

Church of Francis de Sales

176 Lovers Lane – Mathews, Virginia 23109

April 9, 2023

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord (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

Dear Friends,

Christ is risen, He is truly risen! That dream that man has always cherished and never been able to realize has come true: death is defeated thanks to the sacrifice of the only Son of God, Jesus Christ, in whom we too became children of God by grace. Death was won in Jesus and is waiting to be won in each of His brothers and sisters. Filled with Easter Joy, I ask the Lord for the grace to enter into the light of this mystery, welcoming the announcement of Easter into our lives and making it the cornerstone of our Christian living. May each and every one of us be bold in our witness of the Crucified and Risen Lord.

Again, this year we celebrate Easter still enveloped by the continuing war between Russia and Ukraine: a war that certainly has far wider consequences. We all feel the pain of so many innocent people, especially children who are caught up in this violence.

Appearing to the Apostles after the Resurrection, Jesus gave them the greeting of peace. Peace is a great gift to receive and to wish it for those around us. Let us ask it from our Lord who is the Prince of Peace during this time for ourselves and for the whole World. As we celebrate Easter, the central event of our Christian faith, let us focus on the Risen Lord. Jesus is alive! Death has been overcome. Jesus who is Risen proclaims God's victory, which is our victory too.

I wish you all to experience the overwhelming joy of Easter and pass it to all those you meet in your life journeys.

Happy and Holy Easter to all!

Fr. Gerry

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.

LENT/EASTER SCHEDULE 2023

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		

Announcements

2023 Annual Diocesan Appeal Update: FDS Goal: \$9,210; Raised to date: \$4,585; Numbers of donors to date: 16; Percentage to Goal: 50%.

The Folk Group will play at Mass this Sunday, April 9th, Easter Sunday.

Tickets are now available for the 3rd ANNUAL LADIES' TEA. The Tea will be held on Saturday, April 15, 2023, from 1-3 pm. The price of each ticket is \$25.00 and there are a limited number of tickets available, get yours early. There will be a presentation of TEA THROUGH TIME given by the Ladies Victorian. The previous teas were a lot of fun and this one is going to be even better. Come join us and bring your friends. For information, questions, or tickets please contact:
Patti Sarosy at email: psarosy@aol.com or phone: (804) 832-3642
or Helen Yacobucci email: yacobuccihelen@gmail.com or phone: (804) 815-7606.

Harry & Autumn Taylor were blessed with the birth of a baby boy on Tuesday, March 7, 2023. Their son's Baptism has been scheduled for April 23rd the Third Sunday of Easter.

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.

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.

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@gmail.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.

April 9 2023, Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord (Year A)

Readings:

Acts 10:34a, 37-43: Peter is an eyewitness: The Lord is risen.

Psalm 118: "This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad."

Colossians 3:1-4: All who are baptized, set your hearts in heaven.

John 20:1-9: Three witnesses, Mary, Peter, and John, respond to the empty tomb.

April 9, 2023, Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord (Year A)

Father Gerry's Homily:

Easter is a Feast, which gives us hope and encouragement. On Easter Sunday we celebrate a new beginning in and with faith. In a World of pain, sorrows frustrations, fear... Easter reminds us that life is worth living. No matter our present discouragements, hope is always there.

Easter Sunday Readings sum up this sense of hope and encouragement. There is no way Peter could have spoken like that on Easter Sunday. Like the other apostles, Peter was both scared and discouraged after all that had happened to Jesus. Because up to the moment of the Resurrection, after the terrible death of Jesus on Good Friday, the disciples of Jesus were devastated. The one they had leaned on was gone. They never imagined Jesus would be taken prisoner and crucified. In that instant their dreams evaporated. The disciples experienced a dreadful loss and no doubt were shattered, their hopes taken away in those short few days. They were also afraid for their lives and half expected to be caught and punished by the religious leaders who plotted the death of Jesus and had him crucified. For them at that terrible time, there was no light at all, but after experiencing the Risen Lord, the light in their lives started to shine again.

In today's gospel, Mary of Magdala reports to Peter and John that the tomb is empty. In nearly all the Resurrection accounts, it is the women who first experience the Risen Jesus. Women at that time as in many places still today were looked down upon. This may be why the disciples did not believe them. It seems that the proclamation of life of the Risen Jesus starts with the very people who were marginalized and who count for little in society. In any case the curiosity of the two is awakened and they run to the tomb. Peter sees the linen cloths on the ground in an empty tomb. But their faith had been crushed so finding the empty tomb meant nothing especially to Peter at the beginning. Only the beloved disciple, John the Gospel says, that he 'saw and he believed'.

The real good news of Jesus' resurrection is that we do not have to gloss over pain, suffering and difficult daily life situations. Because the Resurrection does give us a new outlook on life. It gives us the freedom to face the dark side of life, and even death with confidence knowing that Jesus broke the bonds of human limitation and slavery in our lives. Jesus is alive and if we really have experienced the joy of the Risen Jesus in our daily lives we will have deep joy, peace and serenity because of Jesus who is now alive and makes all things new.

In the first reading today, Peter says that he and the disciples are now witnesses of all they saw Jesus doing even if for a few days they were paralyzed by His death and seeming failure. If we really experience the Risen Jesus in our lives like the Apostles, then we will begin to develop talents and gifts we never knew we had, because fear gives way to trust, trust in the Lord and in ourselves. This empowers us to break free from former limitations.

John in his Gospel offers us as an example of a believer, a woman, Mary Magdalene, who was an outcast, a prostitute. It is she who, first, on Easter morning, when it was still dark, runs to the tomb and then goes to announce to the disciples that Christ is risen. Magdalene believes because she was in love. She believed in life. She believed in the impossible. Her faith is born out of love. Magdalene teaches us today that one can learn to believe in the impossible, but only if one learns to love. Easter is an invitation to never resign to our failures and hopelessness but to make room for hope, love, and new life in the Risen Lord.

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 Petrauskas.

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**

2nd 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 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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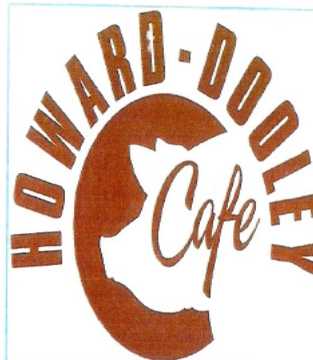
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