine Ave., Knoxville, TN 37902

April 22-23: St. John XXIII Parish/Catholic Center- UT Campus, 1710 Melrose Place, Knoxville, TN 37716

The cathedral dedication stone, which weighs 19.5 pounds, was carried to Rome in 2015 by Bishop Richard F. Stika of the Diocese of Knoxville. He was accompanied by Cardinal Justin A. Rigali. The stone was blessed by Pope Francis on Oct. 14, 2015, at the Vatican. The stone was carved from marble mined in East Tennessee.

While the stone visits area Catholic churches and schools, it will be displayed in a wooden case along with a photo of the blessing by Pope Francis, a short history, a reflection, and a prayer.

The stone will visit all 51 parishes and mission churches, and all 10 Catholic schools in the Diocese of Knoxville before being placed in the cathedral for its dedication on March 3, 2018.

For more information on the dedication stone, or to arrange a visit to a parish church to see it, please contact Jim Wogan at jwogan@dioknox.org or Bill Brewer at bbrewer@dioknox.org.

To see the complete schedule, please visit dioknox.org.