

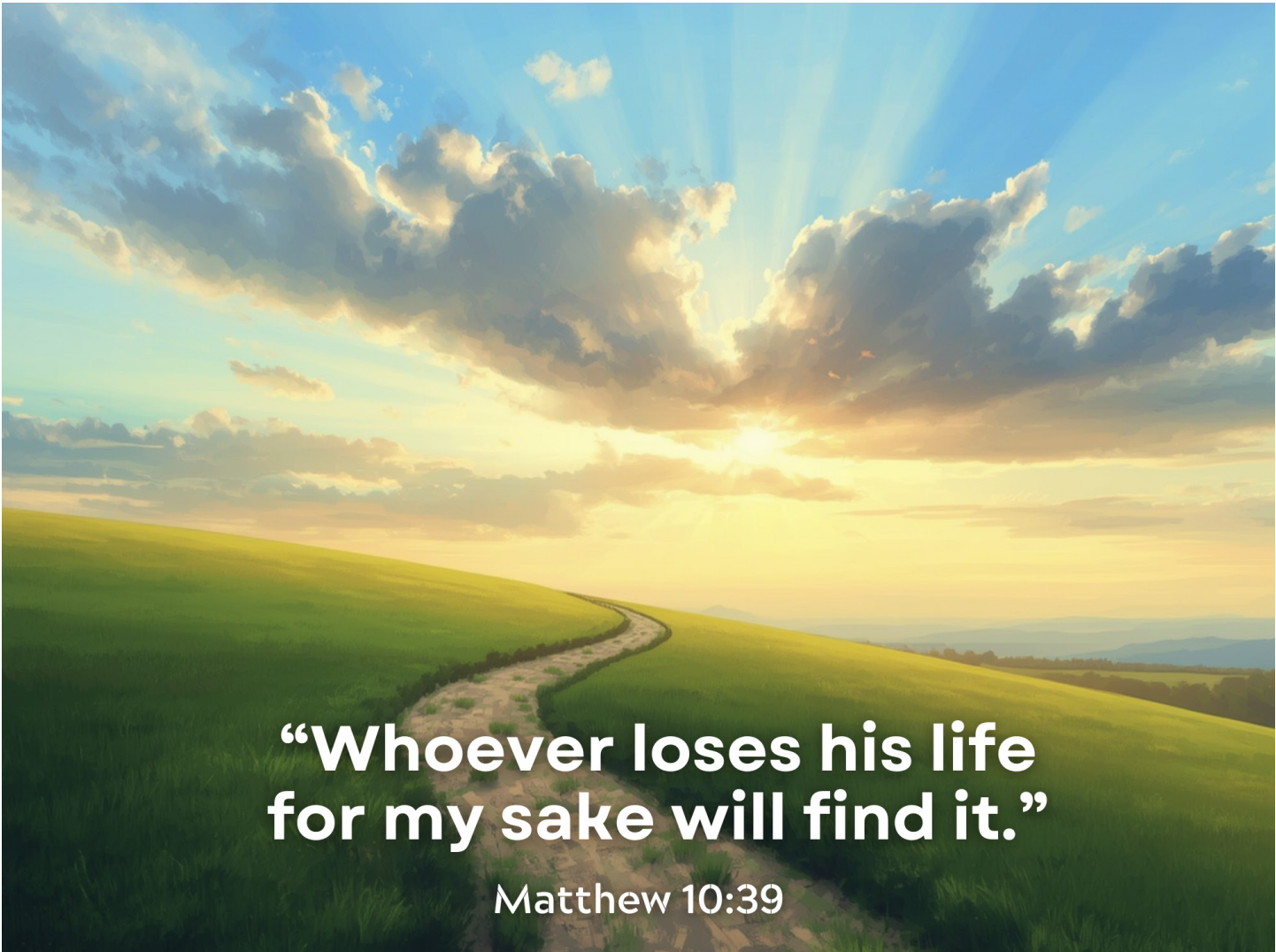


Saint Matthew

CATHOLIC CHURCH

JUNE 28, 2026 + THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER



**“Whoever loses his life
for my sake will find it.”**

Matthew 10:39

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



LITURGY SCHEDULE (JUNE 27- JULY 4)

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass

✦ For the People of Saint Matthew

8:30 a.m. Mass

✦ For Anna Tran

11:00 a.m. Mass

✦ Cindy Benedict

• 2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16a

• Romans 6:3-4, 8-11

• Matthew 10:37-42

MONDAY, JUNE 29

Sts. Peter and Paul

8:00 a.m. Mass

✦ Oren Starks

• Acts 12:1-11

• 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18

• Matthew 16:13-19

TUESDAY, JUNE 30

8:00 a.m. Mass

✦ For Tuan Tran

• Amos 3:1-8; 4:11-12

• Matthew 8:23-27

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1

7:00 p.m. Mass

✦ Dr. Peter Pagan

• Amos 5:14-15, 21-24

• Matthew 8:28-34

THURSDAY, JULY 2

8:00 a.m. Mass

✦ For Barbara Sturgeon

• Amos 7:10-17

• Matthew 9:1-8

FRIDAY, JULY 3

St. Thomas

8:00 a.m. Mass

✦ Clifford Davis

• Ephesians 2:19-22

• John 20:24-29

✦ **Special Intention**

✦ *May they rest in peace*

*To RESERVE MASS INTENTIONS,
VISIT BIT.LV/SMCMASSINTENTION*

Please join us in celebration!

Father Tien Tran

Reception honoring Father Tran

June 28th, 9:30-10:45 a.m.

Cohan-Hansom Building

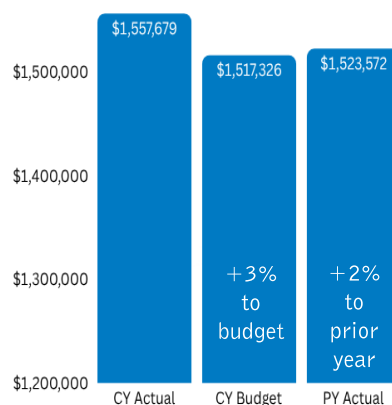


STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

~ FOR WEEK OF JUNE 15-21 ~

REGULAR COLLECTIONS	\$33,821
MEN'S GROUP	\$175

YTD Summary



Visiting, new, or looking to give?

Scan to make a gift now, or visit

stmatthewtn.org/church/giving



Second Collections

This Week:

St. Vincent de Paul

Next Week:

Building Maint. & Facility Improvements

Registered Parish Families: 1,316

BLESSING BAGS

The Saint Matthew Family Service Ministry has its annual Blessing Bag Assembly event after the 11 a.m. Mass today, June 28, in the Parish Conference Center. You can help by donating items, assembling the bags, or writing encouraging notes. With a goal of filling 100 bags, we need your help! The filled bags will be distributed to the homeless in the greater Nashville area. Assembly will last about one hour. Scan to see what supplies are still needed.



PASSION OF CHRIST PRAYER GROUP

Join the Passion of Christ Prayer Group today, Sunday, June 28, at 3 p.m. in the chapel to pray the Way of the Cross, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, and learn more about our Lord's Passion. This ministry's mission is to pray for our fellow Catholic brothers and sisters who have left the Church.

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

Spend some quiet time with Jesus during our First Friday Adoration on Friday, July 3. Due to the holiday weekend, there are altered hours. Adoration begins after 8 a.m. Mass and concludes with Benediction at 3 p.m. Sign up for a time slot at bit.ly/smcffajuly26.



OFFICE CLOSED

The Parish Offices are closed on Friday, July 3, in observance of Independence Day. Please have a safe and fun weekend.

PLEASE RETURN YOUR BABY BOTTLES

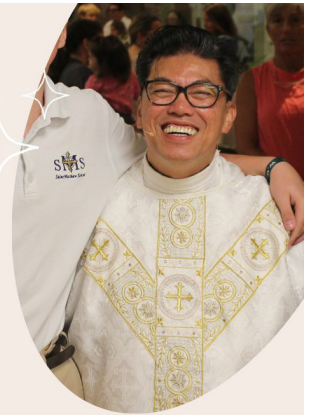
Thank you to everyone who participated in our Baby Bottle Drive benefiting Mulier Care and the Pregnancy Help Center. Your generosity helps provide vital support and resources to mothers and families facing crisis and unplanned pregnancies.

If you still have a baby bottle at home, please return it to the parish business office as soon as possible so that we can complete the collection and deliver the donations. Thank you for supporting Mulier Care for mothers and their children.

CLERGY CHANGES

Father Anthony Stewart
to serve as Associate Pastor
at Saint Matthew.

FIRST DAY: JULY 5



Father Tien Tran
to serve as Pastor of
Saint Patrick Parish in
McEwen, Tennessee.

LAST DAY: JUNE 28



FEEDING THE HOMELESS

Join the Saint Matthew Loaves & Fishes Ministry as they cook and serve lunch to individuals experiencing homelessness at Holy Name Parish Center on Wednesday, July 1. To get involved with this ministry or to join the volunteer list, email Bill Thomson at bthomson7504@gmail.com.

THEOLOGY & CULTURE JULY 12



ARE YOU ON OUR EMAIL LIST?

Our parish email list is the best way to stay up to date on parish events, ministry opportunities, schedule changes, and important announcements. If you are not receiving parish emails—or if you used to receive them but no longer do—scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/smcemails to sign up and stay connected.





Principal's Pen



Dr. Simpson

Father Tran is truly a gem of the Saint Matthew Community. His stories and jokes bring a smile to everyone's face, and is always there for our students and parishioners. He shows up to our extracurricular activities, cheers on the Lions, and enthusiastically supports our school community every day.

Father Tran was a staple in our cafeteria, which often brought the volume up to a laughing roar with his joyful presence and goofiness. Our Saint Matthew students love Father Tran for his genuine care for them and his infectious love for the community. We will also miss the fun costumes he wears around the building, which always bring smiles and joy to those around him.

Although he will be greatly missed, we know we will see him at future events and he will not be a stranger to the Saint Matthew community. Father Tran truly is an example our students look up to. His example of outstanding leadership, faithful service, and genuine kindness helped to guide and strengthen our community, and truly made Saint Matthew a better place.



Father Tran, we love you and wish you the best on your next adventure!

2027-28 SMS APPLICATION IS OPEN!

Applications for the 2027–2028 school year are now being accepted for students in Pre-K 3 through 8th grade. Guided by our motto, Seeking Knowledge, Modeling Christ and Serving Others, Saint Matthew School provides a nurturing environment where students grow academically, spiritually, and socially.

Families are encouraged to apply early. The Priority Application Deadline is December 11, 2026.

For more information or to begin the application process, please visit the admissions page of our website www.stmatthewtn.org/school/admissions/ or contact Holly Ledieu at hledieu@stmatthewtn.org or 615-550-5112.

We look forward to welcoming new families to Saint Matthew School!

ANNUAL FUND

Saint Matthew School is in its final days of the 2025-26 Annual Fund. Please consider making your tax-deductible gift by scanning the QR Code. Contributions help fund school security, a full-time nurse, and student-wide enrichment. Prayerfully consider making your gift today. Thank you for your continued support of Saint Matthew School!

COUNT DOWN



Give to the 2025-26 Annual
Fund by visiting:
[https://www.stmatthewtn.org/school/support/!](https://www.stmatthewtn.org/school/support/)

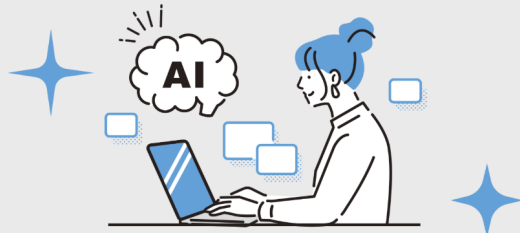


COMMUNITY NEWS



JULY MEETING

AI, FAITH & WISDOM



practical tips for using AI

JULY 15, 2026

5:00 SOCIAL HOUR

5:45 DINNER and

PRESENTATION

Hampton Inn, Green Hills



RSVP AT [NCBWL.ORG](https://ncbwl.org)

CATHOLIC BUSINESS LEAGUE - JULY 9

All are invited to join the CBL for its meeting on Thursday, July 9. Enjoy networking and coffee as seminarian Andy Ketch shares his journey to the priesthood alongside fellow seminarians. The event begins at 7:45 a.m. in the Fleming Center at the Cathedral of the Incarnation. Mass is at 7 a.m. For more information, visit catholicbusinessleague.org.

formed®

Pick of the Week: June 28



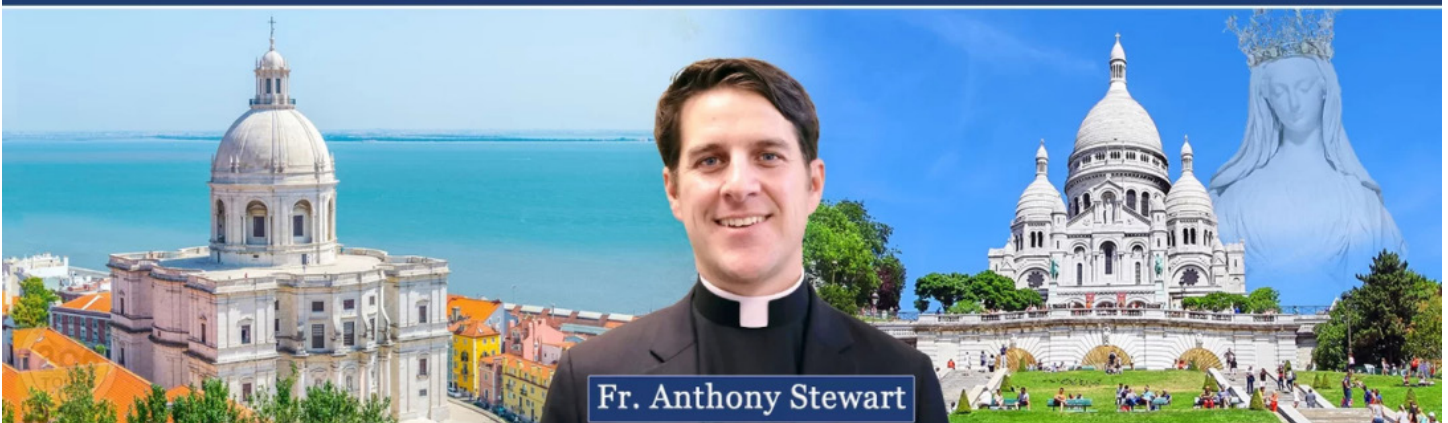
God's Knights

From the creators of Brother Francis, God's Knights brings the inspiring stories of saints to life through engaging animation and storytelling. This family-friendly series follows courageous men and boys such as St. Dominic Savio, St. Francis of Assisi, St. Martin de Porres, and St. Valentine, showing how they followed God with faith, courage, and love.

Perfect for children and families, each episode teaches important lessons about holiness, virtue, prayer, and trusting God. Through these exciting stories, kids will be entertained while learning that sainthood is possible for everyone—even the young.

Watch God's Knights today on [FORMED.org](https://formed.org) and discover what it means to become a hero for Christ. Use our parish code, 37069, to create your free account.

PORTUGAL, SPAIN & FRANCE



Fr. Anthony Stewart

Aug. 19 - Sept. 1, 2026
9, 10, or 14 day options available

206tours.com/cms/frstewart/

TONY'S REFLECTION

WHAT IS GOD'S PLAN?

Probably the most pressing question of an ardent seeker is, "What does God want me to do?" This question probes the heart of our human actions. More precisely, the question asks, "Do my actions correspond to God's plan for me?" Desperately craving to know the answer, we pray for wisdom to discern God's will when it comes to our choices—be they big or small. But how do we concretely recognize that we are doing God's will? To start, Saint Augustine points us in the right direction. He had a famous motto: "Love God and do what you will." In other words, if you truly love God and His will, then doing what you will, will, in fact, be mirroring what God wills.

With Augustine's logic, we see how one's love of God crafts their reason in discerning His will. Jesus teaches this principle to the Pharisees. They were asking how they could interpret His words, and He gave them the first principle of Biblical interpretation: "If your will were to do the will of my Father, you would understand my teaching" (John 7:17). Here, Jesus is alluding to a close-knit relationship between grasping God's teaching and doing God's will. In short, if you love God, His teaching, and wholly want to succumb to God's will, eventually, God's desire is going to become obvious. To be sure, loving God can't be reduced to mere fond feelings. Our Gospel reading today showcases a striking image of the demands and consequences of loving God.

The key hinge to this spiritual formula is reducing our wants and whims to instead fixate on what God wants. Yet, before you can grasp what God wants, it would first behoove you to know and serve Him. You can't first comprehend what someone wants until you get to know who they are. After eighteen years of marriage, I can assuredly know what my wife wants. But to get to this stage, I had to go through a period of courtship to listen to her, to be with her, to talk to her. After I spent ample quality time with her, I could practically predict in advance what she wanted. This same concept applies to God only on a much larger scale. Therefore, on a practical level, before you can contemplate God's will, you must be present with Him in Adoration and get to know Him in Scripture and in prayer. And finally, immerse Him in you through the Sacraments. Then, after faithfully repeating these acts, you'll inevitably know God's will for you.

We are accustomed to getting a direct answer quickly in our modern times. Yet, knowing God's will involves a strenuous effort that exerts your mind and calls you to act in the opposite direction of our fallen nature. There is no quick and easy response in contemplating Divine matters. While it's difficult for one to fathom God's will at all times, these nuggets of wisdom from the saints undoubtedly provide us with simple yet profound answers to this vital question.

So, let us spend more time getting to know God in prayer and study, so we can better discern His will for us.

PARISH NEWS

JOB OPENING

Saint Matthew School is looking for an Individual Teaching Assistant for the 2026-2027 school year. Learn more and apply at bit.ly/smcemployment.

RELIGIOUS ED & IGNITE REGISTRATION

Our faith formation ministry is designed to help children know and live their faith throughout their lives. Registration is now open for the 26-27 school year for R.E. (PreK-6th) and Ignite (7th-8th). The first sessions of Religious Education and Ignite will start on Sunday, Sept. 13. Learn more about these engaging programs and register at bit.ly/smcreeled.



OCIA CLASSES NOW FORMING

Do you know anyone that is interested in becoming Catholic? OCIA is the step-by-step spiritual journey and educational process through which adults and older children enter into the Church. If you or anyone you know is interested in becoming Catholic, please fill out the inquiry form by scanning the QR code or visiting bit.ly/smcocia26. OCIA classes begin in September.



PRAYER CHAIN

Submit special prayer requests and a dedicated group of Saint Matthew prayer warriors will pray for your intention. Visit bit.ly/SMCPrayerChain to submit or receive the requests.



SUNDAY,
JULY

19

12-3
PM



FOOD • GAMES • MUSIC • FUN

Corn-Hole Tournaments!

Dessert Contest

BoUnCy
Houses

DUNK TANK

Bingo

MINI GOLF

water balloons

FOAMBOREE PARTY

...and more!



Sponsor



RSVP



Web Page

Premiere Sponsor



Event Sponsors



Council #12012

Friends of the Picnic



Jeff & Melissa Briner



Family Sponsors

Curran Homes
Girl Scout Troop #3214
Jim & Angelia Brunner
Matthew & Anne
Margaret Weishaar

<https://bit.ly/smcpicnic26>



OFFICE HOURS: Mon.-Thu. 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Fri 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

CHURCH: 615-646-0378

SCHOOL: 615-662-4044

PASTORAL STAFF



Father Justin Raines
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frraines@stmatthewtn.org



Father Tien Tran
Associate Pastor
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Deacon
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Tony Jesse
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Michaela Miller
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Kelly Ott
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Lisa Newman
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Colleen Curran
Facility Coordinator
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VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE NEWS, EVENTS,
AND INFORMATION FROM SAINT MATTHEW.

www.stmatthewtn.org

