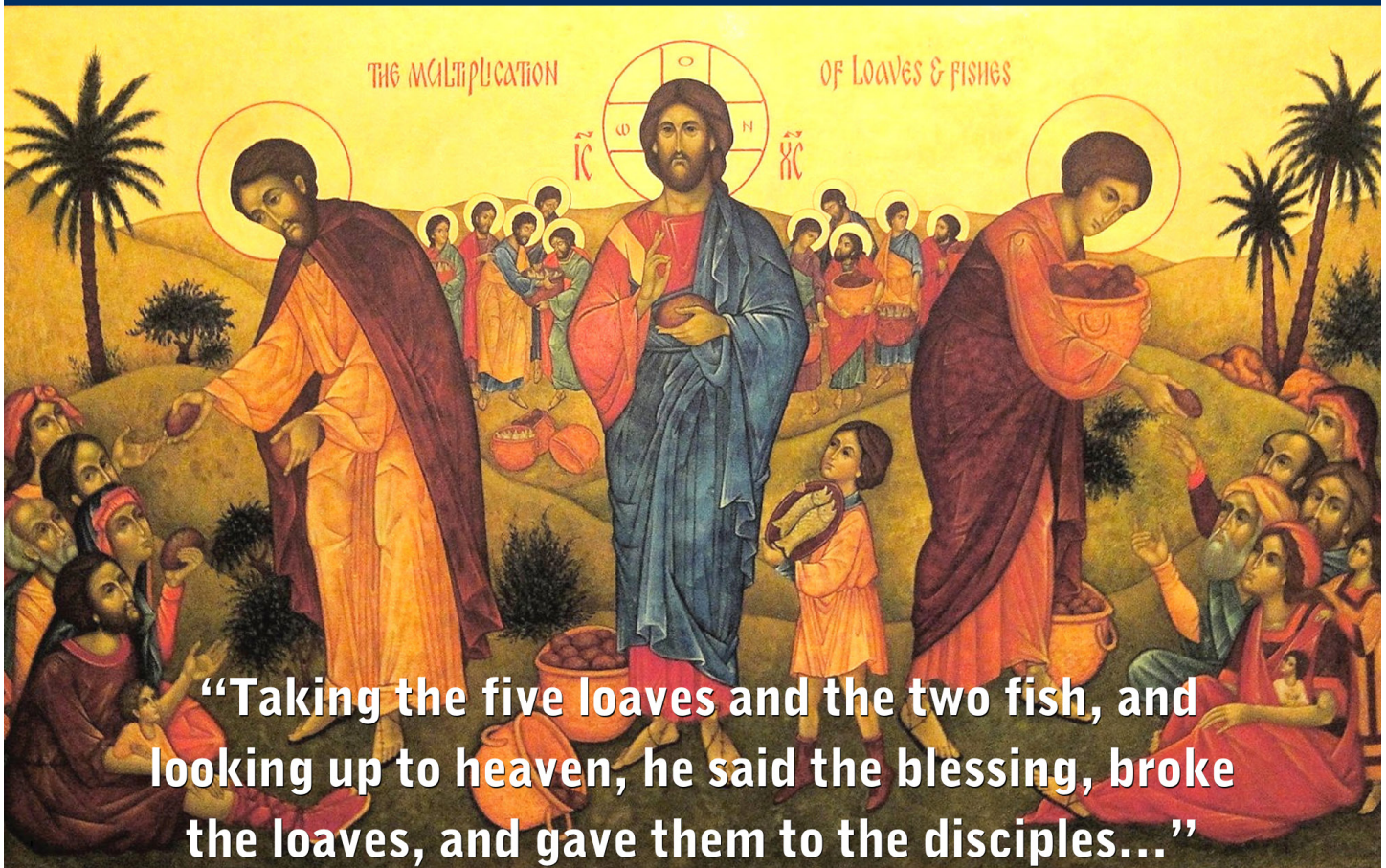




Saint Matthew CATHOLIC CHURCH

AUGUST 2, 2026 + EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER



Matthew: 14:19

Iconographer: Sr. Patricia Reid, RSCJ

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 Anthony Stewart

DEACON:

Bill Forte

PARISH SPOTLIGHT

RELIGIOUS ED & IGNITE REGISTRATION OPEN

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 Religious Education (PreK-6th) and Ignite (7th-8th). The first sessions of R.E. and Ignite will be Sunday, Sept. 13. To learn more about these engaging programs and register, visit bit.ly/smcreled. For questions, email tjesse@stmatthewtn.org.



CATECHISTS NEEDED!

We are in need of catechists for our upcoming 2026-2027 faith formation classes. Serving as a catechist is a meaningful way to nurture the faith of our children and help them grow in their relationship with Christ. You do not need to be a theologian. All materials and support are provided. What matters most is your willingness to share your love of the faith.

If you are interested in serving as a catechist, please fill out a brief form at bit.ly/smccatechist26. For questions, email Tony at tjesse@stmatthewtn.org.

CHILDREN'S CHOIRS FORMING NOW!

Saint Matthew Children's Choirs are forming now for the 26-27 school year! The Little Light Choir is open to Saint Matthew students and parish members in grades K-2. The Liturgy Choir is open to Saint Matthew students and parish members in grades 3-8.

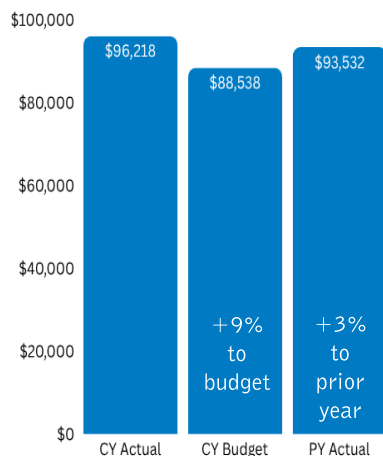
Contact Rebecca Harding at rharding@stmatthewtn.org (Little Light) or Laura Holderman at lholderman@stmatthewtn.org (Liturgy) with any questions. Find additional details and register at bit.ly/smcchildrenschoirs.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

~ FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 13-19 ~

REGULAR COLLECTIONS	\$21,442
FAMILY SERVICE MINISTRY	\$557

YTD Summary



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



Second Collections

This Week:

Building Maint. & Facility Improvements

Next Week:

School Tuition Assistance

Registered Parish Families: 1,328



LITURGY SCHEDULE (AUGUST 1-7)

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass

✠ Gabrielle Brault

8:30 a.m. Mass

✠ For the People of the Parish

11:00 a.m. Mass

✠ James Jarvis

• Isaiah 55:1-3

• Romans 8:35, 37-39

• Matthew 14:13-21

MONDAY, AUGUST 3

8:00 a.m. Mass

✠ Taffy Armbruster

• Jeremiah 28:1-17

• Matthew 14:22-36

TUESDAY, AUGUST 4

Saint John Vianney

8:00 a.m. Mass

✠ Jim, Scott, & Keith Baldinger

• Jeremiah 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22

• Matthew 15:1-2, 10-14

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5

7:00 p.m. Mass

✠ Paula Gilles Fischer

• Jeremiah 31:1-7

• Matthew 15:21-28

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6

Transfiguration of the Lord

8:00 a.m. Mass

✠ Sarah McLeod

• Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

• 2 Peter 1:16-19

• Luke 9:28b-36

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7

8:00 a.m. Mass

✠ Lucy Bonvissuto

• Nahum 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7

• Matthew 16:24-28

✠ **Special Intention**

✠ *May they rest in peace*

*TO RESERVE MASS INTENTIONS,
VISIT BIT.LY/SMCMASSENTENTION*

SAINT MATTHEW NEWS

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, August 5. To get involved with this ministry or to join the volunteer list, email Bill Thomson at bthomson7504@gmail.com.

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

Spend some quiet time with Jesus during our First Friday Adoration on Friday, August 7. Adoration begins after 8 a.m. Mass and ends with benediction on Saturday at 8 a.m. Sign up for a time slot at bit.ly/smcffaug26 to help us ensure someone is present with the Lord at all times.



WELCOME RECEPTION - AUGUST 9

Join us on Sunday, August 9, from 9:30 to 10:45 a.m. in the Cohan-Hansom Building for a reception to welcome Father Anthony and the new teachers and staff members at Saint Matthew School. Please extend a warm Saint Matthew welcome to:

Tina Arrington (Student Support)
Dina Harrison (Middle School Math)
Makenzie Magness (PreK Aide)
Taylor Pourchot (Art)
Rachael Scott (4th Grade)
Hannah Sweeney (PreK Aide)
Cristina Wilson (2nd Grade)

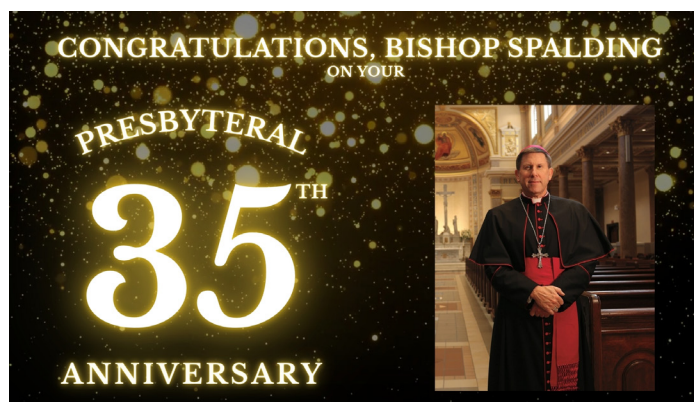
SAINT MATTHEW MINISTRY FAIR

Join us for our Ministry Fair on Sunday, August 16, and explore the many ways you can serve the Lord, grow in your Catholic faith, and become more connected to life at Saint Matthew. All are invited!

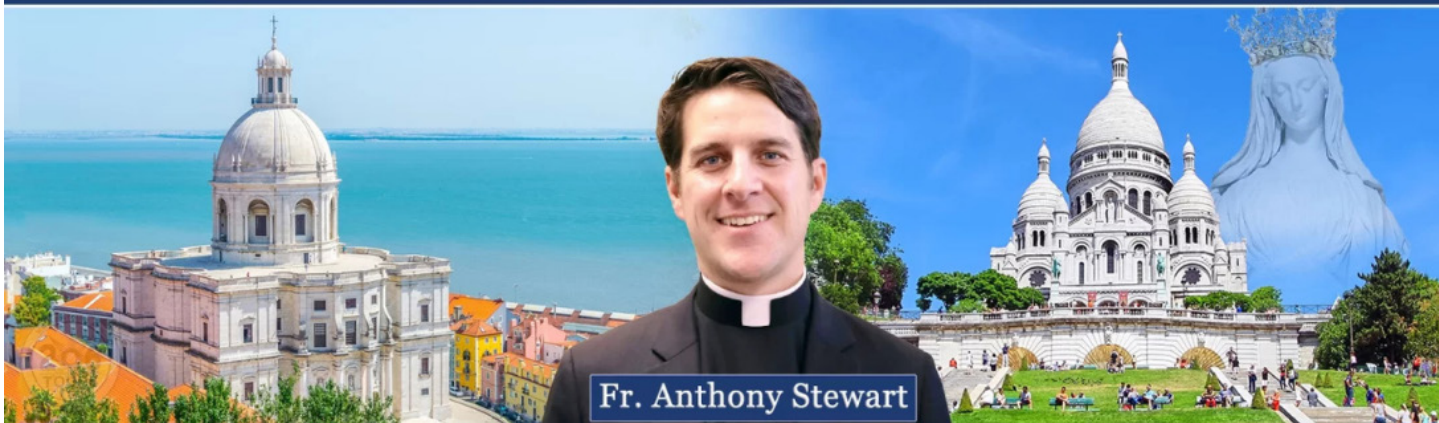


FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION

Saint Matthew will offer a Mass at 8 a.m. on Saturday, August 15, in honor of the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Due to it falling on a Saturday this year, the Assumption is not a Holy Day of Obligation, though all are encouraged to join us for Mass that morning.



PORTUGAL, SPAIN & FRANCE



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

206tours.com/cms/frstewart/



Principal's Pen



Dr. Simpson

The 2026-2027 school year is just around the corner! SMS welcomes back teachers on Monday, August 3rd. They have already been hard at work preparing their classrooms, ordering learning materials, and making sure everything is ready to go to welcome students back to the classroom on Monday, August 10.

As the largest ministry of Saint Matthew, our school has the privilege and responsibility of helping our students grow academically, spiritually, and personally in the love of Christ. Throughout this upcoming week, our teachers will participate in Professional Development, team meetings, and put the finishing touches on their classrooms. Throughout the business of the week, we will take time to pause in prayer together, asking for God's guidance and blessings throughout the school year. We will also continue to pray for the upcoming school year, asking that Christ's love be reflected in all that we do and that each student has a joyful, faith-filled, and successful 2026-2027 year.

I know the teachers are excited about being back together, and to share their summer adventure stories. Please pray for our teachers as they take their first steps into a new school year. You all will be in our prayers as we look forward to a strong start to the school year.

MANE EVENT SPONSORSHIPS

Saint Matthew School is looking for sponsorships for our largest school fundraiser, Mane Event.

There are many levels with various perks! This is a great way to showcase your business or show your family support. Scan the QR code to purchase your sponsorship. For more information, visit:

www.stmatthewtn.org/school/



FREE MONEY FROM KROGER

Attention Kroger shoppers! Please sign up for a Kroger card, or link your existing Kroger card to Saint Matthew School. A percentage of your total bill is donated back to Saint Matthew and benefits the Haiti ministry. It only takes a minute to sign up and link your phone number, and it is free money benefiting our sister parish. Thank you in advance! Sign up at bit.ly/smskroger and be sure to choose "Saint Matthew Church" or "DK325" to enroll.

HAITI SUMMER CHALLENGE REMINDER

Attention students! A reminder that the Haiti Summer Challenge will end on August 21. All students are encouraged and welcome to participate! Do a day of work this summer and donate the proceeds to the Haiti ministry. Ideas include dog walking, lemonade stands, bake sales, babysitting, a carwash, and more - the sky is the limit on ideas! Get a group together for even more fun - think sports teams, scout troops, neighbors, and more. This activity is open to students from all schools.

The link to the form to turn in your money can be found here: bit.ly/smshaitisc. Please print the form and turn it in with your donation.

Donations are due to the school office by Friday, August 21 for SMS students.

For Religious Education students and students from other schools, please place forms and payment in an envelope marked "Haiti Summer Challenge" and either drop it in the offertory collection by Sunday, August 23, or bring it to the church office.

JOB OPENING

Saint Matthew School is looking for a Social Media and Marketing Manager. Learn more and apply at bit.ly/smcemployment.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETING

Knights of Columbus Council 12012 invites all men to its monthly Business Meeting on Monday, August 10. Come for a faith formation session at 6:30 p.m., attend the meeting at 7 p.m. in the Saint Henry Parish Office, and stay afterward for food, drinks, and fraternity beginning around 8 p.m. We hope you'll join us! Contact Grand Knight Sal Lombardi at kofc12012@gmail.com for more information. Council 12012 proudly serves the men of both Saint Matthew and Saint Henry.

SVdP FRIENDS OF THE POOR WALK RUN

The Saint Matthew Conference of the Saint Vincent de Paul Society invites you to their 8th annual Friends of the Poor Walk/Run on Saturday, Sept. 26. Enjoy a refreshing morning strolling around the beautiful Dominican campus while also helping your brothers and sisters in need. Learn more at bit.ly/svdwalkrun26.

ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS

The Ancient Order of Hibernians is a Catholic fraternal organization dedicated to faith, fellowship, charitable service, and celebrating Irish heritage. The local Division will now be meeting at Saint Matthew on the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Parish Conference Center, with Father Anthony serving as chaplain. Catholic men interested in learning more are welcome to attend.



SEEKING ADVENTURE FOR YOUR KIDS?

Are you ready for some fun? Cub Scout Pack 287 is a group of K-5th graders who enjoy all sorts of activities, including: camping, hiking, service projects, religion, Pinewood Derby car building, learning life skills, building and racing boats, and so much more! Cub Scout Pack 287 is a FAMILY Pack, so the whole family is welcome to participate. Both boys and girls may join the pack.

There is a Parent Welcome Meeting & Fundraising Kick Off Party on Saturday, August 22, at 1 p.m. in the Cohan-Hansom Building. The first pack meeting is Sunday, August 23, at 1 p.m. also in the C.H.B.

On Saturday, as new parents get to know seasoned parents and learn about our program, kids will play fun games, enjoy snacks, and win prizes! This is an informational meeting and you will not be required to join. For more information, email Doug Kennedy at pack287@stmatthewtn.org.



SAINT ANN KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

GOLF SCRAMBLE

TOURNAMENT

Scan For Registration Form

CONTESTS / PRIZES / SPONSORSHIPS
 CONTACT : jfaulkner1234@gmail.com

Ted Rhodes Golf Course,
1901 Ed Temple Blvd., Nashville, TN 37208
Saturday, August 15, 2026 –
Shotgun Start 7:30 a.m. – Registration begins at 6:30 a.m.

2026 BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL FOR MINISTRIES UPDATE

As we enter August, Saint Matthew is on the cusp of crossing the halfway mark of our 2026 Bishop's Annual Appeal for Ministries goal. Our parish community has raised \$84,939, or 49% of our \$173,000 goal. Thus far, we are at 111 of our 225 contributing families goal. *Did you know?:* Contributions to the Seminarian Education fund count toward our BAAM goal. You can support our seminarians as they head back to school by scanning the QR code.



TONY'S REFLECTION

FEED ME

With growing kids in my house, a common phrase uttered throughout the day is "I'm hungry, what is there to eat?" In reality, if they open a couple of doors, they can see there is ample food to eat in the pantry and fridge. What the kids are getting at is: "Feed me something good." The crucial distinction is: are we feeding on what we want or what we need? Today, Jesus feeds the crowd what they need. This feeding of the crowd is a sign that He will feed us Himself in the Eucharist.

What are we feeding off in our society? What messages are we eagerly consuming?

The Christian message is that, in man's fallen human nature, we are inclined to sin, that we are marred and burdened by the effects of original sin – our intellect is darkened, our will is weakened, and our passions are disordered. However, modern society asserts that we progress in morality through self-improvement, technological discoveries, and human ingenuity. That human nature is not that bad and that all are going to be saved. This idea asserts that God is so good and merciful that we're just confused yet good people on the inside. What this idea does is dilute the evil that is endemic in our fallen condition. Moreover, it radically downplays the magnitude of the resources that God has given to us and the tremendous suffering He endured to bring us these resources. What Christ suffered from the beginning with His incarnation all the way through His bloody passion and death was so immense that His suffering screams to us how bleak our condition is.

If man believes that his sickness isn't that bad, then he won't desire the cure. A priest once commented that the reason why it is so hard to preach the good news to modern people is that to preach the good news without knowing what the bad news is, modern man simply won't care. First, people need to grasp the bad news, and then the good news comes to them as this overwhelming source of liberation. Imagine you're sound asleep at 4:00 am when suddenly, a fireman kicks-down all the doors and tramples your house in muddy boots while dispensing water throughout the place. If there is no fire, you are outraged. This is how modern man sees religion - there is no threat, no deep sense of personal sin, so God doesn't need to come into my house and deliver me this complex, inconvenient solution for help. However, if modern man realizes that his house is burning down, then he is glad to see the fireman. He loves what the fireman is doing even if the fireman causes temporary wreckage to his home. It has often been said that the good news without knowledge of the bad news is received as no news – the true lukewarm response. Only when modern man sees the depth of wickedness, self-harm, torment, and the meaninglessness of a life cut off from God, will he appreciate the good news offered by Christ.

Let us feed on what we need – a dose of the bad news so we can fall in love with the good news.

FAITH FORMATION

OCIA CLASSES NOW FORMING

Do you know anyone who 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.



Theology & CULTURE

Sunday, August 23
9:45-10:45 a.m.
Parish Conference Center

How Catholicism Helps Mental Health

Led by Christine Jerusik (PsyD)



DISCOVER GOD'S PLAN FOR YOUR FAMILY



SEPTEMBER 12, 2026
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
CATHOLIC PASTORAL CENTER
NASHVILLE, TN

Couple \$64
Childcare \$5/child

Register by July 27 to grab
an Early Bird discount



REGISTER
HERE!

For more information, please visit
togetherinholiness.org/nashville

PRESENTED BY



CATHOLIC BUSINESS LEAGUE

Bishop Spalding is the speaker for the August 13 breakfast meeting of the Catholic Business League. The morning begins at 7:45 in the Fleming Center at the Cathedral, followed by the bishop's address. Mass is offered at 7:00am. More information is available at catholicbusinessleague.org.

WORLD YOUTH DAY

Join the Diocese of Nashville for World Youth Day August 1-10, 2027, in Seoul, South Korea. Experience an unforgettable pilgrimage encountering Christ with the Holy Father and young people from around the world. Cost is \$4,699, and pilgrims must be 18 years of age and have graduated high school by August 1, 2027. Register today: nashvillefaithformation.com/wyd.

ACE DINNER TICKETS NOW ON SALE

Tickets are now on sale for the 11th annual Advancement of Catholic Education (ACE) Dinner on Wednesday, September 30. This special evening raises vital funds for tuition assistance, school endowments, and teacher development across our local Catholic schools. Early bird tickets are officially on sale now for \$150, which includes a three-course meal and an open bar. Secure your seat today and help make Catholic education accessible to all families in our community! Learn more by visiting dioceseofnashville.com/ace.

GET INVOLVED WITH HEART OF MARY HOUSE

Has Jesus been nudging your heart to serve His people more directly? One powerful way to do that is through the Heart of Mary House, situated in the Nations. This is a volunteer-run Catholic hospice that lovingly cares for people who are dying and have nowhere else to go. The house can welcome up to six residents at a time—but they need your help.

Volunteers are needed to cook, clean, assist with meals, offer companionship, and pray with residents. No clinical experience is necessary—just a heart open to Christ and a willingness to be present. Learn more at heartofmaryhouse.org. To speak to a volunteer about their experience, contact Charlene Kimmel at Faithsharing@StPhilipMinisteries.com.

BUILD THE NEXT GENERATION OF DISCIPLES

Our youth ministries are growing, and we're looking for adults who are willing to share their time, talents, and faith with the young people of Saint Matthew.

No previous youth ministry experience is needed, just a heart for serving. Whether you're comfortable leading discussions, organizing activities, welcoming teens, or providing a meal, there's a place for you.

High School (RISE) Core Team

Help plan RISE nights, give talks, lead games, and/or facilitate small-group discussions for students in grades 9–12. Team meetings will equip you with everything you need to serve confidently.

Middle School (Forge) Core Team

Help create a welcoming, faith-filled environment for students in grades 6–8 by assisting with planning, games, talks, and small-group discussions.

Perhaps your gift is through the kitchen.

We're also forming a team of volunteers to provide dinner for our youth on Sunday evenings. Preparing a meal is a simple but meaningful way to support our ministry and care for our teens and volunteers.

Interested?

Scan the QR code for the ministry that interests you, or contact Michaela Miller at mmiller@stmatthewtn.org with any questions.



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



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



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frraines@stmatthewtn.org



Father Anthony Stewart
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VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE NEWS, EVENTS,
AND INFORMATION FROM SAINT MATTHEW.

www.stmatthewtn.org

