



# *Saint Matthew* CATHOLIC CHURCH

DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER

APRIL 2 + PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

## *Palm Sunday*

"BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD."



### MASS SCHEDULE

#### MASS

Mon. & Tues. | 8 a.m.  
Wed. | 7 p.m. (Adoration at 6 p.m.)  
Holy Thursday | 7 p.m.  
Good Friday | 7 p.m.  
Holy Saturday | 8 p.m.  
Easter Sunday |  
7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m.

### PARISH INFORMATION

#### CONTACT US:

📍 535 Sneed Road W, Franklin, TN 37069  
✉ [info@stmatthewtn.org](mailto:info@stmatthewtn.org)  
☎ (615) 646-0378  
🌐 [www.stmatthewtn.org](http://www.stmatthewtn.org)  
📱 @SaintMatthewCatholicChurch

#### PASTOR:

Father Justin Raines

#### ASSOCIATE PASTOR:

Father Tien Tran

#### DEACONS:

Lachlan Cameron & Bill Forte

## LITURGY SCHEDULE (APRIL 3-9, 2023)

### MONDAY, APRIL 3

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✙ Paul Y. Tran
- Is 42:1-7
- Jn 12:1-11

### TUESDAY, APRIL 4

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✙ For John A. Chin
- Is 49:1-6
- Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5

- 7:00 p.m. Mass
- ✙ For the People of Saint Matthew
- Is 50:4-9a
- Mt 26:14-25

### HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 6

- 7:00 p.m. Mass
- ✙ For the People of Saint Matthew
- Ex 12:1-8, 11-14
- 1 Cor 11:23-26
- Jn 13:1-15

### GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 7

- 7:00 p.m. - Passion of the Lord
- Is 52:13—53:12
- Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9
- Jn 18:1—19:42

### HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 8

- 8:00 p.m. Easter Vigil Mass
- ✙ For those being baptized and received into the Church
- Gn 1:1—2:2
- Ex 14:15—15:1
- Is 55:1-11
- Rom 6:3-11
- Mt 28:1-10

### EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 9

- 7:30 a.m. Mass
- ✙ For the People of Saint Matthew
- 9:30 a.m. Mass
- ✙ For the People of Our Lady of Miracles, our sister Parish in Haiti
- 11:30 a.m. Mass
- ✙ For those remembered in the Easter flower memorials
- Acts 10:34a, 37-43
- Col 3:1-4
- Jn 20:1-9

## PARISH NEWS



## HOLY WEEK at Saint Matthew

### PALM SUNDAY

*Saturday, April 1*

5 p.m. - Mass\*

*\*Procession with palms begins in the courtyard (weather permitting)*

*Sunday, April 2*

8:30 a.m. - Mass

11 a.m. - Mass

*No outside procession*

### HOLY THURSDAY

*Thursday, April 6*

7 p.m. - Mass\* (with incense)

*\*Procession and Compline following Mass until 9 p.m.*

### GOOD FRIDAY

*Friday, April 7*

8 a.m. - Morning Prayer (Chapel)

3 p.m. - Stations of the Cross (Grotto)

7 p.m. - Passion of the Lord

### HOLY SATURDAY

*Saturday, April 8*

8 a.m. - Morning Prayer (Chapel)

8 p.m. - Easter Vigil (with incense)

### EASTER SUNDAY

*Sunday, April 9*

7:30 a.m. - Mass (no incense)

9:30 a.m. - Mass (incense; nursery open)

11:30 a.m. - Mass\* (incense)

*\*Men's Club Easter Egg Hunt to follow on athletics field*



## STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

### - FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 26, 2023 -

PARISH, VISITORS, AUTOMATIC WITHDRAWALS, ONLINE GIVING, AND LOOSE CASH	\$16,137
SECOND COLLECTION: TUITION ASSISTANCE	\$835

THIS WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION: Palm Sunday

NEXT WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION: Easter Sunday

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

[www.stmatthewtn.org/church/giving](http://www.stmatthewtn.org/church/giving)



## PARISH NEWS

### DONATE TO OUR EASTER FLOWERS COLLECTION

Help beautify the church this Easter with a donation to our Easter Flowers collection! Your donation will help us purchase Easter lilies for the altar for the Easter season. Easter lilies symbolize virtue, innocence, hope and life, while commemorating the resurrection of Christ and the hope of eternal life in heaven. If you would like to make a donation, visit [www.stmatthewtn.org/church/giving](http://www.stmatthewtn.org/church/giving) and visit our online giving page. Please submit any memorials and donations by Wednesday, April 5

### EASTER EGG HUNT - WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5

Come and hunt for Easter eggs with the Family Service Ministry! We will meet at NHC Place at the Trace on Wednesday, April 5 at 3:30 p.m. The kiddos will have fun while the residents enjoy seeing their smiling faces. There will be activities in addition to the egg hunt. If you can make it, please visit [bit.ly/smcfsmeasteregghunt](http://bit.ly/smcfsmeasteregghunt) to register. We hope to see you there!

### MEN'S CLUB APRIL MEETING DATE CHANGE

The Saint Matthew Men's Club has adjusted its meeting date for April to accommodate Holy Week. They will now meet on Thursday, April 13. All men of the parish over 18 years old are invited to attend. Please email [mensclub@stmatthewtn.org](mailto:mensclub@stmatthewtn.org) if you have any questions.

### SMS SCHOOL BOARD NOMINATIONS

The SMS School Board is actively seeking to fill four openings to replace members whose terms will expire. Term commitment is three years. If interested, please submit a short bio (5-6 sentences) highlighting your background and the skills you believe would contribute to the board and SMS community to Elizabeth Stack at [elizabethstack@hotmail.com](mailto:elizabethstack@hotmail.com). Submissions are due by April 10.

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Join us on Good Friday at 3 p.m. in the grotto (weather permitting) for our final Stations of the Cross of the Lenten season. This week, we will be led by Fr. Raines. We hope to see you there.

### ST. GIANNA CIRCLE MONTHLY MEETING

All mothers of the parish are invited to our St. Gianna Circle Mothers Ministry's monthly meeting this Tuesday, April 4. This month, we will learn about Healing Hands International, shop, and share in fellowship. Healing Hands International is in pursuit of a world that is full of hope where physical needs are met and hearts are surrendered to Jesus Christ. They do this through programs like disaster relief, clean water, sustainable farming, and business development. Women of Hope is a program of Healing Hands that seeks to strengthen women around the world through business education and microfinancing. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. in the Cohan-Hansom Building. To join the St. Gianna Circle email list, visit [bit.ly/smcestgiannacircle](http://bit.ly/smcestgiannacircle).

### EASTER EGG HUNT - SUNDAY, APRIL 9

Get ready for some fun this Easter Sunday! The Saint Matthew Men's Club will host its annual Easter Egg Hunt on the Saint Matthew athletics field following the 11:30 a.m. Mass on Easter Sunday, April 9! In the event of inclement weather, the hunt will be held in the Cohan-Hansom Building. All children of the parish are invited to attend. We hope to see you there!



The poster features a dark blue background with decorative Easter eggs on the left and right sides. The eggs are decorated with white and light blue geometric patterns like triangles and dots. In the center, the text is arranged vertically. At the top is the Saint Matthew Men's Club logo, which includes a cross and the letters 'SM'. Below the logo, the words 'EASTER EGG HUNT' are written in large, bold, light blue capital letters. Underneath that, 'APRIL 9, 2023' is written in white, followed by 'FOLLOWING THE 11:30 A.M. MASS' in white. At the bottom, the phrase 'All children of the parish are invited!' is written in a white, italicized font.

**EASTER  
EGG  
HUNT**

**APRIL 9, 2023  
FOLLOWING THE  
11:30 A.M. MASS**

*All children of the  
parish are invited!*



## PARISH NEWS

### RESPECT FOR LIFE CANDLE CEREMONY

Join our Respect for Life ministry on Wednesday, April 19 immediately following the 7 p.m. Mass for a candle ceremony for the unborn. Let's gather by candlelight to pray for the unborn, the innocent lives lost, the parents struggling with a crisis pregnancy, the medical professionals involved in abortions, and an end to the culture of death. As Pope St. John Paul II said, "Give us the grace - When the sacredness of life before birth is attacked, to stand up and proclaim that no one ever has the authority to destroy unborn life." We hope to see you there.



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

[www.stmatthewtn.org](http://www.stmatthewtn.org)

## FORMED

PICK OF THE WEEK - APRIL 2



### TRIDUUM: A SPIRITUAL PILGRIMAGE

Triduum: A Spiritual Pilgrimage, cinematically walks through the locations of the Holy Week story, representing the most important days of human history. Immersed in the real and sacred places of the Holy Land, the pilgrim faithful is brought tangibly nearer to the story, the landscape, and the reality of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. To watch this title and many more like it, visit FORMED.org and sign up using our parish zip code (37069).

### SAINT MATTHEW SOCCER CLINIC

Join us this summer for the inaugural Saint Matthew Soccer Clinic! The clinic will be hosted by Saint Matthew parent Stefan Caufield, a former NCAA Division I soccer player and coach who was a member of the U20 Canadian National Team and a member of Ottawa Fury FC in the Premier Development League. This camp is designed for up-and-coming soccer players to further develop their skills. The clinic will take place on June 2 & 3, 2023 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. The cost is \$80/player. More information will be made available soon. To register, visit [bit.ly/smsoccerclinic](http://bit.ly/smsoccerclinic).

### WOMEN'S CLUB TEA PARTY

All women of the parish are invited to a Tea Party celebrating the return of the Saint Matthew Women's Club! Joins us for the inaugural event of the 2023-2024 season. Enjoy fellowship, refreshments, and learn more about all of the exciting events planned throughout the year. High tea attire and hats are encouraged, and bring your own tea cup. The event will take place on Sunday, May 7 at noon. To register, visit [bit.ly/smcwcteparty](http://bit.ly/smcwcteparty).



## COMMUNITY NEWS

### HOLY FAMILY WORSHIP NIGHT

Join Holy Family Catholic Church for a Worship Night on Monday, April 24 at 7 p.m. for heartfelt music and prayer to worship our Lord this Easter season! There will be praise and worship music, Eucharistic Adoration, and a talk. We are honored to welcome Ben Walther as our guest speaker and musician. Ben is a youth and young adult minister and educator for over 20 years. He is the Director of Campus Ministry and Music Director at St. Paul Church in North Canton, Ohio.

### CATHOLIC BUSINESS LEAGUE APRIL MEETING

Judy Komisky Orr, LMSW, executive director of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Nashville, will speak at the CBL breakfast meeting on Thursday, April 13. Mass will be celebrated at 7 a.m. at the Cathedral of the Incarnation, and the event will follow at 7:45 a.m. in the Fleming Center.

### WHAT'S ON NASHVILLE CATHOLIC RADIO?

We are giving away free copies of *Raising a Catholic Family Today*, made available courtesy of Knights of Columbus Insurance, Schachle Agency. To request a free copy, go to [www.Nashvillecr.com](http://www.Nashvillecr.com) (quantity limited). Also, if you missed episodes of the *Raising a Catholic Family Today* radio show during Lent, you can find the episodes on our website. Be sure to tune into NCR, 100.5 FM.

### 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](http://www.wcfire.com).



“His blood  
be upon us  
and upon  
our children.”

-MATTHEW 27:25

*Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord*



### BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL FOR MINISTRIES

The blood of Christ satisfies every thirst in our hearts. Today, knowing who He really is, our hearts cry out with thirst for His mercy. Our Bishop's Annual Appeal for Ministries is an opportunity to thank our Savior for His great sacrifice on Calvary through small acts of love. Join us in creating a welcoming home for His merciful heart and for those who need His grace and mercy through the ministries supported by this important appeal.

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](http://dioceseofnashville.com/appeal) or text "BISHOP" to 615-552-1101. Thank you!

SCAN HERE  
TO MAKE  
A GIFT



### **TONY'S REFLECTION**

#### **THE PASSION BEGINS**

A range of emotions emerges during Holy Week – joy at the entrance of Jesus, the promised Messiah coming into Jerusalem. This joy quickly shifts to anxiety at what might happen to Him. Then, misery at His arrest, and finally unbounded horror, sadness, and anger at his violent death. If you've followed the news this week you may have experienced a similar roller coaster of emotions. Such questions inevitably surface: How can evil exist? How can the mother of a murdered child cope? In a similar vein, reflect on the Blessed Mother. How can Mary watch as her son endures such an excruciating and humiliating death? How can she become the mother of all – including those who persecuted her son? While placing ourselves amidst the events in Holy Week seems daunting, it allows us to view Christ's ordeal in our own lives.

Today's events in the Gospel and those that follow oblige us to see up close the treachery of the human heart. We hear two Gospel readings today: Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem and the passion story. The people who jubilantly welcome Jesus yell a few days later, "Crucify him!" Their fickleness contrasts with Jesus' faithfulness. It's no different 20 centuries later. There are crowds everywhere, it seems, who respond to Jesus' teaching with rejection and hatred. In some instances, quoting the Bible is tantamount to "hate speech" in which Christians feel the wrath of cancel culture much like the authorities attempted to "cancel" Jesus.

Or, others may don the role of betraying our Lord as Judas did. It appears the main motivator for Judas was love of money. Recall that St. John let us know that Judas secretly stole from the money bag (see John 12:6). Judas sold Jesus for thirty pieces of silver. The book of Exodus tells us that thirty pieces of silver is the price of a slave. With this exchange, Judas views Jesus as valuable as a common slave. Curiously, Jesus is not the first person in the Bible betrayed by someone close to him and sold into slavery for pieces of silver. In Genesis, Joseph was also left for dead and sold into slavery for silver by his brothers, the deal being brokered by his older brother, Judah. Interestingly, Judas and Judah are the same names in the Hebrew language. It is fitting that Jesus came from the line of Judah as Judah's betrayal of Joseph mirrors Judas' betrayal of which Christ takes on the effect. In a way, every time we sin, we mimic Judas' unfaithfulness to Christ. I have to face the harsh reality that my sins helped nail Jesus to that blood-stained cross.

Jesus' ordeal is telling in our time today. With the unjust trial, scourging, and violent death of a holy, innocent man it may seem beyond belief how evil can cause so much misery. But this story is short lived for while evil always lurks in the background, God wins in the end. The gut-wrenching events of Jesus' death are meant to escort us to Easter Sunday when He becomes victorious over death.

## **ADULT FAITH FORMATION**

### **THE BEATITUDES BIBLE STUDY**

In his Gospel, Saint Matthew shares with us the astonishing words of Jesus: a promise of everlasting happiness, far removed from the usual ideas for gratification. Join us for a Bible study on the Beatitudes. We will meet on Thursdays at 1 p.m. in the parish conference center. To register, visit [bit.ly/smcbeatitudes](http://bit.ly/smcbeatitudes).

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

### **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](http://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**

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. Their youthfulness, energy, and faithfulness make them 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 TONIGHT, APRIL 2

Happy Holy Week! Join us tonight for our next Life Night, where we will take a look at the events of Jesus' Passion, Death and Resurrection from his perspective on the cross. Bring a friend; they're always welcome! We hope to see you there.

#### Upcoming Life Teen Dates

- 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](http://bit.ly/smcserviodeo23). To view the promo video for Servio Deo, visit [bit.ly/smcserviodeopromo](http://bit.ly/smcserviodeopromo).

### AROUND THE DIOCESE

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

#### SEARCH RETREATS

**FINAL RETREAT: April 28-30**

This is your last opportunity to take part in the diocesan SEARCH retreat this season! To learn more and register, visit [soundscatholic.com](http://soundscatholic.com).

#### 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](http://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](http://bit.ly/smclifeteen22-23).

**WATCH THE SERVIO DEO  
PROMO VIDEO!**



**TONY JESSE**

**Director of Religious Education**  
[tjesse@stmatthewtn.org](mailto:tjesse@stmatthewtn.org)

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



**LISA VEGORS**

**Interim Youth Director**  
[lvevors@stmatthewtn.org](mailto:lvevors@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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lvegors@stmatthewtn.org

## ALL ARE WELCOME

Calling all Catholics to a celebration of community

TUESDAY, APRIL 4

Open House &amp; 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