



Saint Matthew

CATHOLIC CHURCH

AUGUST 30, 2026 + TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER

"Whoever wishes to come after me must
deny himself,
take up his cross,
and follow me."
Matthew: 16:24

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. **Please RSVP by Friday, Sept. 4.** After this date Graceworks will open the slots to the general public.



**FEAST OF SAINT MATTHEW
DAY OF SERVICE**

CELEBRATE OUR PATRON BY SERVING OTHERS

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

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

SCAN TO REGISTER

bit.ly/smcfeastday26

EXPANDED CONFESSION TIMES

Saturday confessions now begin at 3:30 p.m. in the chapel.

First Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. following Exposition.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Due to an advance printing deadline, financial numbers for the week of Aug. 17-23 are unavailable and will be posted next week. Thank you for your continued support of Saint Matthew!

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



Second Collections

This Week:

St. Gianna Circle

Next Week:

Building Maint. & Facility Improvements

Registered Parish Families: 1,334



LITURGY SCHEDULE (AUG 29- SEPT. 4)

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass

✠ James Olenick

8:30 a.m. Mass

✠ For the People of the Parish

11:00 a.m. Mass

✠ Phillip Hultman

• Jeremiah 20:7-9

• Romans 12:1-2

• Matthew 16:21-27

MONDAY, AUGUST 31

8:00 a.m. Mass

✠ Daniella Baez

• 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

• Luke 4:16-30

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

8:00 a.m. Mass

✠ Sophie & Ken Menezes

• 1 Corinthians 2:10b-16

• Luke 4:31-37

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

7:00 p.m. Mass

✠ Scott Dawson

• 1 Corinthians 3:1-9

• Luke 4:38-44

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

Saint Gregory the Great

8:00 a.m. Mass

✠ Vincent Phillips

• 1 Corinthians 3:18-23

• Luke 5:1-11

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

8:00 a.m. Mass

✠ For Dominican Benefactors

• 1 Corinthians 4:1-5

• Luke 5:33-39

✠ **Special Intention**

✠ *May they rest in peace*

To RESERVE MASS INTENTIONS,
VISIT [BIT.LY/SMCMASSINTENTION](https://bit.ly/smcMASSINTENTION)

COME PRAY THE ROSARY IN THE CHAPEL
 FOLLOWING 8 A.M. WEEKDAY MASSES
 AND 8:30 A.M. SUNDAY MASS.

PASSION OF CHRIST PRAYER GROUP

Join the Passion of Christ Prayer Group today, **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.

ROOTED IN FAITH, CONNECTED IN MOTHERHOOD - JOIN SGC

St. Gianna Circle begins a new year with its Annual Kick-Off Moms' Mixer on Wednesday, Sept. 2, at 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Conference Center. Whether you have been involved before or are discovering St. Gianna Circle for the first time, all mothers are invited to enjoy an evening of fellowship, light food, door prizes, and a look at the year ahead. The Moms' Mixer is a chance to meet other mothers, reconnect after the summer, and discover opportunities for faith, friendship, and service—with plenty of ways to participate that fit each mom's season of life.

Ladies are invited to attend Mass at 7 p.m. ahead of the meeting. Bring a friend and enjoy fellowship with your sisters in Christ. Rooted in faith. Connected through every season of motherhood. Scan to RSVP. Babies in laps are always welcome!



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, Sept. 2. To get involved with this ministry or to join the volunteer list, email Bill Thomson at bthomson7504@gmail.com.

JOIN THE MEN'S CLUB

The Saint Matthew Men's Club returns after a summer hiatus — if you can call it that after cooking all the food for the Parish Picnic! Thanks again to everyone who helped make it such a success.

All men of the parish are invited to gather on Thursday, Sept. 3, at 7 p.m. in the Cohan-Hansom Building. Meetings are largely social and include food, with an opportunity to get to know other men of the parish, discover how the Men's Club supports Saint Matthew, and help plan this year's Oktoberfest on Sept. 19. Come enjoy some fellowship, learn more about the Men's Club, and see what's next!

LUNCH BUNCH RETURNS SEPT. 8

All parishioners 55 and older are invited to join Lunch Bunch for an afternoon of food, fellowship, and bingo! This parish ministry offers a fun, festive, and friendly opportunity for our parish seniors to make new friends and enjoy an afternoon together. Lunch Bunch gathers on the second Tuesday of each month from noon–2 p.m. in the narthex.

The first Lunch Bunch of the 2026–27 year is Tuesday, Sept. 8. This month's theme is fall sports, so wear your favorite jersey! A chicken tender meal from Publix will be served. Admission is \$12 plus a prize for the Bingo table valued around \$10. Please RSVP by Thursday, Sept. 3, to ensure a meal.

We are also looking for a few volunteers for the ministry. Volunteers welcome guests, serve meals, verify Bingo cards, decorate, and clean up. Volunteers do not need to be 55 or older! Contact Veronica at vjf@themarianofamily.com to learn more.



First Friday Adoration

September 4–5

Mass: 8 a.m.

Exposition: 8:30 a.m.

Benediction: 8 a.m. (Saturday)

Sign up for a time slot to ensure someone is present with our Lord at all times.

Confession available Friday 8:30–9:30 a.m.

bit.ly/smcffasep26



NEW PARISHIONER RECEPTION

New to Saint Matthew—or just looking to get more connected?



RSVP

Join us for a warm and welcoming reception to the Saint Matthew community. Enjoy light refreshments and learn more about our vibrant parish. This is a great opportunity to meet new friends and get involved in the life of the church. We can't wait to see you there!

Sunday, Sept. 20, 9:30 a.m., Parish Conference Center

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.



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 2026-2027 school year for Religious Education (PreK-6th) and Ignite (7th-8th). The first sessions of R.E. and Ignite will be Sunday, Sept. 13. Please register your children by Thursday, Sept. 10. To learn more about these engaging programs and register, visit bit.ly/smcreled. For questions, email tjesse@stmatthewtn.org.



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.



HEART OF MARY HOUSE 4TH ANNUAL DINNER

HONORING

Fr. Andrew Bulso

November 7 | 6:30PM | Catholic Pastoral Center

RESERVE YOUR SEAT

learn more by scanning the QR Code



A Place at the Table
where we all belong



JOIN US FOR
MANE EVENT

SAINT MATTHEW SCHOOL
HAVANA
October 3, 2026 *Nights*

PRESENTING SPONSOR
MID-TENN FORD
615-259-2050
www.midtennfordtrucks.com

Tickets
Sponsorships
Event Details

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!

UPCOMING EVENTS

16th annual
Saint Matthew Haiti Ministry
Presents
21+

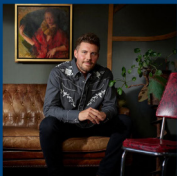


A SONGWRITERS' NIGHT

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







8TH ANNUAL

FRIENDS OF THE POOR

5K WALK/RUN

All proceeds benefit our neighbors in need including,
FOOD, RENT, UTILITIES, MEDICINE, ETC...

**SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 26**



Scan to register, sign up
as a sponsor, and learn
more about this great
community event, or visit:

8 A.M. REGISTRATION OPENS
9 A.M. RACE START

Donation:
\$20 Adults (16+)
\$10 Kids
\$50 Family Friendly Rate

Location:
St. Cecilia Academy Track
4210 Harding Pike

www.bit.ly/svdppwalkrun26

MEET THE ARTIST - RYAN LARKINS

Ryan Larkins is a Nashville native, award-winning songwriter and recording artist whose credits include Cody Johnson's No. 1 hit "The Painter," which earned him the 2024 NSAI Song of the Year award and ACM and CMA nominations. He has also co-written with country legends including Dolly Parton and Bill Anderson and recently released "Love Flies," featuring Vince Gill.

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 above!

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. This family-friendly event offers a great opportunity to have fun with your kids while teaching them to help others. Scan the QR code above to learn more, register, or become a sponsor.

Need Assistance? Call our SVdP hotline at 615-550-5130. All calls are handled completely anonymously.

ACE DINNER

Featuring the Pearls of Wisdom Auction

WEDNESDAY | SEPT. 30, 2026 | 6:00-9:00PM

ACE
Advancement of Catholic Education

NCBWL
Nashville Catholic Business Women's League

DioceseofNashville.com/ACE

TONY'S REFLECTION

TAKE UP YOUR CROSS

Human nature abhors suffering. We go out of our way to avoid even the slightest distress. Today, cars are equipped with heated seats and heated steering wheels so we can avoid those brief moments of chills on a winter day. Because the cultural air we breathe trains us to surround ourselves with comfort and luxury, when we hear clear messages from Christ about denying ourselves and taking up our cross, we bristle. In fact, Jesus's words of His own suffering caught Peter off guard.

Last week Peter's confession of Jesus as the Son of God was inspired by the Father. In this exchange, Peter's instinct to object to a suffering Messiah comes from fallen man, not from God. On his own, Peter cannot see the spiritual necessity of Jesus's passion for sinners. When Peter denies Jesus's mission, Jesus's response is striking: "Get behind me, Satan!" This exchange denotes that to become a hindrance to God's sacrificial will implies a demonic source to overthrow God's plan.

Yes, it's much easier for churches to sell stillness than surrender, to sell pleasantries than hard truth that demands an act of the will. To follow Jesus is to take up a cross, to deny yourself—your priorities, preferences, and comforts. It is to be willing to give it all up, even life itself, for the sake of His Gospel. The Christian pedigree is one of suffering and martyrdom. The early Church was founded upon the broken, pierced corpses of heroic martyrs, and it was bonded with the mortar of their blood.

While the cross is a stumbling block for us, the whole point of denying ourselves, accepting our cross, and giving up our life is that God's suffering leads to glory. As St. Theresa of Avila expressed, "If you only knew the grace that comes from suffering, you'd be begging for more."

Because Peter is so alarmed to hear the first part of Jesus's plan to suffer, he missed the second part of Jesus's sentence, "and on the third day be raised." Oftentimes the emotional shock of turmoil blinds us to see God's full plan. Jesus did not say His hour is near for him to die, but to be glorified. He grouped Calvary and his triumph together as He would do after His resurrection when speaking to His disciples on the road to Emmaus, "Was not it to be expected that the Christ should undergo these sufferings and enter into His glory?" (Luke 24:26)

The key hinge is to fixate more on the glory than the suffering aspect. In our faith, we don't just suffer for the sake of suffering. Much like the agony in a workout leads to a good effect — a healthy body — so too the distress in the soul can lead to its sanctification. While Jesus indicates that suffering and self-denial are essential to the Christian life (Rom 8:17, Col 1:24), it is vital for us to see that the suffering has a point to it. When we fixate on God and unite our suffering to Him, He will point us to the glory that awaits us.

MARRIAGE RETREATS

RETRouvaille MARRIAGE RETREAT

Has your romance faded? Do you argue without reaching resolution? Are you more like roommates than soul mates? Have you grown apart? Is your marriage in crisis? Why wait for a better marriage?

Retrouvaille can help you: Rebuild your emotional connection. Learn healthy communication methods. Manage conflicts effectively. Forgive and rebuild trust. Rediscover your love. September 4-6, 2026. For more information, visit helpourmarriage.org.



TOGETHER IN HOLINESS™
CONFERENCE SERIES

A CATHOLIC MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT CONFERENCE

**SEPTEMBER 12, 2026
NASHVILLE, TN**

WHERE SPOUSES DISCOVER GOD'S PLAN FOR THEIR FAMILY

PRESENTED BY

St. John Paul II Foundation | DIOCESE OF NASHVILLE

TOGETHERINHOLINESS.ORG/NASHVILLE

"Family, become what you are."
- St. John Paul II

BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL FOR MINISTRIES

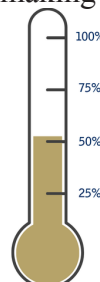
We have officially crossed the halfway mark toward our 2026 Bishop's Annual Appeal for Ministries goal! Thanks to your generosity, Saint Matthew has now contributed \$87,809 toward our \$173,000 parish goal—51% of the way there! Thank you to everyone who has helped us reach this important milestone.

There is still more work to do, and every gift makes a difference. The Bishop's Annual Appeal supports ministries that form future priests and deacons, foster vocations, grow the faith of children and young adults, feed those in need, and make childcare more affordable for working families. We see the impact of this support right here at Saint Matthew through our seminarians and our growing culture of vocations. If you have not yet participated, please consider making a gift. We are looking for 109 more families to support this ministry this year. Many hands make light work. Thank you for your support!



2026 Raised: \$87,809
2026 Goal: \$173,000

2026 Participation: 116 Families
2026 Participation Goal: 225 Families



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



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



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. If you'd like to serve, there is a Core Team training session tonight, August 30, at 5:30 p.m. in the P.C.C.

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

www.stmatthewtn.org

