



Saint Matthew CATHOLIC CHURCH

DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER

OCTOBER 12, 2025 + TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



**Realizing he had been healed...
he fell at the feet of Jesus
*and thanked him.***

Luke 17:15-16

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

PARISH SPOTLIGHT

FORGE: SAINT MATTHEW MIDDLE SCHOOL MINISTRY

Forge, a new Saint Matthew Parish middle school youth ministry program, welcomes all 6th–8th graders into a personal relationship with Christ through fellowship and fortification in the Catholic Church’s tradition and Biblical truth.

Join Forge for their kick-off event on Sunday, October 26, at 4:30 p.m. in the Cohan-Hansom Building. All 6th–8th graders are invited to come for food, fun, and games. The evening includes a special speaker panel, and concludes in the gym by attending the parish-wide Awake event as a group.

Scan the QR code to register your child with Forge and to stay up to date as the ministry grows. If you are interested in volunteering, have any questions, or for more information, email forge@stmatthewtn.org.

Forge seeks to:

- Provide **Catholic apologetics** in an age-appropriate, engaging way
- Foster **virtuous relationships** among middle school youth
- Help teens **apply Biblical truths** in everyday situations
- Build a **lasting connection** with their **home parish**
- Fulfill the deep need for community** and belonging in middle school years

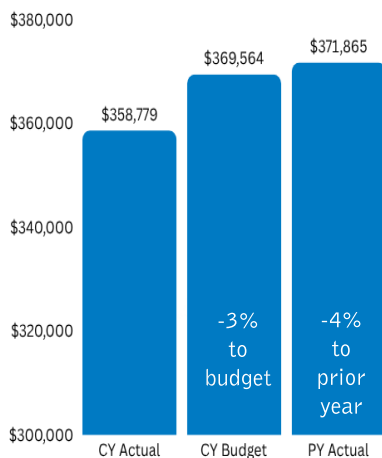


STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

- FOR WEEK ENDED OCTOBER 5 -

REGULAR COLLECTIONS	\$34,721
SECOND COLLECTION: BUILDING MAINT. & FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS	\$709

YTD Summary



Second Collections

This Week:

Seminarian Education

Next Week:

Haiti Mission

World Mission Sunday

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



Registered Parish Families: 1256



LITURGY SCHEDULE

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass

✠ Fr. Kevin Thompson

8:30 a.m. Mass

✦ For The People Of Saint Matthew

11:00 a.m. Mass

✠ Johnny Wiles

• 2 Kings 5:14-17

• 2 Timothy 2:8-13

• Luke 17:11-19

MONDAY, OCTOBER 13

8:00 a.m. Mass

✦ For David and Rose Marie Suchanick

• Romans 1:1-7

• Luke 11:29-32

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14

8:00 a.m. Mass

✦ For Brenda Anderson

• Romans 1:16-25

• Luke 11:37-41

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15

St. Teresa of Jesus

7:00 p.m. Mass

✠ Rex Campbell

• Romans 2:1-11

• Luke 11:47-54

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16

8:00 a.m. Mass

✦ For Jennifer VanAllen

• Romans 3:21-30

• Luke 11:47-54

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17

St. Ignatius of Antioch

8:00 a.m. Mass

✠ Diana Hocutt

• Romans 4:1-8

• Luke 12:1-7

✦ **Special Intention**

✠ *May they rest in peace*

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

RETURN YOUR BOX OF JOY

Thank you to all who are participating in the Box of Joy program. Be sure to return your boxes to the church office by Friday, Oct. 17, or bring them with you to church next weekend where you can drop them off at a table in the narthex. If you are able, please provide a check for \$9 per box for shipping.

GET INVOLVED WITH ROOM IN THE INN

Thank you for all the generous donations to the RITI Winter Coat Drive. The ministry is busy organizing this year's season and wants to be sure everyone in the church has a chance to get involved. It takes many hands to make this ministry possible. Volunteers are needed for meals, hospitality, fellowship, innkeeping, laundry, and more. Scan to see all the opportunities and sign up to serve.



LUNCH BUNCH THIS TUESDAY!

Lunch Bunch on Tuesday, Oct. 14, will gather in the Cohan-Hansom Building. Wear your Halloween Costume for a chance to win a prize! For any questions, or if you did not RSVP and would like to attend, email Alex at ahalfmann@stmatthewtn.org.



TRUNK or TREAT



Sunday, Oct. 26
2-4 p.m.

Saint Matthew Catholic Church

RSVP



SAINT RELICS AT SAINT MATTHEW

OCT. 31 - NOV. 3

St. Ambrose St. Augustine

St. Charles Borromeo

St. Elizabeth St. Lucia

St. Maria Goretti

St. Theresa of the Child Jesus

Purple Robe & Pillar of the Scourging



PRAY THE ROSARY IN OCTOBER

October is the Month of the Holy Rosary. Pope Leo XIV recently called on all Catholics to pray the Rosary each day in October for peace in our world. Here are some opportunities at Saint Matthew for community Rosaries. All are prayed in the chapel:

- Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays after 8 a.m. Mass
- Sundays after 8:30 a.m. Mass
- Wednesday, Oct. 22 through Thursday, Oct. 30, 12 p.m. (Rosary Novena for the Unborn)

AWAKE RETURNS OCTOBER 26

Saint Matthew is excited to present another night of adoration and music on Sunday, October 26, at 6 p.m. in the gym. The event is called *Awake* and is a call for renewal in our lives through adoration, periods of silence, and beautiful music provided by a group of professional musicians. There will be a reception afterwards, with refreshments provided by several of our parish ministries. Please plan to attend and spend some time as a parish family with Jesus in prayer and song!

Awake

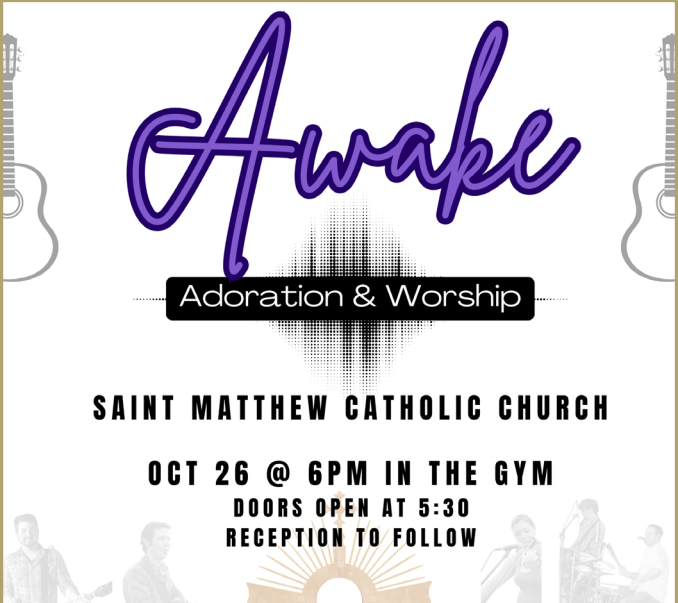
Adoration & Worship

SAINT MATTHEW CATHOLIC CHURCH

OCT 26 @ 6PM IN THE GYM

DOORS OPEN AT 5:30

RECEPTION TO FOLLOW



TRIVIA NIGHT - NOVEMBER 8

Save the Date! The Saint Matthew Athletic Booster Club Trivia Night is on Nov. 8 at 6 p.m. Start thinking about your team of 8 players now! Team themes and costumes are encouraged. Registration opens soon, and proceeds benefit our athletic programs.

SCHOOL NEWS

HAITI MARKET VENDOR APPLICATIONS OPEN



Saint Matthew Market

533 SNEED RD. W FRANKLIN, TN

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 16 NOON TO 4PM

**HANDMADE ITEMS
ART • JEWELRY • FOOD**

<https://www.stmatthewtn.org/school>

WE ARE ACCEPTING VENDOR APPLICATIONS

COME SHOP WITH US AND SUPPORT OUR HAITI MINISTRY!

Vendors scan to apply.

VETERAN'S DAY PROGRAM



Join us
to celebrate & honor our
Veterans

ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2025

*A musical celebration
hosted by SMS 5th grade students
to honor our Veterans.*

*8:15 a.m. in the Parish
Life Center (gym)
Doors Open at 8:00am*

SMS
Saint Matthew School

*Light refreshments
to follow.*

Scan to RSVP or to submit
Veteran's names for us to pray for.



Please join us to learn more about Saint Matthew School and what it means to live out our motto of
+Seeking Knowledge + Modeling Christ + Serving Others+



**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9
12:00pm-2:30pm**

OPEN HOUSE

SMS
Saint Matthew
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Apple Distinguished School

REGISTER AT WWW.STMATTHEW.TN.ORG/SCHOOL 533 SNEED ROAD W., FRANKLIN, TENNESSEE 37069 (615) 662-4044 PRE-K -8

2024 THE OFFICIAL CHOICE AWARDS WINNER

DAN OTT DIACONATE PETITION

Mr. Dan Ott is a member of our parish and is petitioning to be ordained a deacon for the Diocese of Nashville. If you have any concerns about his ordination, please contact the Director of Vocations for the Diocese of Nashville, Fr. Luke Wilgenbusch, at fr.wilgenbusch@nashvocations.org or 615-783-0782.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ESSAY CONTEST

All parish 8th grade students are invited to participate in the Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest! Cash prizes will be awarded. This year's prompt is *The office of the papacy was established by Jesus Christ nearly 2,000 years ago when He chose St. Peter to lead His Church on earth. In an essay of 500-750 words, out of the 267 popes that have led the Catholic Church, who are your three favorite popes and why?* Entry form can be found at bit.ly/kocessay25. The entry deadline is Tuesday, Oct. 21.

MASS OF REMEMBRANCE - NOVEMBER 5

Saint Matthew will celebrate our annual Mass of Remembrance, on Wednesday, November 5, at 7 p.m. If you lost a loved one over the past year (Nov. 2024 to present), email bereavement@stmatthewtn.org by Friday, October 31, to have their name included in this Mass. The Book of Remembrance is in the Narthex now through October 31 for any parishioners who would like to write in names of any loved ones who have passed away. Please make plans to attend this special service.

PRAY FOR FATHER FLORÉAL

Keep Father Nicolas Floréal, pastor of our sister parish, Our Lady of Miracles, in Haiti, in your prayers. He and three other Haitian priests were injured in a car accident recently. Though sore and bruised, Father Floréal was able to return to the rectory. One priest is hospitalized due to broken bones, while the other two received only minor injuries.

FATHER DAUGHTER DANCE

Saint Matthew is looking for volunteers to organize this year's Father Daughter dance. If you are interested in helping keep this great parish tradition going, please contact Colleen Curran at ccurran@stmatthewtn.org.

WOMEN'S CLUB BOOK CLUB MEETING

Join the Women's Club for their Book Club meeting with best-selling author Jennifer Moorman, who will discuss *The Vanishing of Josephine Reynolds*, on Thursday, October 23, at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Conference Center. Order your book now and pick it up from the church office to read before the event.



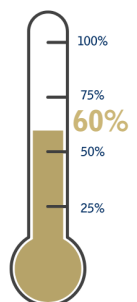
SUPPORT SEMINARIAN EDUCATION

Supporting vocations and the formation of future priests is vitally important to Saint Matthew Parish—and we are seeing its effect in a very tangible way. Our parish is blessed to have James Grossheim, who is scheduled to return to Saint Matthew after being ordained a deacon later this year. Griffin Gartner, a parishioner, entered the seminary this year, and Benjamin Claiborne and Frank Gallagher are currently in the propaedeutic stage, serving here at Saint Matthew and assisting in both our church and school.

Your support of the Seminarian Education Fund helps form these men for priestly ministry and also counts toward Saint Matthew's parish goal of \$171,000 for the Bishop's Annual Appeal for Ministries. The BAAM supports additional faith formation and vocation programs such as what Dan Ott has been going through as he nears the diaconate. Together, we are investing in the future of our Church and nurturing vocations right here in our community. To give directly to the Seminarian Education fund, use the QR code to the right.



Saint Matthew 2025
Donations: \$102,302 (60%)
Goal: \$171,000



TONY'S REFLECTION

HAVE GRATITUDE

Psychologists indicate that 80% of our thoughts are negative, while 95% of our thoughts are recurring. This means that people walk through life with an abundance of anxiety and pessimism. It is no wonder why psychologists are adamant that having a state of gratitude is the hinge to happiness. Dr. Daniel G. Amen, the popular brain researcher, identifies gratitude as a key character quality of a person with physiologically healthy brains. Research in psychology reveals that people who are grateful experience more happiness and contentment. When someone is in a grateful disposition, the chemicals of serotonin, dopamine, and oxytocin are released into their brain, which, in turn, causes anxiety and stress to plummet. Being in the mental state of gratitude also lights up the part of the brain focused on learning and problem-solving. It does this so much that psychologists believe that people who complain tend to have a lower IQ than those who are grateful. Therefore, there is a direct connection between gratitude and a better mental disposition.

In discovering gratitude, people recognize the source of goodness placed in their lives lies outside themselves. This gratitude helps people eliminate a self-centered disposition and connects them to the very entity that created them—God.

While the mental benefits of gratitude are substantial, our readings today focus on the spiritual necessity of gratitude. In the O.T. reading, the prophet Elisha cures the Syrian, Naaman. Elated with gratitude, Naaman disavowed his pagan worship and devoted himself solely to the Lord of Israel. In the Gospel reading, Jesus healed ten lepers, but only one returned to thank Jesus. This Gospel reading goes beyond mere polite etiquette to remember to thank God when He has healed you. This passage leads us to contemplate worship as an expression of gratitude. This concept is especially true of the central act of Catholic worship, the liturgy of the Eucharist, since “eucharist” comes from the Greek word for “thanksgiving.”

All the lepers are cleansed, but only one—the Samaritan—returns to thank Jesus. In response to his healing, the Samaritan, “fell at the feet of Jesus and thanked him”—this is virtually an act of worship. Therefore, it is crucial to realize in our readings, that foreigners are cured of leprosy and their immediate reaction is gratitude in worship.

St. Thomas Aquinas places gratitude under the virtue of justice. With this, Aquinas asserts that gratitude is actually an obligation you owe to God. Aquinas’s theology on gratitude is why we have the exchange in the Eucharistic prayers of the Mass as follows: Priest: “Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.” People: “It is right and just.” Aquinas goes on to articulate that if you don’t have a sense of gratitude from within but rather have an entitled “give me” disposition, it reveals a soul that is under control of the intoxicating grip of pride. By contemplating and offering gratitude toward God, we ascend our stature to a higher level. The Mass is our highest expression of thanks and gratitude for what God has done in our lives. Let us find gratitude at the worship in Mass.

SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITIES

JOIN ST. JOSEPH’S MEN

St. Joseph’s Men is a ministry rooted in the teachings of Christ and His Church to enable men to become better disciples, husbands, fathers, and members of our parish through the inspiration and model of St. Joseph. The group engages in topics and spiritual exercises specific to men while also developing fraternity among faithful men. If you are interested in joining, visit bit.ly/smcstjosephsmen.

THAT MAN IS YOU

That Man Is You! is 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 meets Saturdays at 7 a.m. in the Parish Conference Center.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Want to go deeper with your faith? Each month, Saint Matthew sends out a monthly Adult Faith Formation newsletter offering additional resources to grow your faith. To sign up to receive this newsletter, visit bit.ly/smcadultfaithformation.

SPECIAL DIOCESAN JUBILEE MASSES

The Diocese of Nashville invites you to attend three special Masses this 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.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE JERICHO MARCH

The Nashville 40 Days for Life Fall Campaign runs through Sunday, November 2. Join them for a special Jericho March on Saturday, Oct. 25, at noon. To sign up for an hour of prayer, and see the special events planned, visit 40daysforlife.com/nashville.

LADIES OF CHARITY CONSIGNMENT SALE

The Ladies of Charity Fall Consignment Sale is happening now through Saturday, Nov. 1. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Mondays, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. The sale is located at 2216 State Street. Proceeds benefit those in need through the Ladies of Charity's outreach programs.

2025

Heart of Mary House

3rd Annual Fundraiser Dinner and Auction
NO COST TO ATTEND

November 1
Aquinas Center
at the Dominican Campus
Program begins at 6:30pm
Smart Casual Attire

NEW THIS YEAR!
Patron Party
5:00pm
upstairs loft in the Aquinas Center
\$100 per ticket
Ticketed Event
Limited Seating

Scan for more information and to make reservations





KEY NOTE SPEAKER
Fr. Mark Simpson
A Catholic Priest serving in the Diocese of Nashville as the Pastor at Mother Teresa Parish in Nolensville

DARE to be excellent and joyful!
DARE to discover the truth for yourself!
DARE to be everything God made you to be!



Nashville's Only Catholic Classical High School

Shadow Week
October 13-16

Call 615-592-6353 to schedule a day



CHESTERTON ACADEMY
OF THE INCARNATION



RISE welcomes all students in grades 9-12

RISE SCHEDULE

RISE is off tonight, **Oct. 12**, due to fall break. Join us this Tuesday evening at 6:30 in the Church Kitchen for our Lectio Divina Bible Study. The next RISE Night is next **Sunday, Oct. 19**, as we explore the Life of Saint Padre Pio. The Human Life event originally scheduled for **Sunday, Oct. 26**, has been postponed. RISE will instead meet at its normal time and location, 5:30 p.m. in the P.C.C., and will attend the Awake event as a group. Parents are encouraged to gather in the gym for Awake.

INTERIM RISE LEADERS

Thank you to Adam Cable, Jonathan Prenares, and Lisa Vegors for volunteering and leading the youth program until a new director of youth ministry is in place. For any questions with the RISE program, please email youth@stmatthewtn.org.

JOIN THE HOSPITALITY MINISTRY

Do you love Saint Matthew, have a warm smile, and a welcoming spirit? Then we need your help! We are looking for friendly adults and teens to serve in our Hospitality Ministry ensuring everyone in our parish feels at home.

Hospitality Ministers help by:

- Greeting parishioners as they arrive
- Handing out bulletins after Mass
- Serving as ushers, passing collection baskets, and guiding Communion lines

Whether you serve at just one Mass or more regularly, your gift of hospitality makes a meaningful impact. Let's make every person who walks through our doors feel at home!

Interested?
Contact Kelly Ott kott@stmatthewtn.org





OFFICE HOURS: Mon. - Fri. 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

CHURCH: 615-646-0378

SCHOOL: 615-662-4044

PASTORAL STAFF



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

www.stmatthewtn.org

