



Saint Matthew

CATHOLIC CHURCH

OCTOBER 11, 2026 + TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER



Pieter Aertsen: The Parable of the Royal Wedding, circa 1570

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

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU: COLUMBARIUM SURVEY

Saint Matthew is exploring the possibility of developing a columbarium on parish property as an option for parishioners and their families who wish to have a Catholic burial place for cremated remains. A columbarium would provide a permanent, sacred place of rest and remembrance where families can visit, pray and honor those who have passed away.

We need 33% of registered families to complete the feasibility survey. You can scan the QR code below or visit the table in the narthex where you can fill out a paper survey before you leave today. The survey is three simple questions and should take less than one minute. Thank you for your feedback as it will guide our leadership team.



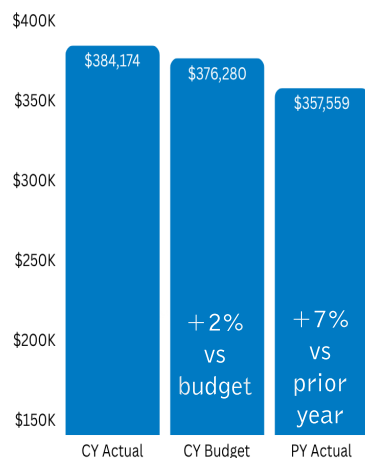
PLEASE TAKE OUR
**COLUMBARIUM
SURVEY**

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

~ FOR THE WEEK OF SEPT. 28 - OCT. 4 ~

REGULAR COLLECTIONS	\$41,571
BUILDING MAINT. & FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT	\$1,578

YTD Summary



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



Second Collections

This Week:

Seminarian Education

Next Week:

Haiti Ministry

World Mission Sunday

Registered Parish Families: 1,349



LITURGY SCHEDULE OCTOBER 10-16

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass

✦ For our SFM Facilities Team

8:30 a.m. Mass

✦ For the People of the Parish

11:00 a.m. Mass

✦ Taffy Armbruster

• Isaiah 25:6-10a

• Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20

• Matthew 22:1-14

MONDAY, OCTOBER 12

8:00 a.m. Mass

✦ For Therese Carrigan

• Galatians 4:22-24, 26-27, 31-5:1

• Luke 11:29-32

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13

8:00 a.m. Mass

✦ For Barbara Sturgeon

• Galatians 5:1-6

• Luke 11:37-41

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14

7:00 p.m. Mass

✦ Philip Sheehan

• Galatians 5:18-25

• Luke 11:42-46

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15

Saint Teresa of Jesus

8:00 a.m. Mass

✦ For Leah Miller

• Ephesians 1:11-14

• Luke 11:47-54

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16

8:00 a.m. Mass

✦ For Father James Grossheim

• Ephesians 1:11-14

• Luke 12:1-7

✦ **Special Intention**

✦ *May they rest in peace*

TO RESERVE MASS INTENTIONS,

VISIT BIT.LV/SMCMASSINTENTION

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

SCHOLA NEXT SUNDAY

Our Men's Schola is singing at the 11 a.m. Mass on Sunday, Oct. 18. This choir sings traditional hymns of the Church, primarily in Latin.

FALL BREAK MASS NOTE

All weekday Masses will be in the Chapel this week and the livestream will not be available.

MASS OF REMEMBRANCE - NOV. 2

On All Souls' Day, we will gather for our Mass of Remembrance at 7 p.m. to prayerfully remember those we have lost and commend them to God's loving care. If you have lost a loved one this past year (between November 2025 and the present), please email bereavement@stmatthewtn.org to have their name included in the Mass.

You are also invited to honor loved ones who have died at any time by adding their names to our Book of Remembrance. The book will be available in the narthex October 10–31. During the Mass of Remembrance, it will be displayed as we come together in prayer and remembrance.

SEMINARIAN EDUCATION

This weekend's second collection supports the Diocese of Nashville's Seminarian Education Fund, helping prepare the next generation of priests. This year, 37 seminarians are in formation across five seminaries, plus those in the Propaedeutic Stage.

Seminarian education and fostering a culture open to religious vocations are especially meaningful to us at Saint Matthew. Griffin Gartner, a Saint Matthew parishioner, is one of the diocese's seminarians, and we have two other parishioners in formation elsewhere. Our parish also partners in the Diocese's Propaedeutic Stage formation program.

Every gift to the Seminarian Education Fund also counts toward our goals for the Bishop's Annual Appeal. We have a parish goal of 225 participating families. With 128 families participating currently, every gift, no matter the size, helps us get closer to that goal. Please consider making a gift via the QR code or your second collection envelope.



BOX OF JOY

The Family Service Ministry invites you to fill a Box of Joy that will be delivered at Christmas to a child in a developing country. Fill a box with small toys or gifts, school supplies, clothing and accessories, and other useful items to bring joy to a child. Pick up a box from their table in the Narthex today.

This is great to do with your children! Include a personal note, handmade Christmas card or family photo to make your gift even more special. Please return filled boxes, along with a \$9 donation for shipping per box, to the church by November 13.

PROMOTE YOUR BUSINESS & SUPPORT HAITI

Limited vendor spots remain for the Haiti Market on Sunday, November 1! Local artisans, crafters and small businesses are invited to sign up to sell their products. The registration fee supports our Saint Matthew Haiti Ministry. Don't miss this opportunity to share your work with our parish community while supporting our brothers and sisters in Haiti.



UPCOMING COAT DRIVE

Our Room In The Inn Ministry is gearing up for their winter season and you can help. Warm winter coats remain their primary needs, but all items listed are needed. Thank you for your generosity!

Winter COAT DRIVE

MEN'S CLOTHING ONLY PLEASE

MOST NEEDED ITEMS

- ✓ Warm Winter Coats (new & gently used)
- ✓ Athletic Shoes (new & gently used)
- ✓ Blue Jeans and Belts (new & gently used)
- ✓ Sweatpants/Hoodies/Sweatshirts (new & gently used)
- ✓ Winter Hats & Gloves (new & gently used)
- ✓ See Amazon Wish List for additional items
- ✓ Volunteers

Donations accepted
October 14–26 in the Narthex.

Questions?
Rhea Forte 615-828-5950
Mary Peters 615-308-1930

Volunteer with RITI

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.



FALL BREAK

We wish all of you a safe and wonderful fall-break! Please note the school office is closed. We will see you back on Monday, Oct. 19.

CALLING ALL VETERANS

We are excited to host our parish veterans for a special Veterans Day celebration, hosted by our Saint Matthew fifth graders.

Join us so we can celebrate you, and thank you for your service. Following the performance, our veterans and their family members are invited to join us for refreshments in the Parish Conference Center. The event is Monday, Nov. 9, 2026, at 8:15 a.m. in the SMS gym. Doors open at 8 a.m.

Please RSVP by Friday, Nov. 6 at bit.ly/smsday26. You can also submit names of veterans who are unable to join us and we will pray for them.

CONNECT WITH SMS ON LINKEDIN

Saint Matthew School is officially on LinkedIn! We are excited to connect with families, alumni, community partners, and friends while sharing all the highlights of SMS. Follow us and help us grow our LinkedIn community at bit.ly/smsnlinkedln.



*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.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETING

All men are invited to join the Knights of Columbus on Monday, Oct. 12. Come for faith formation at 6:30 p.m., the meeting at 7 p.m. in the Saint Henry Parish Office, and food, drinks, and fraternity afterward around 8 p.m. Council 12012 proudly serves men of both Saint Matthew and Saint Henry. Email kofc12012@gmail.com for more information.

TRUNK OR TREAT - OCT. 25



TRUNK OR TREAT

CANDY, FUN & SPOOKY GOOD TIMES!

DATE: Sunday, October 25
TIME: 3 p.m. – 5 p.m.
LOCATION: Saint Matthew Catholic Church

BRING YOUR BAG AND COME JOIN THE FUN!

Sponsored by
ST. GIANNA CIRCLE

FRIENDS OF THE POOR THANK YOU

Thank you, Saint Matthew Community, for making our 8th Annual St. Vincent de Paul Society Friends of the Poor Walk/Run Event a tremendous success!

We were blessed with beautiful weather and our largest number of participants ever. We are so grateful to everyone who walked, ran, volunteered, donated, and supported this important event.

Through the St. Vincent de Paul Society, we strive to put our faith into action by helping our neighbors in need with rent, utilities, medications, food, and other essential needs. During the fiscal year that ended September 30, **we made 91 home visits and helped more than 250 people in our community.**

None of this would be possible without the generous hearts of our Saint Matthew parishioners. Thank you for your continued compassion and generosity. Together, we are living out Christ's call to love and serve our neighbors.



THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING SVdP

PLATINUM SPONSOR



GOLD SPONSOR



Vince Knoch Family

SILVER SPONSORS



The Henry Family

BRONZE SPONSORS



Jim & Angela Brunner Gary & Ann Mayfield Lisa Morrissey
The Pierce Family D. Kent Skinner, CPA

TONY'S REFLECTION

LOOKING AT THE WEDDING GARMENT

Of all invitations, a wedding invite requires the most thoughtful response. When declining a wedding invitation, it is prudent to thank the host and express regret for missing this momentous occasion God has given this man and woman. To knowingly ignore the invitation is to almost offer a calculated denial of the couple's union with God.

In today's Gospel, Jesus presents a parable about a great king who invites many guests to a wedding, but several callously refuse this great invitation. Various theologians have broken down the characters in the parable as: God the Father is the king, Jesus is the bridegroom, and the wedding feast represents the eternal life that Isaiah prophesies in today's First Reading. The servants are the OT prophets called to summon Israel. Those who are "invited" to the wedding feast are the religious leaders of Jerusalem, who should have been in the best position to recognize Jesus as the groom, yet they ignored the servants' (i.e., prophets) announcements. Israel has been punished for refusing repeated invitations and even killing His prophets, its city conquered by foreign armies. The other servants called represent the apostles, and the command to "go out into the streets" to invite "whomever you find" refers in part to the spread of the Gospel to the Gentiles—the "riff-raff." The King's hall being filled with guests, both "good and bad," calls to mind the manifestation of the visible Church, which includes both saints and sinners.

So, we sinners are invited to God's wedding feast—the Mass. If we go, we must ask, are we dressed for the occasion? The parable brings us to a discussion of the "wedding garment" that a particular guest lacks. Not only is this guest not wearing a wedding garment, but the king had this guest bound up and cast into the outer darkness (i.e. hell). On one level, we might think the parable is referencing proper attire for Mass—dressing with dignity and modesty for a great banquet. However, other biblical texts reference the importance of being "clothed with righteousness" (Rev. 19:7-8, Is 61:10). These texts shed light on the fact that this "garment" is more than just an external way to dress. St. John Chrysostom (407 AD) commented that not having a wedding garment signifies that the person was living an impure life. Here, the external "dress" bears as a reflection of the interior disposition of the person—does he love God or not? If he loves God, his external garments will showcase this. If he loves himself more, the dinginess will reveal itself. The clear implication of this parable holds a strong psychological force that should whack our spiritual senses. The wedding is the Mass. We are invited guests to this sacrificial banquet. But what does our garment, our interior, look like? Have we washed our "dirty rags" at confession so that Jesus can clothe us in His garments of purity?

At the Mass we are dealing with the highest sacred drama put to reality—a marriage of heaven and earth. Let us reflect on this parable by taking stock of our interior, our virtue, and our purity as our King looks out toward His invited guests.

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.

RESPECT LIFE NOVENA

October is Respect Life Month. Join thousands of Catholics in praying for the protection of human life—from conception to natural death with the Respect Life Month Novena from Oct. 22-30. Each day features a specific pro-life prayer intention, short reflection, and suggested action to help build a culture of life. Saint Matthew will pray the novena along with the Rosary for the Unborn each day at noon in the chapel beginning on Thursday, Oct. 22

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.

CAMP MARYMOUNT SUMMER CAMPS

Registration for Summer 2027 is officially open, and we cannot wait to welcome returning and new campers back for another summer of faith, friendship, adventure, and time outdoors. Space can fill quickly, so families should reserve their camper's spot soon! Learn more at campmarymount.com/summer-camp.

RISE YOUTH MINISTRY

THIS WEEK WITH RISE

Fall Break: RISE will not be meeting this week, due to fall break. The Bible Study is off on Wednesday, Oct. 14. RISE resumes Oct. 18. Have a wonderful and safe fall break!



BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays

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



Register for RISE

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

AROUND THE DIOCESE

CATHOLIC BUSINESS LEAGUE

The Catholic Business League will host its October session of the Power Networking Meeting from 8:15-9:45 a.m. on Thursday, Oct. 15, at Office Evolution, 5016 Centennial Blvd., Suite 200, in Nashville. Participation via Zoom is also available. To RSVP, email James Gurman at james.r.gurman@ampf.com.

CATHEDRAL ORGAN CONCERT

The Cathedral of the Incarnation will host an organ concert at 7 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 23, in the church to highlight its new organ. The concert will be performed by Jennifer Pascual, principal organist and director of music at St. Patrick Cathedral in New York City. The concert is free and open to the public. Doors open at 6:45 p.m.

LADIES OF CHARITY FALL SALE

The Ladies of Charity of Nashville will continue its Fall/Winter Clothing Sale through Saturday, Oct. 31, at the Ladies of Charity Thrift Shop, 2216 State St., in Nashville. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Mondays, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays. All proceeds support rent and food assistance in the Emergency Assistance Office.



Together for Haiti

A Night of Hope and Healing

benefiting Visitation Hospital Foundation



Pig Roast Dinner ★ Live Music ★ Paddle-Raise
Free to Attend ★ 21+ Only

 Tuesday, 27 October 2026  Camp Marymount
1318 Fairview Blvd E
Fairview, TN 37062  5:30 PM to 7:30 PM



FREE TO ATTEND WITH RSVP
Program followed by live entertainment featuring **John Angotti**

RSVP at www.visitationhospital.org/events

HEART OF MARY HOUSE

4TH ANNUAL DINNER

HONORING

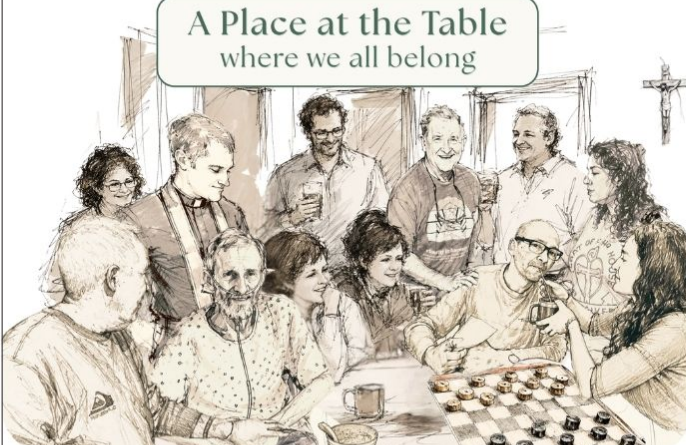
Fr. Andrew Bulso

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





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

CHURCH: 615-646-0378

SCHOOL: 615-662-4044

PASTORAL STAFF



Father Justin Raines
Pastor
frraines@stmatthewtn.org



Father Anthony Stewart
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Kelly Ott
Pastoral Associate
kott@stmatthewtn.org



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

For adults of all ages and stages of life—whether preparing for yourself, caring for aging parents, or helping a loved one.



**Learn more
and RSVP at**
bit.ly/smceternallife

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