



The Diocese of Knoxville

Living our Roman Catholic faith in East Tennessee

MEDIA ADVISORY
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Paraclete Books and Gifts announces new manager

New era for longtime East Tennessee Catholic retail outlet

KNOXVILLE--- The Diocese of Knoxville and the Cathedral of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus are happy to announce that the Paraclete Catholic Books and Gifts store, located on the cathedral campus at 711 S. Northshore Dr., is now under new management.

Sara Lauer, a Knoxville native and Maryville College graduate with nearly two decades of business management and operations experience, assumed her duties as the manager of the Paraclete on Nov. 11.

“We are excited to make this hire,” said Deacon Walt Otey, who was appointed by Bishop Richard F. Stika to lead the hiring process. “This store has a wonderful history of serving customers of the Catholic community, and even non-Catholics interested in books and gifts for their Catholic friends. We are looking forward to continuing this great tradition.”

In the coming months, Ms. Lauer said she will prioritize updating inventory in the bookstore and modernizing methods that will include enhanced online ordering.

The Paraclete was established in 1987 by longtime Cathedral of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus parishioners Karl and Becky Fillauer. The store was originally located near the Fourth and Gill neighborhood in Knoxville. It moved to its current location in 1990. Mr. and Mrs. Fillauer gifted the Paraclete, and the building in which it’s located, to the diocese in 2012.

Ms. Lauer said the store’s business hours will remain Monday-Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., with the possibility of expanded hours during Advent and Christmas.

The Paraclete can be reached by calling (865) 588-0388 or online at <https://paracletecatholic.org/>.

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