



Saint Matthew CATHOLIC CHURCH

DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER

JULY 23, 2023 + SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE PARABLE OF THE

*"The righteous will shine
like the sun in the kingdom
of their Father."*

WEEDS IN THE WHEAT

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

LITURGY SCHEDULE (JULY 24-30, 2023)

MONDAY, JULY 24

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✙ John DiSilva
- Ex 14:5-18
- Mt 12:38-42

TUESDAY, JULY 25

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✙ Joseph Thin Nguyen
- 2 Cor 4:7-15
- Mt 20:20-28

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26

- 7:00 p.m. Mass
- ✙ For Anna Tran and Alyssa
- Ex 16:1-5, 9-15
- Mt 13:1-9

THURSDAY, JULY 27

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✙ For Father Raines on his Ordination Anniversary
- Ex 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20b
- Mt 13:10-17

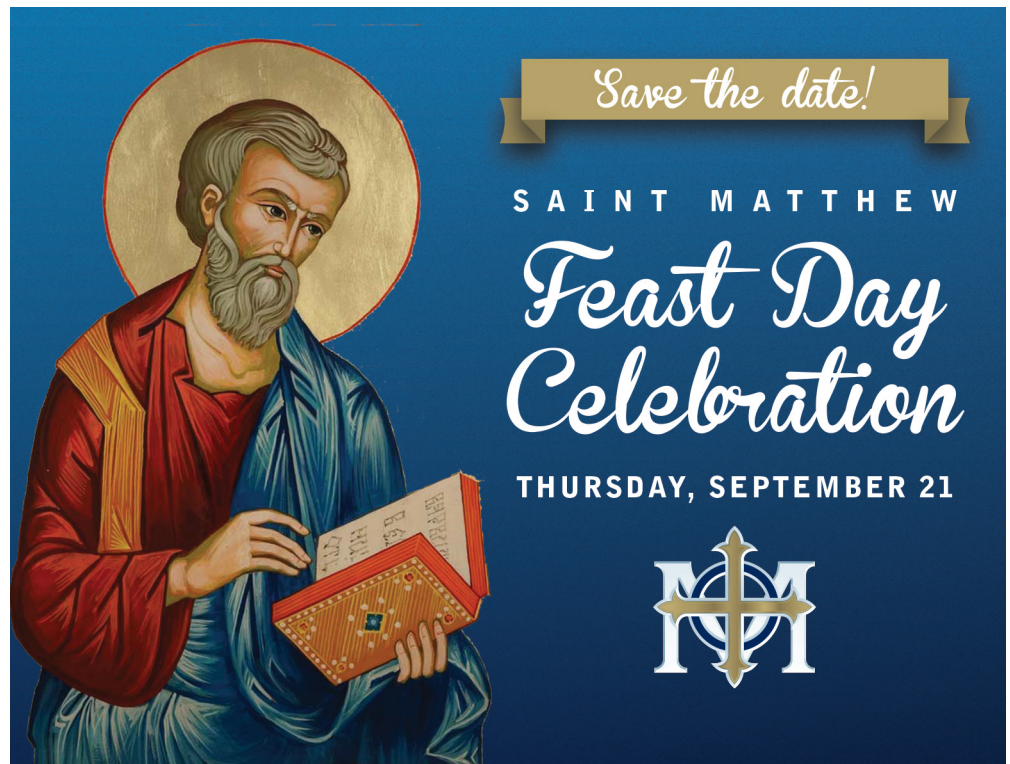
FRIDAY, JULY 28

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✙ Anthony Tran
- Ex 20:1-17
- Mt 13:18-23

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

- 5:00 p.m. Saturday Vigil Mass
- ✙ Marshall Aaron Woodard
- 8:30 a.m. Sunday Mass
- ✙ Florence Caime
- 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass
- ✙ For the People of Saint Matthew
- 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12
- Rom 8:28-30
- Mt 13:44-52

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



SAINT MATTHEW FEAST DAY CELEBRATION & DINNER

Save the date 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. All members of the Saint Matthew community are invited to attend and spend time in fellowship together. More information, including a registration form for the dinner, will be made available soon. Please mark you calendars and make plans to attend!

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

- FOR THE WEEK ENDING JULY 16, 2023 -	
PARISH, VISITORS, ACH WITHDRAWALS, ONLINE GIVING, AND LOOSE CASH	\$20,289
SECOND COLLECTION: HAITI MISSION	\$1,761

THIS WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION: St. Gianna Circle Ministry

NEXT WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION: Family Service Ministry

MAKE YOUR GIFT TODAY ON OUR
ONLINE GIVING PAGE:

www.stmatthewtn.org/church/giving



PARISH NEWS

NEW HIRE MEET AND GREET - AUGUST 5 & 6

Save the date for our next Community Weekend on August 5 & 6 as we host a meet-and-greet with all of our new staff members! All parishioners are invited to join us in the Cohan-Hansom Building after all of our weekend Masses to get to know our newest staff members, including our new school principal, director of finance, director of youth ministry, music director, account payable clerk, and others! More information to come. We hope to see you there!

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE 13TH ANNUAL WELL PLAYED: A 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.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR WELL PLAYED: A SONGWRITERS NIGHT

Sponsorship opportunities are available for our 13th annual Well Played: A Songwriters Night! Your sponsorship will support our ongoing efforts to aid our sister parish, Our Lady of Miracles, and the surrounding communities in Gobert, Haiti. 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 Dorough at jimandmarylee@comcast.net, Janet Dittus at janetdittusmd@comcast.net, or Barney Schulte at ben87ce@yahoo.com.



SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT de PAUL 5th ANNUAL FRIENDS OF THE POOR WALK/RUN

Our conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul is excited to announce its fifth annual Friends of the Poor Walk/Run! The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is a worldwide organization of lay Catholics following Christ's call to serve the poor, the suffering, and the deprived. Our conference is no different, serving those most in need in our neighborhoods. This year's walk/run will take place on Saturday, August 19 on the track at St. Cecilia Academy. All are invited to participate in the event. This is a great event for families and individuals alike to connect with the community, get active, and serve those in the area who need it most. Registration is now open. Visit bit.ly/svdpfopwalkrun23 to register for the race.

SPONSORS NEEDED FOR THE FRIENDS OF THE POOR WALK/RUN

Our St. Vincent de Paul conference is seeking sponsors for this year's Friends of the Poor Walk/Run. Individuals, families, and businesses are invited to sponsor the event at one of three levels to accommodate your budget. If you are interested in sponsoring the event, please contact Paul Stigamier at pstigamier@me.com. Thank you for your support!



Friends
OF THE POOR®
WALK

**SATURDAY,
AUGUST 19**

**8 AM -
NOON**

**ST. CECILIA
ACADEMY TRACK**

**REGISTER ONLINE AT
bit.ly/svdpfopwalkrun23**



PARISH NEWS

ADULT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR YOUTH GROUP

We are seeking adult volunteers from the parish to assist the Saint Matthew Youth Group and serve the high-school-aged youth of our parish throughout the year. Volunteers are needed to serve on our Core Team and Support Team. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Antoinette Hanning, Director of Youth Ministry, at ahanning@stmatthewtn.org.

CALENDAR FIXED ON WEBSITE

Last week, we reported that we were experiencing issues with the calendar on the Saint Matthew website. We are happy to report that the issue has been resolved. While it might look different, you will now be able to see all of our upcoming events on our website. If you have any questions, please contact the church office. Thank you for your patience as we worked to resolve this issue.

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 OUR EMAIL LIST!

Stay up to date with the latest news and information from Saint Matthew Catholic Church! Join our email list today to receive our regular newsletters, updates on upcoming events, and more. To join our list, visit bit.ly/smcemailsignup and fill out the form.



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

JOIN OUR FEED THE PRIEST MINISTRY!

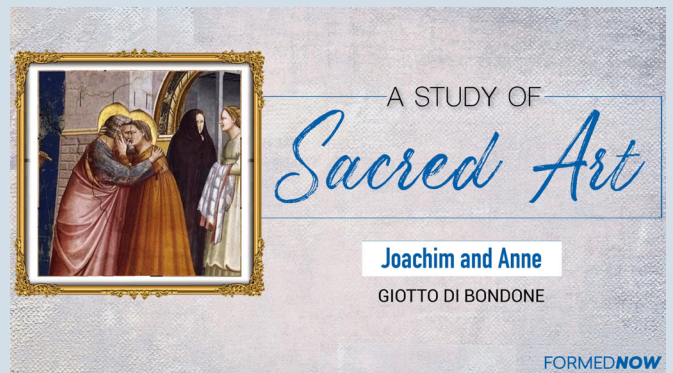
We are seeking volunteers for our Feed the Priest ministry. We are in need of helpers—families or individuals—to provide meals for our priests every Tuesday. If you are interested, please contact Valerie Canning at vcanning@fab-line.com.

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.

FORMED

PICK OF THE WEEK - JULY 23



SACRED ART: STS. JOACHIM AND ANNE

In this episode on FORMED Now, Dr. Ben Akers and Taylor Kemp discuss the parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary in this famous painting “Joachim and Anne Meeting at the Golden Gate.”

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!

CEILI RAIN AT ST. HENRY - THURS, JULY 29

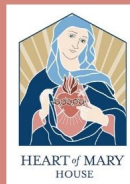
St. Henry is honored to welcome world-renowned Celtic pop-rock band Ceili Rain for a free community concert. Bring a picnic dinner and the whole family to this event that you will not want to miss! The concert will take place on Saturday, July 29 at 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall at St. Henry. All are invited to attend. Freewill donations will be accepted to contribute to the Habitat for Humanity build. We hope to see you there!

CATHOLIC BUSINESS LEAGUE MEETING

The August 10 Catholic Business League's Breakfast Meeting will be a "Back by Special Demand" one, with three leaders of the Nashville music industry joining us for an encore. All are welcome to attend. Join us for the 7 a.m. Mass and meeting following at 7:45 a.m. in The Fleming Center at the Cathedral of the Incarnation. For more information, please visit www.catholicbusinessleague.org.

Heart of Mary House is the first of many homes under the local non profit, Catholic Comfort Care Homes.

Each home provides housing and 24/7 care to the dying poor in our community. It's a place where the works of mercy encompass every aspect of each day!



Come by and see how you can be a part of the GRACE that permeates the walls of HOMH!

We have needs for the following positions:

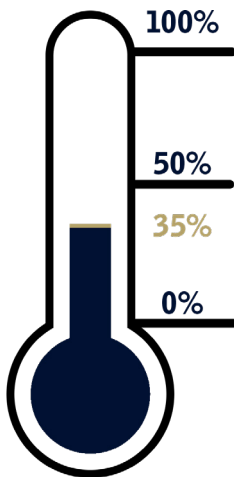
- **Part Time Caregiver**- this is a paid position. No licensure or experience necessary; on the job training provided.
- **Volunteer**- jobs include, cleaning; laundry; resident personal care; praying; sharing musical talents; reading; etc...

200 Thompson Lane
Nashville, TN 37211



www.heartofmaryhouse.org
stedwardhomh@gmail.com
Kim Derrick, 615-504-8542

THE BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL FOR MINISTRIES: MORE THAN \$40,000 ALREADY RAISED!



Thanks to your generous support, Saint Matthew has already raised more than \$40,000 in this year's *Bishop's Annual Appeal for Ministries*! Our goal for this year's appeal is \$118,390. We are currently at 35% of that goal with a total of \$41,594.

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

BEING WHEAT AMONG WEEDS

Oftentimes, people are scandalized by the behavior of other Catholics, even members of the hierarchy. Many use the presence of hypocrites within the Church as an excuse for leaving or having a loose association with faith in general. I've never fully grasped the logic of this reasoning; it seems to me to be like declining to attend a workout session because not all the participants try their hardest, and many are out of shape themselves. How do the actions of others mean that you shouldn't try to get in shape?

Today, Jesus speaks to us about such a scenario and informs us that, in His Church, there exists both wheat and weeds; saints and sinners. Some probably prefer that Jesus told a parable in which the farmer planted all the good seeds on one side of the field, and the enemy planted all the weeds on the other side, such that there was an easily visible distinction between them. But that's not the case. In fact, Jesus' parable illustrates how the weeds and wheat are packaged together.

In those moments, we become disenchanted and scandalized by the presence of evildoers in the Church. This parable serves as a reminder that God warned us such was the case. The manifestation of evil throughout God's people is a consistent theme throughout salvation history. God's chosen people, Israel, contained some of the most corrupt kings and key figures in their royal lineage. Jacob deceived his father on his deathbed. Judah had an illicit affair with his daughter-in-law. Moses was a murderer. It was the high priest, Aaron, that initiated the golden calf apostasy. David was a liar, adulterer, and orchestrated the murder of an innocent man, and on it goes. Given all this, we should not conclude that, since the visible Church is not pure, the visible Church is not the manifestation of the kingdom of God.

The presence of "weeds" does not prevent the Church from being holy when we recite the Creed at Mass. The Church's holiness in the sacraments is God's divine medicine for all. Here, the sacraments have the ability to work through corrupt outlets. A bad priest does not prevent the sacraments from working, much like an unhealthy doctor can still provide healthy medicine that heals. St. Augustine articulated that the grace of the sacraments comes not from the moral excellence of the priest but from God alone (see CCC 1128). As well, St. Paul said that God's treasures come from God, not men (see 2 Corinthians 4:7). It is a long-standing staple that God writes straight with crooked lines in which holiness emerges despite corruption.

We should also keep in mind that, although in this life we may complain about God's tolerance of "weeds" in the Church, at the final judgment, we may find that we ourselves were "weeds" for whose conversion to "wheat" the Son of Man was patiently waiting. Let us strive to allow Christ to make us into "wheat" as we reverently consume Him in the "wheat" of the Holy Bread and Body in the Eucharist.

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

BIBLE STUDY ON THE REAL PRESENCE

This fall, we will be having a Bible study on the Real Presence of the Eucharist that explores both the Old Testament and New Testament. If you are interested in joining, visit bit.ly/smceucharistbiblestudy to complete the 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 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.

YOUTH MINISTRY

SERVIO DEO MEMS ON YOUTUBE



Want to see some of our favorite memories from Servio Deo? Check out our Youtube channel! Visit bit.ly/smcygyoutube to watch the highlights from this year's mission trip.

REGISTER FOR LIFE TEEN 2023-2024

Registration for the coming year of Life Teen is now open! At Life Teen, high schoolers come together for fellowship, fun, and most importantly to explore our Catholic faith and how it nourishes our lives. Join us to deepen your Catholic faith in fellowship with the youth of the parish. Our new season will kick off in August. To learn more and register, visit bit.ly/smclifetimeen2324.

LIFE TEEN KICK-OFF EVENT

The new Life Teen season is about to begin! Our kick-off event will take place on Sunday, August 13 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. All high-school-aged students in the parish are invited to attend.

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).

CALLING ALL HIGH SCHOOLERS!

We want you to be a part of our Peer Team! This team is completely made up of students who desire to use their talents to serve their friends and community for the greater glory of God. Members will have opportunities for service hours, additional formation, and making memories that will last. There are a few different crews that make up our team, so there is something for everyone! Over the next few weeks, we'll be highlighting each group on the peer team. Keep an eye out to see what opportunities are open to you! Please prayerfully consider how God may be calling you to say yes. If you are interested in joining the peer team, please contact Antoinette Hanning at ahanning@stmatthewtn.org.

PEER TEAM HIGHLIGHT: LEADERSHIP CREW

This group is made up primarily of juniors and seniors who desire to grow in servant leadership. They will have opportunities to directly minister to their peers by giving talks, leading small groups, helping plan retreats and more.

If you are interested in joining the Leadership Crew, please contact Antoinette Hanning at ahanning@stmatthewtn.org.



TONY JESSE
Director of Religious Education
tjesse@stmatthewtn.org

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



ANTOINETTE HANNING
Director of Youth Ministry
ahanning@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
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Lachlan Cameron
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Kelly Ott
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kott@stmatthewtn.org

