



Saint Matthew CATHOLIC CHURCH

DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER

FEBRUARY 25, 2024 + SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

THIS IS MY BELOVED SON. **LISTEN TO HIM.**

– MARK 9:7



MASS SCHEDULE

MASS

Monday - Friday | 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

NEW SOUND SYSTEM IN THE CHURCH

You told us you couldn't hear us. We listened, and we heard you. Soon, you'll be able to hear us loudly and clearly.

As we prepared for the diocesan *Legacy of Faith, Hope & Love* capital campaign in 2021, our pastor, staff, board members and campaign volunteers identified potential enhancements we could make around campus using our parish's share of the funds from the campaign. One glaring area of need was the sound system in the church.

Our church is beautiful, timeless, structurally sound, and filled with holiness. But the acoustics have long been an issue. For years, parishioners and guests alike have struggled to hear clearly in our worship area. Dated technology and a lack of acoustical infrastructure caused sound to bounce around the walls, making it difficult to hear.

Thanks to your generous support of the *Legacy* campaign, we are excited to announce that we are able to address these issues. Starting this weekend, we are installing a new sound system. This state-of-the-art system promises to enrich our worship experience, ensuring clarity and resonance in every prayer, hymn, and homily. With clearer sound quality and improved acoustics, we aim to elevate our liturgies and deepen our connection with the Divine Word.

We have hired Griggs Audio Productions in Franklin to install the system. Engineers will be on campus throughout the week. Barring any setbacks, the new system will be up and running by our 5 p.m. Vigil Mass on Saturday, March 2. This will not affect our daily Mass schedule throughout the week, but please note there will be limited sound capabilities at these liturgies and we will not be able to livestream the Masses this week.

We would like to thank the gifted advisers working on this project for their diligence and expertise. We would also like to thank everyone who participated in the *Legacy* campaign. Without your generous support, the funding of this project would not be possible.

LITURGY SCHEDULE

(FEB 26 - MAR 3, 2024)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✦ For Joan Vienneau
- Dn 9:4b-10
- Lk 6:36-38

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✦ For Dominic Tran
- Is 1:10, 16-20
- Mt 23:1-12

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✦ For Lisa Wright
- Jer 18:18-20
- Mt 20:17-28

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✦ For Huong Tran
- Jer 17:5-10
- Lk 16:19-31

FRIDAY, MARCH 1

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✦ Bob Rogers
- Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a
- Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

- 5:00 p.m. Saturday Vigil Mass
- ✦ Mary Pat Sloan
- 8:30 a.m. Sunday Mass
- ✦ Paul Gervais
- 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass
- ✦ For the People of Saint Matthew
- Ex 20:1-17
- 1 Cor 1:22-25
- Jn 2:13-25

✦ Special Intention

✦ May they rest in peace

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

- FOR THE WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 18 -

PARISH, VISITORS, ACH WITHDRAWALS, ONLINE GIVING, AND LOOSE CASH	\$16,667
SECOND COLLECTION: DEBT REDUCTION	\$520

MAKE YOUR GIFT TODAY ON OUR
ONLINE GIVING PAGE:

www.stmatthewtn.org/church/giving



PARISH NEWS

NO DAILY MASS LIVESTREAM THIS WEEK

Due to the installation of the new sound system, our daily Masses will not be livestreamed this week. We will resume our regular livestream schedule with the 5 p.m. Vigil Mass on Saturday, March 2.

MARY'S WAY OF THE CROSS - FEBRUARY 29

Our St. Gianna Circle Mothers Ministry is hosting Mary's Way of the Cross on Thursday, February 29 in the grotto following the 8 a.m. Mass. Mary's Way of the Cross is a series of meditations and prayers that follow Mary's thoughts and words from Jesus' passion to His death. Mary's suffering, internal conflict, and quiet acceptance are brought to light in this unique look at the Stations, which includes reflections about Jesus' full humanity and divinity. This empathetic version of the Stations of the Cross is intended to immerse those praying it into the passion and death of Our Lord so that we may better appreciate what He did for us all and model our lives accordingly. All are invited to attend.

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION - MARCH 1



Registration for our next First Friday Adoration is now open. Adoration will take place in the chapel immediately after the 8 a.m. Mass on Friday, March 1. We will repose the Blessed Sacrament at 8 a.m. on

Saturday, March 2. Time slots are available in 30-minute increments throughout the day. If you would like to spend more time with the Blessed Sacrament, you are welcome to sign up for multiple time slots. We must have at least two people present at all times. For more information and to sign up, visit bit.ly/smcffamarch24.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Join us every Friday during Lent for Stations of the Cross at 6 p.m. in the church. Each week, we will be led by a different member of the community. Our next event will take place this Friday, March 1, led by members of our St. Joseph's Men ministry. We hope to see you there!

PARENTING TEENS IN THE MODERN WORLD PANEL - TUESDAY, MARCH 5

Our St. Gianna Circle Mothers Ministry invites all mothers and fathers to attend an inspiring panel discussion titled *Parenting Teens in the Modern World*. Our thoughtful and experienced panelists will share tips on raising teens to become faithful, Catholic adults. Parenting should not be a "fly by the seat of your pants" endeavor, but rather an intentional living out of a specific vocation. Panelists will discuss ways to encounter God's love more fully in your home and change the world through the ministry of parenting. You do not need to be a member of our parish to attend. Guests are welcome to bring their babies. Appetizers, desserts, and drinks will be served. Visit bit.ly/sgcpanel2024 to register.

LUNCH BUNCH - TUESDAY, MARCH 12



Feeling lucky? Then join us at our March Lunch Bunch event as we celebrate St. Patrick's Day! All senior members of the community are invited to join us for an afternoon of fun, fellowship and bingo.

Come wearing green for good luck! Participation in the theme is encouraged but not required. The event will take place on Tuesday, March 12 from noon-2 p.m. in the narthex. The cost for entry is \$10 and a prize valued around \$10. Have some old items collecting dust in your home? Bring it to bingo! To learn more and register, visit bit.ly/smclunchbunchmarch24. For questions, contact Martin Strobel at mstrobel@stmatthewtn.org.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE

The Saint Matthew Respect for Life ministry invites all parishioners to take part in the 40 Days for Life spring campaign! 40 Days for Life is an internationally coordinated campaign that aims to end abortion locally through prayer and fasting, community outreach, and a peaceful all-day vigil in front of abortion businesses. The spring campaign will end on March 24. All are invited to participate. Visit www.40daysforlife.com/en/nashville for a full schedule of events.

PARISH NEWS

WOMEN'S CLUB MARCH MEETING



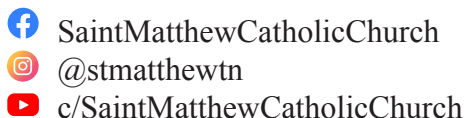
Join the Saint Matthew Women's Club as we *March Into Spring* with our live cooking demonstration and dinner! We will be joined by "Chef" Kevin Raymond, who hosts a monthly international cooking series at the Cathedral of the Incarnation in Nashville and has graciously agreed to share his time and talents with us. We will assist him as he teaches us how to prepare a fabulous meal. So grab your apron and join us for this hands-on event. Be sure to come hungry, as we will eat what we prepare. The event will take place on Wednesday, March 20 at 7:30 p.m. in the Cohan-Hansom Building. All are invited to join us at the 7 p.m. Mass beforehand. The cost is \$15. Visit bit.ly/smcwcmarchintospring to register.

FAMILY SERVICE MINISTRY SENSORY GARDEN

Come care for God's creation at the Family Service Ministry's annual gardening day at the Lions Club Sensory Garden for the Blind. We will help with various tasks in the garden on Sunday, March 17 from 9 a.m. til noon. This is a come and go event. Families can come any time during those hours and stay as short or as long as they would like. If possible, please RSVP by Wednesday, March 13 with the number of people attending and their ages. This allows the Lions Club to prepare age appropriate tasks accordingly. To register, visit bit.ly/smcfsmgardening24.

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.



SAINT MATTHEW SCHOOL NEWS

SMS CAMP REGISTRATION OPEN

Registration for SMS Camp 2024 is now open! Come join us for another summer at Saint Matthew summer camp. Our doors will be open for another five weeks this summer. To register for SMS Camp, view the camp brochure, or sign up to be a Counselor in Training (CIT), visit bit.ly/smscamp24. If you have any questions regarding camp, please email Camp Director Josh Edmondson at jedmondson@stmatthewtn.org. Go Lions!

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!

LUNCHROOM VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Lunch volunteers are needed for our school lunches! This is a great way to see the children for a short time and fulfill that new year resolution to volunteer more. Come every day, once a week, once a month - whenever you can! If you are interested in learning more or would like to volunteer, contact Grace Wright at gwright@stmatthewtn.org. When you volunteer in the lunchroom, your child (or you!) will receive lunch free that day!

COMMUNITY NEWS

APPLY TO FATHER RYAN HIGH SCHOOL

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!

NASHVILLE CATHOLIC FOOTBALL CLINIC

Nashville Catholic Football will host a football clinic for students currently in grades 4-8 on Saturday, March 2 from 9-10:30 a.m. This mini clinic will be on Father Ryan's campus with the Father Ryan coaches. Students should bring cleats, water, and a great attitude. Visit bit.ly/ncfclinic24 to pre-register for the clinic. For questions or concerns, email nashvillecatholicfb@gmail.com.

KALEIDOSCOPE FESTIVAL

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Nashville in partnership with Catholic Charities USA, Interfaith America, YMCA, and Habitat for Humanity would like to invite you to take part in our upcoming Kaleidoscope Festival. The goal of this event is to celebrate cultural diversity, integrate the entire community, and have fun. The individuals participating in our festival will be staff members, volunteers, donors, interns, advocates, partners, Nashvillian families, and neighbors throughout Middle Tennessee. The festival will take place on Saturday, March 23 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Catholic Pastoral Center. To learn more and register, visit bit.ly/cctennkaleidoscope.

FIAT INTEGRATIVE HEALTH

Therapy and counseling can be wonderful tools to utilize when we find ourselves needing extra support navigating the hardships of life. Fiat Integrative Health in Cool Springs welcomes you to connect, in person or online, with counselors who share your Catholic worldview. Their team, consisting of both male and female therapists, is committed to providing guidance rooted in the Catholic-Christian perspective. For more details, contact their office at (629) 252-7880 or visit www.fiathealth.org.

SAINT THOMAS HOSPITAL NEEDS EMHCs

Ascension Saint Thomas Hospital is seeking volunteers to serve as Extraordinary Ministers of 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.

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.

FORMED

PICK OF THE MONTH - FEBRUARY



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).

TONY'S REFLECTION HOW MUCH DO YOU TRUST GOD?

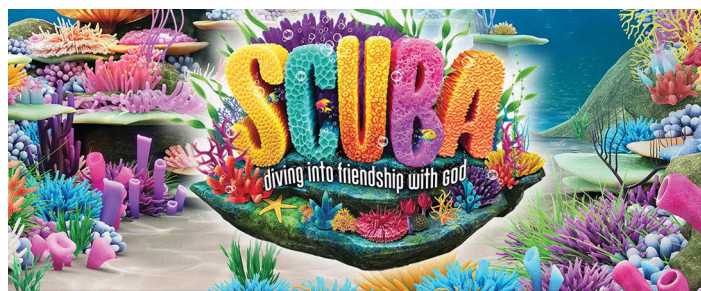
Trust is the glue that solidifies any relationship. In our readings today, Abraham and the disciples are tested to see how much they trust the Lord. A bit of backstory with Abraham shows his trust in God comes and goes. In Genesis, God calls Abraham out from Haran to the land of Canaan. In uprooting his family and his way of life to a new place, Abraham clearly trusts God. Later, God made a covenant with Abraham and promised him that from his family line would burst descendants as abundant as the stars. As God told Abraham this, He had him look up at the sky to count the stars. Interestingly, we learn that the sun was still out (Gen. 15:12) when God was "showing" Abraham the numerous stars of his descendants. This means Abraham couldn't see it but had to trust God that those stars were there. Did Abraham trust God's plan? Not really, because while his wife, Sarah, was barren, Abraham planned to have children through another woman – Hagar. So, instead of trusting in God's plan of descendants, he couldn't see, he concocted his own plan. This turned out to backfire against Abraham as he had to banish Hagar and the child, Ishmael, from his land.

While Abraham's trust wavered, God gave Abraham another chance to trust Him. In Genesis 22, God asks Abraham and his son of the promise, Isaac, if they are willing to participate in the kind of self-sacrificial love that the Holy Trinity will have to demonstrate to save mankind. Abraham and Isaac respond by their actions. We might think this test of trust to kill his son is too extreme. According to St. Ephrem, Abraham and Isaac's level of trust increased so much that they believed that God would resurrect Isaac from the dead. Before heading up the mountain, Abraham told his servants, "Stay here with the donkey, while the boy and I go on over there. We will worship and then come back to you" (Genesis 22:5). St. Ephrem comments that this verse implies that Abraham and Isaac believed in the resurrection – and both would return after this act of worship.

Here, we come to the Transfiguration of Jesus atop a mountain. Jesus became so glaringly white that the disciples became "exceedingly afraid." As the disciples experienced a holy shock from the Transfiguration, the Father declared, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." In this way, the Father tells the disciples to trust Christ, for what He is about to reveal to them is hard to "see." As they descended the mountain, Christ told the disciples that He would rise from the dead.

The story of Abraham and Isaac's faith mirrors what Jesus calls His disciples in the Transfiguration. Both are given a jarring glimpse of that which they can't comprehend. While they were perplexed about God's plan, eventually, both came to trust God completely. The only way to increase our faith is to entrust ourselves totally to the Lord, who can see what we cannot see on our own.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



TOTUS TUUS & VBS SAVE THE DATE! JULY 22-26



TOTUS TUUS
TOTALLY
YOURS

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS



This summer Saint Matthew will send a delegation to the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis from July 18-21. At the 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. We want you to be a part of this experience with our group! If you are interested in joining our delegation, please fill out the interest form at bit.ly/smcnecinterest.

YOUTH MINISTRY

RISE IS BACK

Are you ready for another Rise Night? All high school students are welcome to join us tonight, February 25 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. in the Cohan-Hansom Building. It's about time for a prayer night, so we'll spend some time in the chapel and praise and worship. Beforehand, we'll play crab soccer and enjoy some leftovers for dinner. We promise it'll be a good variety of food! Due to Confirmation and spring break, we are taking a few weeks off at the beginning of March. So join us now!

RESIGER FOR MISSION TRIP

Registration for our annual mission trip is open! Current 7-12th graders are invited to serve with Saint Matthew in Mobile, Alabama. We'll be joined by more than 200 young Catholics from around the U.S. with one goal in mind: to serve others as Jesus did. Scholarships are available. If needed, please contact Antoinette. Scan the QR code to register!

SAINT MATTHEW MISSION TRIP 2024

June 11 - 16th

MOBILE, ALABAMA

CURRENT 7 - 12TH GRADERS



**Student
Registration**



**Chaperone
Registration**

LENT BIBLE STUDY

CHURCH LIBRARY

FEBRUARY 28TH

FROM 6:15-7PM

MARCH 6TH & 20TH

**OPEN TO ALL HIGH SCHOOLERS
PLEASE REGISTER BELOW**



RISE
SAINT MATTHEW YOUTH GROUP



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.

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SCHOOL: 615-662-4044

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