



Saint Matthew CATHOLIC CHURCH

DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER

NOVEMBER 16, 2025 + THIRTY THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

By your
perseverance
you will secure your
lives.



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:

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

PASTOR:

Father Justin Raines

ASSOCIATE PASTOR:

Father Tien Tran

DEACON:

Bill Forte

PARISH SPOTLIGHT

HAITI MARKET

Stop by our Saint Matthew Market today in the gym, Sunday, Nov. 16, and explore arts, crafts, and delicious treats. Whether you are picking up something for yourself, or getting a head start on some Christmas shopping, you will be amazed at what you can find. This Saint Matthew Market is open to the general public from noon to 4 p.m., but there is a special shopping hour just for Saint Matthew Parishioners between the Masses. Saint Matthew Market is put on by our SMS Haiti Ministry.

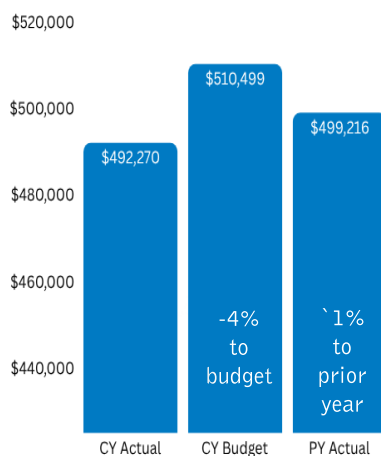


STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

- FOR WEEK ENDED NOVEMBER 9 -

REGULAR COLLECTIONS	\$29,709
SECOND COLLECTION: PRIESTHOOD SUNDAY/ SEMINARIAN EDUCATION	\$1,156
SECOND COLLECTION: CHARITY & OUTREACH	\$881

YTD Summary



Second Collections

This Week:
Human Development

Next Week:
Room In The Inn

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



Registered Parish Families: 1264



LITURGY SCHEDULE

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass

✠ Mary Dabrowiak

8:30 a.m. Mass

✠ Souls in Purgatory

11:00 a.m. Mass

✠ For the People of Saint Matthew

- Malachi 3:19-20a
- 2 Thessalonians 3:7-12
- Luke 21:5-19

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17

Saint Elizabeth of Hungary

8:00 a.m. Mass

✠ For Glenn Schott

- 1 Maccabees 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63
- Luke 18:35-43

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Saint Martin of Tours

8:00 a.m. Mass

✠ Susan Halter

- 2 Maccabees 6:18-31
- Luke 19:1-10

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Saint Josaphat

7:00 p.m. Mass

✠ Delia Grace Abaray

- 2 Maccabees 7:1, 20-31
- Luke 19:11-28

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20

8:00 a.m. Mass

✠ William Cash

- 1 Maccabees 2:15-29
- Luke 19:41-44

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21

Memorial of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:00 a.m. Mass

✠ Germana Yumul Palisoc

- 1 Maccabees 4:36-37, 52-59
- Luke 19:45-48

✠ **Special Intention**

✠ *May they rest in peace*

SAINT MATTHEW BLOOD DRIVE



NOVEMBER 16

Cohan-Hansom Building
8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Walk-ins Welcome



Saint Matthew Women's Club

Paint Along



Nov. 18, 6:30 p.m.
Cohan-Hansom Building



\$15/person



Led by:
Niki Antonini



Forge Middle School Ministry Bible Bites

Come for doughnuts, stay for God's word!

Mondays 3:15 - 4 p.m.

Nov. 10 - Dec. 15

Parish Conference Center



Led by our Propaedeutic Seminarists

Open to ALL parish middle schoolers! SMS students MUST register to be dismissed directly from school.



MANGER PROGRAM

Saint Matthew is once again proudly participating in the GraceWorks Manger Program, supporting local families in Williamson County this Christmas. You are invited to take part in one of three ways: by **donating new, unwrapped toys** for The Manger store, by **volunteering** at our assigned service date (Dec. 9, 9 a.m.-noon), or by **sponsoring a Holiday Food Box** for a family in need (delivery date Dec. 13 or 14). Please note that volunteer and food box slots are limited, and early sign-ups are encouraged. Your toy donations may be placed in the collection boxes in the Narthex for the next two weekends, Nov. 22 & 23 and Nov. 29 & 30.

Scan the QR code to learn more about each opportunity, or view suggested toy items for donation. Thank you for helping bring joy to families this Christmas season.



CHILDREN'S NATIVITY PAGEANT

Register your children now for the Saint Matthew Children's Nativity Pageant. All parish children ages 4-14 are invited to participate. Registration is free, but must be completed prior to the first practice, on **Sunday, Nov. 23**, following 11 a.m. Mass. The Nativity Pageant is on Saturday, Dec. 13. Scan to register your child and see the practice schedule.

Children's Nativity Pageant

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 6 P.M.



Community Sunday Signup

VOLUNTEER TO SERVE
COFFEE & DOUGHNUTS

QUESTIONS?
CCURRAN@STMATTHEW.TN.ORG



MOTHER-DAUGHTER CHRISTMAS SLEEP UNDER!

(No overnight - just all the fun!)

* **Movie** * **Snacks** * **Art** * **Fun** *

Friday, Dec. 5, 6:30-9:30 p.m.
Saint Matthew Gym

Register Here





We had another busy and joy-filled week at Saint Matthew School. Last weekend, the Athletic Booster Club held their annual trivia night, which is a fun night for the community. The decorations on the tables, as well as the costumes, are always so creative and impressive. Everyone coming together is what it is all about.

Last Sunday, we hosted our annual Open House, welcoming many new visitors to our campus to learn about our school. We welcomed back several legacy families at the Open House. I always enjoy hearing about how much of a positive impact Saint Matthew School has made on our alumni and their desire to make the choice of Saint Matthew School for their own children.

We also took a moment this week to host our annual Veterans Day Program. Our own Mr. Moore spoke about what it meant to be a veteran. We appreciate and pray for all of our veterans and thank each of you who came and celebrated with us, or submitted names for us to keep in our prayers.

2026-2027 SCHOOL APPLICATION OPEN NOW

Applications for the 2026-2027 school year are now available on the Saint Matthew School Website. The priority application deadline is **Friday, Dec. 12**. Visit the Admissions page for more information. Email Holly Ledieu at hledieu@stmatthewtn.org with any questions. **Current SMS students do not need to re-apply at this time. Re-enrollment will take place in January.**

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

Follow Saint Matthew to deepen your Catholic faith on your favorite social media platform! Find us on Facebook and Instagram to keep up with everything happening here on Sneed Road.

@stmatthewtn
 @stmatthewschooltn
 @stmatthewtn

FAMILY ADVENT WREATH MAKING

Begin Advent with a special family tradition! Join the St. Gianna Circle Mothers Ministry for their annual Family Advent Wreath Making event on Sunday, Nov. 30, at noon in the Cohan-Hansom Building. Each family creates a wreath to take home, and children can make ornaments for residents of NHC Place at the Trace. Enjoy desserts, appetizers, and drinks as a community. A \$25 per family donation is appreciated to help cover supplies.



TOOTSIE ROLL DRIVE

The Knights of Columbus #12012 invite you to help those with intellectual or developmental disabilities. Donations will be collected after all Masses next weekend, Nov. 22 & 23. This is the Council's annual KIND Charities fundraiser. Receive a Tootsie Roll as a token of gratitude for your support.

THANKSGIVING MASS & OFFICE CLOSURE

Mass on Thanksgiving, Thursday, Nov. 27, will be celebrated at 9 a.m. The church and school offices will be closed Wednesday, Nov. 26 through Friday, Nov. 28. Enjoy the Holiday!

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

Save the date for the Saint Matthew Advent Penance Service. This year's Penance Service will be on Tuesday, Dec. 2, from 5:30 to 6:45 p.m. Be sure to stop by as you prepare your soul for the upcoming Christmas season.

GROTTO PAVERS AVAILABLE

Leave a lasting tribute 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. The cost is \$80 per brick. Order yours at bit.ly/smcpavers and become part of this meaningful pathway of memories.

PRAYER CHAIN

A dedicated group of Saint Matthew prayer warriors will pray for your special intentions. Submit or receive the requests, at bit.ly/SMCPrayerChain.

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

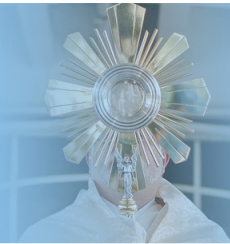
Haiti Happenings

Day by day and year by year, educational progress continues at Our Lady of Miracles School. In September, the school sent 20 rising ninth-grade students to take the official state exam—and they all passed! This success allows them to advance to secondary school (high school). This comprehensive exam tests students in Creole, French, English, Spanish, Social Studies, Science, Math, Technology, PE, Art, and Citizenship.

Fr. Nicolas sends his heartfelt thanks for your continued support of the school and asked us to share his message: *“May the Lord bless you from generation to generation.”* He also shared OLOM added a philosophy class this year.

Lastly, the Saint Matthew Haiti Ministry is excited to announce that thanks to your incredible generosity, through our *Well Played Songwriters’ Night* and through your monthly donations, the construction of four additional classrooms will be fully funded by the end of this fiscal year.





HOPE

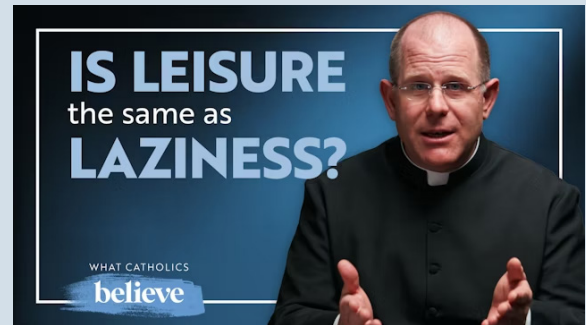
does not disappoint

ROMANS 5:5

BISHOP’S ANNUAL APPEAL FOR MINISTRIES

formed®

Pick of the Week: November 16



What Catholics Believe About Leisure: The Bible & True Rest

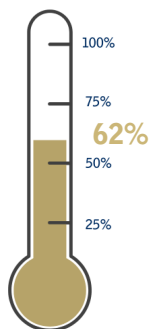
What is true leisure, and why does it matter for Christians today? In this episode of What Catholics Believe, Fr. Nathan Cromly answers some of the internet’s most asked questions about leisure. Discover how the Bible speaks about leisure, whether Jesus enjoyed leisure, how to avoid laziness, and how Catholics can better use their free time to grow closer to God.

This seven-minute episode is part of series title, “What Catholics Believe.” Watch this series and other great content for free. Visit FORMED.org and use our parish code: 37069.

SEMINARIAN EDUCATION FUND

It is not too late to contribute to the Seminarian Education Fund! Please take a pledge card with you from the pew. Pledges can be placed in the collection basket or mailed. Or, simply scan the black QR code on the left below.

Donations made to the Seminarian Education Fund also count towards our annual goal for the Bishop’s Annual Appeal For Ministries. Thank you for your continued generosity, and prayerfully investing in the future of our Church!



Saint Matthew 2025
Donations: \$105,307 (62%)
Goal: \$171,000

TONY'S REFLECTION

PERSEVERANCE IN PERSECUTION

Mark Twain once wrote, "History doesn't repeat itself, but it often rhymes." What Twain is alluding to is that while unique events in history don't replicate themselves over again in an identical way, they often mirror each other with the same patterns. The same concept applies in the Bible, for Scripture is often interpreted through the lens of the past, present, and future. The stories and events in the Bible have an uncanny way of reverberating in our lives today.

In today's gospel, Jesus's discourse foretells the coming destruction of Jerusalem in language that invokes judgment in the form of natural disasters and warring nations. Jesus's words were confirmed a generation later, when the Romans sacked Jerusalem and burned the Temple to the ground in 70 A.D. The Temple held immense significance since it signified God's dwelling place in the center of the cosmos. Therefore, its annihilation carried a heavy significance—the old covenant makes way for the new.

Given that Jesus identified Himself as the Temple, the destruction of the Jewish Temple mirrored Christ's passion. Christ being put to a painful bodily death presaged the destruction of the Temple, which would manifest a dawning of a new age in salvation. Jesus foretells that emerging from this new epoch of salvation, His disciples will witness confusion, war, and intense persecution. Christ is showing us that what happened to Him will inevitably happen to His followers. While He was ridiculed, persecuted, and brought before government officials, His disciples will mirror (maybe not in an identical way) this experience. As Jesus bluntly told His followers, "If they persecuted me, they will persecute you."

Today, as in the days of the apostles, many false prophets masquerade as "influencers" in society. They sow confusion by promoting a lifestyle that appeals to our fleshly desires while inverting the Gospel message. It becomes tempting not to live your faith "on your sleeve" in a society that is hostile to the Gospel. Yet as disciples, we must fearlessly identify with Jesus despite opposition from the "influencers" of society. While receiving persecution for Christ sounds daunting, suffering provides opportunities to become a saint.

The culture war of ideas signifies that we, too, live at a time where kingdoms are at war—the kingdom of God against the secular kingdoms. Like the apostles, we must persevere in the face of unbelieving forces and authorities unreceptive to God.

What we do in life echoes in eternity, whether good or bad. To hold to the faith while under resistance to keep your faith "private" will yield fruit in eternity. In the end, Jesus assures the faithful, "By your perseverance you shall secure your lives." Perseverance is the virtue of fortitude that allows us to do the good under the duress of hardship. Let's pray at this Mass for God to grant us the perseverance we are going to need to endure the persecution that is brewing for us in this culture, in order that we remain faithful to the end.

FAITH FORMATION

ADVENT BIBLE STUDY

Saint Matthew is hosting an Advent Bible Study on Thursdays at 1 p.m. in the Parish Conference Center. If that time does not work and you are interested, please message Tony Jesse. If there is enough interest, he will look at adding a second time option. His email is tjesse@stmatthewtn.org.

AN EVENING WITH *Our Lady of Hope*

Advent Meditations for the Jubilee

A Women's Advent
Preparation Retreat at
St. Philip Catholic Church
Franklin, TN

November 19, 2025
5:30 PM - 9:00 PM

Presented by
Dwell In Love Retreats

Tickets
Individual: \$25
Table of 6: \$125

bit.ly/AdventHope25



THREE TO STAY MARRIED

Faith & Family the Center of It All

Dinner & Inspiration with **MATT BIRK**
NFL Man of the Year, Super Bowl Champ, ALL-Pro Center and Devout Catholic



SATURDAY, JANUARY 31

6:15 pm
Cathedral's Fleming Center



DIACONATE ORDINATION

All are invited to attend the Diaconate Ordinations for the Diocese of Nashville on Saturday, Dec. 20, at 10 a.m. at Sagrado Corazón inside the Catholic Pastoral Center. Among those being ordained are parishioner Dan Ott to the permanent diaconate and James Grossheim as a transitional deacon.

UPCOMING EVENTS



TRIUMPH
of the **HEART**

THE PASSION OF ST. MAXIMILIAN KOLBE

St. Cecilia Academy Exclusive Screening
Wednesday, November 19, 2025
6:00 PM

St. Cecilia Academy Theater, 4210 Harding Pike, 37205



PLEASE RSVP AT [STCECILIA.EDU/TRIUMPH-OF-THE-HEART](https://stcecilia.edu/triumph-of-the-heart)
For Questions, please contact ligowskia@stcecilia.edu.

MATT MAHER & SARAH KROGER BENEFIT CONCERT

Join Matt Maher and Sarah Kroger this Advent season on Thursday, Dec. 4, at 7 p.m. at Sagrado Corazón de Jesús Church. This special night of worship will prepare your heart for the coming of Christ through music, prayer, and reflection. Tickets are on sale now! Doors open at 6 p.m. The VIP experience includes early entry at 5:30 p.m. and a Q/A with Matt and Sarah. Seating is first come, first serve within each section. Proceeds from the concert will benefit the Advancement of Catholic Education (ACE) endowment fund, which was established in 1992 to support Catholic education in Nashville.



MATT MAHER SARAH KROGER

CATHEDRALS



AN ADVENT NIGHT OF WORSHIP

YOUTH MINISTRY

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR RISE

We are looking for helping hands to make RISE a success! We need volunteers to assist with meal preparation, serving, and clean-up for youth nights, as well as those interested in joining the RISE Core Team—a group of adults who help guide and support our teens in their faith.

Whether you can help once a month or more often, your support makes a difference!

If you would like to learn more or get involved, please contact Michaela Miller, our Director of Youth Ministry, whose contact information is at the bottom of this page.

THANK YOU

A special thank you goes out to all those who helped with our Friendsgiving Celebration last weekend! The food was absolutely delicious and the teens had such a great time. It was a joy and a blessing to hear all that they are thankful for.

RISE SCHEDULE

SUN
NOV 16

Obstacles of the Secular World
A look at the challenges youth face in today's society and how teens can be filled with truth and stay close to God.

SUN
NOV 23

Q&A RISE Night
You've got questions, we've got answers! More details to come!

SUN
NOV 30

NO RISE NIGHT
Enjoy Thanksgiving break with your family!

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.



MICHAELA MILLER
Director of Youth Ministry
mmiller@stmatthewtn.org
615-550-5102



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

