



Saint Matthew CATHOLIC CHURCH

DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER

AUGUST 27, 2023 + TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

WHO DO *you* SAY THAT I AM?

- MATTHEW 16:15



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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✉ 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

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/smcceucharist to learn more about the Year of Eucharistic Revival and to refocus your hearts on this fundamental truth of our faith.

REGISTRATION FOR LITURGY CHOIR CLOSING THIS THURSDAY

Registration for our Liturgy Choir will close this Thursday, August 31. The Liturgy Choir is open to students in 3rd-8th grade. Liturgy Choir members in 4th-8th grade are invited to serve as Cantors/Psalmsists. Visit bit.ly/smcchildrenschoirs to learn more and register. For questions, contact Rebecca Harding (rharding@stmatthewtn.org) or Laura Holderman (lholderman@stmatthewtn.org).

REGISTER FOR OUR FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION - SEPTEMBER 1

Time slots are available for our First Friday Adoration on September 1. This is a great opportunity to spend time with our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament during this year of Eucharistic Revival. If you are interested in attending, please visit bit.ly/smcffseptember23 to register.

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. Please contact Elizabeth Abaray at 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	\$20,131
SECOND COLLECTION: DEBT REDUCTION	\$425

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



LITURGY SCHEDULE (AUG 28-SEPT 3, 2023)

MONDAY, AUGUST 28

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✙ Frances VanGennip
- 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10
- Mt 23:13-22

TUESDAY, AUGUST 29

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✙ For Jim and Judy Watson
- 1 Thes 2:1-8
- Mk 6:17-29

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30

- 7:00 p.m. Mass
- ✙ Cecilia Lisante
- 1 Thes 2:9-13
- Mt 23:27-32

THURSDAY, AUGUST 31

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✙ For Tim Forbes
- 1 Thes 3:7-13
- Mt 24:42-51

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✙ Christophe Bertrand Elise
- 1 Thes 4:1-8
- Mt 25:1-13

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- 5:00 p.m. Saturday Vigil Mass
- ✙ Scott Dawson
- 8:30 a.m. Sunday Mass
- ✙ For the People of Saint Matthew
- 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass
- ✙ Marshall Aaron Woodard
- Jer 20:7-9
- Rom 12:1-2
- Mt 16:21-27

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

PARISH NEWS

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 to place your meal order today.

BECOME A CUB SCOUT

Saint Matthew Cub Scouts are POPPING! Pack 287 had a blast playing games and getting to know the other scouts at our Popcorn Party, and we want your child to join in on the fun. If your son (ages 5-11) is interested, visit bit.ly/pack287 to register. Questions? Email Doug Kennedy at pack287@stmatthewtn.org.

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 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 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 or Cynthia Myers at 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/smcsongwritersnight23.

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/smcsongwritersnightsponsor23 and complete the sponsorship form. If you have any questions, please contact Lee Dorrough at jimandmarylee@comcast.net, Janet Dittus at janetdittusmd@comcast.net, or Barney Schulte at 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 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/smcstsgregistration. For questions, please email Eric Ruppaner at 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.



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

www.stmatthewtn.org

FORMED

PICK OF THE WEEK - AUGUST 27



RESTLESS HEART: THE CONFESSIONS OF AUGUSTINE

This film on the life of St. Augustine offers a message of conversion and redemption. It is the story of a gifted man who pursues fame and fortune without a moral compass - and the dramatic changes that occur in his soul when challenging events lead him to see the light of truth.

To watch this title and many more like it, visit 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. 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, or visit our website at www.HelpOurMarriage.com.

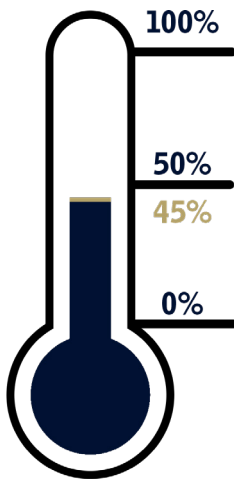
FATHER RYAN PRIDE IN THE PIT BBQ CONTEST

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 or register your BBQ team on 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.

THE BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL FOR MINISTRIES: MORE THAN \$53,000 RAISED!



Thanks to your generous support, Saint Matthew has already raised more than \$53,000 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 \$53,313.

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 or text "BISHOP" to 615-552-1101. Thank you!

SCAN HERE
TO MAKE
A GIFT



TONY'S REFLECTION

THE TRUE ROCK

Psychologists have found that people will learn better when presented with images because visual lessons tend to stand out better in a person's memory bank than vocal words. Like a good teacher, Jesus invokes dramatic images in today's Gospel reading. The location of where Jesus is instructing the disciples speaks volumes as to what is taking place.

Jesus took his disciples to Caesarea Philippi. Caesarea Philippi was known as the land of spiritual darkness because it was inhabited by the pagan Gentiles. It was located at the farthest northern tip of the Holy Land. At the time of Jesus, Emperor Caesar used Caesarea Philippi as his capital. Philip was the tetrarch, and he named the region Caesarea (in honor of his boss) and Philippi (in honor of his humble self).

At Caesarea Philippi, there was a massive rock at the foothills of Mt. Hermon. On the left of the rock was a cave with niches carved in the rock where pagan idols used to be kept and worshipped. Jesus did not take them to Caesarea Philippi by mistake or chance. The Jewish historian Josephus described how there was water at the bottom of the caves. The people at the time tried to reach the bottom by lowering a stone on a rope, yet no one could get to it. Given this endless drop, the pagans considered the caves in the rock as the entrance to Hades.

Here, Jesus poses the question, "Who do men say the Son of Man is?" As is typically the case, the common man's answer in grasping the identity of Jesus is off the mark. Guided by divine insight, Peter says to Jesus, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." After Peter correctly identifies Jesus, Jesus blesses Peter and now defines Peter as the "rock." He will build His church on and give him heavenly authority. From this, the foundation of the papacy is established.

Our setting today sheds light on a profound lesson. Jesus is teaching His disciples in front of a pagan false rock, false church, used for worshiping false gods with a false entrance into Hades. It is no wonder that Jesus uses this setting to name Peter as the true rock of His Church for the worship of the true God and articulate how "the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it."

Interestingly, the water that rushes out of the caves goes to the Sea of Galilee comprising 70 percent of the water used in Israel. The water that flows from under this rock is the water that sustained the people of God and cultivated Israel into a fertile landscape. This physical image acts as a parallel to describe the spiritual reality Jesus is alluding to. What is the spiritual "water" that flows from the rock of Peter? True and pure infallible teaching for over 2,000 years which we can trust to this day. From this rock, the Church, and the Sacraments confer graces like a pipeline from heaven pouring down on 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 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 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. We are in need of catechists for our Pre-K and 4th grade Religious Education classes. If you are interested, please visit 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/smrcia24.

FALL RETREAT 2023

KALEIDOSCOPE

- Sept. 29th - Oct. 1st
- Gasper River Retreat Center, KY
- Open to Students 8 - 12th Grade

Join us for a weekend of rappelling, zip lining (among other adventure activities), bonfires, good food, talks, small groups, and Jesus!



REGISTER HERE

*Whether you've been to Rise before
or this will be your first time with us,
you are so welcome!*



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

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