Saint Matthew CATHOLIC CHURCH

DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER

NOVEMBER 27 + FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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:

535 Sneed Road W, Franklin, TN 37069
info@stmatthewtn.org
(615) 646-0378
www.stmatthewtn.org
@SaintMatthewCatholicChurch

PASTOR:

Father Justin Raines

ASSOCIATE PASTOR:

Father Tien Tran

DEACONS:

Lachlan Cameron & Bill Forte

LITURGY SCHEDULE
(NOV 28-DEC 4, 2022)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28
- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- For the Stephen Phillips Family
  - Is 4:2-6
  - Mt 8:5-11

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29
- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- For Jerome and Judy Schmidt
  - Is 11:1-10
  - Lk 10:21-24

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30
- 7:00 p.m. Mass
- For Cherie McCall
  - Rom 10:9-18
  - Mt 4:18-22

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1
- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- † Joanne Pouliot
  - Is 26:1-6
  - Mt 7:21, 24-27

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2
- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- For Charlotte Smith
  - Is 29:17-24
  - Mt 9:27-31

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
- 5:00 p.m. Saturday Vigil Mass
- For the People
- 8:30 a.m. Sunday Mass
- † Dr. Michael Miller
- 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass
- † Frank Ballinger
  - Is 11:1-10
  - Rom 15:4-9
  - Mt 3:1-12

Special Intention
† ***May they rest in peace***

PARISH NEWS

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION - FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2

Time slots are still available for next week's First Friday Adoration on December 2. We are especially in need of adorers to attend during the overnight hours from 10 p.m.-6 a.m. Time slots are available in 30-minute increments. If you would like to spend more time in prayer with our Lord, you can sign up for two or more consecutive time slots. To register, visit bit.ly/smcfirstfridayadorationdec22.

FAMILY SOCIAL MINISTRY CAROLING - THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8

The Family Social Ministry will be caroling at NHC Place at the Trace in Bellevue on Thursday, December 8 at 3:30 p.m. The residents love seeing the kids sing, and all are welcome to join. To view the details and sign up, visit bit.ly/smcfsmcaroling. A big thank you and shout out to Liz Poplin who will lead us in singing!

LUNCH BUNCH - TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13

We cannot wait to welcome everyone back for our December Lunch Bunch! Our next event will take place on Tuesday, December 13. As a special Christmas gift, all participants are welcome to attend at no cost! We still ask that you bring a bingo prize valued between $10-20 for the prize table. To register, please visit bit.ly/smclunchbunchdec. Registrations must be completed by Friday, December 9. If you have any questions, please contact Martin Strobel at mstrobel@stmatthewtn.org or (615) 550-5101.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

- FOR THE WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 20, 2022 -	
PARISH, VISITORS, AUTOMATIC WITHDRAWALS, ONLINE GIVING, AND LOOSE CASH	$11,012
SECOND COLLECTION: HUMAN DEVELOPMENT	$447

THIS WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION: Debt Reduction

NEXT WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION: Capital Needs

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING SAINT MATTHEW!
MAKE YOUR GIFT TODAY ON OUR GIVING PAGE:
www.stmatthewtn.org/church/giving

THE SAINT MATTHEW MANGER PROGRAM, PRESENTED BY SGC AND GRACEWORKS

This year, Saint Matthew is participating in The Manger Program, sponsored by our St. Gianna Circle Mothers Ministry and GraceWorks Ministries in Franklin. The Manger Program, which is replacing *The Angel Tree* this year, provides toys and sporting equipment to local families in need this Christmas. Eligible participants will be able to visit The Manger Store facility to "shop" for their gifts in a store-like setting. All parishioners who would like to participate are welcome to place NEW, UNWRAPPED gifts in the large boxes located in the Narthex. You are welcome to select your own gift or purchase something from the Amazon Wish List at www.amzn.to/3VLgf53 (case sensitive). All gifts must be delivered to the church by Wednesday, November 30. If you have any questions about the program, please contact Elizabeth Abaray at elizabeth.abaray@live.com.

ST. GIANNA CIRCLE CHRISTMAS PARTY

St. Gianna Circle invites all the women of Saint Matthew to our Women's Christmas Party and Holiday Scramble on Tuesday, December 6 at 7 p.m. Bring your best girlfriends for fellowship and fun! 21+ event. To register, visit bit.ly/sgcchristmasparty.

VOLUNTEER AT THE MANGER STORE

As part of the Saint Matthew Manger Program, we encourage everyone to consider volunteering at The Manger Store during the Advent season! Saint Matthew will be sending a group of volunteers to serve on Thursday, December 15 after 4:30 p.m. If you are able, please sign up during that time. If you would like to sign up for a different date, that's fine too! Visit bit.ly/smcmangerstorevol to learn more and sign up. For questions, contact Elizabeth Abaray at elizabeth.abaray@live.com.

COMMUNITY SUNDAY - DECEMBER 4

Join us for Community Sunday next weekend, November 6 after each of the Masses. This month's Community Sunday will be sponsored by our Art & Environment Ministry. All parishioners are invited to join us in the Cohan-Hansom Building for fellowship with our parish community. Coffee and donuts will be provided. We hope to see you there!

SING IN THE COMMUNITY CHOIR!

As part of Community Weekend on December 3 & 4, we will offer a Community Choir at our weekend Liturgies! We invite families, singles, youth, and anyone that likes to sing to be part of our Community Choir. Rehearsal will start an hour before Saturday night and the 11 a.m. Sunday Mass. Rehearsal for the 8:30 a.m. Sunday Mass will begin at 8 a.m. For more information, contact Joel Bolen at jbolen@stmatthewtn.org or (615) 550-5108.

KofC 8th GRADE ESSAY CONTEST

All Catholic students in 8th grade are invited to participate in the Knights of Columbus Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest. First place winners will win $150, second place winners will win $100, and third place winners will win $50. Students are asked to write a 500-750 word essay on the following theme: "How can young Catholics evangelize our faith to families and friends who have turned away from religion and encourage them to return to the Church and embrace the sacraments? Essays and entry forms must be submitted to Knights of Columbus Council 12012 by Wednesday, December 14. Email kofc12012@gmail.com for details.

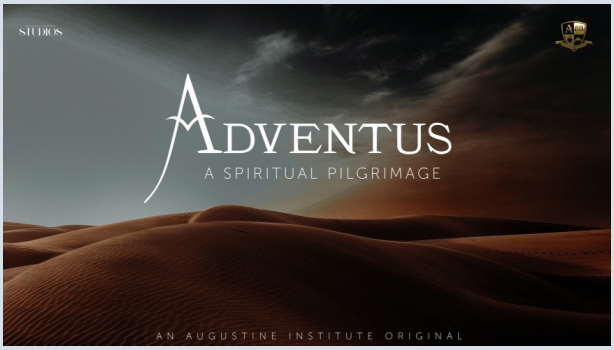
APPLICATIONS ARE BEING ACCEPTED FOR SAINT MATTHEW CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Applications are being accepted for all grade levels at Saint Matthew School for the 2023-2024 school year. For priority consideration, applicants are asked to complete their submission by December 5 for Pre-K and Kindergarten. For grades 1-8, applications are due in January but can be submitted now. To apply, learn more, or schedule a visit, go to www.stmatthewtn.org/school/admissions or contact the Advancement office at (615) 550-5106.

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

FORMED

PICK OF THE WEEK - NOVEMBER 27



ADVENTUS: A SPIRITUAL PILGRIMAGE

This Advent, make a spiritual pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Uncover the beauty of the place where Christ was born, preparing your heart for Christ's coming so you can enter more deeply into this season.

To watch this title and many more like it, visit FORMED.org and sign up using our parish zip code (37069).

JOIN THE SAINT MATTHEW SCHOOL CASH BACK REWARDS PROGRAMS!

FREE MONEY! Did you know that Saint Matthew School can earn money from Amazon, Kroger and Publix when you shop? With Christmas coming and lots of online and food shopping, help us earn the FREE MONEY that these organizations will donate just for shopping at their stores. It's easy! For Kroger, sign into your Kroger account select "Saint Matthew Church" under Community Rewards. For Publix, log in to your account and select My Publix Partner on the right side of the page. Search for "Saint Matthew Home and School Association," select, save changes, and start shopping! For Amazon, go to smile.amazon.com and sign in with your Amazon username and password. Click the "Get Started" button and search for "Church of St Matthew Franklin." Our listing will have "Franklin, TN" below our name. Save changes and shop!

HOMEBOUND MINISTRY REQUESTS

Do you have a loved one who is homebound or in an assisted living community and cannot make it to Mass? We have ministers available to serve! Our Homebound Ministry delivers Holy Communion to those who are unable to make it to Mass, but we must be aware of their situation in order to schedule regular visits. To learn more, contact Kelly Ott at kott@stmatthewtn.org.

SAINT MATTHEW NURSERY SURVEY

We want to hear from you! The Saint Matthew Nursery Ministry is planning for the new year and is conducting a simple survey to learn more about the needs of our parish. If you would like to take the survey, please visit bit.ly/smcnurserysurvey. Thank you for participating!

JOIN OUR FEED THE PRIEST MINISTRY!

We are seeking volunteers for our Feed the Priest ministry. We are in need of helpers—families or individuals—to provide meals for our priests every Tuesday. If you are interested, please contact Kelly Ott at kott@stmatthewtn.org.

DIOCESE OF NASHVILLE "THE GIFT OF THE CHILD" CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The Diocese of Nashville is proud to present The Gift of The Child Christmas Concert, featuring the Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia Schola and other special guests! The concert will be held at Christ the King Catholic Church on Wednesday, November 30 at 7:30 p.m. The concert is free and open to the public. To reserve your ticket, visit www.dioceseofnashville.com/christmas-concert. We hope to see you there!

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN FOR THE WORLD MARRIAGE DAY MASS

All married couples celebrating their 25th or 50th wedding anniversary in 2023 are invited to attend the World Marriage Day Jubilee Anniversary Mass on Sunday, February 5 at 2:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of the Incarnation. The Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Spalding. A reception will follow in the Fleming Center at the Cathedral. RSVP by calling the Diocesan Office of Marriage and Family Life at (615) 540-1235 or online at www.soundscatholic.com/marriageandfamilylife. All registrations must be made by Thursday, December 15.

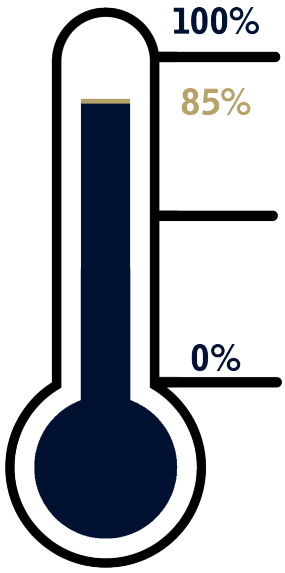
HEART OF MARY HOUSE

Heart of Mary House is a ministry that operates out of an existing house on the property of St. Edward Church. Its mission is to create a home-like environment to the underserved who have a terminal prognosis. Visit www.stedward.org/heart-of-mary to learn more about this unique ministry and the various ways you can help. There are plenty of opportunities to give of your time, talent and treasure in order to bring peace and comfort to the dying during their final weeks in our care. And more than anything, please pray for our mission! For further information, please contact Kim Derrick, Founder and Director at Heart of Mary House, stedwardhomh@gmail.com or (615) 504-8542.

WHAT'S ON NASHVILLE CATHOLIC RADIO?

We are back for a new season at Nashville Catholic Radio! Listen to the classic "We Believe" show, which put Nashville Catholic Radio on the airwaves, on Tuesdays at 11 a.m. Tune in to Nashville Catholic Radio via 100.5FM or streaming online at www.nashvillecr.com.

THE BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL FOR MINISTRIES: *WE'VE PASSED THE $90,000 MARK!*



Thanks to your generous support, Saint Matthew has raised over $90,000 in the 2022 Bishop's Annual Appeal for Ministries!

Saint Matthew's goal for this year's appeal is $115,390. We are currently at 85% of that goal with a total of $99,166.

Your generosity supports ministries and services that carry forth the Bishop's mission and vision, including adult and youth catechesis, support for clergy, sacramental marriage, life at all stages, robust Catholic schools and much more.

If you have already donated, we appreciate your contribution! If not, please visit www.stmatthewtn.org/church/giving to make your gift today!

TONY'S REFLECTION
BE ON WATCH

Any prominent athlete or musician can vouch that much of their time and effort is dedicated to constantly preparing for their big event. Successful people instinctively hone in on the key aspects of prep work to achieve their goals.

We've all heard the adage, "Success is 90% preparation and only 10% perspiration." Renowned motivational speaker Zig Ziglar famously stated, "Success is when preparation meets opportunity." Conversely, if people are lax in preparation, they'll inevitably experience their demise. The Harvard Business Review mentions that the number one reason new products fail is a lack of preparation.

In short, preparation can either make or break you. Therefore, it behooves one to not casually dismiss the significance of preparation. The same concept applies in the spiritual realm. This is why Jesus's words at the beginning of Advent highlight a constant vigilance to be ready. While we likely view God's coming into our fallen world with welcome arms, it is crucial to realize that His coming also invokes our response to not postpone our repentance to Him.

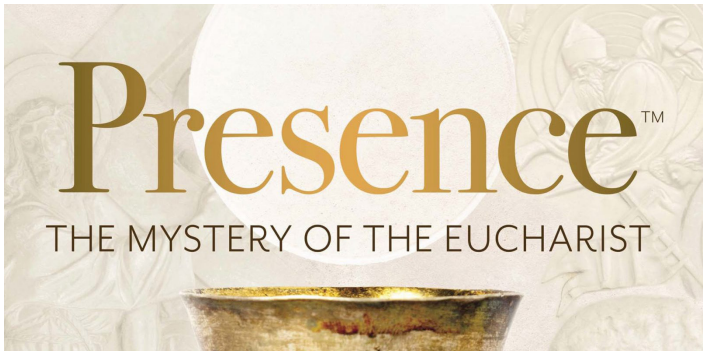
Being consumed in the ruckus of our fast-paced lives our spiritual senses tend to become muddied up and see no glaring need for repentance. At this stage, Jesus warns that His spiritual reality will then catch us off guard. Faced with this dilemma, Jesus cautions us to always be on guard and remove complacency with a sense of holy urgency.

Where preparation abounds it will always stir one into a mission. As Advent begins, let us reflect upon how ready we are for Jesus's coming into our lives. Coming to us this Christmas season and coming to us directly in the Eucharist. While Jesus's coming is always in the background, let us be prepared to move Him into the forefront of our lives this Advent.

If you find that you are not as prepared for Jesus as you'd like to be, make this Advent a time when you get your soul ready through prayer, spiritual exercises, reflection, and attentiveness to Him in the Mass. ✝

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

PRESENCE SERIES: COMING SOON!



Back by popular demand, join us this January for *Presence*. As we continue to celebrate the Year of Eucharistic Revival, this special series from FORMED explores the truth and beauty of Christ's real presence in the Eucharist, from its origins in Sacred Scripture to its profound role in the life of the Church and her members. It is the crescendo of the entire story of salvation. More information will be made available soon.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

REGISTER FOR OUR CONFIRMATION RETREAT

Confirmation retreat registration is open! Our retreat will be Saturday, January 28 at Camp Marymount in Fairview, TN. At the retreat, students will encounter an inspirational message that will awaken their soul as they prepare for Confirmation. To register for the retreat, visit bit.ly/smcconfirmationretreat22.

CONFIRMATION RETREAT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

You can be an instrumental part in guiding and preparing our teens for the Sacrament of Confirmation. We are looking for adult and high-school age volunteers to help with various roles at our Confirmation Retreat on January 28. If you are interested, visit bit.ly/smcconfirmationretreatvol22.

YOUTH MINISTRY

NO LIFE TEEN THIS WEEK

Saint Matthew Life Teen will be taking a break this weekend and will return on Sunday, December 4. We'll see you then!

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Take a look at these upcoming youth events taking place around our diocese.

SEARCH RETREATS

Various dates in 2022-23

Registration for the 2022-2023 SEARCH season is now open at soundscatholic.com! Save the dates: SEARCH 375: Dec 2-4 | SEARCH 376: March 24-26

PURIFIED

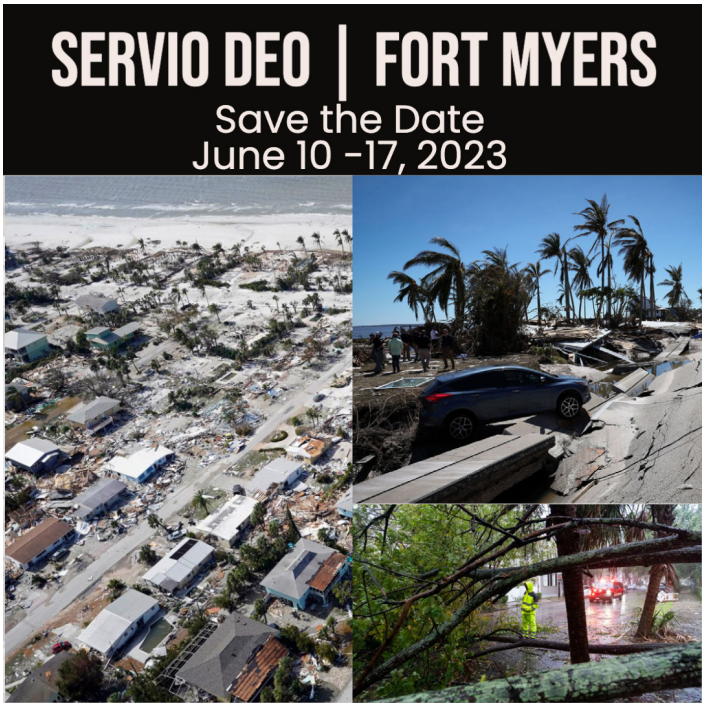
Wednesday, November 30, 2022

Renowned Catholic speaker of the Chastity Project, Jason Evert, will lead "PURIFIED" at St. Philip Catholic Church on November 30 from 7-9 p.m. Register at www.chastity.com/purified.

YOUTH 2000

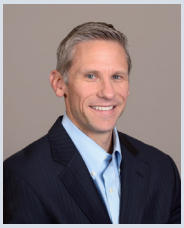
February 24-26, 2023

Youth 2000 will be held at St. Philip Catholic Church. More information to come.



HIGH SCHOOL ADVENT RETREAT

All Saint Matthew Life Teen students are invited to attend the Advent retreat, hosted by St. Philip Catholic Church! The theme of the retreat is "Await & Rejoice" and will feature speaker Dr. Alex Gotay and music by Brian Connelly. Join other students from around the diocese in deepening our Catholic faith together. The retreat will take place from December 9-11 at Gasper River Retreat Center. Scan the QR code below to register.



TONY JESSE
Director of Religious Education
tjesse@stmatthewtn.org

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

LISA VEGORS
Interim Youth Director
lvegors@stmatthewtn.org

OFFICE HOURS: Mon. - Fri. 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. **CHURCH:** 615-646-0378 **SCHOOL:** 615-662-4044

PASTORAL STAFF

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Lisa Vegors
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SAVE THE DATE! Join us for this year's Mane Event, benefitting Saint Matthew School, on Saturday, February 11, 2023 at 6 p.m. We are excited to return to ***Tee Line Nashville***, and we are so grateful to have ***Coyne Oral Surgery*** as our presenting sponsor again this year! This year's theme is ***FIRE & ICE***. In addition to curling and bowling, we will have a whiskey tasting that evening. Details on donating auction items, buying tickets and sponsorships, and more will be made available after Thanksgiving at www.maneevent23.givesmart.com and on the school website. Questions? Contact event chairs Erin Pryles at epryles@gmail.com or Susan Mercer at susan.l.mercer5@gmail.com.