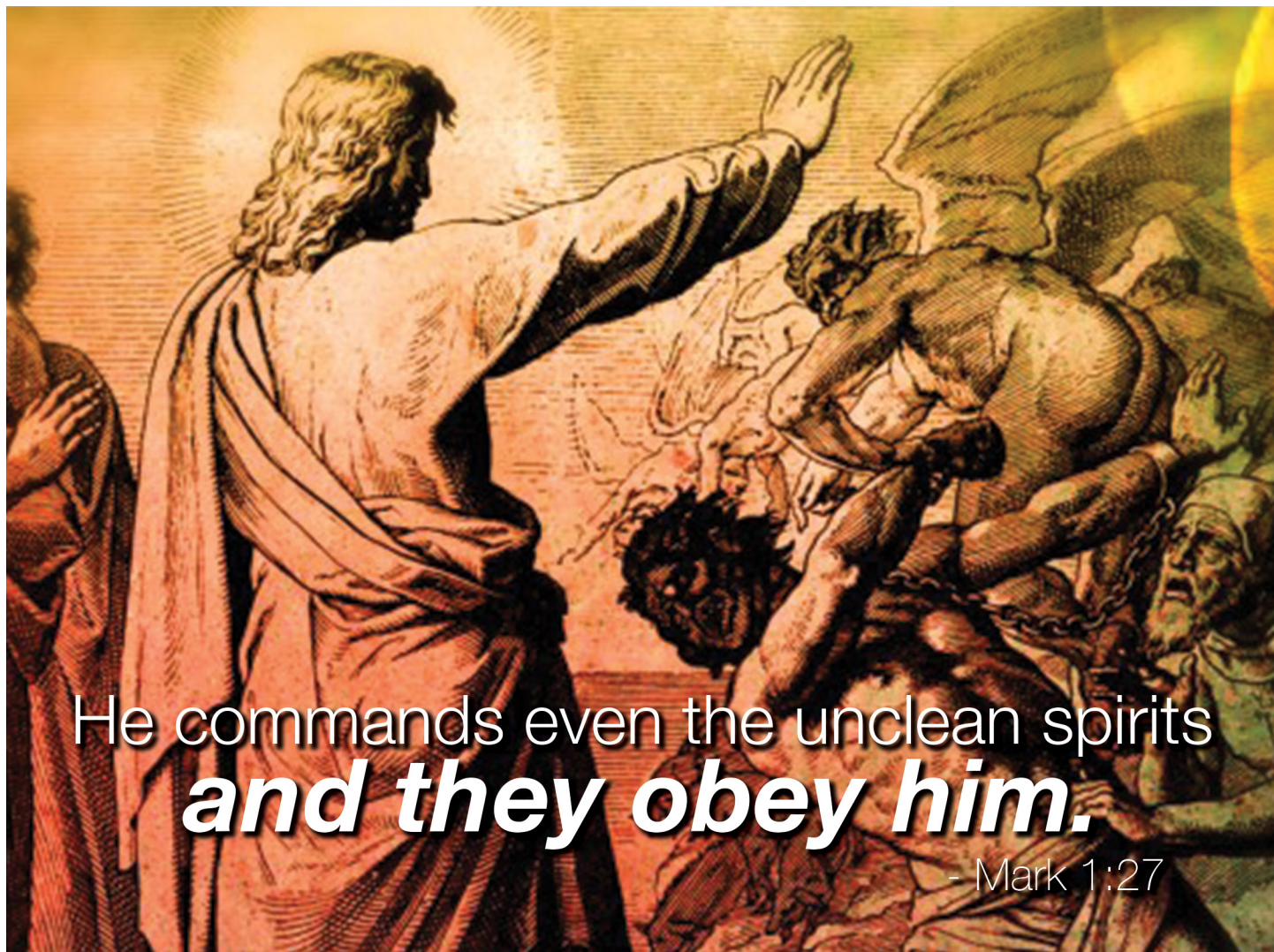




Saint Matthew CATHOLIC CHURCH

DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER

JANUARY 28, 2024 + FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



He commands even the unclean spirits
and they obey him.

- Mark 1:27

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

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 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!

LITURGY SCHEDULE (JAN 29-FEB 4, 2024)

MONDAY, JANUARY 29

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✦ For Jerry Boles
- 2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13
- Mk 5:1-20

TUESDAY, JANUARY 30

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✦ For Jane Bradford
- 2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30-19:3
- Mk 5:21-43

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31

- 7:00 p.m. Mass
- ✦ For Chris & Daniel Bozung
- 2 Sm 24:2, 9-17
- Mk 6:1-6

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✦ For Cathy Brulin
- 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12
- Mk 6:7-13

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✦ For Jim Charron
- Mal 3:1-4
- Heb 2:14-18
- Lk 2:22-40

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- 5:00 p.m. Saturday Vigil Mass
- ✦ Marilyn Riley
- 8:30 a.m. Sunday Mass
- ✦ For the People of Saint Matthew
- 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass
- ✦ Polly Moyer
- Jon 3:1-5, 10
- 1 Cor 7:29-31
- Mk 1:14-20

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

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 pancake meal and fellowship with the parish!

SPONSOR THE PANCAKE BREAKFAST

The Rise Youth Group is seeking individuals, families and businesses to sponsor our upcoming pancake breakfast. Rather than selling tickets, we are relying on free-will donations and sponsorship partners from the community to raise funds for our mission trip. All sponsorships must be purchased by Tuesday, January 30. To learn more and become a sponsor, visit bit.ly/smcrisepancakebreakfast.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

- FOR THE WEEK ENDING JANUARY 21 -

PARISH, VISITORS, ACH WITHDRAWALS, ONLINE GIVING, AND LOOSE CASH	\$14,070
SECOND COLLECTION: HAITI MISSION	\$1,089

THIS WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION: Tuition Assistance

MAKE YOUR GIFT TODAY ON OUR
ONLINE GIVING PAGE:

www.stmatthewtn.org/church/giving



PARISH NEWS

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.

ST. GIANNA CIRCLE FEBRUARY MEETING

St. Gianna Circle invites all women of the Parish our next meeting on Tuesday, February 6 at 7 p.m. in the Cohan-Hanson Building. We will be collecting diapers and learning about Sunnyside Up Youth Pregnancy Services. Sunnyside Up Youth is a local non-profit organization dedicated to the advancement of the health and well-being of all pregnant youth and their babies, delivered with the values of respect and compassion. Babies are always welcome!

FSM NEW HOME WELCOME KITS

The Family Service Ministry will gather to collect items for and pack new home welcome kits on Thursday, February 8 at 3 p.m. in the parish conference center. The kits will be given to families who receive housing through Catholic Charities. If you cannot join us that day, please consider donating items or money. All details (including a list of needed items) are in the sign up at bit.ly/smcfsmhomekits. Contact Theresa Chau at (813) 361-4334 for more information. Thank you for your support!

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!

UNDER THE SEA FATHER-DAUGHTER DANCE



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 per family. Dinner will be included. Visit bit.ly/smcfatherdaughterdance24 to learn more and register.

HAITI MINISTRY UPDATE

Be sure to check out the bulletin insert on the next page to see an update from our Haiti Ministry! While we have not been able to travel to Haiti in the past few years, we are still supporting our sister parish, Our Lady of Miracles, and the community in Gobert, Haiti from afar by providing financial support for basic humanitarian needs, such as food, clean water, and education. If you would like to aid our efforts and support our brothers and sisters in Haiti, please scan the QR code to make a donation through our online giving platform. Thank you for your generous support!



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.

FORMED

PICK OF THE WEEK - JANUARY 28



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 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 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 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!

SMS WHITE OUT vs. SAINT HENRY

This Thursday, February 1, SMS will host its annual White Out games against rival Saint Henry! Come out and support all of our 7th-8th grade basketball teams and our cheerleaders. The night will begin at 4 p.m. as the JV girls team takes on Linden Waldorf. The JV boys will tip-off against Saint Henry at 5 p.m., followed by the varsity girls at 6:15 p.m. and the varsity boys at 7:15 p.m. We hope to see you there!

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 to learn more and apply today!

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 and/or email info@chestertontn.com.

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 with questions or check out our website at www.rcnashvilletn.org for more information.

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) or Ron Fleitz (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, or download the free Nashville Catholic Radio app on Google Play or the App Store.



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK 2024

Saint Matthew School is very excited to celebrate Catholic Schools Week and share in its many activities! Take a look at our schedule of events below to see how we will be celebrating this week.

THIS WEEKEND

Teachers & students speak at Masses

MONDAY, JANUARY 29

Student Appreciation Day

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31

Parent Appreciation Day

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Mission Awareness Day

ALL WEEK

Penny Drive for Our Lady of Miracles

TUESDAY, JANUARY 30

Demonstration Day

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1

Faculty/ Staff Appreciation & White Out Day

FOLLOW OUR CSW CELEBRATIONS!



@stmatthewschooltn

#CSW2024 | JANUARY 28 - FEBRUARY 3

TONY'S REFLECTION EVEN THE DEMONS KNOW

Audiences tend to be fascinated by the topic of exorcisms. In Hollywood, the exorcist film has become a standard genre. One of the fastest-growing religious podcasts is *The Exorcist Files*, which is based on the real cases of Fr. Carlos Martins. The exorcist phenomenon fascinates audiences partly because it taps into the mysterious realm of the supernatural.

In the creed at Mass, we proclaim that God is "creator of the visible and invisible world." When we state the "invisible world," we refer to the supernatural realm in which angelic beings play a prominent role. In this spiritual domain, angels serve the ranks of God, while fallen angels serve the devil in attempting to ruin God's creation and steal souls along the way. In the Catholic tradition, we adore reason and the sciences, but our faith acknowledges a dimension of reality that goes beyond what the sciences can measure. While we don't have full access to this world, Scripture is clear it exists, and, at times, this invisible world comes breaking through into the visible world.

Throughout the Bible, Jesus performed numerous exorcisms as Scripture reads, "he cast out many demons" (Mark 1: 29-34, see also Matthew 8:16, 8:28-34, Luke 4:41). In the Gospel reading today, a man in the synagogue is taken over by an "unclean spirit" and Jesus removes this dark spirit by simply saying, "Come out of him."

First, it is interesting that the possessed man was present in the synagogue. It shows us that those under the influence of evil spirits may be found even in places of worship. What sticks out is the demon's acknowledgment of Jesus's authority and power over him. When confronted by Jesus, the demon says, "I know who you are - the Holy One of God!" Knowing who Jesus is strikes terror in the demons because He frees people from their tyrannical power. Being entirely given the authority of the Father, the Son invokes His supreme authority by uttering a short phrase the demon's will is forced to follow.

While the human fascination with the exorcism genre invokes our curiosity into the spiritual realm, we can contemplate what this world teaches us about sin and God's power over sin. Dark powers manifest themselves everywhere – in sin, in human dysfunction, and yes, also in rare instances when a demon physically or mentally takes control of a person. But Christ has the authority to swiftly remove it, assuming our faith in Him is secure.

This brief exchange between Jesus and a demon in the Gospel shows us that faith is more than just believing that Jesus is God. Even the demons know this. Faith is your response to the fact that Jesus is God. Faith has you decide what you will do given that Jesus is God – follow Him or not. The demons know Jesus is God, yet they view Him as a threat – which is why they tremble before Him. Those who worship Christ and love Him have a great advocate anytime these dark powers attempt to lure them away.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY



Tony will be hosting a Lenten Bible study on Thursdays at 1 p.m. beginning February 15 in the parish conference center. We will dive into specific passages primarily from the New Testament that will help you embrace acts of self-denial and help identify ways to carry your cross during the Lenten season. If you are interested in joining this study, please fill out the brief interest form at bit.ly/smcclentbiblestudy.

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 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

SPRING SEMESTER STARTS

Let's try this again... Rise is back y'all! Join us for our first official night of the semester tonight (1/28) 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!

REGISTER FOR RISE

Life is busy, and other things can take priority for a time. That is why registration for Rise is available year round! The Rise Youth Group is open to all highschool students as an opportunity to come together for fellowship, fun and exploration of our Catholic faith. We regularly welcome new teens to our group and encourage them to bring friends. It's never too late to join us! Visit bit.ly/smcrise2324 to register.

SPRING SEMESTER STARTS

We'd love to see all of our teens outside of youth group during the school week! But unfortunately, not every school will allow visitors. If your school isn't listed and you're interested in coming up with an alternative, please contact Antoinette.

HOMESCHOOL LUNCH

BECAUSE Y'ALL DESERVE FUN LUNCHES TOO!

We're back for the 2024 Spring Semester! You're invited to take a break from school work, pack a lunch, come play some games, and/or just hang out. Oh, and we'll make sure to bring snacks!

For: Any & all High school students

Where: The Parish Conference Center at Saint Matthew Church

When: Open house style from 12-1:30pm on these dates →

February 6th & 16th
March 5th & 15th
April 9th Bingo Bunch
April 19th

ANTOINETTE HANNING ~ AHANNING@STMATTHEWNTN.ORG ~ (615) 208-6954



 **RISE**
SAINT MATTHEW YOUTH GROUP
SCHOOL VISITS
for the Spring
Semester 2024

**dates subject to change*

CHESTERTON
ACADEMY OF THE
INCARNATION
Second Thursday
every month during
the lunch period

JAMES LAWSON
HIGH SCHOOL
First Wednesday
every month at
10am during PLT

ST. CECILIA
ACADEMY
February 20th,
March 19th &
April 22nd during
both lunch periods
in the Cafeteria

FATHER RYAN
HIGH SCHOOL
Monday A days
during all lunch
periods in the
Campus Ministry
Office

January 29th
for Mass and all
lunch periods in
the dining Hall



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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MANE EVENT 2024



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