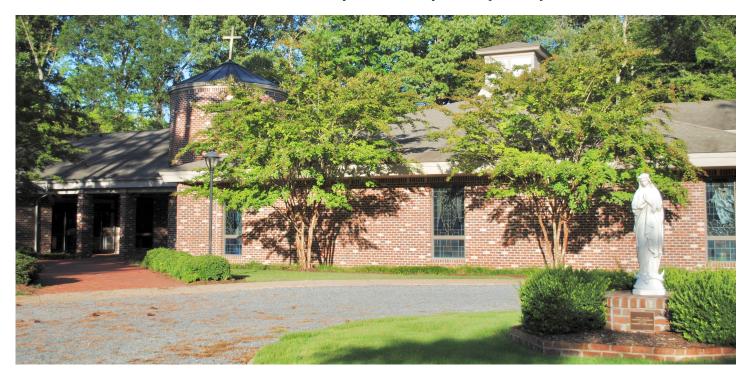
Church of Francis de Sales

176 Lovers Lane - Mathews, Virginia 23109

June 25, 2023 The Twelfth 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 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

A letter from Fr. Gerry

Dear Friends,

It is almost seven, years (six years and eleven months to be exact) since coming here as your Pastor. I was received with love and kindness and felt from day one that I was accepted as one of you, one of the family! Thank you for your acceptance and trust. It is hard to put into words what it means to me to have created such a bond of friendship with each one of you. I will carry these memories wherever the Lord takes me.

During my time here we have, together, achieved a lot as a community of believers. It is your generosity, which keeps this Church moving forward. Thank you for all the sacrifices you made and are still making in order that Francis de Sales Church continues to be a shining star of our Catholic faith in Mathews.

And on a more personal level, you helped build St. Noah School in my home village. This is a lasting legacy, which you should always be proud of. As for me, no words to thank you enough, but know that, this school project, has created an unbreakable bond between me and you and my people at home. May God reward you for such loving hearts.

As a human being I know that I am not perfect, therefore, if during the course of my duties as your pastor, I have caused someone to feel hurt or ignored, misunderstood, or not respected, forgive me. I never intended to hurt anyone, I always sought to do what is good for this community, but we are all human!

And now as I leave to take up my new assignment as Pastor of Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in Norfolk, I pray that you have a wonderful future. And may the Lord, through your efforts, and your characteristic of a loving community, attract more new members to this Church.

Thank you for allowing me to be your pastor and friend, I will always look back fondly to the time spent in this community with you. Yes, I came as your pastor now seven years later I leave as a friend! I will miss each one of you!

May God Bless you all.

Fr. Gerry Kaggwa 110 Severn Road Norfolk, VA 23505

Announcements

Bishop Knestout has made new assignments and changes of Priests and Pastors in the diocese. Our Pastor, Very Rev. Fr. Gerry Kaggwa, has been appointed Pastor of Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, in Norfolk, effective July 1, 2023.

Our New Pastor will be: Rev. Fr. Johnny Mintah Mensah, currently Parochial Vicar (assistant pastor), in Clarksville, South Hill and South Boston. (He is from Ghana.)

Sadly, for those of you who have not heard, our cherished, longtime friend and former parishioner, Virginia (Ginny) Groff, passed away on Monday, June 19, 2023. A service will be held at 12:00 noon on Wednesday, June 28, 2023, at the Church of St. Therese, 6262 Main Street, Gloucester, Va. 23061.

A reception at the church will follow the service.

Mary Marshall will be off on the following days: Friday, June 23rd, Monday, June 26th, and Friday, June 30th.

The Folk Group will sing this coming Sunday, June 25th and Sunday, July 23rd.

<u>Parish Website</u>: 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.

<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 still in need of at least 'one' additional volunteer counter to be added to the Sunday 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-Fernald 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 <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 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 July Birthdays!

July 8 – Alan Hartlove and Mary Marshall
July 10 – John Caldwell and Ann McCue
July 13 – Mark Kilduff
July 16 – Edward Lipinski
July 18 – Helen Yacobucci
July 22 – Alexander Milligan and Robert Weber
July 24 – Michelle Haas
July 29 – Thomas Seals
July 30 – Suzanne Melin

June 25, 2023, The Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

Readings:

Jeremiah 20:10-13: The Lord will rescue the beloved from their persecutors.

Psalm 69: "Lord, in your great love, answer me."

Romans 5:12-15: By grace, the gracious gift of God's Son, Jesus Christ, has saved us all

from sin.

Matthew 10:26-33: There is no fear when God's love is received as a precious gift.

June 25, 2023, The Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

Father Gerry's Homily:

The Scripture readings for this Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time challenge us to put all trust in the Lord. We must preach the Gospel of Christ through our words and lives without fear. He knows everything that is going on in our life, He loves us, He will take care of all our needs.

The first reading tells us how the prophet Jeremiah trusted in the power of God while he faced opposition for his prophetic ministry. He was intimidated by attacks upon his character, but he was unafraid to speak out in the name of the Lord. This reading, from one of the sections of the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah referred to as the Confession of Jeremiah, relates how Jeremiah's enemies were looking for ways by which they could denounce him to the King, condemn him, even have him killed, because the King had confidence in Jeremiah. The people looked at him as one of the greatest prophets sent to them by God. But now, Jeremiah is tested. He decides to give witness to God although that meant persecution from the politically powerful men gathered around the King. He decides to fear God rather than be afraid of men.

Today's Gospel passage is taken from the end of Jesus' instruction to His disciples as He sends them forth to carry on His mission of preaching and healing. He asks them to live simple lives and to expect opposition and rejection. After having foretold future opposition and persecution, Jesus encourages His disciples to stand firm. Three times they are urged, "Fear no one!" "Do not fear!" "Do not be afraid!" Instead of shrinking from their task, they are to proclaim the Gospel boldly, because they will be protected just as Jeremiah was assured of God's protection. Hence, Jesus commands His disciples not to fear their persecutors. He presents before them the image of the sparrow to reinforce the disciples' trust and hope in God. The readings hint at the opposition we future Christians will encounter as we carry on the work of Jesus in the world, and they encourage us to persevere in doing the work of Jesus. They assure us that we will be successful, despite the opposition we encounter.

We need to be afraid of nothing and nobody because our life is in the hands of a loving God. Sometimes we are afraid that we will make a wrong decision. At other times, we are afraid of what others will think when we speak up for Jesus. We are afraid of what the future will bring to us, our children, our loved ones, and our friends in general. We are also afraid of growing old, of bad health. Every fear we have is grounded in the knowledge that we have something or someone to lose. I can lose my job, family, house, money, health and even life itself. We are afraid of being rejected by others, especially our friends. This fear of rejection leads some of us not to live according to our Christian values.

Because of fear we forget one thing, which is important: that whatever trouble or crisis we face at that moment, God understands it and is far more powerful than what we fear. Our Heavenly Father knows exactly what is happening. This is the good news: to know that God is always on our side; that our life is in the hands of a loving God!

These days, it takes tremendous courage to be a witness of Christ, to show our faith in God. The trials of Jeremiah in the first reading are very present in our time. And yet like Jeremiah we are called to be prophets, to be Apostles of God's truth, of the Gospel of Christ to the World without fear.

LORD HEAR OUR PRAYER

<u>Parishioners:</u> Joe King, 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, 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, Norm Connolly, Johnny Brown, Jonnie Adams and family, Nicole Carzo Hill and Dan Schwartz.

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 - Deployed to Lithuania

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

UPDATED MAY 9, 2023

FdS Parish Financial Report (Through the end of April 2023) Fiscal Year 2022-2023

Total Income: \$152,362
Total Expenses: \$159,281
Income - Expenses: -\$6,919

Total Offertory & Debt Reduction Budget: \$148,333
Total Offertory & Debt Reduction Income: \$142,323
Difference: -\$6,010

As we reached the end of April, our combined Total Offertory & Debt Reduction Income was \$6,010 Less Than our planned budget. While there was a slight increase in regular offertory to date, our Mortgage Reduction Income was \$6,685 Less Than our required budget. Subsequently, when you look at total income versus total expenses, we are in the Negative by \$6,919. 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 <u>AIRLFTR@gmail.com</u> or cell: (501) 749-2276.

Name	<u>Committee</u>	<u>Email</u>	Home Phone	Cell Phone
Fr. Gerry Kaggwa	Pastor, Liturgy	gerry.kaggwa@consolata.net	804-286-9271	
Paul Flaherty	Parish Administrator,	pjflaherty15@gmail.com		718-772-8327
	Columbarium, Chair &			
	Memorial Bricks, Chair			
Mary Marshall	Parish Secretary	fdschurch@gmail.com	804-725-2776	
effrey Bohn	Funeral Coordinator	jbohn1130@yahoo.com		804-854-1077
Eric Chadwell	Parish Council, Chair	chadwelljames6@gmail.com		804-725-1191
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	Pastoral Care, Hospitality, Chair	maryjosephineflaherty@gmail.com		718-309-245
•	Youth Ministry, Co-Chair			
Michelle Haas	K-8 Religious Ed., Chair	michelhaas@cox.net		804-854-178
Cheryl Henig	RCIA, Chair	cbhenig@yahoo.com	804-725-7750	804-356-247
eon Iveson	Finance Council, Chair	airlftr@gmail.com		501-749-227
Pat Lipinski	New Members, Chair	offtothebeach@aol.com	804-725-1537	703-969-2430
Elaine Lynch	Bulletin, Environment, Chair; &	rmann@vims.edu	804-725-4617	
	Receptions Clean Up, Chair			
Ed McNamee	Webmaster, Lectors, Chair	33moose63@gmail.com		571-265-619
lon Oliver	Acolytes, Chair; &	jonoliver0120@gmail.com	804-725-6702	
	Youth Ministry, Co-Chair			
Michele Oliver	Liturgy, Co-Chair	mdoliver4@aol.com		804-695-4959
Paul Reardon	Ads, Chair; Greeters, Chair; &	reardon948@gmail.com		804-384-333
	LEMS Coordinator, Chair			
•	Ushers, Chair			
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)









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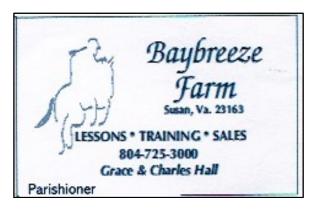
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