

# ***Church of Francis de Sales***

176 Lovers Lane – Mathews, Virginia 23109

**April 30, 2023**

**Fourth Sunday of Easter (Year A)**



## **PASTOR**

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

**Parish Administrator**  
**Paul Flaherty**

## **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 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](mailto:office@fdschurch.org)**

## ***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.***

## **Mass Schedule**

**Sunday 11:00am**

**Tuesday 9:00am**

**Friday 9:00am**

**Holy Days 6:30pm**

Special Message From Fr. Gerry and the Finance Council:

Our Sunday Offertory and Debt Reduction Income has been steadily declining over the past year. As a result, paying Parish operating expenses is becoming more difficult each month. This trend will now force us to reach beyond our operating budget and into our savings, which will be needed when critical building maintenance issues arise. Details of our current financial status can be found in the "Financial Report" section of this bulletin. To help turn the declining income around, we respectfully request each individual parishioner prayerfully consider increasing their regular giving by a minimum of 10%. Your financial support is critical to keeping our Parish and mission operational. Thank you for your continued support of our Parish and May God Bless each of you.

Announcements

2023 Annual Diocesan Appeal Update: FDS Goal: \$9,210; Raised to date: \$5,175; Numbers of donors to date: 21; Percentage to Goal: 56%.

The Folk Group will sing on Sunday, May 7, and Sunday, May 28, Memorial Day weekend for First Communion.

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 still 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-Fernald at: (804) 815-8650 or email her at: [cdehnert@dccocpa.com](mailto: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](mailto:jonoliver0120@gmail.com) or Paul Flaherty at: (718) 772-8327, email: [pjflaherty15@gail.com](mailto: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.

*Happy Birthday to each and every one of our CFDS parishioners for their upcoming May Birthdays!*

*May 1 - Christopher Marsh  
May 5 - Georgiana Simmons  
May 8 - Anthony Tanner  
May 9 - Monica Chadwell  
May 15 - Pamela McNamee  
May 17 - Kathleen DeForge  
May 20 - Thomas C. Wicks  
May 21 - Mary Flaherty and Rachel Foss  
May 25 - Amy Thompson  
May 27 - Christine Johnson  
May 28 - Chris Riffe  
May 29 - Paul Flaherty*

**April 30, 2023, Fourth Sunday of Easter (Year A)**

**Readings:**

<b>Acts 2:14a, 36-41:</b>	<b>The promise is made to all.</b>
<b>Psalms 23:</b>	<b>"The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want."</b>
<b>1 Peter 2:20b-25:</b>	<b>Jesus bore our sins upon the cross.</b>
<b>John 10:1-10:</b>	<b>Jesus is the gate for the sheep.</b>

**April 30, 2023, Fourth Sunday of Easter (Year A)**

**Father Gerry's Homily:**

**"Good Shepherd Sunday"**

Traditionally this Sunday is known as Good Shepherd Sunday. Today's gospel considers the relationship between Jesus, the Good Shepherd, and the sheep He cares for and protects. The imagery is old, but the message is always new. It is relevant to us and to the vibrancy and viability of our faith. Our relationship with Jesus is a deeply personal one, but it is a force in our life that we are invited to share with others.

In order to be real disciples, we need to listen to Jesus, our Shepherd, and follow Him. We attune our minds to the sound of His voice and let Him lead us in the path He has shown. We are in good hands, since God has entrusted us to His Son, our shepherd and savior.

Sometimes it may cost a great amount if we try to listen and follow Jesus' voice. Because in our world today there are many voices calling out to be heard. Either on television or radio, by advertising, on the Internet, pressure from well-meaning friends, peer pressure etc. But in all this, there is also the voice of God calling us. It is up to us, which voices will we listen to? 'The sheep hear the voice of their shepherd', says Jesus. It is a relationship we have with Jesus that will make us hear His voice.

Jesus continues to say in the gospel that the sheep that belong to Him recognize His voice. They follow their shepherd. So, in belonging to Jesus, He belongs to us and we know from experience that our belonging to Him means that He does all He can to care and love us if we follow Him. Very often we don't. We stray away and follow other voices. Yet He keeps inviting us back to the true path that alone gives real peace and joy. This is the Good News.

He says also in this gospel: 'I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly.' This doesn't just mean life after death. Rather it involves the beginning of eternal life now, that is, a quality of life that gives peace, freedom, and joy. It is especially about our relationship with God, which begins here and continues into eternity.

In spite of our weaknesses, Jesus gives us the great promise that, as His brothers and sisters, no one can steal us from Him because the Father who is greater than anyone will not allow this. Like any true shepherd, Jesus will stop at nothing to love and care for us. He does this especially through the friends and other disciples He gives us to care for us now.

On this Good Shepherd Sunday, the Church asks us to pray especially for vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. Perhaps the need to do this has never been greater. We need priests, deacons, and religious people whose hearts are in it, who are truly good shepherds to the people God has entrusted to them. I feel that I am particularly blessed by God because I really enjoy being a priest and love all the people God has given me to serve and to share my faith with.

We are also called today to reflect on our own vocations as good shepherds in whatever life God called in. Parents are asked to be shepherds of the family God has given them. It is the same for teachers, doctors, civil leaders, lawyers, etc. All of us, our primary concern should be to care for and help others to a better quality of life. Whatever we do must be for the good of others not centered on us only. That is the meaning of a good shepherd.

## **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, Justin Bennett, Debbie Marceau and David Colligan.

**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, Brenda Smith, Norm Connolly, Johnny Brown, Jonnie Adams and family, Nicole Carzo Hill, Dan Schwartz and Gloria Petruskas.

## **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**

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

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

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

**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**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Spencer Walsh**, grandson of Pat & Jimmy Walsh, **U.S. Army, Ft. Hood, TX**

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



**Updated March 15, 2023**  
**FdS Parish Financial Report**  
**(Through the end of February 2023)**  
**Fiscal Year 2022-2023**

Total Income:	\$113,751	Total Offertory & Debt Reduction Budget:	\$118,667
Total Expenses:	\$128,950	Total Offertory & Debt Reduction Income:	\$105,966
Income - Expenses:	-\$15,199	Difference:	-\$12,701

As we reach the end of February, our Total Offertory & Debt Reduction Income was **\$12,701 Less Than** our planned budget. Subsequently, when you look at total income versus total expenses, we are in the **Negative by \$15,199**. This continued deficit in income is very 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 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](mailto:AIRLFTR@gmail.com) or cell: (501) 749-2276.

### Church of Francis de Sales Contact Information (updated 4/18/2023)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Committee</u>	<u>Email</u>	<u>Home Phone</u>	<u>Cell Phone</u>
Fr. Gerry Kaggwa	Pastor, Liturgy	<a href="mailto:gerry.kaggwa@consolata.net">gerry.kaggwa@consolata.net</a>	804-286-9271	
Paul Flaherty	Parish Administrator, Columbarium, Chair & Memorial Bricks, Chair	<a href="mailto:pjflaherty15@gmail.com">pjflaherty15@gmail.com</a>		718-772-8327
Mary Marshall	Parish Secretary	<a href="mailto:fdschurch@gmail.com">fdschurch@gmail.com</a>	804-725-2776	
Jeffrey Bohn	Funeral Coordinator	<a href="mailto:jbohn1130@yahoo.com">jbohn1130@yahoo.com</a>		804-854-1077
Eric Chadwell	Parish Council, Chair	<a href="mailto:chadwelljames6@gmail.com">chadwelljames6@gmail.com</a>		804-725-1191
Suane Dittmeier	Prayer Chain, Music, Chair	<a href="mailto:primadonna4sure@yahoo.com">primadonna4sure@yahoo.com</a>		804-854-9620
Allen Downs	Grounds Manager	<a href="mailto:kdd1951@gmail.com">kdd1951@gmail.com</a>	804-725-5807	804-725-6067
Rita Engle	Parish Life, Chair	<a href="mailto:rengle@hotmail.com">rengle@hotmail.com</a>	804-725-1462	804-824-1599
Christine Dehnert-Fernald	Counters, Chair	<a href="mailto:cdehnert@dccocpa.com">cdehnert@dccocpa.com</a>	804-725-4943	
Mary Flaherty	Pastoral Care, Hospitality, Chair	<a href="mailto:maryjosephineflaherty@gmail.com">maryjosephineflaherty@gmail.com</a>		718-309-2459
?	Youth Ministry, Co-Chair			
Michelle Haas	K-8 Religious Ed., Chair	<a href="mailto:michelhaas@cox.net">michelhaas@cox.net</a>		804-854-1784
Cheryl Henig	RCIA, Chair	<a href="mailto:cbhenig@yahoo.com">cbhenig@yahoo.com</a>	804-725-7750	804-356-2475
Leon Iveson	Finance Council, Chair	<a href="mailto:airlftr@gmail.com">airlftr@gmail.com</a>		501-749-2276
Pat Lipinski	New Members, Chair	<a href="mailto:offtothebeach@aol.com">offtothebeach@aol.com</a>	804-725-1537	703-969-2430
Elaine Lynch	Bulletin, Environment, Chair; & Receptions Clean Up, Chair	<a href="mailto:rmann@vims.edu">rmann@vims.edu</a>	804-725-4617	
Ed McNamee	Webmaster, Lectors, Chair	<a href="mailto:33moose63@gmail.com">33moose63@gmail.com</a>		571-265-6192
Jon Oliver	Acolytes, Chair; & Youth Ministry, Co-Chair	<a href="mailto:jonoliver0120@gmail.com">jonoliver0120@gmail.com</a>	804-725-6702	
Michele Oliver	Liturgy, Co-Chair	<a href="mailto:mdoliver4@aol.com">mdoliver4@aol.com</a>		804-695-4959
Paul Reardon	Ads, Chair; Greeters, Chair; & LEMS Coordinator, Chair	<a href="mailto:reardon948@gmail.com">reardon948@gmail.com</a>		804-384-3339
?	Ushers, Chair			
Helen Yacobucci	Parish Outreach, Chair; & Funeral Receptions, Chair	<a href="mailto:yacobuccihelen@gmail.com">yacobuccihelen@gmail.com</a>		804-815-7606

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

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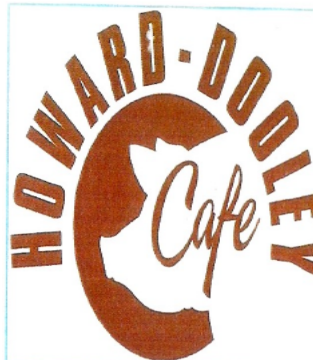
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