

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

April 6, 2025
Fifth Sunday of Lent, Year C

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: Isaiah 43:16-21: The mystery of the Passover will be made new.

Psalm 126: “The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.”

Second Reading: Philippians 3:8-14: Paul desires a share in the paschal mystery of the Lord.

Gospel: John 8:1-11: No one is without sin except our merciful judge.

Even as the Israelites recall their rescue from Egypt, Isaiah pleads with them to notice that God has rescued them once again, leading them out of the desert of exile. Paul confesses to the Philippians that his faith in the Lord is more important than anything else he has. In the Gospel, Jesus saves the life of the adulterous woman, rescuing her from certain execution and giving her a new chance at life by forgiving her. Truly, as we sing in the psalm, the Lord has done great things for us.

This Week in the Liturgy of the Church

Thursday, April 3, Reconciliation at 6:30 p.m.

Friday, April 4, 1st Friday: Devotions to the Sacred Heart. Mass at 9:00 a.m. followed by Eucharistic Adoration.

Saturday, April 5, 1st Saturday: Fatima Devotions Rosary at 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday, April 8, 9:00 a.m. Weekday Mass of the Fifth Sunday of Lent.

Friday, April 11, 9:00 a.m. Weekday Mass of the Fifth Sunday of Lent.

Serving This Week April 6, 2025:

Greeter: H. Keitz

Ushers: J. Oliver / J. Emerson

Lectors: P. Sanderson / S. Sanderson

Eucharistic Ministers: M. Henig/M. McDonough/S. Haas

Counters: H. Keitz / R. Engle

Serving Next Week, Palm Sunday, April 13, 2025:

Greeter: J. Miller

Ushers: R. Dobson / A. Downs

Lectors: E. McNamee / P. Sanderson / S. Zheng

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

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.

PRAY FOR AN END TO ABORTION

The promotion of the culture of life should be the highest priority in our societies. If the right to life is not defended decisively as a condition for all other rights of the person, all other references to human rights remain deceitful and illusory. Pope John Paul II

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 & 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 Guerrette

Friends: Joy Long, William Scott Smith, Nan 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

Please Pray For Our Military Men and Women and their Families.

CAPT Andrew Bohn, son of Jeff Bohn & Suanne Dittmeier, US Army, Fort Gregg-Adams, VA

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.

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.

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

PRAY FOR AN END TO POVERTY

We welcome our visitors today.

We hope you have been fed in body & 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

We are considering having a Yard Sale this Spring. Please contact Cathy Schirmer at (203) 417-4704 or email at: Cathyschirm@gmail.com if you have any items you would like to donate.

Upcoming Red Cross Blood Drive will be held on Tuesday, April 15th. It will be at the Piankatank Ruritan Building from 12:30-6PM. Masonic Lodge Oriental #30 is sponsoring this drive. An appointment can be made by going to redcrossblood.org or by calling (804) 725-2485. Blood is constantly needed!

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. Tickets are \$25.00 and will be on sale starting Sunday, May 30, 2025. For tickets see Helen Yacobucci after Mass or contact her at 804-815-7606 or at email: yacobuccihelen@gmail.com

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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 **PONTIFICAL
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 COLLECTION**

POPE FRANCIS has asked our parish to support the Pontifical Good Friday Collection

The Pontifical Good Friday Collection offers all Catholics an opportunity to express their solidarity with Christians in the Holy Land. A donation to the Holy Father's annual appeal is a direct way to make a difference in the lives of those caught up in war, violence and instability in this region.

When you contribute to the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, you join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land. **PLEASE BE GENEROUS!**

DONATE NOW



For more information about Christians in the Holy Land, visit: www.myfranciscan.org or www.custodia.org

 **CRS RICE BOWL**
 50 YEARS

CRS Rice Bowl is the Lenten program of Catholic Relief Services, the official international humanitarian agency of the Catholic community in the United States. Through CRS Rice Bowl, faith communities in every diocese throughout the United States put their faith into action through prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

Rice Bowls will be available in the Commons, please pick one up and begin your alms giving today. * Bowls should be returned by Palm Sunday, April 13th, 2025.

For more information, please visit:
www.crsricebowl.org



Journey Through the Bible: Clamoring for a King over Israel (1 Samuel 1-12)

This commentary is adapted from Little Rock Scripture Study’s “Panorama of the Old Testament” and The Collegeville Bible Commentary.

The books of 1 and 2 Samuel are about the institution of Israel’s monarchy and its effects on the community of God’s people. The clamor for a king arises during the period of the judges when the last of the judges - Samson, Eli, and Samuel - suffer defeat at the hands of the Philistines. A great urgency ensues when the ark of the covenant is captured in battle and the important city of Shiloh is destroyed by the Philistines. The books take their name from Samuel, who was a priest, prophet, and the final judge of Israel. He is instrumental in Israel’s transition from the period of the judges to monarchy. Although Samuel is the last of the judges, even more significantly he is the first of a long line of prophets who will be both advisers and critics of Israel’s kings.

In chapter 2 of the first book, Samuel’s mother, Hannah, sings a canticle that finds a counterpart in the New Testament in Mary’s Magnificat from Saint Luke’s narrative of the Visitation (Luke 1:46-55). Both hymns express joy at the birth of a special child; both praise God’s power, holiness, and salvation. In both the proud rich are cast down and the humble poor are raised up. Hannah’s poem reminds of God’s justice; Mary’s song reminds of God’s mercy.

Two conflicting viewpoints concerning the monarchy are presented in 1 Samuel. One views the monarchy as ordained by God for the survival of the people. The other views the monarchy as a mistake because a human king is an affront to the LORD, who is their true king. After their defeat by the Philistines, many among God’s people want Israel to have a king like the other great nations. A king will unify the tribes, establish a powerful army, and lead them to military success. But Samuel argues that Israel is not like the other nations. Israel already has a king, and that king is the LORD. Samuel argues that Israel will have to pay a high price for its monarchy, but the people refuse to listen to Samuel’s warnings and continue to insist on a king. So God commands Samuel to give way and provide a king for Israel.

God chooses Saul, and Samuel anoints Saul with oil as a sign of God’s spirit upon Israel’s first king. Samuel’s role as prophet and kingmaker is to provide regulation for the king, so that his royal authority does not rival the sovereignty of God. The new monarchy must remain compatible with Israel’s covenant. The struggle between kingship and prophecy, political aims and covenant obligations, characterizes the ensuing history of God’s people until the end of the monarchy and their exile.

Journey Through the Bible Readings and Daily Prayer Points for April 6 through April 12, 2025	
Sun, Apr 6	Bible Readings (Day 96): 1 Samuel 1-2; Psalm 149 Prayer Point: With thanks for the abundance of food and housing in our country
Mon, Apr 7	Bible Readings (Day 97): 1 Samuel 3-5; Psalm 150 Prayer Point: Comfort those who mourn
Tue, Apr 8	Bible Readings (Day 98): 1 Samuel 6-8; Psalm 86 Prayer Point: For an end to violence and war
Wed, Apr 9	Bible Readings (Day 99): John 1-3; Proverbs 5:1-6 Prayer Point: Grant peace to those who are troubled of heart
Thu, Apr 10	Bible Readings (Day 100): John 4-6; Proverbs 5:7-14 Prayer Point: Restore faith to those who have lost hope
Fri, Apr 11	Bible Readings (Day 101): John 7-9; Proverbs 5:15-23 Prayer Point: For an increase in charitable donations
Sat, Apr 12	Bible Readings (Day 102): John 10-12; Proverbs 6:1-11 Prayer Point: For safety to all travelers

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BULLETIN (Updated 2/19/25)

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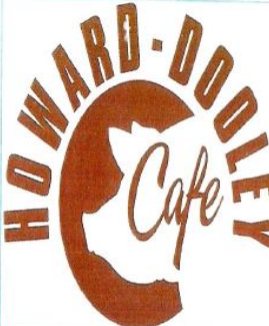
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