

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

176 Lovers Lane – Mathews, Virginia 23109

**April 23, 2023**

**Third Sunday of Easter (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](mailto:office@fdschurch.org)**

**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: \$5,035; Numbers of donors to date: 19; Percentage to Goal: 55%.

Harry & Autumn Taylor's son, Harry James Taylor, IV, will be Baptized this Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>.

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.

**April 23, 2023, Third Sunday of Easter (Year A)**

**Readings:**

<b>Acts 2:14, 22-23:</b>	<b>It was impossible for Jesus to be held by death.</b>
<b>Psalms 16:</b>	<b>"Lord, you will show us the path of life."</b>
<b>1 Peter 1:17-21:</b>	<b>We were saved with the precious Blood of Christ.</b>
<b>Luke 24:13-35:</b>	<b>They recognized Jesus in the breaking of the bread.</b>

**April 23, 2023, Third Sunday of Easter (Year A)**

**Father Gerry's Homily:**

**'We are all witnesses to the resurrection of Jesus'**

Last Sunday the Gospel was about a doubting Thomas. Today we have two disciples on the road to Emmaus, confused and looking for answers. Their main question is how could it be that their master, Jesus of Nazareth, a prophet mighty in word and deed, could be put to death. For them, He really seemed to be the long-awaited Messiah, the Christ. But He is dead. And now to confuse them more, they hear some women who are claiming that He has risen from the dead. Even His closest followers, Peter and John, went to the tomb and found it empty. They don't know what to make of this, they are confused. They feel defeated, their hope gone.

Then Jesus started to walk with them. He explained the Scriptures, the Word of God, how the Messiah would first suffer and then enter into His Glory. So often, we walk along the road of our lives confused. We have difficulty solving our problems. We doubt our own ability to come up with the answers we need. Sometimes we look into ourselves for the answers, pretending to know everything. It is true that God gave us knowledge, but it is also true that we need God and His Spirit in our lives to help us understand Him and our life. Jesus led the disciples on the road to Emmaus to the Truth by explaining to them what is written in the Sacred Scriptures. On their own, they had failed to understand the meaning and implications of the Word God revealed to us in the Scriptures. Then, those disciples finally recognized Jesus in the Breaking of the Bread. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while He spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us?"

We may not have the answers to the profound questions of life, or even to the daily concerns of life, but we do know where peace is found. In Jesus, the risen Christ. In Him alone we find our joy. We cannot understand Him sometimes, as the disciples on the road to Emmaus, but He will always walk side by side with us explaining to us the meaning of all that is going on in our life.

Those disciples who had this marvelous encounter with Christ ran back to Jerusalem, to Peter and the other disciples, and told them what they experienced. That was their joy that they could not keep this wonderful experience to themselves but share it with their friends.

The disciples could not keep their experience of the Risen Lord to themselves. Nor can we. We do not have to go knocking on peoples' doors, no, but we can be witnesses of this new life in Christ right in the places where we are. Places of work, in schools for students, in our homes with family members.

We have read in the First Reading, that Peter and the other Apostles, after encountering the Risen Lord, they proclaimed this Good News to their fellow Jewish people. We need not be so bold as Peter and his friends in their preaching, but we can show our faith in the Risen Christ by living as good disciples, that our way of life expresses our Christian faith. Peter told the Jewish people that he and the others were witnesses to the resurrection of the Lord and that they have to make it known to all peoples so that all may repent and obtain salvation through Jesus.

We also, like Peter and other apostles, are called to continue this witness, this apostolic witness in the world. Jesus came to transform the World through His death and resurrection, and we are part of that transformation because of our faith, therefore, we are called upon to continue working for this transformation, to change the World, that everyone will come to know and believe in Jesus and His teachings.

## **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**

**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
Joan Dawson	Sacristan, Chair	<a href="mailto:joanbd61@gmail.com">joanbd61@gmail.com</a>	804-725-2993	
Suanne 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 Youth Ministry, Co-Chair	<a href="mailto:maryjosephineflaherty@gmail.com">maryjosephineflaherty@gmail.com</a>		718-309-2459
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
Eric Chadwell	Parish Council, Chair Ushers, Chair	<a href="mailto:chadwelljames6@gmail.com">chadwelljames6@gmail.com</a>		804-725-1191
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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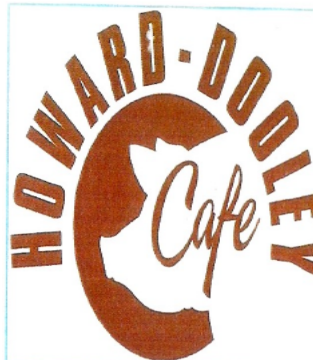
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