



Saint Matthew CATHOLIC CHURCH

DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER

OCTOBER 19, 2025 + TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



**Jesus told his disciples a parable
about the necessity for them to pray always
without becoming weary.**

Luke 18:1

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, Oct. 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 guest 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

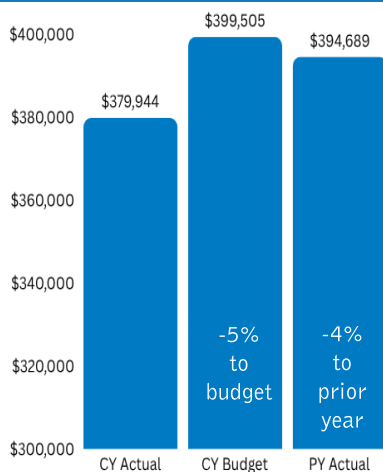


STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

- FOR WEEK ENDED OCTOBER 12 -

REGULAR COLLECTIONS	\$20,584
SECOND COLLECTION: SEMINARIAN EDUCATION	\$415

YTD Summary



Second Collections

This Week:
Haiti Mission
World Mission Sunday

Next Week:
Charity & Outreach

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



Registered Parish Families: 1258



LITURGY SCHEDULE

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass

✦ For the People of Saint Matthew

8:30 a.m. Mass

✦ Souls in Purgatory

11:00 a.m. Mass

✦ Frank Ballinger

• Exodus 17:8-13

• 2 Timothy 3:14-4:2

• Luke 18:1-8

MONDAY, OCTOBER 20

8:00 a.m. Mass

✦ Charlie Kirk

• Romans 4:20-25

• Luke 12:13-21

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21

8:00 a.m. Mass

✦ For Don Dabrowiak

• Romans 5:12, 15b, 17-19, 20b-21

• Luke 12:35-38

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22

7:00 p.m. Mass

✦ Elizabeth Markovchick

• Romans 6:12-18

• Luke 12:39-48

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23

8:00 a.m. Mass

✦ For the Ross Family

• Romans 6:19-23

• Luke 12:49-53

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24

8:00 a.m. Mass

✦ Virginia Marcuri

• Romans 7:18-25a

• Luke 12:54-59

✦ **Special Intention**

✦ *May they rest in peace*

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

COME PRAY THE ROSARY IN THE CHAPEL
FOLLOWING 8 A.M. WEEKDAY MASSES
AND 8:30 A.M. SUNDAY MASS.

IMPORTANT MASS ENTRY UPDATE

The portico doors will serve as the main point of entry for all Masses. Once Mass has begun, all other exterior doors will be locked. If you arrive late or step outside during Mass (e.g., to tend to a child), you will need to re-enter through the portico doors. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

RESPECT LIFE MONTH NOVENA

Join thousands of Catholics in praying for the protection of human life—from conception to natural death with the Respect Life Month Novena. Each day of this nine-day novena features a specific pro-life prayer intention, short reflection, and suggested action to help build a culture of life. Saint Matthew will pray this novena along with a Rosary for the Unborn each day at noon in the chapel beginning on Wednesday, Oct. 22, and ending on Thursday, Oct. 30. You can find the prayers to pray along at home at bit.ly/smcrlmn.

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*, this Thursday, Oct. 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.



COMMUNITY ADORATION EVENT

Saint Matthew is excited to present another night of Adoration and music on Sunday, Oct. 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 afterward, 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!



SAINT RELICS AT SAINT MATTHEW

St. Ambrose
St. Augustine
St. Charles Borromeo
St. Elizabeth of Hungary
St. Lucy
St. Maria Goretti
St. Thérèse of Lisieux
Purple Robe & Pillar of the Scourging



Oct. 31 - Nov. 2

TRUNK or TREAT

Bouncy Slide
Face Painting
Dancing
Costume Contests
& More!

Sunday, Oct. 26
2-4 p.m.
Saint Matthew Catholic Church

SGC

RSVP

18TH ANNUAL

Trivia Night

NOVEMBER 8TH
2025
6:00 P.M.



SCHOOL NEWS

LEARN ABOUT SAINT MATTHEW SCHOOL



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.

**Wednesday
OCTOBER 22
8:15 a.m.**



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>



Vendors scan to apply.



WE ARE
ACCEPTING
VENDOR
APPLICATIONS



COME SHOP
WITH US AND
SUPPORT OUR HAITI
MINISTRY!



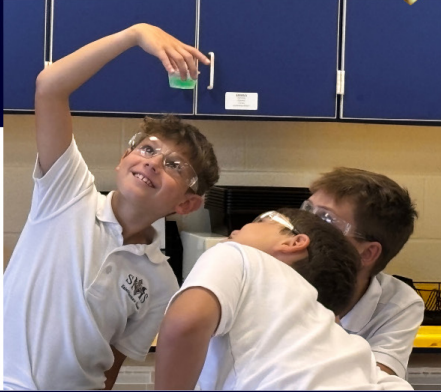
Please join us to learn more about Saint Matthew School and what it means to live out our motto of
 +Seeking Knowledge + Modeling Christ + Serving Others+

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

OPEN HOUSE



SMS
 Saint Matthew
 CATHOLIC SCHOOL
 Apple Distinguished School



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

KoC ESSAY CONTEST - TUESDAY DEADLINE

All parish 8th grade students are invited to participate in the Knights of Columbus 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 this Tuesday, Oct. 21.

MEN'S SCHOLA - SATURDAY, OCT. 25

The Men's Schola is singing at 5 p.m. Mass for the first time next Saturday, Oct. 25. This choir sings traditional Gregorian chants of the Church, primarily in Latin.

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE IN NARTHEX 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.

HONORING PARISH VETERANS

The SMS 5th grade students are hosting a musical celebration to honor our veterans on Monday, Nov. 10, at 8:15 a.m. in the gym. All parish veterans are invited to this event. Please register in advance through the QR code. A light reception to follow.



ALL SAINTS DAY LITURGY

Due to All Saints Day falling on a Saturday this year, it is not a Holy Day of Obligation in the U.S. However, Saint Matthew will still celebrate the Feast Day on Saturday with a liturgy at 8 a.m. All are invited to join us in honoring the saints.

formed®

Pick of the Week: October 19



St. Elizabeth of Hungary

Littlest Saints features the lives of the saints as told by kids. In each episode, a young child dons a habit, a cassock, a uniform, anything and everything, and acts out a different heavenly hero's story, full of drama, comedy, and more. In this episode, a group of kids stages a play about St. Elizabeth of Hungary, focusing on her love for the poor and her devotion to serving others. It highlights her life, including the Miracle of the Roses, where her hidden acts of charity are revealed.

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

HOPE

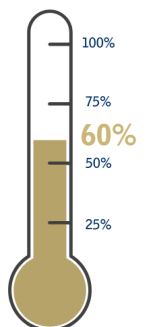
does not disappoint

ROMANS 5:5

BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL FOR MINISTRIES



Help us reach our 2025 goal! Scan to make your annual donation now.



Saint Matthew 2025
Donations: \$102,392 (60%)
Goal: \$171,000

TONY'S REFLECTION

PERSISTENCE BEATS RESISTANCE

The Grand Canyon is a transverse system of narrow, winding, deep canyons. This immense rock formation was shaped by the Colorado River. The Grand Canyon demonstrates that in the confrontation between the river and the rock, the river always wins—not through strength but by sheer perseverance. The river keeps moving, and through its consistent churning, the river holds great power over the giant rock.

Our readings today highlight the power of persistence in the form of prayer and how ongoing prayer alludes to a great battle. Spiritual warfare is a theological concept in which opposing ideas and cultures clash, illuminating the conflict between good and evil. Our first reading shows a battle between Israel and their mortal foe, the Amalekites. The Amalekites were an ancient expression of the culture of death—nomads who would hunt down the weak and vulnerable. It seemed like a desperate situation for the Israelites. Recently released from slavery, the Israelites were journeying through the wilderness on their way to Mt. Sinai, only to be flanked by a lawless, violent group. Israel has few, if any, weapons and limited military experience. Yet, the narrative shifts from a military strategy to victory through spiritual means as Moses goes to the mountaintop to beseech God in prayer. It is vital to realize that whenever Moses was deep in prayer, Israel prevailed in the battle, but when Moses stopped praying, the Amalekites prevailed. Because of this, Aaron and Hur elevated the hands of Moses, allowing him to pray throughout the day, which, in turn, gave Israel the victory. Here, we grasp that prayer not only requires ongoing diligence, but prayer is also a team effort, invoking how the intercession of saints plays a prominent role.

In the Old Testament, there were no “secular” wars. Every battle was both a physical and spiritual conflict, because the opposing armies always called on their respective gods. This scene portrays the reality that we often find ourselves in a struggle of competing ideas that rise from a spiritual clash. Immersed in spiritual warfare, prayer acts as a resilient weapon in curtailing wicked ideas from entering our souls.

Jesus's parable strikes a similar chord in encouraging persistent prayer. As the vulnerable widow pleaded for justice, so we should persevere in faith, tirelessly petitioning God for our needs in prayer. After all, if an unjust and callous judge will vindicate a persistent widow, God will come to the aid of his prayerful children much more. The moral sense of this text is a good example of the complementarity of how prayer and action are necessary in doing God's work.

We must persist in prayer always, especially when facing life's trials. Just as a marathon runner's body begs them to stop, their will urges them forward. So too in prayer, we must press on, even when our spirit feels dry or distracted. The devil works tirelessly to keep us from praying through subtle discouragements, diversions, and doubts. But remember: persistence beats resistance. As we persevere in prayer, just as water carved the Grand Canyon, so too will our soul be formed into the beautiful grace of God.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU

SONGWRITERS' NIGHT UPDATE

A big thank you to everyone who supported *Well Played: A Songwriters' Night* with your prayer, attendance, and donations. The Haiti committee is happy to announce that we raised approximately \$64,000 — a record for this event! Of this total, \$45,000 of this will go toward the construction of the remaining four classrooms at Our Lady of Miracles. The remainder will go to meet our ongoing commitments to our sister parish. We in the St. Matthew Haiti Ministry, along with Fr. Nicolas and Dr. Librice are incredibly grateful for your amazing generosity and support.

WELL PLAYED

A SONGWRITERS' NIGHT
BENEFITTING OUR HAITI MINISTRY

\$64,000 RAISED!

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

CLASSROOM SPONSOR

**Callahan Family Fund
Anonymous (2)**

GOLD SPONSORS

Tom & Julie Connor, Janet Dittus
& Tim Wibking, Greg & Rebekah
Pope, Barney & Beth Schulte,
Clay & Kim Teter, Matthew &
Anne Margaret Weishaar

PLATINUM SPONSOR

**Mark & Joan Warrick
Patrick & Valerie Canning**

SILVER SPONSORS



Glenn Allen & Charlene Pershke, Allen,
Craig & Georgann DeMille, Jim & Lee
Dorough, John & Angela Durland,
Marilyn Hartz, Mark & Mary Peters

FAMILY SPONSORS

Abaray Family, Gary & Ann Mayfield, Kent & Marye Pat Skinner, Julie & Ralph Perrey

ROOM IN THE INN DRIVE

Our Room in the Inn Ministry extends a heartfelt thank you to everyone who donated to this year's Winter Coat Drive. Because of your generosity, they are able to distribute coats and cold-weather gear to our guests. These items are critical in helping them stay warm and safe through the frigid winter months. If you would like to get involved beyond the drive, all are invited to volunteer with our RITI ministry. Simply scan the QR code to sign up and join in serving our brothers in need this winter.



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.

2 0 2 5

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

FATHER RYAN RELAY FOR LIFE

Father Ryan will host its annual Relay For Life on Saturday, Nov. 8, from 12:00-8:00 p.m. on the Father Ryan Campus. The Survivor Walk is at noon. This is the nation's largest student-led relay, saluting cancer survivors and cancer fighters and raising funds for the American Cancer Society. For more information, to donate, or to register, visit fatherryan.org/relayforlife.

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.

RISE SCHEDULE

**SUN
OCT 19**

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

**SUN
OCT 26**

Awake Event
Gather in the P.C.C. at 5:30. We will attend Awake, a community praise and worship adoration, as a group.

**SUN
NOV 2**

The Sacrament of Confession
Learn more about this wonderful sacrament of healing. Confession will be available.

**SUN
NOV 9**

Friendsgiving: Enjoy a Thanksgiving Dinner and an evening of gratitude.

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

CALLING ALL BAKERS

Do you love baking and want to support our RISE Youth Ministry as they celebrate an evening of thankfulness? Perfect! We are looking for dessert donations for our RISE Thanksgiving Celebration! Sign up at bit.ly/risethank25. Please drop off your baked goods on Sunday, Nov. 9, around 5:15 p.m. in the Parish Conference Center, or you may leave them in the church kitchen when you come for Mass that weekend. Thank you for helping make this celebration extra sweet!



**RISE welcomes
all students in
grades 9-12**

**For youth ministry related questions, contact
youth@stmatthewtn.org**



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

CHURCH: 615-646-0378

SCHOOL: 615-662-4044

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

www.stmatthewtn.org

