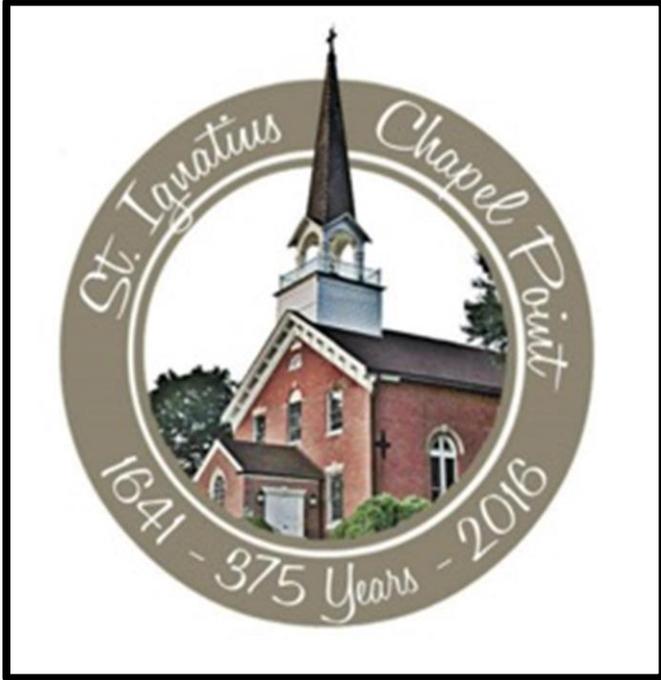


St. Ignatius Church – Chapel Point
8855 Chapel Point Road, Port Tobacco, MD 20677
Sharing God's Word and Sacraments Since 1641
www.chapelpoint.org



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

Coordinator of Religious Education,
Sarah MacMillan
Email: ignatiusreligion@gmail.com

For all parish offices call: 301-934-8245

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

Public Masses have resumed with 50% capacity limits. Reservations and Masks are Required
The Eucharist

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

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.

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.



Second Sunday of Advent

December 6, 2020

*"Prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight his paths."*



Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 5 – 5:00 p.m. – Fr. Ed O’Connell, S.J. +
Sunday, December 6 – 9:00 a.m.- Kevin Moore +
Sunday, December 6 – 11:15 a.m. – Teresa McClintock +
Sunday, December 6 – 6:00 p.m. – Peggy & Dave Gaestal & family (healing)
Monday, December 7 – 8:00 a.m. – Ken Chandler +
Tuesday, December 8 – 8:00 a.m. – Pat Swann +
Wednesday, December 9 – 8:00 a.m. – Charles R. Mullan, Sr. +
Thursday, December 10 – 8:00 a.m. – Lillian Boyden +
Friday, December 11 – 8:00 a.m. – Healing for those recovering from surgery

Why is Advent a penitential season? Advent is a penitential season. When we think of Lent- we know that Lent ends with Jesus’ death on the cross. Penance and sorrow seem appropriate, but for many people penance and minimal decoration in church seems odd, while Christmas music plays on radios, on streets and in malls. Jesus is risen so we are always in the time of the resurrection, but to resurrection offers us forgiveness of sins and eternal life. We can hardly be ready to receive that great gift if we are not aware of or sorry for our sin. We maintain certain disciplines in life to prepare ourselves for important events.

Athletes train for races and games both to build up bodily strength and to sharpen their mental focus. To read a good book we might sit down with a warm chocolate and a foot rest. If we are going for a walk along the Port Tobacco this time of year, a scarf and gloves are in order, or we will be cold and not able to appreciate what we see and hear.

So if we are preparing to appreciate the wonder of mercy and forgiveness, we first need to be aware of the need for mercy and forgiveness- that is, we need to be aware of our sin. Once we are truly aware of sin, we will feel the need to express sorrow, not just say, “Sure; God knows I’m sorry”. Various people in our lives have forgiveness us for things we have done in the past, and while we can’t dwell on the past, we can remember how much we have been loved and shown mercy.

Advent is not about forcing ourselves to some particular pious practice, but about appreciating the love of a God who would take up our human life and to lift us up. We are an Easter people who know Christ is risen but who also know how and why he got to the resurrection.

Giving Tree: Next weekend is the last weekend to turn in gifts cards to help the family of eight; with six being children this Christmas. Suggestions are: gift cards to Walmart/Target, Dollar Stores, grocery stores, gas cards, and any other practical gift cards a family can use. Please put them in the drop safe in the back of the church. **BE SURE TO TURN THE HANDLE, so it drops to the bottom. We need all donated gift cards next Sunday, December 13, so the parents of the children have a chance to shop before Christmas.**

Second Collection Next weekend - The Retirement Fund for Religious helps religious communities care for senior members—today and tomorrow. Across the United States, hundreds of religious communities lack financial resources sufficient to meet the retirement and health-care needs of aging members. **Lack of Funds** Many elder religious worked for years for small stipends, leaving a large gap in retirement savings. At the same time, fewer religious are able to serve in compensated ministry. **Rising Costs** Like many Americans, religious communities face the monumental challenge of funding eldercare. **Changing Demographics** By 2029, retired religious are projected to outnumber wage-earners by nearly three to one. Please be generous.

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Tuesday, December 8 is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, which we refer to as a Holy Day of Obligation. This year however the obligation of mass participation has been lifted during the pandemic. This might be a good time think about the observance, because it is so often confused by the faithful. This is neither the Annunciation of the coming birth of the Lord on March 25 nor the Incarnation which we celebrate nine months later on December 25th. They are about the second person of the Trinity coming to us through a virginal conception and birth.

The Immaculate Conception is about the conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary- not the Lord. What is immaculate is that she was privileged to have been preserved from original sin, hence immaculate, and conception because the Blessed Mother was preserved from original sin from the moment of her conception. We will have 8 am and 7 pm Masses that day. We will live stream the 8 am mass on Facebook.

Christmas Masses This year we clearly have competing concerns. First, we want to celebrate the Feast of Our Lord's Incarnation together as a parish. On the other hand, now that we are in the midst of a renewed and larger virus outbreak, we want you to be safe.

We are presuming that we will still be limiting congregations to 40- 60 people depending on households. We are fortunate because the four members of the Jesuit community are available to celebrate Masses since they can't travel. Therefore, we can have slightly more Masses than usual, but accommodating somewhat fewer people than usual at Christmas. **We are planning five masses on Christmas Eve, 3 pm; 5pm; 7pm; 9pm; and midnight. We will have 2 masses on Christmas Day; 8 am and 10 am.** We cannot have live choirs, but we can certainly have several masses with live instrumental music and perhaps a cantor. We will be accepting reservations for the Mass you would like to attend and the number of people by households. People who live together in a household may sit without distancing. Please email Brenda in the parish office (stigoffice@yahoo.com) with your Christmas Mass reservations preference (first and second choices) asap-and include the number of people in your group. This is so you have a better chance at your first choice.

The Coat Drive Is Over We just found out Lifestyles is not accepting any clothes donations.

We need help! Volunteers to lector, usher and clean at all Masses. Please contact the parish office if you can help with any of these things. With the upcoming Christmas season and additional Masses we could use more help.

Gift Shop Gift Shop hours for December: Dec. 6 and Dec. 20 from 10 – 11 a.m. Masks, social distancing and limited capacity are required.

Christmas Memorial Flower Donation Envelopes can be found of the back tables of the church for anyone who wishes to help the parish defray the cost of decorating the church at Christmas while remembering their loved one with a flower on the altar. A list will be posted at Christmas with the names and those who gave. Please put your name and your loved ones name on the envelope.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD is offered at St. Ignatius during the **9:00 AM Mass**. It's a wonderful opportunity for our parishioners ages 3-6 years to hear the Word of God at their level. Contact Sarah MacMillan at ignatiusreligion@gmail.com or call (301)885-7020 if you'd like to learn more.

VIRTUAL FAITH FORMATION for EVERYONE this weekend. In order to ensure the safety of all of our families because many have spent Thanksgiving with multiple families, we are all having Faith Formation virtually. See email for Zoom meeting ID/passcode. Resources for Advent are available in our Google Classroom.

VIRTUAL CONFIRMATION PREP for EVERYONE this weekend. In order to ensure the safety of all of our families because many have spent Thanksgiving with multiple families, we are all having Confirmation prep virtually. See email or Google classroom for Zoom meeting ID/passcode.

VIRTUAL YOUTH GROUP this weekend. We will have Advent-themed activities and Kahoot games. See email for Zoom Meeting ID/passcode. All middle & high schoolers and their friends are welcome!

Wayside Food Bank November Report On Saturday, November 21, WFB served 42 families; which represents 102 adults, 10 teens and 38 children, for a total of 150 guests served. Our numbers increased quite a bit this month, with more people than we've seen in at least a year. They were very happy to receive a turkey and an ample supply of food, just in time for Thanksgiving. Thank you to all who donate food and funds to keep this important community service and ministry going strong. Our volunteers make Wayside the success it is, and we are very thankful for all of them. Our wish list for December is: diapers sizes 5 and 6; hot cereal, small containers of laundry detergent and bleach, and any other non perishable food item. Our next distribution day is Saturday, December 19, with stocking on Wednesday, December 16. If you'd like to help, please contact Dianne Lyon at d.e.lyon@comcast.net.

Christmas Gift This year, we thought a book you could use to follow the Sunday Mass every week would be a good idea. Because of Covid, we have not had the weekly missalettes in the pews. You may pick up a Sunday Missal which has all the Sunday readings from November 28, 2020 through Christ the King in 2021. Many of you are participating from home, here or for some other Sunday Mass on-line or on TV. The Missal will be of help to you, for the readings and the prayer. They will be in plastic bags in the vestibule. Use it at home if you are livestreaming- bring it with you to Mass when you come. They should not be left in pews.

Upcoming Retreats at Loyola on the Potomac Ignatian Weekend Retreats

New Year's Eve Retreat; *We Run the Race With Endurance*; December 31, 2020 – January 1, 2021. *Dinner, time for prayer and reflection, and Eucharist to bring in New Year--followed by a Social, and Brunch New Year's morning. Fee: \$110. For more information go to www.loyolaonthepotomac.com or call (301) 392-0819.*

Livestream our Mass St. Ignatius Church will livestream Mass at **9:00 a.m.** on Sunday mornings on Facebook. Go to our Facebook page or reach that page from our website: www.chapelpoint.org.

VERY IMPORTANT REMINDER: **When you go to Communion, leave your mask UP until you get to the priest. Either reach under your mask with the Eucharist you've taken from the priest to place in your mouth; or pull down your mask briefly and immediately pull it back up before moving back to your pew. This protects you, the priest and others.**

The bulletin via email For safety, we cannot put out paper bulletins in the church. If you'd like to receive the weekly bulletin via email, please email Brenda Canter with your name and preferred email address at stigooffice@yahoo.com.

To make a reservation to attend weekend Masses, email: stigooffice@yahoo.com by 3 pm on Friday or call 301-934-8245 ext. 2 and leave a message Leave your name, phone number and first and second choice of Masses. If you have underlying health conditions and are in the at risk category, the dispensation is still in effect for attending Mass. If you decide at the last minute you want to attend, please come and we'll make room.

On-Line Giving We have an electronic giving link on our webpage: www.chapelpoint.org. You can make donations using your checking account or credit card. You can make one time contributions, donations that repeat weekly, every two weeks or monthly. The giving link can be found on the lower half, on the right side of the home page of the website.

If you prefer not to use electronic giving, and are still not comfortable coming back to church, please mail in your weekly offering to the parish office. Do not write offering or donation on the envelope- there is no need to create temptation. The address is 8855 Chapel Point Road, Port Tobacco, MD 20677. You can also drop them in the chute under the guestbook in the back of the church. Be sure to turn the handle so the donation drops into the safe inside the wooden column.

Restore and Renew PLEASE - We ask that you **write a separate check** for donations and pledge payments to the “Restore and Renew” capital campaign. **We have a separate account for the restoration work. It confuses the tracking of funds when they have to be transferred in between the two accounts.**

Collection Report for the weekends of Nov. 21-22, 2020: Offertory \$1,756; TOTAL: \$1,756. Weekend of Nov. 28-29, 2020: Offertory \$5,491; Votives \$10; Thanksgiving outreach collection \$40; Memorial flowers \$135; TOTAL: \$5,676. Thank you for your generosity.

Please remember the following people in your daily prayers: Peggy and Dave Gaestal and family, Marie Jenkins, John Mattingly, Traci Renner, Gary Stumpf, Ruth Watson, Van Watson, Pat Kirkland, Eddie Fitzpatrick, Jules Greenwell, Rose Langley, The Dunphy Cosenza family, Francis Knott, Chuck Gould, Danny LeSage, Shirley Watson, The staff and residents of assisted living and nursing homes, Amelia Zito, Karen Muhlenkamp, Peter Dahl, Elizabeth McCarthy, Alice Pickett, For those affected by the COVID19 virus, Brenda Pilkerton, Nellie Pearce, Mary Simmons, Dorothy Simms, Antoine Watson, Vickie & Greg Pickeral, David A. Proctor, Ms. Pickeral, Irene Proctor, Mary Jane Zuknick, Vibha Pubbi, Xavier Bean and family, Brian Thomason, Toni Gallagher, Bessie Farmer, Bobby Terrett, John Abell, Pat Anderson, Steve and Joann Oliff, Victims, families and survivors of abuse, Tyler Sage, Douglas Hannes, Sharon Ryan, John Reese, Frankie Chiorcariello and family, Tim Moore, James Johnson, Cecelia Yates, Victoria Liberty, Tamera Scroggins, James J. Nalley, Theresa San Luis, Elaine Gaddis, Butch Hayden, Stacie Hayden.

