

Church of Francis de Sales

176 Lovers Lane – Mathews, Virginia 23109

**February 19, 2023
Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)**



PASTOR

**Very Reverend Gerry Kaggwa
Rectory: 804-286-9271**

SACRAMENTS

Reconciliation is celebrated communally during Lent and Advent and privately on request.

Marriage: call the priest at least six months in advance.

Baptism: call the priest at least one month in advance.

Anointing of the Sick is celebrated during Mass in August and February and at any time upon request.

Parish Mission Statement

We the members of the Church of Francis de Sales, dedicate ourselves to maintaining a living parish, reaching all people to reflect the work of our Catholic Community and to invite others to share with us the fundamentals of our Catholic Faith. We are the recipients of God's reconciling and empowering love and, as His people, we are committed to proclaim the Good News of God's Love, to witness, to heal, to teach and to demonstrate by our faith and actions the glory of God through Jesus Christ, His Son.

**Parish Administrator
Paul Flaherty**

**Parish Secretary
Mary Marshall**

Parish Office: 804-725-2776

**Office Hours:
Monday 8am-4pm
Tuesday 8 am-4pm
Friday 8am-Noon
E-mail: office@fdschurch.org**

**Mass Schedule
Sunday 11:00am
Tuesday 9:00am
Friday 9:00am
Holy Days 6:30pm**

Announcements

Mary Marshall will work from 8:00 a.m.-12 noon on Wednesday, 2/15/23, and she will be off on Friday, 2/17/23.

DEANERY 5 PLENARY MEETING

Clergy, Staff and Parish Ministries Representatives Plenary Meeting.

This will take place: Thursday, February 16, 2023, 11AM to 3PM

Where: Church of The Visitation, 8462 General Puller Highway, Topping, VA 23169

Theme of the day: Eucharistic Revival

Invited to the meeting are all heads/chair or representatives from: Parish Council, Finance Council, Administration, Bookkeepers, Youth Ministry, Religious Education, RCIA, Pastoral Care, Music Ministry, Liturgy, Parish Life, Justice and Peace. If you plan to attend, please inform Mary in the Office by Friday, February 10.

Thank you.

The Folk Group will play at Mass on February 26th, March 5th and 19th.

If you would like a copy of your church donations/contributions statement for your 2022 Taxes, please contact Mary Marshall in the church office. Please be sure to pick up your 2023 Donation/Contribution Envelopes, which are on a table in the Commons area. Also, please note the 2023 Catholic Calendars - Rejoice O'Earth are still available on a table in the Commons area.

First Friday devotions will continue Friday, March 3rd with Mass at 9:00 a.m. followed by an hour of Eucharistic Adoration. On Saturday, March 4th, the first Saturday of the month, the Rosary will be prayed at 9:30 a.m. followed by Mass at 10:00 a.m. our celebrant will be Father Gerry.

Please consider continuing the New Year in this prayerful way. All are welcome.

Parish Website: The website for our parish can be found at: <https://www.FdSChurch.org>. In addition to our parish bulletin, you will find updated announcements, Mass and prayer times, and links to other reliably Catholic sites.

Parents—Please ensure that your children are under the supervision of an adult anytime they are within the parish property. Our primary concern is for their safety, but we also ask this to prevent disturbance, misplacement, or damage to valuable items in classrooms, kitchen, and sacristy.

Volunteer Counters Needed: *We are in need of at least 'one' additional volunteer counter to be added to the Sunday Counting Schedule.* The volunteer time would be two Sundays in a row for approximately two hours, every other month. If you are interested in volunteering for this committee, please contact Christine Dehnert-Clarke at: (804) 815-8650 or email her at: cdehnert@dccocpa.com

Thank you for your time in considering joining this committee and important church mission.

We are still looking for additional Altar Servers to serve our Lord and our parish. If you wish to be an Altar Server and have received your First Communion, please contact:

Jon Oliver at: (804) 725-6702, email: jonoliver0120@gmail.com or

Paul Flaherty at (718) 772-8327, email: pjflaherty15@gail.com we will train you for this endeavor.

IF YOU ARE THE LAST PERSON TO LEAVE THE BUILDING, IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE SURE ALL LIGHTS ARE TURNED OFF AND ALL DOORS ARE LOCKED BEHIND YOU.

If you would like to have Father hear your confession, please call the office during normal hours and an individual appointment will be set.

Please know that our Church and office are open on Monday and Tuesday from 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. and on Friday from 8:00 a.m.-12:00 Noon and you are welcome to come for individual adoration.

If you wish pastoral care, please call the office, (804) 725-2776, during the normal hours and we will do our best to meet your needs. Outside office hours please call Father Gerry at (804) 286-9271.

Should any of the above change, we will notify you by e-mail.



The Claude V. Simmons Scholarship Academic Year 2023-2024

The Claude V. Simmons Scholarship Fund supports graduating high school seniors who are obtaining a Bachelor's Degree by attending a 4-year college or university and are qualified active members of the Church of Francis de Sales in Mathews County, Virginia. This is a 4-year renewing scholarship.

Current recipients and new applicants must submit an electronic application or renewal application for the 2023-2024 academic year to the Mathews Community Foundation by March 07, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

Supporting documents are required as outlined in the application form on the Community Foundation website (i.e., Page 1 of the FAFSA Student Aid Request as well as a statement of reflection on personal growth and faith as a parishioner of the Church of Francis de Sales).

The Community Foundation website is:

<https://www.cfrichmond.org/Grantseekers/Scholarship-Overview>

Under "How to Apply," search for Claude V. Simmons Scholarship under list of available scholarships.

Mr. Lincoln Boykin of the Community Foundation is available to answer any questions regarding the scholarship and to assist in submitting the application. Mr. Boykin can be reached by calling 804-436-1600 (Kilmarnock Office) or 804-725-3454 (Mathews Office).

Recipients will be selected on the basis of greatest financial need.

Should you have additional questions, please contact Michael Henig at 804-725-7750 or call the Parish Office at 804-725-2776.

LENT/EASTER SCHEDULE 2023

Wednesday, February 22nd	Ash Wednesday	9:00 A.M. @ COV 6:30 P.M. @ CFDS
Wednesday, February 26th	First Sunday of Lent	11:00 A.M. @ CFDS
Sunday, March 5th	Second Sunday of Lent	11:00 A.M. @ CFDS
Sunday, March 12th	Third Sunday of Lent	11:00 A.M. @ CFDS
Sunday, March 19th	Fourth Sunday of Lent	11:00 A.M. @ CFDS
Wednesday, March 22nd	Lenten Reconciliation	7:00 P.M. @ COV
Sunday, March 26th	Fifth Sunday of Lent	11:00 A.M. @ CFDS
Tuesday, March 28th	Lenten Reconciliation	7:00 P.M @ CFDS
Sunday, April 2nd	Palm Sunday (The Passion of the Lord)	10:45 A.M. @ CFDS
Holy Week (The Triduum is at CFDS this year)		
Thursday, April 6th	Holy Thursday	6:00 P.M. @ CFDS
Friday, April 7th	Stations of the Cross Good Friday Service	12 Noon @ COV Cemetery 5:30 P.M. @ CFDS
Saturday, April 8th	Easter Vigil	8:00 P.M. @ CFDS
Sunday, April 9th	Easter Sunday	11:00 A.M. @ CFDS
Tuesday-Friday, April 11th/14th NO DAILY MASS		

Readings:

Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18:	Love your neighbor as yourself.
Psalms 103:	"The Lord is kind and merciful."
1 Corinthians 3:16-23:	"God catches the wise in their own ruses."
Matthew 5:38-48:	Love your enemies.

Father Gerry's Homily:

The main message of today is "love and forgiveness." These two, Love and Forgiveness, make of us what we are: Christians. They make us perfect, meaning holy, as our heavenly Father is perfect. All of today's readings explain why Christians are expected to be holy, perfect, and how we are meant to become holy people. The first and second readings give us reasons why we should be holy, and the Gospel describes four ways of becoming perfect people prescribed for us by Jesus, using three examples of graceful Christian reaction when people offend us and violate our rights and privileges.

In the first reading, Moses is reminding the people of Israel not to hold grudges or harbor hatred but to be holy people. *"Be holy, for I the Lord, your God, am Holy."* It also shows us the way to share in God's holiness: *"You shall love your neighbor as yourself."* The Psalm expresses the merciful and forgiving love of God: *"He pardons all your inequities, heals all your ills. He redeems your life from destruction and crowns you with kindness and compassion."* In the second reading, St. Paul gives us an additional reason to be holy. We are to keep our bodies and souls holy because we are the temple of God, and the Holy Spirit dwells in us.

This love and compassion is what the gospel is telling us that we should emulate in our relationships with others. In the Gospel Jesus tells us *"To be like God who is Love and Forgiveness itself. He loves and forgives in full!"* Jesus tells us that we should not just love our neighbors, but our enemies as well, and pray for them. In this way Jesus says we will be perfect just as our heavenly Father is perfect.

Jesus' directive is not to be passive nor to endure exploitation or abuse, but rather to reject the temptation to retaliate or exact revenge. Jesus invites us to be merciful as God is merciful. *"Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect."*

"Perfect", in Biblical terms means "holiness or completeness." So, Jesus is saying *"Be complete as your Heavenly Father is complete."* In other words, be holy as your heavenly Father is holy. And this means to Love completely and forgive completely from our hearts, even our enemies. As God loves and forgives all without distinction, condition, or boundaries. In order to achieve this level of holiness (completeness), we have to see our reality, and the reality surrounding us as He (God) sees it Himself. We have to be people who fight for justice, respect and happiness for all, our deep relationship with God must be seen in the love we have for one another, especially those neglected, the poor, the weak, the sick, in our communities.

Jesus gives His new law of love, grace, forgiveness, reconciliation, and no retaliation. For Jesus even limited vengeance, has no place in the Christian life, even though graceful acceptance of those who offend us requires great strength, discipline of character, and strengthening by God's grace. Jesus tells us that what makes Christians different is the grace with which they treat others, offering them loving kindness and mercy as God does for us, even if they don't deserve this treatment. We are commanded to love our enemies as Jesus loves us, not because our enemies deserve our love, but because Jesus loves us, and all people, so much that he died for us.

Thus, today's Scripture readings challenge us to become holy as our God is Holy by loving, forgiving, and blessing others, even our enemies with graceful and magnanimous love, as our Holy God does for us.

LORD HEAR OUR PRAYER

Parishioners: Joe King, Ginny Grof, Rita Engle, Jean and Bob Tanner, Anna Deagle, Randy Dobson, Sharon Simmons, Peggy Kinsey, Patti Sarosy, Bonnie Goolsby, Alice Mercer, Gloria Bosley, Matthew DeForge, Paul Reardon, Sally Howland, Michelle Oliver, Neil D'Amato, Joe Hudgins, Elaine Lynch, Andrew Farr, Jim Pavik, Grace Hall, Cathy Walker, Bill Walker and Mike Goings.

Family: Cathy Moody, Vicki Krieger, Michael Einfeldt, Mary Catherine Ort, Stephen Harrold, Ellie Kennedy, Dale Wilson, Mallory Hurst, Peg Leonard, Jordan Hurst, Brian Carroll, Karen Beal, Larry Hargrove, Melissa Smith, Francis Smith, Brett Smith, Tony Cantrell, Susan Boone, Grahame Walker, Joe Schertle, Dottie Long, Rita Guarino, Fred Moody, Jean Raines, Kathleen Cala, Shirley Schmoldt, Timothy Farrell, Jim McAndrew, Bunny McLaughlin, Ruth Brown, Maria Hurst, Andrew Sarosy, Rose Bowes, Scott Oliver, Sylvia Oliver, Catherine Bennett and Justin Bennett. The Family of Shasta Crum (niece of Terry & Randy Dobson) appreciates your continued prayers and support since her passing in May; she leaves behind her devoted husband and 5 young daughters ages 2-11. Also, please pray for the family of Eileen Ripley who passed away on 2-14-23.

Friends: Kresia McCoy, Zachary Reynolds, Lee Osenton, Mike Bergman, Donald Henry, Jim Renner, Charles Altar, Don & Sandy Mikulecky, Florence Foster, Bobby Tinder, Bill Smith, Nancy Taylor, John Kelly, Shirley Primovic, Jean Steel, Lourdes Parker, Laurel & Allen Robins, Mary Roberti, Robin Dale, Lori Roscher, infant Ezra Freeman, Zoe Hassim, Tom Neiger, Nancy O'Donnell, Joanne Jones, Lisa Coolahan, Marie Coolahan, Jeannie Morgan, Jennie Horner, Joy Long, John Machen, Sr., Kevin Hershey, Curt Faulkner, Joe Dunaway, Mike Bergman, William Scott Smith, Ben Leigh, Gene Alimas, Nan Seals, Daniel Hudgins, Sheila Smith, Cheryl White, Helen Shackelford, Jonathan Lewis, Madelyn & Johnny Horner, Sue Garrett, Mike Beavers, Barbara Churray, the family of Raymond Shackelford since his passing on 1-1-23, Brenda Smith and Norm Connolly.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY MEN AND WOMEN AND THEIR FAMILIES:

Captain Andrew Bohn, son of Jeff Bohn & Suanne Dittmeier, **U.S. Army, Army Logistics Officer Training with Industry: FEDEX Headquarters, Memphis, TN**

Captain Ryan Carey, son of Jack & Ginny Carey, **US Navy, Naples, Italy**

MSGT Kristin Buludis, daughter of Randy & Terry Dobson, **Langley AFB, VA**

SSGT, EOD, USAF Cameron Farrell, great-nephew of Elaine Lynch, **Seymour Johnson AFB, Goldsboro, NC**

E-4 Gregory Michel, son of Jill Edmonds-Michel, **Sheppard Air Force Base, TX**

E6, U.S. Navy, John Robert Pizzicar, son-in-law of Jim & Deona Pavik, **Ft. Meade, MD**

Lt. Patrick Sopko, son of Suzanne Sopko and Ronald Sopko, **Flight Instructor for the C-2 COD, Naval Station Norfolk, VA**

2nd Lt. Spencer Walsh, grandson of Pat & Jimmy Walsh, **U.S. Army, Ft. Lee, VA**

Austin Tice, freelance journalist & former Marine Captain, **captured in Syria on August 14, 2012**

Updated 1-30-23
FdS Parish Financial Report
(Through the end of December 2022)
Fiscal Year 2022-2023

Total Income:	\$89,678	Total Offertory & Debt Reduction Budget:	\$89,900
Total Expenses:	\$100,793	Total Offertory & Debt Reduction Income:	\$84,481
Income - Expenses:	-\$11,115	Difference:	-\$4,519

As we reach the end of December, our Total Offertory & Debt Reduction Income was \$4,519 Less Than our planned budget. Subsequently, when you look at total income versus total expenses, we are in the Negative by \$11,115. This growing income deficit is concerning since it forces us to continue to reach into our savings account to pay our bills so we can keep the Parish operational. We are respectfully requesting an increase in Parishioner offertory support. Thank you for your continued support of our Parish!

Please continue to contribute to our parish on a weekly or monthly basis. The following are ways to continue your financial support to the Church of Francis de Sales:

1. When attending Sunday Mass, you can leave your Sunday Offertory in the tall basket on the table by the Baptismal Font.
2. You can bring your Sunday Offering [i.e., envelopes, check, cash] to the Parish Office [Monday & Tuesday 08:00am to 04:00pm and Friday 08:00am to 12:00 noon].
3. You can send cash or checks to the Parish Office for each week.
4. If you pay bills online, please consider making your weekly/monthly Offertory an online payment or set up automatic bill pay.




There are many opportunities available to support worthwhile causes, but please consider supporting our Parish first. Thank you for your continued financial stewardship.

Parish Finance Council questions may be directed to Leon Iveson at AIRLFTR@gmail.com or cell: (501) 749-2276.

Church of Francis de Sales Contact Information (updated 11/23/2022)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Committee</u>	<u>Email</u>	<u>Home Phone</u>	<u>Cell Phone</u>
Fr. Gerry Kaggwa	Pastor, Liturgy	gerry.kaggwa@consolata.net	804-286-9271	
Paul Flaherty	Parish Administrator, Columbarium, Chair & Memorial Bricks, Chair	pjflaherty15@gmail.com		718-772-8327
Mary Marshall	Parish Secretary	fdschurch@gmail.com	804-725-2776	
Jeffrey Bohn	Funeral Coordinator	jbohn1130@yahoo.com		804-854-1077
Joan Dawson	Sacristan, Chair	joanbd61@gmail.com	804-725-2993	
Suanne Dittmeier	Prayer Chain, Music, Chair	primadonna4sure@yahoo.com		804-854-9620
Allen Downs	Grounds Manager	kdd1951@gmail.com	804-725-5807	804-725-6067
Rita Engle	Parish Life, Chair	rengle@hotmail.com	804-725-1462	804-824-1599
Christine Dehnert-Fernald	Counters, Chair	cdehnert@dccocpa.com	804-725-4943	
Mary Flaherty	Hospitality, Chair	maryjosephineflaherty@gmail.com		718-309-2459
Rachel Foss	Youth Ministry, Co-Chair	raerae20@live.com		804-384-4248
Michelle Haas	K-8 Religious Ed., Chair	michelhaas@cox.net		804-854-1784
Cheryl Henig	RCIA, Chair	cbhenig@yahoo.com	804-725-7750	804-356-2475
Leon Iveson	Finance Council, Chair	airlfr@gmail.com		501-749-2276
Christine Johnson	Evangelization Program, Chair	chris21784@gmail.com		410-967-8863
Pat Lipinski	New Members, Chair	offtothebeach@aol.com	804-725-1537	703-969-2430
Elaine Lynch	Bulletin, Environment, Chair; & Receptions Clean Up, Chair	rmann@vims.edu	804-725-4617	
Ed McNamee	Webmaster, Lectors, Chair	33moose63@gmail.com		571-265-6192
Jon Oliver	Acolytes, Chair; & Youth Ministry, Co-Chair	jonoliver0120@gmail.com	804-725-6702	
Michele Oliver	Liturgy, Co-Chair	mdoliver4@aol.com		804-695-4959
Paul Reardon	Ads, Chair; Greeters, Chair; & LEMS Coordinator, Chair	reardon948@gmail.com		804-384-3339
Susan Sanderson	Parish Council, Chair	ssanderson@mathews.k12.va.us	804-725-9026	804-384-8918
Patti Sarosy	Pastoral Care	psarosy@aol.com		804-832-3642
Mark Sopko	Ushers, Chair	mgsopko@gmail.com		804-815-2897
Helen Yacobucci	Parish Outreach, Chair; & Funeral Receptions, Chair	yacobuccihelen@gmail.com		804-815-7606

OUR THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES FOR SUPPORTING OUR BULLETIN
(Updated 2/08/23)

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Christine M. Dehnert-Fernald, C.P.A.

309 Steamboat Road Town Center, Building 1
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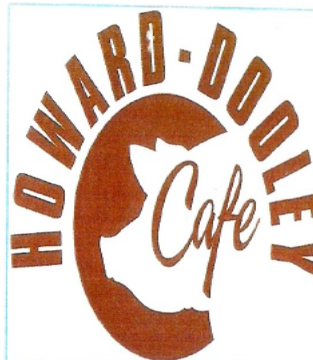
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