

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
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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.

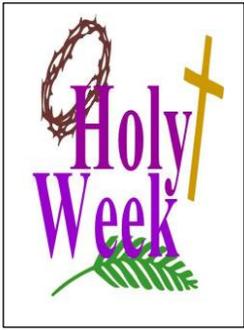
Cemetery: There are grave sites available for active parishioners in the new section at the base of the hill. Catholic Cemeteries of the Archdiocese of Washington administers the sale of lots and burial. Because we do not have an adequate endowment, the costs of maintenance come from general parish funds.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



Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

April 5, 2020

"Truly, this was the Son of God!"



It has been a very long time since March 12 but it is not over

That morning, I woke up in my mother's independent living apartment and headed out to an alumni event at Loyola High School in Towson. I knew there was increasing concern about a corona virus, so I checked my email to be sure the event was still on. The class of 1970 enjoyed an inspiring precursor to our reunion in June. That was eighteen days ago. We wonder whether our reunion will happen and if all of us will be alive to celebrate.

Two days later, we began our weekend without mass since October of 1918 during the flu epidemic. One of the many differences is that we are not sure how far the virus has spread, nor do we have certitude when it may end. This morning, we have learned that there are over 140,000 verified cases in the United States and 2,500 deaths.

One of the things that make this virus so unnerving, is that the vast majority of those who are infected show few if any symptoms for two weeks and many never become ill, of those who become ill some do not require hospitalization. For those who become seriously ill, the suffering can be extreme and fatal. This illness is not something we are used to.

Yes the disease certainly has a tremendous impact on the elderly and those with other diseases. We know now that even the middle aged, young, and healthy may succumb. In the past two days, we have learned of the deaths of two Prince George's County educators 39 and 54, who seemed to be in good health.

Given the rapid spread since March 12, we can presume there are many individuals who are just reaching the point where they may show signs of illness. This almost certainly includes, family, friends and parishioners at Chapel Point. What can we do? We are spirit and flesh, so I suggest first of all that we rigorously follow social distancing guidelines and pray, both for the safety of others and to grow closer to God. We can always benefit from a closer relation to God in Christ and we will need to in the coming weeks of uncertainly and illness.

Body and Soul, Spirit and Flesh - some thoughts Jesus did not come to take us out of the world, but to redeem and send the Holy Spirit to us that we might live spiritually in the world, so that we might enter into the heavenly host. Jesus' mission was not and is not to be the emergency room doctor of the earth. In his ministry he heals some in response to heart felt petition and in order to show His power giving us grounds for faith. He did not simply raise his hands over Palestine to bring an end to disease.

Following the Rules is never enough Rules whether spiritual or material are guides not guarantees. In any relationship, just following rules just helps us avoid pitfalls, we must build the relationship. Some will get ill and die, who have by their own rights followed the rules of social distancing. It could have been someone we encountered before the rules were clear. It could have been a virus that survived on a surface much longer than average. What we can be sure of: it was not our God deciding that we needed to learn a lesson and sent the virus to us personally.

If following the rules of social separation are never enough, neither is saying our favorite prayers. Ask for the Holy Spirit and place yourself in the Presence of the Lord. Imagine Him teaching, healing, sharing a meal or hanging on the cross. Pray in your own words of praise, thanksgiving and petition. Especially ask God to be with you in moments of fear and uncertainty. Rest in the love of God.

Archdiocese of Washington Holy Week Liturgies Livestream

Join in Holy Week Liturgies with Catholics around the Archdiocese

This Sunday, Palm Sunday April 5 begins Holy week. During Holy Week, Catholics throughout the Archdiocese of Washington participate in sacred liturgies remembering the death of Christ and celebrating His resurrection on Easter Sunday. This year, Holy Week liturgies will be streamed online on the Archdiocese of Washington's [YouTube channel](#). <https://www.youtube.com/washarchdiocese>

The schedule is as follows:

April 5 | Palm Sunday: 9:45 am

April 9 | Holy Thursday: 5:30 pm

April 10 | Good Friday: 1:00 pm

April 11 | Easter Vigil: 8:00 pm

April 12 | Easter Sunday: 10:00 am; Archbishop Gregory will celebrate Easter Sunday Mass at the National Shrine that will be broadcast on EWTN, channel 185 on FIOS. Follow along on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) using [#ADWholyweek!](#)

This will surely be different from a parish Holy Week, but it will reach a much larger number than we ever could here. On that First Palm Sunday, there was a sense of the odd and spectacular. Tearing down the palm branches and shouting and singing praise to a popular preacher. That was not the usual scene in Jerusalem. The Roman authorities did not like any public hint that they were not completely in charge. The Temple authority wanted any attention to God to be facilitated by them. Neither authority would have been pleased to hear: *“The crowds preceding him and those following kept crying out and saying: “Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; hosanna in the highest.” (Matt 21:10)* Whatever we might think of the authorities, we also know that the crowds along the road were fickle. They would not stand by Jesus as he faced questioning and mocking. At least then they were not ready to share in his humiliation and suffering. It is often easy to call for change; but even easier to feel let down or betrayed by one who stands by us, but calls us to account. The disciples would run and hide, but later they would return and take up Jesus' work, just as we must. We can surely see ourselves on the road into Jerusalem—we should also be ready to see ourselves in the Upper Room after the Resurrection when Jesus offered those who turned and ran, the offer of peace and forgiveness.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation established in that Upper Room *Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.”²² And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the holy Spirit. ²³ Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained.” (John 20:21-23)* It is a great gift to us through the Church. It both consoles in the present moment while preparing us for the ultimate future. We also know that God's mercy and forgiveness stretch well beyond the sacramental form of Confession. A prayer of personal sorrow or contrition for ordinary (venial) sins is always recommended. Catholics are only required to confess mortal sins to a priest. Remember mortal sins are serious conscious breaches of our relationship with God. If that is not possible, a sincere prayer of contrition calls on God's mercy. When it is possible later when one can get to a priest, one should confess the mortal sins.

The Archdiocese of Washington has a wealth of information on its website adw.org on the latest on the coronavirus and how it's affecting the Church. There are also many sources for livestreaming Masses and making a spiritual communion when you can't receive Our Lord in the Eucharist.

Please check in by phone on your elderly family, friends and neighbors We're noticing that some don't seem to be aware of the urgency of this national health emergency. They are also not connected via the web, so we will have a few printed copies of our bulletin each week in the back of the church. Perhaps while you're hunkering down at home, give a call and keep them up on what's happening here at Chapel Point, and nationally, and see if there's anything they may need.

Archdiocese Lenten Food Drive - PLEASE DROP OFF DONATIONS TO THE BACK OF THE CHURCH-It is a great way to give alms during Lent We are in need of the following items that So. Md. Food Bank could not provide. FOR ALL OF YOU THAT MAY BE STOCKPILING TOILET PAPER- we are not able to get any for the distribution. If you can spare any, we could really use some for the needy; along with canned corn, grape jelly, macaroni n cheese, pancake syrup, pancake mix, spaghetti dry, spaghetti sauce, pork n beans, and any other non perishable food items.

On-Line Lenten Resources

Dynamic Catholic <https://dynamiccatholic.com/best-lent-ever/>

Loyola Press <http://www.loyolapress.com/our-catholic-faith/liturgical-year/lent>

Sacred Space (Irish Jesuits) <https://www.sacredspace.ie>

<https://www.ignatianspirituality.com/lent/>

Creighton University <http://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/Lent/>

<http://jesuits.org/news-detail?TN=NEWS-20180209123705>

Archdiocese of Washington <https://thelightison.org/why-confession/>

Our Parish Finances We are asking you to please mail in your weekly offering to the parish office. The address is 8855 Chapel Point Road, Port Tobacco, MD 20677. You can also leave them in the safe in the vestibule (back) of the church. Be sure to turn the knob so it goes into the safe. We are working on setting up on live giving on our website, hopefully by next week.

Restore and Renew If you'd like to make a donation or pledge to our Capital Campaign pledge cards can be found on the back table of the church. Thank you for your continued support to the needs of the parish.

Please remember the following people in your daily prayers: Inez Butler, Pat Stuart, 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