



# *Saint Matthew* CATHOLIC CHURCH

**DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER**

OCTOBER 1, 2023 + TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Have in you the same  
attitude that is also in

CHRIST JESUS

-Philippians 2:5



## **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

### SAINT MATTHEW SPEAKER SERIES

#### LITURGY SCHEDULE (OCTOBER 2-8, 2023)

##### MONDAY, OCTOBER 2

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✙ Mary M. Thomas
- Zec 8:1-8
- Mt 18:1-5, 10

##### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✙ Tom Forbes
- Zec 8:20-23
- Lk 9:51-56

##### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4

- 7:00 p.m. Mass
- ✙ Raymond Denault
- Neh 2:1-8
- Lk 9:57-62

##### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✙ Fr. Charles Strobel
- Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12
- Lk 10:1-12

##### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✙ Anthony Tran
- Bar 1:15-22
- Lk 10:13-16

#### TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- 5:00 p.m. Saturday Vigil Mass
- ✙ For the People of Saint Matthew
- 8:30 a.m. Sunday Mass
- ✙ Pam McGrath
- 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass
- ✙ Antoinette Haney
- Is 5:1-7
- Phil 4:6-9
- Mt 21:33-43

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



**SPEAKER SERIES**

**LEARN MORE AND REGISTER AT**  
[bit.ly/smcsspauley](http://bit.ly/smcsspauley)



**DR. JAMES PAULEY**

DAY 1

**HOW DOES THE EUCHARIST REVIVE US?**

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4  
7:30 P.M. | CHURCH

DAY 2

**HOW CAN WE BETTER ENCOUNTER GOD AT MASS?**

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5  
7:30 P.M. | CHURCH



The next installment of the Saint Matthew Speaker Series will take place this week, 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, taking place after the 7 p.m. Mass this Wednesday, October 4, is titled “How does the Eucharist revive us?” The second talk this 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. To register, visit [bit.ly/smcsspauley](http://bit.ly/smcsspauley).

### REGISTER FOR OUR FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

Time slots are available for our First Friday Adoration on October 6. 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/smcffaOctober23](http://bit.ly/smcffaOctober23) to register.

### STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

- FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 17, 2023 -	
PARISH, VISITORS, ACH WITHDRAWALS, ONLINE GIVING, AND LOOSE CASH	\$15,353
SECOND COLLECTION: SOLIDARITY	\$478

THIS WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION: Society of St. Vincent de Paul

MAKE YOUR GIFT TODAY ON OUR  
ONLINE GIVING PAGE:  
[www.stmatthewtn.org/church/giving](http://www.stmatthewtn.org/church/giving)





## PARISH NEWS

### ROOM IN THE INN WARM CLOTHES DRIVE

Our Room In The Inn ministry will be hosting a warm clothes drive for the upcoming season. The drive will begin this Saturday, October 7 and end on Sunday, October 22. We will be collecting men's winter coats, socks, hats, gloves, scarves, belts (size 36 and up), backpacks, boots or athletic shoes, NEW underwear (boxer briefs preferred), and other warm clothes. New or gently used items will be accepted. Business clothes will not be accepted. In addition to the drive, we have created an Amazon Wishlist with some important items that our guests can use. Visit [amzn.to/3RTShp1](https://amzn.to/3RTShp1) (case sensitive) to view the wishlist. Most guests are a size large or larger. Donations can be dropped off in the bins in the narthex. Contact Rhea Forte at (615) 828-5950 or Mary Peters at [mary\\_peters@me.com](mailto:mary_peters@me.com) for questions.

### VOLUNTEERS FOR ROOM IN THE INN

Would you like to serve those most in need? Our Room In The Inn ministry is seeking volunteers to help with our events this season. There are many opportunities available, but we are specifically in need of innkeepers to stay overnight with the guests and hospitality members to stay with the guests during meals. If you are interested in serving in any capacity, contact Rhea Forte at (615) 828-5950 or Mary Peters at [mary\\_peters@me.com](mailto:mary_peters@me.com) for more information.

### THE TROOPS OF SAINT GEORGE RAFFLE

Tickets are still available for the Troops of Saint George raffle! All are invited to participate in this exciting opportunity. The grand prize winner will receive half a cow's worth of meat and a brand new freezer to store it. The second-prize winner will receive a \$200 gift card to Sperry's Restaurant. Third will receive a \$75 gift card to Tailgate Brewery, and fourth will receive a Troops of Saint George rosary. Visit [bit.ly/tsgaffle](https://bit.ly/tsgaffle) to purchase tickets. Email Eric Ruppaner at [tsg@stmatthewtn.org](mailto:tsg@stmatthewtn.org) with questions.



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

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

### RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

**DONATE BLOOD**

**REGISTRATION NOW OPEN**

**SAVE LIVES**

**BLOOD DRIVE**

**AMERICAN RED CROSS**

**SAINT MATTHEW CATHOLIC CHURCH**

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5  
FROM 8 A.M. - 1 P.M.  
PARISH CONFERENCE  
CENTER**

Registration for our annual blood drive is now open! The blood drive will take place on Sunday, November 5 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the parish conference center. All donors will receive a \$10 e-gift card for participating, even if you do not qualify to donate after the screening! Our goal is to have 35 donors register for this year's event. To schedule your appointment, visit [rcblood.org/46sStzy](https://rcblood.org/46sStzy) (case sensitive). Registration will close on Sunday, October 22, so act fast! For questions, contact Cynthia Myers at (615) 646-0378 x301.

### MEN'S CLUB OKTOBERFEST

All are invited to join us for our annual Oktoberfest, hosted by the Saint Matthew Men's Club. Join us for an evening of fun and fellowship with the parish community, complete with games, music, and delicious food. The menu will include brats, hot dogs, potato salad, chips, beer, wine and soft drinks. The Women's Club will provide desserts. The event will take place after the 5 p.m. Mass on Saturday, October 21. For questions, please contact the Men's Club at [mensclub@stmatthewtn.org](mailto:mensclub@stmatthewtn.org). *Prost!*

**Save the date!**

**SAINT MATTHEW MEN'S CLUB PRESENTS**

**Oktoberfest**

**2023**

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21**

**FOLLOWING THE 5 P.M. MASS**

## PARISH NEWS

### SEVEN SISTERS APOSTOLATE

The Seven Sisters Apostolate needs women who would commit to offering a weekly holy hour for our parish pastor. The commitment of each intercessor is to the day of the week versus a particular hour on a particular day. You would pray the hour in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament in Adoration or in front of a tabernacle. This may be prayed at any parish. If you are interested in joining the apostolate, visit [bit.ly/smcsevensisters](http://bit.ly/smcsevensisters) to complete the interest form. For questions, contact Susan Ruigh at [susanruigh@protonmail.com](mailto:susanruigh@protonmail.com) or (402) 499-6724.

### PASSION OF CHRIST PRAYER GROUP

The Passion of Christ prayer group is an opportunity to learn more about the experiences of our Lord's Passion through the Way of the Cross. We will dive deeper into those final days, and pray and learn about the people there. We will walk alongside the greatest love story of the living Christ. The group meets the last Sunday of the month at 3 p.m. in the grotto. For inclement weather, meet inside the church. Bring your rosary! If you are interested in participating, please visit [bit.ly/smcwayofthecross](http://bit.ly/smcwayofthecross) to complete the interest form. For questions, please contact Pam Fleckenstein at [spflecken@comcast.net](mailto:spflecken@comcast.net).



**SCOTT & KIMBERLY  
HAHN**

Study Scripture from the heart of the Church and  
dive deeper into the riches of the Catholic faith

**DATE**  
Saturday, November 4  
8:00 AM - 3:35 PM

**LOCATION**  
Saint Matthew Catholic Church  
535 Sneed Road W  
Franklin, TN 37069

**PRICE**  
\$40

**REGISTER NOW!**  
[www.stpaulcenter.com/nashville2023](http://www.stpaulcenter.com/nashville2023)

### 40 DAYS FOR LIFE

The Saint Matthew Respect for Life ministry invites everyone to participate in 40 Days for Life. The fall campaign will last through November 5. During these 40 days, a daily prayer vigil will be hosted outside of Planned Parenthood in Nashville from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. All are invited to attend. To learn more and register for the prayer vigil, visit [www.40daysforlife.com/en/nashville](http://www.40daysforlife.com/en/nashville). Saint Matthew parishioners should try to sign up for Mondays, if possible.

Other Events:

- Mass - October 7 at 12:10 p.m. at St. Mary of the Seven Sorrows in Nashville
- Rosary Rally - October 14 at noon at Planned Parenthood in Nashville
- Jericho March - October 28 at noon around Planned Parenthood in Nashville



**FORMED**

PICK OF THE WEEK - OCTOBER 1

**DIVINE MERCY**  
IN THE SECOND GREATEST STORY EVER TOLD

**DIVINE MERCY | EP. 4 | FAUSTINA AND THE  
SPREAD OF DIVINE MERCY**

This episode of Divine Mercy and the Second Greatest Story Ever Told, reveals how a saint from Poland embarked on one of the greatest missions in the history of the Church, becoming a catalyst for the message of Divine Mercy.

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

## PARISH NEWS

### EUCCHARISTIC 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, learn

more about upcoming Eucharistic Revival events at Saint Matthew, and to refocus your heart on this fundamental truth of our faith.

### 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

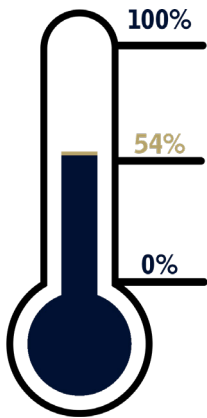
### UPCOMING CURSILLO RETREATS

Cursillo is a movement in the Diocese of Nashville that is intended to help Catholics develop an understanding of what it means to lead a fully Christian life and focuses on building a deeper relationship with God and living out the call to Christian leadership. The weekend will include talks, group discussions, personal reflection time, and Sacraments, all designed to help you grow in your faith and discern your place in life and role in the Church. It is a spiritual resurrection, and you are invited to experience it for yourself! The men's retreat will take place on September 28-October 1, and the women's from October 5-8. To learn more and register, visit [www.nashvillecursillo.com](https://www.nashvillecursillo.com).

### JOIN OUR EMAIL LIST!

Stay up to date with the latest news and information from Saint Matthew! Join our email list today to receive our newsletters, updates on upcoming events, and more. To sign up, visit [bit.ly/smcemailsignup](https://bit.ly/smcemailsignup).

## THE BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL FOR MINISTRIES: *WHOA, WE'RE HALFWAY THERE!*



Thanks to your generous support, Saint Matthew is more than halfway toward its goal in this year's *Bishop's Annual Appeal for Ministries*! Our goal for this year's appeal is \$118,390. We are currently at 54% of that goal with a total of \$63,980 raised to date.

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](https://dioceseofnashville.com/appeal) or text "BISHOP" to 615-552-1101. Thank you!

SCAN HERE  
TO MAKE  
A GIFT





## TONY'S REFLECTION

### WHERE DO ACTIONS COME FROM?

You are probably familiar with the phrase, "Actions speak louder than words." This expression insinuates that people's actions display their real attitudes rather than what they say. But when we look at people's actions, we have to look at the whole picture and what leads to those actions.

In today's Gospel reading, Jesus presents us with two sons that correspond to the two groups of people Ezekiel describes in the first reading. If we add up these two groups, we have: virtuous ones who say they'll do God's work but end up not doing it. Then we have the wicked ones who say they won't do God's work; however, they end up repenting and eventually do God's work. Whereas the tax collectors and prostitutes entering the kingdom of God parallel to the son who refused to go into the vineyard at first but afterward did, the Pharisees resemble the son who promised to work but did not. It's important to emphasize that the tax collectors and prostitutes repented and changed their lives. Jesus is not saying that lifestyles of extortion and sexual promiscuity are compatible with the kingdom of God. On the other side of the coin, the Pharisees that Jesus castigates were people who were trained in virtue at a young age but gave lip service to acting out this virtue for God. Rather than doing God's work, they spent their time finding legalistic loopholes for their own gain.

Here, we are presented with one son who says he'll be faithful but does no work to prove it and another son who says he won't be faithful but then ends up doing God's work. What is the difference between these two sons?

Modern psychology illuminates that your experiences drive the content of your thoughts, which, in turn, your thoughts control your emotions, habits, character, basically everything in your life. Therefore, a person's life can be boiled down to thinking and doing. What we do or don't do first starts with a thought. This is why spiritual writers emphasize rather than look at the service-level words of a person; we must look at their interior – the source from which their words originate. In his book, "The Soul of the Apostolate", Jean-Baptiste notes that virtuous works should be nothing but an overflow from the interior life. As he wrote, "Our interior life ought to be the stem, filled with vigorous sap, of which our works are the flowers."

Therefore, before one can move to do the work of God, they must go through an interior conversion in which they contemplate God. The interior life is the struggle to put all our thoughts in prayer and meditation toward God. In one son, there was a transformation in his disposition, which then resulted in a change in his active movement toward God's work and away from his work. In the other son, there was no such interior conversion. Let us strive to delve into our interior life so we can become active in God's work.

## ADULT FAITH FORMATION

### MASS CLASS WITH FR. RAINES COMING SOON

Ever wonder why we do certain things at the Mass? To dive deeper into the Mass and have a greater appreciation for it Father Raines will be leading a Mass Class series this fall. The Mass Class will be a four-part series taking place from 9:45-10:45 a.m. in the parish conference center on the following dates: October 15, 22, 29, and November 5. If you are interested in attending, visit [bit.ly/smcmassclass](https://bit.ly/smcmassclass) to register.

### REAL PRESENCE SERIES



As we continue to celebrate the Year of the Eucharistic Revival, we will begin a series of the Real Presence of the Eucharist on Monday nights starting October 16 in the parish conference center. This series will explore the truth of Christ's real presence, from its origins in the Bible to its profound role in the life of the Church. If you are interested in joining us, please visit [bit.ly/smcpresence23](https://bit.ly/smcpresence23) to fill out the interest form.

### 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](https://bit.ly/smcnecinterest) to fill out our interest form.

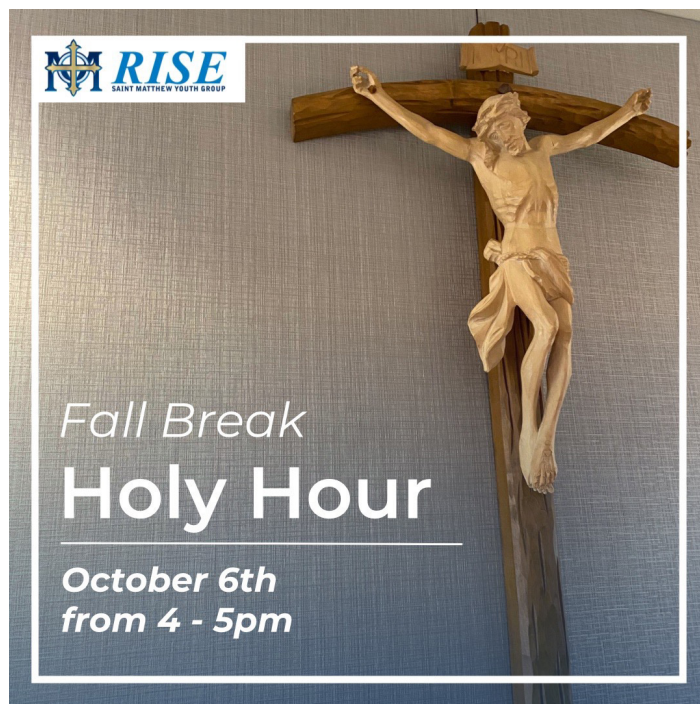
## YOUTH MINISTRY

### FALL BREAK UPDATE

We will not have Rise on Sunday night for the next two weeks! But mark your calendars for October 22 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. in the Cohan-Hansom Building. There might even be some special guests...

### 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).



a 4 week Bible Study for high school students who desire more

## MATTHEW 10:6

From October 16th  
to November 6th

Monday Nights  
7 – 8pm

Completely free

Girls will meet in  
the Nursery

Guys will meet in  
the Church Library



Register  
here



**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

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