

Our Parish Ministry and Mission Leads (updated 4/29/25)	
Pastor, Liturgy	Fr. Johnny Mintah Mensah
Parish Administrator	
Parish Secretary	Mary Marshall
Altar Servers	Jon Oliver
Bulletin	Elaine Lynch
Bulletin Advertisements	Paul Reardon
Columbarium	
Commemorative Pavers	
Counters Chair	Christine Dehnert-Fernald
Environment	Pat Lipinski
Extraordinary Eucharistic Ministers	
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	
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

June 1, 2025

Ascension of the Lord

Pastor: Reverend Fr. Johnny Mintah Mensah

Rectory: 804-286-9271

Parish Administrator:

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 1 month in advance
Marriage: Call the priest at least 6 months in advance
Reconciliation on request.
Anointing of the Sick at any time upon request.

Introduction to the Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Acts 1:1–11: As the Apostles were looking on, Jesus was lifted up.
Psalms 47: “God mounts His throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.”
Second Reading: Ephesians 1:17–23: Christ is the head of the church; where He is we are called to follow.
Gospel: Luke 24:46–53: As He blessed them, He was taken up to heaven.

Besides his Gospel, Saint Luke also wrote the Acts of the Apostles. Today we get to hear the ending of one and the beginning of the other, for Jesus’ ascension marks the transition between the two. As Luke writes, the Gospel deals with what Jesus said and did while on earth and Acts begins with Jesus giving His disciples a mission. As we carry on this mission, let us realize how Jesus is still present with us today: in each other, in those in need, when we gather in His name, in the Eucharist, and in the proclamation of the word. Listening to His word now, let us be aware of His constant and enduring presence.

This Week in the Liturgy of the Church

Tuesday, June 3, Weekday Mass at 9:00 a.m.
Friday, June 6, 1st Friday: Devotions to the Sacred Heart. Mass at 9:00 a.m. followed by Eucharistic Adoration.
Saturday, June 7, 1st Saturday: Fatima Devotions
Rosary at 9:30 a.m. followed by Mass at 10:00 a.m.

Serving This Week, Sunday, June 1, 2025

Greeter: J. Miller
Ushers: J. Oliver / E. Lipinski
Lector: C. Henig / M. Walls
Eucharistic Ministers: K. DeForge/S. Haas/J. Dawson
Counters: K. Norton / J. Norton

Serving Next Week, Sunday, June 8, 2025

Greeter: P. Pastiva
Ushers: R. Dobson / A. Downs
Lector:
Eucharistic Ministers: P. Pastiva / M. McDonough / K. Deforge
Counters: K. Norton / J. Norton

PRAY FOR AN END TO ABORTION

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, Joe Arnold
Family: Dottie Long, Rita Guarino, Patsy Lynch, Cathy & Fred Moody, James & 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, Laura McLaughlin
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

Church of Francis de Sales Yard Sale & Bake Sale
This Saturday., May 31st 9:00am – 4:00pm
(rain or shine)

(enter through front of building)



Hot sellers: Small furniture both indoor/outdoor, home décor, anything nautical, candles, baskets, collectibles, costume jewelry, women’s accessories, mermaid/unicorn decorations, vintage signs/records, books, DVDs, CDs, video games, consoles and accessories, bicycles, sporting goods, tools, fishing equipment, lawn items, flower pots, garden supplies, games, puzzles, vintage toys.

Not accepting: Clothes, shoes, large furniture, China, glassware, older electronics, exercise equipment, appliances, stuffed animals, VHS tapes.

Our Announcements

Please note: Mary Marshall has vacation days she must take before July 1. She will be out of the office every Monday in June.

The Church Yard Sale and Bake Sale, This Saturday, May 31, 2025, from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. rain or shine!

The Church Picnic will be held on **Sunday, June 8, 2025**, at the **Milford Haven Coast Guard Station from 2:00-5:00 p.m.**
Please sign up in the commons. We need a head count for the caterer by Sunday, June 1st.
Any questions please call
Rita Engle at (804) 824-1599

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!

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!

We welcome our visitors today.

We hope you have been fed in body & spirit. If you are Catholic and plan to make the Church of 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.

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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.

Journey Through the Bible: Solomon Sows the Seeds of Division (1 Kings 8-11)

This commentary is adapted from Little Rock Scripture Study’s “Panorama of the Old Testament”.

At the completion of the temple’s dedication, God appears again to Solomon and states which aspects of the covenant are unconditional and which parts depend on the fidelity of Israel’s kings. The LORD said to him: “But if ever you and your descendants turn from following me, fail to keep my commandments, and proceed to serve other gods and bow down to them, I will cut off Israel from the land I gave them and repudiate the house I have consecrated for my name.” (1 Kings 9:6-7)

Despite the wisdom of Solomon, and in the midst of all the glorious achievements of his reign, the seeds are being sown that will yield a bitter harvest. The statutes of Deuteronomy specify that the man chosen by God to be king over Israel must beware of three things: “He shall not have a great number of horses; nor shall he make his people go back again to Egypt to acquire horses, for the LORD said to you, Do not go back that way again. Neither shall he have a great number of wives, lest his heart turn away, nor shall he accumulate a vast amount of silver and gold.” (Deuteronomy 17: 16-17)

Weapons, wives and wealth - these will be the downfall of Solomon and so many kings after him. The untamed drive for power, pleasure, and possessions deny the covenant in which God command Israel: “I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. You shall not have other gods besides me.” (Deuteronomy 5:6-7)

In order to pay for all his building projects Solomon imposes excessive taxes on the people and drafts many into forced labor. This causes resentment among the tribes, especially those in the North who grumble that they are bearing an excessive burden of the extravagance of Solomon’s court. In addition, the gulf between the rich and poor widens. The people complain that the poor live in hovels while Solomon’s horses live in stables of ivory.

Solomon’s extravagance extends to his huge harem of seven hundred wives and three hundred concubines. His many foreign wives, brought to Israel to create political alliances with other nations, carry with them the religious practices of their own countries and even their own idols. And Solomon does little or nothing to prevent these foreign religious practices and beliefs from influencing the faith of Israel.

The humility, fidelity, and trust required of God’s servant, the king, become engulfed by the forces of power, lust, and wealth that rage within the human spirit. Rather than establishing a holy nation and a kingdom of priests, Solomon ends up building a typical kingdom of this world.

Journey Through the Bible Readings and Daily Prayer Points for June 1 through June 7, 2025	
Sun, Jun 1	The Ascension of The Lord Bible Readings (Day 152): 1 Kings 10; Ecclesiastes 8-9; Psalm 8 Prayer Point: For all who have died in the service of our nation
Mon, Jun 2	Bible Readings (Day 153): 1 Kings 11; Ecclesiastes 10-12; Psalm 9 Prayer Point: May the power of the Holy Spirit come to us
Tue, Jun 3	Bible Readings (Day 154): Mark 1-2; Psalm 11 Prayer Point: That our parish community may grow in faith, hope and love
Wed, Jun 4	Bible Readings (Day 155): Mark 3-4; Psalm 20 Prayer Point: Consecrate us in the truth
Thu, Jun 5	Bible Readings (Day 156): Mark 5-6; Psalm 21 Prayer Point: For the work of evangelization in today’s world
Fri, Jun 6	Bible Readings (Day 157): Mark 7-8; Psalm 23 Prayer Point: Teach us to hope in you all day long
Sat, Jun 7	Bible Readings (Day 158): Mark 9-10; Psalm 29 Prayer Point: May the LORD send forth the Spirit and renew the face of the earth

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

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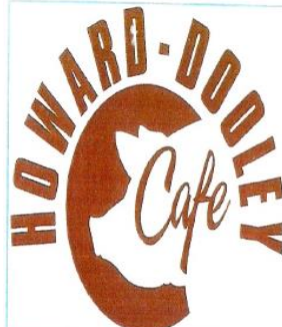


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