



Saint Matthew CATHOLIC CHURCH

AUGUST 9, 2026 + NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER



Julius Von Klever - Christ Walking on the Waters, 1880

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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📱 @stmatthewtn

PASTOR:

Father Justin Raines

ASSOCIATE PASTOR:

Father Anthony Stewart

DEACON:

Bill Forte

LITURGY SCHEDULE (AUGUST 8-15)

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass

✦ For Brother Simeon Mary Jaeger, O.P.

8:30 a.m. Mass

✦ For Dominic Tran

11:00 a.m. Mass

✦ For the People of the Parish
• 1 Kings 19:9a, 11-13a
• Romans 9:1-5
• Matthew 14:22-33

MONDAY, AUGUST 10

St. Lawrence

8:00 a.m. Mass

✦ Souls in Purgatory
• 2 Corinthians 9:6-10
• John 12:24-26

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11

Saint Clare

8:00 a.m. Mass

✦ For Michael Marcuri
• Ezekiel 2:8—3:4
• Matthew 18:1-5, 10, 12-14

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12

7:00 p.m. Mass

✦ Gerry & Taffy Armbruster
• Ezekiel 9:1-7, 10:18-22
• Matthew 18:15-20

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13

8:00 a.m. Mass

✦ For Jennifer Hummel
• Ezekiel 12:1-12
• Matthew 18:21—19:1

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14

St. Maximilian Kolbe

8:00 a.m. Mass

✦ John Cicon
• Ezekiel 16:1-15, 60, 63
• Matthew 19:3-12

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:00 a.m. Mass

✦ For the People of the Parish
• Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab
• 1 Corinthians 15:20-27
• Luke 1:39-56

✦ **Special Intention**

✦ *May they rest in peace*

PARISH SPOTLIGHT

WELCOME RECEPTION - SUNDAY, AUGUST 9

Join us today, 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:

Tina Arrington	Taylor Pourchot
Maria Clinkenbeard	Rachael Scott
Dina Harrison	Hannah Sweeney
Makenzie Magness	Cristina Wilson



GOOD LUCK GRIFFIN GARTNER

As we welcome Father Anthony to Saint Matthew, we also want to take a moment to wish parishioner and seminarian Griffin Gartner a temporary farewell. After completing his propaedeutic year of formation, Griffin will leave for seminary this week. He will continue his studies at Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio. Griffin will be attending the welcome reception above, so please take a moment to wish him well before he departs. We ask that you keep Griffin, along with all of our seminarians, in your prayers as they continue their journey toward the priesthood.



FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION

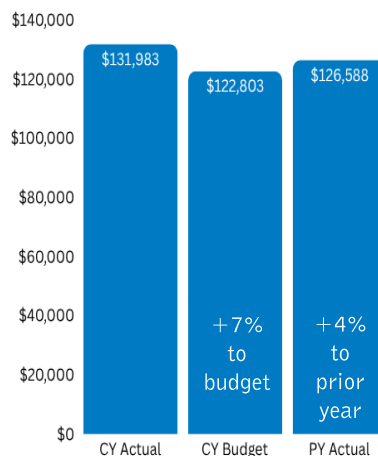
Saint Matthew will offer a Mass at 8 a.m. in the Church on Saturday, August 15, in honor of the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Assumption is not a Holy Day of Obligation, though all are encouraged to join us for Mass that morning.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

~ FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 27-AUG 2 ~

REGULAR COLLECTIONS	\$35,535
BUILDING MAINTENANCE & FACILITY IMPROVEMENT	\$763

YTD Summary



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



Second Collections

This Week:

School Tuition Assistance

Next Week:

Assumption of Mary

Registered Parish Families: 1,328

SAINT MATTHEW MINISTRY FAIR

Join us for our Ministry Fair next Sunday, August 16. Whether you're looking to contribute to Mass, put your faith into action by helping those in need, grow spiritually through prayer and faith formation, build meaningful friendships, share your talents, or find opportunities for your children and family, there's a place for you at Saint Matthew.



Ministry Fair
SUNDAY, AUGUST 16
 Following both Masses
 COHAN-HANSOM BUILDING

- Explore dozens of parish ministries
- Live out your faith and embrace your parish family
- Social, Spiritual, Liturgical, and Service ministries

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETING

Knights of Columbus Council 12012 invites all men to its monthly 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! Email kofc12012@gmail.com for more information. Council 12012 proudly serves the men of both Saint Matthew and Saint Henry.

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 is now 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 are invited to join them this Thursday, August 13!



The Ancient Order of Hibernians
 Now at Saint Matthew!
 Second Thursday of Each Month
 7 p.m. Parish Conference Center

BACK TO SCHOOL TRAFFIC AND MASS NOTES

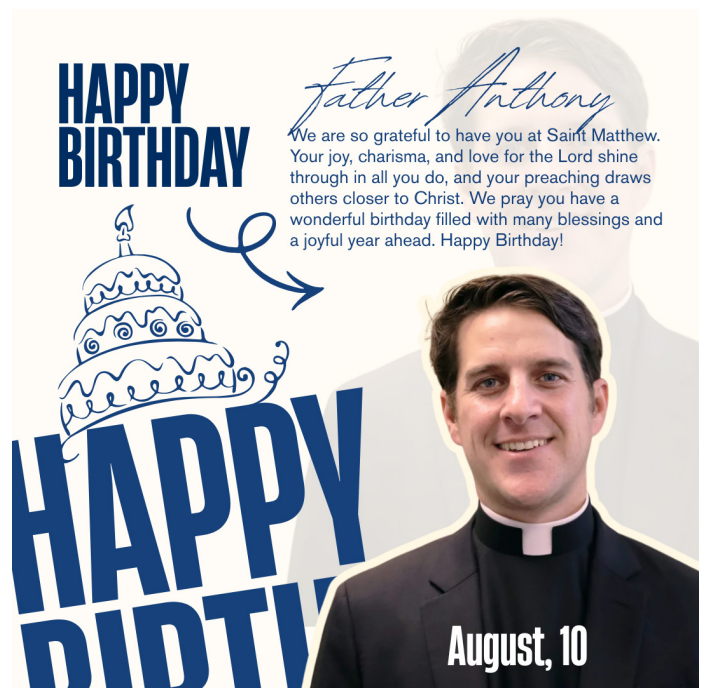
As our campus returns to a bustling home filled with hundreds of students, please drive carefully and slowly whenever you are on campus. We also ask that you follow the directions of our security guards and campus personnel to help ensure the safety of everyone. Please note the following:

Daily Mass Attendees: If you are attending the 8 a.m. Mass on a school day and are not dropping off students, *please enter campus via the Sneed Road entrance*. After crossing the bridge, immediately turn left and park in the lots on that side of campus. All school traffic will enter via the Timberline Drive entrance and exit via Sneed Road. Handicapped parking remains available.

The Bridge: Please remember that the bridge on our campus is a two-way bridge and is wide enough for two vehicles to pass at the same time. Please be courteous to other drivers and allow enough space for both vehicles to cross safely.

School Masses: All Tuesday and Thursday Masses, as well as any other all-school Masses, will be celebrated in the church and will be available via livestream. All other weekday Masses will be celebrated in the chapel and will not be

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, FATHER ANTHONY!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Father Anthony

We are so grateful to have you at Saint Matthew. Your joy, charisma, and love for the Lord shine through in all you do, and your preaching draws others closer to Christ. We pray you have a wonderful birthday filled with many blessings and a joyful year ahead. Happy Birthday!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

August, 10



Principal's Pen



Dr. Simpson

The school year is here!

The first day of school is this coming Monday, and we are so excited to welcome students back to campus. I know many families are ready to get back into a routine, and our students are ready to see their friends again. Our faculty and staff have been hard at work this summer preparing our campus to welcome our students back and to ensure we have a wonderful year ahead.

Our Bible verse for the 2026-2027 school year is from 1 Corinthians 16:14: ***"Your every act should be done with love."*** Our teachers are ready to spread that love to all of our SMS students.

We look forward to a school year filled with fun events, smiles and laughter, and a great deal of meaningful learning. Saint Matthew School is such a special place, and we are going to have an incredible year. I will continue to pray for all students as they begin this new school year!

HAITI SUMMER CHALLENGE REMINDER

It's not too late to join the Haiti Summer Challenge. 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! Get a group together for even more fun - 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/sms Haitian. For SMS students, Please print the form and turn it in with your donation to the school office by Friday, August 21.

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.



PARISH YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

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.

SEEKING ADVENTURE FOR YOUR KIDS?

Cub Scout Pack 287 welcomes boys and girls in grades K-5 for camping, hiking, Pinewood Derby racing, service projects, faith activities, outdoor adventures, and more! As a FAMILY Pack, parents and siblings can also participate. A Parent Welcome Meeting & Fundraising Kickoff is Saturday, August 22, at 1 p.m. in the Cohan-Hansom Building. Kids will enjoy games and prizes while parents learn about the program with no obligation to join. For more information, email pack287@stmatthewtn.org.

SUPPORT OUR MINISTRIES

Become a sponsor, get your tickets, or register today!

16th
Annual

WELL PLAYED

21+
Event

A SONGWRITERS' NIGHT

BENEFITING WATER, EDUCATION AND WELLNESS IN HAITI

September 12, 6 p.m.

Enjoy an evening under the stars with Patrick Murphy & friends, and a special opening act by Kelley Jeanne of our Music Ministry. Wine, beer, bbq sandwiches, and chips are included with your ticket.



Sponsor



Tickets &
Event details



8TH ANNUAL FRIENDS OF THE POOR

5K WALK
RUN

September 26, 8 a.m.

St. Cecilia Track

\$20/Runner, \$10/Kid, \$50/Family

All proceeds benefit neighbors in need.



Sponsor
& Register

SAINT MATTHEW SCHOOL

HAVANA

October 3, 2026

Nights

Sponsorships



Tickets &
Sponsorships

TONY'S REFLECTION

WALK ON THE WATER

Our journey through life can be described as an obstacle course full of twists and turns or a roller coaster of unpredictable ups and downs. As it is with life, our spiritual life features similar highs and lows. At times, firmly fixed on God's message, and at other times, more on the messages of the world. Today's Gospel paints such a picture. At first, the disciples become afraid when encountering a mystifying presence—what looks like a ghost. But, when Jesus assures them that it is He and no mere spook, Peter daringly asks to join Jesus on the water. While amazingly walking on water towards our Lord, this experience turns terrifying when Peter looks at the wind and begins to sink. Thrust into a panic, Peter blurts out, "Lord save me," and immediately Jesus rescues Him back into the safety of the boat.

In sum, the trajectory of Peter's faith goes from low (afraid of a ghost) to high (It's Jesus! I'm walking on water), back to low (I'm sinking), and back to high (truly you are the Son of God). Can we relate to this? In our lives, we have these instances of highs and lows—both in our physical life and spiritual progression. But, we must ask what caused Peter to go from one extreme to the other. While we may never fully grasp all Divine insights, this passage does give us a clue. When Peter was completely fixated on Christ, he did amazing things—like walk on water. But notice what happened when he glanced off Christ and instead focused on "the wind." He became afraid and consequently began to sink. The wind represents the various trials of life we will face. Pressed with taxing "things" going on, we can easily be overcome with anxiety, fear, or despair. Here, we're susceptible to remove our attention off God and instead stare into the abyss of worry. When we do this, we'll inevitably segue into a mental and spiritual fall. So how is it that we can experience saint-like peace in the midst of mayhem?

Psychologists tend to agree the messaging one consumes throughout the day shapes the way one thinks and interacts in the world. What your mind concentrates on affects your mental framework and, in turn, your actions. This is why St. Paul cautioned to "bring every thought into the captivity to the obedience of Christ" (2 Cor. 10:5). Therefore, if you become obsessed with gazing at meaningless drama, gossip, or the ongoing turmoil in this fallen world, this can serve as a major distraction from God's mission for you. Jesus called to Peter—"Come!"—just as He beckons to each one of us. The challenge is to focus on the "still small voice" of Jesus beckoning us, to walk toward Him in prayer and in the Eucharist. When we concentrate on the Eucharist, we, in turn, fulfill our vocation daily, our peace, and not capitulate to fear the chaos that rages around us.

Yet, when we get distracted by the things of this world, we can simply do what Peter did—ask Christ to save us, and assuredly He'll pull us back on the boat quickly.

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.



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 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/smcreeled. 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.

THEOLOGY & CULTURE - AUGUST 23

Theology &
CULTURE

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

*How Catholicism Helps
Mental Health*

Led by Christine Jerusik (PsyD)



SAINT MATTHEW DAY OF SERVICE

Saint Matthew is excited to offer a parish-wide day of service on Saturday, September 19. We are partnering with Graceworks to run their mobile food pantry from 7-11 a.m. at Fairview Middle School. We need 50 volunteers of all ages to help serve our neighbors and operate the pantry. Volunteers are asked to serve for the entire shift.

As you sign up, please only register volunteers who can actively serve. Young children who need to remain with a parent are welcome to join, but do not need their own RSVP. Older children who can volunteer independently should be included in your total.



PRO LIFE AT THE FAIR

Our Respect for Life Committee invites you to join the Williamson County TN Right to Life at the Williamson County Fair! Stop by their booth to learn more about their work and show your support. If you're interested in helping, they're also looking for volunteers to assist at the booth throughout the fair. All volunteers will be with a trained member of the organization. Learn more at bit.ly/tmrflwcfair26.

THANK YOU FROM MULIER CARE

Mulier Care sent the following in response to our Baby Bottle Drive this summer, which raised more than \$14,000, and now stands as the highest grossing Baby Bottle Drive for the organization:

A heartfelt thank you to Saint Matthew Catholic Church for your generous support through your record-breaking Baby Bottle Drive benefiting Mulier Care and the Pregnancy Help Center. Your gifts of change, cash, and checks will help us continue providing life-affirming support and compassionate care to those we serve. We are truly grateful for your generosity, prayers, and commitment to protecting and supporting life. Thank you for partnering with us in this important mission!

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.



TONY JESSE

Director of Religious Education
tjesse@stmatthewtn.org

Want to learn about the faith? Visit
bit.ly/SMCFaithFormationInterestForm



MICHAELA MILLER

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



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, EVENTS,
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www.stmatthewtn.org

