

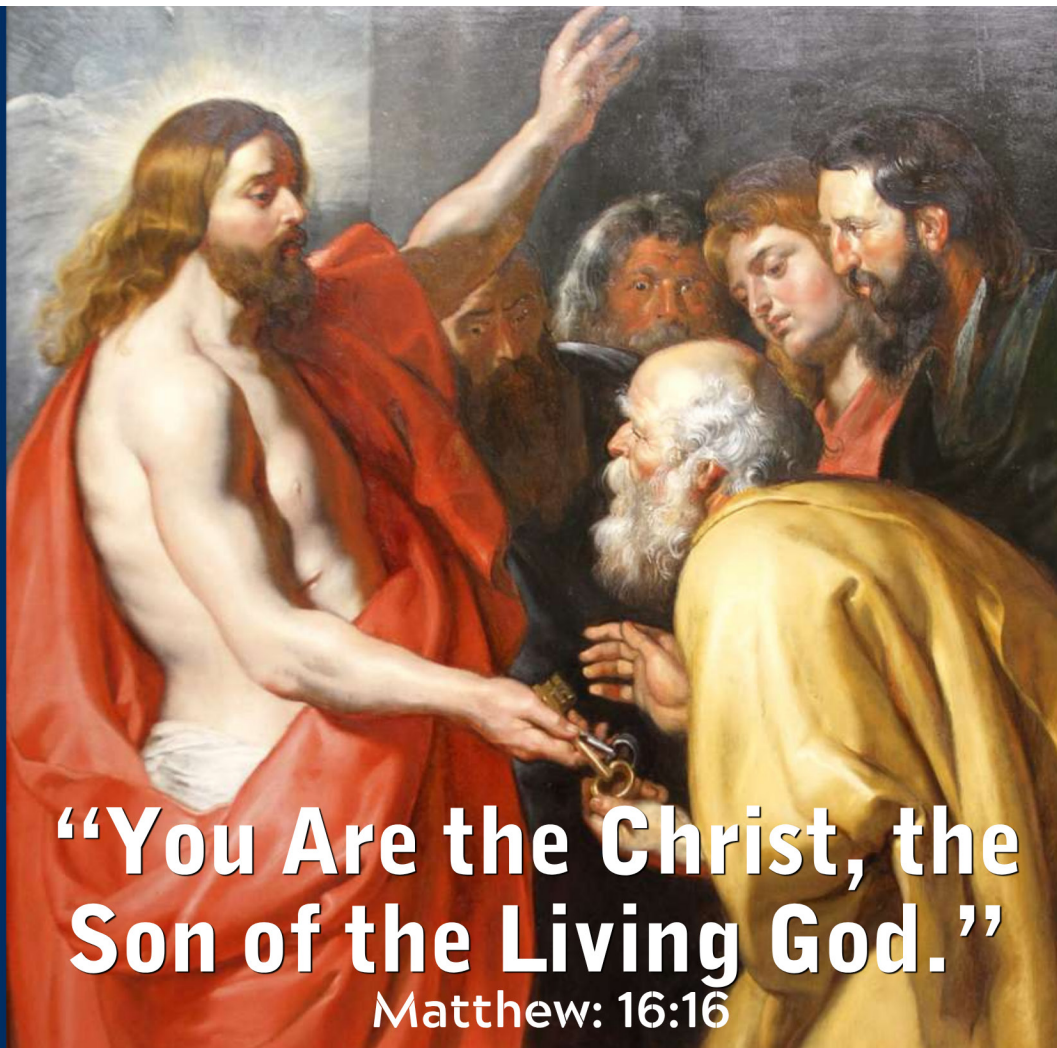


Saint Matthew

CATHOLIC CHURCH

AUGUST 23, 2026 + TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER



**“You Are the Christ, the
Son of the Living God.”**

Matthew: 16:16

Christ Giving the Keys to Saint Peter, Peter Paul Rubens, 1614

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 | 3:30 - 4:45 p.m.
First Friday | 8:30 - 9:30 a.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 Anthony Stewart

DEACON:

Bill Forte

PARISH SPOTLIGHT

SAINT MATTHEW DAY OF SERVICE

Saint Matthew is excited to offer a parish-wide Day of Service on Saturday, September 19, in honor of the Feast of Saint Matthew! We are partnering with Graceworks to operate their mobile food pantry, serving our neighbors and helping provide food to families in our community.

We need **50 volunteers** of all ages to come together to work the pantry. Whether you come with your family, a group of friends, or on your own, this is a wonderful opportunity to put our faith into action and serve alongside fellow parishioners. When signing up, please only register volunteers who can actively serve independently. Young children who need to remain with a parent are welcome to participate, but do not need their own RSVP.

FEAST OF SAINT MATTHEW DAY OF SERVICE

CELEBRATE OUR PATRON BY SERVING OTHERS

"Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me."
Matthew 25:40

GraceWorks
MINISTRIES INC.

GraceWorks Mobile Food Pantry
Saturday, September 19 • 7-11 a.m.
Fairview Middle School
50 Saint Matthew Volunteers Needed!
 All ages of volunteers welcome!

SCAN TO REGISTER

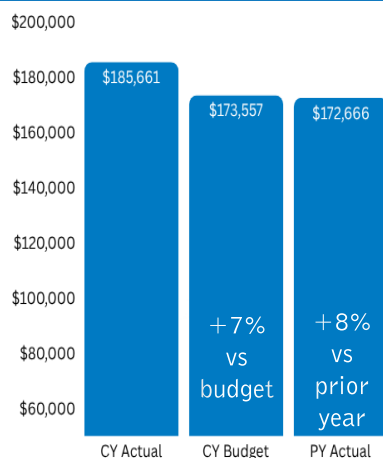
bit.ly/smcfeastday26

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

~ FOR THE WEEK OF AUG 10-16 ~

REGULAR COLLECTIONS	\$27,338
ROOM IN THE INN	\$611
ASSUMPTION OF MARY	\$445

YTD Summary



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



Second Collections

This Week:

Haiti Ministry

Next Week:

St. Gianna Circle

Registered Parish Families: 1,332



LITURGY SCHEDULE (AUGUST 22-28)

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass

✦ For the People of the Parish

8:30 a.m. Mass

✦ Linda Wyatt Hopkins Langley

11:00 a.m. Mass

✦ Yura & John Orillion

• Isaiah 22:19-23

• Romans 11:33-36

• Matthew 16:13-20

MONDAY, AUGUST 24

Saint Bartholomew

8:00 a.m. Mass

✦ Pam Powell McGrath

• Revelation 21:9b-14

• John 1:45-51

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25

8:00 a.m. Mass

✦ Barbara McDonald

• 2 Thessalonians 2:1-3a, 14-17

• Matthew 23:23-26

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26

7:00 p.m. Mass

✦ Colby Chase

• 2 Thessalonians 3:6-10, 16-18

• Matthew 23:27-32

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27

Saint Monica

8:00 a.m. Mass

✦ For the Saint Matthew SFM team

• 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

• Matthew 24:42-51

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28

Saint Augustine

8:00 a.m. Mass

✦ For the Meacham Family

• 1 Corinthians 1:17-25

• Matthew 25:1-13

Special Intention

✦ *May they rest in peace*

✦ **TO RESERVE MASS INTENTIONS,**
VISIT BIT.LY/SMCMASSINTENTION



ROOTED IN FAITH, CONNECTED IN MOTHERHOOD - JOIN SGC

As a new year for St. Gianna Circle begins, we'd love for you to join us for our Annual Kick-Off Mom's Mixer on **Wednesday, September 2**, at 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Conference Center! Whether you've been coming for years or have never attended before, this is the perfect evening to connect with other mothers in every season of life. Come enjoy:

- Fellowship and conversation
- Door prizes
- A preview of this year's social gatherings, faith opportunities, and ways we'll serve our parish and community together
- Light food will be provided

This evening is all about getting to know one another, reconnecting after the summer, and kicking off a wonderful year together. There are many opportunities to participate throughout the year, and you are invited to join in however works best for you.

No pressure. No commitments. Just a welcoming evening of faith, friendship, and fun. Bring a friend and RSVP at bit.ly/sgcmixer26.

CONFESSION TIMES EXPANDING

We are making the following adjustments to our confession schedule:

Saturday confessions will now begin at 3:30 p.m. in the chapel. Please be mindful of the start and end times, and plan to be in line as close to 3:30 p.m. as possible. Our priests need sufficient time afterward to prepare for Mass.

On First Fridays, Father Anthony will offer confessions following the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, from **8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.** in the chapel.

BECOME A LECTOR

Share the Word of God at Mass! We are looking to grow our lector team. Information and training sessions are today, **Sunday, August 23**, at noon and Tuesday, August 25, at 6:30 p.m. Meet in the Parish Conference Center. Contact Patricia Smith with questions at pms56@comcast.net.

PASSION OF CHRIST PRAYER GROUP

Join the Passion of Christ Prayer Group next **Sunday, August 30**, 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.

VOLUNTEER WITH LUNCH BUNCH

Looking for a ministry that's equal parts service, fellowship, and fun? Consider joining the **Lunch Bunch Volunteer Team!** Volunteers decorate tables, welcome and check in guests, distribute meals, verify Bingo cards, and assist with cleanup.



Lunch Bunch is our parish ministry for adults ages 55 and older and provides an afternoon of delicious food, fellowship, and Bingo. Volunteers play an important role in creating a welcoming experience to allow for meaningful connections among our senior parishioners. For more information, email Veronica at vjf@themarianofamily.com.

The RSVP for our Lunch Bunch on Tuesday, Sept. 8, is now open at bit.ly/smlcbsep26.

SAINT MATTHEW SCHOOL NEWS

READY TO DISCOVER THE SAINT MATTHEW DIFFERENCE?

Seeking Knowledge + Modeling Christ +
Serving Others

COFFEE
WITH THE
PRINCIPAL



Tuesday
SEPTEMBER 8
9:00 a.m.

WE SAVED
YOU A
SEAT!



Register online

www.stmatthewtn.org/school/admissions

Zoom and in-person options available.



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.

JOIN US FOR
MANE EVENT

SAINT MATTHEW SCHOOL
HAVANA
Nights

October 3, 2026
6 P.M.

Tickets
Sponsorships
Event Details

PRESENTING SPONSOR

MID-TENN FORD

615-259-2050
www.midtennfordtrucks.com

AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED

Do you own a business and are able to donate an item or service to our Mane Event? Our auction team is currently looking for vacation stays, experiences, items and services! Please email Tracy Becker at tbecker@stmatthewtn.org to donate!

NO PARKING ON TIMBERLINE

For the safety of our students and neighbors, please park only in designated Saint Matthew spaces and not along Timberline Drive. For athletic drop-offs and pick-ups, use the main entrance near the bridge.

PARISH YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

ADVENTURE AWAITS! JOIN THE CUB SCOUTS

Cub Scout Pack 287 is for K-5th graders who want to experience a variety 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.

Our first meeting of the year is today, Sunday, Aug. 23, at 1 p.m. in the Cohan-Hansom Building. If your K-5 child would like to join the adventure, register at: bit.ly/pack287.



MINISTRY NEWS

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 the beautiful Dominican campus while also helping your brothers and sisters in need. Learn more, register, or become a sponsor at bit.ly/svdpwalkrun26.



MEET THE ARTIST - PATRICK MURPHY

Patrick Murphy is a rising Nashville singer-songwriter and co-writer of Tim McGraw's No. 1 hit "Standing Room Only." He has opened for artists including Maren Morris, Kane Brown and Maddie & Tae. He brings heartfelt storytelling and authentic country sounds to this year's songwriters' night.

Well Played is the largest fundraiser for our Haiti Ministry, and all proceeds support our sister parish, Our Lady of Miracles in Gobert, Haiti. Get your tickets and learn more by scanning below!

16th
annual

Saint Matthew Haiti Ministry
Presents

21+

WELL PLAYED

A SONGWRITERS' NIGHT

BENEFITING WATER, EDUCATION AND WELLNESS IN HAITI

Saturday, September 12, 6 p.m.
Saint Matthew Courtyard

Featuring:


Patrick Murphy


Ryan Larkins


Fraser Churchill


Opening Act
Kelley Jeanne

Tickets include BBQ
Sandwich, chips,
beer and wine

bit.ly/smcswn26



MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

Knights of Columbus 12012

The Knights of Columbus Council 12012 is a Catholic fraternal organization dedicated to helping Catholic men live their faith by serving their families, parish, community and country. Serving both Saint Matthew and Saint Henry, the Knights support a variety of parish ministries and events while also providing charitable assistance throughout our community.

Earlier this month, the Knights hosted their annual **Trivia Knight** fundraiser, bringing together 18 teams for an evening of fun, fellowship, and some friendly competition. Under the guidance of organizer **Kent Skinner** and the charm of host **Bob Armour**, Trivia Knight raised nearly \$2,000 to support the Knights' charitable mission.

The Knights also recently organized volunteers to help clean along Sneed Road before the start of the school year, and sponsored our Parish Picnic.

Council 12012 meets the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at Saint Henry parish office. The meeting is preceded by an optional faith formation session at 6:30 p.m. and is followed by fellowship, food, and drinks.



Interested in becoming a Knight?

To learn more about the Saint Matthew/Saint Henry KoC Council 12012, contact Grand Knight Sal Lombardi at sklombardi@comcast.net or Membership Director Jesse Montagnino at jessemontagnino@gmail.com.



TONY'S REFLECTION

BUILT ON THE ROCK

Psychologists have found that people will learn better when presented with images, as visual lessons tend to stand out better in a person's memory bank than vocal words. Like a good teacher, Jesus invokes dramatic images in today's Gospel reading. The location where Jesus is instructing the disciples speaks volumes about what is taking place.

Jesus took his disciples to Caesarea Philippi. Caesarea Philippi was known as the land of spiritual darkness because it was inhabited by the pagan Gentiles. It was located at the farthest northern tip of the Holy Land. At the time of Jesus, Emperor Tiberius Caesar used Caesarea Philippi as his capital. Philip was the tetrarch, and he named the region Caesarea (in honor of his boss) and Philippi (in honor of himself).

Jesus did not take them to Caesarea Philippi by mistake or chance. At Caesarea Philippi, there was a massive rock at the foothills of Mt. Hermon. On the left of the rock was a cave, and to the right were niches carved on the rock where pagan idols used to be kept and worshipped. The Jewish historian, Josephus, described how there was this mysterious water at the bottom of the caves. The people at the time tried to reach the water by lowering a stone on a rope, yet very few could reach the bottom. Given this endless drop, the pagans considered the caves in the rock as the entrance to Hades – the underworld.

Here, Jesus poses the question, "Who do men say the Son of man is?" As is typically the case, the common man's answer in grasping the identity of Jesus is off the mark. Guided by Divine insight, Peter correctly defines Jesus, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." After Peter's declaration of Jesus, Jesus blesses Peter and now defines Peter as the "rock." He will build His church on and give him heavenly authority. From this, the office of the papacy is established.

Our scene today sheds light on a profound lesson. Jesus is teaching His disciples in front of a pagan false rock, false church, worshiping false gods with a false entrance into Hades. It is no wonder that Jesus uses this setting to name Peter as the true rock of His Church for the worship of the true God and articulate how "the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it."

Interestingly, the water that rushes out of the caves goes to the Sea of Galilee comprising 70 percent of the water used in Israel. The water that flows from under this rock is the water that sustained the people of God and made Israel a fertile landscape. This image acts as a parallel to describe the spiritual reality Jesus is alluding to. What is the spiritual "water" that flows from the rock of Peter? True and pure infallible teaching for over 2000 years, which we can trust to this day. From this rock, the Church, and the Sacraments confer graces like a pipeline from heaven pouring down on us.

As Catholics, let us have confidence that Jesus's rock, the papacy, has endured over the centuries to bring us the water we need.

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 need catechists for our Pre-K, 1st, and 3rd grade Religious Education classes for the 2026-2027 year. 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.

NEW HOLY WATER FONTS

A heartfelt thank you to Gary O'Reilly for his generosity in purchasing the two new holy water fonts for our church. They are a wonderful addition to our sacred space.



TONY JESSE

Director of Religious Education
tjesse@stmatthewtn.org

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

FORGE KICK-OFF!



SEPT 13

5:30 - 7:30 PM
in Cohan-Hansom

What to Expect:

- ✓ Games
- ✓ Food
- ✓ Info about the year

ABOUT OUR FORGE NIGHTS

Forge nights combine faith, fellowship, and fun. Middle school students pray, play, eat, and grow their faith together through games, presentations, and small group discussions. Hope to see your middle schooler there!

✉ forge@stmatthewtn.org



REGISTER HERE



RISE
SAINT MATTHEW YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth KICK-OFF

FOOD - FAITH - FELLOWSHIP



REGISTER

SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 13

IN THE PCC
5:30-7:30PM

ALL 9-12TH GRADERS WELCOME



Join the Core Team



RISE

Contact

mmiller@stmatthewtn.org



Forge

2026-2027 Registrations



RISE

Contact

mmiller@stmatthewtn.org



Forge

BUILD THE NEXT GENERATION OF DISCIPLES

Create welcoming, faith-filled environments for our youth by joining the Core Team for Forge (6th-8th grades) or RISE (9th-12th grades). Core Team members assist with planning, games, talks, and small-group discussions. Team meetings equip you with everything you need to serve confidently. The groups meet on Sundays from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Forge meets once per month while RISE meets most Sundays. Contact Michaela Miller if interested.

LOVE TO COOK?

Help fill stomachs while we fill souls. We are looking for volunteers who would be willing to cook dinner for our youth on Sunday evenings. Providing a home-cooked meal is a simple but meaningful way to support our youth and care for our teens and volunteers. Cooking volunteers would work with the Director of Youth Ministry to come up with a menu. The cost of food would be covered by the church.





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

CHURCH: 615-646-0378

SCHOOL: 615-662-4044

PASTORAL STAFF



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Father Anthony Stewart
Associate Pastor
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Bill Forte
Deacon
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Michaela Miller
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VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE NEWS, EVENTS,
AND INFORMATION FROM SAINT MATTHEW.

www.stmatthewtn.org

