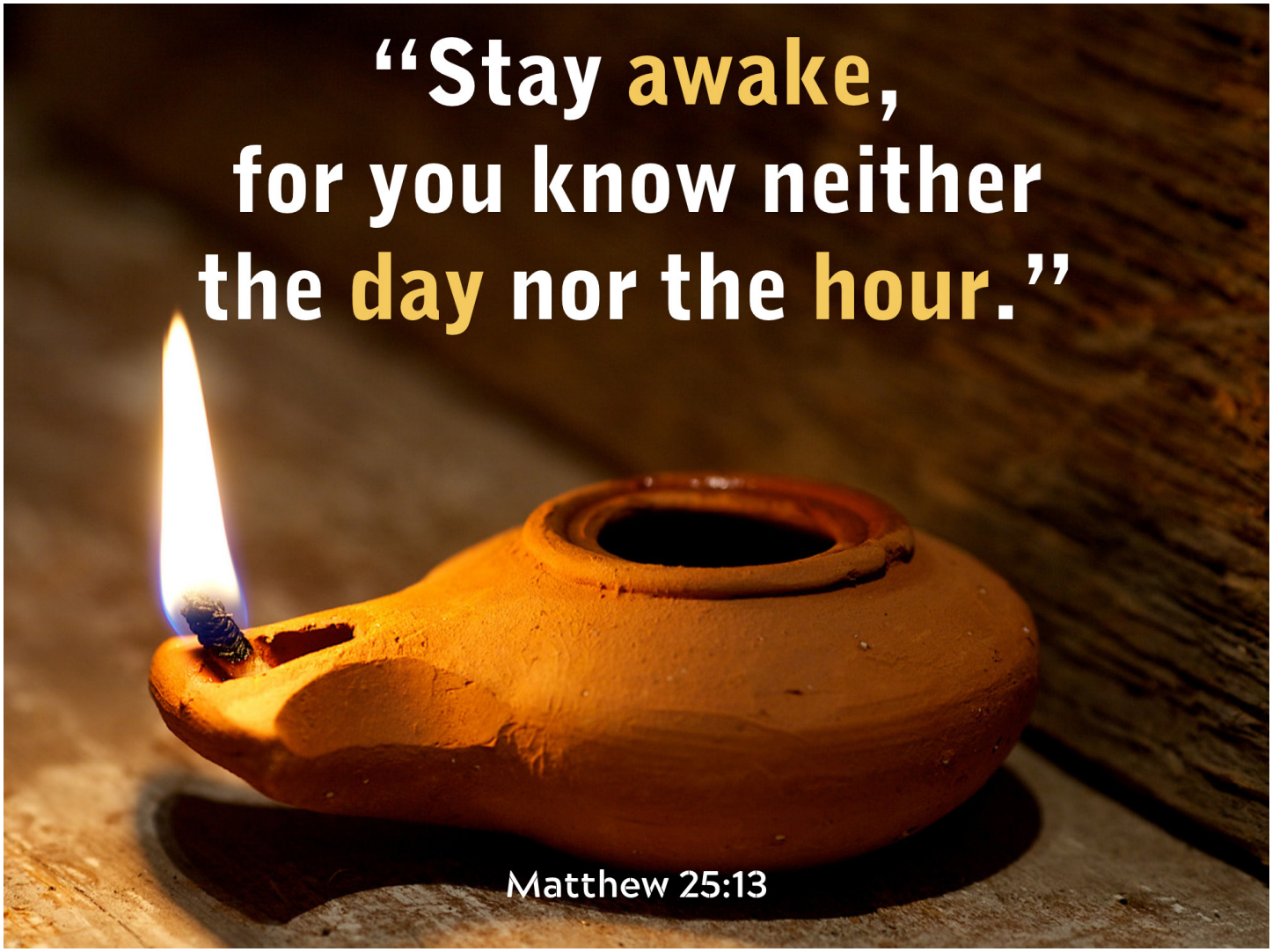
Saint Matthew
CATHOLIC CHURCH

NOVEMBER 8, 2026 + THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

DEEPENING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TOGETHER



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

LITURGY SCHEDULE NOVEMBER 7-13

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass
✝ Raymond Trainer
8:30 a.m. Mass
For the People of the Parish
11:00 a.m. Mass
✝ Jeanne Lawson
- Wisdom 6:12-16
- 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
- Matthew 25:1-13

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9

Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica in Rome
8:00 a.m. Mass
✝ Johnny Wiles
- Ezekiel 47:1-2, 8-9, 12
- 1 Corinthians 3:9c-11, 16-17
- John 2:13-22

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

St. Leo the Great
8:00 a.m. Mass
✝ Paula Gilles Fischer
- Titus 2:1-8, 11-14
- Luke 17:7-10

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11

St. Martin of Tours
7:00 p.m. Mass
✝ Mary Dabrowiak
- Titus 3:1-7
- Luke 17:11-19

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12

St. Josaphat
8:00 a.m. Mass
✝ Toni Deatherage
- Philemon 7-20
- Luke 17:20-25

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13

St. Frances Xavier Cabrini
8:00 a.m. Mass
For the Barnard family
- 2 John 4-9
- Luke 17:26-37

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.

PARISH SPOTLIGHT

JOIN US FOR OUR SAINT MATTHEW SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE



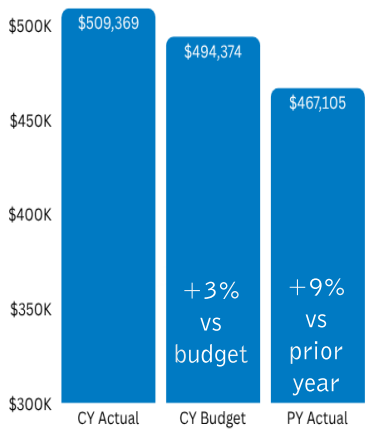
SMS 2027-2028 APPLICATIONS

Saint Matthew School is currently accepting applications for the 2027-2028 school year. **The priority application deadline is Friday, December 11, 2026.** Be sure to get your applications in to be considered for our first round of enrollment offers that will go out at the end of January. The application can be found on the Admissions page of our website. Pre-K and Kindergarten screenings will take place in mid-January for those who have submitted a fully completed application.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

~ FOR THE WEEK OF OCT 26 - NOV 1 ~	
REGULAR COLLECTIONS	$44,676
BUILDING MAINTENANCE & FACILITY IMPROVEMENT	$649
ALL SAINTS	$670

YTD Summary



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

Second Collections

This Week:
Charity and Outreach
Priesthood Sunday

Next Week:
Catholic Campaign for Human Development

Registered Parish Families: 1,353

ETERNAL LIFE SERIES BEGINS TODAY

We plan for vacations, weddings, and social gatherings, but how often do we plan for the end of life? Preparing ahead is an act of love for ourselves and those we leave behind. Saint Matthew is offering *Eternal Life: Catholic Guidance for End-of-Life Preparation*, a three-part series exploring various spiritual, practical, and estate planning elements centered around our Catholic faith.

Join us today for the first session, led by Father Raines, as we explore Church teachings, FAQs around death and dying, and why we should prepare. Next Sunday, Father Raines leads a session titled, *The Catholic Funeral*. Whether you are preparing for yourself, helping aging parents, or simply planning ahead for your family, all are welcome.



PRIESTHOOD SUNDAY - NOV. 8



BOY SCOUT CHRISTMAS WREATH SALES

Enjoy the beauty and fragrance of evergreen wreaths while supporting our Saint Matthew Boy Scouts! Order wreaths for your home or give them as a thoughtful gift for coworkers, friends, and family. It's an easy way to check one more thing off your holiday to-do list while supporting our scouts. Contact troop226@stmatthewtn.org if alternate pickup is needed. To ship wreaths or order online, scan below. The final day to order for church pickup is this Tuesday, Nov. 10.

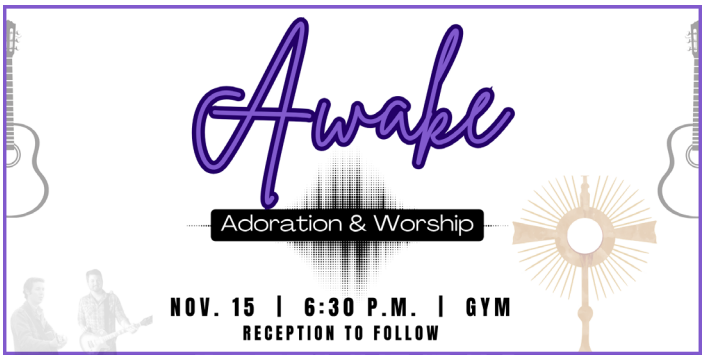


RETURN YOUR BOX OF JOY

Thank you to everyone who filled Boxes of Joy this year! If you still need to return one, please bring it to the church office no later than Friday, Nov. 13. Your participation is greatly appreciated. Please pray for the children receiving these boxes.

AWAKE - SUNDAY, NOV. 15

All are invited to a special praise and worship Adoration event on Sunday, Nov. 15, at 6:30 p.m. Come for a beautiful evening of prayer, reflection, and meditative silence in front of the Blessed Sacrament. A community reception follows.



Principal's Pen



Dr. Simpson

The theme of service continues to resonate on the SMS campus. This week, we began our schoolwide service projects, which culminate in our School Service Day on November 17. Our students are collecting books, coats, hats, socks, gloves, canned food, school supplies and a multitude of other items. As I walked through the building this week, I saw teachers incorporating their service projects into their classroom lessons. These experiences bring our school motto to life: *Seeking Knowledge, Modeling Christ, Serving Others*. I believe these lessons help our students truly understand the importance of service and give them a deeper appreciation of how their efforts support others. I am so appreciative that our community places such an emphasis on service and service learning.

Saint Matthew School is also hosting an Open House this Sunday from 12–2 p.m. We will welcome prospective families to our campus, where they will enjoy guided tours led by our very own student ambassadors. Open House is always a wonderful opportunity for members of the community to get a sneak peek at what makes SMS so special. I look forward to another excellent Open House this weekend. Please join us if you are interested in learning more about the school!

VETERANS DAY PROGRAM

There's still time to join us tomorrow as we honor our parish veterans at a special Veterans Day celebration hosted by our Saint Matthew fifth graders!

Come help us celebrate and thank our veterans for their service. Following the student performance, veterans and their family members are invited to enjoy refreshments in the Parish Conference Center.

Monday, Nov. 9, at 8:15 a.m. in the SMS gym. Doors open at 8 a.m.

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/smstnlinkedin.

GETTING IN THE HOLIDAY SPIRIT



DOUGHNUTS WITH SAINT NICK - DEC. 6

Word must have gotten out about how wonderful our Community Sundays are, because Saint Nicholas himself is making a special stop at Saint Matthew on Dec. 6! Join RISE Youth Ministry following both the 8:30 and 11 a.m. Masses. Jolly Old Saint Nick has quite a sweet tooth, so he'll be celebrating with one of his favorite treats: doughnuts! Stop by for coffee, doughnuts and a chance to visit and take a photo with St. Nick. It's sure to be a sweet start to your Sunday!

GIFT DASH - DEC. 7

Ladies, are you ready for a Christmas party unlike any other? Be sure to RSVP for the Saint Matthew Women's Club annual Gift Dash dinner party on Monday, Dec. 7 at 6 p.m. Learn more about this fun and festive evening and register at bit.ly/smcgiftdash26 or through the QR code.

VOLUNTEER WITH THE MANGER

Saint Matthew is holding a toy drive for Graceworks' Manger program, which allows families in need to "shop" for free Christmas presents for their kids. Toy collections will be at the Church the weekends of Nov. 21-22 & 28-29. Saint Matthew is volunteering on Dec. 7 at the Manger from 9 a.m. to noon. Sign up at bit.ly/mangervol26. Don't wait as volunteer slots are going quickly!

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

Thank you to everybody who is providing a Thanksgiving meal to neighbors in need in our community. Please bring your filled boxes next weekend and drop off under the portico. If you did not sign up for a food box, but would like to contribute, donations of $25 gift cards to Publix, Kroger, Walmart, and Aldi are greatly appreciated and can be dropped off with food boxes. Monetary donations can be made at bit.ly/svdpthank26.

MISSING OR DELAYED ENVELOPES

Increased mail volume from the recent election has caused delays in the delivery of church envelopes. Although the election is over, holiday mailings are beginning, so delivery may continue to be slower than usual. Please do not be concerned if your monthly envelopes arrive a few days later than normal.

If you have switched to online giving and no longer need mailed envelopes, please contact the church office so we can update our mailing list. You can also give securely online through Pushpay using the link or QR code on the bottom of page 2.

END-OF-YEAR GIVING NOTES

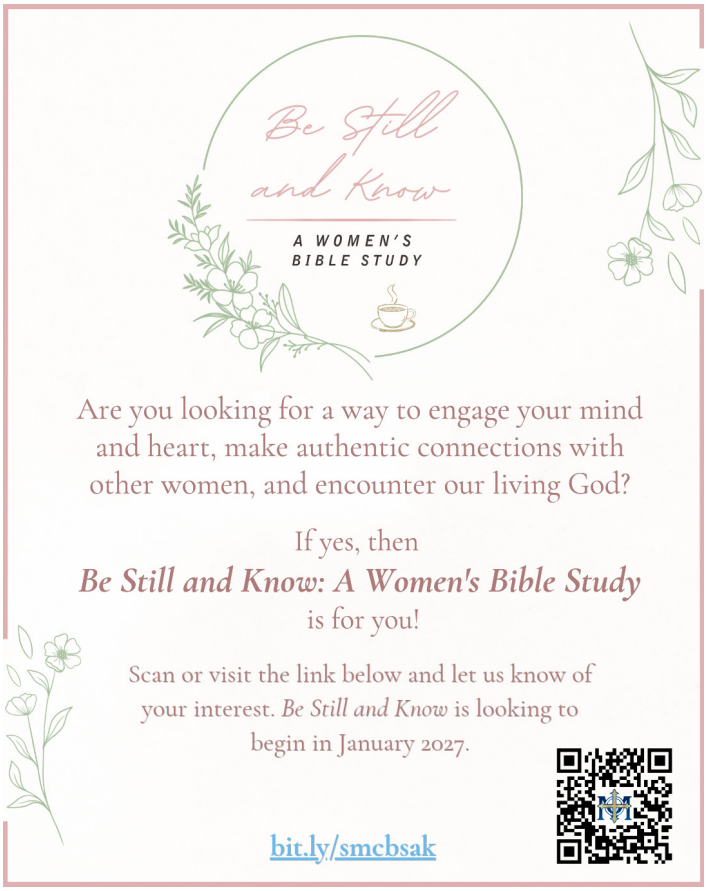
All contributions to Saint Matthew or directly to the Diocese must be postmarked by Thursday, Dec. 31, to credit toward your 2026 contributions. While the parish offices will be closed for the holidays (Dec. 24–Jan. 1), the business office will have limited hours which will be shared closer to the end of the year.

Stock contributions generally require additional processing time for a donor's financial institution. If you wish to donate appreciated stock before year-end, please contact Bill Stewart at bstewart@stmatthewtn.org or by phone at (615) 550-5107.

If you plan to use a donor advised fund or an IRA, please verify timing requirements with your financial institution as soon as possible. You may also make gifts through the Parish website's giving page stmatthewtn.org/church/giving/.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support of Saint Matthew Church and School!

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY FORMING



JOIN OUR HOSPITALITY MINISTRY



TONY'S REFLECTION

An Interior Love of God

A common theme that recurs throughout the Bible is the need for watchfulness. Today, we are confronted with a story about ten virgins anticipating the coming bridegroom. However, the bridegroom is delayed, which causes the lamps of five of the virgins to burn out. The other five virgins wisely prepared for the long haul with flasks of oil so their lamp could continue to burn. The five "foolish virgins" who didn't have oil frantically searched for oil as the bridegroom finally arrived. Yet, when they returned from securing oil, the door was shut. Their insistence to be let in was abruptly halted when the bridegroom said, "I do not know you."

Catholic theologians tend to break down the imagery in this parable as follows: The Bridegroom represents Jesus Christ; the virginal brides are members of the Church. The virgin's lamps signify the external profession of faith from the person (receiving the sacraments), while the oil indicates the interior love of God—that which fuels their acts of faith. The bridegroom's midnight arrival denotes the unknown time of one's personal death in which he'll come face-to-face with Christ, while the closed door implies the reality of being eternally separated from Christ because there was no core love of Christ stored up. Interestingly, the bridegroom told those without oil, "I do not know you." Here, Christ is almost saying: While you may have acknowledged me on the exterior, you did not have me in your interior. Thus, "I do not know you" can be translated as "I don't have an intimate relationship with you because you didn't love me." Even before Jesus announced, "Not everyone who says 'Lord, Lord' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven." (Matthew 7:21). The worst thing that could happen to anyone would be to hear those haunting words from the Lord who created us and died to save us: "I do not know you."

The pressing reality of this is that to give Christ lip service by calling Him "Lord" or merely receiving the sacraments externally is not enough. There needs to be a strong interior love for Christ—an oil that can endure over time.

The larger point of the parable seems to be that the wise disciples of the Lord are prepared to keep this lifestyle of vigilance for as long as it takes to meet the Lord face-to-face. They have a strong inner love of God, so doing God's works harmoniously flows together like oil functioning in a lamp to keep the light on during dark moments. It is not enough to brag to others about one's "faith" without an interior love of God. As Augustine said, "For he who walks to gain the testimony of another, does not carry oil with him." The foolish virgins did not cultivate an interior life of God that can withstand the long haul.

Let us treat this parable as a jarring reminder to cultivate our soul towards God in all our thoughts and actions.

FAITH & COMMUNITY

POSTULANTS DINNER

Knights of Columbus Council 12012 invites you to the Postulants Banquet on Saturday, Nov. 14, at Saint Henry. Enjoy dinner and fellowship while supporting women discerning religious life with the Nashville Dominicans. Limited complimentary seats are available for Saint Matthew guests. RSVP: sklombardi@comcast.net and mention St. Matthew.

QUEEN OF FAMILIES MASS

Bishop Spalding will celebrate the annual Queen of Families Mass on Saturday, Nov. 14, at 12 p.m. at the Cathedral of the Incarnation. This Mass is for those who have experienced miscarriage, stillbirth, or other child loss before or after birth. All are welcome! For more details, visit nashvillefaithformation.com.

FATHER RYAN ALUMNI EVENT

All Father Ryan alumni ages 21+ are invited to Ryan Nation Night on Nov. 19 at alumni-owned Bringles Smoking Oasis. The event begins at 6 p.m. Come join fellow alumni for a night of Irish food and fun.

WOMEN'S ADVENT PREP RETREAT

Prepare your heart for the season on Monday, Nov. 23, with *Am I Not Your Mother*, an Advent retreat at St. Philip featuring dinner, a talk, fellowship, Adoration and prayer. The retreat is for women ages 18+ (nursing babies welcome; no childcare available). Cost is $30. Financial aid is available and proceeds benefit Mulier Care. The retreat begins at 7 p.m., but you can arrive earlier for Confession and Mass. Learn more and register at bit.ly/diladvent26.

SUNNY DAY CLUB

Our neighbors at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church (525 Sneed Rd) host the Sunny Day Club every Friday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The program provides a fun, supportive setting for loved ones with early-stage memory loss while offering caregivers a three-hour respite. For just $1 per meeting, participants enjoy games, music, social activities and lunch (bring your own). Each participant is paired with a trained, vetted volunteer. Caregivers are welcome to stay or can take time to run errands or take care of themselves. For more information, contact Gerry Stone at 615-594-7255.

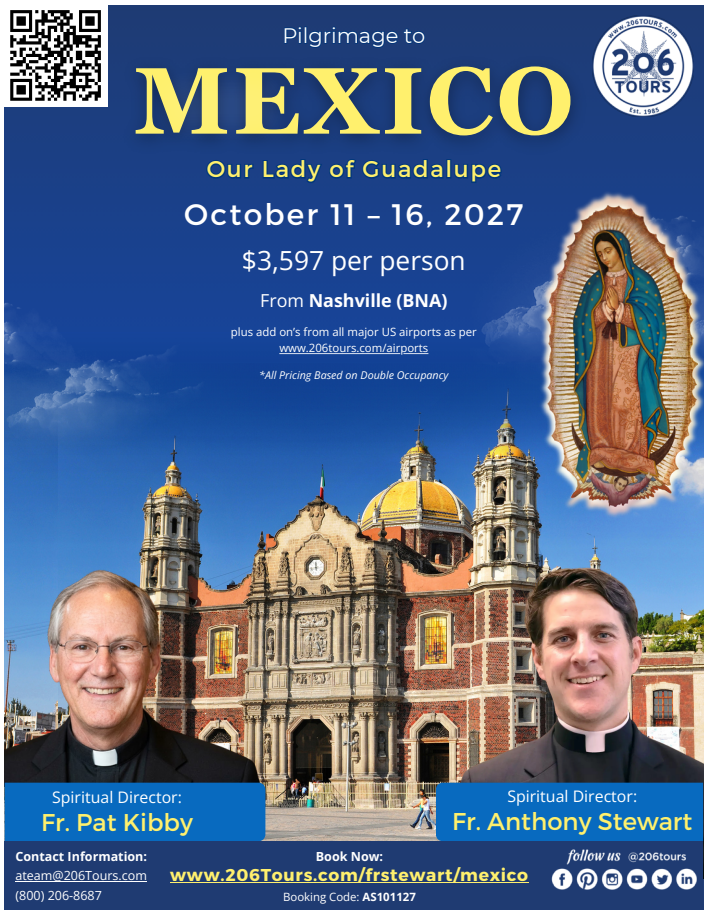
AROUND THE DIOCESE

CULTURA VITAE

CHESTERTON ACADEMY
OF THE INCARNATION

Discover Nashville's Only
Classical Catholic High School
Join us for a
Discovery Night
7:00 pm on November 8th
at St. Philip Catholic Church
Email Us: Info@ChestertonTN.com

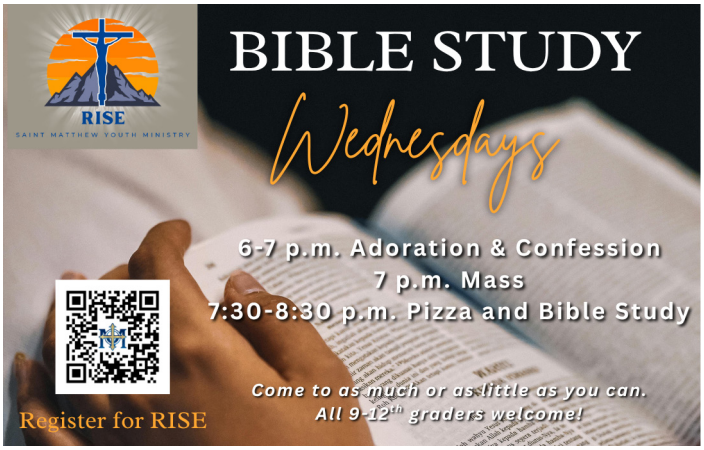
PILGRIMAGE WITH FATHER ANTHONY



YOUTH NEWS



JOIN A BIBLE STUDY FOR TEENS



SEARCH RETREATS

SEARCH retreats for high school juniors and seniors are Nov. 20-22, Jan. 15-17, Feb. 12-14, and Apr. 23-25. Learn more and register at nashvillefaithformation.com/search.

CAMP MARYMOUNT SUMMER CAMPS

Registration for Summer 2027 is 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.

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