



Saint Matthew CATHOLIC CHURCH

DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER

MARCH 6 + FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

*"Be with me, Lord
when I am in trouble."*

MASS SCHEDULE

MASS

Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri. | 8 a.m.
Wed. | 7 p.m. (Adoration at 6 p.m.)
Saturday Vigil | 5 p.m.
Sunday | 8:30 a.m., 11 a.m.

CONFESSION

Wednesday | 6 - 6:50 p.m.
Saturday | 4 - 4:45 p.m.

PARISH INFORMATION

CONTACT US:

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✉ info@stmatthewtn.org
☎ (615) 646-0378
🌐 www.stmatthewtn.org
📱 @SaintMatthewCatholicChurch

PASTOR:

Father Mark Sappenfield

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR:

Father Tien Tran

DEACONS:

Lachlan Cameron & Bill Forte



VESPERS WITH THE MUSIC OF TAIZÉ

This Lenten season, Saint Matthew Parish will be offering Vespers with the music of Taizé on Sunday evenings. Our first Vespers will be on the first Sunday of Lent, Sunday, March 6 at 6 p.m. in the church. We will meet every Sunday in Lent and will conclude with our final Vespers on Palm Sunday, April 10. Vespers will also be made available via livestream on the church's Facebook page and on the church's website.

Vespers is one of the services of the Divine Office (Liturgy of the Hours). Dating from ancient times, the Divine Office has been a part of a devout religious life, particularly in the monastic orders. It is through the Liturgy of the Hours that Christians fulfill the Lord's instruction to pray without ceasing, offering praise to God and praying for the salvation of the world. The penitential season of Lent is a particularly appropriate time to participate in Vespers as we focus on our need for grace and pray for our salvation.

The music at our service is from the community of Taizé, an international, ecumenical community in Taizé,

France. The community consists of Catholics and Protestants, and their union is a very real sign of the reconciliation between the multiple Christian denominations. The songs are short and repetitive, thus having a meditative nature. Similar to contemplative prayer, this practice of prayer allows the reality of God to permeate one's being through openness of mind and spirit. Silence is also a part of our service. One cannot hear others when one is speaking; likewise, it is difficult to hear God when we are verbally praying. It is during these moments of silence that we listen to hear God's response as part of our prayer dialogue.

Please join us for Vespers with Taizé music. This service provides a wonderful way to calm our minds, open our hearts and allow God, through the actions of the Holy Spirit, to stir our souls.

- Sunday, March 6, 6:00 p.m.
- Sunday, March 13, 6:00 p.m.
- Sunday, March 20, 6:00 p.m.
- Sunday, March 27, 6:00 p.m.
- Sunday, April 3, 6:00 p.m.
- Sunday, April 10, 7:00 p.m.

LITURGY SCHEDULE (MARCH 7-13, 2022)

MONDAY, MARCH 7

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✠ Agnes Tatum
 - Lv 19:1-2, 11-18
 - Mt 25:31-46

TUESDAY, MARCH 8

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✠ Phanica Nguyen
 - Is 55:10-11
 - Mt 6:7-15

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9

- 7:00 p.m. Mass
- ✠ Annette & Al Heindryckx
 - Jon 3:1-10
 - Lk 11:29-32

THURSDAY, MARCH 10

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✠ Regina Alice Clark
 - Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25
 - Mt 7:7-12

FRIDAY, MARCH 11

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✠ Joseph
 - Ez 18:21-28
 - Mt 5:20-26

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

- 5:00 p.m. Saturday Vigil Mass
- ✠ Grace Fleig
- 8:30 a.m. Sunday Mass
 - ✦ For the People
- 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass
 - ✦ For the Thompson Family
 - Gn 15:5-12, 17-18
 - Phil 3:17-4:1 OR Phil 3:17-4:1
 - Lk 9:28b-36

- ✦ **Special Intention**
- ✠ *May they rest in peace*

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

- FOR THE WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 27, 2022 -

PARISH, VISITORS, AUTOMATIC WITHDRAWALS, ONLINE GIVING, AND LOOSE CASH	\$18,013
SECOND COLLECTION: HAITI MINISTRY	\$826

THIS WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION: Capital Needs

NEXT WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION: Parish Charity

PARISH NEWS

WELCOME TO SAINT MATTHEW!

Welcome to Saint Matthew Catholic Church in Franklin, Tennessee. Whether you've been with us from the beginning or are joining us for the first time, we want you to know that you have a home here. To stay connected with our community, visit our website at www.stmatthewtn.org, register for our email list at bit.ly/smcemailsignup, and follow us on Facebook and Instagram @stmatthewtn to stay up-to-date on our news and information from our parish.

SMS SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION IS OPEN

SMS Camp Registration is now open! Join us this summer at Saint Matthew School for five sessions of summer camp. If your child is interested in flag football, dodgeball, basketball, soccer, art, or cheerleading, SMS is the place to be! Visit bit.ly/smscamp22 to register. If you have any questions, please contact Josh Edmondson at jedmondson@stmatthewtn.org.

HOSPITALITY MINISTERS NEEDED

We are looking for volunteers to serve as Hospitality Ministers at each of our weekend Masses. Hospitality Ministers assist in the Liturgies by welcoming parishioners as they enter, handing out baskets, passing the collection baskets, and carrying the gifts. If you are interested in becoming a Hospitality Minister, please contact Kelly Ott at kott@stmatthewtn.org.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Saint Matthew will be hosting Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent. Each week will be hosted by a different member of the community. This week will be led by Fr. Patrick Fitzsimons. Stations will begin at 6 p.m. in the church.

SMC RESPECT FOR LIFE - MARY'S WAY OF THE CROSS

The Saint Matthew Respect for Life Ministry invites you to join them in the Grotto for Mary's Way of the Cross on Thursday, March 24 following 8 a.m. Mass. Mary's Way of the Cross follows the mother of Jesus as she walks the road to Calvary, where Jesus was crucified, emphasizing her sense of surrender: "I knew it had to be, so I walked on silently." Enter an intimate journey of faith through a deep reflection that will unite one's pain and suffering with Jesus on the cross through the sorrowful heart of His Mother.

RESPECT FOR LIFE ROSARY

Won't you come pray with us? The body of Christ is being called to peacefully and prayerfully stand against abortion. Step out of your comfort zone, help these women in crisis, and save lives. We gather to pray the rosary every Tuesday at noon outside of Planned Parenthood in downtown Nashville. Register online at bit.ly/smcrosary.

SYNOD ON SYNODALITY LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD



The Synod on Synodality is underway, both at our church and around the world. We invite all of our parishioners to take part in this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity by participating in one of our listening sessions.

If you would like to take part in this global initiative, visit bit.ly/smsynod to learn more about the Synod on Synodality and register for a listening session. The sessions will be held between the Masses every Sunday from March 6 to April 10.

Can't make it to one of our listening sessions? No problem! We would still love to hear from you. Please feel free to fill out the survey at the link provided above at your convenience.

PARISH NEWS

PATH OF REMEMBRANCE PAVERS

Memorialize your loved one with a custom engraved paver placed along the Path of Remembrance in the Grotto at Saint Matthew. Pavers can also be engraved for special occasions such as Christmas, First Communion, Confirmation, and Mother's & Father's Day. Order yours before March 31 to be installed in late April or early May. Visit bit.ly/smcpavers to place your order today.

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE - MARCH 22

Lent is a 40-day journey of prayer, reflection and repentance. What better way to achieve this than by receiving the graces from the Sacrament of Confession? Our Lenten Penance service will be held on Tuesday, March 22 from 7-8:30 p.m. Please save the date for this wonderful sacramental opportunity.

JOIN THE FAMILY SOCIAL MINISTRY

The Family Social Ministry is looking for new members. This ministry is geared towards providing volunteer opportunities for the whole family to get involved in. In March, we will be gardening at the Sensory Garden for the Blind. If you are looking for a ministry that provides opportunity for the whole family to participate, we would love to have you! Sign up online at bit.ly/smcfmsignup.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE NEWS AND INFORMATION FROM SAINT MATTHEW.

www.stmatthewtn.org/church

WWW.WILLIAMSONHOMEPAGE.COM/BEST/BALLOT

VOTE FOR US!

- BEST PRE-SCHOOL**
- BEST PRIVATE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**
- BEST PRIVATE MIDDLE SCHOOL**



Saint Matthew School



PRE-K-8TH

NURSERY HELP NEEDED!

9:30 A.M. MASS EVERY SUNDAY

19+ TO APPLY

PAID POSITION

BACKGROUND CHECK REQUIRED

INTERESTED?

CONTACT JAMIE VALLECORSA

ADACORSA@BELLSOUTH.NET

COMMUNITY NEWS

CATHOLIC BUSINESS LEAGUE MEETING

The Catholic Business League will welcome artist Phil Ponder as the featured speaker for its breakfast meeting on Thursday, March 10. Phil is a veteran and worked for Genesco before retiring and focusing on art. He will speak about his life, career, and passions, and will have books of his art available for purchase. The meeting commences at 7:45 a.m. Mass will be held at 7 a.m. in the Cathedral for all who wish to attend. www.catholicbusinessleague.org

FATHER RYAN 2022 SUMMER CAMPS

Summer Camp Time at Father Ryan! Registration for Father Ryan's array of outstanding 2022 summer camps is now open. Camps open May 31. For information on the camp schedule, coaches and to register, visit fatherryan.org/camps.

WHAT'S ON NASHVILLE CATHOLIC RADIO

Get to Know Your Future Priests and Pastors. Listen on Wednesdays at 11 a.m. and Saturdays at 9:30 a.m. as our seminarians (the future priests and pastors of our Diocese) share their thoughts on Nashvocations Podcast. Listen in on the our free app, at 100.5FM, or livestream at NashvilleCR.com.

REGNUM CHRISTI MEN'S RETREAT

Did you hear the good news? The Regnum Christi three-day men's retreat from March 18-20 still has some openings! Visit bit.ly/smcregnumchristi to sign up. Questions? Contact John at regnumchristinashville@gmail.com.

VISITATION HOSPITAL FOUNDATION GALA

Visitation Hospital Foundation invites you to a special celebration on Friday, April 29 in support of our Haitian brothers and sisters and to honor longtime Haiti advocate Fran Rajotte Myers. Enjoy cocktails, dinner, and entertainment at the Filming Station in Nashville with guest emcee broadcast journalist Demetria Kalodimos. It starts at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$125 each or \$1,000 per table. Proceeds benefit the Visitation Clinic in Haiti. Get tickets at www.visitationhospital.org or call 615-673-3501.

CAMP ST. CECILIA

Camp St. Cecilia is a summer program designed for girls ages 4-17. Campers experience St. Cecilia Academy's academics, athletics, and fine arts programs while interacting with the SCA community members. Each girl attending Camp St. Cecilia will be exposed to skills in a variety of areas to further develop her academic and extracurricular interests. To see a full camp list and to register, visit www.stcecilia.com/campus-life/camp-st-cecilia.

IRISH AAU BASKETBALL TRYOUTS

Father Ryan will have AAU basketball boys teams this spring for current 5th-8th graders. Tryouts will be on Monday, March 7 and Wednesday, March 9. For more details and to register, visit www.fatherryan.org/juniorirish.

FORMED

PICK OF THE WEEK - MARCH 6



Heroism isn't restricted to decorated soldiers or persecuted saints. It's something achievable for all of us even in our ordinary lives. In this documentary, see how the Knights of Columbus have embodied this everyday heroism!

If you have not signed up for FORMED, visit signup.formed.org, enter our parish zip code (37069), enter your name and email, log in through your email, and start watching!

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR WOMEN'S RETREAT



Reinvigorate your faith with a weekend of reflection on the presence of God in your life and your vocation as a woman at the Bethany Retreat House in Dickson, TN. The retreat will be from August 26-28. Registration opens on March 11. For more information, contact Tony Jesse.

ST. JOSEPH'S MEN LENTEN SERIES



St. Joseph's Men, our new men's formation group, will begin a Lenten series on "True Masculinity." The sessions will take place every Thursday from March 10 to April 14 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the Parish Conference Center. We hope you can make as many sessions as you can. If you are interested in joining St. Joseph's Men,

please visit bit.ly/smestjosephsmen to register. If you have any questions, please contact Tony Jesse.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

SAVE THE DATE: FIRST COMMUNION RETREAT

Our First Communion Retreat will take place on April 9 from 9-11 a.m. at Saint Matthew Catholic Church. The retreat will include activities and a walkthrough practice for the First Communion with Fr. Tran. For more information, please contact Tony Jesse.

TOTUS TUUS REGISTRATION OPENS NEXT WEEK

Registration for Totus Tuus, our new Vacation Bible School, will open this Friday, March 11. More information will be made available soon.



TONY JESSE
Director of Religious Education
tjesse@stmatthewtn.org

Want to learn about the faith? Visit
<http://bit.ly/SMCFaithFormationInterestForm>

TONY'S REFLECTION

FORTY DAYS OF TESTING

In life, it's often believed that one won't rise to the level of greatness until they've been tested. Think of Curt Schilling's epic pitching performance with a bloody sock in Game 6 of the ALCS. Or, Michael Jordan leading the Bulls to a crucial win in Game 5 of the NBA Finals while battling a severe flu. In these critical moments, character is molded with prominence and valor as they've overcome adversity. While this may be the case in sports, academics, or in a career, today we find ourselves embarking on a spiritual trial in the journey of Lent.

Lent is a time of paring down – a time spent in the desert, if you will – as exemplified by Jesus' forty days of fasting in these arid, barren lands. He was tempted three times by Satan. In this scene in the Gospel, the Devil offered Jesus three "shortcuts" to lure Him away from His central mission of the cross. We'll also notice that the coaxing from Satan breaks down to: sensual pleasure, power, and glory. Jesus rejected the Devil's tricks at taking Him off his arduous path of the Father's will by reciting God's Word in Scripture.

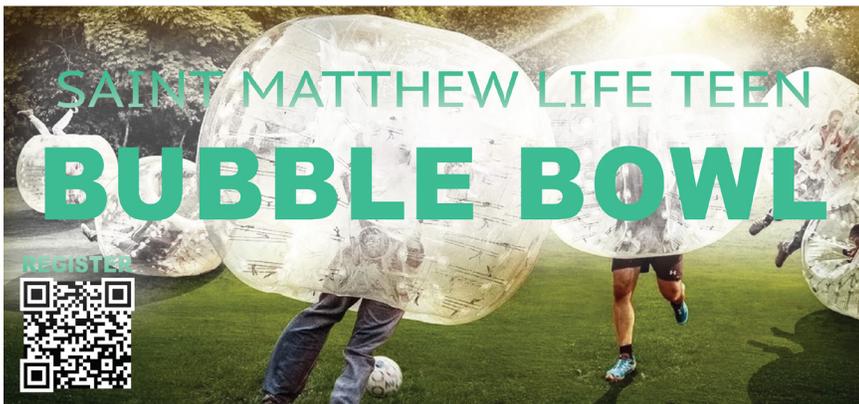
Throughout our life, we are constantly presented with the "shortcuts" of pleasure, power, and glory as our source of fulfillment. To be sure, as imperfect sinners we fall for this ruse repeatedly. But, now Lent is the season in which we abandon pleasure-seeking to allow God to work in us. Yes, this is a painful endeavor. A journey in the desert of temptations is dry, mean, and gritty akin to a crippling walk to the cross. Yet, as we give up our pleasure-seeking ways through acts of sacrifice, we mystically unite ourselves to Jesus in His forty days in the wilderness and His agony carrying the cross. With our strenuous ordeals in Lent, Christ, in turn, molds us closer to our perfected selves.

This Lent let us embrace our trials and purification in our "wilderness" so we can allow God to bring us to greatness.

YOUTH MINISTRY

GET REGISTERED FOR OUR BUBBLE BOWL!

Sunday, March 20 | 4:15-6:45 p.m. | Group up in Parish Conference Center



Soccer, 1 vs 1 matchups, Sharks and Minnows, Last Man Standing, and more will be packed into our two hours of non-stop playing time. It is every bit as epic and fun as it looks and sounds. Come hop into your Pac-Man suit, make your center of gravity precariously high, and enjoy bouncing around (don't worry, if you fall over, simply somersault back on your feet with 360° padding). Scan the QR code to sign up!

PRAY FOR OUR SKI RETREAT



Our retreat was a beautiful blend of fun on the slopes (many learning for the first time) and deepening our prayer lives. Thanks to the help of our wonderful chaperones, we were able to transform our common area into a prayerful chapel. Life with Christ is a wonderful adventure! Saint John Paul II, pray for us!

IMPORTANT DATES

LIFE TEEN: TRUE MASCULINITY & FEMININITY

THIS SUNDAY, MARCH 6 | 5-7 P.M. | PCC

SPRING BREAK (NO LIFE TEEN)

SUNDAY, MARCH 13

BUBBLE BOWL

SUNDAY, MARCH 20 | 4:15-6:45 P.M. | PCC

ALIVEINYOU PANCAKE BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER

SUNDAY, APRIL 10 | BETWEEN MASSES | CHB

ALIVE IN WHO?

June 28-July 3 | Knoxville, TN



AliveInYou announced its 2022 theme of “Legacy.” Specifically, we will be focusing in on the power of Pentecost and the Holy Spirit. Bonus points for those who can see the connection between the Holy Spirit and our Legacy as Christians. Get pumped for our mission trip as it nears! For more information and the registration link, please visit bit.ly/smclifeteenaliveinyou.

TOMMY KILLACKEY

Director of Youth Ministry
tkillackey@stmatthewtn.org





OFFICE HOURS: Mon. - Fri. 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

CHURCH: 615-646-0378

SCHOOL: 615-662-4044

PRE-K: 615-646-1361

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