

| Our Parish Ministry and Mission Leads (updated 11/15/24) | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Pastor, Liturgy | Fr. Johnny Mintah Mensah |
| Parish Administrator | Paul Flaherty |
| Parish Secretary | Mary Marshall |
| Altar Servers | Jon Oliver |
| Bulletin | Elaine Lynch |
| Bulletin Advertisements | Paul Reardon |
| Columbarium | Paul Flaherty |
| Commemorative Pavers | Paul Flaherty |
| Counters Chair | Christine Dehnert-Fernald |
| Environment | Pat Lipinski |
| Extraordinary Eucharistic Ministers | Mary Flaherty |
| Faith Formation – Adult | Ed McNamee |
| Faith Formation – Elementary | Michelle Haas |
| Faith Formation – High School | Courtney Hudson |
| Faith Formation – Parish Catechetical Lead | Ed McNamee |
| Finance Council Chair | Michael Henig |
| Funeral Coordinator | |
| Greeters | Jessica Miller |
| Grounds Manager | Alan Downs |
| Hospitality/Funeral Receptions | Norah Iverson / Pam McNamee |
| Lectors Ministry | Ed McNamee |
| Liturgy | Christine Varone / Mary Flaherty |
| Music Ministry | Cathy Schirmer |
| New Members | Pat Lipinski |
| Order of Christian Initiation of Adults | Cheryl Henig |
| Parish Life | Rita Engle |
| Parish Outreach | Helen Yacobucci |
| Pastoral Care | Kathy DeForge |
| Pastoral Council Chair | Eric Chadwell |
| Sacramental Preparation – Baptism | Ed McNamee |
| Sacramental Preparation – Confirmation | Jessie Miller |
| Sacramental Preparation – 1 st Sacraments | Michelle Haas |
| Ushers | Ed Lipinski |
| Webmaster | 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. | |

Church of Francis de Sales

176 Lovers Lane – Mathews, Virginia 23109

February 2, 2025
Presentation of the Lord



Roman Catholic Church

Pastor: Reverend Fr. Johnny Mintah Mensah

Rectory: 804-286-9271

Parish Administrator: Paul Flaherty

Parish Secretary: Mary Marshall

Parish Office: 804-725-2776

E-mail: office@fdschurch.org

Web page: <https://www.FdSChurch.org>

Office Hours: Monday 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Tuesday 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Friday 8:00 a.m.-Noon

Our Liturgy Schedule: Sunday Mass: 11:00 a.m.

Daily Masses: Tuesday and Fridays 9:00 a.m.

Holy Days: 6:30 p.m.

Every 1st Friday: Devotions to the Sacred Heart. Mass at 9:00 a.m. followed by Eucharistic Adoration.

Every 1st Saturday: Fatima Devotions Rosary at 9:30 a.m. followed by Mass at 10:00 a.m.

Sacraments:

Baptism: call the priest at least one month in advance.
Marriage: call the priest at least six months in advance.
Reconciliation on request.
Anointing of the Sick at any time upon request.

Introduction to the Liturgy of the Word:

First Reading: Malachi 3:1-4: The Lord will come to the temple.

Psalm 24: "Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!"

Second Reading: Hebrews 2:14-18: Christ became like his brothers and sisters in all things but sin.

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40: Mary and Joseph present the Lord Jesus in the temple.

It's not every day that we get to hear from three different prophets, let alone three who see the Lord physically present in the temple. For Malachi, it's anticipatory: he foresees the day when the LORD will come to the temple to purify the people of the covenant. In the case of Simeon and Anna, they recognize the Messiah in the temple though he is not even six weeks old. Moved by the Spirit, Simeon testifies that in the baby he sees salvation. Like the prophets, we hope that one day we too will see our Savior.

This Week in the Liturgy of the Church

Saturday, February 1: 1st Saturday: Fatima Devotions Rosary at 9:30 a.m. followed by Mass at 10:00 a.m.
Tuesday, February 4, 9:00 a.m. Weekday Mass Tuesday of the Presentation of the Lord, Mass Intention in Memory of Bob Tanner's one year anniversary.
Friday, February 7, 1st Friday: Devotions to the Sacred Heart. Mass at 9:00 a.m. followed by Eucharistic Adoration.

SERVING THIS WEEK FEBRUARY 2, 2025:

Greeter: H. Keitz
Ushers: R. Dobson / A. Downs
Lectors: P. Sanderson / S. Sanderson
Eucharistic Ministers: C. Henig / M. Henig / K. Deforge
Counters: H. Keitz / R. Engle

SERVING NEXT WEEK FEBRUARY 9, 2025:

Greeter: K. Walls
Ushers: J. Oliver / E. Chadwell
Lectors: M. Flaherty / S. Zheng
Eucharistic Ministers: S. Haas / J. Dawson / C. Varone
Counter: P. Hyer

FdS Parish Offertory
Fiscal Year July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025

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

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH.

Lord Hear Our Prayer

Parishioners: Jean Tanner, Sharon Simmons, Alice Mercer, Gloria Bosley, Matthew DeForge, Grace Hall, Cathy Walker, Rita Engle, Paul Reardon, Bitsy Riffe, Joe Hudgins, Jack Carey, Connie Lodge, Chuck Reale, Dick & Lois Morley

Family: Dottie Long, Rita Guarino, Patsy Lynch, Fred Moody, James McLaughlin, Margaret McLaughlin, Ruth Brown, Timothy Farrell, Maria Hurst, Catherine Bennett, Justin Bennett, David Colligan, Melissa Wilson, Vicki Krieger, Marie Pribble, Paul Oliver, Cindy Lockemy, Riley Hunt, Kathryn Turner, Elizabeth Scott, Margaret Mann, Philip Varone, Lil Chambers, Martha Lynch Guerrette

Friends: Joy Long, William Scott Smith, Nan & Doug Seals, Lourdes Parker, Tom Justis, Maureen Connolly, Norm Connolly, Francis McLoughlin, Joan Haurly, Don Parker, Larry Whitfield, Janet Letizia, Callie Penic, Carl Roane, Nikki Traynor, Christopher Leavy, Page Respass, Kim Owens, Tavey Callow, Debbie Traynor, Paul Bing, Tom & Michele Teubert, Ashley McBurney, Bill Campbell, Tommy Atkinson, Sr., Vicki Pruitt, Walt McLaughlin

PRAY FOR AN END TO ABORTION

Please Pray For Our Military Men and 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.

CAPT Andrew Bohn, Operations Officer for Task Force Grant, son of Jeff Bohn & Suanne Dittmeier, US Army, Washington, DC

CAPT Ryan Carey, son of Jack & Ginny Carey, US Navy, Norfolk, VA

MSGT, EOD, Cameron Farrell, great-nephew of Elaine Lynch, US Air Force, Tyndall AFB, FL

LT Patrick Sopko, son of Suzanne Sopko & Ron Sopko, US Navy, Norfolk, VA

1st LT Spencer Walsh, grandson of Pat & Jimmy Walsh, US Army, Fort Hood, TX

1st LT Grace Walsh, granddaughter-in-law of Pat & Jimmy Walsh, US Army, Fort Hood, TX

Pray for the safe return of **Austin Tice**, freelance journalist and former Marine Captain, **captured in Syria on August 13, 2012**

Locations of overseas deployments are not listed for the security of all military members.

We welcome our visitors today.

We hope you have been fed in body and spirit. If you are Catholic and plan to make Francis de Sales your home, please see an usher or greeter for registration information.
If you are not Catholic and would like to learn more, call the office at (804) 725-2776 to discuss our OCIA program.

Our Announcements

The 5th Annual Ladies Tea is scheduled for **Saturday, May 3, 2025 from 1:00 to 3:00 pm.** We will have a meeting of all who are interested in helping to discuss the tea. We are in need of new ideas and need your input. We will meet in the classroom next to the office on **Monday, February 3, 2025 after Mass.** Contact Helen Yacobucci at 804-815-7606 or email at yacobuccihelen@gmail.com with your ideas if you cannot attend.

2024 Tax contribution letters have been prepared, please contact the office if you would like to receive a copy of your contributions.

Father Koo has decided to bring back to our Sunday Mass the **Presentation of Gifts by Parishioners.** If you or your family are interested in carrying the gifts to the Altar, please see Jon Oliver.

Please submit any announcements for the bulletin to the Parish Office no later than Tuesday at 4:00 p.m.

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!



**The Claude V. Simmons Scholarship
Academic Year 2025-2026**

The Claude V. Simmons Scholarship Fund supports graduating high school seniors who are obtaining a Bachelor’s Degree by attending a 4-year college or university and are qualified active members of the Church of Francis de Sales in Mathews County, Virginia. This is a 4-year renewing scholarship.

Current recipients and new applicants must submit an electronic application or renewal application for the 2025-2026 academic year to the Mathews Community Foundation by **March 05, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.**

Supporting documents are required as outlined in the application form on the Community Foundation website (i.e., Student Financial Information Form as well as a statement of reflection on personal growth and faith as a parishioner of the Church of Francis de Sales).

This link can be used by students who wish to apply:

[CFengage | High school - Northern Neck and Middle Peninsula](#)

On this page, students can access all the scholarship opportunities available to them by typing “Mathews” into the search bar. They will need to scroll until they find the Claude V. Simmons Scholarship, and there is a button that says “Apply Now,” which will take them to our online scholarship’s portal. They will need to create an account to apply, but if they are applying for multiple scholarships, they can use the same account to apply to them all.

Mr. Lincoln Boykin of the Community Foundation is available to answer any questions regarding the scholarship and to assist in submitting the application. Mr. Boykin can be reached by calling 804-436-1600 (Kilmarnock Office) or 804-725-3454 (Mathews Office). More info about scholarships and a timeline for this year’s awards can be found at:

[CFengage | Community Foundation Scholarships](#)

Recipients will be selected based on greatest financial need.

Should you have additional questions, please contact Michael Henig at 804-725-7750 or call the Parish Office at 804-725-2776.

Take a Bite out of Hunger

Hands Across Mathews needs our help. Since August, local donations and food purchased from the peninsula food bank have not been enough to keep food on our shelves. We have been buying food weekly. In addition, a few local churches and organizations have been hosting food drives. As we go into the Holiday Season let’s challenge ourselves to help our neighbors keep food on their table.



- Needs:
- Canned Proteins (Tuna, Chicken, Ham etc.).
 - Beans, Soups, Stews & Chili.
 - Canned Vegetables & Fruit.
 - Peanut Butter & Jelly.
 - Boxed Meals, Rice, Pasta & Sauce.
 - Cereals & Oatmeal

Please join us over the next few weeks and let’s help restock the shelves. Extra bins will be placed at the back of the church for your donations. Thank you!

Journey Through the Bible: The Joseph Story (Genesis, Chapters 37-50)

This commentary is adapted from Little Rock Scripture Study's "Panorama of the Old Testament."

Jacob's two wives, Rachel and Leah, together with their maidservants, have among them twelve sons: Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun, Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, Joseph, and Benjamin. These twelve become the patriarchs from whom the twelve tribes of Israel take their descent.

The last section of Genesis, chapters 37-50, contains the stories of Joseph and his relationship to his brothers. Joseph, the first son of Rachel, is Jacob's spoiled and favorite son. His father loves him best and made him a long ornamented tunic. Joseph's dreams and his ability to interpret them intensify his brothers' jealousy. Rather than kill him, the brothers sell Joseph to traders going to Egypt and tell Jacob his favorite son has been killed by a wild beast. Jacob is deceived by his sons just as he deceived his own father Isaac to obtain his blessing.

In Egypt, Joseph successfully interprets the dreams of Pharaoh and thereby saves Egypt from famine. When Joseph is made a favorite minister of Pharaoh, famine in Canaan brings his brothers to seek help from Egypt. Joseph is now in a position to invite his father and brothers to come down to Egypt to live and escape the famine. Joseph's reunion with his brothers is an emotional event and their father Jacob dies a happy man because he is reunited with his son Joseph.

The account of Joseph reads like a novel. It is a story of injury and forgiveness, of estrangement and reconciliation. We see the development of Joseph from a selfish alienated youth to a mature and selfless leader fully reconciled with his family. Through his generosity and willingness to forgive, Joseph upholds the unity of Israel's family and prevents their extinction. Through all these accounts, the providential hand of God guides the fate of the family of Jacob-Israel as God brings good out of evil and turn disaster into triumph over and over again.

In the Book of Genesis we have moved from the moment of creation through a history of sin to the call of Abraham, of Isaac, of Jacob, and finally to Joseph and the tribes in Egypt. In these stories we have learned of God's relationship to the world and to Israel. We have learned of God as creator, as judge, as redeemer. We have met a God who accepts the weakness of humanity and continues to love, a God who guides and directs, a God who is able to bring good out of evil. Genesis is only the beginning of the story, the beginning of the acts of God. The story continues not only through the Old and New Testaments but in our own lives and our world.

Journey Through the Bible Readings and Daily Prayer Points for Feb 2 through Feb 8, 2025

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| Sun, Feb 2 | Feast of The Presentation of the Lord Bible Readings (Day 33): Exodus 10-11; Leviticus 8; Psalm 50 Prayer Point: That revelation of the Light of the nations may bring justice and peace to all nations |
| Mon, Feb 3 | Bible Readings (Day 34): Exodus 12; Leviticus 9; Psalm 114 Prayer Point: That the Lord will bless and strengthen all the men and women in the Church who live the religious life |
| Tue, Feb 4 | Bible Readings (Day 35): Exodus 13-14; Leviticus 10; Psalm 53 Prayer Point: For the gift of wisdom to seek forgiveness rather than vengeance |
| Wed, Feb 5 | Bible Readings (Day 36): Exodus 15-16; Leviticus 11; Psalm 71 Prayer Point: That God will remove the false boundaries that set limits to our love |
| Thu, Feb 6 | Bible Readings (Day 37): Exodus 17-18; Leviticus 12; Psalm 73 Prayer Point: For all missionaries as they work to build communities of faith in many lands, especially in the Asian nations |
| Fri, Feb 7 | Bible Readings (Day 38): Exodus 19-20; Leviticus 13; Psalm 74 Prayer Point: That charity may be the root and foundation of our lives |
| Sat, Feb 8 | Bible Readings (Day 39): Exodus 21; Leviticus 14; Psalm 75 Prayer Point: That we would allow God's will to be done in our lives |

OUR THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES FOR SUPPORTING OUR
BULLETIN (Updated 12/30/24)



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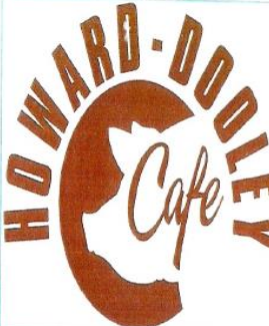
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 For Information Please Call
 The Parish Office: (804) 725-2776