

# Church of Francis de Sales

176 Lovers Lane – Mathews, Virginia 23109

December 10, 2023  
Second Sunday of Advent



First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11:  
Prepare the way of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm 85:  
“Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.”

Second Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-14  
We await new heavens and a new earth.

Gospel: Mark: 1:1-8:  
Make straight the paths of the Lord.

Greeter: P. Nicastro

Usher: E. Lipinski / J. Oliver

Lectors: C. Henig / M. Henig

Extraordinary Eucharistic Ministers: T. Darby / C. Schirmer

Counters: H. Keitz / R. Engle

## Church of Francis de Sales

Roman Catholic Church  
176 Lovers Lane – Mathews, Virginia 23109

Parochial Administrator: Reverend Fr. Johnny Mintah Mensah  
Rectory: 804-286-9271

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)

<https://www.FdSChurch.org>

*Please submit any announcements for the bulletin to the Parish Office no later than Tuesday at 4:00 PM*

## Our Liturgy Schedule

Sunday Mass: 11:00am

Tuesday Daily Mass: 9:00am

Friday Daily Mass: 9:00am

Holy Days: 6:30pm

Every 1<sup>st</sup> Friday: Devotions to the Sacred Heart      Mass at 9:00am followed by Eucharistic Adoration

Every 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday: Fatima Devotions Rosary at 9:30am followed by Mass at 10:00am

### SACRAMENTS

Reconciliation 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 at any time upon request.*

## Introduction to the Liturgy of the Word:

In today's first reading, it is in the desert that Isaiah imagines a way of the Lord will be prepared. In the Gospel, it is from the desert that John the Baptist appears on the scene. Hearing these prophets today, let us contemplate our own spiritual deserts and listen for John's call for repentance. May we heed that call as we prepare for the Lord with the holiness and devotion we hear called for in the second reading, devoting ourselves to making holy our lives and our world in preparation for His coming.

## This Week in the Liturgy of the Church

FRI	Dec 8	9:00 AM (COV) 6:30 PM (FDS)	Immaculate Conception Holyday of Obligation.
TUES	Dec 12	9:00 AM	Weekday Mass Tuesday of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Week of Advent.
WED	Dec 13	7:00 PM (COV)	Advent Reconciliation.
FRI	Dec 15	9:00 AM	Weekday Mass Friday of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Week of Advent.

## Upcoming Events in the Life of our Parish

WED Dec 20 6:30 PM Reconciliation Service at the Church of Francis de Sales.

### FdS Parish Offertory

Fiscal Year July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024

*Parish Offertory Income Collection will be provided in the Sunday Bulletin on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month.*

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT AND GENEROSITY WHICH HELPS OUR CHURCH COMMUNITY THRIVE.**

### Our Announcements

The Church of Francis de Sales Social Outreach Committee will be providing **Christmas Stockings or Shoe Boxes** for the seniors at the Mathews County Senior Center again this year. Please pick up an ornament tag (there are 18 pink tags for the ladies and 5 blue tags for the gentlemen), from the Angel Tree located in the back of the church. Fill the stocking or box (wrap the gifts), attach the tag, and return the stocking or box to the church no later than **Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>**. We need to have them ready by December 14<sup>th</sup> for delivery to the seniors. A list of suggested items that you might want to include in the stockings will be by the angel tree. If possible, could you please provide a small gift card for food from Walmart, Food Lion or Dollar General in your gift box? Please help to make Christmas a little brighter for our seniors in Mathews County this year.

**Hospitality Sunday** will be held this month on **Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>** after Mass. To celebrate this day with a festive Christmas spirit, we are asking all participants to bring their favorite Christmas cookies or dessert. Break out those tried and true recipes to share with our community the favorites that have made your family traditions so special. As usual, coffee and drinks will be provided. We look forward to jovial fellowship as we enjoy some Christmas treats.

AS WE PREPARE FOR THE CELEBRATION OF OUR LORD'S BIRTH, PLEASE MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND THE RECONCILIATION SERVICE ON **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20 AT 6:30 PM** AT THE CHURCH OF FRANCIS DE SALES.

We will offer an Advent Penitential Liturgy at our Church of Francis de Sales on **Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>**.

**Special Intentions for Mass:** If you would like to have a Mass offered for the intention of a loved one, friend, or another special request, please stop by the parish office and we will be happy to assist you!

**Church of Francis de Sales  
Advent Calendar 2023**

**Mass Times**

<b>Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>	<b>11:00 a.m. FDS</b>
<b>Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Immaculate Conception</b>	<b>(9:00 a.m. COV) 6:30 p.m. FDS</b>
<b>Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>	<b>11:00 a.m. FDS</b>
<b>Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Advent Reconciliation</b>	<b>(7:00 p.m. COV)</b>
<b>Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>	<b>11:00 a.m. FDS</b>
<b>Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Advent Reconciliation</b>	<b>6:30 p.m. FDS</b>
<b>Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>	<b>11:00 a.m. FDS</b>
<b>Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Christmas Eve Mass</b>	<b>5:00 p.m. FDS (7:00 p.m. COV)</b>
<b>Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Christmas Day Mass</b>	<b>11:00 a.m. FDS</b>
<b>Monday, January 1, 2024</b>	<b>New Year's Day Mass</b>	<b>11:00 a.m. FDS</b>

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**Tuesday, January 2, 2024**                      **No Weekday Mass on this day.**

**Friday, January 5, 2024**                      **No Weekday Mass on this day.**

**Rectory (804) 286-9271 – Church of Francis de Sales (804) 725-2776**

**FDS = Church of Francis de Sales, Mathews, VA  
COV = Church of The Visitation, Topping, VA**

LORD HEAR OUR PRAYER		
Parishioners	Family	Friends
Joe King	Dottie Long	Laurel & Allen Robins
Jean and Bob Tanner	Rita Guarino	Joy Long
Anna Deagle	Fred Moody	William Scott Smith
Sharon Simmons	Timothy Farrell	Ben Leigh
Alice Mercer	Margaret McLaughlin	Nan Seals
Gloria Bosley	Ruth Brown	Kenneth Marshall
Matthew DeForge	Maria Hurst	Lourdes Parker
Sally Howland	Scott Oliver	Tom Justis
Michelle Oliver	Sylvia Oliver	Maureen Connolly
Jim Pavik	Catherine Bennett	Norm Connolly
Grace Hall	Justin Bennett	
Cathy Walker	Debbie Marceau	
Rita Engle	David Colligan	
Paul Reardon	Melissa Wilson	
Nicholas Koch	Moo Svendson	
	Kathleen Cala	
	Vicki Krieger	
	Patsy Lynch	

**Please Pray for Our Military Men, Women, and Their Families.  
 Lord, hold our troops in Your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and  
 their families for the selfless acts they perform in our country's time of need.  
 We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Amen.**

MSgt Kristin Buludis	Daughter of Randy & Terry Dobson	US Air Force	Langley AFB, VA
CPT Andrew Bohn	Son of Jeff Bohn & Suanne Dittmeier	US Army	Fort Gregg Adams, VA
CAPT Ryan Carey	Son of Jack & Ginny Carey	US Navy	Naples, Italy
SSgt Cameron Farrell	Great-nephew of Elaine Lynch	US Air Force	Tyndall AFB, FL
E6 John Robert Pizzicar	Son-in-law of Jim & Deona Pavik	US Navy	Fort Meade, MD
LT Patrick Sopko	Son of Suzanne and Ron Sopko	US Navy	Norfolk, VA
2LT Spencer Walsh	Grandson of Pat & Jimmy Walsh	US Army	Fort Hood, TX

Austin Tice, freelance journalist and former Marine Captain, captured in Syria on August 14, 2012.  
*Locations of overseas deployments are not listed for the security of all military members.*

## Our Parish Ministry and Mission Leads

<b>Parochial Administrator, Liturgy</b>	Fr. Johnny Mintah Mensah
<b>Parish Administrator</b>	Paul Flaherty
<b>Parish Secretary</b>	Mary Marshall
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Jon Oliver
<b>Bulletin</b>	Elaine Lynch
<b>Bulletin Advertisements</b>	Paul Reardon
<b>Columbarium</b>	Paul Flaherty
<b>Counters Chair</b>	Christine Dehnert-Fernald
<b>Environment</b>	Pat Lipinski
<b>Extraordinary Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Paul Reardon
<b>Faith Formation - Elementary</b>	Michelle Haas
<b>Faith Formation - Adult</b>	Ed McNamee
<b>Faith Formation - High School</b>	Courtney Hudson
<b>Finance Council Chair</b>	Leon Iveson
<b>Funeral Coordinator</b>	
<b>Greeters</b>	Paul Reardon
<b>Grounds Manager</b>	Alan Downs
<b>Hospitality / Funeral Receptions</b>	Mary Flaherty
<b>Lectors Ministry</b>	Ed McNamee
<b>Liturgy</b>	Michelle Oliver
<b>Memorial Bricks</b>	Paul Flaherty
<b>New Members</b>	Pat Lipinski
<b>Faith Formation - Parish Catechetical Lead</b>	Ed McNamee
<b>Parish Life</b>	Rita Engle
<b>Parish Outreach</b>	Helen Yacobucci
<b>Pastoral Care</b>	Mary Flaherty
<b>Pastoral Council Chair</b>	Eric Chadwell
<b>RCIA</b>	Cheryl Henig
<b>Sacramental Preparation - Baptism</b>	Ed McNamee
<b>Sacramental Preparation - Confirmation</b>	Jessie Miller
<b>Sacramental Preparation – 1<sup>st</sup> Sacraments</b>	Michelle Haas
<b>Ushers</b>	Ed Lipinski
<b>Webmaster</b>	Ed McNamee

**To get in touch with any of our ministry or mission leaders,  
or to offer your time and talents, please contact the Parish Office.**

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





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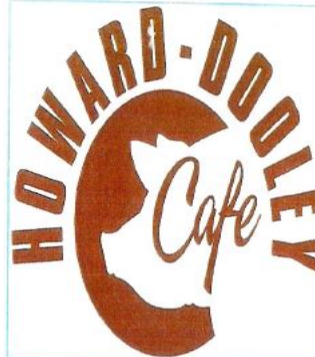
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