



Saint Matthew CATHOLIC CHURCH

DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER

MARCH 31, 2024 + THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD



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

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION - FRIDAY, APRIL 5

Registration for our next First Friday Adoration is now open. 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/smcffaapril24 for more information and to sign up.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY



Jesus, I trust in you! On Sunday, April 7, we will celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday. In honor of this special feast day, we invite all parishioners to join us on a special prayer journey. We started the Divine Mercy novena on Good Friday, March 29. All of the prayers for the novena, which will end on Saturday, April 6, will continue to be emailed to the parish community daily. You can also find them online at bit.ly/smcdivinemeracy24. On

Divine Mercy Sunday following the completion of the novena, we will gather for a special prayer service at 3 p.m. in the church. Please prayerfully consider participating in this special opportunity.

LITURGY SCHEDULE (APRIL 1-7, 2024)

MONDAY, APRIL 1

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✠ Chester & Dolores Shappert
- Acts 2:14, 22-33
- Mt 28:8-15

TUESDAY, APRIL 2

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✠ Fr. Joseph (Giuse) Trung Tran
- Acts 2:36-41
- Jn 20:11-18

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3

- 7:00 p.m. Mass
- ✠ Paul (PhaoLo) Y Tran
- Acts 3:1-10
- Lk 24:13-35

THURSDAY, APRIL 4

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✠ Moonlight Abaray
- Acts 3:11-26
- Lk 24:35-48

FRIDAY, APRIL 5

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- ✠ Skrobicki & Makowski Families
- Acts 4:1-12
- Jn 21:1-14

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

- 5:00 p.m. Saturday Vigil Mass
- ✠ Theresa Perry
- 8:30 a.m. Sunday Mass
- ✦ For the People of Saint Matthew
- 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass
- ✦ For Sergey Privalov
- Acts 4:32-35
- 1 Jn 5:1-6
- Jn 20:19-31

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

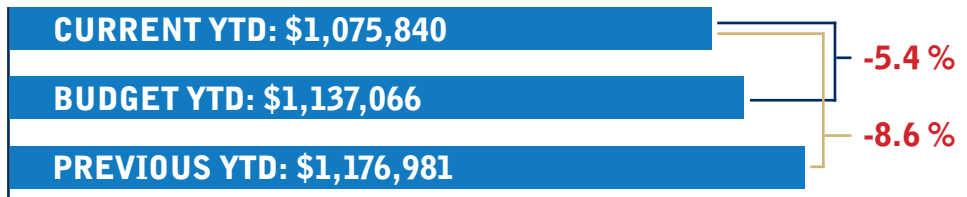
STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

- FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 24 -

REGULAR COLLECTIONS	\$19,649
2ND COLLECTION: TUITION ASSISTANCE	\$667

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

CURRENT YTD	\$1,075,840
BUDGET YTD	\$1,137,066
PREVIOUS YTD	\$1,176,981



MAKE YOUR GIFT TODAY!
TO LEARN MORE, VISIT
www.stmatthewtn.org/giving



PARISH NEWS

COMMUNITY WEEKEND

Next weekend is Community Weekend! Join us after all of the weekend Masses to share in fellowship with the parish community. Cookies will be available after the Saturday Vigil Mass, and coffee and donuts will be available after both Sunday Masses. This month's event will be sponsored by members of Saint Matthew School's Haiti Ministry, including some special seventh graders who will be volunteering at the event. We hope to see you there!

LUNCH BUNCH - TUESDAY, APRIL 9



Happy Easter from the Saint Matthew Lunch Bunch! All senior members of the community are invited to join us for an afternoon of fun, fellowship and bingo at our April event, which will be Easter themed. Come sporting

your favorite spring colors to celebrate the season! Participation in the theme is encouraged but not required. The event will take place on Tuesday, April 9 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/smclunchbunchapril24. For questions, contact Martin Strobel at mstrobel@stmatthewtn.org.

BECOME AN EMHC

Now that we have begun distributing the Precious Blood at our weekend Masses, we are in need of more Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. 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 and schedule your training session, contact Kelly Ott at kott@stmatthewtn.org.



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

www.stmatthewtn.org

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*. This four-week film study will take place every Tuesday beginning April 16 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. Stay tuned for more details and mark your calendars for an enlightening cinematic discourse!

Saint Matthew Catholic Church

FAITH IN FILM

with Father Raines

A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS

A four-week film study on Tuesdays starting April 16 from 6:30-8 p.m.


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.

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 - MARCH 31



EASTER IN ART: MARY MAGDALENE (pt. 3 of 3)

Learn about the “apostle to the apostles” in this discussion with Dr. Ben Akers and Taylor Kemp. They take a look at a famous painting of Jesus’ encounter with Mary Magdalene following the Resurrection.

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

SMS TRIVIA NIGHT



Trivia Night is the Athletic Booster Club’s annual fundraiser that benefits the SMS athletic programs. Teams of eight compete for bragging rights and a grand prize by answering fun and challenging trivia questions from a variety of categories. At the end of the night, the team with the highest score wins! Winners for Best Team Theme/Costumes and Best Decorated Table are also awarded. The event will be on Saturday, April 20 starting at 6 p.m. in the gym. To register, please text [ABC TRIVIA 2024](https://text.abc trivia2024) to 76278.

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 to learn more and register. 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!

COMMUNITY NEWS

FATHER RYAN SPRING MUSICAL

Join the Purple Masque Players as they perform the musical, *The Addams Family*. This unique family comes to life in this original musical about love, family, honesty, and growing up. The performances will be start at 7 p.m. on April 11-13 in the Center for the Arts at Father Ryan. Tickets are available at the door.

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 85th 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 or email Margaret at summerdirector@campmarymount.com.

CATHOLIC BUSINESS LEAGUE

John Gromos, Senior Vice President Mid-South for Turner Construction, will be the featured speaker for the Catholic Business League monthly breakfast meeting on Thursday, April 11. Gromos will be speaking about the new Nissan Stadium. The CBL meeting begins in the Fleming Center at Cathedral at 7:45 a.m. More information is available at catholicbusinessleague.org.

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.

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 DEATH IS NOW DEAD

Today, a great victory is announced. Good triumphs over evil. Yet with a quick glance at John's reading, one might be perplexed at the absence of such a jubilant decree. After all, there is no dramatic appearance of the risen Jesus, nor any grand proclamation by angels that death has been defeated. The final verse even states that the disciples "did not yet understand the Scripture that He had to rise from the dead." Given such an extraordinary event, why aren't there more fireworks in the narrative? While it might seem that Scripture is not speaking in grandiose terms on the surface, much is packed into this scene.

At first, we hear confusion from Mary Magdalene and the disciples. Notice how John described that Mary "came to the tomb early, while it was still dark." Church Fathers have taught John's description of it being "dark" out poetically reflects the belief of Jesus's followers – darkened and not entirely in the light (i.e., the truth). However, as the daylight spread, they began to comprehend and believe, and finally, they saw the dawning of a new creation. This theme underscores one's spiritual life. At first, a person mired in sin is in darkness and doesn't grasp profound spiritual truths. As one gets a glimpse of the light's surface, the transition from dark to light provokes confusion in trying to put deep spiritual insights together. If you've been consuming worldly messages for much of your life, reading Scripture becomes confusing initially as it might not make sense. But truth and belief take over as the light of "the day" progresses.

Notice also the repetition of the word "tomb"—seven times in nine verses. Here, the tomb represents the sleeping chamber of death. As Thomas Aquinas remarks, "Death is called sleep because of the hope of the resurrection, and so it has been customary to give death this name..."

Besides viewing the tomb as an allegorical window into sleep, by focusing on the burial cloth, St. John also illuminates that the burial cloth signifies a sleeping garment. The recognition of the burial cloths reveals that Jesus hadn't been merely carted off by grave robbers, who usually stole the expensive burial linens and left the corpse behind. By going into the minutiae of the empty tomb description, St. John tells us that something miraculous is afoot. Jesus has casually put aside the fabrics of death's sleep, folding them up like old pajamas, and has left the sleeping chamber for good. We are left with a penetrating reality that, out of the fragments of dying, Christ's tomb is not the dark end but a light-filled beginning. This means that in our own lives, we don't have to live as though death is our master. In light of the Resurrection, we can begin to see earthly life as a gestation place toward something higher, more permanent, and more splendid.

The climax of the Christian faith reaches its crescendo today. In the Easter message, Jesus shows us the ironic paradox of how death is now dead.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

REGISTER FOR SCUBA VBS

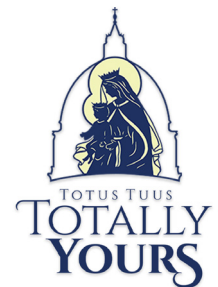
Take kids deep into an amazing undersea adventure where they'll experience the ever-flowing, never-ending love of God at Scuba VBS! Kids will be immersed in the Word and discover what living



water is really all about. Scuba VBS will take place from 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 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 from 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/smtotustuus24.

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 from June 26-30. Visit 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

NO RISE NIGHT TONIGHT

This week is our last break from Rise for a while! We're going full speed ahead until your exams start up, so make sure to mark your calendars!

PARENTS NIGHT

Last semester, our parents night was such a success we wanted to do another one. So next Sunday, April 7, bring your parents! We'll share a great pizza dinner, compete in volleyball and have a good discussion on an important topic (to be sent out via email later this week). Can't wait to see you there!

HAPPY EASTER, FROM THE POPES

“Brothers and sisters, to rise again, to start anew, to take up the journey, we always need to return to Galilee, that is, to go back, not to an abstract or ideal Jesus, but to the living, concrete and palpable memory of our first encounter with him. Yes, to go forward we need to go back, to remember; to have hope, we need to revive our memory. This is what we are asked to do: to remember and go forward! If you recover that first love, the wonder and joy of your encounter with God, you will keep advancing. So remember, and keep moving forward.”

- Pope Francis on Easter, 2023

SPRING 2024 CALENDAR

JAN

~~8~~ 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

Rise Nights are from 5:30 - 7:30 pm in the Cohan - Hansom at Saint Matthew unless otherwise communicated. All high school students are welcome to join us at any point in the year!



“‘Let there be light’, says God, ‘and there was light’: Jesus rises from the grave. Life is stronger than death. Good is stronger than evil. Love is stronger than hate. Truth is stronger than lies. The darkness of the previous days is driven away the moment Jesus rises from the grave and himself becomes God’s pure light. But this applies not only to him, not only to the darkness of those days. With the resurrection of Jesus, light itself is created anew. He draws all of us after him into the new light of the resurrection and He conquers all darkness. He is God’s new day, new for all of us.”

- Pope Benedict XVI on Easter Vigil, 2012

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! 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.



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

Did you know...

Only a short time ago, Our Lady of Miracles (OLOM) had no access to fresh water and no electricity. Through the generous donations from Saint Matthew parishioners, we have been able to provide a well, a water purification system, solar panels and inverters for electricity, a diesel-powered generator to run larger items like the well pump, and countless bio-sand and Sawyer cartridge water filters to the surrounding community.

The critical importance of these items can not be overstated as they provide the most important factor in human health: clean water. We are currently in the process of installing a new osmosis water treatment system which will offer clean water not only to the parish and school, but also the surrounding village. In addition to the water and electrical systems, we have been able to help OLOM expand the school and medical clinic, build a bakery/kitchen and numerous other projects.

All these projects have had returns well beyond the investments provided. The people of Gobert and the committee thank you for your continued support of the Haiti Ministry through our *Well Played: A Songwriters Night* and general donations.



Spring of HOPE

SAINT MATTHEW HAITI MINISTRY 2024 APPEAL

For more than 25 years, the Saint Matthew Haiti Committee has ministered to our sister parish, Our Lady of Miracles, and the surrounding community in Gobert, Haiti. Now more than ever, our Haitian brothers and sisters need your support. Scan the QR code to make a one-time donation to our Haiti Ministry, or join us on the weekend of April 20 & 21 to participate in the appeal.

