



# *Saint Matthew*

## CATHOLIC CHURCH

DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER

AUGUST 17, 2025 + 20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**"I HAVE COME TO SET  
THE EARTH ON FIRE,  
AND HOW I WISH IT  
WERE ALREADY  
BLAZING!"**

Luke 12:49

### MASS SCHEDULE

#### MASS

Mon., Tue., Thu., and 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)  
📱 @stmatthewtn

#### PASTOR:

Father Justin Raines

#### ASSOCIATE PASTOR:

Father Tien Tran

#### DEACON:

Bill Forte



## LITURGY SCHEDULE

### 20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass**

✠ Dr. Peter Pagán

**8:30 a.m. Mass**

✦ For the People of Saint Matthew

**11:00 a.m. Mass**

✠ Timothy Hoffman

- Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10
- Hebrews 12:1-4
- Luke 12:49-53

### MONDAY, AUGUST 18

**8:00 a.m. Mass**

✠ John Plant & Family

- Judges 2:11-19
- Matthew 19:16-22

### TUESDAY, AUGUST 19

**8:00 a.m. Mass**

✦ For the Ramos Family

- Judges 6:11-24a
- Matthew 19:23-30

### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20

Saint Bernard

**7:00 p.m. Mass**

✦ For Abigail Cox

- Judges 9:6-15
- Matthew 20:1-16

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 21

Saint Pius X, Pope

**8:00 a.m. Mass**

✠ Souls in Purgatory

- Judges 11:29-39a
- Matthew 22:1-14

### FRIDAY, AUGUST 22

The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

**8:00 a.m. Mass**

✦ For the Terlicosky Family

- Ruth 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22
- Matthew 22:34-40

✦ **Special Intention**

✠ *May they rest in peace*

*To RESERVE MASS INTENTIONS,  
VISIT [BIT.LY/SMCMASSINTENTION](http://BIT.LY/SMCMASSINTENTION)*

## MINISTRY FAIR IN THE COHAN-HANSOM BUILDING

### NEW TO SAINT MATTHEW? LOOKING TO GET MORE INVOLVED?

Come meet friendly faces, enjoy refreshments, and explore how you can be part of the life of Saint Matthew! The following ministries will have information available at the Ministry Fair. Scan the QR code below see additional ministries and opportunities at Saint Matthew.

A/V Ministry

Adult Faith Formation

Altar Servers

Art & Environment

Bible Study

Boy Scouts

College Outreach

Community Sunday

Cub Scouts

EMHC

Family Service Ministry

Feed the Priests

First Friday Adoration

Haiti Ministry

Heart of Mary House

Hospitality

Ignite

Lectors

Loaves & Fishes

Lunch Bunch

Masters of Ceremony

Music Ministry

O.C.I.A.

Passion of Christ Prayer Group

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Religious Education

Respect for Life

Rise Youth Ministry

Room In The Inn

Sacristans

Saint Matthew School

Saint Matthew Women's Club

Seven Sisters Apostolate

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

St. Gianna Circle Mothers Ministry

St. Joseph's Men

That Man is You!

Vacation Bible School

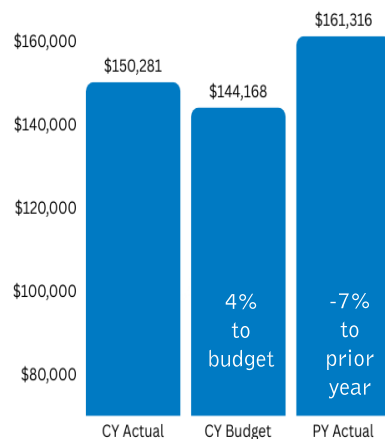


## STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

### - FOR WEEK ENDED AUGUST 10 -

REGULAR COLLECTIONS	\$27,782
SECOND COLLECTION: TUITION ASSISTANCE	\$156

### YTD Summary



## Second Collections

*This Week:*

*Room In The Inn*

*Next Week:*

*Haiti Ministry*

Scan to make a gift now, or visit  
[stmatthewtn.org/church/giving](http://stmatthewtn.org/church/giving)



**Registered Parish Families: 1235**



### DAILY MASS UPDATES

Beginning Tuesday, August 19, 8 a.m. **Masses on Tuesdays and Thursdays** will return to the church and SMS students will attend. Until all construction is completed, parents and other parishioners are asked to sit in the Narthex. Daily **Masses on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday** will be celebrated in the chapel. Live streaming remains unavailable.

### HELP GUIDE OUR YOUNGEST DISCIPLES!

We are still in need of two catechists for our faith formation classes this school year.

Serving as a catechist is a meaningful way to nurture the faith of our children and help them grow in their relationship with Christ. You do not need to be a theologian. We provide all the materials and support you need. What matters most is your willingness to share your love for the faith.

If you are interested in volunteering as a catechist, fill out a brief form by visiting [bit.ly/smccatechist25](http://bit.ly/smccatechist25), or contact Tony Jesse at [tjesse@stmatthewtn.org](mailto:tjesse@stmatthewtn.org) with any questions.

### PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

On Monday, August 18, our Prayer Shawl Ministry is beginning monthly meetings on the third Monday of each month from 1-2:30 p.m. in the Parish Conference Center. Their handcrafted prayer shawls are gifted to people facing illness, grief, or other hardships. All skill levels, including beginners, are welcome to join. Want to work at home? Suggested shawl sizes are 20" x 60" for a traditional shawl or approximately 30" x 30" for a lap shawl. If you are able to donate yarn (no wool) to support this ministry, you can drop it off at the church office.

### FAITH IN SPORTS

St. Joseph's Men kicks off their fall session on Thursday, August 21, at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Conference Center. This session explores the connection between faith and sports, and the vital role coaches play in forming young men. Special guest coaches from SMS are joining the meeting. All men are welcome. Come be part of the discussion and see what St. Joseph's Men is all about!

### WELCOME BEN AND FRANK!

Saint Matthew is blessed to host two Propaedeutic Seminarians this semester who will serve both our parish and school. Benjamin Claiborne will begin his service on the church side, while Frank Gallagher will start at the school, before switching roles to gain experience in both settings.

This is one of the few opportunities they will have to serve in a parish before completing their seminary studies, so our parish plays an important role in their priestly formation. Through this experience, they will gain firsthand insight into the life and work of parish ministry as they serve God's people.

Benjamin and Frank will be at Saint Matthew two days per week for their work responsibilities and will also assist liturgically at the weekend Masses.

Please warmly welcome Benjamin and Frank, and keep them in your prayers as they begin their journey toward the priesthood.



Benjamin



Frank

### FIND YOUR MOM COMMUNITY AT SAINT MATTHEW

Join our St. Gianna Circle Mothers Ministry on Wednesday, September 3, for 7 p.m. Mass and stay for their 7:30 p.m. Mixer in the Parish Conference Center. Sign up at [bit.ly/4ftSoBa](http://bit.ly/4ftSoBa).

If you would like to help with any SGC events, be sure to attend. New Moms get an EXTRA Door Prize Ticket too! If you cannot make the mixer, please join their mailing list at [bit.ly/SGCenrollment](http://bit.ly/SGCenrollment).





## JUBILEE JAMBOREE CELEBRATES 25 YEARS OF SAINT MATTHEW SCHOOL

On September 13, 2025, SMS will celebrate our Silver Jubilee Jamboree! In lieu of the Mane Event this year, SMS is planning a day full of fun for our community! Join our **family-friendly daytime activities** or our special **adults-only nighttime events**. We invite all parishioners, past and current families, alumni, and community to join us for this special celebration! You can scan the QR code in the graphic to learn more about the event, purchase tickets, or become a sponsor.

### TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE!

**Daytime Activities:** We are excited to have each grade represented with fun games and activities, including an obstacle course, pop a shot, dunk tank, a special preschool playground zone and much more! There is no entrance fee to attend our daytime event, however, all grade booth activities require tickets to play. Ticket requirements are listed in the “Daytime Activities” section. Wristbands are also available for purchase.

**Nighttime Activities:** Purchase a ticket to enjoy our adults-only evening complete with a biergarten, live music, cornhole tournament, split-the-pot and more!

## PARISH NEWS

### DAISY TROOP INTEREST

Do you have a kindergarten or first grade daughter who might be interested in joining a Daisy Girl Scout Troop at Saint Matthew? If so, please email [schuyler.m.lucio@gmail.com](mailto:schuyler.m.lucio@gmail.com).

### NURSERY AVAILABILITY

Saint Matthew has a nursery available as a safe and caring environment for your little ones during the 5 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. Sunday Masses. Children who are able to walk through age 3 are welcome.

### BECOME A GIFT BEARER

Saint Matthew needs gift bearers at each Mass. This is a simple, easy way to further participate in the liturgy. The presentation of gifts is an expression of gratitude and thanks for God’s blessings and returning those gifts back to Him. To sign up, visit [bit.ly/smcgiftbearer](http://bit.ly/smcgiftbearer).

### IGNITE AND RELIGIOUS ED REGISTRATION

Our faith formation ministry is designed to help children know and live their faith throughout their lives. Registration is now open for the 25-26 school year for R.E. (PreK-6th grade) and Ignite (7th-8th grade). The first week of Religious Education programs is Sunday, September 7. Learn more about these sessions and register at [bit.ly/smcreligioused](http://bit.ly/smcreligioused).

### O.C.I.A. CLASSES FORMING NOW

Interested in becoming Catholic?

**Meet & Greet Info Session**

Tuesday, Sept. 16, 6:30 p.m.

Parish Conference Center



## CALLING ALL MEN: THAT MAN IS YOU!

Saint Matthew is excited to launch That Man is You!—a dynamic men’s program addressing the pressures and temptations men face in today’s culture, especially in their roles as husbands and fathers. The program harmonizes current social and medical science with the teachings of the Church and the wisdom of the saints to develop the vision of man fully alive! Open to all men, the group is set to begin on September 13 with weekly Saturday morning meetings at 7 a.m. in the Parish Conference Center. Contact Aaron Frankovic at [aaron.frankovic@gmail.com](mailto:aaron.frankovic@gmail.com) for questions. Scan the QR code to fill out an interest form and learn more.



## REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR SVDP FRIENDS OF THE POOR WALK/RUN

Join us for the 7th Annual Friends of the Poor Walk/Run on Saturday, September 20. This family-friendly event, sponsored by the Saint Matthew chapter of the Saint Vincent de Paul Society, raises funds to support our neighbors in need with food, rent, utilities, medicine, and more. Registration is just \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids, with special family rate of \$50. The walk/run kicks off at 9 a.m. on the Saint Cecilia Track, with check-in beginning at 8 a.m. Sponsorships are available! Scan to register, learn more, or become a sponsor.



## SONGWRITERS’ NIGHT TICKETS AVAILABLE

Tickets for *Well Played: A Songwriters’ Night* benefiting our Haiti Ministry are on sale now! Join us Saturday, September 27, and celebrate this event’s 15th year of supporting water, wellness, and education in Gobert, Haiti. Donations beyond our yearly commitment will help complete Our Lady of Miracles Catholic School. This 21+ evening features an exciting lineup of hit country songwriters Bobby Tomberlin, Lance Miller, and Mark Narmore, whose songs have been recorded by Tim McGraw, Faith Hill, Luke Bryan, Cody Johnson, Thomas Rhett, Reba McEntire, and more!

Scan to purchase tickets, or learn how to become a sponsor.



## BAAM UPDATE: HALFWAY THERE!

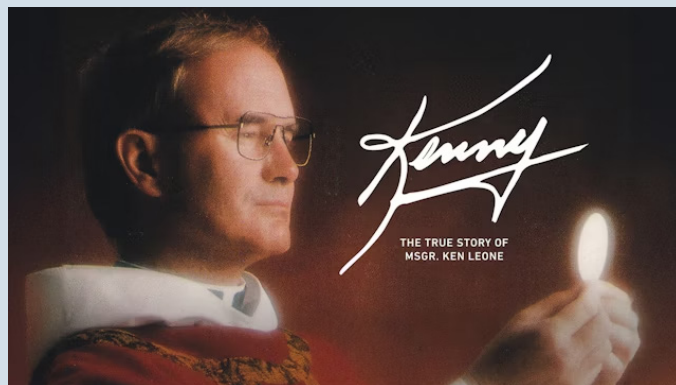
This week, Saint Matthew passed the halfway point toward our 2025 goal for the Bishop’s Annual Appeal for Ministries! This appeal supports workforce development, prevents homelessness through financial counseling, promotes vocations, and forms seminarians. Help us reach the finish line by donating through the QR code below.

**Saint Matthew 2025**  
**Donations: \$88,453 (52%)**  
**Goal: \$171,000**



**formed®**

**Pick of the Week: August 17**



### Kenny: The True Story of Msgr. Ken Leone

Discover the inspiring true story of Msgr. Ken Leone, a beloved Catholic priest from the Archdiocese of Denver, whose deep faith and joyful witness transformed countless lives. *Kenny* is a powerful Catholic documentary that explores his remarkable priestly vocation—marked by love for God, personal sacrifice, and unwavering hope in the face of suffering. Experience the joy, trials, and evangelical zeal that defined his life and ministry.

Watch this and other great content for free. Visit **FORMED.org** and sign up using our parish code: **37069**.



## TONY'S REFLECTION RETURN OF THE MASTER

Some may have the impression that Jesus is spreading a soft, easy-to-hear message. However, such a notion will leave one with a blurred view of salvation. Today, we are offered another glimpse of the real human tension that affects those called to be a disciple of Christ. It harkens back to the prophecy of Christ being the "rise and fall of many." With Jesus's assertion "do not think I have come to bring peace" we are presented with a challenging lesson. At first blush, Jesus' words act as a rather perplexing statement for the one who is described as the Prince of Peace, and who said, "blessed are peacemakers" (Mt 5:9). It is not that Jesus's ultimate goal is to refrain from bringing peace, but that true peace will only be achieved by a short-term tribulation between good and evil. Recall he warned his disciples that they would be sent out as sheep among a pack of wolves.

We must realize that Jesus's peace differs from the world's definition of peace. He even said so much when He declared, "My peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you." Whereas worldly peace is built around a comfortable experience such as a calm, sedated mood, Christ's peace goes beyond in which the end point is union with God. However, in the journey towards union with God (i.e. peace), one has to go through a radical commitment to Christ filled with trials that bring emotional turbulence. Here, Jesus's peace is analogous to a grueling workout that requires agony along the way but produces a healthy, holy soul.

Moreover, because Jesus's doctrine stands in stark contrast to the world's teaching, a conflict naturally ensues. As conflict arises, Christ offers us His weapon of choice. The image of the sword invokes the word of God cutting through the errors of evil. As Hebrews declares, "The word of God is living and active, sharper than a sword, piercing the division of soul and spirit." Here, Jesus is presented as a warrior that uses His word to destroy the corruption and lies embedded in our fallen world. In Revelation, Jesus appears as a conquering warrior riding into battle with a full cavalry of angels behind Him and, "coming out of his mouth is a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations.

Today, Jesus lets his listeners know that Christian discipleship is a sacrificial battle. One that can even cause division in the family as the demands of discipleship outweigh even the duties of family unity. It would be nice if everyone would accept Christ and His teachings, just as it would be nice for the Church to be adored by the world, but Jesus indicated that approval from the world was a signal that the Church, or the Christian, is not standing for Him.

We should be prepared for conflict and division when people reject the ways of God. There is no doubt that Jesus brings peace in the end, but there is also no doubt that Jesus also brings division, between His followers, their relations, and wider society. Yet, in this human disharmony and struggle we find ourselves in Christ wins in the end. And knowing this will bring us peace.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### AUGUST IS MAKE-A-WILL MONTH

Make-a-Will Month is observed in August. As a reminder to create or update your will the Diocese of Nashville is offering a free interactive panel discussion (online, phone, and radio) from 12-1 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 18, to discuss the importance of having a will. It is hosted by Nashville Catholic Radio, 100.5 FM. All members of the Catholic community are invited to join the tutorial via phone or online. RSVP to Matt Wilson at [Matt.Wilson@Dioceseofnashville.com](mailto:Matt.Wilson@Dioceseofnashville.com).



**AUGUST IS Make a Will Month**

**MAKE-A-WILL PLANNING SESSION**  
FREE INTERACTIVE PANEL DISCUSSION  
Aug. 18, 2025 • 12-1 PM CDT

RSVP & SUBMIT A QUESTION: [matt.wilson@dioceseofnashville.com](mailto:matt.wilson@dioceseofnashville.com)

**GREG POPE**  
Chief Administrative Officer  
Diocese of Nashville

**LIZ POPLIN**  
SVP, Wealth Management  
Merrill Lynch

**TOM RIORDAN**  
VP of Mission Partnerships  
Catholic Extension Society

**JOHN ROBERTS**  
Chief Financial Officer  
Diocese of Nashville

### YOUNG CATHOLIC PROFESSIONALS



**YCP EXECUTIVE SPEAKER SERIES**

**Dwayne Keller**  
Senior VP, Vizient, Inc.  
+ Co-Founder, Leadership Catholic

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2025**  
**7:00 PM - 9:00 PM**

**ST. ANN CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
5101 CHARLOTTE AVE  
NASHVILLE, TN 37209

**FREE**  
Adults in your 20s & 30s  
Attire: Biz Casual  
Drinks and Apps provided

Young Catholic Professionals Nashville

## YOUTH MINISTRY

### RISE KICKOFF EVENT FOR 2025-2026

Join us as we launch the 2025–2026 RISE Youth Ministry year with a splash! Our epic Water Party is packed with fun:

- Chick-fil-A lunch
- Ice cream sundae bar
- Slip-n-slides & water inflatables
- Marshmallow dodgeball
- Shaving cream battle
- Water guns
- ...and so many more surprises!

Don't miss it—RSVP below for lunch!



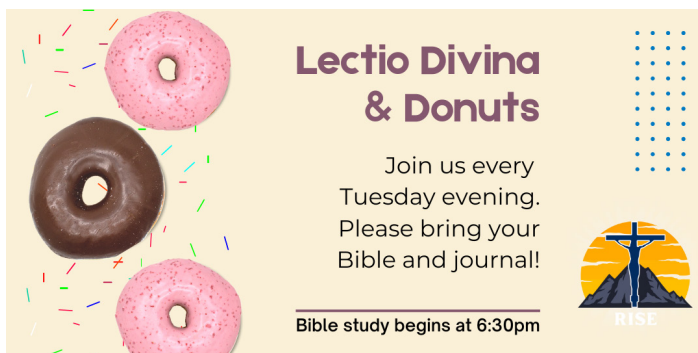
### REGISTER FOR RISE 2025-2026

Hey teens—ready to grow in faith, make new friends, and have a blast while doing it? RISE Youth Ministry is back, and we want you to be part of it! Whether you are new or returning, this is your place to connect with God, serve others, and discover the joy of living your Catholic faith. Don't miss out on the fun, food, and fellowship—register today by scanning the QR code, and let's RISE together!



### JOIN RISE CORE TEAM FOR 2025-2026

RISE is looking for adults wanting to give their time, heart, and knowledge of the Lord to our high schoolers. Volunteering includes teaching, planning, coordinating games, dinner preparation, and clean up. If you feel called, you will be able to lead small groups and have the opportunity to present on topics in the Catholic faith of your choosing. Scan the QR code to learn more and apply.



**TONY JESSE**  
Director of Religious Education  
[tjesse@stmatthewtn.org](mailto:tjesse@stmatthewtn.org)

Want to learn about the faith? Visit  
[bit.ly/SMCFaithFormationInterestForm](https://bit.ly/SMCFaithFormationInterestForm)



**FRANKIE McCAULEY**  
Director of Youth Ministry  
[ftripodi@stmatthewtn.org](mailto:ftripodi@stmatthewtn.org)

Let's connect, Text:  
615-314-1377





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  
frraines@stmatthewtn.org



**Father Tien Tran**  
Associate Pastor  
frtran@stmatthewtn.org



**Bill Forte**  
Deacon  
bforte@stmatthewtn.org



**Rebecca Harding**  
Dir. of Music Ministry  
rharding@stmatthewtn.org



**Tony Jesse**  
Dir. of Religious Ed.  
tjesse@stmatthewtn.org



**Kelly Ott**  
Pastoral Associate  
kott@stmatthewtn.org



**Frankie McCauley**  
Dir. of Youth Ministry  
ftripodi@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



**Alex Halfmann**  
Dir. Comm./Stewardship  
ahalfmann@stmatthewtn.org



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



**Christy McCoy**  
Receptionist  
cwinn@stmatthewtn.org



**Colleen Curran**  
Facility Coordinator  
ccurran@stmatthewtn.org

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

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

