



Saint Matthew

CATHOLIC CHURCH

OCTOBER 4, 2026 + TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER

**“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.”**

Matthew 21:42

To The Glory of God
St. Matthew
Church 1992
School 2001
Addition 2005

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
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🌐 www.stmatthewtn.org
📱 @stmatthewtn

PASTOR:

Father Justin Raines

ASSOCIATE PASTOR:

Father Anthony Stewart

DEACON:

Bill Forte

PARISH SPOTLIGHT

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED THURSDAY

The Church Office will be closed on Thursday, Oct. 8 as the church staff attends their annual staff retreat. Mass will still be offered at 8 a.m. and the school office is not affected by this. Thank you for keeping us in your prayers.

RESPECT LIFE SUNDAY - OCTOBER 4

Today is Respect Life Sunday, a day dedicated to praying for and affirming the dignity of every human life. Join our Respect for Life Ministry this afternoon at 3 p.m. in the chapel as we pray the Rosary and the Chaplet for the Unborn. All are welcome to join us in prayer!

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU: COLUMBARIUM SURVEY

Our parish is exploring the possibility of building a columbarium—a sacred, permanent structure on our grounds for the placement of cremated remains. As we begin the planning and feasibility stages, your input is essential to help us understand the needs and desires of our congregation.

Please take a few minutes to complete our brief survey. Your feedback will guide our leadership team.

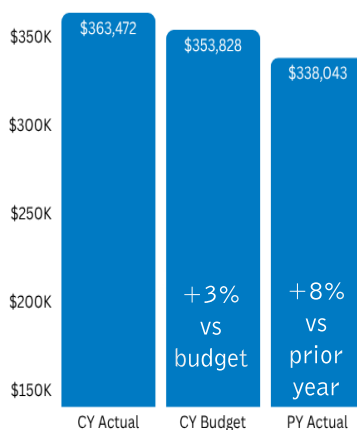


STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

~ FOR THE WEEK OF SEPT. 21-27 ~

REGULAR COLLECTIONS	\$20,088
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL	\$1,241

YTD Summary Thru 9/30



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:

Seminarian Education

Registered Parish Families: 1,347



LITURGY SCHEDULE OCTOBER 3-9

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass

✦ For the People of the Parish

8:30 a.m. Mass

✦ Roger Smith

11:00 a.m. Mass

✦ Lynn L. Davis

• Isaiah 5:1-7

• Philippians 4:6-9

• Matthew 21:33-43

MONDAY, OCTOBER 5

8:00 a.m. Mass

✦ Stephanie Sheehan

• Galatians 1:6-12

• Luke 10:25-37

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6

8:00 a.m. Mass

✦ For Dung Tran

• Galatians 1:13-24

• Luke 10:38-42

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7

Our Lady of the Rosary

7:00 p.m. Mass

✦ Raymond Trainor

• Galatians 2:1-2, 7-14

• Luke 11:1-4

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8

8:00 a.m. Mass

✦ Souls in Purgatory

• Galatians 3:1-5

• Luke 11:5-13

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9

8:00 a.m. Mass

✦ Loftus Andrew Morrissey III

• Galatians 3:7-14

• Luke 11:15-26

✦ **Special Intention**

✦ *May they rest in peace*

TO RESERVE MASS INTENTIONS,

VISIT BIT.LY/SMCMASSINTENTION

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

SAINT MATTHEW NEWS

SAINTS AND SWEETS

The Women's Club and Saint Gianna Circle invite all women of the parish to join them for a joint meeting this Wednesday, Oct. 7, at 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Conference Center. Join them for a special evening themed, *Saints and Sweets*. Meet new friends, catch up with old ones, and grow in faith as women. Babies in laps are welcome. See you there!

NURSERY UNAVAILABLE

The nursery will be unavailable the weekend of October 10 and 11. Families are welcome to use the training chapel if needed.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Community Sundays rely on volunteers. Simply put, if we don't have volunteers, these gatherings don't happen. Sign your family up today to pass out doughnuts and serve coffee to our community!



Community Sunday Signup

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO SERVE COFFEE & DOUGHNUTS ON SUNDAY, OCT. 11

QUESTIONS?
CCURRAN@STMATTHEW.TN.ORG



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, Oct. 7. To get involved with this ministry or to join the volunteer list, email Bill Thomson at bthomson7504@gmail.com.

OCTOBER LUNCH BUNCH REGISTRATION



B I N G O

Tues., Oct. 13 **Noon-2 p.m.**
Narthex **\$12**

October Theme:
HALLOWEEN

All parishioners ages 55 and up are invited to come enjoy lunch, fellowship, and an afternoon of Bingo! Please register to reserve a meal. Bring a prize valued at \$10

bit.ly/smclboct26



Eternal Life

CATHOLIC GUIDANCE FOR END-OF-LIFE PREPARATION

How do we prepare for the end of life in a way that reflects our Catholic faith—and how can we help our loved ones do the same?

Join Saint Matthew for a three-part series exploring the spiritual, practical, and financial aspects of end-of-life preparation guided by our faith.

Discover:

- Catholic teaching on end-of-life decisions
- Burial vs cremation and other FAQs
- The Anointing of the Sick and Funeral Mass
- Funeral and end-of-life planning
- Estate planning and leaving a legacy
- Sharing your intentions with loved ones



Learn more
and RSVP at

bit.ly/smceternallife

Sunday Nov. 8, 15 & 22 | 9:45–10:45 a.m. | Parish Conference Center

SAINT MATTHEW SCHOOL NEWS

READY TO DISCOVER THE SAINT MATTHEW DIFFERENCE?

Seeking Knowledge + Modeling Christ +
Serving Others

COFFEE
WITH THE
PRINCIPAL



Wednesday
OCTOBER 21
8:15am

WE SAVED
YOU A
SEAT!



Register online

www.stmatthewtn.org/school/admissions

Zoom and in-person options available.



Saint Matthew School

Saint Matthew Market

ATTENTION VENDORS
SCAN HERE TO APPLY!

• ART •
• JEWELRY •
• FOOD •

HANDMADE
ITEMS

SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 1

533 SNEED RD. W FRANKLIN, TN

Questions? Please email Jodie Richter at jodiefelix@hotmail.com



Please join us to learn more about Saint Matthew School
and what it means to live out our motto of
+Seeking Knowledge + Modeling Christ + Serving Others+

OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, November 8
12:00 pm - 2:00 pm



Apple Distinguished School



REGISTER AT WWW.STMATTHEWTN.ORG/SCHOOL 533 SNEED ROAD W., FRANKLIN, TENNESSEE 37069 615-662-4044 PRE-K - 8

MINISTRY NEWS

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY GATHERING

Join our Prayer Shawl Ministry as they gather to knit and crochet shawls for those in need of comfort and prayer. Their next meeting is Monday, October 19, at 1 p.m. in the Parish Conference Center. Whether you are experienced or just want to learn, all are welcome—yarn is provided!

Have a finished shawl? Bring it with you or drop it by the church office to be blessed and shared with someone facing illness, grief, or hardship. To get involved or request a shawl, contact Mary at maryestarr25@gmail.com.

TRUNK-OR-TREATING - OCT. 25

All families are invited to our annual Trunk-or-Treating Event on Sunday, Oct. 25, from 3-5 p.m.! Enjoy trunk-or-treating, a bouncy slide, dancing, face painting, costume contests, the Best Trunk Contest, and more. This event is hosted by the Saint Gianna Circle Mothers' Ministry.

Families are encouraged to host a trunk and join the fun! If you cannot host a trunk, you are still welcome to come and enjoy the free festivities. Please bring only sealed, nut-free treats; non-candy treats such as pencils, toys, stickers, fidgets, etc. are welcome.



SONGWRITERS' NIGHT THANK YOU

We are grateful to share that, together, we raised over \$30,000 through our 16th annual *Well Played: A Songwriters' Night*. Every donation has the potential to provide food, education, healthcare, employment, and a stronger Catholic community. Your gifts of hope affirm the inherent value of every life.

Thank you to our generous supporters for helping build and foster a lasting kinship with Our Lady of Miracles Church and School in Gobert, Haiti.



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

PLATINUM SPONSORS

Clay & Kim Teter

Mark & Joan Warrick

GOLD SPONSORS

Callahan Family Fund

Tom & Julie Connor

Dr. Janet Dittus & Tim Wibking

John & Angela Durland

Greg & Rebekah Pope

Barney & Beth Schulte

Matthew & Anne Margaret Weishaar

SILVER SPONSORS



Glenn & Charlene Allen, Jim & Angelia Brunner, The Kelley Family, Julie & Ralph Perrey, Mark & Mary Peters



FAMILY SPONSORS

Craig & Georganne DeMille, Gary & Ann Mayfield, The Morrissey Family, Kent & Marye Pat Skinner, Tom & Debbie Sloan

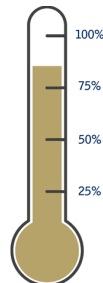
OCTOBER UPDATE: BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL FOR MINISTRIES

As we enter the final quarter of the calendar year, we are well on our way to meeting our \$173,000 goal for the Bishop's Annual appeal. Thus far, 126 parish families have already participated, giving \$145,461 (84%). However, we have another important goal to reach: 225 participating families.

The Bishop's Annual Appeal supports ministries throughout the Diocese of Nashville, including seminarian education and vocations, Catholic formation for children and young adults, outreach to those in need, and initiatives that strengthen families and our Catholic community. At Saint Matthew, we are blessed to see the impact of these ministries firsthand, particularly through the seminarians and vocations being supported in our parish.

If your family has not yet participated, we invite you to join us. You do not have to make a large gift to make a difference. Some of the most common gifts we receive are \$100 one-time gifts and recurring gifts of \$25, \$50, or \$100 per month. Every family that participates helps us reach our goal and strengthens the work of the Church throughout Middle Tennessee.

Help us reach 225 participating families. Scan the QR code to make your gift today.



2026 Raised: \$145,461
2026 Goal: \$173,000

2026 Participation: 126 Families
2026 Participation Goal: 225 Families

TONY'S REFLECTION

DON'T SHOOT THE MESSENGER

You've heard the phrase, "Don't shoot the messenger." It insinuates that the person who delivers bad news to people is not well liked. Here, we must ask why the messenger receives so much hostility? Blessed Fulton Sheen once observed, "The good repent on knowing their sin; the evil becomes angry when their sin is discovered." What Blessed Sheen is getting at is that there is a movement towards the fact of one's sin – a person either works to get rid of the sin or becomes irritated at this discovery of the sin. Enraged at the sin's discovery, they seek to remove the very entity that exposes their sin. This spiritual insight parallels Jesus's assessment in The Parable of the Wicked Tenants. In this parable, the tenants of a vineyard end up killing the servants and the Son of the vineyard owner because they are delivering news they don't want to hear.

The basic meaning of the parable boils down to: the vineyard is Jerusalem, the tenants are the chief priests and leaders of Israel. The servants sent to the vineyard are the Old Testament prophets; the son is Jesus Himself; the vineyard owner is God the Father. Therefore, the judgment on the tenants is a prediction of the destruction of Jerusalem, which was to happen within a generation (AD 70).

It should be noted that the Old Testament prophets didn't have great news for the rulers of Israel. Isaiah told them, "Your hands are full of blood!" (Isaiah 1:15). Hosea told them their hands are mingled with blood (Hosea 4:2), and Micah mentioned they are building up the city with blood (Micah 3:10). Prophets that provided dire news to Israel's kings tended to have a short lifespan. What is implied by the parable is that the tenants wanted full ownership of the vineyard for their gain. Alas, they said, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and acquire his inheritance.' Besides not liking the Son's message, this parable also shows us that Israel's leaders were obsessed with acquiring God's inheritance for their own power, prestige, and income. They didn't view God's inheritance as a beautiful overflow to being in union with God, but merely viewed God's inheritance for their personal advantage. Any threat to this inheritance needed to be removed so they could reap the rewards of God's heritage.

In a similar vein, people may want to kill off the hard-to-hear teaching of their Catholic faith; bury it under the rug so they can continue in their sins, and acquire their own personal pleasure. So, the messages against contraception, against receiving the Eucharist in an unworthy manner, the call to penance might be met with similar pushback – don't like the message so let us take down the messenger. As Jesus announced, "Light has come into the world, and men loved their darkness rather than the light, because their deeds were evil." (John 3:19)

Instead of trying to ignore the light or remove the light, we are called to run to the light and let go of the darkness. In the end, the light always wins.

FAITH & COMMUNITY

40 DAYS FOR LIFE

The 40 Days for Life campaign is a focused



40-day prayer vigil for an end to abortion, and is happening now. While Planned Parenthood locations in Tennessee no longer perform abortions due to state pro-life laws, they continue to refer women to out-of-state abortion providers. Your prayers can help save precious preborn lives. The campaign runs through Sunday, Nov. 1. See special campaign events and register for a time slot to pray at 40daysforlife.com/nashville.

HOLY FAMILY GOLF CLASSIC

Sign up to play in the Holy Family Golf Classic on Monday, Oct. 12 (Columbus Day). Organized by the Knights of Columbus, funds raised are distributed throughout the year to their outreach programs including Habitat for Humanity, 40 Cans Food Drive, Coats for Kids, Disaster Relief, Pregnancy Support and more. Register at HolyFamilyGolfClassic.com.

DIOCESAN RED MASS

Bishop Spalding will celebrate the Red Mass for legal professionals on Friday, Oct. 23, at 12:10 p.m. at the Cathedral of the Incarnation. All are welcome. For more details, visit nashvillefaithformation.com.

MAGNIFICAT MEAL

Magnificat is a Catholic ministry encouraging women to grow in holiness through faith-sharing, prayer, and openness to the Holy Spirit. The Nashville chapter hosts special meals featuring prayer, fellowship, and inspiring Catholic speakers. The next Nashville meal is Saturday, October 24, featuring speaker Christine Watkins. For more information and registration, visit bit.ly/magnash.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR OCTOBER

The Holy Father invites the faithful and people of good will to pray that the Church may become an open house, able to accompany without judging and without casting aside those who face difficulties with their mental health. Learn more and pray with the Pope at popesprayer.va/praywiththepope.

RISE YOUTH MINISTRY

FORGE MEETING TONIGHT

All middle school students are invited to join Forge tonight, Sunday, Oct. 4, from 5:30–7:30 p.m. as they pursue honor through an evening of pizza, reflection, the Top Teen Wolf game, and free gym play! With the theme “The Wolf in Sheep’s Clothing,” come enjoy time together with friends while also growing in the faith. Drop-off is at the Cohan-Hansom Building, and pick-up is at the gym. RSVP at bit.ly/forgeoct26.



THIS WEEK WITH RISE

About tonight’s RISE Night: What makes the Gospels so important to our faith? Join us at RISE for “4 in 1” as we explore the four Gospels and how each one helps us encounter Jesus and the good news of His life, Death, and Resurrection. We’ll kick things off with a fun competition, explore each Gospel through interactive stations and discussion, and spend time praying with Scripture.

Fall Break: RISE will not be meeting on next Sunday, Oct. 11, due to fall break. The Bible Study is off on Wednesday, Oct. 14. RISE resumes Oct. 18.

2026-2027 Youth Ministry Registrations

Contact: mmiller@stmatthewtn.org

RISE (H.S.) Forge (M.S.)

BIBLE STUDY
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

HIGH SCHOOL FALL RETREAT REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

Filius Dei Sum
I Am a Child of God
Soy hijo/a de Dios

HIGH SCHOOL FALL RETREAT

At Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp and Retreat Center
Featuring Speaker Alex Gotay, also known as Dr. G

En el Campamento Juvenil Católico y Centro de Retiros Gasper River
Con la participación del orador Alex Gotay, también conocido como Dr. G.

Hosted in partnership with

OCTOBER
OCTUBRE
23-25

Logos for Saint Philip Catholic Church, RISE, Holy Rosary, and St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church.

Saint Matthew is partnering with several other youth groups for our 2026 Fall Retreat: *Filius Dei Sum*, or *I am a Child of God*. The cost is \$150 per child. Financial assistance is available by contacting Michaela. Scan the QR code for more details and to register. Please **register by Saturday, Oct. 10.**

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



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

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SCHOOL: 615-662-4044

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

www.stmatthewtn.org

