



Saint Matthew CATHOLIC CHURCH

DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER

OCTOBER 15, 2023 + TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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

ROOM IN THE INN WARM CLOTHES DRIVE

Our Room In The Inn ministry's warm clothes drive ends next Sunday, October 22! All parishioners are invited to participate. We are 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. To view the wishlist, visit amzn.to/3RTShp1 (case sensitive). Most guests are a size large or larger. Donations can be dropped off in the bins in the narthex. Questions? Contact Rhea Forte at (615) 828-5950 or Mary Peters at mary_peters@comcast.net.

RESPECT FOR LIFE & KofC DRIVE FOR MULIER CARE

Our Respect for Life ministry and Knights of Columbus Council #12012 are hosting a joint drive to benefit the upcoming community baby shower hosted by Mulier Care! Their annual community baby shower gives families in need the opportunity to stock up on food, diapers, and other items they might need for their children. This will be a joint food drive and diaper drive. We are collecting non-perishable food items, diapers of all sizes (NB-7), pull ups, and wet wipes. The drive will begin next Saturday, October 21 and end on Sunday, November 5. We appreciate your support.

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

On All Souls Day, we will celebrate the Mass of Remembrance, commemorating the lives of those we lost over the past year. If you have lost a loved one over the past year (November 2022-present), please email bereavement@stmatthewtn.org to have their name included in the Mass. The Book of Remembrance will be in the narthex until October 31 for any parishioners who would like to write in names of any loved ones who have passed away. Please make plans to attend this special service.

LITURGY SCHEDULE (OCTOBER 16-22, 2023)

MONDAY, OCTOBER 16

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✙ Troy Sparks
- Rom 1:1-7
- Lk 11:29-32

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✙ Richard Austin
- Rom 1:16-25
- Lk 11:37-41

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18

- 7:00 p.m. Mass
- ✙ Danelle Meppelink
- 2 Tm 4:10-17b
- Lk 10:1-9

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✙ For Ramsey Alimusa
- Rom 3:21-30
- Lk 11:47-54

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✙ Mary Thomas
- Rom 4:1-8
- Lk 12:1-7

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- 5:00 p.m. Saturday Vigil Mass
- ✙ James Hagan
- 8:30 a.m. Sunday Mass
- ✙ For Dennis Riley
- 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass
- ✙ For the People of Saint Matthew
- Is 45:1, 4-6
- 1 Thes 1:1-5b
- Mt 22:15-21

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

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

- FOR THE WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 8, 2023 -

PARISH, VISITORS, ACH WITHDRAWALS, ONLINE GIVING, AND LOOSE CASH	\$17,412
SECOND COLLECTION: SEMINARIANS	\$498

THIS WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION: Haiti Mission

MAKE YOUR GIFT TODAY ON OUR
ONLINE GIVING PAGE:

www.stmatthewtn.org/church/giving





MEN'S CLUB OKTOBERFEST

Get ready for some family fun! The Saint Matthew Men's Club will host their annual Oktoberfest next Saturday, October 21 following the 5 p.m. Mass. All are invited to 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. For questions, please contact the Men's Club at mensclub@stmatthewtn.org. *Prost!*

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE - REGISTRATION CLOSING OCTOBER 22

Registration for our annual blood drive will close next Sunday, October 22! 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. Walk-ups will not be available, so schedule ahead of time to secure your spot. To schedule your appointment, visit rcblood.org/46sStzy (case sensitive). For questions, contact Cynthia Myers at (615) 646-0378 x301.

DESSERTS FOR OKTOBERFEST

The Women's Club is seeking talented dessert makers and savvy shoppers from the parish to join us in adding a delightful and sweet touch to this year's Oktoberfest celebration! This is your chance to showcase your baking skills and share your love for all things fall-flavored. All parishioners are invited to sign up to bring a dessert. To sign up, visit bit.ly/smcoktoberfestdesserts and tell us what you'll be making, baking or purchasing to help guide others with their choice so we don't end up with all cookies! Desserts can be dropped off at the Church office on Friday, October 20 or brought directly to Oktoberfest on October 21.



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

SCOTT & KIMBERLY HAHN

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

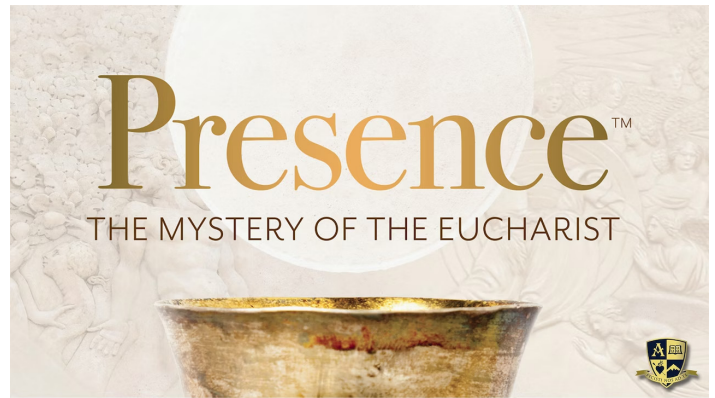
DATE
Saturday, November 4
8:00 AM - 3:35 PM

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

PRICE
\$40

REGISTER NOW!
www.stpaulcenter.com/nashville2023

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. If you are interested, please visit bit.ly/smcpresence23 to fill out the interest form.

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.

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! Join our email list today to receive our newsletters, updates on upcoming events, and more. To sign up, visit bit.ly/smcemailsignup.

COMMUNITY NEWS

ST. THOMAS HOSPITAL SEEKING EMHCs

Ascension Saint Thomas Hospital is seeking volunteers to serve as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion for patient visitation at both the West and Midtown campuses. Eucharistic Ministers must be practicing Catholics and apply first to become hospital volunteers. A letter of good standing from the pastor must also be provided. Those interested should contact Susan Fussell at (615) 222-6602 for additional information.

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.

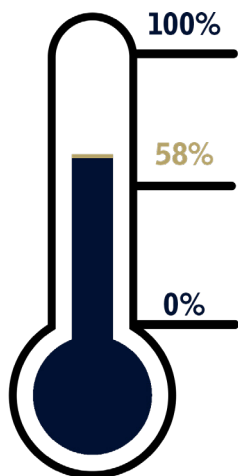
40 DAYS FOR LIFE

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. Saint Matthew parishioners should try to sign up for Mondays, if possible.

Other Events:

- Rosary Rally - October 14 at noon at Planned Parenthood in Nashville
- Jericho March - October 28 at noon around Planned Parenthood in Nashville
- Closing Celebration - November 5 at 2 p.m. at Cathedral of the Incarnation

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 58% of that goal with a total of \$69,014 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

AN INVITATION TO THE WEDDING

Of all invitations, a wedding invite requires the most thoughtful response. When declining a wedding invitation, it is prudent to extend gratitude for the request and express regret for missing this momentous occasion that God has given this man and woman. To ignore the invitation and refuse to be a part of the wedding represents more than a cold shoulder, but a calculated denial of the couple's union.

In today's Gospel, Jesus presents a parable about a great king who invites many guests to a wedding, but several refuse this great invitation. Various theologians have broken down the characters in the parable: God the Father is the king, Jesus is the bridegroom, and the wedding feast represents the eternal life that Isaiah prophesies in today's first reading. The servants are the OT prophets called to summon Israel. Those who are "invited" to the wedding feast are the religious leaders of Jerusalem, who should have been in the best position to recognize Jesus as the Son of David yet ignored the prophets' announcements. Israel has been punished for refusing repeated invitations and even killing His prophets, its city conquered by foreign armies.

The other servants represent the apostles, and the command to "go out into the streets" to invite "whomever you find" refers in part to the spread of the Gospel to the Gentiles - the "riff-raff." The King's hall being filled with guests both "good and bad" calls to mind the manifestation of the visible Church, which includes both saints and sinners

So, we sinners are invited to God's wedding feast. If we go, we must ask, are we dressed for the occasion? The parable brings us to a discussion of the "wedding garment" that a particular guest lacks, for which he is thrown into the darkness. On one level, we might think the parable is referencing proper attire for Mass - dress with dignity and modesty for a great banquet. However, other biblical texts reference the importance of being "clothed with righteousness" (see Revelation 19:7-8, Isaiah 61:10). These texts shed light that this "garment" is more than just an external way to dress. In light of these nuptial "clothing" texts in both the Old and the New Testament, we can make a strong argument for understanding the "wedding garment" as "righteous deeds." Here, the behavior corresponds to God's grace and to the invitation to the divine wedding banquet. Therefore, the external garment represents the interior disposition of the person.

Let's use the occasion of this weekend's Eucharistic celebration to make a good examination of conscience. Are there "dirty rags" in my life that I hold on to? What is keeping me from letting Jesus clothe me in garments of purity? This parable has much psychological force, for it challenges us to look into our interior and fixate on the wedding feast we are partaking in. When we do this, we receive sanctity in the midst of mayhem and can enjoy the wedding feast before us.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

REGISTER FOR HOLY FIRE



Registration for Holy Fire, the Diocese of Nashville's middle school retreat, closes next Wednesday, October 18. Be sure to register before it's too late! At Holy Fire, middle school Catholics are invited and challenged to embrace their baptismal call and the powerful, relevant gospel of Jesus. Through talks by dynamic speakers, inspirational praise and worship, and rich experiences of the Sacraments, Holy Fire helps young people into a life-changing commitment to Christ. To register, visit www.eqsaints.com/holyfire-nashville.

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. The Mass Class will be a four-part series taking place from 9:45-10:45 a.m. in the parish conference center. The first class will take place today between the Masses and continue on October 22, 29, and November 5. If you are interested in attending, visit bit.ly/smcmassclass to register.

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 to fill out our interest form.

YOUTH MINISTRY

NO RISE NIGHT TONIGHT

We will not have Rise on Sunday night this week! 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...

ADVENTURE PARK OUTING

Get hyped for our first outing of the school year! We're heading to The Adventure Park at Nashville (801 Percy Warner Blvd) on Friday, October 27 from 5:30-8 p.m. We'll meet at the Adventure Park that evening. Pizza will be provided for dinner. All high school students are welcome to join us. Limited spots are available, so register now! To sign up for this evening of fun, visit bit.ly/smcriseadventure.

MATTHEW 10:6 BIBLE STUDY

Tomorrow night, our brand new four-week bible study begins! We understand that Sunday nights can sometimes be difficult to commit to, or you might not enjoy a typical Rise night. Then this bible study is for you. Additionally, we know there are some students who love Rise but desire something more. Then this bible study is for you. It's an opportunity to grow deeper in your own relationship with Jesus and Scripture while being accompanied by a small group of teens walking through similar journeys. If this is something you've been desiring, then this bible study is for you. Please scan the QR code below to sign up so we know around how many teens to expect.

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

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



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Tony Jesse
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Kelly Ott
Pastoral Associate
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JOIN US OCT. 29 FOR TWO FUN EVENTS

OPEN HOUSE



Saint Matthew School

12PM-2:30

2PM-3:30



Apple Distinguished School

533 SNEED ROAD W., FRANKLIN, TENNESSEE 37069

SCAN CODE TO REGISTER