



# *Saint Matthew* CATHOLIC CHURCH

**DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER**

**FEBRUARY 4, 2024 + FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**



MONASTERY DECANI, SOUTH WALL, CHRIST'S MIRACLES (59) – CHRIST HEALS PETER'S MOTHER IN LAW

## **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

### COLLECTING OLD PALMS

Don't know what to do with old palms from previous Palm Sunday Masses? Bring them to the church! We have a basket in the Narthex before and after all of our weekend liturgies before Ash Wednesday. If you have old palms that you would like to donate, please feel free to drop them in the basket. Thank you!

### THANK YOU FROM OUR SCOUTS!

In the scouting world, the Sunday before February 8 is observed as Scouting Anniversary Day. This day marks a time to recognize those involved in scouting and thank those who assist them. Saint Matthew Cub Scout Pack 287 and Boy Scout Troop 226 would like to thank the parish for chartering them, providing meeting space, and aiding in their scouting endeavors. Any ministries of the parish who might need the help of scouts, please contact their leaders at any time, as the scouts are eager to serve the parish. Finally, anyone interested in joining Cub Scouts or Boy Scouts can reach out to the pack or troop leaders for more information. Email contact information for Pack 287 and Troop 226 can be found in the ministry section of the church website.

### ST. GIANNA CIRCLE FEBRUARY MEETING

St. Gianna Circle invites all women of the parish to 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!

### LITURGY SCHEDULE (FEBRUARY 5-11, 2024)

#### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✙ Tom Forbes
- 1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13
- Mk 6:53-56

#### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✙ For Eva Coursey
- 1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30
- Mk 7:1-13

#### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7

- 7:00 p.m. Mass
- ✙ Richard Sappenfield
- 1 Kgs 10:1-10
- Mk 7:14-23

#### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✙ For Lynn & Suzanne Davis
- 1 Kgs 11:4-13
- Mk 7:24-30

#### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✙ For Mary Denault
- 1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19
- Mk 7:31-37

#### SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- 5:00 p.m. Saturday Vigil Mass
- ✙ Catherine M. Bogan
- 8:30 a.m. Sunday Mass
- ✙ For Diane Marcuri
- 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass
- ✙ For the People of Saint Matthew
- Lv 13:1-2, 44-46
- 1 Cor 10:31—11:1
- Mk 1:40-45

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

### STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

#### - FOR THE WEEK ENDING JANUARY 28 -

PARISH, VISITORS, ACH WITHDRAWALS, ONLINE GIVING, AND LOOSE CASH	\$18,458
SECOND COLLECTION: TUITION ASSISTANCE	\$437

THIS WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION: Capital Needs

NEXT WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION: Altar Society

MAKE YOUR GIFT TODAY ON OUR  
ONLINE GIVING PAGE:

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



## PARISH NEWS

### WOMEN'S CLUB ROOM IN THE INN MEAL

Calling all women of the parish! The Women's Club is in need of a few more volunteers to help make dinner for our Room in the Inn guests on Monday, February 5. This is a great opportunity to get involved at the parish and serve those most in need in the community. If you would like to help, visit [bit.ly/smcwcriti](http://bit.ly/smcwcriti). We have included the full menu and recipe links on the registration form. If you have any questions, contact Connie Vargas at [cvargasnp@gmail.com](mailto:cvargasnp@gmail.com). Thank you!

### 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](http://bit.ly/smcfsmhomekits). Contact Theresa Chau at (813) 361-4334 for more information. Thank you for your support!

### LUNCH BUNCH



There will be plenty of love in the air at our February Lunch Bunch event! All senior members of the community are invited to join us for an afternoon of fun, fellowship, and bingo. This month's

theme is Valentine's Day. Come wearing red, pink, or anything with hearts on it to spread some love. Participation in the theme is encouraged but not required. The event will take place on Tuesday, February 13 from noon-2 p.m. in the narthex. The cost for entry is \$10 and a bingo prize valued around \$10 for the prize table. This can be a trinket, toy, game, statue, book, baked goods, etc. Have some old items collecting dust in your home? Bring it to bingo! Visit [bit.ly/smclunchbunchfeb24](http://bit.ly/smclunchbunchfeb24) to register. For questions, contact Martin Strobel at [mstrobel@stmatthewtn.org](mailto:mstrobel@stmatthewtn.org).

### 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!

### 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](http://bit.ly/smcwayofthecross) to complete the form.





**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16  
FROM 6-8 P.M.  
COHAN-HANSOM BUILDING  
\$10/MEAL  
ORDER ONLINE AT  
[www.bit.ly/smcfishfryfeb24](http://www.bit.ly/smcfishfryfeb24)**

## 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 - FEBRUARY 4



### 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 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](http://bit.ly/smscamp24). If you have any questions regarding camp, please email Camp Director, Josh Edmondson, at [jedmondson@stmatthewtn.org](mailto:jedmondson@stmatthewtn.org). Go Lions!

## 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](http://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 tonight, 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).

### CBL FEBRUARY MEETING

The Catholic Business League's monthly breakfast meeting on Thursday, February 8 will feature FBI Special Agent Stephen Fogarty speaking on careers with the FBI and offering guidance for fraud awareness. Join us in The Fleming Center at The Cathedral of the Incarnation at 7:45 a.m. Mass is celebrated at 7 a.m. All are welcome. More details can be found at [www.catholicbusinessleague.org](http://www.catholicbusinessleague.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.

### 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.

### NCBWL FEBRUARY MEETING

All women are invited to attend the Nashville Catholic Business Women's League's next monthly meeting on Wednesday, February 21. This month's meeting will be held at Father Ryan High School. We will get to visit with scholars and leaders benefitting from our donations. We will also hear from our Spiritual Chair Jennie Guinn, who will help us "Magnify Christ" ahead of Lent. The meeting will begin with a social hour starting at 5 p.m., followed by dinner and the meeting at 6 p.m. Please let us know if you are coming so we'll have enough dinner. The reservation deadline is Sunday, February 18 at 11:50 p.m. Visit [ncbwl.org/events](http://ncbwl.org/events) to register.

### 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.



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

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

## TONY'S REFLECTION WHAT IS CHRIST'S WORK?

In his work, St. Augustine summed up our existence as a life entirely of drudgery in a fallen world. But he went on to articulate that the Christian faith instills hope into the misery of despair. The virtue of hope has us maintain heavenly optimism in the face of what can sometimes feel like a sea of darkness.

This Sunday's readings raise the problem of the great sorrows of life, the hardships, and especially illnesses that can seem to suck joy from our life. In the Gospel, Jesus travels through Galilee, curing the ill and oppressions which have reduced many to a life of drudgery.

Through the Gospel passage, we can sum up Jesus's work in a local town as healing the sick, casting out demons, preaching, and teaching. In these four descriptions, we witness how Jesus alleviates the drudgery in our lives while restoring the totality of the human experience of heart, soul, mind, and strength. To heal the sick is to restore the body. To cast out demons is to restore the soul. To teach is to cure the mind, and to preach is to invigorate one's spiritual strength. In His work, Jesus offers fulfillment to the command to love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength. But how can you attempt to love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength unless Jesus first repairs all four? This is precisely what He did in Galilee.

These four various alignments are evils that came about due to the fall of Adam and Eve into sin. Jesus' presence "takes us back to Eden," to before sin entered the world.

Jesus shows himself to be compassionate, wanting to alleviate all the undeserved suffering of innocent people, who, like Job, suffer through no fault of their own but because of the sins of others and the wiles of the devil.

We also observe our Lord giving a crucial lesson on the necessity of prayer. Although he was the Son of God and in constant communion with His Father, He still found it necessary to seek solitude to converse with His Father in prayer. The text implies that through prayer, Jesus discerned the next step in his mission. If the incarnate Son of God needed to obtain seclusion to connect with the Father, how much more so do we? In our hyperactive lives, we are full of excuses to avoid spending time in prayer. Whenever we kneel to pray, we'll inevitably remember all those things we "have to do." Yet strangely, these things never come to mind when we watch "the game" or "the show." It's almost as if the evil one reminds us of all our loose ends to distract us from the prayer he knows we need to discern God's will for our lives. Let us go to God in prayer so we can receive a slice of sanctity in the midst of mayhem. As we obtain a laser-like focus in the spiritual life, we can allow Him to return us to our restored state.

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

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

# GUYS RETREAT

ARE YOU READY FOR A CHALLENGE?

February 10th | 9 am - 1:30pm



REGISTER  
HERE

Meet in the Parish Conference  
Center at Saint Matthew

IT'S TIME FOR A...

# Girls Retreat

FEBRUARY 10 :: 9AM - 1:30PM

JOIN US IN THE PARISH CONFERENCE  
CENTER AT SAINT MATTHEW



REGISTER  
HERE



**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



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**Father Tien Tran**  
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**Kelly Ott**  
Pastoral Associate  
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## MANE EVENT 2024



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