



Saint Matthew

CATHOLIC CHURCH

DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER

AUGUST 31, 2025 + TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“For everyone who **exalts** himself will be **humbled**,
but the one who **humbles** himself will be **exalted**.”

- Luke 14:11



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
☎ (615) 646-0378
🌐 www.stmatthewtn.org
📱 @stmatthewtn

PASTOR:

Father Justin Raines

ASSOCIATE PASTOR:

Father Tien Tran

DEACON:

Bill Forte

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND IGNITE BEGIN SEPT. 7

Register now for our Religious Education and Ignite programs for the 25-26 school year. Our faith formation ministry is designed to help children know and live their faith throughout their lives. R.E. serves children in PreK through 6th grade, and Ignite serves students in 7th and 8th grade. If you have a second grader who is not in Saint Matthew School and are planning to have them receive First Communion this year, you need to register this week. These programs begin next Sunday, September 7, and meet between Masses. Learn more about these sessions and register at bit.ly/smcreligious. Contact Tony Jesse with any questions at tjesse@stmatthewtn.org. Thank you to all those who are volunteering as catechists this year.

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

Are you, or do you know anyone, interested in becoming Catholic? Our O.C.I.A. ministry can help! O.C.I.A. is a process of conversion and apprenticeship to welcome those who desire to learn more about the Catholic faith. There is a casual meet and greet planned on Tuesday, September 16, at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Conference Center. To begin the journey of exploring Catholicism, visit bit.ly/smcocia.

Interested in becoming Catholic?

Meet & Greet Info Session

Tuesday, Sept. 16, 6:30 p.m.
Parish Conference Center

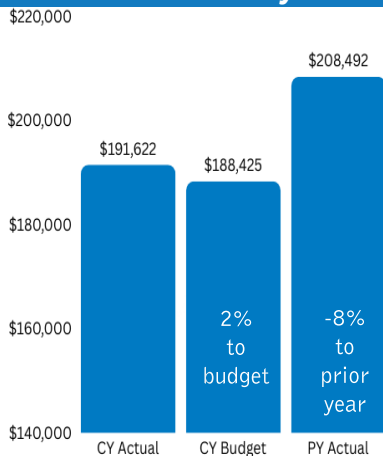


STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

- FOR WEEK ENDED AUGUST 24 -

REGULAR COLLECTIONS	\$19,456
SECOND COLLECTION: HAITI	\$1,033

YTD Summary



Second Collections

This Week:
St. Gianna Circle

Next Week:
Building Maint. & Facility Improvements

Scan to make a gift now, or visit
stmatthewtn.org/church/giving



Registered Parish Families: 1235



LITURGY SCHEDULE

22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass

✠ Bruce Broussard

8:30 a.m. Mass

✠ For the People of Saint Matthew

11:00 a.m. Mass

✠ Phillip Hultman

• Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29

• Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a

• Luke 14:1, 7-14

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

8:00 a.m. Mass

✠ Judy Simmons

• 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

• Luke 4:16-30

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

8:00 a.m. Mass

✠ Scott Dawson

• 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6, 9-11

• Luke 4:31-37

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

Saint Gregory the Great

7:00 p.m. Mass

✠ For Bishop Mark Beckman

• Colossians 1:1-8

• Luke 4:38-44

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

8:00 a.m. Mass

✠ Nelson Flanigen

• Colossians 1:9-14

• Luke 5:1-11

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

Saint Teresa of Calcutta

8:00 a.m. Mass

✠ Deceased Benefactors of the

Order of Dominicans

• Colossians 1:15-20

• Luke 5:33-39

✠ **Special Intention**

✠ *May they rest in peace*

*To RESERVE MASS INTENTIONS,
VISIT BIT.LY/SMCMASSINTENTION*

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

First Friday Adoration begins on Friday, September 5, after 8 a.m. Mass and concludes with benediction at 8 a.m. on Saturday, September 6. Enjoy some time in prayer with Jesus. Sign up at bit.ly/smcffasept25.



LUNCH BUNCH RETURNS!

The first Lunch Bunch of the 25-26 year is Tuesday, September 9, at noon in the Narthex. All those 55+ are invited for an afternoon of food, bingo, and fellowship. Come get in on the fun. The cost is \$12 per person plus a gift valued around \$10 for the prize table. Lunch will be chicken tenders from Cracker Barrel. Please register by Thursday, September 4, at bit.ly/smclbsept25. Questions, email Alex Halfmann at ahalfmann@stmatthewtn.org.



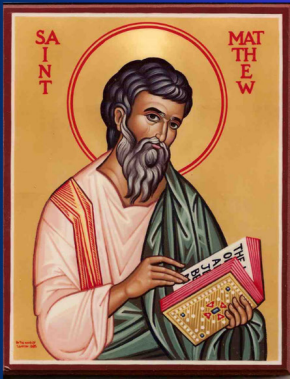
SONGWRITERS' NIGHT TICKETS AVAILABLE

Tickets for *Well Played: A Songwriters' Night* 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. 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! Donations exceeding our commitment for operational needs at the parish will be used to complete the Our Lady of Miracles Catholic School. Scan to learn more.



REGISTER FOR A FREE FEAST DAY LUNCHEON

Feast of Saint Matthew



**Sunday,
September 21**

**Free Light Breakfast
after 8:30 a.m. Mass
with Bishop Beckman**

**Free Catered Luncheon
after 11 a.m. Mass
Please RSVP**

**On Saturday,
September 20,
Bishop Spalding
will Preside
at 5 p.m. Mass.**



Please RSVP for the Luncheon by Monday, September 8. Receptions are in the Cohan-Hansom Building

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

St. Gianna Circle Mother's Ministry

St. Gianna Circle is designed to support and affirm women in the many roles they hold as mothers, wives, daughters, sisters, and friends. Rooted in Catholic faith, the group hosts both faith-based and social events that help moms connect, grow, and build community. Moms of all ages and stages are welcome!

SGC leads parish favorites such as the Children's Nativity Pageant, Family Advent Wreath Making, and new this year - Trunk or Treat. There are many opportunities to volunteer and lead these and other events this year.

All moms are invited to their Mom's Mixer on Wednesday, September 3, beginning with 7 p.m. Mass and followed by a 7:30 p.m. gathering in the Parish Conference Center. Door prizes will be given out and New members get an extra door prize ticket!

Mixer Sign up: bit.ly/4ftSoBa
Join the mailing list: bit.ly/SGCenrollment





Principal's Pen



Dr. Simpson

Saint Matthew School is in full force after the first few weeks of school. The routines are set, students are learning new material, and extracurricular activities are meeting regularly after school. The other night I had the pleasure of attending the first race of the cross country season for all of our runners. The middle school students competed in a spectacular night race, which was filled with many fast times, good food, and even a bit of dancing to the DJs music before the awards. Our younger runners competed in the Lion Dash, and ran their hearts out. Although some of the runners might have run through some tears, those tears were quickly diminished as Kona Ice was purchased after the race. All in all, it was great to see so many of our students competing, and enjoying every minute of it. The cross country team is set to begin their diocesan season soon at Overbrook Catholic School. Come out and support your Lions if you want to watch fast runners race!

GET INVOLVED WITH THE JAMBOREE

Our Jamboree is quickly approaching. All are invited to attend and support the event. See the back of the bulletin to learn more. In the meantime, here are ways you can get involved now to help make the event a success.

CALLING ALL BAKERS!

Need an excuse to bake? The Jubilee Jamboree committee is looking for bakers! Scan to donate a sweet treat for our Cake Wheel. Cakes, pies, cookies, brownies, cupcakes, etc. are all accepted.

Cake Wheel Desserts Needed

Sign up here



Apple Distinguished School



COME AND DISCOVER THE SAINT MATTHEW DIFFERENCE

COFFEE
WITH THE
PRINCIPAL



PLEASE JOIN US!



Scan here or register online

www.stmatthewtn.org/school/admissions

Zoom and in-person options available.

Thursday
SEPTEMBER 25
9:00 a.m.



AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED

Our auction team is currently collecting items. Do you have a lake, mountain or beach house? Connections to restaurants or boutique stores? Spa services or experiences around town? Contact Tracy Becker for ways to donate at tbecker@stmatthewtn.org.

JAMBOREE WISH LIST

We are in the final stages of planning for the Jubilee Jamboree. Help make this Jamboree the best event possible. From prizes and activities, to supplies and treats, we would be grateful for any donations off our Amazon wish list. Please visit bit.ly/smsjjwish to view the list and make a donation. Thank you!



JOIN CUB SCOUTS AT SAINT MATTHEW

Parents and children (boys and girls in K–5) are invited to join Cub Scouts. The first meeting is Sunday, August 31, at 1 p.m. in the Cohan-Hansom Building. Cub Scouts participate in exciting activities such as the Rain Gutter Regatta, Pinewood Derby, hiking, and camping (including cave camping), and age-appropriate opportunities for leadership, teamwork, service, and safety skills. Contact Doug Kennedy at pack287@stmatthewtn.org.

OLIVE WOOD CARVING SALE - SEPT. 6 & 7

In these times of war and uncertainty, our Christian brothers and sisters in the Holy Land need our support more than ever. The Good Shepherds of Bethlehem represented by George and Katherine Awwad will be in the Cohan-Hansom Building next weekend to sell olive wood handicrafts, beautifully made by Christian artisans from Bethlehem. Purchasing these olive wood products is a tangible way to support the Christian families in the Holy Land who depend on this craftsmanship for their survival, especially during these challenging times.

NEW AMERICAN FLAG

Saint Matthew would like to thank Suzanne Deal and her late husband, Ronald Sr., for the gift of our new American flag. Ronald had purchased the flag for our campus before his passing, and it has now finally found its home here at Saint Matthew, where it is proudly displayed. Thank you Ronald and Suzanne!

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 for questions. Scan the QR code to fill out an interest form and learn more.



BAAM UPDATE: SUPPORT LETTERS MAILED

Saint Matthew passed the halfway point toward our \$171,000 goal for the Bishop's Annual Appeal for Ministries! Let's keep this momentum going! If you have given in prior years, you should have received a letter from Father Raines this week about the appeal. For those considering a first-time gift, thank you for your generosity—we need your support to reach our goal and fully fund this vital program.

This Bishop's Annual Appeal for Ministries supports workforce development, prevents homelessness through financial counseling, promotes vocations, and forms seminarians. Help us reach the finish line by donating through the QR below, or taking a pamphlet and pledge card from the bulletin table.



HOPE

does not disappoint

ROMANS 5:5



By supporting vital ministries like vocations, faith formation, and outreach; we build our community, grow in faith, answer God's call, and serve with love. Together, we can be a source of unwavering hope in our community. Your involvement—whether through donations, spreading the word, or prayer—helps bring this hope to life.




Scan to donate

Saint Matthew 2025

Donations: \$90,773 (53%)

Goal: \$171,000



TONY'S REFLECTION

THE HUMBLE SEAT

Before his conversion, St. Ignatius of Loyola craved to be a renowned knight with adoring fans swooning over his military stature. He was known as an ambitious young man who longed for nobility and glory. Yet, in his transformation from sinner to saint, he went through a series of agonizing incidents. In a military battle, a cannonball shattered his right leg. Suddenly his pride and attraction to worldly honor were crushed. This incident left him vulnerable and humble. Yet, in this state, God was able to work through him to accomplish great things in the Church. Before, Ignatius had worn elegant clothes and lived in a palace. After his conversion, he dressed in rags, begged for alms, and lived with the poor. Interestingly, what made him a great saint is only when he detached himself from personal prestige.

If there is one consistent theme that permeates our readings at Mass today, it is the concept of humility. Regarding humility, C.S. Lewis quipped, "Humility is not thinking less of yourself, but thinking of yourself less." Humility is centered on self-awareness. It forges an honest assessment of who we are and where we stand in God's creation. Yes, God created us in His image; therefore, we have a high dignity and stature, but humility also knows that without God, we are nothing – we don't even exist without God. Therefore, humility focuses us on total dependency to God.

In our Gospel reading, Jesus presents a parable in which He suggests wedding guests refrain from sitting at the place of honor and instead seek the lower seat. Jesus is not talking merely about good table manners; He is inserting a crucial lesson on humility. The desire of the guests to sit at a place of honor begs the question – who do you want to be honored by? While the parable doesn't say, it is worth noting that if one merely seeks honor from others, they'll soon segue towards a rugged path – as was the case for St. Ignatius. Scripture cautions us to never trade honor and praise for God in exchange for people (Gal. 1:10). As the famous maxim goes, "Care about others' approval and you will be their prisoner."

This wedding banquet may be seen as a symbol of the Church, which is gathered around the Eucharistic table of the Lord. In this case, our Lord is condemning an attitude of "climbing the church ladder," that is, seeking to acquire honor and authority by one's spiritual assessment of themselves or by obtaining prestigious roles in the church. Here, you'll experience an embarrassing scenario. You sit at the place of honor in the church only to be kicked out because you were sitting in St. Ignatius of Loyola's seat. Fittingly, St. Ignatius knows that story all too well.

The virtue of humility reminds us that every good thing we have, every gift we enjoy, every grace, and every blessing comes from God, not from us. Yes, practicing humility is taxing given that the cultural air we breathe is obsessed with self-esteem, self-aggrandizement, and the notion of a self-determining reality. Yet, Jesus beckons us to restrict pride and amplify our focus on humility. So, let us find those ways to embrace humility and take the lower seat.

COMMUNITY NEWS



CHESTERTON ACADEMY
OF THE INCARNATION

Nashville's *Only* Catholic Classical High School



Join us for an
INFO NIGHT
SEPTEMBER 23, 2025 7:00 PM

Please call **615-592-6353** or email
info@chestertontn.com to RSVP

FATHER RYAN ENROLLING NOW

Applications are now open for the 2026-2027 school year! The Class of 2030 will be Father Ryan's 104th graduating class. At Father Ryan, "You Will be Known. You Will be Loved.®" Apply today at www.fatherryan.org/admissions. If you have questions, please contact the Office of Enrollment at admissions@fatherryan.org.

CATHOLIC COLLEGE FAIR

On Monday, September 8, St. Cecilia Academy is hosting a Catholic College Fair at 6:30 p.m. All current high school students and parents are invited.




GRADUATE THEOLOGY CLASSES AT ST. MEINRAD

Laity and deacons are invited to an Open House for the Graduate Theology Program of Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology: In-person Sat., Oct. 11, OR online Wed., Nov. 19. Discover how these programs can deepen your understanding of the faith and support your call to ministry or discipleship. Visit saintmeinrad.edu/openhouse.

YOUTH MINISTRY

**ALL ARE INVITED TO FIELD GAMES AND
COMPLINE THIS THURSDAY**






Lectio Divina & Doughnuts

Join us every
Tuesday evening.
Please bring your
Bible and journal!

Bible study begins at 6:30pm



REGISTER WITH RISE FOR THE 25-26 YEAR

Thank you to all who came out and enjoyed our kick-off party last week! RISE strives to make living your faith fun while also creating lasting friendships and a supportive community. We would love to see you each week.

While we are off this weekend for the Labor Day holiday, we have a great lineup of events planned for the fall. In addition to our Sunday RISE nights, we offer a special opportunity each Tuesday with our Lectio Divina and Doughnuts prayer nights. Be sure to register with RISE (left QR code) for this year and follow us on Instagram (right QR code) to stay in the loop with all that is happening with RISE.



RISE FALL SUNDAY SCHEDULE

September

- 9/7 — Beginning the Year as a High School Student
- 9/14 — “Biblical Femininity” and “Masculinity”
- 9/21 — Rise of the Guardians
- 9/28 — What Are the 7 Deadly Sins?

October (40 Days for Life)

- 10/5 & 10/12 — *NO RISE (Fall Break)*
- 10/19 — The Life of Saint Padre Pio
- 10/26 — Defending Life from Scientific and Scriptural Perspectives

November

- 11/2 — The Sacrament of Confession
- 11/9 — Friendsgiving Potluck & “Gratitude”
- 11/16 — Obstacles Facing Youth in a Secular World
- 11/23 — Emotional Chastity
- 11/30 — *NO RISE (Thanksgiving Break)*

December

- 12/5–12/7 — Advent Retreat
- 12/14 — RISE Christmas Party
- 12/21 & 12/28 — *NO RISE (Christmas Break)*



TONY JESSE
Director of Religious Education
tjesse@stmatthewtn.org

Want to learn about the faith? Visit
bit.ly/SMCFaithFormationInterestForm



FRANKIE McCAULEY
Director of Youth Ministry
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

Silver JUBILEE JAMBOREE

SEPTEMBER 13, 2025

YEARS of
PRIDE

PRESENTED BY

MID-TENN FORD



615-259-2050

www.midtennfordtrucks.com

CAKE
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LEVEL
BOOTHSDUNK
TANK

AUCTION

PAY TO
PLAY

BINGO

CORN
HOLEBIERGARTEN/
BAR

EVENT PAGE



PAY TO PLAY



GAME TICKETS



CORN HOLE

THE
SCHMID
GROUP

Jarosh Family Leindecker Family Aakko Family Holifield Family Jensen Family Furey Family
Dussich Family Brett & KaLeigh Selly Matthews Family Barretto Family Baker Family
Bowler Family Robin Mudd



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

www.stmatthewtn.org

