



# *Saint Matthew* CATHOLIC CHURCH

**DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER**

JANUARY 21, 2024 + THIRD 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](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

### “I LOVE NEW YORK” MOTHER & SON NIGHT



the theme is “I Love New York!” Feel free to dress up or wear whatever is comfortable. Tickets are \$35 per family. Visit [bit.ly/sgcmothersonnight](http://bit.ly/sgcmothersonnight) to learn more and sign up.

All mothers and sons (ages three and up) are invited to Saint Matthew Mother & Son Night, hosted by our St. Gianna Circle Mothers Ministry! The event will take place on Saturday, January 27 from 6-9 p.m. in the school gymnasium. We encourage all mothers and sons to attend the 5 p.m. Mass before the event. The night of fun will include DJ Louie, dinner, cotton candy, games, crafts, photo booth, and more. The

### “UNDER THE SEA” FATHER-DAUGHTER DANCE



per family. Dinner will be included. Visit [bit.ly/smcfatherdaughterdance24](http://bit.ly/smcfatherdaughterdance24) to learn more and register.

All fathers and daughters (in pre-K through 8th grade) are invited to Saint Matthew Under the Sea Father-Daughter Dance on Saturday, February 3 from 6-9 p.m. in the school gymnasium. Dive into a night of fun with the parish and school community at this “Under the Sea” themed dance! Dress as casual or as fancy as you want, and come dance to music provided by DJ Dallas Jackson. Tickets are \$25 per couple and \$35

#### LITURGY SCHEDULE (JANUARY 22-28, 2024)

##### MONDAY, JANUARY 22

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✦ For Bernice Adams
- 1 Sm 15:16-23
- Mk 2:18-22

##### TUESDAY, JANUARY 23

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✦ Delia Grace Abaray
- 1 Sm 16:1-13
- Mk 2:23-28

##### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24

- 7:00 p.m. Mass
- ✦ Vince Phillips
- 1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51
- Mk 3:1-6

##### THURSDAY, JANUARY 25

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✦ Edward Thomas
- 1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7
- Mk 3:7-12

##### FRIDAY, JANUARY 26

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✦ Martha Nguyen
- 1 Sm 24:3-21
- Mk 3:13-19

##### FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- 5:00 p.m. Saturday Vigil Mass
- ✦ For the People of Saint Matthew
- 8:30 a.m. Sunday Mass
- ✦ For Patrick Schmit
- 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass
- ✦ For James Desrochers & Family
- Jon 3:1-5, 10
- 1 Cor 7:29-31
- Mk 1:14-20

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

## STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

- FOR THE WEEK ENDING JANUARY 14 -	
PARISH, VISITORS, ACH WITHDRAWALS, ONLINE GIVING, AND LOOSE CASH	\$21,159
SECOND COLLECTION: PARISH CHARITY	\$1,028

### THIS WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION: Haiti Mission

MAKE YOUR GIFT TODAY ON OUR  
ONLINE GIVING PAGE:

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





## PARISH NEWS

### 2023 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

As in previous years, we are able to send 2023 Contribution Statements via email to those who wish to receive them electronically. If you want to receive your Contribution Statement electronically, please email [info@stmatthewtn.org](mailto:info@stmatthewtn.org) with "Contribution Statement" in the subject line. Statements will be sent (either via email or USPS) by the end of January. For questions, please contact the business office. Thank you!

### FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

Registration is now open for our next First Friday Adoration on February 2. Time slots are available in 30-minute increments. We need at least two people present with the Blessed Sacrament at all times throughout the day. To learn more and register for a time slot, visit [bit.ly/smcffafeb24](http://bit.ly/smcffafeb24).

### CANDLEMAS - FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2

All are invited to join us on Friday, February 2 at 7 p.m. as we celebrate Candlemas. At this special Mass, we bless all the candles that we will use in the church this year. Mass will begin with the candle blessing and a procession with the lighted candles starting in the Narthex. You are welcome to bring any candle that you would like blessed, and we will have some blessed candles available to take home after the Mass. A donation is not required, but is appreciated. We hope to see you there!

### WOMEN'S CLUB FEBRUARY MEETING

All women of the parish are invited to join the Women's Club for its February meeting on Monday, February 12. We will welcome Saint Matthew parishioner Franchelle Jaeger who deliver a talk titled *Approaching Lent with a Woman's Heart*. Franchelle is a national speaker, writer, Catholic creative, catechist, and ardent evangelist for Jesus. Her heart is for sharing the love of Jesus and the beauty of the Catholic faith through the art of story. The meeting will take place from 7:30-9 p.m. More information will be available soon. Save the date!

### RISE PANCAKE BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER



The Rise Youth Group will take over Community Weekend in February to host its annual pancake breakfast fundraiser! All members of the Saint Matthew community are invited to join us in the Cohan-Hansom Building for a delicious pancake meal after all the Masses on February 3 and 4 (including the Saturday night Mass, because who doesn't love breakfast for dinner?!) Members of the Rise Youth Group will be on hand to make/serve the food and collect donations for their upcoming mission trip this summer. Donations are not required but are appreciated. Bring the family and join us for a free, all-you-can-eat pancake meal and fellowship with the parish community!



### SPONSOR THE PANCAKE BREAKFAST

The Rise Youth Group is seeking individuals, families and businesses to sponsor our upcoming pancake breakfast. Rather than selling tickets, as we've done in previous years, we are relying on free-will donations and sponsorship partners from the community to raise funds for our mission trip. With your generous support, breakfast will be made free to our community. All sponsorships must be purchased by Tuesday, January 30. To learn more and become a sponsor, visit [bit.ly/smcrisepancakesponsor](http://bit.ly/smcrisepancakesponsor).

## PARISH NEWS

### 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](http://bit.ly/smcemailsignup).

# FORMED

PICK OF THE WEEK - JANUARY 21



### MARCAM: RUNNING THE GOOD RACE | FILMED AT SAINT MATTHEW!

In this episode filmed at Saint Matthew Catholic Church and School, Marcam meets Fr. Raines and Dr. Simpson and learns all about the joy of athletics and sports. Put on your imaginary running shoes and run the good race with Marcam!

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

## SAINT MATTHEW SCHOOL NEWS

### MANE EVENT 2024

All members of the Saint Matthew community are invited to join us for the 2024 Mane Event! "A Night Under the Big Top" is an event you won't want to miss! Please support Saint Matthew School by attending our live and silent auction on Saturday, February 10. Visit [bit.ly/smsmaneevent24](http://bit.ly/smsmaneevent24) for more information, including sponsorship levels, tickets, frequently asked questions, and more! We hope to see you there.

### 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](http://www.publix.com) and [www.kroger.com](http://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!

### SMS COMMUNITY NIGHT

On Thursday, January 25, our 5th-6th grade basketball teams will play The Covenant School at Belmont's Curb Event Center. This will be a special evening of basketball and our chance to show our support of The Covenant School, their students and families. As part of the evening's festivities, we will sell special T-shirts to commemorate the event. The shirt will be available for pre-order through the Saint Matthew Spirit Store after Christmas break. We would love to have a big turnout from Lion Nation at this event. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us at Belmont for the games.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### FATHER RYAN LEGACY GALA

Application for Father Ryan High School is open for the 2024-2025 school year. With large numbers applying for this current school year, we encourage prospective families to apply as early as possible. Visit [www.fatherryan.org/admissions/apply](http://www.fatherryan.org/admissions/apply) to learn more and apply today!

### NASHVILLE DCCW MEETING

All Catholic women are invited to attend the Nashville Diocesan Council of Catholic Women winter meeting on Saturday, January 27 at St. Henry Catholic Church. Mass is at 8 a.m. with a light breakfast to follow. Kim Derrick, RN, founder of the Heart of Mary House, will be our guest speaker. Lunch is \$15 per person. RSVP to Laura Nota ([lnota615@gmail.com](mailto:lnota615@gmail.com)) or call (615) 319-3606 by January 20.

### CHESTERTON ACADEMY INFO NIGHT

We welcome any and all interested families to the next Chesterton Academy Info Night on February 4 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Meet our headmaster, faculty, some of our students, and board members as we continue to thrive and grow in middle Tennessee. We will share information about classical curriculum and what a day in the life of a Chesterton student looks like. Informational presentations will begin promptly at 5:40 p.m. Our location is at the Bethlehem United Methodist Church (2419 Bethlehem Loop Road, Franklin, TN). If you have any questions please go to [www.chestertontn.com](http://www.chestertontn.com) and/or email [info@chestertontn.com](mailto:info@chestertontn.com).

### NCR NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

Nashville Catholic Radio needs volunteers. Help is needed on air, in production, promotion, financial, and many new areas to come. Contact either Jim Crowe ([jim.crowe@dioceseofnashville.com](mailto:jim.crowe@dioceseofnashville.com)) or Ron Fleitz ([rfleitz31@gmail.com](mailto:rfleitz31@gmail.com)) and share your talents and thoughts. We thank you and wish you a very prosperous 2024. Listen to Nashville CR on 100.5 FM, streaming 24/7 on [www.NashvilleCR.com](http://www.NashvilleCR.com), or download the free Nashville Catholic Radio app on Google Play or the App Store.

### FATHER RYAN LEGACY GALA

Join us on January 27 at the Music City Center as we honor David (FRHS 1966 alumnus) and Linda Bohan for their work and service to Father Ryan and the entire Nashville community. The cocktail reception will begin at 5 p.m., followed by the silent auction at 6 p.m. and the dinner at 7 p.m. Sponsorship opportunities are now available by visiting [www.fatherryan.org/gala](http://www.fatherryan.org/gala). Tickets are available on the website.

### WORLD MARRIAGE DAY MASS & RECEPTION

All married couples are invited to celebrate your wedding anniversary in a special way this year at the World Marriage Day Mass with Bishop Spalding at the Cathedral of the Incarnation on Sunday, February 4 at 2:30 p.m. Anniversaries of any year are encouraged to attend (special recognition for milestone anniversaries of 25, 50, 60+ years). A reception will follow the Holy Mass. If you would like to attend, please RSVP online at [www.nashvillefaithformation.com/mfl-events](http://www.nashvillefaithformation.com/mfl-events) or call (615) 540-1235.

### MARRIAGE: A REFLECTION OF GOD'S LOVE

Join us for a half-day marriage retreat on February 17 at St Ann Catholic Church in Nashville. Included are the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, confessions, reflections/talks, lunch and a marriage blessing. Bring a picture from your wedding day! We will begin at 9 a.m. and conclude by 2 p.m. There is no charge for this event. Sponsored by Regnum Christi Nashville. Email [regnumchristinashville@gmail.com](mailto:regnumchristinashville@gmail.com) with questions or check out our website at [www.rcnashvilletn.org](http://www.rcnashvilletn.org) for more information.



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

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



### **TONY'S REFLECTION**

#### **GIVE UP EVERYTHING**

Come dinner time in my house, I'll announce, "It's dinner time! Come for dinner!" But usually, children don't materialize in the kitchen. To summon the kids to the table, I'll next declare, "Drop what you're doing and come now!" This statement inevitably provokes a response to come to dinner.

In a similar vein, the Old and New Testament readings in Mass today can be summed up by God saying, "Drop what you're doing and come to me now!" The abrupt and radical response of the Ninevites to Jonah's call for repentance forms a backdrop for the Gospel account of the urgent call of the disciples. It reminds us that God's commission—whether it was issued under the Old Covenant or the New Covenant, requires an instantaneous response. The obvious question arises – why did Jesus demand such an immediate and radical response from his disciples? Father Joseph Edattu answers this question by having us make the connection when Jesus before said, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand" (Mark 1:15). In short, the time is now when God's plan of salvation is being ushered in. Any delay and these men will be taken over by uncertainty and an unwillingness to do the crucial mission at hand.

How do we know this? We know from the other Gospels that there was a little more backstory to Jesus' relationship with these four fishermen. They were disciples of John the Baptist and were introduced to Jesus by John as "the lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world." The point of Mark's punchy narrative illuminates that "after John was arrested," what did these disciples of John go back to doing? They went back to their former way of life even though they knew the importance of Jesus. Therefore, Jesus knew they lacked the will to act when the time came. Walking up to them today, Jesus needed to provoke a holy sense of urgency in the mission. And true to form, as Jesus challenged these men, they responded to His call to move quickly.

The response of the Apostles sets an example for us. Simon and Andrew "abandoned their nets," whereas James and John "left their father in the boat." They gave up their profession ("nets") and family relationships ("father") to follow Jesus. The impulse to abandon everything and follow Jesus highlights the surpassing excellence of Christian discipleship over every worldly pursuit. Of course, for many of us, following Jesus might mean doing a better job in our profession or caring more deeply for our family. The point is not that professions or family relationships are inherently bad. It's that nothing can take priority over our work in God's mission.

Abandoning everything to follow God for most means dropping that hobby or obsession that dominates our thoughts and affections and keeps us from praying and living out God's plan. So, let us be prepared to let go of our attachments and follow Christ wherever He takes us.

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

### **CONFIRMATION RETREAT**

We are looking forward to our Confirmation Retreat on January 27 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Camp Marymount in Fairview, TN. At the retreat, students will encounter an inspirational message that will awake their souls as they prepare for Confirmation. We will be sending out detailed information about the retreat as we get closer. To register your child for the retreat, visit [bit.ly/smcconfirmationretreat24](https://bit.ly/smcconfirmationretreat24).

### **VOLUNTEER AT THE CONFIRMATION RETREAT**

We are looking for high-school, college-age, or adult volunteers to help with a variety of tasks at the retreat. Giving of the self in service to our kids is a great way to put the faith into action. If you are interested in volunteering, please visit [bit.ly/smcconfirmationretreatvol24](https://bit.ly/smcconfirmationretreatvol24).

## **ADULT FAITH FORMATION**

### **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, "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/smcwayofthecross](https://bit.ly/smcwayofthecross) 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](https://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.

## YOUTH MINISTRY

### SPRING SEMESTER STARTS

Rise is back, y'all! Join us for our first official night of the semester tonight, January 21 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. in the Cohan-Hansom Building. All high school students are invited, so encourage your kids, grandkids, friends, etc. to join us!

**PLEASE NOTE:** Rise this Sunday will be dependent on weather. Updates will be sent via text. if you have not been receiving texts from 87447 please contact Antoinette to be put on the list.

# GUYS RETREAT

ARE YOU READY FOR A CHALLENGE?

February 10-11th | 9-12th grade



NaCoMe Camp & Retreat Center in Centerville, TN

REGISTER HERE

IT'S TIME FOR A...

# Girls Retreat

FEBRUARY 10 - 11TH : 9-12TH GRADE

NACOME CAMP AND RETREAT CENTER IN CENTERVILLE TENNESSEE

REGISTER HERE



### A REFLECTION ON LAST SEMESTER

When planning the topics for last semester, the theme of *identity* kept coming up. It's no secret that the world we live in is, sadly, a bit messed up. And a question people seem to constantly be asking themselves is, "Who am I?" In looking at the trends, it's understandable why the definition of identity has become so disordered. That is why I thought it's important to spend an entire semester of activities, talks and conversations revolving around that question. We touched on whose we are, staying true to ourselves, feeling worthy, and living out our Christian identity, to name just a few topics. The goal was to get your teens thinking, because even if they themselves don't struggle with identity, there's a high likelihood they will or have encountered someone who is. In full honesty, there is so much we still haven't covered. So this spring, the plan is to expand on what our identity looks like!

### SPRING 2024 CALENDAR

#### JAN

6 Christmas Party  
21 | 28 Rise Nights

#### FEB

4 | 25 Rise Nights

GUYS & GIRLS RETREATS 2/10 - 11

#### MAR

3 Saint Matthew's Confirmation  
17 | 24 Rise Nights

#### APR

7 Parents come to Rise  
14 | 28 Rise Nights

#### MAY

5 Rise Night

21 Eighth Graders come to Rise



**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

## PASTORAL STAFF



**Father Justin Raines**  
Pastor  
fraines@stmatthewtn.org



**Father Tien Tran**  
Associate Pastor  
frtran@stmatthewtn.org



**Bill Forte**  
Deacon  
bforte@stmatthewtn.org



**Lachlan Cameron**  
Deacon  
lcameron@stmatthewtn.org



**Rebecca Harding**  
Dir. of Music Ministry  
rharding@stmatthewtn.org



**Antoinette Hanning**  
Dir. of Youth Ministry  
ahanning@stmatthewtn.org



**Tony Jesse**  
Dir. of Religious Ed.  
tjesse@stmatthewtn.org



**Kelly Ott**  
Pastoral Associate  
kott@stmatthewtn.org

## MANE EVENT 2024



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