



Saint Matthew

CATHOLIC CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 6, 2026 + TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER



“Where two or three are
gathered together in my name,
THERE AM I
in the midst of them.”

Matthew: 18:20

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:

📍 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

Don't forget to register your children for our Religious Education programs for the 2026-2027 school year. Designed to help children know and live their faith throughout their lives, our RE programs are for students in Prek through 6th grades and our Ignite program is for students in 7th and 8th grades. Please register your children by Thursday, Sept. 10 as the programs begin on Sunday, Sept. 13, and run between the Masses (9:45-10:45 a.m.). To learn more about these engaging programs and register, visit bit.ly/smcreled. For questions, email tjesse@stmatthewtn.org.



KNOW SOMEONE LONGING FOR THE FAITH?

Have you ever felt a longing to know the truth more deeply, to grow in faith, or to discover what the Catholic Church believes and why? Do you have a friend or loved one looking for the faith? OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) is a step-by-step journey of faith, prayer, and learning for adults and older children who are interested in becoming Catholic. OCIA is also for those who were baptized Catholic or another Christian tradition but never received all of the Sacraments of Initiation and now desire to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church.

If you or someone you know is interested in exploring the Catholic faith, please fill out the inquiry form by scanning or visiting bit.ly/sm-cocia26. OCIA kicks off with a meet and greet on Tuesday, Sept. 15 at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Conference Center. We hope to see you there. Email tjesse@stmatthewtn.org with any questions.

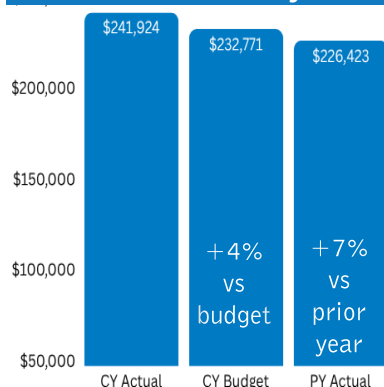


STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

~ FOR THE WEEK OF AUG 17-23 & 24-30 ~

REGULAR COLLECTIONS (AUG 17-23)	\$23,003
REGULAR COLLECTIONS (AUG 24-30)	\$32,696
HAITI	\$1,218
ST. GIANNA CIRCLE	\$205

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:

Catholic University of America



LITURGY SCHEDULE (SEPTEMBER 5-11)

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass

✦ For the People of the Parish

8:30 a.m. Mass

✦ For Zoey Cable

11:00 a.m. Mass

✦ Taffy Armbruster

• Ezekiel 33:7-9

• Romans 13:8-10

• Matthew 18:15-20

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

8:00 a.m. Mass

✦ For the Propaedeutic Seminarists

• 1 Corinthians 5:1-8

• Luke 6:6-11

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:00 a.m. Mass

✦ Donnie Ray Jeffers

• Micah 5:1-4a

• Matthew 1:1-16, 18-23

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Saint Peter Claver

7:00 p.m. Mass

✦ For Tram Tran

• 1 Corinthians 7:25-31

• Luke 6:20-26

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

8:00 a.m. Mass

✦ For All New Parishioners

• 1 Corinthians 8:1b-7, 11-13

• Luke 6:27-38

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

8:00 a.m. Mass

✦ William Lawson

• 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22b-27

• Luke 6:39-42

✦ **Special Intention**

✦ *May they rest in peace*

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

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED LABOR DAY

The Church and School offices are closed on Monday, September 7, in honor of Labor Day. Enjoy your long weekend!

WOMEN'S CLUB MEETING

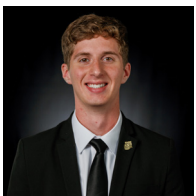
Join the Saint Matthew Women's Club for a social afternoon as they kick off a new year with new leadership. This casual afternoon is a great opportunity to meet new friends, catch up with old ones, enjoy a special moment of prayer together as women, and learn about the plans for the year.

The kickoff is next Sunday, Sept. 13 at noon in the Parish Conference Center. Light refreshments will be served. Babies in laps are welcome.

Thank you to Angela Courtney, Susan Beem, and Erin Llorens who stepped up to continue this marvelous ministry. You may reach them by emailing womensclub@stmatthewtn.org. They hope to see you there!

WELCOME SEMINARIANS

Saint Matthew is pleased to welcome two Propaedeutic Seminarists, Andrew Carter and Jeff Helm, this semester. They will be with us on Wednesdays, Fridays, and Sundays. They will both spend time serving in the church office and in the school. Join us in welcoming Andrew (left) and Jeff



(right) and helping them feel at home as they discern their vocation and grow in faith at Saint Matthew!



EMHC TRAINING

Serve the Church as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion. EMHC training is being held for **all current and interested ministers**. Attendance at one session is mandatory for those who wish to continue or begin serving as an EMHC. Times are:

- Thursday, September 17 | 6:30 p.m. | Church
- Sunday, September 27 | Noon | Church

If you cannot attend either session, please contact Kelly Ott at kott@stmatthewtn.org to make other arrangements.

AOH MEETINGS

All Irish Catholic men are invited to join the Ancient Order of Hibernians on Thursday, Sept. 10, at 7 p.m. in the Parish Conference Center. The meeting is open to all prospective members and a social hour will follow at Rippy's on Highway 100.

HALFWAY TO ST. PATRICK'S DAY

AOH is hosting a halfway to Saint Patrick's Day gathering on Thursday, Sept. 17, on the patio at Rippy's on Highway 100 at 6 p.m. Wear Green!

FATHER TRAN PASTORAL INSTALLATION

Father Tran has asked you to keep him in your prayers as Bishop Spalding will officially install him as Pastor of Saint Patrick on Sunday, Sept. 13, at 9 a.m. He extends an invitation to all to join for this joyous occasion.

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

FEAST OF SAINT MATTHEW - SEPT. 21

Let's celebrate the feast of Saint Matthew together as a community. Join us for a special Mass at 6 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 21, and then enjoy a free dinner in the Cohan-Hansom Building. Scan to RSVP.





It is great to be back at Saint Matthew after becoming a father. Thank you all for the well wishes, prayers, meals, and baby presents. My family truly appreciates all you have done for us as we welcomed baby PJ into our family. I am sure you will have an opportunity to meet him soon, as he will be around SMS quite a bit!

In my absence, the school year is off to a fantastic start. Our students are joyful and happy to be back in the classroom. They are enjoying a multitude of extracurricular activities, and they are smiling from ear to ear. Seeing the joy our students bring to our building is always such a blessing and truly embodies who we are at SMS.

Please pray for our students as they journey through the 2026–2027 school year, that it may be filled with blessings, opportunities for them to grow in their faith, and continued joy with their teachers, coaches, and friends. I look forward to sharing stories from the school year in the future. God Bless!



CUB SCOUTS

Cub Scout Pack 287 is a family pack for K–5 graders, welcoming both boys and girls based here at Saint Matthew. Our scouts enjoy all kinds of activities, including camping, hiking, service projects, religion, Pinewood Derby car building, learning life skills, building and racing boats, and so much more! The whole family is welcome to participate.

You can still join us this year! Our next meeting is Sunday, September 13, at 1 p.m. in the Cohan-Hansom Building. Come to a meeting to learn more or register at bit.ly/pack287. For more information, email Doug Kennedy at pack287@stmatthewtn.org.



CATHOLIC SCOUTS GRADES 7–12

Grow in Your Faith Through Scouting

AD ALTARE DEI

"To the Altar of God"

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS • 1926–2026

Ad Altare Dei is the Catholic religious emblem program centered on the **Seven Sacraments**, prayer, service and reflection.



SEPT–DEC 2026
Formation & Activities



JANUARY 2027
Board of Review



FEBRUARY 6, 2027
Medal presented by
Bishop J. Mark Spalding
at Scout Sunday Mass



**REGISTRATION CLOSES
SEPTEMBER 8**



SCAN TO REGISTER!



Don't miss this opportunity!



Open to Catholic youth in **grades 7–12**
and **under age 18** as of December 31, 2026.

DIOCESE OF NASHVILLE
CATHOLIC COMMITTEE ON SCOUTING

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+

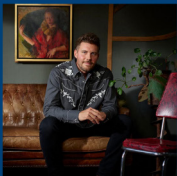


A SONGWRITERS' NIGHT

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



MEET THE ARTIST - FRASER CHURCHILL

Fraser Churchill is a Grammy-nominated English/Canadian songwriter who studied music at Paul McCartney's LIPA in Liverpool. His credits include Charlie Puth's "Patient," Mickey Guyton's Grammy-nominated "Black Like Me," and songs recorded by Michael Bublé, Lukas Graham, Walker Hayes, Chase Matthew, and Ronan Keating.

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! Don't forget to bring a lawnchair and enjoy the show!

CALLING ALL MEN: THAT MAN IS YOU!

That Man Is You! is returning to Saint Matthew for another year! This dynamic men's program addresses the pressures and temptations men face in today's culture, particularly in their roles as husbands and fathers. Through a combination of current social and medical science, Church teaching, and the wisdom of the saints, TMIY helps men develop the vision of becoming men fully alive.

Open to all men, the group meets weekly on Saturday mornings at 7 a.m. in the Parish Conference Center, beginning Sept. 19.

Scan the QR code to learn more and fill out an interest form. For questions, contact Aaron Frankovic at aaron.frankovic@gmail.com.



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.

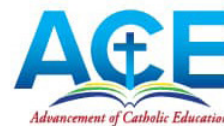
COMMUNITY SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS

We are looking for a few families to volunteer for a Community Sunday on October 4. Sign up to help with one of the Masses at bit.ly/smccomsun.

ACE DINNER

Featuring the Pearls of Wisdom Auction

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



DioceseofNashville.com/ACE

TONY'S REFLECTION

FRATERNAL CORRECTION

Winston Churchill once said, "The criticisms may not be agreeable, but it is necessary." Given society's overemphasis on self-esteem, psychologists have found that people tend to avoid constructive criticism because it provokes negative feedback that cuts in the opposite direction of our self-affirmation desires. With constructive criticism, we come to the crossroads of knowing we need it but being too mentally weak to want it.

From the Biblical vantage point, constructive criticism is known as fraternal correction. Fraternal correction is one of the most powerful and, sadly, most neglected expressions of willing the good of the other. Far from being judgmental, it is an act of mercy. Fraternal correction is rooted in such phrases in Proverbs as "He who heeds rebuke gains understanding," and "rebuke a wise man, and he will love you." In today's Gospel, Jesus announces the importance of fraternal correction. Notice that both the Gospel and the First Reading presume that believers have a duty to correct sinners in our midst. Ezekiel is even told that he will be held accountable for their souls if he fails to speak out to correct them.

People tend to drift into two extremes with fraternal correction. At one extreme is the person who is obsessed with wanting to be liked by all, so they never correct anyone for fear of being despised. At the other extreme is the person who goes out of his way to nitpick incredibly minor flaws of others to demonstrate his moral superiority. Neither case is authentic because fraternal correction is rooted in helping the others' salvation, not merely boosting one's ego. Therefore, we want to avoid falling into these two camps.

The deciding factor in fraternal correction is that we are desiring the other's salvation out of love. Therefore, don't hand out fraternal correction on trivial matters, but on those that jeopardize the other's salvation. Jesus implores correction in those instances when others have sinned against you, rupturing their relationship from God and from you. The formula Jesus outlines for fraternal correction starts with going to this person privately. Oftentimes, people might skip over this and instead blast a post on social media or gossip about that person behind their back. Yet, Jesus challenges us to have a one-on-one charitable conversation to win them back. If the private discussion does not help one's sinful behavior, Jesus's next option is through the witness of others. Here, we enter an intervention-type scenario. Finally, Jesus presents the Church as the final arbitrator to help turn people from their false path.

A priest once said, forgiveness is the basis of fraternal correction in that when you forgive someone, you release them from the injury they caused you. Once this happens, you will approach fraternal correction as a means of forgiveness and not an avenue to assert your dominance over them. To love our neighbors as ourselves is to be vitally concerned for their salvation. We must correct them, forgive them, and then make every effort to win them back to Christ.

FAITH & COMMUNITY

WALK IN HONOR OF GABRIELLE BRAULT

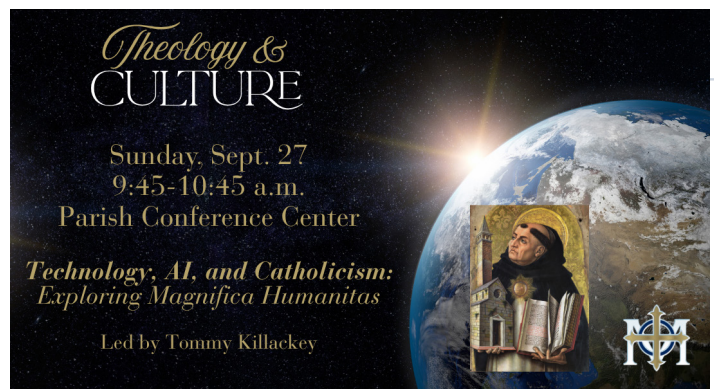
The Brault family invites you to join their *Live Joyfully* team for the St. Jude Walk/Run to End Childhood Cancer on Saturday, Sept. 12, at 8:45 a.m. at First Horizon Park in honor of Gabrielle. Wear gray for brain cancer awareness and pink, Gabrielle's favorite color. The walk is free; donations welcome. Sign up or donate at bit.ly/stjudelivejoyfully.

PRAYER SERVICE FOR VICTIMS OF ABORTION

Join the Saint Matthew Respect for Life Ministry and other organizations around Nashville for a special prayer service on Saturday, Sept. 12, at 1 p.m. at Calvary Cemetery in the Garden of Angels. Father Anthony will lead the service. Contact Mary Starr at maryestarr25@gmail.com for more information.

SAINT MATTHEW DAY OF SERVICE

All spots have been filled for our Day of Service with Graceworks on Saturday, Sept. 19. To join the waitlist, please email Alex Halfmann at ahalfmann@stmatthewtn.org. If you have previously registered and can no longer make it, please cancel your registration online and email Alex so we can ensure we have all 50 spots filled. Thank you!



Theology & CULTURE

Sunday, Sept. 27
9:45-10:45 a.m.
Parish Conference Center

*Technology, AI, and Catholicism:
Exploring Magnifica Humanitas*

Led by Tommy Killackey

The poster features a background image of the Earth from space, with a small inset image of a saint (likely St. Thomas Aquinas) holding a book. The text is in a mix of serif and sans-serif fonts, with some words in italics.



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 and DIOCESE OF NASHVILLE

TOGETHERINHOLINESS.ORG/NASHVILLE

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

The poster features a background image of a couple in a close embrace, with a small inset image of St. John Paul II. The text is in a mix of serif and sans-serif fonts, with some words in italics.

YOUTH MINISTRIES

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

**SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 13**

IN THE PCC
5:30-7:30PM

ALL 9-12TH GRADERS WELCOME

REGISTER




REGISTER FOR FORGE KICKOFF

All 6-8th graders are invited to join our Forge Middle School Ministry program for their 2026-2027 kickoff next Sunday, Sept. 13, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Drop off your kids at the Cohan Hansom and pick up will be at the SMS playground. Middle schoolers will enjoy a night of messy games, food, and fun with friends! Be sure to wear clothes and shoes you can get dirty/wet in. Don't forget a towel for pick up! Register via the QR code in the above graphic!

2026-2027 Registrations



RISE

Contact
mmiller@stmatthewtn.org



Forge



RISE
SAINT MATTHEW YOUTH MINISTRY

BIBLE STUDY

BEGINNING

September 16th

Wednesdays

- 6-7 p.m. Adoration & Confession
- 7 p.m. Mass
- 7:30-8:30 p.m. Pizza and Bible Study

Come to as much or as little as you can.
All 9-12th graders welcome!



Register for RISE

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

