



# *Saint Matthew* CATHOLIC CHURCH

**DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER**

**JULY 9, 2023 + FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

*Come to me,*  
all you who labor and are burdened,  
and I will give you

**REST**

- Matthew 11:28

## **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

### ADULT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR LIFE TEEN

We are seeking adult volunteers from the parish to assist our Life Teen ministry program throughout the year. Life Teen is our parish's youth group for high school students. Volunteers are needed to serve on our Core Team and Support Team. Over the next few weeks, we will highlight some of the available positions and ways to serve the youth of our parish. If you have a passion for the faith and are interested in getting involved at the parish, please prayerfully consider joining one of these teams. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Antoinette Hanning, Director of Youth Ministry, at [ahanning@stmatthewtn.org](mailto:ahanning@stmatthewtn.org).

### JOIN THE CORE TEAM!

Our Core Team consists of a group of adults who feel called to be missionaries for our youth. Core Team members will have their feet on the ground, serving directly at our weekly Life Nights and other youth group events. Responsibilities include helping the teens feel welcome, leading small groups, participating in games and prayer, etc. This is an important responsibility, and we are seeking individuals who truly feel a desire to serve. All adults of the parish are invited to prayerfully discern joining the Core Team. If you or someone you know would be interested in joining this important team, please contact Antoinette Hanning.

### CORE TEAM REQUIREMENTS

Core Team members must:

- Be over the age of 21.
- Have a love for Jesus and the Catholic Church.
- Have the desire to serve the youth of our parish.
- Have a commitment to be a missionary and serve as a Christian role model.
- Have a willingness to lead prayer, small groups, and talks.
- Commit to attending our weekly Life Nights.
- Attend at least one Life Teen retreat throughout the year.
- Participate in Core Team meetings twice a month (subject to change).
- Complete the Diocesan Safe Environment training and follow the guidelines.

### STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

#### - FOR THE WEEK ENDING JUNE 18, 2023 -

PARISH, VISITORS, ACH WITHDRAWALS, ONLINE GIVING, AND LOOSE CASH	\$29,073.50
SECOND COLLECTION: PARISH CHARITY	\$373

MAKE YOUR GIFT TODAY ON OUR  
ONLINE GIVING PAGE:

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



### LITURGY SCHEDULE (JULY 10-16, 2023)

#### MONDAY, JULY 10

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✠ Peter D. Walsh
- Gn 28:10-22a
- Mt 9:18-26

#### TUESDAY, JULY 11

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✠ For Abby Cox
- Gn 32:23-33
- Mt 9:32-38

#### WEDNESDAY, JULY 12

- 7:00 p.m. Mass
- ✠ Joe Bianco
- Gn 41:55-57; 42:5-7a, 17-24a
- Mt 10:1-7

#### THURSDAY, JULY 13

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✠ Frances VanGennip
- Gn 44:18-21, 23b-29; 45:1-5
- Mt 10:7-15

#### FRIDAY, JULY 14

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✠ John Fleckenstein
- Gn 46:1-7, 28-30
- Mt 10:16-23

### FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

- 5:00 p.m. Saturday Vigil Mass
- ✠ For the People of Saint Matthew
- 8:30 a.m. Sunday Mass
- ✠ Anna Thao Tran
- 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass
- ✠ Souls in Purgatory
- Is 55:10-11
- Rom 8:18-23
- Mt 13:1-23

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



## 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 will go on sale this Saturday, July 15. To learn more, visit [bit.ly/smcsongwritersnight23](http://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](http://bit.ly/smcsongwritersnightsponsor23) 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).



### 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/svdppopwalkrun23](http://bit.ly/svdppopwalkrun23) 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](mailto: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/svdppopwalkrun23](http://bit.ly/svdppopwalkrun23)**



## PARISH NEWS

### 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

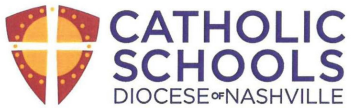
### JOIN OUR EMAIL LIST!

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](https://bit.ly/smcemailsignup) and fill out the form.



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

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



Complete your teacher employment  
application today.



*Building kind hearts, strong minds and  
confident leaders in faith.*

### 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 Kelly Ott at [kott@stmatthewtn.org](mailto:kott@stmatthewtn.org).

### 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).

## FORMED

PICK OF THE WEEK - JULY 9



### THE STORY OF DEATH | EP. 1: ETERNAL REST

Where did death come from? What does death mean for the human person? Is it simply just part of life, or is it something else? In this first session, we discuss the story of death and God's response to it: defeating death by dying and rising from the dead.

To watch this title and many more like it, visit [FORMED.org](https://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!

### 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!

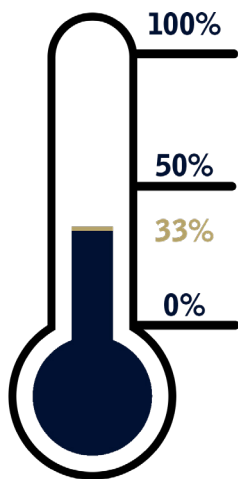
### KIDS VIRTUE CAMP

Grow in virtue this summer at the Kids Virtue Camp, hosted by St. Catherine of Siena Church in Columbia. The camp is free and open to students in pre-K through 12th grade. They will offer Mass, lessons on the virtues, cooking, gardening, crafts and more! The camp will be held from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. on July 20 & 27. To learn more and register, visit [www.stcatherinecc.org/kids-virtue-camp](http://www.stcatherinecc.org/kids-virtue-camp).

### CATHOLIC BUSINESS LEAGUE MONTHLY MEETING - THURSDAY, JULY 13

The Catholic Business League invites all to join our July breakfast meeting on Thursday, July 13. Enjoy a morning of networking and coffee as a special panel of our seminarians discusses their paths to the priesthood. The meeting begins at 7:45 a.m. in The Fleming Center at the Cathedral of the Incarnation. Mass is offered prior at 7 a.m. All are welcome.

## 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 33% of that goal with a total of \$40,204.

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 DO NOT BE AFRAID

Today, Jesus speaks words of consolation, some favorite verses that many battle-tested Christians have memorized: "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light."

The connection is commonly missed, but in this passage, Jesus is emphasizing two points. First, He is alluding to the historical aspect. In 1 Kings: 12, is the account of the transition from King Solomon to Rehoboam, his heir, and the subsequent tragic splitting of the kingdom of David into north and south. The backdrop of the story reveals after King Solomon's death, the people of Israel came to Rehoboam because they were burdened from forced labor, and wanted rest from heavy taxation. They pleaded with Rehoboam, the crown prince, to "lighten their yoke" of taxation and forced labor. But Rehoboam was arrogant and swaggering - he promised them a "heavy yoke" and an increase in unjust burdens. As a result, the northern tribes "divorced" the Son of David and returned to their own homes. They chose a different king, Jeroboam, and the sorry disintegration of the once-great kingdom of David began. It turned from a united kingdom into a fractured one.

The second aspect of this passage illustrates that the new King, Jesus, will be our heavenly companion as we experience our trials. Indeed, saying "my yoke is easy" doesn't mean we won't experience challenges.

The description of a yoke is fitting to grasp the concept that Jesus is teaching here. A yoke is a wooden beam that holds the heads of two animals plowing a field. Here, picture two oxen pulling a heavy plow. The yoke connects them so that they can pull the burdensome plow together. This wooden beam also represents carrying our cross as it connects two objects at the horizontal level, much like the arms of the cross; whereas, the wooden beam that connects at the vertical level is connected to whatever it is pulling, be it a plow or wagon. So, as we are carrying our horizontal cross, it is connected to Christ who is also bearing our plow. And the plow is represented by our burdens, our worries, and our sufferings. Therefore, Christ is right alongside us, lugging our burdens much like Simon of Cyrene is beside Christ helping Him carry His cross.

Throughout your journeying in life, it might feel that you are alone with temptation and obstacles encircling you. But with this imagery of the yoke, Christ is showing us that He is very much near and active in supporting our struggles. This is why he says "my yoke is easy" – for when we allow Him to carry our burdens for us, it becomes easier for us.

God does allow suffering for us, but unlike King Rehoboam, He doesn't leave us to wither from it alone. Rather, Christ is yoked to us in helping us through our challenges in life.

## 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

### 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](http://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](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/smcrecia24](http://bit.ly/smcrecia24).

## YOUTH MINISTRY

### 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/smc lifeteen2324](http://bit.ly/smc lifeteen2324).

### 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 4-9 p.m. All high-school-aged students in the parish are invited to attend. We hope to see you there!



### 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](mailto:ahanning@stmatthewtn.org).

### PEER TEAM HIGHLIGHT: PEER SUPPORT CREW

This group of teens focuses on growing our community in various ways and supporting the Youth Minister. Members of the Peer Support Crew are asked to commit to at least 2 hours a month.

Tasks include:

- Creating social media posts
- Writing Bulletin reflections
- Giving Parish announcements
- Helping to plan events
- Organizing the occasional storage closet
- Writing thank you cards

If you are interested in joining the Peer Support Crew, please contact Antoinette Hanning at [ahanning@stmatthewtn.org](mailto:ahanning@stmatthewtn.org).



**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**  
Director of Youth Ministry  
[ahanning@stmatthewtn.org](mailto: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**

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fraines@stmatthewtn.org



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