



# *Saint Matthew*

## CATHOLIC CHURCH

**DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER**

**SEPTEMBER 21, 2025 + SOLEMNITY OF SAINT MATTHEW**

# Solemnity of Saint Matthew

**“I DESIRE MERCY, NOT  
SACRIFICE. I DID NOT  
COME TO CALL THE  
RIGHTEOUS BUT  
SINNERS.”**

**- MATTHEW 9:13**

### **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

### SOLEMNITY OF SAINT MATTHEW

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

- ✦ For the People of Saint Matthew

#### 8:30 a.m. Mass

- ✦ For All Catechists Who Teach the Catholic Faith to Others.

#### 11:00 a.m. Mass

- ✦ For the Founding Members of Saint Matthew Catholic Church
  - Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13
  - 1 John 5:1-5
  - Matthew 9:9-13

### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

#### 8:00 a.m. Mass

- ✦ For Gabrielle Brault
  - Ezra 1:1-6
  - Luke 8:16-18

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Saint Pius of Pietrelcina

#### 8:00 a.m. Mass

- ✦ For Lori Sisko
  - Ezra 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20
  - Luke 8:19-21

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

#### 7:00 p.m. Mass

- ✦ For the Fleckenstein Family
  - Ezra 9:5-9
  - Luke 9:1-6

### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

#### 8:00 a.m. Mass

- ✦ Donna Marie Abbott Kelley
  - Haggai 1:1-8
  - Luke 9:7-9

### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

#### 8:00 a.m. Mass

- ✦ Mikayla Yopp Honeycutt
  - Haggai 2:1-9
  - Luke 9:18-22

#### ✦ Special Intention

- ✦ *May they rest in peace*

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

## SOLEMNITY OF SAINT MATTHEW

# Welcome Bishops!



We are truly blessed to welcome our shepherd, **Bishop Mark Spalding**, along with our former pastor, **Bishop Mark Beckman**, as they join us for Masses this weekend. We are grateful for their presence and their service as we celebrate Saint Matthew School's Jubilee in conjunction with the Solemnity of Saint Matthew.

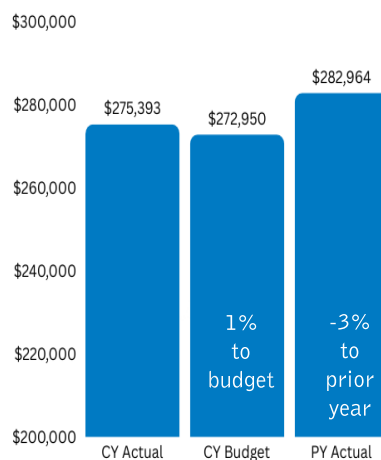
Please join us for a light reception following 8:30 a.m. Mass and a free community luncheon after 11 a.m. Mass today. Both are in the Cohan-Hansom Building.

## STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

### - FOR WEEK ENDED SEPTEMBER 14 -

REGULAR COLLECTIONS	\$17,141
SECOND COLLECTION: CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY	\$65

### YTD Summary



## Second Collections

*This Week:*  
*Feast of Saint Matthew*

*Next Week:*  
*St. Vincent de Paul*

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



**Registered Parish Families: 1251**



## SONGWRITERS' NIGHT SEPTEMBER 27 MEET THE ARTIST: BOBBY TOMBERLIN

Bobby Tomberlin is a CMA, ACM, and Grammy nominee who has penned hits for stars like Diamond Rio, Darryl Worley, Dolly Parton, Bill Anderson, Blake Shelton, Willie Nelson, and Barbra Streisand. Tomberlin has spent 30 years writing music including co-writing #1 Hit "One More Day," Darrel Worley's "A Good Day to Run," and the Grammy-nominated "Someday It'll All Make Sense." Get your tickets now for *Well Played: A Songwriters' Night* on Saturday, September 27, and celebrate this event's 15th year of supporting water, wellness, and education in Gobert, Haiti. Doors open at 6 p.m. Our music ministry has a special opening performance beginning at 6:45 p.m.



## FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

Sign up and spend some quiet time with Jesus during First Friday Adoration on Friday, October 3. Adoration begins after 8 a.m. Mass and ends with benediction on Saturday morning at 8 a.m. Sign up for a 30-minute timeslot at [bit.ly/smeffaoc25](http://bit.ly/smeffaoc25).



## OKTOBERFEST- SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4

All are invited to the annual Men's Club Oktoberfest Festival on Saturday October 4. Enjoy a family-friendly evening of food, fellowship, and fun with live music from Joe Pouliot and the Rythm Kings! There will be a German-themed menu and cold beer for the adults. Oktoberfest is completely free. Bring a dessert to share. RSVPs are appreciated. PROST!



## FAMILY SERVICE MINISTRY ANNUAL SOCIAL

The Family Service Ministry's Annual Social and Box of Joy Kick-Off is Wednesday, September 24, at 3 p.m. on the playground. Come learn about this ministry, socialize, play, and discover ways you and your kids can live your faith together this year. You can also sign up for the Box of Joy program, which sends Christmas boxes to children in developing countries like Haiti, Malawi, and the Dominican Republic. RSVP to the social at [bit.ly/fsmko25](http://bit.ly/fsmko25).

## SAINT MATTHEW MEN'S CLUB

Join the Men's Club for their monthly meeting! Enjoy a social evening with your fellow brothers while helping plan upcoming community events such as Oktoberfest and Breakfast With Santa. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, October 2, at 7 p.m. in the Cohan-Hansom Building.

## NEW PARISHIONER RECEPTION

New to Saint Matthew? We would love to get to know you better and help you feel more connected to our parish family! Join us on Thursday, October 9, from 6–7 p.m. in the Parish Conference Center for a New Parishioner Reception. Meet our priests, connect with other new parishioners, and discover ways to get involved in parish life. Light refreshments will be served. Scan to RSVP.



## GROTTO PAVERS AVAILABLE

Leave a lasting mark on our parish grounds with a commemorative paver for our Path of Remembrance in the grotto. Each brick can be inscribed with up to 3 lines of 14 characters, making it a beautiful way to honor loved ones, celebrate special occasions, or express your faith. Donation: \$80 per brick. Order yours at [bit.ly/smcpavers](http://bit.ly/smcpavers) and become part of this meaningful pathway of memories.

## NEED ASSISTANCE?

If you or anyone you know is struggling with food, utilities, etc., Saint Matthew supports two organizations offering assistance. You can contact the Saint Vincent de Paul Society hotline by calling 615-550-5130 or Graceworks at 615-794-9055. Do not hesitate to reach out if you need help.



After a successful Jubilee Jamboree, we are continuing the celebration by inviting previous SMS pastors back to celebrate mass. The students and parents in the community have been so excited to welcome back previous pastors, and it has been great to catch up with them and for them to see the school they once served. We also had a Eucharistic procession after Mass this past Thursday. Father Raines went around to bless the entire school, students, and faculty/staff. The students showed reverence as the Eucharist traveled throughout the whole building. Happy Feast Day, Saint Matthew!



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](http://www.stmatthewtn.org/school/admissions)  
Zoom and in-person options available.

Thursday  
**SEPTEMBER 25**  
9:00 a.m.



## FATHER DAUGHTER DANCE

Saint Matthew is looking to a volunteer to organize this year's Father Daughter dance. If you would be interested in helping keep this great parish tradition going, please contact Colleen Curran at [ccurran@stmatthewtn.org](mailto:ccurran@stmatthewtn.org).

## SIGN UP TO SERVE COFFEE AND DOUGHNUTS

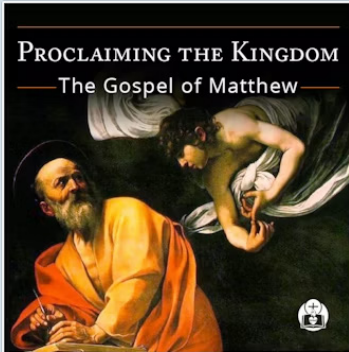
Community Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to bring our parish family together after Mass for fellowship, coffee, and donuts. Saint Matthew wants to bring Community Sundays back on the first Sunday of each month, but we need your help. We are looking for families and individuals to sign up to pick up and serve doughnuts and make coffee. While simple, it does take 2-3 people per Mass to run smoothly. We can't make it happen without volunteers like you. If your family would like to be part of making Community Sunday possible, please sign up below. For more information, email Colleen Curran at [ccurran@stmatthewtn.org](mailto:ccurran@stmatthewtn.org).





**formed**

**Pick of the Week: September 21**



## Proclaiming the Kingdom: The Gospel of Matthew

The audio course “Proclaiming the Kingdom” systematically unpacks the riches of the Gospel of Matthew. Sometimes called “the Gospel of the Kingdom” because of its central theme, Matthew was the most often quoted of the four gospels in the writings of the early Church Fathers. These talks were originally delivered to an audience of priests and deacons on retreat at St. Vincent’s Archabbey in Latrobe, Pennsylvania. They are both theologically rich and eminently practical. To get the most out of these presentations by Dr. Scott Hahn, Dr. Brant Pitre, and Dr. John Bergsma, you should read the chapters of Matthew once through before listening to the lectures.

Watch this video and other great content for free. Visit **FORMED.org** and use our parish code: **37069**.

## PASSION OF CHRIST PRAYER GROUP

Join the Passion of Christ Prayer Group on Sunday, September 28, 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. Their mission is to pray for our fellow Catholic brothers and sisters who have left the Church.

## FEEDING THE HOMELESS

Join Loaves and Fishes, Saint Matthew’s parish ministry dedicated to feeding the homeless! On the first Wednesday of each month, this group cooks and serves roughly 100 lunches at the Holy Name Parish Center near downtown. The next volunteer opportunity is on Wednesday, October 1. This is a fit for any stay-at-home parents as the group is finished and back well before school pickup. To volunteer with Loaves and Fishes, contact Bill Thomson at [bthomson7504@gmail.com](mailto:bthomson7504@gmail.com). Loaves and Fishes is funded in part through your generous support to the Bishop’s Annual Appeal for Ministries.

## BISHOP’S ANNUAL APPEAL FOR MINISTRIES



Your support empowers lives with love through service, guidance and opportunity.

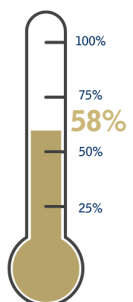


## 40 DAYS FOR LIFE

The Nashville 40 Days for Life Fall Campaign kicks off this Wednesday, September 24, at 1:30 p.m. in front of Planned Parenthood. (412 Dr. DB Todd Blvd.) Michelle Schachle is the guest speaker! Her son, Michael McGivney Schachle, was named after Father Michael McGivney due to his miraculous cure in the womb of fetal hydrops. Come hear Michelle’s amazing journey of faith, love, and hope as this campaign begins. For more information contact Mary Starr at [maryestarr25@gmail.com](mailto:maryestarr25@gmail.com).



**Saint Matthew 2025**  
**Donations: \$99,372 (58%)**  
**Goal: \$171,000**



## TONY'S REFLECTION

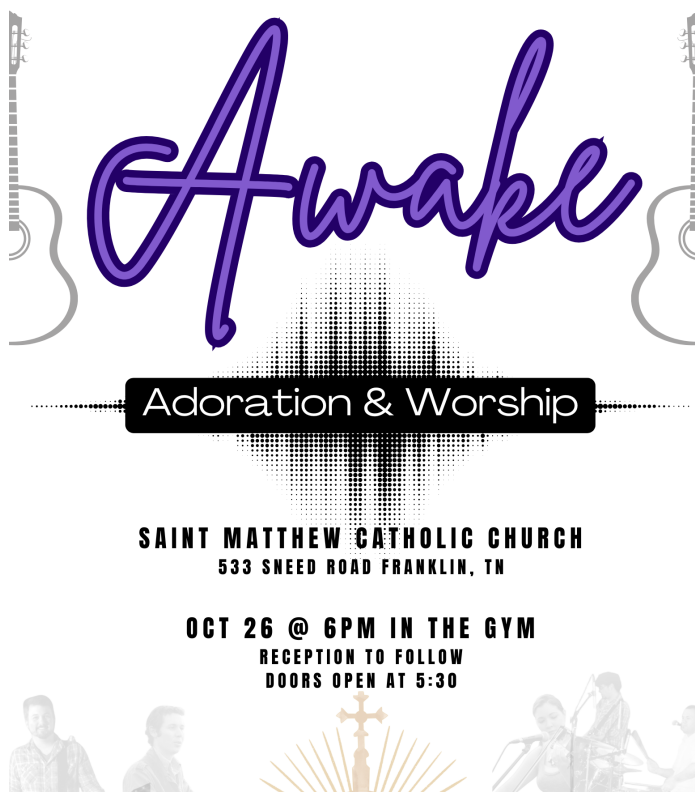
### Who Is SAINT MATTHEW HOLY CROSS

Today we honor our patron saint who rose to prominence by answering Christ's call to follow Him. It is fitting to reflect on who St. Matthew is and what it means to be linked to him as a parish. Matthew was an odd convert, for he was a despised tax collector turned committed disciple of Christ. Tax collectors were seen as collaborators with the occupying Roman authorities. The Roman tax system was set up to allow tax collectors to extort money for themselves. Because of this scheme, many tax collectors, teeming with greed, would ravenously rip off their own people with the help of the Roman army, thus exercising coordinated corruption. In a sense, tax collectors were like modern mafia dons who extort neighborhood small businesses and even families to pay "protection fees" lest an "accident" happen to their businesses or loved ones. For Jesus to call Matthew at his tax post would be as dramatic as Jesus entering into Al Capone's speakeasy and calling him from his criminal ways into holiness. Yet, Jesus desires radical transformation. He comes to call the most notorious sinners to repentance and a life of conversion.

What's just as flabbergasting as Jesus' call to this despised tax collector was Matthew's response in 9:9: "...and Matthew got up and followed Him." It is hard to know the inner workings of Matthew that lead to this dramatic transformation. Matthew likely heard about Jesus, trusted Him, and saw Him as an opportunity to free himself from being ensconced in depravity. What we do know is that Jesus boldly invited Matthew to break from his livelihood, his sinful past, and follow Him on a challenging trail that will eventually ascend him to greatness. And we know that Matthew was ready to respond to this call.

In Caravaggio's painting, *The Calling of St. Matthew* (right), Caravaggio implanted theologically rich signals into the scene. Jesus enters a dark room with light shining behind him, a sign that he was calling Matthew from darkness into light. In the room a closed window with a perpendicular wooden pane signifies that to open ourselves to the light we must embrace the cross, we need to die to our old ways, something that would be proposed to Matthew. In the image of Jesus pointing to Matthew with His outstretched right index finger, scholars have long noted that Jesus' hand and finger are similar to the hand and finger that Michelangelo gave to God in the Creation of Adam painting. Jesus was giving Matthew, in other words, a chance at a new creation, of having the "spirit of life" breathed into his sinful, dead soul. As Jesus calls Matthew through the rays of light, we notice Matthew's two hands. His left is pointing to himself, to his heart, almost allowing his heart to speak to him that he is ready.

As spiritual brothers and sisters of St. Matthew, we are called to mimic our patron saint's response - to drop our former way and go "all-in" on Christ. Faced with an arduous challenge and amidst great uncertainty, Matthew jumped at Jesus's call to greatness. In a similar vein, we are called with the same invitation from Jesus. His invitation stands. Are we ready? What is our response?



# Awake

**Adoration & Worship**

**SAINT MATTHEW CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
533 SNEED ROAD FRANKLIN, TN

**OCT 26 @ 6PM IN THE GYM**  
RECEPTION TO FOLLOW  
DOORS OPEN AT 5:30

## SPECIAL DIOCESAN JUBILEE MASSES

The Diocese of Nashville invites you to attend three special Masses next month as part of the Jubilee of Hope. All Masses will be celebrated by Bishop Spalding at the Cathedral of the Incarnation.

- White Mass for all healthcare professionals  
Saturday, October 18, 5 p.m. (Feast of St. Luke)
- Red Mass for all legal professionals  
Thursday, October 23, 12:10 p.m. (Feast of St. John of Capistrano)
- Queen of Families Mass for all those who have experienced miscarriage, stillbirth, or child loss.  
Sunday, October 26, 2:30 p.m.





## YOUTH MINISTRY

### A SPECIAL NIGHT FOR PARENTS AND TEENS: HUMAN LIFE ON OCTOBER 26

We are so excited about an upcoming event for our Youth Program called Human Life. This is a night you don't want to miss, which is why we are inviting and asking parents to attend with their child. This evening will be filled with personal enrichment and spiritual growth, particularly with a focus on valuing human life from the moment of conception. This will be held in the Parish Conference Center at 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, October 26. Please RSVP through the QR code as dinner will be provided. We hope you can join us!

- Frankie



# HUMAN LIFE

BY DR. WILLIAM LILE

**ST. MATTHEW CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
535 SNEED RD W, FRANKLIN, TN 37069

10/26 | 5:30 PM

Equip yourself with scientific knowledge and biblical principles to take a stand for the protection of the pre-born!

## RISE SCHEDULE

SUN  
SEPT 21

RISE Night: "Rise of the Guardians"  
Movie and discussion.  
Zaxby's for dinner.

SUN  
SEPT 28

RISE Night: Addy Prenares on "The Seven Deadly Sins and How They Present Themselves in High School."

SUN  
OCT 5 & 12

NO Sessions  
Happy Fall Break!

SUN  
OCT 19

The Life of Saint Padre Pio: Man of Humility and Obedience

SUN  
OCT 26

Special RISE Night- Parents Invited!  
Human Life presented by guest speaker Samantha Funderlich.  
See info to left for more details.

RISE meets every Sunday in the P.C.C. beginning at 5:30 p.m. with pick-up at 7:30 p.m. Dinner is provided.

## DONATE A PIZZA

### FOR RISE STUDENTS

Each Sunday, RISE brings teens together to share a meal and grow in their faith. To offset some of the cost of food, whether it is pizza, or another meal, we are humbly asking for \$20 donations. Your financial support makes a real difference and helps us share Christ's love with our youth. Thank you!



Scan to donate



## Lectio Divina & Doughnuts

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

Bible study begins at 6:30pm



### TONY JESSE

Director of Religious Education  
tjesse@stmatthewtn.org

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



### FRANKIE McCAULEY

Director of Youth Ministry  
ftripodi@stmatthewtn.org

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



21+  
event



*Saint Matthew  
Catholic Church*

15th  
annual

Presents

*WELL PLAYED*

# A SONGWRITERS' NIGHT

BENEFITING WATER, EDUCATION, AND WELLNESS IN HAITI

Featuring Three Award-Winning Songwriters



Lance Miller



Mark Narmore



Bobby Tomberlin

Event Page



Saturday, September 27 · 6:00 p.m.  
Saint Matthew Church Courtyard

Tickets



Presented by:

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**ANONYMOUS (2)**

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