



Saint Matthew CATHOLIC CHURCH

DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER

APRIL 9 + THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

EASTER

Sunday

HE IS RISEN! INDEED, HE IS RISEN!

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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📱 @SaintMatthewCatholicChurch

PASTOR:

Father Justin Raines

ASSOCIATE PASTOR:

Father Tien Tran

DEACONS:

Lachlan Cameron & Bill Forte



PARISH NEWS

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY NOVENA AND PRAYER SERVICE

Jesus, I trust in you! Next Sunday, April 16, we will celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday. In honor of this special feast day, we invite all parishioners to join us on a special prayer journey. We started the Divine Mercy novena on Good Friday with a special prayer service in the chapel. All of the prayers for the novena, which will end on Saturday, April 15, are available on our website at bit.ly/smcdivinemercy and will continue to be emailed to the parish community daily. On Divine Mercy Sunday following the completion of the novena, we will gather in the church for another prayer service. Confession will be available from 1:30-2:45 p.m., and the service will begin at 3 p.m. in the church. Please prayerfully consider joining us on this journey.

SMS SCHOOL BOARD NOMINATIONS

Are you interested in serving Saint Matthew as part of the SMS School Board? The board is actively seeking to fill four openings to replace members whose terms will expire. The board meets monthly during the school year. 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. Submissions are due by April 10.

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 if you have any questions.

FSM RONALD McDONALD HOUSE MEAL

Our Family Service Ministry will be preparing meals for 35 residents at the Ronald McDonald House. We will gather in the Cohan-Hansom Building after school (approximately 3:15 p.m.) on Friday, April 14 to gather and cook the meals. We are in need of volunteers to help cook and one volunteer to deliver the meals that evening. There are other volunteer opportunities for folks who are unavailable to attend and help cook. If you are interested, please visit bit.ly/smcfsmronaldmcdonald to sign up.

MANDATORY LITURGICAL MINISTRY TRAINING

We will host a training session for all Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHCs), Sacristans, and Ministers of Ceremony (MC). This is for all current members of each ministry as well as anyone who wants to become part of one of these ministries. The training session is MANDATORY for all current members of these ministries. The sessions will be held on Monday, April 17 at 6:30 p.m. and Saturday, April 22 at 2:30 p.m. If you cannot make one of the two training dates, please contact Kelly Ott at kott@stmatthewtn.org to schedule a make-up session.

LITURGY SCHEDULE (APRIL 10-16, 2023)

MONDAY, APRIL 10

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✦ For Olivia Templeton
- Acts 2:14, 22-33
- Mt 28:8-15

TUESDAY, APRIL 11

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✦ Sharon Rose Biebel Hartmann
- Acts 2:36-41
- Jn 20:11-18

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12

- 7:00 p.m. Mass
- ✦ Nita Wimberly
- Acts 3:1-10
- Lk 24:13-35

THURSDAY, APRIL 13

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✦ Edward Thomas
- Acts 3:11-26
- Lk 24:35-48

FRIDAY, APRIL 14

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✦ Most forgotten souls in Purgatory
- Acts 4:1-12
- Jn 21:1-14

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

- 5:00 p.m. Saturday Vigil Mass
- ✦ For the People
- 8:30 a.m. Sunday Mass
- ✦ Bill Huffaker
- 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass
- ✦ Kelly Kuhlman
- Acts 2:42-47
- 1 Pt 1:3-9
- Jn 20:19-31

✦ Special Intention

- ✦ *May they rest in peace*

PARISH NEWS

RESPECT FOR LIFE CANDLE CEREMONY

Our Respect for Life ministry is hosting a Candle Ceremony commemorating the unborn lives lost from 1973 to today. We are looking for parishioners to participate in the ceremony by processing up the aisle with one of 50 lighted candles, representing each year that Roe v. Wade was an active law in the United States. Anyone interested in participating is welcome to sign up. The ceremony will take place on Wednesday, April 19 following the 7 p.m. Mass. To register, visit bit.ly/smcrespectforlifecandles. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Starr at maryestarr25@gmail.com.

ROOM IN THE INN COMPLETES '22-23 SEASON

Our Room in the Inn ministry hosted their final event of the 2022-2023 season in March. We would like to thank all of our supporters and volunteers for such a successful season! From November to March, we hosted 10 events, served over 120 guests, provided over 250 meals, and were even able to offer our guests a hot shower using the mobile shower unit from Shower Up at each event. We are so thankful for your support and prayers throughout the year.



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 from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. The cost is \$80/player. More information will be made available soon. To register, visit bit.ly/smcsooccerclinic.

REGISTER 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! At Stellar VBS, rising Pre-K and kindergarten students will launch 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. For rising first through 12th graders, Totus Tuus is a fun and energetic program designed to create joy in the faith led by a team of college-aged missionaries and seminarians. To learn more about these programs and to register, visit bit.ly/smctotustuusvbs23.

SERVIO DEO REGISTRATION

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. We are also seeking chaperones (learn more and register at bit.ly/smcserviodeochap) and college work crew members (bit.ly/smcserviodeocollege). If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Vegors at lvegors@stmatthewtn.org. To view the promo video for Servio Deo, visit bit.ly/smcserviodeopromo.



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

www.stmatthewtn.org



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

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PASTORAL STAFF



Father Justin Raines
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Lisa Vegors
Interim Youth Director
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TONY'S REFLECTION A NEW LIFE

We have reached the climax of the liturgical year, the highest peak of salvation history, when all that has been anticipated and promised is to be fulfilled. In fact, the entire Christian faith hinges on the event on Easter Sunday. If Jesus didn't rise from the dead, we should all go home and find something else to do. St. Paul says so much when he acclaims, "If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain" (1 Cor. 15:14,19). Jesus took the worst of what the world could throw at Him and returned alive and triumphant. Through the Resurrection, Jesus shows us the ironic paradox of how death is now dead.

Today, a great victory is announced. Life defeats death. Good triumphs over evil. Yet, a quick glance at John's reading and one might be perplexed at the absence of such a jubilant decree. After all, there is no dramatic appearance of the risen Jesus, nor any proclamation by angels at the tomb. The final verse even states that the disciples "did not yet understand the Scripture that He had to rise from the dead." Given such an extraordinary event, why not more poetic fireworks? While it might seem that Scripture is not speaking in grandiose terms on the surface, much is packed into this scene. Notice the repetition of the word "tomb" - seven times in nine verses. Jesus's followers saw the evidence of what Christ had promised them: that God would raise Him on the third day. Therefore, for St. John, the phrase "empty tomb" is code for announcing the grand news that Jesus has triumphed over death.

St. John even goes into detail on Peter's description of the burial cloth - how the cloth that covered Jesus' head was rolled up in a separate place. The recognition of the burial cloths reveals that Jesus hadn't been carted off by grave robbers, who usually stole the expensive burial linens and left the corpse behind. In Jesus's tomb, the opposite had taken place. By going into the minutiae of the empty tomb description, St. John is telling us that something miraculous is afoot. Jesus has casually put aside the fabrics of death's sleep, folding them up like old pajamas, and has left the tomb for good; therefore, we are left with a penetrating reality that, out of the fragments of dying, Christ's tomb is not the dark end but a light-filled beginning. This means that in our own lives, we don't have to live as though death is our master. In light of the Resurrection, we can begin to see earthly life as a gestation place toward something higher, more permanent, and more splendid.

I know it's challenging to think beyond the here and now and merely say death has been defeated, but take time this Easter season to contemplate that there is more going on than death, than the absence of a loved one. No, what is very much in play is that, after the body experiences the decay of death, the soul, assuming it clings to Christ, can finally become alive in Christ. Knowing this, that pesky fear of death we hold on to can be brushed aside, much like Christ's burial cloths were on Easter Sunday.