



Saint Matthew CATHOLIC CHURCH

DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER

APRIL 5, 2026 + EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

*Christ the Lord
is Risen Today,*

Alleluia

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

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📱 @stmatthewtn

PASTOR:

Father Justin Raines

ASSOCIATE PASTOR:

Father Tien Tran

DEACONS:

Bill Forte
James Grossheim

LITURGY SCHEDULE (APRIL 4 - APRIL 10)

EASTER VIGIL

8:00 p.m. Mass

- ✦ For Those Receiving the Sacraments of Initiation
 - Genesis 1:1—2:2
 - Exodus 14:15—15:1
 - Isaiah 55:1-11
 - Romans 6:3-11

RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

8:30 a.m. Mass

- ✦ For Those Remembered in the Easter Flower Memorials

8:45 a.m. Mass

- ✦ For Pope Leo XIV

11:00 a.m. Mass

- ✦ For the People of the Parish

11:15 a.m. Mass

- ✦ For the People of Our Lady of Miracles Church, our Sister Parish in Haiti
 - Acts 10:34a, 37-43
 - Colossians 3:1-4
 - John 20:1-9

MONDAY, APRIL 6

8:00 a.m. Mass

- ✦ Alexander Green
 - Acts 2:14, 22-33
 - Matthew 28:8-15

TUESDAY, APRIL 7

8:00 a.m. Mass

- ✦ Harriet “Teena” Rodgers
 - Acts 2:36-41
 - John 20:11-18

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8

7:00 p.m. Mass

- ✦ Mikayla Yopp Honeycutt
 - Acts 3:1-10
 - Luke 24:13-35

THURSDAY, APRIL 9

8:00 a.m. Mass

- ✦ Souls in Purgatory
 - Acts 3:11-26
 - Luke 24:35-48

FRIDAY, APRIL 10

8:00 a.m. Mass

- ✦ Paul Y. Tran
 - Acts 4:1-12
 - John 21:1-14

✦ **Special Intention**

✦ *May they rest in peace*

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER RAINES

Whether you are a regular parishioner at Saint Matthew or you are a visitor, we thank you for celebrating Easter with us! We hope you have a joyful celebration with your family and friends. Easter is our great feast day of victory. During his Passion, the Lord Jesus, thinking of each of us, encountered all of human suffering and took our sin upon himself, and he conquered sin and death through his Resurrection. He offers the new life of resurrection to each one of us. He wants us to invite him in to our own lives to win his victory in us. He gives us access to the new life of grace through prayer and the sacraments. We invite you to encounter the Risen Christ through daily prayer, through worshipping with us at Sunday Mass, and through encountering the Lord’s mercy in confession. At Saint Matthew we strive to witness to the Lord’s Resurrection and spread the good news of Jesus Christ through our many ministries. Below you can find a link to our ministries. We invite you to check them out and get involved, so that you can receive from the Risen Lord and spread the message of Christ’s Resurrection to others.



Christ is Risen! Indeed he is risen!

Happy Easter!

EXPLORE OUR MINISTRIES

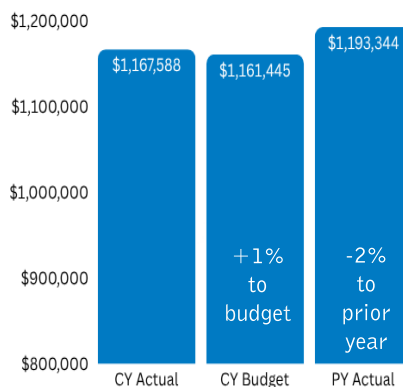
bit.ly/smministries

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

- FOR WEEK OF MARCH 23-29 -

REGULAR COLLECTIONS	\$21,643
SECOND COLLECTION: CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES	\$347
SECOND COLLECTION: ST. VINCENT DE PAUL	\$802

YTD Summary



Visiting, new, or looking to give?

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

Second Collections

This Week:
Easter Sunday;
Building Maint. & Facility Improvements

Next Week:
Charity & Outreach

Registered Parish Families: 1,289

† **Welcome to the Church!** †

Congratulations to all those entering the Church this Easter!

Catechumens

Ryan Broussard
 Dariella Garcia-Nunnally
 Mikaela Garcia-Nunnally
 Alexander Hersel
 Henry Hortman
 Miles Kahle
 Annabel Pepin
 Molly Plappert
 Brian Porter
 Addison Rojas
 Amelia Rojas
 Troy Sexton
 Patrick Stonerock
 Isaac Vezzetti

Candidates

Danielle Anfuso
 William Anfuso
 Anne Marie Kahle
 Carl Kahle
 John Moore
 Ronan Murphy
 Ryan Plappert
 Sophie Plappert
 Anthony Scott Stapp

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED MONDAY

The Parish Office is closed on Monday, April 6. Mass on Monday is at 8 a.m. in the Church.

LUNCH BUNCH



All seniors are invited to Lunch Bunch on Tuesday, April 14, from noon to 2 p.m. in the Narthex. Come enjoy an afternoon of bingo, lunch, and fellowship. The cost is \$12 plus a prize for the prize table. Please register by Thursday, April 9, at bit.ly/smclb2526.

DIGNITY OF WORK SERIES



St. Joseph's Men invites all men to join them as they explore a series on the Dignity of Work. The series will meet weekly beginning Thursday, April 16, at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Conference Center. Email Tony Jesse at tjesse@stmatthewtn.org to learn more about St. Joseph's Men.

THEOLOGY & CULTURE

What is Catholic Social Teaching and why does it matter today? Join us on Sunday, April 26, for our Theology & Culture Series as we explore this important topic. Guided by Pope Leo XIII's *Rerum Novarum*, Tony Jesse will lead a thoughtful and engaging discussion on the foundations of Catholic Social Teaching and its relevance in our world today.

BUTTERFLY KISSES
 A Saint Matthew
Father & Daughter Dance
 SATURDAY, APRIL 18
 6-8 P.M.
 COHAN-HANSON BUILDING
 \$30/Couple
 \$40/Family

SERVIO DEO MISSION TRIP REGISTRATION

Register now for the Servio Deo Summer Mission Trip, June 1-5 in the Black Mountain, NC area. All current 7th-12th graders are invited to grow in faith, serve those in need, and build lasting friendships while living out what it means to be the hands and feet of Christ. Scan to learn more about this opportunity and register.



REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

TOTUS TUUS
TOTALLY YOURS

Learn more and register

Totus Tuus & Vacation Bible School
 June 21-26

UPCOMING EVENTS

- April 12: Divine Mercy Service (pg 7)
- April 12: Awake (pg 7)
- April 14, May 12: Lunch Bunch
- April 16: Dignity of Work Series Begins
- April 18: Family Service Ministry Grotto Cleanup
- April 18: Father Daughter Dance
- April 19: Confirmation (at CPC)
- April 21: Women's Club Trivia Night
- April 24: SMS Grandparents Day (pg 6)
- April 26, May 17: Theology & Culture
- April 26: First Communion
- May 3: Mother Son Kickball Tournament
- May 14: Graduation
- May 21: Last Day of School
- June 1-5: Servio Deo Mission Trip
- June 21-26: VBS & Totus Tuus
- July 19: Parish Picnic



EASTER

- ◆ In memory of Mary Dabrowiak, by Don Dabrowiak
- ◆ In memory of Joseph Marfy, by Valeria Marfy
- ◆ In memory of Albert & Genevieve Campese, Royden & Anna Clarke, and Janet Clarke, by Dennis & Laura Campese
- ◆ In memory of Dutch & Marie Morrissey and Anna Grace Miller, by Brad & Gina Miller
- ◆ In memory of Miller and Dufur families, by John & Beth Ann Dufur
- ◆ In memory of Ronald B. Deal Sr., by Suzanne Deal
- ◆ In memory of Frank R. & Sue A. Wittmer, Philip D. & Judith S. Cox, by Kevin & Susan Cox
- ◆ In memory of Gilbert Fuentes, John Voltaggio, and Nicholas & Florence Caime, by Victoria Fuentes
- ◆ In memory of Edward Mascolo, by Carol Mascolo
- ◆ In memory of Jim Jarvis, by Janie Jarvis
- ◆ In memory of Bob Bradford and Vernel & Bob Schulte, by Jane Bradford
- ◆ In memory of John W. Cochran, Jan E. Cochran, and Virginia A. Cochran, by Linda Cochran
- ◆ In memory of John Cicon and family, by Janet Cicon
- ◆ In memory of Marvin & Mary Weishaar, by Matthew & Anne Margaret Weishaar
- ◆ In memory of Maibelle McDonald and Sissy Perry, by Gene & Cindy Flathmann
- ◆ In memory of Victor Anfuso and Cindy Benedict, by Danielle Anfuso
- ◆ In memory of Charles & Mary Adams, by Albert & Marie Tarolli
- ◆ In memory of Mikayla Yopp Honeycutt, by Mike & Alice Yopp
- ◆ In memory of George Rentschler, and Paul & Sara Fleming, by Nan Rentschler
- ◆ In memory of Aldo & Rose Marie Bettile and George & Virginia Comer, by John & Diane Comer
- ◆ In memory of Arthur & Vi Guepe, and William (Bill) Harris, by Ann Harris
- ◆ In memory of the Sovine Family, by Jimmy & Karyn Green
- ◆ In memory of Loftus Andrew Morrissey III, and Frank & Linda Hopkins, by Lisa Morrissey
- ◆ In memory of Cavit Cheshier, by the Adelman Family
- ◆ In memory of Ronald Ameen and Michael Mowry, by the Ameen Family
- ◆ In memory of Brad Phillips and Brandon Brown, by Sylvia Phillips
- ◆ In memory of deceased members of the Howatch and Soroachak families, by Jasen & Susan Ingram
- ◆ In memory of the Nardacci and LaReau families, by Suzanne Nardacci



MEMORIALS



- ◆ In honor of Kaia & Sylas Biener, and Barrett Campbell, by John & Angela Durland
- ◆ In memory of Mary Jane Brunner, by Jim & Angela Brunner
- ◆ In memory of Ruth Martin, by Sheldon & Melissa Patrick
- ◆ In memory of the Lucia and Namesnik families, by Frank & Dianna Lucia
- ◆ In memory of William White, by Gina White
- ◆ In memory of Louis Azoff, Stephen Olenick, and George Vrable families, by Olga Olenick
- ◆ In memory of Jim Olenick, by Cindy Leonard and Leslie Holt
- ◆ In memory of deceased members of the Baldinger and Butler families, by Paul & Kim Baldinger
- ◆ In memory of Jim & Donna Hausman, Jim & Julia Starr, Craig Hausman, Suzanne Creasman, and Christopher Bozung, by Cory & Mary Starr
- ◆ In memory of Joseph & Mary Widurski, Wanda Widurski, Anne Kasakevics, Sue Kasakevics-Flack, William Hugh Murray, Leon Richard Murray, and Dave Kendall, by Stanley & Shannon Kasakevics
- ◆ In memory of deceased members of the Rohling & Valiquette families, by Al & Linda Valiquette
- ◆ In honor of the DeFrancesca & Wiles families, by Bob & Anita DeFrancesca
- ◆ Special intention, by Dr. Hal & Leslie Meacham
- ◆ In memory of Robert James McKeown
- ◆ In memory of Paula Louise (Grant) Gilles Fisher
- ◆ In memory of Lynn Leroy Davis
- ◆ In memory of Garry Wayne O'Connor
- ◆ In memory of Tucker David Genal
- ◆ In memory of Mary Louise Murphy
- ◆ In memory of Bethsaida Mora Juarez
- ◆ In memory of Jeanette Ann Bayuzick
- ◆ In memory of Oren Arnold Starks III
- ◆ In Memory of Hayat Jordan Nesheiwat
- ◆ Marvin Clements
- ◆ Eva Coursey
- ◆ Sandra Greenwell
- ◆ Marilyn Hartz
- ◆ James & Rebecca Hicks
- ◆ James & Brenda Sue Kelley
- ◆ Chuck & Sharon Kennedy
- ◆ Jim & Carol Kennedy
- ◆ David & Simone Murray
- ◆ Gary & Tomi O'Reilly
- ◆ Cody & Anne Ott
- ◆ Jeffrey (Sam) & Janet Siekpe
- ◆ Bill & Polly Thomson



TONY'S REFLECTION

DEATH IS DEAD

A few months ago, my older brother died. It was not expected and the shock and definitiveness of that event still reverberates for me. Death is such an immense finality in the human experience. You know someone for so long and then one day they are gone—it is like they are sucked up by the universe into a great abyss never to return. For historical man death was viewed as the great “ending” of all we encounter as a human person. Ancient man had theories of what happened after death, but no one could ever outrun the inevitable tentacles of death. To be sure, with our advancement in technology and frenetic pursuit of comfort, secular man can temporarily forget about death. However, we can never abolish it, and we know it. Face to face with death, modern man is thrust into a scorching silence. Death exposes secular man’s utter helplessness, the vanity of his technology, the fragility of his power.

Yet, one divine man took on death and overpowered it. The usual sights and smells of a fresh tomb of a decaying, lifeless body are not at Jesus’s tomb. Instead, His followers see initial signs that death’s grip has been released. The empty tomb was the event that sparked the Christian revolution in the Roman world. It blew the lid off the common perception of what devout Jews expected. The empty tomb was the catalyst that caused the early church to boldly proclaim the Gospel while willingly embracing a violent death.

The empty tomb leads us to what it points toward—the celebration of the Resurrection of the Lord. According to St. Thomas Aquinas, the resurrection is the reuniting of the same human soul with the same, identical material body, which was previously separated by death. Whereas death is the separation of the body from the soul, Christ’s resurrection daringly announces that the body and soul are reunited and renewed only through Him. This is a penetrating theological reality. The only way a person can experience a newness of life beyond the dead-end void of death is through Jesus. And this “through Jesus” concept cannot be reduced to mere lip service to God throughout the year. It is an “all-in” endeavor encompassing your whole life. Jesus wants you to join Him in a full-fledged renewal of yourself that goes well-beyond your earthly life.

Death without God displays what man in his nakedness is: a blustering coward, a boastful fraud. However, death with God, one can begin to see earthly life as a gestation place toward something more permanent, and more splendid. As Pope Benedict XVI said: “*Through Christ we know that we are not walking towards the abyss, the silence of nothingness, but are rather pilgrims on the way to a promised land, on the way to him who is our end and our beginning.*” In the Easter message, Jesus shows us the ironic paradox of how death is now dead. Let us rejoice! Alleluia!



Happy Easter! The Lord has risen—what a joyful and beautiful day for the Church! As I’ve mentioned before, our 4th graders presented the Living Stations of the Cross for the entire school on Thursday morning. I want to sincerely thank the students, Mrs. Commare, and all the teachers who helped make this such a meaningful and memorable experience for our school community. During the Stations, I offered a special prayer intention for all the parishioners of Saint Matthew Church. I hope you have a blessed Easter Sunday and are able to spend time with family and friends. Happy Easter, and God bless.

SMS GRANDPARENTS DAY: APRIL 24

Attention SMS Grandparents! Join us on Friday, April 24, in the gym for a special performance. Doors open at 9:30 a.m. You are invited to join your grandchild(ren) after in their homerooms. Dismissal is 11:30 a.m.

MEDICAL CARE IN HAITI

Access to medical care for our sister parish, Our Lady of Miracles, in Gobert, Haiti, remains extremely limited. The nearest clinic is 30+ minutes away, and the nearest hospital 90+ minutes. For years, providing medical care has been a priority for Saint Matthew through our Haiti Ministry. For 15 years, we made annual medical missions to serve the community until political unrest halted travel. Thanks to a strong foundation, this vital work continues locally.

Today, Dr. Librice Prevalis, a native of Gobert, leads these efforts. With support from Saint Matthew, he operates a small clinic on the parish grounds, serving 300 patients each month. He is assisted by two nurses, a lab technician, and four community health workers, who visit homes to monitor medications, check vitals, and ensure there is clean drinking water. The clinic also provides programs for malnourished children, immunizations, and ongoing education in hygiene and chronic disease management. Our continued commitment makes a lasting difference in the health of this community.

Support this mission through our *Spring of Hope Campaign* on April 18–19. Learn more about our impact in Haiti or give today at bit.ly/smspringofhope.



Join us in celebrating
Divine Mercy Sunday
Sunday, April 12

Divine Mercy Service
3 p.m., Church

Divine Mercy Novena
Began on Friday, April 3

Forge (5th-8th grades)
4:30-6:15 p.m., Cohan-Hansom Building
Potluck snack buffet; 7:30 pickup if attending Awake with Forge
5th graders invited! RSVP at bit.ly/forgeapr26.

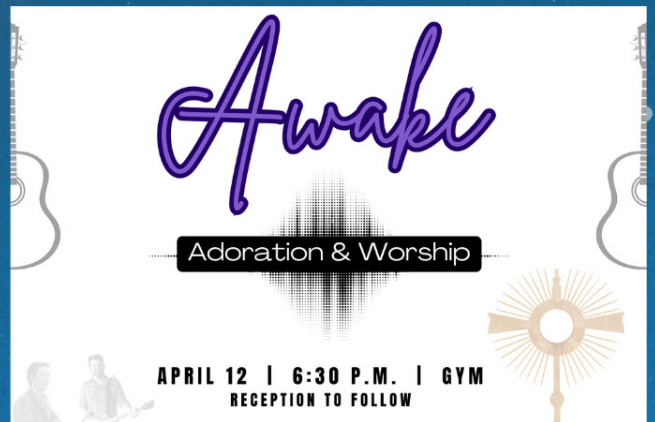
RISE (9th-12th grades)
5:30 p.m., Parish Conference Center
Includes dinner; RISE will attend Awake

Awake
6:30 p.m., Gym

Awake is a call to renew our hearts and our faith in the True Presence through Adoration, periods of silence and beautiful music provided by a team of professional musicians. The evening is focused on the Divine Mercy of Our Lord.

What Is Divine Mercy Sunday?

Divine Mercy is devotion focused on God's infinite, loving compassion and desire to forgive, particularly for the most sinful, as revealed through Scripture and the diary of St. Faustina. It emphasizes trusting in Jesus, receiving His mercy through sacraments, and showing mercy to others.



For more information on these events and prayers for the Novena, visit, bit.ly/smcdms.

Jesus I Trust In You



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

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SCHOOL: 615-662-4044

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