

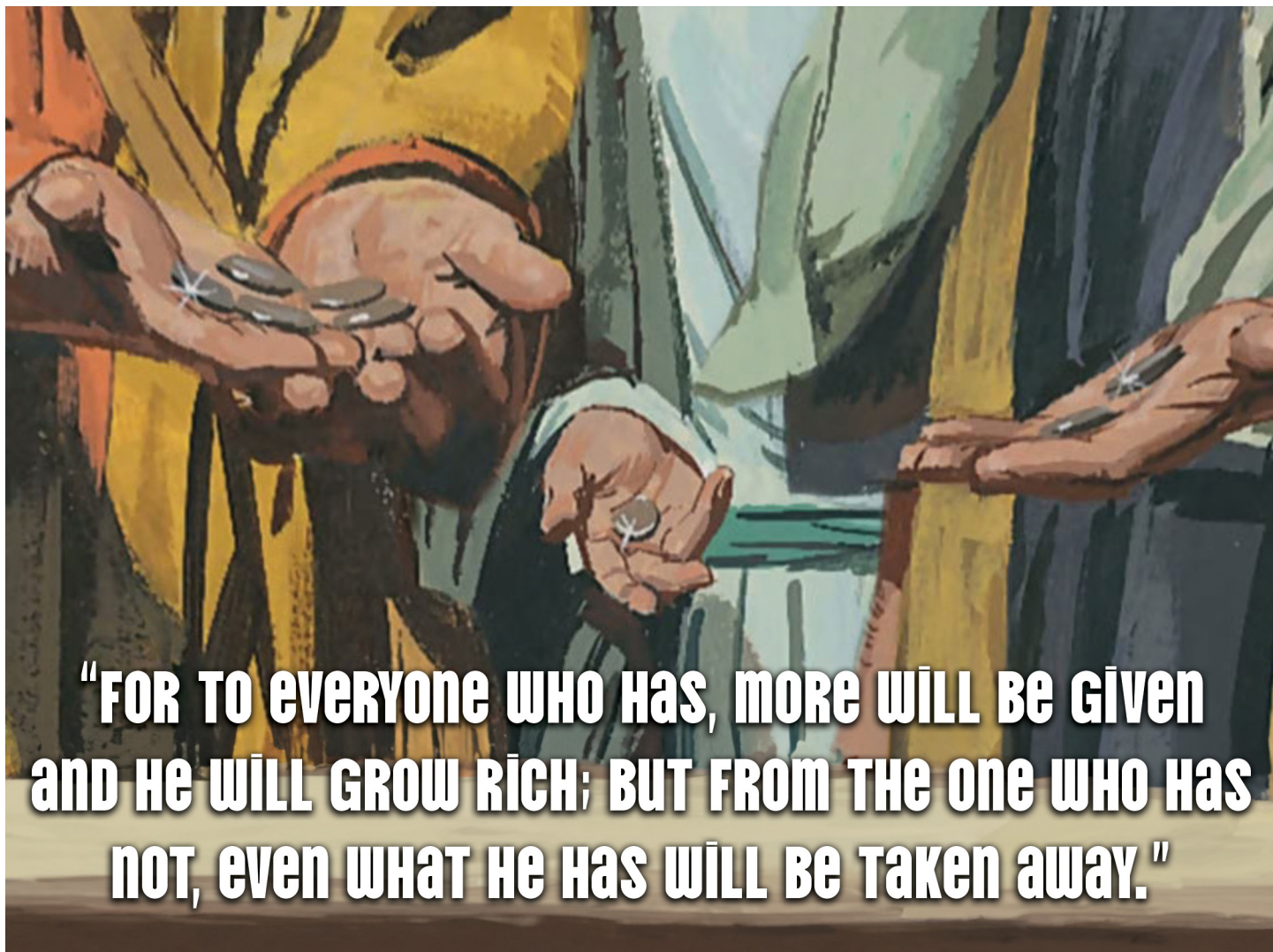


Saint Matthew

CATHOLIC CHURCH

DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER

NOVEMBER 19, 2023 + THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



MASS SCHEDULE

MASS

Mon., Tues., Fri. | 8 a.m.
Wed. at 7 p.m. | Thurs. at 9 a.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



*Saint Matthew
Catholic Church*

LITURGY SCHEDULE (NOVEMBER 20-26, 2023)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✙ Robert Surak
- 1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63
- Lk 18:35-43

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✙ Anthony Tran
- 2 Mc 6:18-31
- Lk 19:1-10

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22

- 7:00 p.m. Mass
- ✙ For the Saint Matthew Music Ministry
- 2 Mc 7:1, 20-31
- Lk 19:11-28

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23

- 9:00 a.m. Mass
- ✙ For the People of Saint Matthew
- Sir 50:22-24
- 1 Cor 1:3-9
- Lk 17:11-19

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✙ John H. Gunder, Sr.
- 1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59
- Lk 19:45-48

THE SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

- 5:00 p.m. Saturday Vigil Mass
- ✙ Lilian Rounds
- 8:30 a.m. Sunday Mass
- ✙ Gilbert Fuentes
- 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass
- ✙ For the People of Saint Matthew
- Ez 34:11-12, 15-17
- 1 Cor 15:20-26, 28
- Mt 25:31-46

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

PARISH NEWS

THE MANGER - NOVEMBER 18 THROUGH DECEMBER 3



This year, Saint Matthew is excited to once again participate in The Manger, hosted by GraceWorks Ministries in Franklin. The Manger is a Christmas shopping experience designed to help low-income families in Williamson County provide Christmas gifts for their children. These families will have the opportunity to “shop” for gifts in a store-like environment, which will be set up at the Franklin First United Methodist Church. The store will consist of toys, sporting equipment, and gifts children would love to open on Christmas morning all donated by community members and partners. From November 18 to December 3, Saint Matthew will be collecting NEW and UNWRAPPED toys and sporting equipment for children ages 0-18. Participants can choose their own gifts or select gifts from The Manger’s Amazon Wishlist at amzn.to/3SIDRIL (case sensitive). All donations can be dropped off in the bins in the church narthex and the school lobby. Scan the QR code above or visit bit.ly/smcmanger23 to learn more about the program and find a list of shopping suggestions for the drive. If you have any questions about the program, contact Elizabeth Abaray at elizabeth.abaray@live.com or Kelly Jensen at kellyannejensen1@gmail.com.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

- FOR THE WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 12, 2023 -	
PARISH, VISITORS, ACH WITHDRAWALS, ONLINE GIVING, AND LOOSE CASH	\$19,618
SECOND COLLECTION: PARISH CHARITY	\$701

THIS WEEK’S SECOND COLLECTION: Human Development

NEXT WEEK’S SECOND COLLECTION: Debt Reduction

MAKE YOUR GIFT TODAY ON OUR
ONLINE GIVING PAGE:

www.stmatthewtn.org/church/giving



PARISH NEWS

SAINT MATTHEW CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING

Happy Thanksgiving! Saint Matthew School will be closed from Monday, November 20 to Friday, November 24, and our church offices will be closed from Wednesday, November 22 to Friday, November 24 for Thanksgiving break. Mass will be celebrated at 9 a.m. on Thanksgiving day. We hope you all enjoy the holiday!

BECOME A GIFT BEARER

Visitors, parishioners, individuals, whole families... anyone can be a gift bearer! We only ask that adults accompany small children, but that's it! Here is what you need to know the next time you are asked to carry the gifts during the offertory:



1. After the Prayers of the Faithful, when the hospitality ministers begin to pass the collection baskets, walk to the back of the church to the gift table located near the baptismal font.
2. Take the cruet of wine and the ciborium holding the hosts off the table. Arrange yourselves and wait patiently for the altar server (who will be carrying the cross) to come back to get you.
3. When the altar server comes to you and turns around, follow behind them, walking reverently up the aisle to the priest.
4. When you reach the priest, hand him the wine cruet first and the ciborium second (it is okay if you forget; the priest will always reach for the cruet first). You do not have to say anything to him, but he may say some kind words of appreciation to you for your participation.
5. Once the gifts are handed over, bow to the altar, and then return to your seat.

That's it! So, the next time a hospitality minister asks you to carry the gifts, you will be prepared to answer with a resounding, "Yes!" With this gift of your time, you will serve an important role on behalf of the faithful in attendance at Mass. If you are interested in serving as a gift bearer, scan the QR code above or visit bit.ly/smcgiftbearer to register. Thank you!

WOMEN'S CLUB GIFT DASH



The Saint Matthew Women's Club is excited to present Gift Dash, our inaugural fundraiser and dinner! All members of the parish are invited to join us for a gift exchange unlike any other. The event will take place on Friday, December 1, in the Cohan-Hansom Building. Dinner begins at 6 p.m., followed by the Gift Dash at 7 p.m. Tickets are available for \$35 per person and include dinner. Festive holiday attire is encouraged (think Christmas jammies, ugly Christmas sweaters - the sky's the limit!). We expect this event to sell out quickly, so act fast! Visit bit.ly/smcwcgiftdash to learn more and register.

FAMILY SERVICE MINISTRY CAROLING

Join our Family Service Ministry for Christmas caroling at NHC Place at the Trace on Thursday, December 7 at 3:30 p.m. The residents love to hear the children sing! Festive garb is suggested, but not required. Visit bit.ly/smcfsmcaroling to sign up. All ages are welcome!



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

www.stmatthewtn.org

PARISH NEWS

MEN'S CLUB BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Santa Claus is coming to Saint Matthew! Join us in the Cohan-Hansom Building on Saturday, December 9 from 8:30-10:30 a.m. for Breakfast with Santa, sponsored by the Men's Club. All children in attendance will have the opportunity to meet Santa, get their picture taken with him, and enjoy breakfast with the parish community. The event is free and open to children of all ages. Registration is not required but will help us estimate a headcount. Visit bit.ly/smcbreakfastwithsanta23 to register.



NATIVITY PAGEANT - DECEMBER 16



The Children's Nativity Pageant, hosted by our St. Gianna Circle Mothers Ministry, will take place on Saturday, December 16 following the 5 p.m. Mass. The pageant is a retelling of the Christmas story made up of a cast entirely of children from our parish and school community. All parishioners are invited to attend. We hope to see you there!

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.

EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL PORTAL IS LIVE

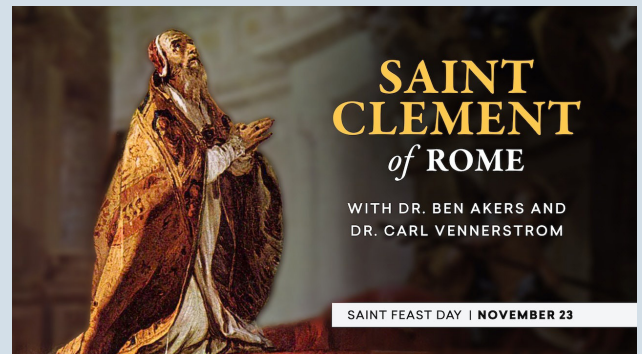


We are excited to announce that the Eucharistic Revival portal is now live on the Saint Matthew website! Visit bit.ly/smceucharist to learn more about the Year of Eucharistic Revival, learn

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

FORMED

PICK OF THE WEEK - NOVEMBER 19



ST. CLEMENT OF ROME | CATHOLIC SAINTS

Sit down with Dr. Ben Akers and Dr. Carl Vennerstrom as they discuss Pope St. Clement of Rome, who was an early Church Father and the third successor to St. Peter.

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

COMMUNITY NEWS

BECOME A FATHER RYAN STUDENT

Applications are now being accepted for the 2024-2025 school year at Father Ryan High School. With large numbers applying for this current school year, we encourage prospective families to apply as early as possible. For more information and to apply, visit www.fatherryan.org/admissions/apply.

OH, COME LET US ADORE HIM

In honor of the Year of Parish Renewal in the National Eucharistic Revival, St. Ann Catholic Church is hosting 40 continuous hours of Adoration from December 15-17. The opening Mass will take place at 6 p.m. on Friday, December 15, and the closing Mass at 11 a.m. on Sunday, December 17. For more information and to register, visit their website at www.saintannparish.com/faithformation.



SAINT HENRY
CATHOLIC CHURCH

ASL INTERPRETER

Did you know we have an ASL interpreter available at our 7:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday mornings?

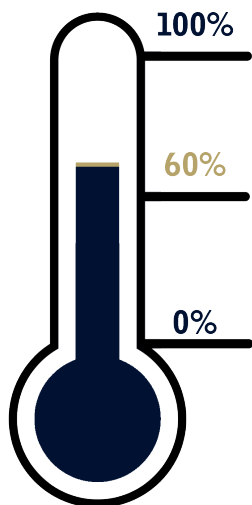
Our mission is to make everyone feel welcome and included in our community, and this is just one of the steps we are taking to achieve that goal. We want you to know that you are valued and respected here. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us with any questions or feedback.

HEARING DEVICES AVAILABLE

We do have hearing devices available in the church. Ask an Usher if you would like to borrow a hearing device to improve your Mass experience.

WE HOPE THAT THESE SERVICES WILL MAKE ATTENDING MASS MORE ACCESSIBLE AND ENJOYABLE FOR EVERYONE.

THE BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL FOR MINISTRIES: *MORE THAN \$70,000 RAISED!*



Thanks to your generous support, Saint Matthew has raised more than \$70,000 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 60% of that goal with a total of \$71,909 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. Please prayerfully consider making a gift.

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

WHAT TO DO WITH OUR TALENTS?

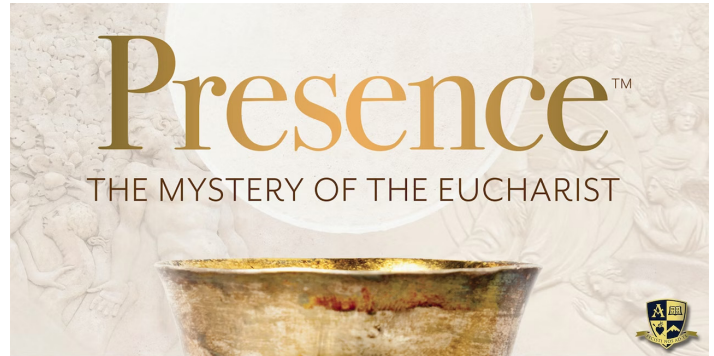
In one of his many commencement speeches, Lou Holtz instructed the young audience not to follow what they are passionate about but rather to simply find what they are good at and do just that. In short, the instructions of finding your talent and pursuing the areas for which you were made is the best avenue to discern one's career and vocation. While there are resources to help people identify their strengths from personality tests, feedback from others, and recognizing patterns, the best avenue to understanding your specific talents is to start with God. The Bible tells us that every gift comes from God (James 1:17) and that everyone has God-given abilities (Romans 12:6), but most importantly, that, when we discover our God-given gifts, our next move is to use them. Here, we are called to put our talents into action rather than bury our talents, where they will rot and do no good.

Today, we are presented with a parable in which three servants are given talents according to their ability by their master (i.e. God). The two servants use their talents in such a way that they grow, and as a result, they share in the "joy" of the master as they see their gifts blossom. The third servant is joyless from the beginning. He only received one talent, while the others received five talents and two talents, respectively. There is likely some deep jealousy in the third servant, which causes him to view his master as a greedy overlord merely using his servants for his gain. This distorted view of his master causes the third servant to come up with an elaborate alibi as to why he hasn't grown his talent. In the end, we realize the servant had just been lazy.

My hero in this story is the second servant, which is the character most applicable to many of us who fill the pews on Sunday. We don't reject the Lord like the third servant, yet neither are we the "all-star" Christians, the living saints who seem to have an abundance of gifts both natural and supernatural. We are just rather ordinary. The second servant is not envious of the first servant getting five talents. He doesn't waste time comparing himself with his co-worker, who is literally "more talented." He doesn't complain that he only got two talents. He dutifully goes to work with the little he has been given. He humbly does what he can and shows the master that he is faithful in his small talents. In the end, he receives the same reward as the first - the Master's joy. It's a message to all of us to focus on our duties and state in life. It's about doing the small things well in our small lives with great love and great faithfulness to God. If we do, we can look forward to sharing the Master's joy along with "five-talent servants" like the saints.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

REAL PRESENCE SERIES



As we continue to celebrate the Year of the Eucharistic Revival, all are invited to learn more about the Real Presence of the Eucharist as we watch and discuss the Presence series, presented by the Augustine Institute. Join us on Monday nights from 7-8 p.m. in the parish conference center. If you are interested in attending, please visit bit.ly/smcpresence23 to register.

PASSION OF CHRIST PRAYER GROUP

Please join us on the last Sunday of the month at 3 p.m. in the chapel to pray the Way of the Cross, the Divine Mercy Chaplet and learn more about our Lord's Passion. Our mission is to pray for our fellow Catholic brothers and sisters who have left the church, or any intentions that you may have. As St. Mother Teresa once said, "To make sure that we do not forget, Jesus gave us the Eucharist as a memorial of his love... When you look at the Crucifix, you understand how much Jesus loved you then; when you look at the Sacred Host, you understand how much Jesus loves you now." Visit bit.ly/smctwayofthecross to complete the form.

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 to complete the interest form. For questions, contact Susan Ruigh at susanruigh@protonmail.com or (402) 499-6724.

YOUTH MINISTRY

NO RISE TONIGHT

Have a blessed Thanksgiving break everyone! We'll be back next week with a fun Community Night.

RISE COMMUNITY NIGHT

We're coming back from Thanksgiving break ready for a second feast! Per the teens request, this month's community night will consist of a potluck & game night. We will meet in the Cohan-Hansom Building on Sunday, November 26 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Visit bit.ly/smcrisethanksgiving to sign up to bring a dish. See you there!

A PILGRIMAGE FOR TEENAGERS TO THE Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament

"It is my hope and the hope of all my Sisters that you will be led to a deeper love for the child Jesus and the Holy Eucharist, that your soul will be refreshed, and that your spiritual life will be renewed." -Mother Angelica

December 2nd, 2023 from 8:30 am - 8:30 pm
All 8th - 12th graders are invited to join
Fr. Raines & Antoinette on a day pilgrimage!
Younger siblings are also welcome to come with a Parent present

\$25 A PERSON includes lunch
REGISTER HERE



VIVA CRISTO REY!

Translates to "Long live Christ the King!"

Do you know who said this? More accurately, do you know who shouted this at his execution? A Jesuit priest by the name of Miguel Pro was martyred in Mexico during the Cristero War. He's a blessed in the Church, and his feast day falls on Thanksgiving this year. Before we get into the significance, I think it's only appropriate to share more of his story.

In the early 20th century, Catholics were under attack in Mexico, and the Jesuits were forced to flee. Fr. Pro went with them and was ordained in Belgium, but was shortly sent back home due to poor health. Religious persecution was growing in Mexico, and he was banned within a month of his return to public worship. Rather than quitting his ministry, Fr. Pro continued in secret, going so far as to disguise himself in elaborate costumes. Eventually, he and two of his brothers were arrested and accused of attempting to murder the president of Mexico. Fr. Pro was sentenced to death by firing squad. While given the option to be blindfolded at his execution, he refused, stood directly facing the squad, and held his arms out as if on a cross. As the triggers were pulled, he shouted the words above, the ones he's most known for. However, what happened before this is, in my opinion, as great if not a greater a testament to the faith. The policeman who had helped arrest Fr. Pro was filled with remorse and begged the priest to forgive him. Fr. Pro gently put his arms around the man and responded with, "You have not only my forgiveness, but my thanks." Then he turned and said to the firing squad, "May God forgive you all." This Thanksgiving, Blessed Pro's feast day, take some time and reflect on this story.

- Antoinette Hanning



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.

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SCHOOL: 615-662-4044

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