

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

A ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

176 Lovers Lane – Mathews, Virginia 23109

March 9, 2025

First Sunday of Lent

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: Deuteronomy 26:4-10: The Lenten fast, like the Exodus, leads to a land flowing with milk and honey.

Psalms 91: "Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble."

Romans 10:8-13: The journey of faith is open to all.

Gospel: Luke 4:1-13: The fast can be a sign that we live on more than bread.

Today and every Sunday we offer our gifts at the altar of the Lord. Today's first reading narrates the reasons for the Chosen People's gratitude to God, which lead them to offer first-fruits and thanksgiving to the Lord. Saint Paul assures the Romans that all who confess their faith and seek help from the Lord will be saved. Finally, we hear Jesus quote God's words when He resists the devil's temptations in the desert. Let us now listen to the word of God, knowing that in God's word we find salvation.

This Week in the Liturgy of the Church

Tuesday, March 11, 9:00 a.m. Weekday Mass of the First Sunday of Lent.

Friday, March 14, 9:00 a.m. Weekday Mass of the First Sunday of Lent.

Serving This Week March 2, 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

Serving Next Week March 16, 2025:

Greeter: J. Miller

Ushers: J. Oliver / E. Chadwell

Lectors: M. Henig / P. Hyer

Eucharistic Ministers: M. Flaherty/C. Varone/M. McDonough

Counters: P. Noonan / J. Noonan

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, 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**

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 & 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

Hospitality Sunday will be **Sunday, March 16th**.

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 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!

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Journey Through the Bible: The Quest for Holiness (Leviticus 1-27)

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

If you have been following the reading plan, you would have completed reading Leviticus, the third book of the Pentateuch about two weeks ago, on February 20. Next week's commentary will be a summary of the fifth and final book of the Pentateuch, Deuteronomy.

Leviticus is a collection of covenant legislation regarding worship and the priesthood. Because God has come to dwell with the Israelites, they must become and remain a holy people, a people set apart for God. They must live in a way that reflects the holiness and closeness of God among them.

Holiness has both a positive and negative aspect. It is an attachment to God, a way of living that gives honor to God and that recognizes the sacredness of others. Holiness is also a separation from whatever is unholy, impure, unclean or sinful. Everything dedicated to God - the place of worship, the priests, and the feasts - were set aside from ordinary life and consecrated.

The first part of the book, Leviticus 1-7, describes the rituals for different kinds of sacrifices and offerings. The second section, Leviticus 8-10, describes the ordination ritual for Aaron, the brother of Moses, and the sons of Aaron. The third part, Leviticus 11-16, is the code of laws regarding legal purity, many related to deep respect for blood and sexuality. Israel knows that life is a holy mystery with its source in God and that life is intimately connected with blood and sexuality.

The final section, Leviticus 17-26, is the collection of holiness laws. These regulations concern all aspects of Israel's existence as a holy people whose life is oriented toward worship of God. In addition to moral laws, Israel has its calendar of feasts to help it recognize the holiness of time. Every week, the Sabbath must be observed. Every year, Israel celebrates the feasts of Passover (Pesach), Pentecost (Shavuot), New Year (Rosh Hashanah), Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur), and Tabernacles (Succoth). Every seventh year, the Sabbatical year, provides for a time of rest even for the fields, and every seventh Sabbatical year (every fifty years) brings the Jubilee year, a time of reconciliation and renewal for all of Israel.

All of the legislation of Leviticus is intended to order Israel's life with God. It deals with the reality of an all-holy God living in the midst of a less-than-holy people. It teaches them that God is the source of all life and holiness. All that relates to sin and death is kept apart from the presence of God. God alone has the power to completely conquer sin and death, a promise that God will make throughout the history of His people in the land.

Sun, Mar 9	Bible Readings (Day 68): Numbers 19-20; Deuteronomy 21; Psalm 100 Prayer Point: Grant us this Lent the grace to put our trust in you
Mon, Mar 10	Bible Readings (Day 69): Numbers 21; Deuteronomy 22; Psalm 102 Prayer Point: Help us to mend our selfish ways
Tue, Mar 11	Bible Readings (Day 70): Numbers 22; Deuteronomy 23; Psalm 105 Prayer Point: For an end to jealousy and gossip in our neighborhoods
Wed, Mar 12	Bible Readings (Day 71): Numbers 23; Deuteronomy 24-25; Psalm 106 Prayer Point: For the gift of hope
Thu, Mar 13	Bible Readings (Day 72): Numbers 24-25; Deuteronomy 26; Psalm 107 Prayer Point: For food for the hungry
Fri, Mar 14	Bible Readings (Day 73): Numbers 26; Deuteronomy 27; Psalm 111 Prayer Point: Guard us from evil!
Sat, Mar 15	Bible Readings (Day 74): Numbers 27-28; Deuteronomy 28; Psalm 112 Prayer Point: For discernment of our gifts and the courage to use them well

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



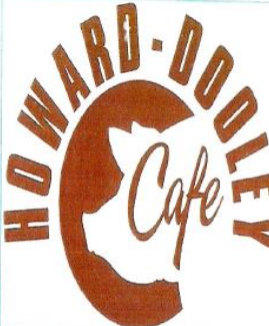
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