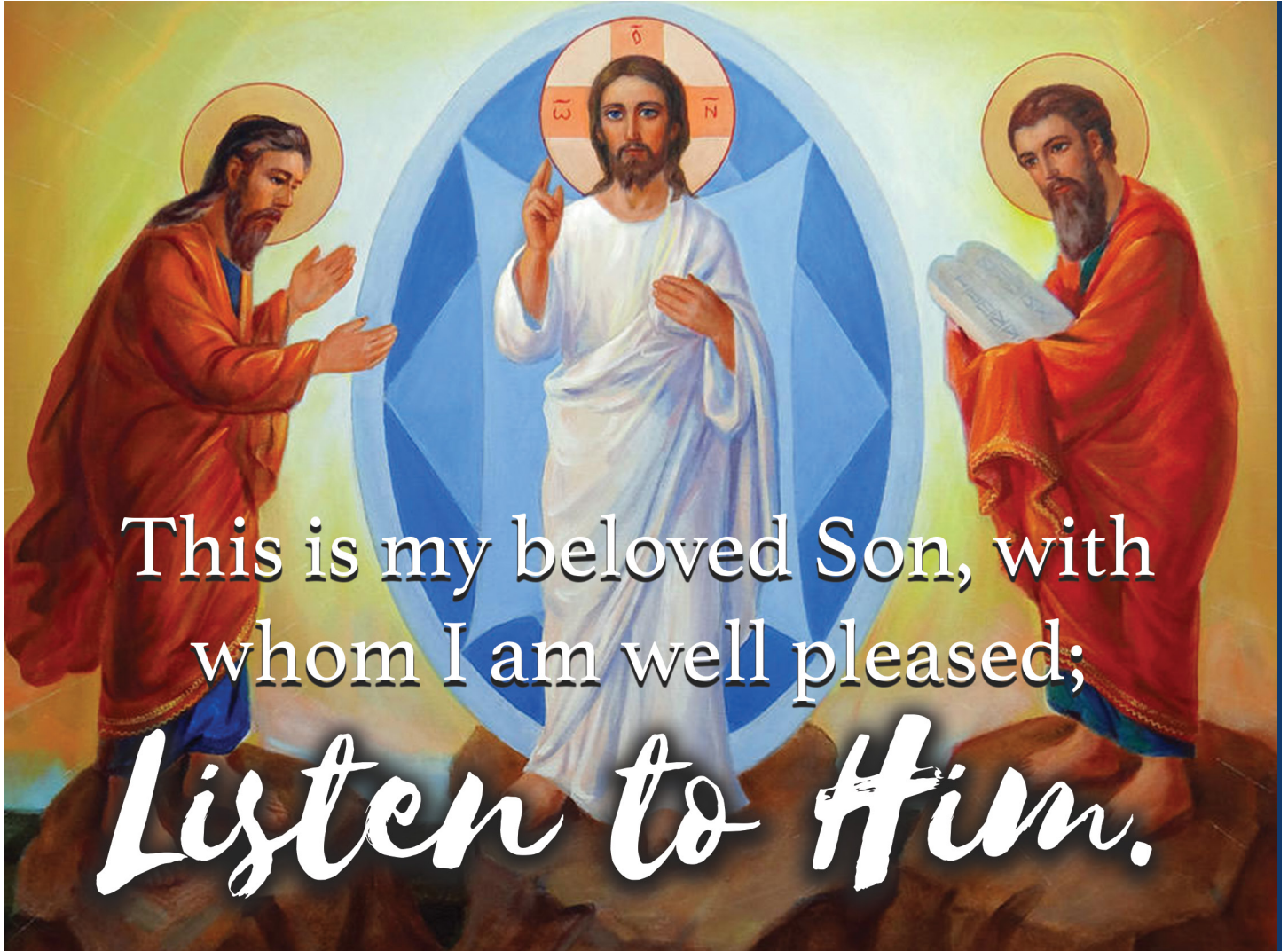




Saint Matthew CATHOLIC CHURCH

DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER

MARCH 5 + SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT



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

PARISH NEWS

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE

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 7 beginning at 7 p.m. We will have nine priests available to hear confession, including Fr. Raines and Fr. Tran. Please save the date for this wonderful sacramental opportunity.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Saint Matthew will host Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent. Each week will be hosted by a different member of the community. This week, we will be led by Dan Ott. Stations will begin at 6 p.m. in the church. We hope to see you there.

MARY'S WAY OF THE CROSS

All are invited to join the women of our St. Gianna Circle Mothers Ministry as we experience Mary's Way of the Cross. Mary's Way of the Cross is a series of meditations and prayers that follow Mary's thoughts and words from Jesus' passion to His death. Essentially, Mary made the first Stations of the Cross; she was with Jesus every step of the way. This empathetic version of the Stations of the Cross is intended to immerse those praying it into the passion and death of our Lord, so that we may better appreciate what He did for us all, and model our lives accordingly. We will gather on Thursday, March 9 after the 8 a.m. Mass in the Grotto. We hope to see you there.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

- FOR THE WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 26, 2023 -

PARISH, VISITORS, AUTOMATIC WITHDRAWALS, ONLINE GIVING, AND LOOSE CASH	\$22,297
SECOND COLLECTION: HAITI MISSION	\$1,089
SECOND COLLECTION: BLACK & INDIAN MISSIONS	\$313

THIS WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION: Capital Needs

NEXT WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION: Parish Charity

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING SAINT MATTHEW!
MAKE YOUR GIFT TODAY ON OUR GIVING PAGE:

www.stmatthewtn.org/church/giving



LITURGY SCHEDULE (MARCH 6-12, 2023)

MONDAY, MARCH 6

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✦ For Kori Jones
- Dn 9:4b-10
- Lk 6:36-38

TUESDAY, MARCH 7

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✦ For Brenda Walsh
- Is 1:10, 16-20
- Mt 23:1-12

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8

- 7:00 p.m. Mass
- ✦ For Kim Baldinger
- Jer 18:18-20
- Mt 20:17-28

THURSDAY, MARCH 9

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✦ For Abby Cox
- Jer 17:5-10
- Lk 16:19-31

FRIDAY, MARCH 10

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✦ Fr. James Dang
- Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a
- Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

- 5:00 p.m. Saturday Vigil Mass
- ✦ Jack Wright
- 8:30 a.m. Sunday Mass
- ✦ Nicholas Caime
- 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass
- ✦ For the People
- Ex 17:3-7
- Rom 5:1-2, 5-8
- Jn 4:5-42

✦ Special Intention

✦ *May they rest in peace*

PARISH NEWS

RESPECT FOR LIFE DRIVE FOR MULIER CARE COMMUNITY BABY SHOWER

Mulier Care, a Nashville-based non-profit supporting women facing a crisis or unplanned pregnancy, will host a Community Baby Shower on Wednesday, March 29. To support their efforts, our Respect for Life Ministry will host a drive to collect items for the baby shower. The drive will start at our 5 p.m. Mass next Saturday, March 11 and last through Sunday, March 26. We are seeking donations of diapers (all sizes), wipes, and pull-ups (all sizes). If you would like to participate, you are welcome to drop your donations off in the box located under the table across from the sacristy. Please contact Mary Starr at maryestarr25@gmail.com if you have any questions. Thank you for supporting our Respect for Life Ministry and Mulier Care!

FAMILY SERVICE MINISTRY GARDENING DAY

Our Family Service Ministry will host its annual Gardening Day at Sensory Garden for the Blind on Sunday, March 19 from 9 a.m. to noon. Come for any amount of time within that time frame or stay the whole time. This is a beautiful volunteer opportunity for the entire family, no matter the age, and an awesome way to care for God's gift of nature. For those seeking opportunities to serve this Lenten season, this event is right up your alley! To learn more and register, visit bit.ly/smcfsmgardeningday. Please indicate the ages of children attending. This helps the Lions Club plan age-appropriate tasks. Thank you for your participation!

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.



SPEAKER SERIES


DR. RYAN HANNING

DAY 1

WHAT IS HAPPINESS?

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22
7:30 P.M. | CHURCH

DAY 2

GOD'S PLAN FOR THE FAMILY

THURSDAY, MARCH 23
7:30 P.M. | CHURCH

REGISTER ONLINE AT
www.bit.ly/stmspeakerseries




ST. GIANNA CIRCLE
MOTHERS MINISTRY
presents

MOTHER & SON NIGHT OF FUN!

MARCH 25, 2023
6:00-9:00 P.M.
\$30/FAMILY

DJ, DINNER,
GAMES, CRAFTS,
PHOTO BOOTH + MORE!

SCAN THE QR CODE TO
LEARN MORE & REGISTER





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

www.stmatthewtn.org

PARISH NEWS

RESPECT FOR LIFE ROSARY

The Saint Matthew Respect for Life Ministry will meet every Monday from noon to 1 p.m. to pray the rosary outside of the Planned Parenthood in downtown Nashville. Anyone who would like to join in prayer with the ministry members is welcome to sign up and attend. Visit bit.ly/smcrlfrosary and complete the form to register for your spot. If you are unable to attend on Mondays, that's okay! You are welcome to pray there any time that works with your schedule. If you would like someone to attend with you, please contact Mary Starr at maryestarr25@gmail.com.

BECOME A GIFT BEARER

We are looking for volunteers to be offertory gift bearers at each of our weekend Masses. All parishioners—individuals and families—are invited to sign up. To register, visit bit.ly/smcgiftbearer.

REGISTER FOR OUR MARCH LUNCH BUNCH



We can't wait to welcome everyone back for our March Lunch Bunch! Lunch Bunch is our parish's monthly social gathering for members of the community ages 55+. We will gather in the Narthex on the second

Tuesday of every month for lunch, fun, fellowship, and bingo. Our next event is on Tuesday, March 14 from noon – 2 p.m. The cost of entry will be \$10 (collected at the door). We also ask that you bring an unwrapped gift for the prize table (gift cards, baked goods, new or gently-used items in good condition valued between \$10-20). Registrations can be made online at www.bit.ly/smclunchbunchmarch. If you have any questions, please contact Martin Strobel at mstrobel@stmatthewtn.org or (615) 550-5101.

FORMED

PICK OF THE WEEK - FEBRUARY 26



THE STORY OF SAINT PERPETUA

Watch this inspiring animated movie about the life of Saint Perpetua. Born from a noble Roman family, she converts to Christianity despite a new decree prohibiting new conversions in the Roman Empire. Ultimately, she gives her life for Christ.

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

ALL ARE WELCOME
Calling all Catholics to a celebration of community

TUESDAY, APRIL 4
Open House & Food Trucks - 4:30 p.m.
Chrism Mass - 6:30 p.m.
at the Catholic Pastoral Center
2800 McGavock Pike, Nashville, TN, 37214

RSVP TODAY
NashvilleChrism.org

  Or scan here

"Lord, I need you"

**NASHVILLE
CHRISM.ORG**

COMMUNITY NEWS

FATHER RYAN REUNIONS 2023

Save the date for Father Ryan High School's Reunion Weekend from Friday, June 2-Sunday, June 4! If you'd like to be involved in the planning for your class's reunion (class years ending in 3 or 8), send an email to Sarah Atwood at atwoods@fatherryan.org. More info at www.fatherryan.org/alumni/reconnect.

FATHER RYAN ACADEMIC BLEND - APRIL 18

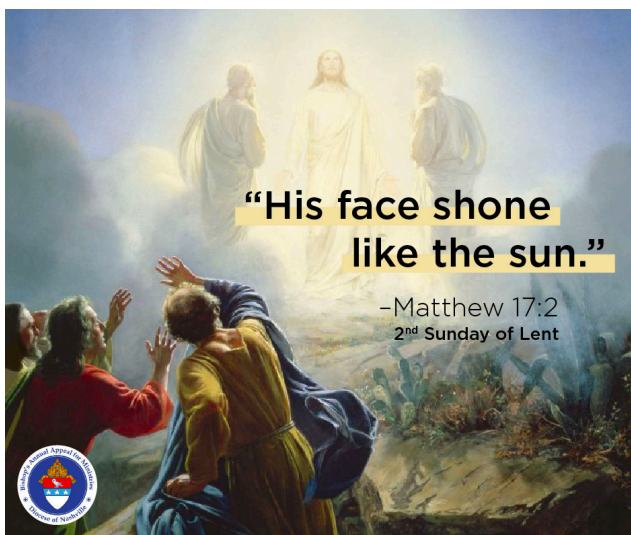
Parents of current 5th-7th grades are invited to join us on campus as we present an early, in-depth look into Father Ryan's curriculum as you begin to plan for your student's 9th-12th grade high school experience. You will have the opportunity to tour our academic building, observe classes in-session, and meet members of our senior staff. This event will take place from 9:15-10:45 a.m. Register at fatherryan.org/admissions/visit/non-applicant-visit.

WHAT'S ON NASHVILLE CATHOLIC RADIO?

Our Home is a School of Prayer, a program for busy parents - Monday, March 6 at 11:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. on Nashville Catholic Radio 100.5FM. Our children first meet God in our homes and learn to relate to him through prayer. Find out how parents in Middle Tennessee teach their children to pray. If you miss the show, listen to the podcast at www.NashvilleCR.com.

WILLIAMSON COUNTY RESCUE SQUAD SEEKING VOLUNTEERS

The Williamson County Rescue Squad Station 22 (1493 Sneed Road) is seeking citizens to serve as volunteer firefighters. All applicants must be 18 years or older to join. If you are interested in volunteering or learning more, please visit their website at www.wcfire.com.



BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL FOR MINISTRIES

God manifests himself in humble, quiet, and often majestic ways. In today's Gospel, He opts for the majestic atop Mount Tabor. Oh, what a sight to have been there! We ask you this Lent to lend your prayer, resources, and gifts to our Bishop's Annual Appeal for Ministries. Every day in our parish, He opts for a quieter manifestation. He comes, secret from our sight, at the bidding of a humble priest. He comes vulnerably, in the form of bread and wine, and we know He's here. He promises to return your generosity to you a hundredfold. The 2023 Bishop's Annual Appeal for Ministries is underway! Scan the QR code below to make your gift. Thank you for your generous support!



THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who supported last year's *Bishop's Annual Appeal for Ministries* and helped deliver essential ministries throughout Middle Tennessee, including Faith Formation, Youth and Young Adult Ministry, Seminarian Education, Catholic Charities, and so much more! To make your 2023 gift, visit dioceseofnashville.com/appeal or text "BISHOP" to 615-552-1101. Thank you!

SCAN HERE
TO MAKE
A GIFT



TONY'S REFLECTION

THE BLINDING POWER OF THE TRANSFIGURATION

As spring weather begins to emerge, we notice the prominence and power of the sun. It heats the air, it evaporates water, it brings growth to the desolate landscape. Yet, the other component of the sun is how it can overpower us. Try to look directly at the sun on a nice day (without sunglasses) and it will nearly blind you. Science tells us that staring at the sun for even a few seconds can cause serious eye damage. If our sensitive eyes begin to burn and we look away to avoid discomfort from the sun how much more so does the brightness of God revealed in the Divine Son blind us? As God created the sun, how much brighter is He than what He created (cf. Psalm 84:11). Well, today's Gospel reading illustrates how God's glory can literally blind us.

St. Matthew poetically describes that Jesus' face "shines like the sun and His garments became white as light." Here, Christ's dazzling brightness that emanated from His whole body, was produced by an interior shining of His Divinity.

What is interesting about the account of the Transfiguration in Matthew is that it takes place immediately following Jesus' prediction of His passion and His stating the arduous demands of discipleship (see Mt. 16:21-28). After delivering the difficult and trying news, Jesus then takes His three trusted disciples and reveals a slice of divine splendor that nearly blinds them and puts them in a state of holy fear.

By Jesus' glorious manifestation in the Transfiguration, He now strengthens his three friends to prepare them for the terrible struggle for which they are about to witness. Therefore, by giving them a foretaste of the glory and heavenly delights, they will be more likely to endure suffering for they will comprehend where the suffering will ultimately lead to – heavenly grandeur.

Think of your own experience. You'll more likely endure a grueling ordeal if you've been given insight that your temporary trial will lead to long-term fulfillment. Suddenly, the job, the workout, and the stress of being a parent doesn't seem as daunting when you are fixated on the magnificent end game of where that experience will lead you. The same formula applies to our faith. We may assume that the Transfiguration not only clearly revealed Jesus' divinity for a moment. He also allowed His glory to shine forth for the encouragement of the key apostles who were present.

Our faith beckons us to place the concept of the Transfiguration into our lives. When the stress and trials of life seem overwhelming, recall how much glory awaits those who endure in the faith. As Paul echoed Jesus' message in the Transfiguration: "For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which will be revealed to us" (Romans 8:18). So much glory, it may knock us down and momentarily blind us. Yet, this blinding glory will get us through those trying times.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

CONFIRMATION THIS THURSDAY, MARCH 9

This Thursday, March 9, our 8th graders will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Please keep our Confirmation candidates in your prayers as they approach this important moment in their faith.

TEACHING THOSE WITH DISABILITIES

Saint Matthew strives to grow our inclusive program to those with special needs. St. Philip Church in Franklin is offering a workshop for catechists on teaching to those with disabilities on March 25. Visit bit.ly/stphilipcatechesisanddisabilities to learn more and register.

REGISTRATION OPEN FOR TOTUS TUUS & VBS

Join Saint Matthew from June 25-30 for a week of faith-filled fun at Totus Tuus and Vacation Bible School! Learn more about each program below. To register, visit bit.ly/smctotustuusvbs23.

STELLAR VBS:

JUNE 26-30 | RISING PRE-K & K

Launch kids on a cosmic quest where they'll have a blast shining Jesus' light to the world. Stellar rockets kids on an out-of-this-world adventure that's light years of faith-building fun.

TOTUS TUUS

JUNE 26-30 | RISING 1st - 6th GRADERS

Latin for "totally yours," Totus Tuus is a fun and energetic program designed to create joy in the faith. Totus Tuus is led by a team of college-aged missionaries and seminarians. The youthfulness, energy, and ability to witness to the faith make the missionaries effective with children.

TOTUS TUUS: MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL

JUNE 25-29 | RISING 7th - 12th GRADERS

Our middle and high schools students will have their own Totus Tuus program that week, led by the Totus Tuus missionaries. The middle school and high school sessions will be held separately, and they will all meet each evening for night prayer.

YOUTH MINISTRY

LIFE NIGHT RESUMES TONIGHT!

Welcome back! We hope you all enjoyed the winter break. Our Life Nights will resume tonight, March 5, before taking off for spring break. Same time, same place. Be there, and bring a friend!

Upcoming Life Teen Dates

- March 5: Life Teen as usual, 5-7 p.m., PCC
- No Life Teen March 12 & 19 (Spring Break)
- March 26: Life Teen as usual, 5-7 p.m., PCC
- April 2: Life Teen as usual, 5-7 p.m., PCC
- April 9: Happy Easter! No Life Teen this day
- April 16: Life Teen as usual, 5-7 p.m., PCC
- No Life Teen April 23
- No Life Teen April 30 (First Communion at Saint Matthew)
- May 7: Life Teen as usual, 5-7 p.m., PCC
- May 14: Happy Mother's Day! No Life Teen
- May 21: Time for Exams and Graduation!
- May 28: End-of-School-Year Party
- Summer 2023: June 10-17 - Fort Myers Servio Deo Mission Trip

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN FOR SERVIO DEO



Registration is now open for Servio Deo! This year, we will be traveling to Fort Myers, Florida, to assist the communities affected by Hurricane Ian. The trip will take place from June 10-17 and is open to all 7th-12th graders in the Saint Matthew community. Register online at bit.ly/smcserviodeo23. To view the promo video for Servio Deo, visit bit.ly/smcserviodeopromo.

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 376: Mar 24-26 | SEARCH 377: Apr 28-30

WORLD YOUTH DAY

July 28-August 8, 2023

The Diocese of Nashville is going to World Youth Day in 2023! All youth of the diocese ages 16 and up are invited to attend. For more information on WYD, visit soundscatholic.com/world-youth-day.

REGISTER FOR LIFE TEEN

We have loved seeing all the new faces at Life Teen and look forward to seeing many more to come. If your student has been attending or is planning to start attending Life Teen, please take a moment and register your high school student for Life Teen at bit.ly/smclifeteen22-23.

WATCH THE SERVIO DEO
PROMO VIDEO!



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



Father Justin Raines
Pastor
frraines@stmatthewtn.org



Father Tien Tran
Associate Pastor
frtran@stmatthewtn.org



Bill Forte
Deacon
bforte@stmatthewtn.org



Lachlan Cameron
Deacon
lcameron@stmatthewtn.org



Tony Jesse
Dir. of Religious Ed.
tjesse@stmatthewtn.org



Kelly Ott
Pastoral Associate
kott@stmatthewtn.org



Lisa Vegors
Interim Youth Director
lvegors@stmatthewtn.org

BUSINESS STAFF



Leslie Holt
Dir. of Operations
lholt@stmatthewtn.org



Cindy Leonard
Dir. of Finance
cleonard@stmatthewtn.org



Tim Forbes
SMS Principal
tforbes@stmatthewtn.org



Lori Bellante
SMS Advancement Director
lbellante@stmatthewtn.org



Martin Strobel
Dir. Comm./Stewardship
mstrobel@stmatthewtn.org



Dawn Spiegl
Dir. of Technology
dspiegl@stmatthewtn.org



Cynthia Myers
Facility Coordinator
cmyers@stmatthewtn.org



Margaret Cook
Reception
mcook@stmatthewtn.org