

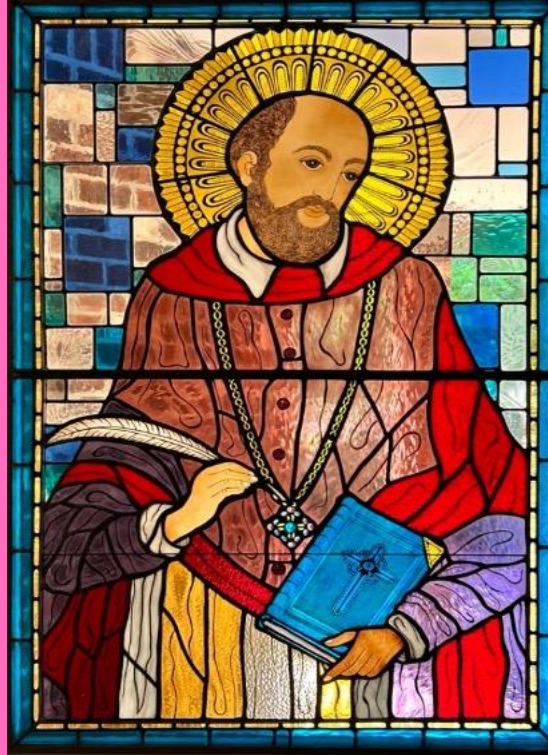
# Church of Francis de Sales

176 Lovers Lane – Mathews, Virginia 23109

December 17, 2023

Third Sunday of Advent, Gaudete Sunday

Mass Intention this week is for Mary & Paul Manozzi, Parents of Rita Engle



First Reading: Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11:  
I rejoice heartily in the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Luke 1:  
“My soul rejoices in my God.”

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24:  
May you entirely, spirit, soul and body, be preserved blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28:  
There is one among you whom you do not recognize.

Greeter: M. Salmon

Usher: E. Lipinski / J. Oliver

Lectors: E. McNamee / P. Hyer

Extraordinary Eucharistic Ministers: S. Henig / M. Henig / H. Yacobucci

Counters: P. Hyer /

## 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:

On Gaudete Sunday a theme of joy runs through our readings. Isaiah, returning to the promised land after years of exile, describes the wonders God will accomplish. In the psalm we sing that our souls rejoice in our God.

Paul closes his letter to the Thessalonians by reminding them to rejoice always. Finally, we hear John the Baptist testify that he is not worthy to even untie the sandal strap of the One who is coming, the light, the

Christ. May the joy we hear in God's word rub off on us.

## This Week in the Liturgy of the Church

FRI      Dec 15      9:00 AM      Weekday Mass Friday of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Week of Advent.

TUES     Dec 19      9:00 AM      Weekday Mass Tuesday of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Week of Advent.

FRI      Dec 22      9:00 AM      Weekday Mass Friday of the 3<sup>rd</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.

<b>FdS Parish Offertory Income</b>				
<b>Fiscal Year July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024</b>				
<b>[Through the end of November 2023 – 5-months]</b>				
<b>Month</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actuals</b>	<b>Actual Less Budget</b>	<b>Percent Actual / Budget</b>
November Totals	\$13,083	\$10,886	(- \$2,197)	(-17%)
Year To Date to 11/30/23	\$65,417	\$78,771	+ \$13,354	+20%

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED FINANCIAL SUPPORT AND GENEROSITY WHICH HELPS OUR CHURCH OF FRANCIS DE SALES COMMUNITY THRIVE.**

### Our Announcements

The 2024 Offertory Envelopes and Parish Calendars are now available. Please pick up yours in the corner of the Commons.

**Hospitality Sunday** will be held this **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.

A meeting is scheduled for this **Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>**, to plan for the upcoming **Ladies Tea**. The tea is scheduled for **February 10, 2024** with a Valentine's theme since it is four days prior to Valentine's Day. Hospitality Sunday is also this Sunday, the 17<sup>th</sup>, so please bring your cookies, coffee, ideas and suggestions regarding the tea to the meeting.

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

<b>LORD HEAR OUR PRAYER</b>		
<b>Parishioners</b>	<b>Family</b>	<b>Friends</b>
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	Mary Marshall
Sally Howland	Scott Oliver	Lourdes Parker
Michelle Oliver	Sylvia Oliver	Tom Justis
Jim Pavik	Catherine Bennett	Maureen Connolly
Grace Hall	Justin Bennett	Norm Connolly
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/Drew Darby
<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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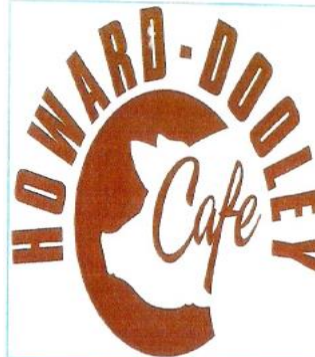
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