

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 <sup>st</sup> 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**  


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A ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

176 Lovers Lane – Mathews, Virginia 23109

March 2, 2025

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup> Friday: Devotions to the Sacred Heart. Mass at 9:00 a.m. followed by Eucharistic Adoration.

Every 1<sup>st</sup> 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:** Sirach 27:4–7: Praise no one before He speaks.

**Psalms 92:**“Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.”

**1 Corinthians 15:54–58:** God gives us victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Gospel:** Luke 6:39–45: From the fullness of the heart the mouth speaks.

We begin our journey into God’s word today with some ancient proverbs, collected by Sirach to teach morality. What we say and what we do reveal the kind of person we are. Paul explains that because of Jesus, sin has been defeated and death cannot win in the end. In the Gospel, Jesus warns His disciples about being blind to one’s own sins while at the same time judging others for theirs. May today’s readings lead us to examine our words and actions and reflect on what they reveal to others.

**This Week in the Liturgy of the Church**

Saturday, March 1, 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the Seventh Sunday in Ordinary time: Fatima Devotions Rosary at 9:30 a.m. **Please note: No** Mass on this date.

Tuesday, March 4, 9:00 a.m. Weekday Mass of the

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time.

Wednesday, March 5, Ash Wednesday Mass 6:30 pm.

Friday, March 7, 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the Eighth Sunday in

Ordinary time, Devotions to the Sacred Heart. Mass at 9:00 a.m. followed by Eucharistic Adoration.

**Serving This Week March 2, 2025:**

Greeter: P. Pastiva

Ushers: E. Chadwell / J. Emerson

Lectors: C. Varone / M. Walls

Eucharistic Ministers: M. Flaherty /C. Henig /M. Henig

Counters: C. Hudson / C. Hudson

**Serving Next Week March 9, 2025:**

Greeter: J. Miller

Ushers: R. Dobson / A. Downs

Lectors: S. Sanderson / P. Sanderson

Eucharistic Ministers: J. Dawson / M. Flaherty / K. DeForge

Counters: C. Hudson / C. Hudson

**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 Haury, 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 & POVERTY**

**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**

**1<sup>st</sup> LT Spencer Walsh**, grandson of Pat & Jimmy Walsh, **US Army, Fort Hood, TX**

**1<sup>st</sup> 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 & 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 Claude V. Simmons Scholarship for Academic Year 2025-26 deadline is this week, Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> by 5:00 p.m.**

**Hospitality Sunday** will be **Sunday, March 16<sup>th</sup>.**

There will be a sign up sheet in the Commons area.

**Easter Flower Envelopes** will be put out on a table in the Commons area to collect donations to help decorate the altar in memory of loved ones.

**The 5th Annual Ladies Tea** is scheduled for **Saturday, May 10, 2025 from 1:00 to 3:00 pm.**

Contact Helen Yacobucci at 804-815-7606 or email her at [yacobuccihelen@gmail.com](mailto:yacobuccihelen@gmail.com) if you have any suggestions or questions about the Tea.

**Hands Across Mathews** continues to need our help with canned goods and boxed meals. Extra bins have been placed at the back of the church for your donations. Thank you!

**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.

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## Journey Through the Bible: From the Mountain to the Promised Land (Numbers 1-36)

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

The book of Numbers takes its name from the census or numbering of the people that begins the book. The fourth book of the Torah tells the story of Israel's journey from Mount Sinai, through the wilderness, and finally to the plains of Moab, just outside the Promised Land.

The first ten chapters of Numbers takes place at Mount Sinai, where the people of Israel have been encamped since their encounter with God on the mountain. While Leviticus details the organization of Israel's worship, these pages of Numbers itemize the organization Israel's community. A census is taken of the men of each tribe who are able to serve in the army, as this group of former slaves becomes a well-ordered force ready for military conquest of the Promised Land.

The Israelites are led through the wilderness by the guiding presence of God manifested in a column of cloud by day and a column of fire by night. But despite having God in their midst, soon the Israelites complain about the hardships of desert travel. God's people face two temptations. The first is the lure of stopping and settling in place. The second is the desire of turning back to Egypt. The lessons Israel learns in its wilderness will be heard by later generations, as both warning and encouragement. Getting Israel out of Egypt is much easier than getting Egypt out of the hearts of God's people.

The worst crisis of the journey comes after Moses sends a team of scouts to spy out the land of Canaan. The scouts report that the land is indeed fertile and fruitful. However, they also report that the people in the land are strong and their cities are fortified. The report generates fear among the people, a dread that overcomes the people's trust in God. The Israelites begin to weep and despair of ever reaching their destination. They decide to choose a new leader to lead them back to Egypt, marking rejection of their covenant with God.

God declares that none of this faithless generation will enter the land. As a result, the Israelites are made to wander in the wilderness for forty years. Throughout the Bible, the number forty, whether it be forty days or forty years, is a time of testing and preparation for what God is going to do next. The entire generation that was numbered in the census that began the book of Numbers will perish in the wilderness, while their children, the next generation, will one day enter the land God has promise them.

The desert period is a time of probation for Israel, a time to adjust their attitude of slavery, overcome their fears, and take on a new set of values. God wants them to change their victim mentality and take on the values and life style of a holy nation, God's special possession.

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

Sun, Mar 2	Bible Readings (Day 61): Numbers 11; Deuteronomy 10; Psalm 33 Prayer Point: That God will repair all the broken relationships in our lives
Mon, Mar 3	Bible Readings (Day 62): Numbers 12-13; Deuteronomy 11; Psalm 94 Prayer Point: Grant that we may do your will
Tue, Mar 4	Bible Readings (Day 63): Numbers 14; Deuteronomy 12; Psalm 95 Prayer Point: For our family, friends and neighbors
Wed, Mar 5	<b>Ash Wednesday</b> Bible Readings (Day 64): Numbers 15; Deuteronomy 13-14; Psalm 96 Prayer Point: That we will be generous in our almsgiving this Lent and attentive to the poor
Thu, Mar 6	Bible Readings (Day 65): Numbers 16; Deuteronomy 15-16; Psalm 97 Prayer Point: May we die to self and so choose life
Fri, Mar 7	Bible Readings (Day 66): Numbers 17; Deuteronomy 17-18; Psalm 98 Prayer Point: For those who have gone before us in death
Sat, Mar 8	Bible Readings (Day 67): Numbers 18; Deuteronomy 19-20; Psalm 99 Prayer Point: Guard us against the temptations that assail us

OUR THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES FOR SUPPORTING OUR BULLETIN (Updated 2/19/25)



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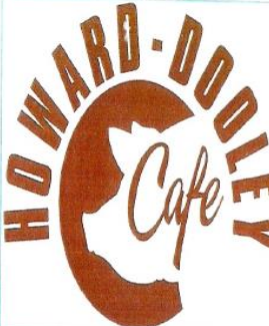
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