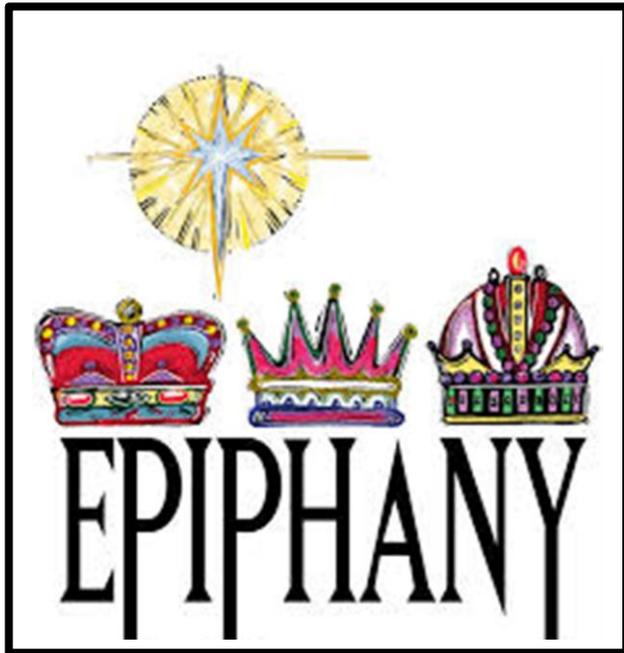


# St. Ignatius Church – Chapel Point

8855 Chapel Point Road, Port Tobacco, MD 20677  
Sharing God's Word and Sacraments Since 1641  
[www.chapelpoint.org](http://www.chapelpoint.org)



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For all parish offices call: 301-934-8245

Archbishop Neale School  
Linda Bourne - Principal  
301-934-9595

*Saturday Evening: 5:00 p.m.*  
*Sunday Mornings: 7:30, 9:00, 11:15 a.m.*  
*Sunday Evening: 6:00 p.m.*

**The Eucharist**  
*Weekdays: 8:00 a.m.*  
*Holy Days: 8:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.*

**Registration:** We welcome all new members to our parish family. Your registration is important; it helps us to know those we serve. It is also necessary if you wish to be certified as an active member to be a baptismal or confirmation sponsor.

**Stewardship:** Christians share their talents, time and treasure to carry on the work of the Church. Your offerings are essential to St. Ignatius Church, for us to maintain our staffing, programs and buildings.

**Cemetery:** There are grave sites available for active parishioners in the new section at the base of the hill. Catholic Cemeteries of the Archdiocese of Washington administers the sale of lots and burial. Because we do not have an adequate endowment, the costs of maintenance come from general parish funds. The phone number for Catholic Cemeteries is 301-932-1766.

**Reconciliation:** Saturdays 4:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m., or by appointment.

**Matrimony:** Registered parishioners planning to be married at St. Ignatius must contact the pastor at least six months before the wedding.

**Baptism:** Parents planning to have their child baptized attend baptism classes which are offered the first Saturday of February, April, June, August, October and December. Please email or call Fr. Clifford to register for the class. Consider doing so, before your child is born.

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults:** If you would like to learn about becoming a Catholic, please contact the Religious Education Office. Classes begin at the end of the summer.



## The Epiphany of the Lord

January 5, 2020

"They prostrated themselves and did him homage."



### MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, January 5 – 11:15 a.m. – Deacon Bill Emley +

Sunday, January 5 – 6:00 p.m. – Mercedes Vaira +

Tuesday, January 7 – 8:00 a.m. – Deacon Scott Stuart +

**Looking for the Light of the Epiphany** Because we have free will, we must choose whether to accept Christ and his gift of salvation. Because we are humans our senses are limited, we see and experience things that happen to us or for us, we don't see everything over the whole world. The Epiphany is the manifestation of the Son of God to the world, but we need to be looking and ready to find Him in our own lives. Last year on the Epiphany, Pope Francis preached about what we need to do to cooperate with God's revelation of himself to us:

*The light of God shines on those who receive it. Isaiah, in the first reading (cf. 60:2), tells us that that light does not prevent the darkness and the thick clouds from covering the earth, but shines forth on those prepared to accept it. And so, the prophet addresses a challenging summons to everyone: "Arise, shine" (60:1). We need to arise, to get up from our sedentary lives and prepare for a journey. Otherwise, we stand still, like the scribes that Herod consulted; they knew very well where the Messiah was born, but they did not move. We also need to shine, to be clothed in God who is light, day by day, until we are fully clothed in Jesus. Yet to be clothed in God, who like the light is simple, we must first put aside our pretentious robes. Otherwise, we will be like Herod, who preferred the earthly lights of success and power to the divine light. The Magi, instead, fulfil the prophecy. They arise and shine, and are clothed in light. They alone see the star in the heavens: not the scribes, nor Herod, nor any of the inhabitants of Jerusalem.*

*In order to find Jesus, we also need to take a different route, to follow a different path, his path, the path of humble love. And we have to persevere. Today's Gospel ends by saying that the Magi, after encountering Jesus, "left for their own country by another road" (Mt 2:12). Another road, different from that of Herod. An alternative route than that of the world, like the road taken by those who surround Jesus at Christmas: Mary and Joseph, the shepherds. Like the Magi, they left home and became pilgrims on the paths of God. For only those who leave behind their worldly attachments and undertake a journey find the mystery of God.*

*This holds true for us too. It is not enough to know where Jesus was born, as the scribes did, if we do not go there. It is not enough to know that Jesus was born, like Herod, if we do not encounter him. When his place becomes our place, when his time becomes our time, when his person becomes our life, then the prophecies come to fulfillment in us. Then Jesus is born within us. He becomes the living God for me. Today we are asked to imitate the Magi. They do not debate; they set out. They do not stop to look, but enter the house of Jesus. They do not put themselves at the center, but bow down before the One who is the center. They do not remain glued to their plans, but are prepared to take other routes. Their actions reveal a close contact with the Lord, a radical openness to him, a total engagement with him. With him, they use the language of love, the same language that Jesus, though an infant, already speaks. Indeed, the Magi go to the Lord not to receive, but to give. Let us ask ourselves this question: at Christmas did we bring gifts to Jesus for his party, or did we only exchange gifts among ourselves?*

**Beginning the Year with Thanksgiving** When we were asked if we could host Safenights during Christmas week, I was not certain about the timing. I knew that we had enough people with generous hearts, but we needed to see if it were possible. Within a few days, we clearly had enough volunteers to commit to serving the homeless; as we remembered the child Jesus born in a manger. Over 150 parishioners, businesses and friends, gave cooked and baked goods, their time in serving and cleaning up, nightly activities, monetary donations that offset the cost to the parish, laundry collecting and drop off, unloading and transportation of equipment, and much attention and concern to the countless details. It was a great success, and the guests and Lifestyles of Maryland were very grateful for everything.

The Repast Committee, Meals of Hope and Pancake Supper volunteers warm hearts with food during the year. Our ushers welcome people into our worship services every week. We have people who join together to sing, to proclaim the Scriptures, to greet and to assist. Our regular Choirs and our Christmas Choirs helped us feel the presence among us of a loving God. Many times over the year, the Arimatheans assist families in sending their loved ones off for the final time. The dedicated gift shop workers provide us with a nice source of catholic gifts and books. Our outreach and the Christmas Giving Tree and those that support Wayside Food Bank help on a continuing basis with the needs of those underserved in our community.

God provides our wonderful sunsets, but human hands acquire, arrange and rearrange interior decorations to fit the season's worship and the events that take place throughout the year. The leanness of Advent and Lent let us reveal the beauty in the Christmas and Easter seasons. The outside grounds and gardens are beautifully kept by a couple of talented people with green thumbs.

Some work is less visible. Parents and anyone passing through the parish hall on Sunday mornings know the wonderful concern and energy of our religious education teachers who help children come to know God in their lives. Our youth help with lunches for the Safenights program and also serve as rest stop workers for the Oxon Hill Bike Club's annual Labor Day event.

Even farther from view are the Parish Finance, Parish Council, Liturgy and the Restore and Renew committees, who labor largely in the background, so that all these other things continue; along with our weekly counters, who count our collection each week.

**In a couple of words to all in our parish who make us an active and alive place of worship and ministry: THANK YOU!**

**Second Collection This Weekend at all Masses** This weekend, our parish will take up the **Collection for the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA (AMS)**. Established by St. John Paul II in 1985, the AMS is the only U.S. diocese responsible for providing pastoral care to men and women serving in the U.S. Armed Forces, enrolled at a U.S. Military Academy, being treated as a patient at any of the 153 U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Centers, or working for the federal government beyond U.S. borders – including those from our own parish and diocese. Including families, AMS priests and deacons serve approximately 1.8 million Catholics who hail from 50 states and U.S. territories. While the salaries and retirement of Catholic military chaplains are paid for by the U.S. Government, the AMS does not receive any funding from the government or military for program and administrative costs. To learn more about the AMS, go to [www.milarch.org/nationalcollection](http://www.milarch.org/nationalcollection). Please give generously.

**A Christmas Gift to Our Parish and Friends** Please pick up a copy of Matthew Kelly's latest book; *Rediscover the Saints, Twenty Five Questions That Will Change Your Life*; in the back of the church.

**A New Year Gift to Our Parish** - Grateful thanks to Mike and Tina Raymond for sponsoring our 2020 calendar this year. Please pick up a calendar in the back of the church.

**March For Life:** We have 15 tickets for the Annual Mass and March for Life. (We do get floor seating for the Mass, which is pretty cool seeing as how thousands of people come and don't get that opportunity!) If you would like to attend, please contact Emily Vara before **January 15** so we know how many will be attending. We are required to send the remaining tickets back to the Archdiocese, so please email or call Emily if you would like to go!

**Gift Shop** The 2019 St. Ignatius ornament, which depicts the painting above the altar, has sold out, but the gift shop will take orders for the next three weeks. The company is backed up until March, so delivery will not be until early spring.

**Fr. Clifford's email address** All the priests in the Archdiocese now have Archdiocesan email addresses. Even though we had addresses, the system was not easy to use and did not have enough capacity for storage and backup. Now the system does have capacity for storage. It also means that should anything happen to me, the correspondence related to the parish is not lost in space, but can be retrieved by the IT staff of the Archdiocese. I would ask anyone contacting me with business related to my responsibilities as pastor, to email me at [CliffordT@adw.org](mailto:CliffordT@adw.org). I will retain the [pastorchapelpoint@yahoo.com](mailto:pastorchapelpoint@yahoo.com) for the time being- while I figure out how to archive it. I will be phasing it out in the coming months.

**New Website same address** – For several years the Archdiocese has been trying to nudge parishes to be more up to date in communications. The Archdiocese has contracted with ecatholic.com to host parish websites, that have a variety of available formats. Our website, [www.chapelpoint.org](http://www.chapelpoint.org) has already moved to the *ecatholic* server. Bulletins are loaded in the "HOME" button. Again this enables others to fix problems and manage our address and assist us, if the site were ever hijacked. So check it out at chapelpoint.org. I could also use some assistance from anyone more digitally gifted than I in using this capacity.

**Financial Report: Christmas Eve and Day:** \$18,424. **Second Collection: Renew and Restore:** \$13,575. **Weekend of Dec. 28-29, 2019:** Offertory \$3,853; Renovation \$20; Votives \$35; Green env. \$35; Christmas \$905; Christmas flowers \$140; Sol. Of Mary \$10; **TOTAL:** \$4,998. Thank you for your generous support to our parish! God bless you all.

**Please remember the following people in your daily prayers:** Dorothy Simms, Antoine Watson, Vickie & Greg Pickeral, David A. Proctor, Ms. Pickeral, Irene Proctor, Mary Jane Zuknick, Vibha Pubbi, Mike Mandeville, Xavier Bean and family, Marian Melillo, Brian Thomason, Toni Gallagher, Bessie Farmer, Traci Renner, Bill Murphy and family, Bobby Terrett, John Abell, Tyler Sage, Dottie Gray, Ruth Watson, Pat Anderson, Rose Langley, Cliff Barnes, Skyla Shirriel, Steve and Joann Oliff, , Victims families and survivors of abuse, Douglas Hamnes, Sharon Ryan, The staff and residents of assisted living and nursing homes, John Reese, Frankie Chiorcariello and family, Tim Moore, James Johnson, Shirley Watson, Victoria Liberty, Tamera Scroggins, Becky Dement, James J. Nalley, Mr. Johnson, Theresa San Luis, Elaine Gaddis, Butch Hayden, Stacie Hayden