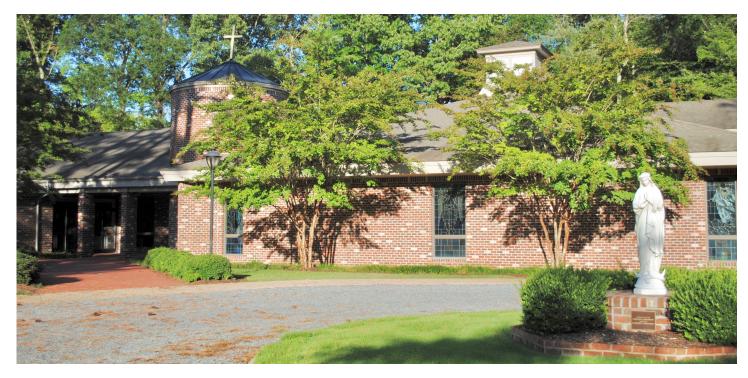
Church of Francis de Sales

176 Lovers Lane - Mathews, Virginia 23109

February 26, 2023 First Sunday of Lent (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 an 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

The Folk Group will play at Mass on February 26th, March 5th, March 19th, April 2nd, Palm Sunday, and April 9th, Easter Sunday.

This is a reminder that our next FdS Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 15 at 6:30 p.m.

<u>CRS RICE BOWL</u>: What is CRS Rice Bowl? Each Lent, Catholic Relief services encourage catholic families across the country to unite and put their faith into action through prayer, fasting and alms giving. Through CRS Rice Bowl, families learn how our brothers and sisters across the globe overcome hardships like hunger and malnutrition, and how through Lenten alms, we have the power to make the world a better place for all.

What does your donation provide? Forty dollars can purchase an infant scale to measure an infant's growth, \$80.00 can help raise chickens for eggs for protein and income, and \$120.00 contributes toward a household garden for family nutrition.

Only a portion of your contribution is used abroad. Seventy five percent of your donation supports the work of CSR. Twenty five percent stays in the diocese for local hunger and poverty alleviation efforts.

Faith and action produce results, by your alms giving you are proving your faith through your action and your results will be helping the underserved. Logon to the web site <u>https://ww.crsricebowl.org</u> for more information, videos and recipes for meatless Lenten meals.

Rice Bowls are in the Commons, please pick one up and begin your alms giving on Ash Wednesday. They should be returned on Palm Sunday, April 2, 2023. Yours in Christ, Helen Yacobucci, Social Outreach Committee

If you would like a copy of your <u>church donations/contributions statement for your 2022 Taxes</u>, please contact Mary Marshall in the church office. Please be sure to pick up your <u>2023 Donation/Contribution Envelopes</u>, which are on a table in the Commons area. Also, please note the <u>2023 Catholic Calendars - Rejoice O'Earth</u> 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: <u>https://www.FdSChurch.org</u>. In addition to our parish bulletin, you will find updated announcements, Mass and prayer times, and links to other reliably Catholic sites.

<u>Parents</u>—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.

<u>Volunteer Counters Needed</u>: <u>We are in need of at least 'one' additional volunteer counter to be added to the Sunday</u> <u>Counting Schedule.</u> 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: <u>cdehnert@dccocpa.com</u>

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

We are still looking for additional <u>Altar Servers</u> 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 <u>ALL</u> 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 <u>Academic Year 2023-2024</u>

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

February 26, 2023, First Sunday of Lent (Year A)

Readings:

Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7: Psalm 51:	"The Lord God planted a garden in Eden." "Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned."
Romans 5:12-19	
or 5:12, 17-19:	In Adam all die. In Christ all live.
Matthew 4:1-11:	Jesus fasted forty days and forty nights.

February 26, 2023, First Sunday of Lent (Year A)

Father Gerry's Homily:

Lent is primarily the time of intense spiritual discernment, leading us to conquering our human inclinations and temptations. It is also the time for repenting of our sins and renewing our lives for the celebration of Easter with our Risen Lord who conquered sin and death by His suffering, death, and Resurrection. Today's scripture readings teach us that we are always tempted by the devil, by the world, and by our own selfish interests. So, we need to cooperate actively with God's grace to conquer our temptations and practice prayer, self-control and charity.

The first reading, taken from the book of Genesis describes the "Original Temptation" – "You will be like gods, knowing what is good and what is evil." Adam and Eve were given the possibility of making a choice to live for God, dependent upon and obedient to His will, or to say no to God. The temptation to evil led Adam and Eve to an act of faithlessness and sin. Adam and Eve preferred their own inclinations to the will of God. They allowed themselves to be tempted and willingly collaborated with the devil tempting them.

In the **second reading**, St. Paul describes how the disobedience of Adam, who fell to Satan's Original Temptation, brought him and us sin, death, and a broken relationship with God. Paul explains that Jesus Christ regained for us a right relationship with God by His perfect obedience to God His Father.

Today's Gospel teaches us how the "desert experience" of fasting, praying, and soul-strengthening enabled Jesus to confront His temptations successfully and then to preach the Good News of salvation. The tempter urges Jesus to turn stones into loaves of bread. But Jesus rejects that temptation to mistrust His Father by satisfying His own immediate, temporal needs, thus reducing His Divine mission to self-satisfaction! The tempter then suggests that Jesus prove that He is really the Son of God by jumping off the parapet of the Temple. Jesus rejects this as a temptation to act as doubting His Father's power, and demand He prove His Trustworthiness. Finally, Jesus rejects the temptation to idolatry, even if worshipping Satan would enrich and empower Jesus with all kingdoms of the world.

Temptation in one form or another is an unavoidable part of life. If we honestly examine our daily experience, we can find many aspects of temptations, impulses or tendencies contrary to the right way of doing things according to our faith. Sometimes we even try to justify away these temptations, to make them socially acceptable, and sometimes we just stay silent, allowing the devil to take us wherever he wishes.

And many of us try to dictate for ourselves what is right and wrong, to draw for ourselves the boundaries of "acceptable" behavior, unburdened by any notions about the will of God, or the values of the Gospel. We find reasons for our behaviors, justifying everything we do.

Jesus serves as a model for us in conquering temptations by strengthening Himself through prayer, penance, and the effective use of the Word of God. Hence, during this Lent, let us confront our evil tendencies with prayer, with penance, and with meditative reading of the Bible.

Jesus didn't have an easy or quiet life. But through all those testing times He was victorious. He was passionate about His mission, and this brought conflicts and tensions, but He never gave in to temptations or being destructed from doing His Father's will. It is from Him that we, His followers, need to learn to live a true life worthy of being called Christians.

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. 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 Shackleford, Jonathan Lewis, Madelyn & Johnny Horner, Sue Garrett, Mike Beavers, Barbara Churray, 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

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

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

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 <u>AIRLFTR@gmail.com</u> or cell: (501) 749-2276.

Name	<u>Committee</u>	<u>Email</u>	<u>Home Phone</u>	Cell Phone
Fr. Gerry Kaggwa	Pastor, Liturgy	gerry.kaggwa@consolata.net	804-286-9271	
Paul Flaherty	Parish Administrator,	pjflaherty15@gmail.com		718-772-832
	Columbarium, Chair &			
	Memorial Bricks, Chair			
Mary Marshall	Parish Secretary	fdschurch@gmail.com	804-725-2776	
Jeffrey Bohn	Funeral Coordinator	jbohn1130@yahoo.com		804-854-107
Joan Dawson	Sacristan, Chair	joanbd61@gmail.com	804-725-2993	
Suanne Dittmeier	Prayer Chain, Music, Chair	primadonna4sure@yahoo.com		804-854-962
Allen Downs	Grounds Manager	kdd1951@gmail.com	804-725-5807	804-725-606
Rita Engle	Parish Life, Chair	rengle@hotmail.com	804-725-1462	804-824-159
Christine Dehnert-Fernald	Counters, Chair	<pre>cdehnert@dccocpa.com</pre>	804-725-4943	
Mary Flaherty	Hospitality, Chair	maryjosephineflaherty@gmail.com		718-309-245
Rachel Foss	Youth Ministry, Co-Chair	raerae20@live.com		804-384-424
Michelle Haas	K-8 Religious Ed., Chair	michelhaas@cox.net		804-854-17
Cheryl Henig	RCIA, Chair	<u>cbhenig@yahoo.com</u>	804-725-7750	804-356-247
Leon lveson	Finance Council, Chair	airlftr@gmail.com		501-749-227
Christine Johnson	Evangelization Program, Chair	chris21784@gmail.com		410-967-886
Pat Lipinski	New Members, Chair	offtothebeach@aol.com	804-725-1537	703-969-243
Elaine Lynch	Bulletin, Environment, Chair; &	<u>rmann@vims.edu</u>	804-725-4617	
	Receptions Clean Up, Chair			
Ed McNamee	Webmaster, Lectors, Chair	33moose63@gmail.com		571-265-619
Jon Oliver	Acolytes, Chair; &	jonoliver0120@gmail.com	804-725-6702	
	Youth Ministry, Co-Chair			
Michele Oliver	Liturgy, Co-Chair	mdoliver4@aol.com		804-695-495
Paul Reardon	Ads, Chair; Greeters, Chair; &	reardon948@gmail.com		804-384-333
	LEMS Coordinator, Chair			
Susan Sanderson	Parish Council, Chair	ssanderson@mathews.k12.va.us	804-725-9026	804-384-891
Patti Sarosy	Pastoral Care	psarosy@aol.com		804-832-364
Mark Sopko	Ushers, Chair	mgsopko@gmail.com		804-815-289
Helen Yacobucci	Parish Outreach, Chair; &	yacobuccihelen@gmail.com		804-815-760
	Funeral Receptions, Chair			

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





Michael G. Reardon (owner)

SuperServiceCenter

9303 Buckley Hall Road Mathews, VA 23109

804-725-9996

(O) howarddooleycafe

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P.O. Box 33

Hudgins, VA 23076

PARISHIONER

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Doug DeForge (804) 725-8292

