



# Saint Matthew

## CATHOLIC CHURCH

DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER

MAY 10, 2026 + THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



### 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

#### DEACONS:

Bill Forte  
James Grossheim

## PARISH SPOTLIGHT

### HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

On this Mother's Day, we honor and give thanks for all mothers, whose vocation reflects the faithful, life-giving love of God—so beautifully displayed in our lives each day. In a special way, we look to the Blessed Virgin Mary, the model of all motherhood, whose “yes” to God brought forth life for the world. Her example reminds us of the beauty, sacrifice, and dignity of the maternal vocation.

Our Respect for Life Ministry is offering flowers to all mothers after Mass as a small sign of our gratitude. Any donations received support Tennessee Right to Life. Join us in praying for all mothers—those with us, those who have gone before us, and those called to spiritual motherhood in our Church.

### THEOLOGY & CULTURE NEXT SUNDAY

Theology & Culture returns next Sunday, May 17, from 9:45–10:45 a.m. in the Parish Conference Center. After a well-received and engaging session last month, Tony Jesse will continue exploring Catholic Social Teaching, drawing from Pope Leo XIII's *Rerum Novarum*, in an interactive presentation. All are welcome, and prior attendance is not required.



### LITURGY SCHEDULE (MAY 9-15)

#### 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass

✝ Jim Olenick

8:30 a.m. Mass

✦ For the People of the Parish

11:00 a.m. Mass

✝ For All Deceased Mothers

- Acts 8:5-8, 14-17
- 1 Peter 3:15–18
- John 14:15–21

#### MONDAY, MAY 11

8:00 a.m. Mass

✝ Kathleen Mary

- Acts 16:11–15
- John 15:26—16:4a

#### TUESDAY, MAY 12

8:00 a.m. Mass

✝ Diana Hocutt

- Acts 16:22-34
- John 16:5–11

#### WEDNESDAY, MAY 13

7:00 p.m. Mass

✝ Clara Lucia

- Acts 17:15, 22—18:1
- John 16:12–15

#### THURSDAY, MAY 14

Saint Matthias

*(Ascension to be celebrated on Sun., May 17)*

8:00 a.m. Mass

✝ Philip Sheehan

- Acts 1:15–17, 20–26
- John 15:9–17

#### FRIDAY, MAY 15

8:00 a.m. Mass

✝ Mickey Trailov

- Acts 18:9–18
- John 16:20–23

#### ✦ Special Intention

✝ *May they rest in peace*

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

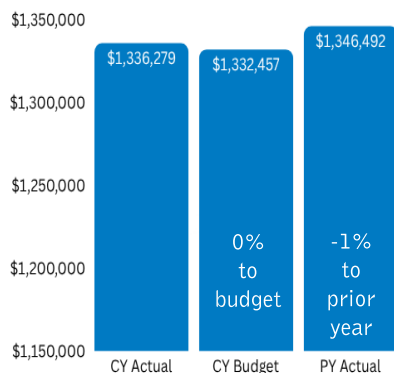
COME PRAY THE ROSARY IN THE CHAPEL  
FOLLOWING 8 A.M. WEEKDAY MASSES

## STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

- FOR WEEK OF APRIL 27-MAY 3 -

REGULAR COLLECTIONS	\$38,027
CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS	\$934

### YTD Summary



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



## Second Collections

**This Week:**

Tuition Assistance Fund  
Ascension

**Next Week:**

Parish Charity & Outreach  
Bishop's Annual Appeal for Ministries

## LUNCH BUNCH

The final Lunch Bunch gathering of the 2025–2026 season is Tuesday, May 12, from 12–2 p.m. Enjoy an afternoon of lunch, fellowship, and bingo for those ages 55+. The cost is \$12 per person, and participants are asked to bring a small prize. Lunch will be your choice of a Cobb Salad or Ultimate Wrap from Publix. We still have room available this month. Please email [ahalfmann@stmatthewtn.org](mailto:ahalfmann@stmatthewtn.org) or scan the QR code to RSVP.



## MASS UPDATES

Please note the following liturgical changes:

- Tuesday, June 2: Communion Service at 8 a.m. in the chapel (no Mass).
- Wednesday, June 3: Adoration at 6 p.m., followed by a Communion Service at 7 p.m. in the chapel. (No Confessions or Mass this evening).
- Beginning Tuesday, May 26, all weekday Masses will be held in the chapel until students return.

## CHOIR NEWS

The Men's Schola will be singing at the 11 a.m. Mass on Pentecost Sunday, May 24. This choir sings traditional hymns of the Church, primarily in Latin. If you are interested in joining the music ministry, reach out to our music director, Rebecca Harding, at [rharding@stmatthewtn.org](mailto:rharding@stmatthewtn.org).

**SAVE THE DATE**

Saint Matthew Catholic Church

**PARISH PICNIC**

FOOD • GAMES • MUSIC • FUN

**Sunday, July 19**

## END-OF-LIFE EVENT SURVEY

Saint Matthew is planning an event focused on Catholic end-of-life preparation—offering guidance on topics such as when to call a priest, planning a Catholic funeral, understanding Church teaching, and taking practical steps like wills, powers of attorney, and estate planning. This event is intended for adults in all stages of life—from young adults and those caring for aging parents, to those making their own plans—and anyone seeking to better understand these decisions through the lens of the Catholic faith. The goal is to provide an informative introduction that helps parishioners and families better understand these important decisions and connect with trusted parish and diocesan resources.

To help shape this event, we invite you to complete a brief parish survey. Your input will guide the topics, format, and timing. There will be no financial solicitations—simply an opportunity to learn, ask questions, and begin planning with clarity and peace of mind. Scan the QR code or visit [bit.ly/smcendoflifefsurvey](https://bit.ly/smcendoflifefsurvey).



## PARISH PICNIC SPONSORSHIPS

Join us for the Saint Matthew Parish Picnic on Sunday, July 19, for a joyful afternoon of food, games, and fellowship for all ages. We are proud to offer this event completely free and open to the entire community. This year, we're excited to expand into the Parish Life Center (Gym), offering a more comfortable space for dining and activities while keeping all the fun you know and love.

In order to offer this event for free, we could not do it without the help of our ministries and partnerships with local businesses. We invite parishioners and local businesses to consider sponsoring this year's picnic. Sponsorship is a meaningful way to support the parish while gaining visibility within our growing community of over 1,300 families. Opportunities are available at multiple levels, including a new option to partner on a custom parish giveaway item, or to have a table to engage with the community. To learn more or become a sponsor, visit [bit.ly/smcpicnicsponsor26](https://bit.ly/smcpicnicsponsor26) or contact Colleen Curran at 615-646-0378 or [ccurran@stmatthewtn.org](mailto:ccurran@stmatthewtn.org).





# Principal's Pen



Dr. Simpson

I had the privilege of spending the past week in Chicago with our soon-to-be graduates. The 8th grade trip is a tradition students begin looking forward to as soon as they enter middle school, and one they talk about long after graduation.

Our students had a full and memorable week experiencing many highlights of the Windy City. On the way to Chicago, we visited the University of Notre Dame and toured the beautiful campus. While in Chicago, students enjoyed time at Navy Pier, attended a thrilling Chicago Cubs victory at Wrigley Field, explored the Art Institute of Chicago and the Museum of Science and Industry, and took in the city aboard an architecture river cruise. With so many activities planned, there was never a dull moment.

As meaningful as the sights and attractions were, the most important part of the trip was the time our students spent together. Whether relaxing at the hotel pool, talking and laughing on the bus rides, or simply enjoying one another's company, these moments help create lasting memories during one of their final experiences together before graduation. The 8th grade trip is truly a special tradition—one that strengthens friendships and creates bonds that last a lifetime.

## JOB OPENINGS

Saint Matthew has the following openings for the 2026-2027 school year. You can find the job descriptions and apply by visiting [bit.ly/smemployment](https://bit.ly/smemployment).

- 4th Grade Social Studies/ELA Teacher
- Art Teacher
- Individual Teaching Assistant
- Middle School Math Teacher
- Pre-K Assistant

## SMS SUMMER CAMPS

Can you believe we have less than one month of school left until summer break? Still need plans for your kids? Saint Matthew has you covered with more than two dozen camps spread over six weeks. Don't wait, as many camps are nearing or have already reached capacity. Scan below for more information and to register.

**SCAN FOR  
SMS SUMMER  
CAMP DETAILS**



# REGISTRATION NOW OPEN



TOTUS TUUS  
**TOTALLY  
YOURS**



## Totus Tuus

7th-12th graders  
June 21-25 (evenings)  
1st-6th graders  
June 22-26 (days)



Learn more and register



## Vacation Bible School

PreK & K  
June 22-26 (mornings)

## DIOCESAN NEWS

### BLUE MASS - MAY 30

Join Bishop Spalding on Saturday, May 30, at 5 p.m. at the Cathedral of the Incarnation for the annual Blue Mass, honoring all first responders and military. Attendees are encouraged to wear their uniforms.

### PRESBYTERAL ORDINATION - JUNE 12

The Diocese of Nashville joyfully invites you to the Presbyteral Ordination Mass of Deacon James Grossheim, Deacon David Herrera, and Deacon Reed Robinson at 10 a.m. on Friday, June 12, at the Cathedral of the Incarnation. Join us in celebrating these men as they respond to God's call and are ordained to the sacred priesthood. A reception will follow. Deacon Grossheim will continue to serve at Saint Matthew until his ordination.

### BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL FOR MINISTRIES

The 2026 Bishop's Annual Appeal for Ministries will officially launch at Saint Matthew next weekend, May 16–17. At that time, brochures and pledge cards will be available in the pews to help you prayerfully consider your gift. In the meantime, you are welcome to pick up a brochure or pledge card from the tables across from the sacristy, or you may set up a one-time or recurring gift through the QR code below. This year, we are especially focused on increasing participation, with a goal of 225 parish families joining in support of the Appeal. Your generosity sustains many vital ministries across our Diocese, including a strong commitment to fostering vocations to the priesthood and religious life, assisting those in need, and growing the faith through the Totus Tuus program. Thank you for your continued support and for helping our parish take part in this important mission.

formed®

Pick of the Week: May 10



### Catholic Moms Summit

The Catholic Moms Summit is a thoughtful and encouraging series designed especially for mothers seeking to live their vocation with greater faith and purpose. Through engaging talks and personal witness, the series explores themes such as balancing family life and prayer, forming children in the faith, navigating challenges with grace, and embracing the beauty and sacrifice of spiritual motherhood. With a strong emphasis on renewal and discipleship, these presentations connect timeless Catholic teaching to the everyday realities of motherhood, offering both practical insight and spiritual encouragement. It's a meaningful resource for any mother—or those supporting them—who desires to grow closer to Christ while nurturing family life. With dozens of talks to choose from, you're sure to find something that speaks directly to your season of life in the Catholic Moms Summit.

To watch this series and other great content for free, visit [FORMED.org](https://FORMED.org). Use our parish code, 37069 to create your free account.



Please prayerfully consider supporting the **Bishop's Annual Appeal for Ministries**. Your gift strengthens and sustains the daily work of Church through essential diocesan ministries such as:

- Forming future priests and supporting men in seminary
- Bringing college students closer to Christ through *University Catholic*
- Providing life-changing youth and family faith formation
- Meeting the corporal and spiritual needs of our neighbors



To learn more and donate, please scan the QR code or visit [dioceseofnashville.com/appeal](https://dioceseofnashville.com/appeal)



## TONY'S REFLECTION

### ALWAYS BE PREPARED TO GIVE A DEFENSE

Given that the culture is ensconced in individualism, materialism, and consumerism, many people seem to have a bored indifference to the Christian faith. As secular people approach you and your faith, St. Peter's wise counsel (1 Pt 3:15) anticipates this encounter. He implores, "Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope."

Being technologically and empirically minded, modern man looks for more than vague, emotional platitudes such as "trust in God." Rather than offer sugar-coated clichés, the Church houses some of the greatest thinkers, who have a way of magnetically drawing truth seekers. Take, for example, St. Thomas Aquinas."

Aquinas's writings, far from being drenched in a flurry of emotive responses, were logical, insightful, and straight-to-the-point. Aquinas first defined God as the ultimate truth and ultimate goodness. Here, Aquinas asserted that God is not the greatest good in the universe. Rather, God is goodness itself. God is not simply the highest being; rather, God is the sheer act to be itself. Aquinas's idea is drawing off God's announcement to Moses of "I am Who I am" (Exodus 3:14). Notice God is communicating that he is not a being within the structure of the universe, but that God is being itself. With the "I am" proclamation, God indicates that his existence is not dependent on other realities. This fact reveals Aquinas's insight in that because there are contingent beings, there must be a non-contingent being, namely God. Aquinas's case for contingency goes like this:

We are contingent beings. Our being is not self-explanatory. It comes from other causes. If this is the case, we have to look to an extrinsic cause that explains our existence. This outside cause would inevitably be our ancestors. Now suppose the extrinsic causes are themselves contingent—they too come from other causes. Then, we must look further beyond, as our ancestors were conditioned by things outside of themselves. This process of appealing to contingent causes cannot go on indefinitely. The buck needs to stop somewhere. Why? Because if it does not explain ultimate cause, I've explained nothing at all. I've simply indefinitely postponed the explanation. This process must end in some reality that is not contingent—whose very nature is "to be." Here is Aquinas's point on God as "being itself."

God is the primary cause of all that exists, and His creation is full of secondary causes that are at work every day—like gravity. In fact, the laws embedded in nature provoke us to ask, why does the math in our minds express itself within the universe? This question was not lost on Albert Einstein, who once remarked, "The most incomprehensible thing about the universe is the fact that it is comprehensible to us."

There are a plethora of reasons we can communicate to explain our faith to the doubting critic. The Church has a reservoir of brilliant minds that have dealt with a variety of skeptical questions. Let us not shy away from the argumentative skeptic but dive into the intellectual treasure of the Church and be ready to defend what Christ was willing to die for.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### CATHOLIC BUSINESS LEAGUE EVENTS

The Catholic Business League invites all to their monthly breakfast meeting on Thursday, May 14, at 7:45 a.m. The meeting features Rick Borofski, CEO of Mary, Queen of Angels Assisted Living. Join them in The Fleming Center at The Cathedral of the Incarnation. Mass is offered at 7 a.m.

Join the Catholic Business League for the monthly Power Networking on May 21 from 8:15-9:45 a.m. You are invited to attend in person at Office Evolution (5016 Centennial Blvd. - Suite 200) or join via Zoom. If you plan on attending, please RSVP by emailing James Gurman [james.r.gurman@ampf.com](mailto:james.r.gurman@ampf.com).

More information for both events can be found at [catholicbusinessleague.org](http://catholicbusinessleague.org).

### JPII ALUMNI CHORAL CONCERT

Save the Date for the Pope Saint John Paul II Preparatory School's Alumni Choral Concert at 7 p.m. on Saturday, June 6, in the Ann and Monroe Carell Theater at the school in Hendersonville.

### FATHER RYAN ALUMNI WEEKEND

Save the Date for Father Ryan High School's Alumni Weekend May 29-31. The full weekend includes the Lou Graham '56 Alumni Golf Tournament, the All-Alumni Reception, the Elliston Place luncheon, class reunion parties, and the Golden Grad Mass and Brunch. For more information, visit [fatherryan.org/alumni/alumni-events](http://fatherryan.org/alumni/alumni-events).

### EYEGGLASS RECYCLING

Help provide the gift of sight by donating your used prescription eyewear, sunglasses, and reading glasses to the Lions Club Recycle For Sight program. Drop your donations in the collection box located in the church kitchen. The donated glasses will be cleaned, repaired, and distributed to people in need.

### NEED ASSISTANCE?

If you or anyone you know is struggling with food, utilities, etc., Saint Matthew supports two non-profits offering assistance. You can contact the Saint Vincent de Paul Society hotline by calling 615-550-5130 or Graceworks at 615-794-9055.

**Will Co Well Fest**  
WHERE THERE'S A WILL, THERE'S A WELL

Williamson County's Best Health Leaders ALL In One Space

Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2026 9 am - 5 pm

**DR. CHRIS MOTLEY**  
HOST OF THE ANCIENT HEALTH PODCAST

**DR. ANIS KHALAF**  
EVENT HOST  
ST. PHILIP PARISHONER

**FR. DAN REEHIL**  
EXORCIST FOR THE DIOCESE OF NASHVILLE

**JORDAN RUBIN**  
NY TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR THE MAKER'S DIET

- Connect with many Catholic vendors across health, wellness, nutrition, and lifestyle
- Watch Dr. Chris Motley host his LIVE podcast at the Expo featuring Jordan Rubin, New York Times bestselling author, Fr. Dan Reehil of the Battle Ready Podcast, and Dr. Anis Khalaf, TikTok celebrity health creator.
- Access clean foods, natural products, and innovative wellness tools
- Family-friendly activities, demos, and giveaways

CLAIM YOUR FREE TICKET!

Website: [WillCoWellFest.com](http://WillCoWellFest.com)  
Location: The Factory at Franklin

RISE NOTES

Happy Mother's Day to all the mothers in our parish! RISE is not meeting tonight, May 10. May you enjoy this special day with your children.

Be sure to join us for our Senior Send-Off next Sunday, May 17, for a special celebratory evening for our seniors. 8th graders are welcome to join.



The mandatory Servio Deo parent meeting has been moved to Tuesday, May 12, at 5 p.m., in the Narthex. If you or your child is attending Servio Deo, please see your email for more information.

STEUBENVILLE YOUTH CONFERENCE

Saint Matthew is taking a group to the regional Steubenville Youth Conference in Atlanta from July 10-12. Steubenville Youth Conferences are high-energy Catholic conferences designed to help teens experience a life-changing encounter with Jesus Christ. The weekend features dynamic speakers, powerful worship, and deep spiritual moments through the Sacraments. Visit [steubenvilleconferences.com](http://steubenvilleconferences.com) for more details. All current 10th-12th graders are invited to attend.

**women business spotlight event**

SIP, SHOP & SUPPORT

**MAY 20**  
GREEN HILLS  
CUTE AND COMFY SHOES

**4 PM - 8 PM**  
PLEASE RSVP BY MAY 16TH

Come connect with and support women-owned businesses in your community. Wine and heavy apps at 5:30, presentations at 6:00.

Shopping proceeds to support our scholarship fund!

**STEUBENVILLE Atlanta**  
HOSTED BY LIFE TEEN

JULY 10 - 12, 2026  
GAS SOUTH CONVENTION CENTER  
DULUTH, GEORGIA

Register with Saint Matthew!



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

