



# Saint Matthew

## CATHOLIC CHURCH

DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER

APRIL 21, 2024 + FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

**"I am the good shepherd.  
A good shepherd  
lays down his  
life for the  
sheep."**

- John 10:11



### 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:

📍 535 Sneed Road W, Franklin, TN 37069  
✉ info@stmatthewtn.org  
☎ (615) 646-0378  
🌐 www.stmatthewtn.org  
📱 @stmatthewtn

#### PASTOR:

Father Justin Raines

#### ASSOCIATE PASTOR:

Father Tien Tran

#### DEACONS:

Lachlan Cameron & Bill Forte



## PARISH NEWS

### HAITI SPRING OF HOPE APPEAL



#### SAINT MATTHEW HAITI MINISTRY 2024 APPEAL

This weekend, our Haiti Ministry will host the inaugural *Spring of Hope* appeal to benefit our sister parish, Our Lady of Miracles, in Gobert, Haiti. Throughout the weekend, members of our Haiti Ministry will be available before and after the Masses to share how we are continuing to minister to the community of Gobert and collect funds to support our ongoing efforts. In addition, we invite all parishioners to join us in the parish conference center between the Masses this Sunday, April 21 for a special presentation from Barney Schulte, the president of our Haiti Ministry. Now more than ever, our Haitian brothers and sisters need your support. Visit [bit.ly/smspringofhope](https://bit.ly/smspringofhope) to learn more and make your gift today. Please prayerfully consider joining our Haiti Ministry by participating in this campaign. To learn more about our Haiti Ministry, please see the insert on the next page.

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

##### MONDAY, APRIL 22

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✦ For Maureen Ramos
  - Acts 11:1-18
  - Jn 10:1-10

##### TUESDAY, APRIL 23

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✦ Souls in Purgatory
  - Acts 11:19-26
  - Jn 10:22-30

##### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24

- 7:00 p.m. Mass
- ✦ Anna Dao Le
  - Acts 12:24—13:5a
  - Jn 12:44-50

##### THURSDAY, APRIL 25

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✦ Henry A. Fischer
  - 1 Pt 5:5b-14
  - Mk 16:15-20

##### FRIDAY, APRIL 26

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✦ For the Grandparents of Saint Matthew Students
  - Acts 13:26-33
  - Jn 14:1-6

##### FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

- 5:00 p.m. Saturday Vigil Mass
- ✦ Anne Hamann
- 8:30 a.m. Sunday Mass
- ✦ For the People of Saint Matthew
- 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass
- ✦ Gerald Pendergrass
  - Acts 9:26-31
  - 1 Jn 3:18-24
  - Jn 15:1-8

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

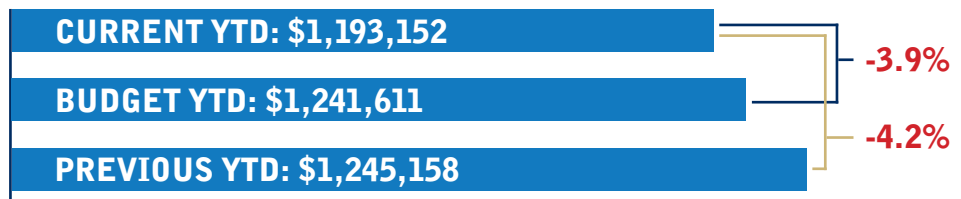
#### STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

##### - FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 14 -

REGULAR COLLECTIONS	\$24,255
2ND COLLECTION: PARISH CHARITY	\$645

##### - FISCAL YEAR TO DATE (BEGINNING JULY 1, 2023)

CURRENT YTD	\$1,193,152
BUDGET YTD	\$1,241,611
PREVIOUS YTD	\$1,245,158



MAKE YOUR GIFT TODAY!  
TO LEARN MORE, VISIT  
[www.stmatthewtn.org/giving](http://www.stmatthewtn.org/giving)





## PARISH NEWS

### FAITH IN FILM WITH FATHER RAINES

Let's all go to the movies! Join us for our inaugural *Faith in Film* movie series. Embark on a cinematic journey like no other and immerse yourself in exploration of faith and morality through the lens of the 1966 classic, *A Man For All Seasons*. The second session of this four-week film study will take place this Tuesday, April 23 from 6:30-8 p.m. in the parish conference center. Each session, we will view 30 minutes of the film, followed by an enriching discussion on that section of the movie led by Father Raines. Don't miss this unique opportunity to dissect an iconic film while deepening our understanding of the faith. Visit [bit.ly/smcfaithinfilm](http://bit.ly/smcfaithinfilm) to learn more and register.

The graphic features the Saint Matthew Catholic Church logo at the top, followed by the text "FAITH IN FILM with Father Raines". Below this is a movie poster for "A Man For All Seasons" showing a man in a dark robe and a woman in a green dress. The poster includes the text: "COLUMBIA PICTURES presents FRED ZINNEMANN'S FILM OF A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS From the play by ROBERT BOLT WENDI HILLER - LEO MACKERN ROBERT SHAW - ORSON WELLES SUSANNAH YORK and PAUL SCOFFIELD". Below the poster is a marquee sign that reads "A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS". At the bottom, it says "A four-week film study on Tuesdays starting April 16 from 6:30-8 p.m." and includes icons for a drink, popcorn, a film reel, and a clapperboard.

### JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Saint Matthew Catholic Church is seeking new employees to fill critical roles on our staff: Church Receptionist and Director of Youth Ministry. The Church Receptionist is a full-time position that provides support services for the church office staff. The Director of Youth Ministry is responsible for the development, coordination, supervision and execution of parish programs designed to engage and educate the youth (ages 14-18) of the parish. If you or someone you know is interested in applying, please visit our website at [bit.ly/smcemployment](http://bit.ly/smcemployment) to view the job listings and apply. If you have any questions, please contact Leslie Holt, Director of Operations, at [lholt@stmatthewtn.org](mailto:lholt@stmatthewtn.org).

### FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION - FRIDAY, MAY 3

Registration for our next First Friday Adoration on Friday, May 3 is now open. Adoration will begin following the 8 a.m. Mass on Friday, May 3 and end at 8 a.m. on Saturday, May 4. 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. Visit [bit.ly/smcffamay24](http://bit.ly/smcffamay24) for more information and to sign up.

### BECOME AN EMHC

We are in need of more Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion at our weekend liturgies. Whether you have served as an EMHC in the past or are feeling called to this ministry for the first time, this is your opportunity to serve a special role in our liturgies. The simple training session can take place at your convenience and will only last about a half hour. To learn more, contact Kelly Ott at [kott@stmatthewtn.org](mailto:kott@stmatthewtn.org).



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

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

## PARISH NEWS

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

### 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

# FORMED

PICK OF THE WEEK - APRIL 21

Part 2 of 2

## Genesis



THE BIBLE PROJECT:  
OLD TESTAMENT BOOK OVERVIEWS |  
GENESIS, PT.2

Watch our overview video on Genesis 12-50, which breaks down the literary design of the book and its flow of thought. In Genesis, God promises to bless rebellious humanity through the family of Abraham, despite their constant failure and folly.

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

## SAINT MATTHEW SCHOOL NEWS

### SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION OPEN

# PLEASE JOIN US

**SMS**  
Saint Matthew School

Grandparents  
Day

April 26, 2024  
9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Calling all SMS Grandparents! Join us on Friday, April 26 at 9:30 a.m. in the SMS gym for our annual Grandparents Day! Students will be dismissed at 11:30 a.m. to spend the afternoon with their grandparents. If a student's grandparents are unable to attend, a special adult friend (a godparent, neighbor, aunt/uncle, etc.) is invited to attend. We respectfully request that parents not attend this event due to space limitations and parking.

### STUDENT ART SHOW

Saint Matthew School's first student art show will be available for viewing April 26 through May 8. Grandparents and parents are invited to stop by and enjoy artwork from each student in the school. Please check in at the office for a visitor badge and details.

### SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION OPEN

Join us for another summer at Saint Matthew Summer Camp. Our doors will be open for another five weeks this summer. Visit [bit.ly/smscamp24](https://bit.ly/smscamp24) to learn more and register. 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

### EUCHARISTIC LECTURE AT AQUINAS COLLEGE

Please join us for the last eucharistic lecture at the Aquinas Center on Thursday, April 25 at 7 p.m. Deacon Mark Faulkner will deliver a talk titled *The Eucharist: The Amazing Real Presence in a Humanistic World*. The lecture will end with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Email [aquinasevents@aquinascollege.edu](mailto:aquinasevents@aquinascollege.edu) for more information.

### CHESTERTON ACADEMY GALA

Chesterton Academy of the Incarnation is a joyfully Catholic classical high school in the Franklin area. We offer an environment centered around daily Mass and prayers, classical curriculum, Socratic method, and a highly skilled faculty who will know your child and help them grow and mature in their Catholic faith. Our yearly gala fundraiser is Friday, April 26 at The Embassy Suites in Cool Springs. All are invited to join and learn more about our “high school with a higher purpose.” To register, please contact Ray Brocato at [raybrocato1969@gmail.com](mailto:raybrocato1969@gmail.com) or Angie Duncan at [aduncan@chestertontn.com](mailto:aduncan@chestertontn.com).

### THE NASHVILLE MARIAN CONFERENCE

Join us as we unite our hearts with Mary’s Immaculate Heart and pray for our world, our nation, our homes, and each of our hearts to lead us more closely to the Sacred Heart of her Son. The event will take place at Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church in Hendersonville on April 26 and 27. Tickets and more information are available at [www.nashvillemarianconference.com](http://www.nashvillemarianconference.com).

### CAMP MARYMOUNT HIRING SUMMER STAFF

Camp Marymount is currently hiring for the 2024 summer sessions. Camp Marymount is the Catholic summer camp of the Diocese of Nashville. We have provided summer programs since 1939. As we move into our 85<sup>th</sup> summer, we are looking for support staff to work in our first-aid center, kitchen, and at the lake as well as cabin counselors for the boys’ session. For more information, visit [www.campmarymount.com](http://www.campmarymount.com) or email Margaret at [summerdirector@campmarymount.com](mailto:summerdirector@campmarymount.com).

# Join our diocese at the National Eucharistic Congress

Indianapolis | July 17 - 21, 2024

For more information,  
please scan the QR  
code at the right.



[Learn More](#)



### TONY'S REFLECTION

## HOW TO RECOGNIZE THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Today is typically referred to as Good Shepherd Sunday in the liturgical schedule. While we can rightly assume that the underlying theme of our Gospel is that Jesus is the Good Shepherd and we represent the sheep, other facets are at play here that can help illuminate God's message to us. According to biologists, sheep are one of the first animals to be domesticated. Therefore, they are typically gentle and docile animals – open to training and being led by someone else (i.e., a shepherd) while unable to survive on their own. However, given their submissive manner towards others, they can become susceptible to being manipulated by a devious guide. Therefore, as humble animals willingly to be directed by others sheep need to be cautious about understanding if their shepherd is leading them in the right direction.

An honest assessment of the Biblical landscape is that most shepherds have failed to truly care for and lead God's sheep. John's Gospel passage is a clear reference to the Old Testament prophecy of Ezekiel. In the Ezekiel parable (Ezk. 34:1-24), the sheep represent the people of Israel, and the shepherds signify the corrupt rulers of Israel. What Ezekiel is getting at is the O.T. shepherds have been pasturing themselves rather than their sheep. Instead of sacrificing themselves for their sheep, they've been brutally lording over their sheep. This caused the sheep to become scattered, alone, and vulnerable to outside prey. Therefore, in a bizarre switch, the shepherds become akin to the wolves that end up feeding on their own sheep (Ezekiel 34:10).

The Ezekiel prophecy ends with God promising that He will come after these selfish shepherds while, at the same time, the Lord will become the true Good Shepherd who will sacrifice Himself for His sheep. The Ezekiel prophecy is a bit of a cliffhanger for the sheep – a promise that keeps them waiting in suspense for this good Shepherd, all the while having false shepherds lurk in the background.

In the Gospel, Jesus speaks of a "hireling." The hireling is a pretender shepherd who cares more about himself than his sheep. As Theophilus of Antioch writes, "The hireling does not know his sheep because he sees them so little." The hireling does not say, "This is my body that is given up for you." The hirelings flee their followers the second the wolf strolls in.

As unassuming sheep, we are duped by aspiring shepherds masquerading around as good shepherds. In this world, there exists a cacophony of competing messages coming from many authoritative voices in the world (i.e., false shepherds).

The crucial question remains - how do we distinguish the Good Shepherd from the hirelings of our world? The answer simply is by spending time with Him. The more time we devote to prayer, Scripture, Adoration, and the Mass, the more Jesus's teaching, His utterances, and His voice will become ingrained in us. If we consume Our Lord into us intimately and reverently in the Eucharist, His inner being, which contains His voice, will continue to reverberate in us like a sacred echo guiding us to Him.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### REGISTER FOR SCUBA VBS

Take kids deep into an amazing undersea adventure where they'll experience the ever-flowing, never-ending love of God at Scuba VBS! Kids will be immersed in the Word and discover what living



water is really all about. Scuba VBS will take place July 22-26 from 8:30-11:30 a.m. and is open to all rising preschool (four years old by August 1) and kindergarten students. Visit [bit.ly/smcvbs24](https://bit.ly/smcvbs24) to register.

### REGISTER FOR TOTUS TUUS

Latin for Totally Yours, Totus Tuus is a fun and energetic program designed to spread the good news of Jesus and create joy in the faith. Totus Tuus is led by a team of college-aged missionaries and seminarians. The youthfulness, energy, and ability to witness to the faith



make the missionaries effective with children and teens. Totus Tuus will take place July 22-26 from 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. and is open to all rising 1st-6th graders. To register, visit [bit.ly/smctotustuus24](https://bit.ly/smctotustuus24).

## ADULT FAITH FORMATION

### NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

This summer, there will be a historic National Eucharistic Pilgrimage accompanying Jesus from city to city across the four corners of the country.



This historic procession of the Eucharist will come through Nashville between June 26-30. Visit [www.eucharisticpilgrimage.org/st-juan-diego-route](http://www.eucharisticpilgrimage.org/st-juan-diego-route) for more information about this event, and stay tuned for more on our parish's participation in this pilgrimage.

## YOUTH MINISTRY

### RISE NIGHT TONIGHT

The Catholic Church is full of beautiful teachings and, regardless of what some might think, wants to share what and why we believe. Where can we find these answers? Does Siri work??? Also, how can we communicate them to others? High school students are invited to come find out tonight at Rise!

### MISSION TRIP

This June, the Rise Youth Group will go with Alive in You to Mobile, Alabama! Over 200 young Catholics from around the U.S. will join us, all with one goal in mind: to serve others as Jesus did. Registration will remain open until May 1 or until all Saint Matthew's spots are filled. Spots are limited and first-come, first-serve so act fast! For more information and FAQs, visit the mission trip webpage [bit.ly/smcaliveinyou24](http://bit.ly/smcaliveinyou24).

### SCHOOL VISITS

It's time for the last school visits of the semester, so make sure to mark your calendars accordingly!

#### ST. CECILIA ACADEMY

Monday, April 22  
Both lunch periods

#### HOMESCHOOL LUNCH

Tuesday, April 23 & May 7  
12-1:30 p.m. in the PCC

#### FATHER RYAN HIGH SCHOOL

Monday, April 29  
All four lunch periods

#### JAMES LAWSON HIGH SCHOOL

Wednesday, May 1  
Morning PLT

# SAINT MATTHEW MISSION TRIP

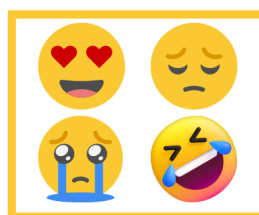
June 11 - 16th 2024

Current 7-12th graders



Register your student here before May!

**RISE** X **ALIVE IN YOU**  
SAINT MATTHEW YOUTH GROUP catholic conference and service camp



APRIL 28TH  
5:30-7:30PM  
IN THE COHAN  
HANSON

# EIGHTH GRADE RISE NIGHT SPRING 2024

TO REGISTER CONTACT  
[AHANNING@STMATTHEW.TN.ORG](mailto:AHANNING@STMATTHEW.TN.ORG)



**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

**BUSINESS STAFF**



**Leslie Holt**  
Dir. of Operations  
lholt@stmatthewtn.org



**Dr. Anthony Simpson**  
SMS Principal  
asimpson@stmatthewtn.org



**Lori Bellante**  
SMS Advancement Director  
lbellante@stmatthewtn.org



**Bill Stewart**  
Dir. of Finance  
bstewart@stmatthewtn.org



**Martin Strobel**  
Dir. Comm./Stewardship  
mstrobel@stmatthewtn.org



**Cynthia Myers**  
Facility Coordinator  
cmyers@stmatthewtn.org



**Margaret Cook**  
Reception  
mcook@stmatthewtn.org



**Lisa Newman**  
Accounts Payable Clerk  
lnewman@stmatthewtn.org