



# *Saint Matthew* CATHOLIC CHURCH

**DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER**

**AUGUST 20, 2023 + TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**



## **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](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



## PARISH NEWS



### LITURGY SCHEDULE (AUGUST 21-27, 2023)

#### MONDAY, AUGUST 21

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✙ Helen Hoskins
- Jgs 2:11-19
- Mt 19:16-22

#### TUESDAY, AUGUST 22

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✙ For Dee Davis
- Jgs 6:11-24a
- Mt 19:23-30

#### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23

- 7:00 p.m. Mass
- ✙ For the Goss Family
- Jgs 9:6-15
- Mt 20:1-16

#### THURSDAY, AUGUST 24

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✙ Richard Smego
- Rv 21:9b-14
- Jn 1:45-51

#### FRIDAY, AUGUST 25

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✙ Theodore Bradford "Brad" Phillips
- Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22
- Mt 22:34-40

#### TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- 5:00 p.m. Saturday Vigil Mass
- ✙ For the People of Saint Matthew
- 8:30 a.m. Sunday Mass
- ✙ Marshall Aaron Woodard
- 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass
- ✙ Phillip Hultman
- Is 22:19-23
- Rom 11:33-36
- Mt 16:13-20

- ✙ Special Intention
- ✙ *May they rest in peace*

### CALLING ALL 5th THROUGH 12th GRADERS TO BE ALTAR SERVERS

If you are in 5th through 12th grade and would like to be an altar server at our weekend Masses, we would love to train you! Please contact Dan Ott at [daniel.r.ott@vumc.org](mailto:daniel.r.ott@vumc.org) to schedule a time to learn how to fulfill this important liturgical role. Students of Saint Matthew School do not need to attend this training. You will be trained to serve at school sometime in the next few weeks. This is for only those homeschooled students or those attending a different school.

### REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN FOR OUR CHILDREN'S CHOIRS

All children of the parish are invited to join the Saint Matthew Children's Choir! The Little Lights Choir (formerly the Kids Choir) is open to students in K-2nd grade. The Liturgy Choir is open to students in 3rd-8th grade. Liturgy Choir members in 5th-8th grade are invited to serve as Cantors/Psalmists. Visit [bit.ly/smcchildrenschoirs](http://bit.ly/smcchildrenschoirs) to learn more and register. For questions, contact Rebecca Harding ([rharding@stmatthewtn.org](mailto:rharding@stmatthewtn.org)) or Laura Holderman ([lholderman@stmatthewtn.org](mailto:lholderman@stmatthewtn.org)).

### ST. GIANNA CIRCLE MIX & MEET

Attention all moms! You're invited to the St. Gianna Circle Mix & Meet on Tuesday, September 5 from 7-9 p.m. in the Cohan-Hansom Building. St. Gianna Circle Mothers Ministry is designed to support and affirm women in the many roles we have as mothers, wives, daughters, sisters and friends. This event is a fun introduction to St. Gianna Circle. Join us for wine, desserts, appetizers and prizes! To register, visit [bit.ly/sgcmixmeet23](http://bit.ly/sgcmixmeet23). Please contact Elizabeth Abaray at [elizabeth.abaray@live.com](mailto:elizabeth.abaray@live.com) if you have any questions. As always, babies are welcome at St. Gianna Circle!

## STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

### - FOR THE WEEK ENDING AUGUST 13, 2023 -

PARISH, VISITORS, ACH WITHDRAWALS, ONLINE GIVING, AND LOOSE CASH	\$21,737
SECOND COLLECTION: TUITION ASSISTANCE	\$668

THIS WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION: Haiti Mission

NEXT WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION: Capital Needs

MAKE YOUR GIFT TODAY ON OUR  
ONLINE GIVING PAGE:

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



## PARISH NEWS

### EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL PORTAL IS LIVE!

We are excited to announce that the Eucharistic Revival portal is now live on the Saint Matthew website! Visit [bit.ly/smceucharist](https://bit.ly/smceucharist) to learn more about the Year of Eucharistic Revival and to refocus your hearts on this fundamental truth of our faith.

### SAINT MATTHEW MINISTRY FAIR



Saint Matthew will host its annual Ministry Fair on September 9 & 10 following all of the weekend Masses in the Cohan-Hansom Building. All are invited to attend and learn more about the 30+ ministry offerings here at our parish. Each ministry represented will have informational sheets and sign-up forms. If you are looking for a place to get involved at the parish, this is your opportunity. We hope to see you there!

### SAINT MATTHEW FEAST DAY CELEBRATION



Join us for the Saint Matthew Feast Day Celebration & Spaghetti Dinner on Thursday, September 21! In honor of our patron's feast day, we will celebrate Mass at 6 p.m., followed by a spaghetti dinner in the Cohan-Hansom Building. Meals will cost \$10/plate and \$40/family. All members of the Saint Matthew community are invited to attend and spend time in fellowship together. Visit [bit.ly/smcfeastdaydinner](https://bit.ly/smcfeastdaydinner) to place your meal order today.

### WOMEN'S CLUB SEPTEMBER MEETING

Join us for the official return of the Saint Matthew Women's Club. Our first meeting will take place in the PCC following the 7 p.m. Mass on Wednesday, September 13. We invite everyone to join us at Mass before the meeting, as Fr. Raines will deliver a special blessing for the Women's Club during that Mass. We will then meet to enjoy refreshments, review the agenda for the upcoming year, explore service opportunities, and distribute the book for our October meeting. Visit [bit.ly/smcwcseptmeeting](https://bit.ly/smcwcseptmeeting) to register and purchase your copy of the book for our October meeting. If you have any questions, please contact Connie Vargas at [cvargasnp@gmail.com](mailto:cvargasnp@gmail.com) or Cynthia Myers at [cm Myers@stmatthewtn.org](mailto:cm Myers@stmatthewtn.org).

### 13TH ANNUAL SONGWRITERS NIGHT



Mark your calendars! Our 13th Annual Songwriters Night will be held on Saturday, September 16 at 6 p.m. in the courtyard. All funds raised will benefit our Haiti Ministry and support our sister parish, Our Lady of Miracles, in Gobert, Haiti. Tickets are on sale now! To learn more and purchase tickets, visit [bit.ly/smcsonwritersnight23](https://bit.ly/smcsonwritersnight23).

### SPONSOR OUR SONGWRITERS NIGHT

Sponsorship opportunities are available for our 13th Annual Well Played: A Songwriters Night! If you or your business is interested in sponsoring this event, please visit [bit.ly/smcsonwritersnightsponsor23](https://bit.ly/smcsonwritersnightsponsor23) and complete the sponsorship form. If you have any questions, please contact Lee Dorough at [jimandmarylee@comcast.net](mailto:jimandmarylee@comcast.net), Janet Dittus at [janetdittusmd@comcast.net](mailto:janetdittusmd@comcast.net), or Barney Schulte at [ben87ce@yahoo.com](mailto:ben87ce@yahoo.com).

## PARISH NEWS

### SAINT MATTHEW SPEAKER SERIES FEATURING DR. JAMES PAULEY



Join us for the next installment of the Saint Matthew Speaker Series featuring Dr. James Pauley, professor of Theology and Catechetics at Franciscan University of

Steubenville. In honor of the year of Eucharistic Revival, both of his talks will be centered on the Eucharist. His first talk on Wednesday, October 4 is titled "How does the Eucharist revive us?" The second talk on Thursday, October 5 is titled "How can we better encounter God at Mass?" Both talks will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the church. Visit [bit.ly/smcsspaulley](https://bit.ly/smcsspaulley) to register and learn more about Dr. Pauley and his talks. We hope to see you there!

### THE TROOPS OF SAINT GEORGE

Register for our newest ministry, the Troops of Saint George.

Founded in 2013, TSG

is a national fraternal Catholic apostolate for young men looking for a life of adventure coupled with virtue. All Catholic fathers and sons are invited to join. Our meetings will include fun physical activities. Monthly excursions will include hiking, camping and other outdoor adventures. If you and your son(s) are interested, please visit [bit.ly/smctsgregistration](https://bit.ly/smctsgregistration). For questions, please email Eric Ruppaner at [tsg@stmatthewtn.org](mailto:tsg@stmatthewtn.org).



**TROOPS OF  
SAINT GEORGE**  
VIRTUS. HONOR. FRATERNITAS.

### FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

Follow Saint Matthew to deepen your Catholic faith on your favorite social media platform! Find us on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube to keep up with everything happening here on Sneed Road.



SaintMatthewCatholicChurch



@stmatthewtn



c/SaintMatthewCatholicChurch

### JOIN THE A/V MINISTRY

Our A/V Ministry is seeking volunteers to assist with running the livestreams at our daily and weekend Masses. Our daily Mass livestreams are viewed not only by local and homebound parishioners, but also by viewers around the country. This ministry helps us expand our reach and help those across the country deepen their Catholic faith. To join, please contact Kirk Jordan at [kirkjordan@comcast.net](mailto:kirkjordan@comcast.net).



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

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

## FORMED

PICK OF THE WEEK - AUGUST 20



**FORMED NOW:  
POPE SAINT PIUS X**

Join Dr. Ben Akers with Lucas Pollice as they discuss the life of Pope St. Pius X and his work to restore all things in Christ.

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



## COMMUNITY NEWS

### FATHER RYAN FALL SPORTS PASSES ON SALE

Father Ryan offers seasonal sports passes to give fans the opportunity to attend all home games and matches and save money on individual tickets. Football, fall sports, and parking passes are now available to purchase! To place your ticket order today, visit [www.fatherryan.org/tickets](http://www.fatherryan.org/tickets). Let's go Irish!

### STRESS IN YOUR MARRIAGE?

Retrouvaille is a program for married couples who feel bored, disillusioned, frustrated, or angry in their marriage. Some experience coldness, and others conflict in their relationships. This program has helped tens of thousands of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriages. For confidential information about or to register for the September program, call (800) 470-2230 or (615) 838-6724, email [nrv3043@gmail.com](mailto:nrv3043@gmail.com), or visit our website at [www.HelpOurMarriage.com](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.com).

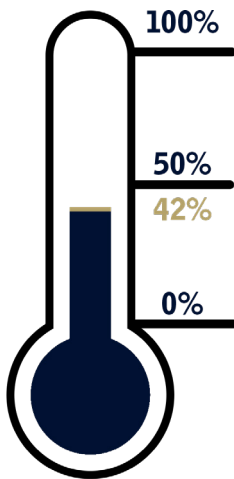
### FATHER RYAN PRIDE IN THE PIT BBQ CONTEST

Calling all Pitmasters! Father Ryan's 10th Annual Pride in the Pit BBQ contest takes place at Homecoming on Friday, September 29. There are still a few pit slots remaining for our area's best BBQ experts to join the competition. If you would like to be a part of the event, contact Caroline Graham at [grahamc@fatherryan.org](mailto:grahamc@fatherryan.org) or register your BBQ team on [www.fatherryan.org](http://www.fatherryan.org). Go Irish!

### NCBWL PEARLS OF WISDOM 2023

Tickets are on sale now for the 2023 Pearls of Wisdom gala, hosted by the Nashville Catholic Business Women's League. Funds raised during this event support the Aurelia Varallo Mariani Scholarship Fund, which provides tuition assistance for one young woman at each of the three Catholic high schools in Nashville for four years. The event will take place on Friday, October 6 at Richland Country Club. Learn more at [www.ncbwl.org](http://www.ncbwl.org).

## THE BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL FOR MINISTRIES: MORE THAN \$50,000 RAISED!



Thanks to your generous support, Saint Matthew has already raised more than \$50,000 in this year's *Bishop's Annual Appeal for Ministries*! Our goal for this year's appeal is \$118,390. We are currently at 42% of that goal with a total of \$50,878.

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, scan the QR code below to make your gift today.



## 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

### IT ALL STARTS WITH HUMILITY

Every couple of years, a movie about exorcisms comes out. While Hollywood has sensed exorcist movies still fascinate audiences, this draw to the paranormal suggests more might be going on. Pew Research found that in the demographic of 18-29-year olds, the number of those who abandon religion altogether increased by 35%. At the same time, another study discovered that 63% of the same demographic believe that someone can become demonically possessed. Interestingly, in this demographic, we see an increase in those who choose to vacate the faith coupled with an increase in evidence of preternatural experience. Perhaps there is a correlation in these studies suggesting that something happened in their life making them conclude the devil is real.

When a person experiences demonic activity and wholeheartedly desires to rid their life of this evil, their level of faith skyrockets which, in turn, increases their humility, prayer life, and sacramental need. Why? The sheer stupefying extremity of facing the horrors of evil will cause one to go "all-in" to God with dramatic intensity. In this state of a heightened need for God, people will readily admit their own failings and certainly won't care what other people think. In today's Gospel reading, we witness such a scene. A Canaanite woman's daughter is being demonically tormented. The Book of Genesis identifies the Canaanites as descendants of Canaan, a son of Ham, grandfather of Noah. Genesis portrays an unfortunate episode involving Noah and Ham. In the fallout of the incident, Noah's grandson Canaan is said to be "cursed." Therefore, the Canaanites were descendants of the cursed line of Canaan, and this woman was likely feeling the effects of this curse in a very concrete way – her daughter was being subject to demonic anguish. In her time of desperate need, she wisely turned to Jesus in humility and honesty.

We'll notice that Christ did not coddle this woman and three times denied her plea. In fact, He referred to her and the Canaanites in general as "dogs." Today, calling someone a "dog" goes over like a lead balloon in our emotionally sensitive culture that overemphasizes self-esteem. But more is going under the surface in this exchange. Scholars suggest that Christ is testing her while revealing her faith to others. So while it looks like He's blowing her off, He's invoking a response from her to showcase what true humility looks like. Her reply discloses genuine humility and her need for divine healing. The context of this conversation boils down to her saying, "Yes, my generational line is justly cursed to the point of lowly dogs, but even we dogs will gladly eat the scraps from your divine banquet"

While we might not think we have a generational curse as this Canaanite woman experienced, it behooves us to contemplate the fact that we are all under the generational curse of Adam whenever we sin. Here, we can emulate her response to humbly, persistently, and reverently flock to Jesus, knowing that a mere crumb from His Holy Eucharist will restore us.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR 2023-2024 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/IGNITE SESSIONS

Our Religious Education ministry is designed to help kids know their faith and live their faith throughout their lives. Registration for 2024 Religious Education (preK-6th grade) and Ignite (7-8th grade) sessions is now open. Visit [bit.ly/smcreled](http://bit.ly/smcreled) to learn more and register.

## ADULT FAITH FORMATION

### NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONFERENCE

From July 17 to 21, 2024, the Church in America will gather as one family in Indianapolis to revive our love of the Eucharist. At the National Eucharistic Congress, a large number of Catholics gather to reaffirm the Eucharist as the source and summit of our faith through worship and enlightening talks. Saint Matthew would like to send a delegation to this historical moment. If you are interested, please visit [bit.ly/smcnecinterest](http://bit.ly/smcnecinterest) to fill out our interest form.

### VOLUNTEER TO BECOME A CATECHIST

You can have a positive impact on our youth by becoming a catechist and teaching our kids about the faith. You don't need to be an expert; we'll provide you with the materials to guide you. If you are interested, please visit [bit.ly/smccatechist23](http://bit.ly/smccatechist23) and fill out the brief form.

### INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC?



If you or anyone you know is interested in becoming Catholic, our RCIA ministry can help. RCIA is a process of conversion and apprenticeship created by the Church to welcome those who wish to learn more about the Catholic faith and, in turn, desire to become Catholic. If you or someone you know is interested, visit [bit.ly/smcrcia24](http://bit.ly/smcrcia24).

## YOUTH MINISTRY

### RISE NIGHT TONIGHT!

Join us for the first ever Rise Night! We'll play Spikeball, eat pizza, listen to a short talk from Antoinette, have small groups and play more games. All high school students are welcome, and bring a friend or sibling. Also, if you own a Spikeball set, feel free to bring it along!



### REGISTER FOR RISE 2023-2024

Take the jump and register for RISE Youth Group! Open to all high school students as an opportunity to come together for fellowship, fun and exploration of our Catholic faith. Throughout the school year, we'll meet most Sundays from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Join us to deepen your Catholic faith in fellowship with the youth of the parish. To learn more and register, visit [bit.ly/smcrise2324](http://bit.ly/smcrise2324).

### WANTED: BOARD GAMES

Do you like playing board games? Hey, so do we! And we're looking to grow our collection! If you have any old games collecting dust, we will happily take them. Or if there's a game you think we absolutely have to have, we'd gladly take new ones. Please make sure they are appropriate and have all of the pieces. These games will primarily be used by high school students, but we're not above turning a little kid's matching game into an epic relay race. If you'd like to donate please contact Antoinette Hanning at [ahanning@stmatthewtn.org](mailto:ahanning@stmatthewtn.org).

### YOUTH GROUP ON INSTAGRAM



Guess what? We're back on Instagram! Follow us for Youth Group updates, Catholic resources for teens, and much more! Give us a follow [@stmatthewyouth](https://www.instagram.com/stmatthewyouth).



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

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



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

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