



Saint Matthew CATHOLIC CHURCH

DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER

OCTOBER 8, 2023 + TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

The Parable of the Tenants

"Therefore I say to you,
the kingdom of God will
be taken away from you
and given to a people
that will produce its fruit."

- Matthew 21:43

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 is underway! 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](https://www.amazon.com/3RTShp1) (case sensitive). Most guests are a size large or larger. The drive will end on Sunday, October 22, and 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.

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 volunteers to engage and enjoy a meal with our guests. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Rhea Forte at (615) 828-5950 or Mary Peters at mary_peters@comcast.net for more information.

RESULTS FROM BABY BOTTLE DRIVE

Our Respect for Life ministry would like to thank everyone who participated in the baby bottle drive in June. Thanks to your generous support, Saint Matthew raised \$7,698.74 in the drive! Your generosity will help Mulier Care continue to provide assistance to women who have a minimal support network and are facing crisis or unplanned pregnancies.

LITURGY SCHEDULE (OCTOBER 9-15, 2023)

MONDAY, OCTOBER 9

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✠ Brandon Lamberson
- Jon 1:1-2:1-2, 11
- Lk 10:25-37

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✠ For James Desrochers and Family
- Jon 3:1-10
- Lk 10:38-42

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11

- 7:00 p.m. Mass
- ✠ John W. Bartlett
- Jon 4:1-11
- Lk 11:1-4

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✠ For Dee Davis
- Mal 3:13-20b
- Lk 11:5-13

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✠ Mr. and Mrs. Bob Shaughnessy
- Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2
- Lk 11:15-26

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- 5:00 p.m. Saturday Vigil Mass
- ✠ Souls in Purgatory
- 8:30 a.m. Sunday Mass
- ✠ For the People of Saint Matthew
- 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass
- ✠ Frank Ballinger
- Is 25:6-10a
- Phil 4:12-14, 19-20
- Mt 22:1-14

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

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

- FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 24, 2023 -

PARISH, VISITORS, ACH WITHDRAWALS, ONLINE GIVING, AND LOOSE CASH	\$23,563
SECOND COLLECTION: CAPITAL NEEDS	\$539

THIS WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION: Seminarians

NEXT WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION: Haiti Mission

MAKE YOUR GIFT TODAY ON OUR
ONLINE GIVING PAGE:

www.stmatthewtn.org/church/giving



PARISH NEWS


ROSARY FOR THE BLESSED MOTHER

Please join us this afternoon, October 8 at 4:30 p.m. in the grotto to pray a rosary in honor of our Blessed Mother during the month of the most holy rosary. Please bring a lawn chair. In the event of inclement weather, we will meet in the chapel. All are invited.

GOOD SHEPHERDS OF BETHLEHEM


George and Katherine Awwad from the Good Shepherds of Bethlehem will be at our parish next weekend, October 14 and 15 to sell olive wood carvings made by Catholic families from the Holy Land after all the weekend Masses. The Good Shepherds of Bethlehem is a group that supports the Catholic community in the Holy Land. Olive wood religious carvings have long provided a living for families who live in the area, but the decline in tourism has made it difficult for families to get by. Please support this ministry by purchasing a gift for you or a loved one. The sale will take place in the Cohan-Hansom Building.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE




DONATE BLOOD

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

 **American Red Cross**

BLOOD DRIVE

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

 **Saint Matthew Catholic Church**

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 (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. Prost!



DESSERTS FOR OKTOBERFEST

The Women's Club is looking for talented dessert makers and savvy shoppers 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. 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. Refrigerator space is very limited, so please plan accordingly.

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

MASS OF REMEMBRANCE - NOVEMBER 2

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 from October 14-31 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.

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.

FORMED

PICK OF THE WEEK - OCTOBER 8



JOHN XXIII: THE POPE OF PEACE

This movie tells the life story of John XXIII from his youth through his young priesthood, episcopacy, life as cardinal, and eventually his life as pope. Elected supposedly as an “interim Pope” who would just keep the status quo and listen to the advisers around him, John XXIII proved to be his own man when he surprised the Church and world by calling for the Second Vatican Council.

To watch this title and many more like it, visit 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 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

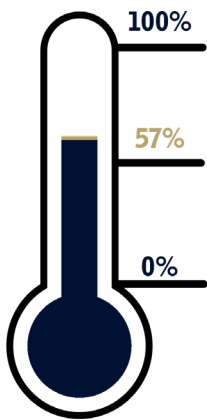
40 DAYS FOR LIFE

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 57% of that goal with a total of \$68,524 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 or text "BISHOP" to 615-552-1101. Thank you!

SCAN HERE
TO MAKE
A GIFT



TONY'S REFLECTION

DON'T SHOOT THE MESSENGER

You've probably heard that repeated phrase, "Don't shoot the messenger." This phrase insinuates that the person who delivers bad news to people is not well-liked. It becomes especially disturbing for the messenger if you give powerful people bad news. In 1989, Congress had to enact specific laws to protect whistle-blowers because of the violent threats they would receive. Here, we must ask why the messenger receives so much hostility.

Bishop Fulton Sheen once observed, "The good repent on knowing their sin; the evil become angry when their sin is discovered." What Bishop Sheen is getting at is that there is a movement toward the fact of one's sin – a person either works to get rid of the sin or becomes irritated at this discovery of the sin. Enraged at the sin's discovery, they seek to remove the very entity that exposes their sin. This spiritual insight parallels Jesus' assessment in the parable of the wicked tenants. In this parable, the tenants of a vineyard end up killing the son of the vineyard owner because he is delivering news they don't want to hear.

The basic meaning of the parable boils down to: the vineyard is Jerusalem, the tenants are the chief priests and leaders of Israel. The servants sent to the vineyard are the Old Testament prophets; the son is Jesus Himself; the vineyard owner is God the Father. Therefore, the judgment on the tenants is a prediction of the destruction of Jerusalem which was to happen within a generation (AD 70).

It should be noted that the Old Testament prophets didn't have great news for the kings and rulers of Israel. Isaiah told them, "Your hands are full of blood!" (Isaiah 1:15) Hosea told them their hands are mingled with blood (Hosea 4:2) and Micah mentioned they are building up the city with blood (Micah 3:10). Prophets that provided dire news to Israel's kings tended to have a short life span.

Besides not liking the Son's message, this parable also shows us that Israel's leaders were obsessed with acquiring God's inheritance for their own power, prestige, and income. They didn't view God's inheritance as a beautiful overflow to being in union with God but merely viewed it for their personal advantage. Any threat to the inheritance's treasures needed to be removed so they could reap the rewards.

In a similar vein, people may want to kill off their Catholic faith, bury it under the rug so they can continue in their sins, and acquire their version of pleasure. As Jesus announced, "Light has come into the world, and men loved their darkness rather than the light because their deeds were evil." (John 3:19)

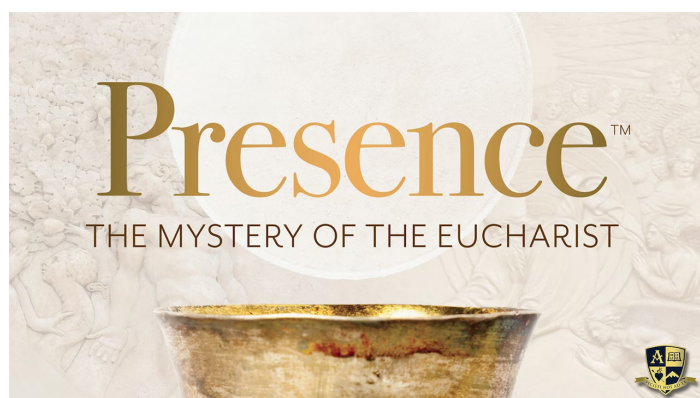
Instead of trying to ignore the light or remove the light, we are called to run to the light and let go of the darkness. In the end, the light always wins.

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 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 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 to fill out our interest form.

YOUTH MINISTRY

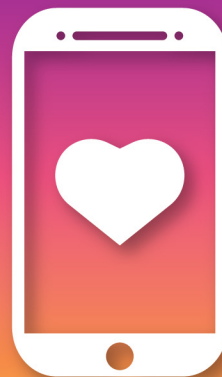
FALL BREAK UPDATE

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...

REGISTER FOR RISE 2023-2024

Take the jump and register for RISE Youth Group! The year is underway, but it is never too late to sign up. RISE is open to all high school students as an opportunity to come together for fellowship, fun and exploration of our Catholic faith. Throughout the school year, we'll meet most Sundays from 5:30-7:30 p.m. in the Cohan-Hansom Building. Join us to deepen your Catholic faith in fellowship with the youth of the parish. To learn more and register, visit bit.ly/smcrise2324.

FOLLOW US ON  Instagram



@STMATTHEWYOUTH

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

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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