

St. Ignatius Church – Chapel Point

8855 Chapel Point Road, Port Tobacco, MD 20677
Sharing God's Word and Sacraments Since 1641
www.chapelpoint.org



Rev. Thomas F. Clifford, S.J. – Pastor
CliffordT@adw.org

Brenda Canter – Business Manager
stigoffice@yahoo.com
Office Hours: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Monday- Friday

Emily Vara - Director of Religious Education
Email: ignatiusreligion@yahoo.com

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.

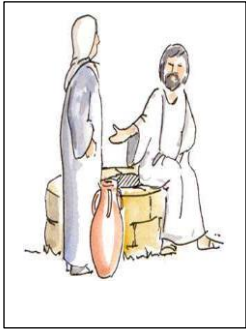
Cemetery: There are grave sites available for active parishioners in the new section at the base of the hill. Catholic Cemeteries of the Archdiocese of Washington administers the sale of lots and burial. Because we do not have an adequate endowment, the costs of maintenance come from general parish funds.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

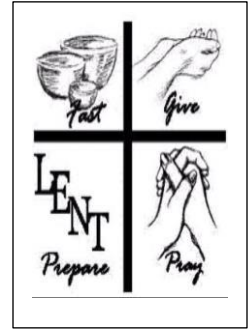
Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: If you would like to learn about becoming a Catholic, please contact the Religious Education Office. Classes begin at the end of the summer.



Third Sunday of Lent

March 15, 2020

**“God is Spirit, and those who worship him
must worship in Spirit and truth.”**



MASS INTENTIONS

Please contact Brenda Canter in the parish office once things return to normal, to reschedule the Mass intentions that were supposed to take place this week.

Archbishop Gregory has indicated Masses open to the public, in ALL archdiocesan parishes, missions, and campus ministries will not be celebrated starting Saturday, March 14th until further notice. Weddings and funerals may proceed but attendance should be limited to immediate family. Archbishop Gregory has also issued a dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass during this time to all parishioners of the Archdiocese of Washington.

All Religious Education Classes And Parish Activities Are Cancelled Until Further Notice. We Will Keep The Parish Updated Through Email, Ecatholic Website: Chapelpoint.Org And Our Facebook Page. You can also call the parish office during business hours at 301-934-8245.

Fr. Clifford's Weekly Column We are in the midst of Lent where we seek closer union with God, openness to his grace through discipline, penance and prayer. Then all of a sudden you find that public Masses are suspended and the usual Lenten activities disappear. So what can you do?

First you might think about the simple, easily predicable aspects of life that have not always been there and might be gone even temporarily because of some event or microbe. We have gotten perhaps a bit like the people of the Exodus, in Sunday's gospel. They were led out of slavery in Egypt and then complained against Moses, saying:

“Why did you ever make us leave Egypt? Was it just to have us die here of thirst with our children and our livestock?” Then Moses who turned the Nile red with blood and split the Red Sea complains to God about the people he led:

“What shall I do with this people? A little more and they will stone me!”

None of us likes too much uncertainty. Whether we like a cup of coffee at a particular place and flavor, or we like the repetition of kneeling and standing during the Stations of the Cross. Losing what we like, wondering about what is next can-however-help us to appreciate what we have had. When it returns, we can throw ourselves into it with greater gusto.

There are so many things we can still do, we can participate in Masses through the internet and television. We can take some of the time we now have to visit some of those on-line devotional sites on our website.

Most of all perhaps we can appreciate those with whom we live, since we will surely be spending more time together. Perhaps one of those books previously given out at Christmas, lies unread under a pile of old bills, pull it out and see what treasures you might see.

The church building will be open as usual. The several versions of the Stations of the cross will be available if you wish to devoutly enter into the mystery of Christ's suffering and death either at the outdoor stations or in the church. You might find quiet time with the Lord to be an anchor of stability in difficult times.

Most of all remember that God did not come into the world as one of us 2,000 years ago just to build up our hopes and then abandon us. God is with us always and when we raise our minds and hearts to Him we can be more conscious of that loving presence. God is with us whether the Corona Virus crisis passes quickly and with few casualties or whether we find ourselves with fevers and shallow breathing. We can rejoice and give thanks or we can experience the comfort of Christ with us when we are in danger.

Parish Preparations/Sanitation Due to the outbreak in our area, we have taken the following precautions. We had removed the cushions from the pews last week. We are cleaning the hard surfaces in the hall and church with a viral disinfectant and disinfecting door knobs, handles, etc., and cleaning the rest rooms more frequently. We would plan to do this on Monday and Friday/ Saturday.

Lenten Food Drive-A great way to give alms during Lent We are still conducting our annual Lenten Food Drive this year. New bags are available in the back of the church for non perishable donations. All monetary and food donations will be taken to Wayside Food Bank. You can leave your donations in the front of the hall while we aren't having Masses. Thank you for your continuous generosity.

Looking for an Evening Mass during Lent? St. Catherine of Alexandria in Port Tobacco is not having evening Mass due to the pandemic.

Loyola on the Potomac -Days of Prayer For status on retreats and contact Angel Restrepo at (301) 392-0801 orangel.restrepo@loyolaretreat.org

Gift Shop The gift shop is closed until further notice.

Holy Angels Spring Seafood Dinner scheduled for March 22nd has been CANCELLED.

The Oyster Dinner at St. Francis Xavier, Benedict has been CANCELLED.

Bel Alton Fire Department Fish Fry Carryout March 20, 2020; 5-7 p.m.; Fried cod fillets, mac and cheese, cole slaw, tartar sauce, \$12 per plate; 9765 Bel Alton-Newtown Rd. Bel Alton

2020 Jubilarian Mass Sunday, June 28, 2020 Location: Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. The annual Jubilarian Mass honoring couples married 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 and 51+ years will be held Sunday, June 28, 2020 at 2:00pm at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. If you would like to participate, please call your parish office with your information before the May 22 deadline. Couples registered after the deadline will be accepted, but will not receive an invitation and their names will not appear in the Jubilarian program due to printing deadlines.

Restore and Renew If you'd like to make a donation or pledge to our Capital Campaign, information, envelopes and pledge cards can be found on the back table of the church or use your yellow monthly envelope.

Offertory and Second Collection If you would be so kind and if it's convenient, please mail in your weekly offering to the parish office. The address is 8855 Chapel Point Road, Port Tobacco, MD 20677.

Financial Report: Weekend of March 7-8, 2020: \$4,284; Votives \$14; Church in the Developing World \$30; Ash Wed. \$15; TOTAL: \$4,343. Please mail in your envelopes if it's convenient. Thank you.

~The Best Lent Ever by Matthew Kelly

The first parish I belonged to, my childhood parish, was St. Martha's in suburban Sydney. And obviously, Martha is famous in the Gospels—a couple of very powerful scenes there—but St. Martha always reminds me of this really very powerful experience of parish I had—very vibrant community I had primarily as a teenager.

One of the things I've realized is we all have this great yearning for community. We're created for community—created for relationship— and this is one of the areas as a Church where we really have a great opportunity to grow and to become better, to become hungry for excellence.

Our newest initiative here at Dynamic Catholic is our Dynamic Parish initiative. We spent the first decade building the Catholic Moments, we dedicated the second decade to Dynamic Parish, which essentially is the work of, how do you take a parish from wherever they are and turn it into a place of excellence, turn it into a dynamic and vibrant experience for people who come to church there on Sunday, and that becomes a place of intrigue. So people who live down the street might think about, "Oh, maybe I should go back to church," and they see things. They see life in this parish, and they think, "Wow, there's something going on there." And, so I'm fascinated with the life of a parish. I'm fascinated with the work the team here is doing on Dynamic Parish, and it ties so directly into our hunger for community.

What I want you to think about today, what I want you to reflect upon today—because this is really just starting a conversation, a conversation in your heart, mind, and soul, and hopefully a conversation with you and other people in your life and in your community and in your circle of influence—but the question I want you to reflect upon today is, do you belong to a vibrant faith community? Is your community a vibrant faith community? Maybe it is, maybe it isn't. Whether it is or it isn't, it probably can be better in a hundred different ways. And so the follow-up question is what can you do? How can you become more involved, or more strategically or intentionally involved, to help your parish become a vibrant community, to help your parish become a dynamic parish? Because the reality is every single person wants to come to a dynamic parish, even the people who only come once a year at Christmas. What kind of parish do they want to come to at Christmas? A dynamic parish. And so one of the great challenges we have as a Church at this moment in history is how do we create dynamic parishes? And again, that is not somebody's problem over there, or up there, or somewhere else. That's your problem and my problem, your opportunity and my opportunity. So what do we need to do to help create a dynamic parish right where you are; for you and your family to visit every single Sunday?

Please remember the following people in your daily prayers: For those affected by the COVID19 virus, Brenda Pilkerton, Beth Dent, Nellie Pearce, Mitch Mills, Mary Simmons, Rick Simmons, 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, Brian Thomason, Toni Gallagher, Bessie Farmer, Traci Renner, Bobby Terrett, John Abell, Dottie Gray, Ruth Watson, Pat Anderson, Rose Langley, Skyla Shirriel, Steve and Joann Oliff, Victims families and survivors of abuse, Douglas Hammes, 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