



Saint Matthew

CATHOLIC CHURCH

DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER

JANUARY 11, 2026 + THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

**John answered them all, saying,
“I am baptizing you with water,
but one mightier than I is
coming. I am not
worthy to loosen
the thongs of his
sandals. He will
baptize you with
the Holy Spirit
and fire.”**

- Luke 3:16



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.

CONFESION

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
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- FACEBOOK @stmatthewtn
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PASTOR:

Father Justin Raines

ASSOCIATE PASTOR:

Father Tien Tran

DEACONS:

Bill Forte
James Grossheim



LITURGY SCHEDULE (JANUARY 11-16)

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass
 ♦ Jarod Mader
 8:30 a.m. Sunday Mass
 ♦ Martha DeFrancesca
 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass
 ♦ For the People of Saint Matthew
 • Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7
 • Acts 10:34-38
 • Matthew 3:13-17

MONDAY, JANUARY 12

8:00 a.m. Mass
 ♦ For Bernice Adams
 • 1 Samuel 1:1-8
 • Mark 1:14-20

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13

8:00 a.m. Mass
 ♦ David Reese
 • 1 Samuel 1:9-20
 • Mark 1:21-28

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14

7:00 p.m. Mass
 ♦ Raymond Manganelli
 • 1 Samuel 3:1-10, 19-20
 • Mark 1:29-39

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15

8:00 a.m. Mass
 ♦ James Kerrigan
 • 1 Samuel 4:1-11
 • Mark 1:40-45

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16

8:00 a.m. Mass
 ♦ For Jerry Boles
 • 1 Samuel 8:4-7, 10-22a
 • Mark 2:1-12
 ♦ Special Intention
 ♦ *May they rest in peace*

To RESERVE MASS INTENTIONS,
 VISIT BIT.LY/SMCMASSINTENTION

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

THEOLOGY AND CULTURE

THEOLOGY & CULTURE SERIES ALL JANUARY

Join us for our faith formation series, *Theology & Culture*, exploring where our Catholic faith intersects with the world around us—and how these connections shape the way we live, think, and engage with modern culture. *Theology & Culture* meets between the Masses from 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. in the Parish Conference Center each Sunday in January, before transitioning to a monthly event for the remainder of 2026.

Jan. 11: Deacon Grossheim - Our Call to Rebuild the Christian World

Jan. 18: Tony Jesse - How the Church Built Western Civilization

Jan. 25: Sister Mary Diana Dreger O.P. - Understanding Human Emotions



STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Offertory Collections

- Week Ended Dec. 21 \$38,045
- Christmas \$10,523
- Dec. 22-31 (excludes Christmas) \$60,493
- Week of Jan. 1-4 \$17,060

Second Collections

- Parish Charity \$721
- Youth Ministry \$85
- Solemnity of Mary \$1,259
- Capital Needs \$340

Visiting, new, or looking to give?
 Scan to make a gift now, or visit
stmatthewtn.org/church/giving



Second Collections

This Week:

Charity & Outreach

Next Week:

Haiti

Registered Parish Families: 1274

SAINT MATTHEW NEWS

REFINER'S FIRE - FORGE JAN. 11

All middle schoolers are invited to join Forge tonight, Jan 11, for *Refiner's Fire: Finding Our Identity in Christ*. The evening includes playing games, eating pizza, and a discussion behind the ministry's name, Forge. Meet at 5:30 p.m. in the Cohan-Hansom Building. Pickup at 7:30 in the gym.



BEWARE OF SPAMMERS

Please be aware that scammers are sending emails and texts pretending to be Father Raines. These messages often sound urgent, ask for help or money, and request that you reply only by email or text. Father Raines will *NEVER* email or text asking you to buy gift cards, send money, or request a secret favor. If you receive a suspicious message, do not reply and delete it immediately. If you are ever uncertain about a message, please contact the Church Office.

KoC FREE THROW CHALLENGE

Knights of Columbus Council 12012 is holding their annual free throw challenge on Sunday, Jan. 18, at 12:30 p.m. in the Saint Henry gym. All children ages 9-14 are invited to participate in the competition with winners advancing to the regional competition.

FREE SOULCORE CLASS

The January Saint Matthew Women's Club meeting includes a free SoulCore class on Thursday, Jan. 22 at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Conference Center. SoulCore combines praying the rosary with core-strengthening exercises, stretching, and gentle movement to nourish both body and soul. Rooted in Christian meditation, SoulCore promotes spiritual and physical wellness and is not affiliated with yoga. Bring a mat and water bottle and wear comfortable workout attire. Advance registration is requested. For questions, contact womensclub@stmatthewtn.org.

NEW YEAR, NEW YOU!
featuring SoulCore
& THE ROSARY

THURSDAY, JAN. 22,
6:30 P.M.

PARISH CONFERENCE CENTER

NEW PROPAEDEUTIC SEMINARIANS

Saint Matthew is pleased to welcome two propaedeutic seminarians from the Diocese of Nashville who will be with us this semester. Jason Koenemann (top) and Szymon Sierzega (bottom) are members of the Apostles of the Divine Love and are in the foundational stage of priestly formation, focused on prayer, community life, and discernment.



During their time at Saint Matthew, Jason and Szymon will participate in parish life as they continue to learn and grow in their vocation. Each will spend time in the church offices and in the school. We invite our parish family to warmly welcome them, help them feel at home, and keep them in your prayers as they discern God's call.

An update on our seminarians from last semester: Frank Gallagher is now serving University Catholic in Murfreesboro, and Ben Claiborne is serving at Pope John Paul II High School. Parishioner Griffin Gartner is now at Our Lady of the Lake. Please continue to pray for all our seminarians as they journey toward the priesthood.

CONFIRMATION RETREAT

Register now for this year's confirmation retreat! Students will hear engaging talks from young adults to awaken their souls in preparation of the sacrament of confirmation. All students being confirmed in 2026 are asked to attend the free retreat on Saturday, Jan. 31, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Scan the QR code for more details and to register.

We still need several volunteers to help with the retreat including adults, young adults, and high school students. Contact Tony Jesse at tjesse@stmatthewtn.org for more information.

AWAKE
MY SOUL

Saint Matthew Confirmation Retreat:
January 31 @ Camp Marymount





Happy New Year to all for 2026. The school year is halfway done, and we have just finished our first week of the second half of the year. Over the break, I pray you all were able to spend time with family and friends. As we begin the second semester and get back into the swing of things, we have a lot to celebrate. We are just a couple of weeks away from the Diocesan Spelling Bee, in which we have two students representing SMS (Ryan Schmit and Cait Guidry). We are also preparing for a fun filled Catholic Schools Week, which will feature events such as the White Out and Variety Show. The second half of the year is also a time of celebration for our 2nd graders and 8th graders as they receive their First Communion and Confirmation. Please continue to pray for our students and families.

TN EDUCATION FREEDOM SCHOLARSHIPS

The Tennessee Education Freedom Scholarship (EFS) Program has announced key dates for the 2025-2026 school year.

The application window for 2026-2027 EFS new applicants or applicants that applied last year and did not receive the funds opens on Jan. 13, at 12 p.m. Central Time.

We highly encourage you to start gathering the required documents and have them scanned and saved to your computer for easy access once the application opens. An EFS Application Checklist and a Step-by-Step Guide for the EFS Application can be found in the current School News of the Week email or by visiting the EFS website at tn.gov/education/efs/resources.

Please note: To be eligible to receive tuition assistance directly from Saint Matthew, families must complete the EFS application.

For questions, you can email EFS directly at EFS.Questions@tn.gov or contact Leslie Holt in the Business Office at lholt@stmatthewtn.org.

RE-ENROLLMENT DATES

Re-enrollment packets will be emailed to families of current SMS students on Jan. 14 and will be due by Jan. 21. The book and activity fee will be due at the time the re-enrollment packet is submitted. We anticipate having the 2026-27 tuition information available when the packets are sent.

SMS SUMMER CAMPS

Summer camp registration at Saint Matthew School will open at 8 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 15. The dates for 2026 camp weeks are as follows, June 1-5, June 8-12, June 15-19, July 6-10, and July 20-24. Camp registration will be available on the school's website. Children do not need to be SMS students to attend camp. VBS and Totus Tuus dates will be announced later this month.

WHITE OUT GAMES - JAN. 29

All parishioners are encouraged to come support our Lion basketball teams for their annual White Out games on Thursday, Jan. 29, in the gym. Wear white in support of the teams! The game times are:

- 4:30 p.m. JV Boys - SMS White vs. SMS Navy
- 5:45 p.m. Varsity Girls - SMS vs. Linden Waldorf
- 7 p.m. Varsity Boys - SMS vs. Saint Edward

This year, we will also have a special honor for Coach Libby Crow for her incredible impact on her student athletes over the years. Former players can meet up with Coach Crow between games in the Parish Conference Center.

The annual White Out games are part of our celebration of Catholic Schools Week. Expanded concessions offerings will be available. Bring your spare change to benefit our sister school in Haiti.



AROUND THE DIOCESE



DIOCESE OF NASHVILLE

World Marriage Day

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS WITH BISHOP SPALDING

For Couples Celebrating any Wedding Anniversary (Special Recognition for 25, 50, 60+ years)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2026
2:30 P.M.

CATHEDRAL OF THE INCARNATION
2015 WEST END AVE.

RECEPTION FOLLOWING MASS

RSVP:
Visit nashvillefaithformation.com
or call the Marriage and Family Life Office
615-645-9752

WHOLE CATHOLIC

FORMATION. HEALING. TRANSFORMATION.

This Lent, don't just observe the season...

BE TRANSFORMED BY IT.

- Break free from spiritual patterns that keep you stuck
- Grow in clarity, peace, and spiritual maturity
- Learn how to *live in freedom*, rather than experiencing a singular breakthrough

Feb. 3 - Mar. 24, 2026
Tuesdays @ 7 PM

\$197 for all 8 weeks!
Only one registration needed per household

St. Philip Catholic Church Activity Center

Invest in your spiritual health and growth this Lent! Sign up today!

WWW.DISCIPLESHIPDELIVERANCE.COM
Questions? Email: admin@wholecatholic.com

PARISH NEWS

PARISH PICNIC COMMITTEE

Saint Matthew is looking for volunteers to help with planning our annual parish picnic over the summer. If you feel called to help plan this free, community event, please reach out to Colleen Curran at ccurran@stmatthewtn.org.

Haiti Happenings

The students of Our Lady of Miracles School joyfully celebrated the birth of Christ with a festive Christmas party this year. Our sister school and parish extend their warmest New Year wishes to the Saint Matthew community and offer a heartfelt thank you for your continued prayers and support.



TONY'S REFLECTION PRAYERS FOR THE JESSE FAMILY

Tony Jesse is currently with his family following the unexpected passing of his brother, Terry. We ask you to please keep Terry in your prayers, praying for the repose of his soul, and to surround Tony and his family with prayer during this difficult time, that they may know the comfort and special presence of the Lord Jesus.

Below is a reflection on our Lord's baptism from Loyola Press' Sunday Connection.

The baptism of Jesus is attested to in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke. The account that appears in Matthew is the only one to include the dialogue between Jesus and John, however. Another difference in Matthew's presentation of this event is the announcement made by the voice from heaven, which says, "This is my beloved son..." In Mark and Luke, this voice addresses itself to Jesus: "You are my beloved son..."

The baptisms that John performs prefigure Christian Baptism. John baptizes for repentance from sin. In accepting this baptism, Jesus unites himself with all sinners even though he is sinless. In Matthew's Gospel, John the Baptist distinguishes his practice of baptism from the Baptism that the Messiah brings: "I am baptizing you with water... He will baptize you with the holy Spirit and fire" (Matthew 3:11).

The baptism of Jesus is another manifestation of Christ, another epiphany. Christ's baptism inaugurates his mission. In an analogous way, our Baptism inaugurates our mission as Christians.

This Sunday marks a transition from the Christmas season to Ordinary Time. In a way, today's feast is the high point of the Christmas season. Before Jesus' birth, angels announced to Mary and to Joseph who Jesus would be. At his birth, the shepherds and the Magi recognize Jesus as the Messiah. At his baptism, Jesus accepts that he is God's son and inaugurates that mission.

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



CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

MORNING COFFEE AT FATHER RYAN

Parents of 4th - 8th grade students are invited to join Father Ryan for coffee and pastries on Wednesday, Jan. 14, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. President Paul Davis will share updates about Father Ryan and provide parents the opportunity to connect and ask questions on any topic, including tuition assistance opportunities, academic programs, strategic plan initiatives, and more. Register at www.fatherryan.org/visit.

FATHER RYAN LEGACY GALA - FEB. 7

Father Ryan 47th Annual Legacy Gala is Saturday, Feb. 7, at the Music City Center. The Legacy Gala will celebrate the school's history and their tradition of Faith, Knowledge, Service. Learn more and get your tickets at fatherryan.org/give/gala.



CHESTERTON ACADEMY
OF THE INCARNATION

Nashville's *Only* Catholic Classical High School



Join us for an
INFO NIGHT
JANUARY 15, 2026 7:00 PM

CATHOLIC * AFFORDABLE * CLASSICAL



To RSVP: scan QR code
or Email info@chestertontn.com



2419 BETHLEHEM LOOP RD, FRANKLIN TN 37069
615-592-6353 | WWW.CHESTERTONTN.COM

RISE YOUTH MINISTRY

YOUTH MINISTRY SURVEY

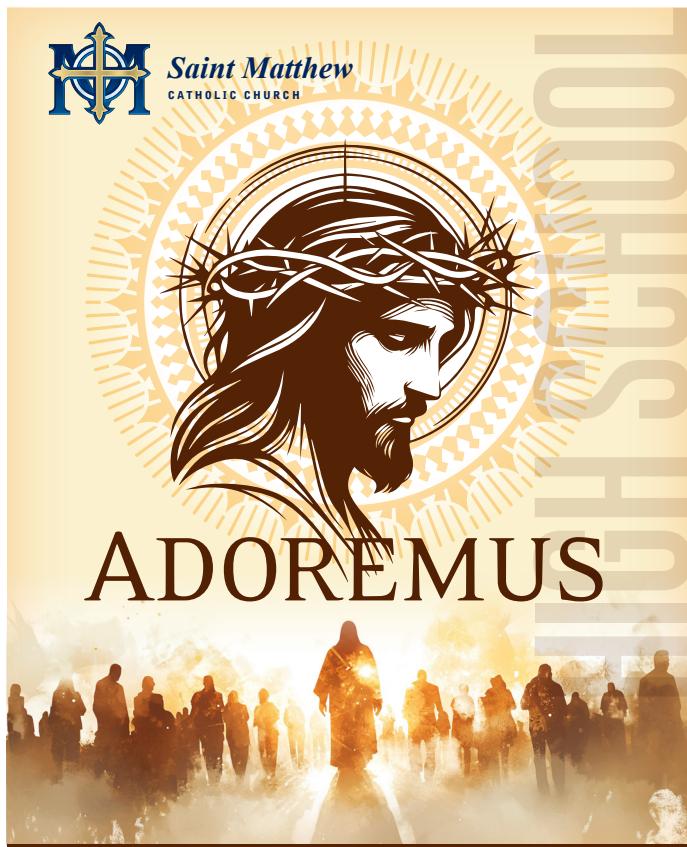
If you have a teen in the parish, we want to hear from you. Please take a brief 10-question survey which will allow us to better serve and provide spiritual opportunities for the youth in our parish. Whether your children have never attended RISE, or are a weekly attendee, we want to hear from you. It should take no longer than five minutes and you have the option to remain anonymous. Thank you!



TEEN BIBLE STUDY

Teens desiring to go deeper with their faith are invited to join RISE for a weekly Bible Study on Tuesday evenings. The group gathers at 6:30 p.m. in the Church Kitchen. We'd love to see you there!

SAVE THE DATE: RISE RETREAT



High School Retreat at Camp Marymount

\$100

March 27-29

RISE SCHEDULE

JAN
11

Draft Day
Social evening & semester kick-off
Drafting teams of saints

JAN
18

Stargazers and Base Camp
The desire for God and organized religion

JAN
25

J.R.R. Tolkien Catholic Theology
Being Catholic and how Tolkien's writings speak to the Sacramental life

FEB
1

Trailblazer
Examining the uniqueness of Jesus' public ministry

RISE meets Sundays at 5:30 p.m. in the P.C.C. with pickup at 7:30 p.m. Dinner is provided.





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

CHURCH: 615-646-0378

SCHOOL: 615-662-4044

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