



Saint Matthew CATHOLIC CHURCH

DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER

NOVEMBER 5, 2023 + THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**“WHOEVER EXALTS HIMSELF WILL BE
HUMBLED; BUT WHOEVER HUMBLING
HIMSELF WILL BE *EXALTED*.”**

- MATTHEW 23:12

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

ST. GIANNA CIRCLE MONTHLY MEETING

All mothers (and babies) are always welcome to the St. Gianna Circle monthly meetings! Our next meeting is on Tuesday, November 7 at 7 p.m. in the Cohan-Hansom Building. We'll be preparing for some terrific upcoming events! Visit bit.ly/sgcnov23 to register.

WOMEN'S CLUB NOVEMBER MEETING



Get into the Christmas spirit at the Women's Club's November meeting on Wednesday, November 8, as Saint Matthew parishioner and talented artist, Lynn Tuerff, will lead a Paint-Along Class. All women of the parish are invited to join us in the Cohan-Hansom Building after the 7 p.m. Mass as Lynn will guide us step-by-step through the painting above. No talent? No problem! You'll be amazed at what you can do. The cost is \$15 per person. All supplies will be provided. To register for the event, visit bit.ly/smewcpaintalong.

LUNCH BUNCH



Lunch Bunch returns on Tuesday, November 14! Lunch Bunch is our parish's monthly social event for members of the community ages 55 and up. This month's theme will be Thanksgiving! Wear your favorite festive fall apparel. Participation in the theme is encouraged, but not required. The event will take place from noon-2 p.m. in the narthex. The cost for entry is \$10 and a bingo prize valued around \$10 for the prize table. This can be a trinket, toy, game, statue, book, baked goods, etc. Have some old items collecting dust in your home? Bring it to bingo! To register for the event, visit bit.ly/smlunchbunchnov23.

LITURGY SCHEDULE (NOVEMBER 6-12, 2023)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✦ For Rick Wright
- Rom 11:29-36
- Lk 14:12-14

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✦ Gordon Smith
- Rom 12:5-16ab
- Lk 14:15-24

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8

- 7:00 p.m. Mass
- ✦ Jeanne Lawson
- Rom 13:8-10
- Lk 14:25-33

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✦ Mary Weishaar
- Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12
- 1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17
- Jn 2:13-22

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✦ For James Desrochers & Family
- Rom 15:14-21
- Lk 16:1-8

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- 5:00 p.m. Saturday Vigil Mass
- ✦ Peter Abolins
- 8:30 a.m. Sunday Mass
- ✦ Tim & Dixie Lee Butler
- 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass
- ✦ For the People of Saint Matthew
- Wis 6:12-16
- 1 Thes 4:13-18
- Mt 25:1-13

✦ **Special Intention**
✦ *May they rest in peace*

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

- FOR THE WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 29, 2023 -

PARISH, VISITORS, ACH WITHDRAWALS, ONLINE GIVING, AND LOOSE CASH	\$15,828
SECOND COLLECTION: PARISH CHARITY	\$514

THIS WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION: Capital Needs

MAKE YOUR GIFT TODAY ON OUR
ONLINE GIVING PAGE:

www.stmatthewtn.org/church/giving



PARISH NEWS

FAMILY ADVENT WREATH MAKING EVENT



Our St. Gianna Circle Mothers Ministry invites you to our third annual Saint Matthew Family Advent Wreath Making Event. All are invited to attend on Sunday, November 19 from noon-2 p.m. in the Cohan-

Hansom Building. Each family will make its own Advent wreath to use during the upcoming Advent season. Kids can make ornaments for our elderly friends at NHC Place at the Trace, courtesy of our Family Service Ministry. In addition, other Advent activities, desserts, appetizers and drinks will be available. A recommended donation of \$25 per family is appreciated to cover the cost of the wreath kits and food. Visit bit.ly/smcsgrwreaths23 to learn more and register. For questions, contact Elizabeth Abaray at elizabeth.abaray@live.com.

CHILDREN'S NATIVITY PAGEANT



St. Gianna Circle Mothers Ministry invites all Saint Matthew children in grades K-6 to participate in the Children's Nativity Pageant. This will be a retelling of the Christmas story made up of a cast entirely of children from our parish and school community. The pageant will take place on Saturday, December 16 following the 5 p.m. Mass. The first reading of the script will take place on Monday, November 13 at 4 p.m. (children interested in a speaking role must attend the first reading). Roles will be assigned after the first reading. Visit bit.ly/smcnativity to learn more and register your child for the pageant. If you have any questions, please contact Summer Farrell (farrell.summer@gmail.com) or Elizabeth Abaray (elizabeth.abaray@live.com).

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. 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.



GOOD SHEPHERDS OF BETHLEHEM

The Good Shepherds of Bethlehem would like to thank everyone who purchased their olive wood carvings and crafts during their sale on October 14 & 15. Thanks to your generosity, they were able to send \$6,000 to support the Catholics and Christians in the Holy Land.



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

www.stmatthewtn.org

PARISH NEWS

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 to complete the interest form. For questions, please contact Pam Fleckenstein at spflecken@comcast.net.

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

SAINT MATTHEW SCHOOL NEWS

FREE MONEY!

Let's take advantage of free money to raise funds for our sister parish, Our Lady of Miracles, in Gobert, Haiti! Simply register your Kroger and Publix shoppers cards and select Saint Matthew Church to receive the funds. Then, buy groceries as you normally would! These stores will send quarterly checks to the church and school based on our total spending. To register your cards for these benefits, visit www.publix.com and www.kroger.com. Thank you for your support!

GOT SPARE CHANGE?

There are clear boxes on the table outside the training chapel where you can share your spare change to benefit our sister parish in Haiti. Don't have any change in your pocket or purse? Use the included QR code on the box to donate a dollar or two (or more!). Thank you in advance for sharing your spare change!

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.

EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL PORTAL IS LIVE

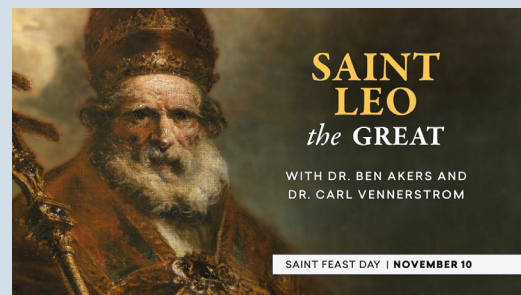


We are excited to announce that the Eucharistic Revival portal is now live on the Saint Matthew website! Visit bit.ly/smceucharist to learn more about the Year of Eucharistic Revival, learn

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 - OCTOBER 29



St. Leo the Great | Catholic Saints

Join Dr. Ben Akers and Dr. Carl Vennerstrom as they discuss St. Leo the Great, who served as pope during the tumultuous time of the Council of Chalcedon.

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. This is a remarkable school, with a committed and talented faculty, active and engaged students, and a devoted alumni network of more than 13,000 people worldwide. 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.

FATHER RYAN PRESENTS A CHRISTMAS CAROL

Father Ryan's Purple Masque Players will present the holiday classic, *A Christmas Carol*, on November 9-11, in the Father Ryan Center for the Arts. The show will begin at 7 p.m. each day. Tickets can be purchased at the door or in advance online at www.fatherryan.org.

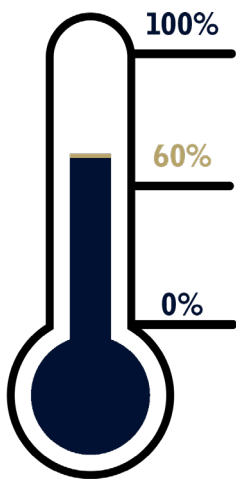
OH, COME LET US ADORE HIM

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.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE

The 40 Days of Life campaign ends this weekend, and all are invited to participate in the Lift High the Cross procession and closing ceremony this afternoon, November 5, at 2 p.m. at the Cathedral of the Incarnation. The procession will lead from the Cathedral to Planned Parenthood (0.7 miles), where we will hold Stations of the Cross. We hope to see you there.

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 \$71,449 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

DO AS I SAY, NOT AS I DO

Parents often catch themselves using the trendy phrase to their kids, "Do as say, not as I do." While this phrase can be taken as a hypocritical statement, the authenticity depends on the honesty of the person making it. The acknowledgment embedded in the phrase "not imitate my behavior" implies that the person is imperfect and makes mistakes, and because he acknowledges mishaps, one should follow his learned advice. Picture an older gentleman telling a teenager not to smoke all the while, the older person smokes a cigarette not because he is being hypocritical but because through his mistakes and recognition of his addiction, he is passing on sound advice to the younger person.

Knowing all that, today's Gospel reading has a different take because Jesus talks about God-given words. Here, Jesus tells the people to listen to the Pharisee's teaching, but don't follow their actions. Jesus acknowledges that the Pharisees have God-given teaching authority as they had authentically received their authority from the "chair" or office of Moses. As we saw from the readings two weeks ago, God appoints certain leaders who carry heavenly authority even though the majority of their actions in no way reflect God's approval. In short, God uses imperfect people to usher in divine providence. When we keep in mind the Catholic staple that priests are "in the person of Christ," this concept becomes clear. While priests' actions won't be perfect and certainly don't match Christ's actions perfectly, the priests' words carry divine authority when he says at the Mass, "This is my body given up for you." Here, the priest exists as a sacred instrument to allow Christ's words and actions to become manifested.

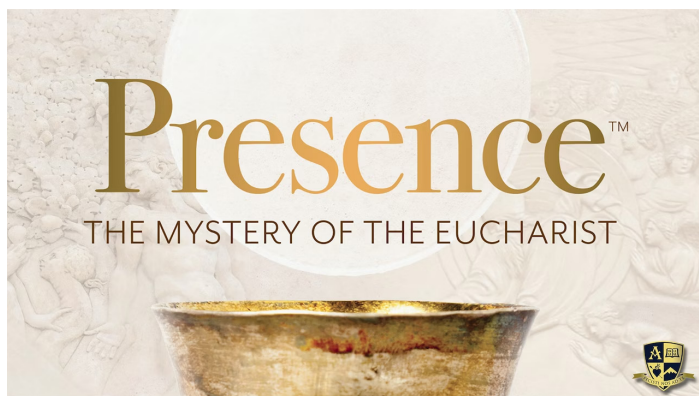
To be sure, as laity, we don't carry divine authority in our words, but here is where our actions can come into play. As the popular phrase suggests, "Actions speak louder than words." Our actions can relay God's message – especially to children who tend to learn most by imitation. As one priest told me, "Don't be so concerned that your kids don't listen to you. Be more concerned that they watch you."

Life is a dramatic dance of saying and doing in which we attempt to use the right words at the right time coupled with the right actions at the right time. Our sins inevitably hinder these efforts and display the interior struggle that St. Paul expressed he goes through (Romans 7:19-25). Let us remember the one who had perfect words and perfect actions is Christ. Therefore, if we allow Him to use us as an instrument, His words and actions will eventually take shape in us.

Our active receptivity to what God sows in the Mass bursts and blooms and matures in our outward actions in the sacred precincts of church, home, and out in the wider world we are commissioned to transform. As we approach Him with conviction and reverence in the Mass, He will put His words and actions into us.

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.

NASHVILLE EUCHARISTIC CONFERENCE



Join other Catholics from around the Diocese of Nashville in celebration of the Eucharist at the Eucharistic Revival Conference. Hear from Catholic speakers, attend Mass with Bishop J. Mark Spalding, participate in

Adoration, and shop with local Catholic vendors. The event will take place on Saturday, November 11 at the Catholic Pastoral Center. Lunch will be provided. To learn more and purchase tickets, visit soundscatholic.com/erc-english.

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

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 in attending this event, please visit bit.ly/smcnecinterest.

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





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

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SCHOOL: 615-662-4044

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