



# *Saint Matthew*

## CATHOLIC CHURCH

**DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER**

**OCTOBER 5, 2025 + TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

If you have faith the size of a

# MUSTARD SEED

you would say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you."

- Luke 17:6

### 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

### TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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

✠ Barbara Butkerait

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

✠ Chris Forte

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

✠ For The People Of Saint Matthew

- Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4
- 2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14
- Luke 17:5-10

### MONDAY, OCTOBER 6

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

✠ For Brittany Leonard

- Jonah 1:1-2:1-2, 11
- Luke 10:25-37

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7

Our Lady of the Rosary

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

✠ Mary Jane Brunner

- Jonah 3:1-10
- Luke 10:38-42

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8

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

✠ Stephen Broussard

- Jonah 4:1-11
- Luke 11:1-4

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9

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

✠ Loftus A. Morrissey III

- Malachi 3:13-20b
- Luke 11:5-13

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10

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

✠ Souls in Purgatory

- Joel 1:13-15; 2:1-2
- Luke 11:15-26

✠ **Special Intention**

✠ *May they rest in peace*

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

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

## MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

### GET INVOLVED WITH ROOM IN THE INN

You are invited to get involved with Room In The Inn this winter. It takes many hands to make this ministry possible. Volunteers are needed for meals, hospitality, fellowship, innkeeping, laundry, and more. Scan below to see all the opportunities and sign up to serve.

Donations bins are in the Narthex through October 12

## Winter COAT DRIVE

### MOST NEEDED ITEMS

(Men's Clothing Only Please)

- ✓ Warm Winter Coats (new & gently used)
- ✓ Hoodies/Sweatpants/Sweatshirts (new & gently used)
- ✓ Blue Jeans and Belts (new & gently used)
- ✓ Athletic Shoes (new & gently used)
- ✓ Winter Hats & Gloves (new & gently used)
- ✓ Boxer Briefs (new only)
- ✓ See **Amazon Wish List** for additional items

**Questions?**  
Rhea Forte 615-828-5950  
Mary Peters 615-308-1930

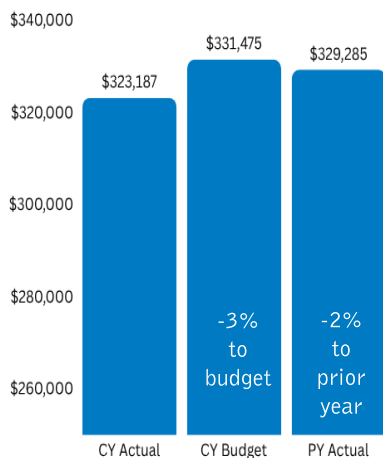
**Volunteer with RITI**

## STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

### - FOR WEEK ENDED SEPTEMBER 28 -

REGULAR COLLECTIONS	\$21,764
SECOND COLLECTION: ST. VINCENT DE PAUL	\$41

### YTD Summary



## Second Collections

*This Week:  
Building Maint. & Facility  
Improvements*

*Next Week:  
Seminar Education*

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



**Registered Parish Families: 1254**



### BOX OF JOY

Our parish is participating in Box of Joy, a simple way to share Christ's love with children in need. Each gift box is filled with toys, clothing, school supplies, and a rosary, along with The Story of Jesus, bringing Christmas joy to children who might not otherwise receive a gift. This is an easy service opportunity your whole family can do together!

Boxes are available in the Narthex this weekend (Oct. 4 & 5) or you can reserve a box at [bit.ly/smcbox25](https://bit.ly/smcbox25). Please return filled boxes and a \$9 donation to cover shipping to Masses on October 18 & 19, or drop off at the church office by October 17.

### PRAY THE ROSARY

October is the month of the 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:

- Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays after 8 a.m. Mass
- Sundays after 8:30 a.m. Mass
- Sunday, Oct. 5, 3 p.m. (Respect Life Sunday)
- 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!



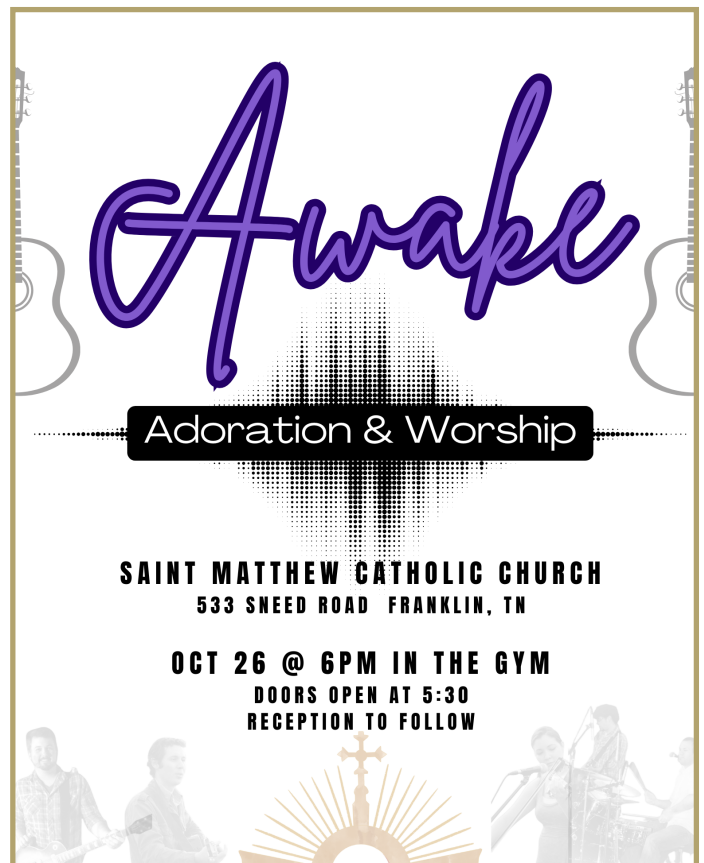
The poster features the Saint Matthew Catholic Church logo at the top left. Below it, the text "New Parishioner Reception" is prominently displayed in a large, bold, blue font. Underneath, the date "Thursday, Oct. 9, 2025" is written in a smaller blue font. At the bottom, it says "6 p.m. Parish Conference Center". A QR code is located on the right side of the poster. The background shows a blurred image of the church interior with people.

### FORGE: A MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY

Saint Matthew is excited to launch **Forge**, a new youth ministry program for middle school students! The kick-off is Sunday, October 26, at 4:30 p.m. in the Cohan-Hansom Building. All 6th–8th graders are invited to join for food, fun, and games. The evening includes a special speaker panel before concluding in the gym by attending the parish-wide Awake event as a group. If you are interested in volunteering, have questions, or for more information, email [forge@stmatthewtn.org](mailto:forge@stmatthewtn.org).

### DAN OTT DEACONATE 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](mailto:fr.wilgenbusch@nashvocations.org) or 615-783-0782.



The poster has a white background with a gold border. The word "Awake" is written in a large, stylized, purple cursive font at the top. Below it, the words "Adoration & Worship" are written in a white, sans-serif font inside a black rectangular box. Underneath that, the text "SAINT MATTHEW CATHOLIC CHURCH" and "533 SNEED ROAD FRANKLIN, TN" are written in a bold, black, sans-serif font. Below that, the text "OCT 26 @ 6PM IN THE GYM" and "DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 RECEPTION TO FOLLOW" are written in a bold, black, sans-serif font. At the bottom, there is a gold sunburst graphic with a cross in the center, and faint images of people playing musical instruments.

## 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.



**Silver JUBILEE JAMBOREE**

SEPTEMBER 13, 2025

25 YEARS OF PRIDE

PRESENTED BY MID-TENN FORD

615-259-2050  
[www.midtennfordtrucks.com](http://www.midtennfordtrucks.com)

Thank you for making the Saint Matthew School Jubilee Jamboree such a tremendous success! Together we raised more than \$100,000, with every dollar going directly to benefit our school and students. What a joyful celebration of our community and 25 years of Catholic education!

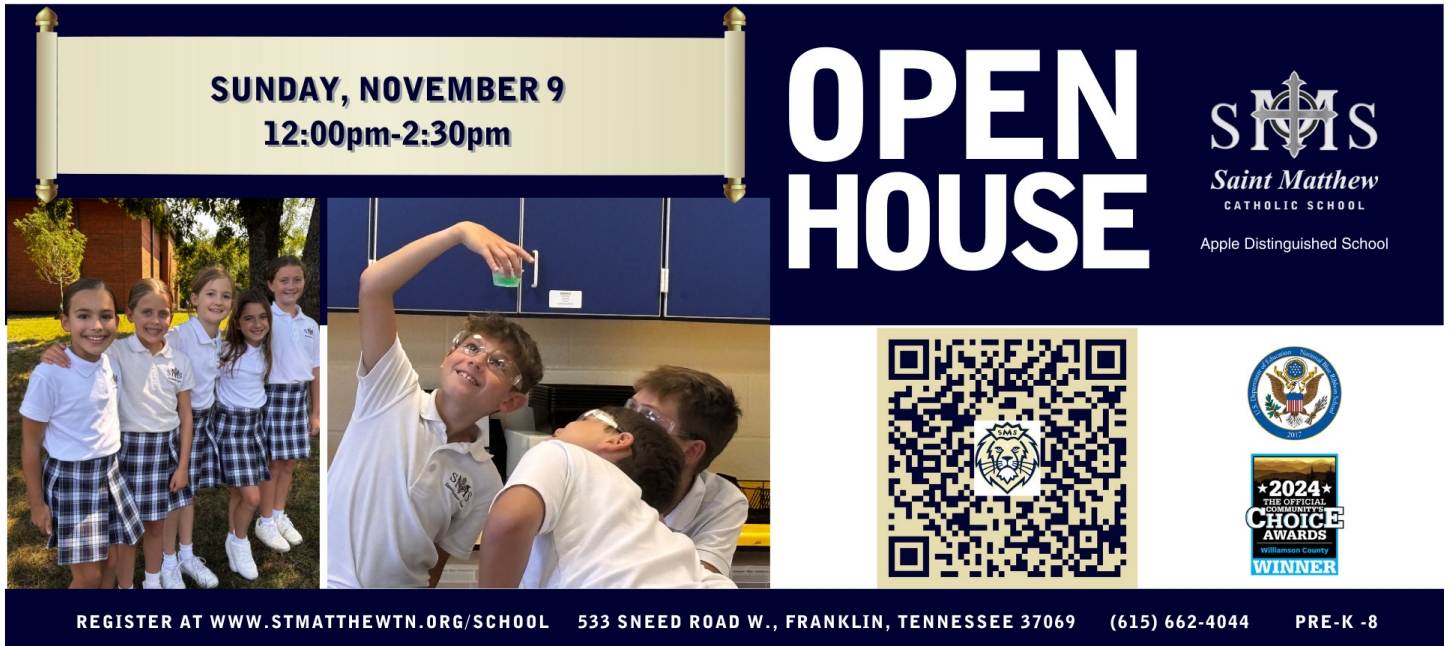
We are deeply grateful to everyone who attended, to our sponsors, and to the many volunteers who poured their heart and soul into making this event possible. From committee leaders to behind-the-scenes helpers, your time and dedication made the day and evening celebrations both memorable and meaningful. Thank you for your generosity and support—here's to the next 25 years at Saint Matthew School!

### TRIVIA NIGHT - NOVEMBER 8

The Saint Matthew Trivia Night will be held on Nov. 8 at 6 p.m. Start thinking about your team of 8 players now! Team themes and costumes are encouraged.



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



## PARISH NEWS

### OCTOBER LUNCH BUNCH LOCATION CHANGED

Please note, Lunch Bunch on Tuesday, October 14, will gather in the Cohan-Hansom Building. Please RSVP by Thursday, October 9, to ensure a meal. Wear your Halloween costume for a chance to win a prize! For any questions, please contact Alex Halfmann at [ahalfmann@stmatthewtn.org](mailto:ahalfmann@stmatthewtn.org).



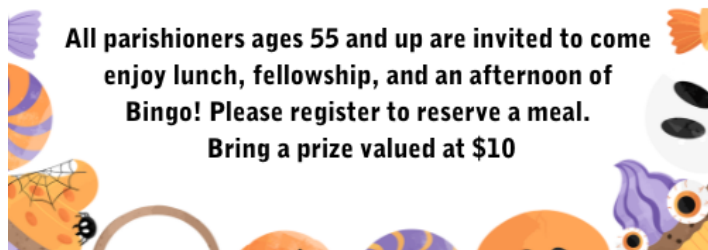
**Tues., Oct. 14 Noon-2 p.m.**

**Cohan-Hansom Building**

**\$12**

**October Theme:**

**HALLOWEEN**



### MASS OF REMEMBRANCE - NOVEMBER 5

Saint Matthew will celebrate our annual Mass of Remembrance, commemorating the lives of those we lost over the past year, 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](mailto: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.

### 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](mailto:ccurran@stmatthewtn.org).

### WOMEN'S CLUB

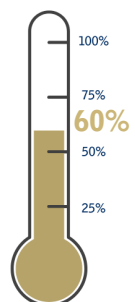
Get your book now for the Women's Club annual Book Club meeting. The ladies will be joined in-person by best-selling author Jennifer Moorman who will discuss her book, *The Vanishing of Josephine Reynolds*. The meeting is Thursday, October 23, at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Conference Center, but you are encouraged to order your book now and read it ahead of the meeting. Once purchased, you can pick up your copy from the church office.



### 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. 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: \$102,017 (60%)**  
**Goal: \$171,000**

## TONY'S REFLECTION

### OUR SPIRITUAL WEAPON

Pope Leo XIV urged all Catholics to pray the rosary daily this month for a renewal of peace in our world. The secular world tends to view the rosary as a superstitious instrument deployed by pious old folks. Yet, the rosary is a great treasure bringing depth and precision as it assists in destroying false teachings all the while bringing souls closer to Christ. Here is where the story of the rosary becomes intriguing.

In the 13th century, the Albigensians passionately opposed the incarnation, the passion of Christ, and His resurrection as they believed that all matter is evil. As the heresy grew, their adherents became more brazen and violent. At one point, the Albigensians murdered a papal legate who had been sent from Rome to dialogue with them. St. Dominic felt called to combat this movement, but soon Dominic fell into anguish because his preaching was failing to defeat the heresy. After he had been praying and doing severe penances, The Blessed Mother appeared to St. Dominic with three angels and said, "Dear Dominic, do you know which weapon the Blessed Trinity wants to use to reform the world?" In holy awe and reverence, Dominic asked for enlightenment on what this weapon would be. Our Lady responded, "I want you to know that, in this warfare, the battering ram has always been the angelic Psalter, which is the foundation of the New Testament. Therefore, if you wish to reach these hardened souls and win them over to God, preach my Psalter."

The Marian Psalter was a prayer developed that involved praying 150 Hail Mary's divided into groups of 10 by Our Fathers. Prayer beads were used to keep track of the Hail Mary's. Mary revealed to St. Dominic which mysteries should be preached to correspond to the prayers: stories of Christ's life which directly contradicted the Albigensian heresy. After having been knighted by the Virgin with the spiritual sword, St. Dominic with renewed fervor helped conquer the heresy and won souls back to Christ's Church.

Here, we see that the sword God would infuse to strike down the false ideas of the world was the sacred mysteries of Christianity prayed in a rhymic manner. Given that our world is fraught with darkness, immorality, and a muddled-up notion of the faith, the rosary remains a powerful defense to cut through the confusion and allow Christ's light to shine. On a practical level the rosary is proven to deliver mental clarity. A new study found that those who prayed the rosary consistently held higher levels of mental health than those who don't.

This spiritual weapon that Our Lady introduced to St. Dominic is highly effective as a defense against outside errors attempting to penetrate the Church and the world. The rosary is also a tool to build up your interior castle of peace. God has established that the bookends of history involve a woman and her offspring conquering and crushing a serpent dragon (Genesis 3:15, Revelation 12). The woman is the Blessed Virgin Mary. Her offspring is Jesus Christ. The serpent dragon is the devil. As in any battle, victory comes through a weapon – the rosary. This month, let us utilize the rosary to combat errors and bring more souls back to Christ.

## 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](http://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](http://bit.ly/smcadultfaithformation).

### ROSARY RALLY

The Nashville 40 Days for Life Fall Campaign runs through Sunday, November 2. Join them for a special Rosary Rally on Saturday, October 11, at noon. To sign up for an hour of prayer, and see the special events planned, visit [40daysforlife.com/nashville](http://40daysforlife.com/nashville).

### 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.



## 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](mailto:kott@stmatthewtn.org)



## BECOME A GIFT BEARER

At each Mass, gift bearers represent the faithful of the Church expressing their gratitude and thanks for God's blessings and returning those gifts back to Him. Families and individuals alike are welcome to participate in this special part of the liturgy. If you are interested in participating in the Mass in this manner, visit [bit.ly/smcgiftbearer](http://bit.ly/smcgiftbearer) and sign up for one of our upcoming liturgies.

## RISE SCHEDULE & NOTES

There are no Sunday RISE Night gatherings on October 5 & 12 due to fall break. The Tuesday Lectio Divina group will continue to meet over fall break. The next RISE Night will be Sunday, October 19, featuring the Life of Saint Padre Pio.

Thank you to Adam Cable, Johnathan Prenares, and Lisa Vegors. These three are volunteering and leading the youth program until a new director of youth ministry is hired. For any questions, please email [youth@stmatthewtn.org](mailto:youth@stmatthewtn.org).

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

All teens and parents are invited to *Human Life*, a special presentation from Turning Point USA. We encourage parents to attend alongside their children for this meaningful evening of personal enrichment and spiritual growth, with a focus on the dignity of human life from the moment of conception backed by science and the Bible. Join us on Sunday, October 26, at 5:30 p.m. in the Parish Conference Center. Dinner will be provided, so please RSVP using the QR code. We look forward to seeing you there!



## 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!

## Community Sunday Signup

VOLUNTEER TO SERVE  
COFFEE & DOUGHNUTS

QUESTIONS?  
[CCURRAN@STMATTHEW.TN.ORG](mailto:CCURRAN@STMATTHEW.TN.ORG)



**MOSS**  
MARYMOUNT OPEN SCHOLARSHIP SCRAMBLE

*golf scramble*

Friday, October 10th

7am to 1:30pm

At the Beautiful  
MONTGOMERY BELL GOLF COURSE



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**  
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**Father Tien Tran**  
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**Bill Forte**  
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VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE NEWS AND  
INFORMATION FROM SAINT MATTHEW.

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

