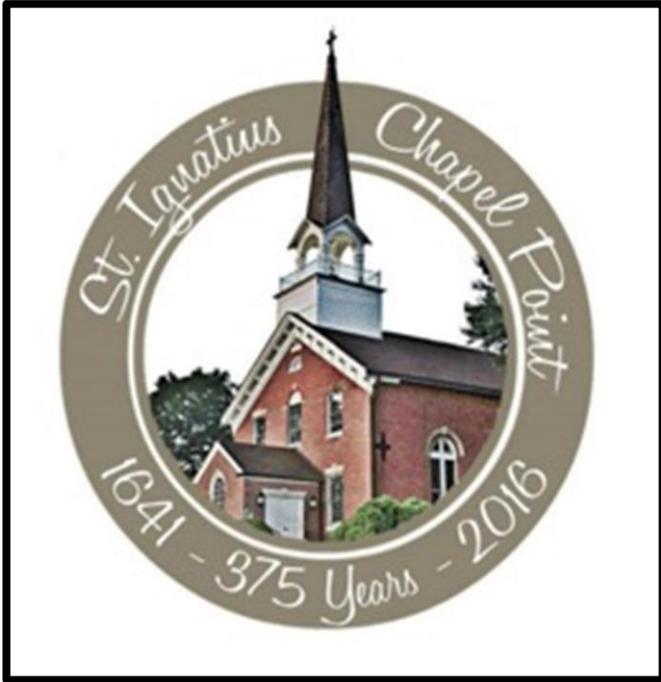


St. Ignatius Church – Chapel Point
8855 Chapel Point Road, Port Tobacco, MD 20677
Sharing God's Word and Sacraments Since 1641
www.chapelpoint.org



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.*

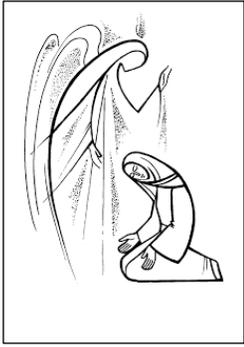
Cemetery: *There are grave sites available for active parishioners in the new section at the base of the hill. Catholic Cemeteries of the Archdiocese of Washington administers the sale of lots and burial. Because we do not have an adequate endowment, the costs of maintenance come from general parish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



Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 20, 2020

**“Mary said, “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord.
May it be done to me according to your word.”**



Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 19 – 5:00 p.m. – Joe Watson (Happy Birthday)

Sunday, December 20 – 9:00 a.m.- Kevin Moore +

Sunday, December 20 – 11:15 a.m. – Margaret McGuigan +

Monday, December 21 – 8:00 a.m. – Anna Clifford +

Tuesday, December 22 – 8:00 a.m. – Pat Leigh +

Thursday, December 24 – 5:00 p.m. – Julian & Theresa Dyer +

Awaiting a Savior In advent, we remember the Lord’s coming in time - two thousand years ago. We look to his coming at the end of time; but we do not long for that, we want to be ready, but not yet. We especially look to his coming into our hearts in the here and now - to heal us and draw us closer. We know that our Savior has come and redeemed us, returning to glory with the Father. So for what do we really hope for in Advent and Christmas but to come to a more immediate appreciation of Jesus’ healing gift.

The truth is that many of us have become a bit hardened to gifts; they come with too much regularity and they never fulfill our wildest expectations, the thrill seldom lasts. Worst of all we think of them as owed to us, not by what we have done, but because of tradition.

Christian mystics seek union with God, but not simply by emptying themselves so God can write on their hearts. Some of the greats, including St. Ignatius of Loyola, looked for God in the emotions and desires of their lives; by becoming aware of a human experience, they had a hint of God which could grow into a real experience of the Divine.

What might we look to in our hearts to give us that taste of Jesus coming in time? This time we surely have an experience of desiring to be saved from something beyond our control, something which reminds us of our limits and of our mortality. Something real and tangible, but which we cannot subdue in the usual ways. Something that keeps us from sharing our lives and joys, which cuts short our sorrowing. Something, which if it were gone from our lives would free us to experience freedom and joy again.

Many Christians struggle today with a sense of sin and its consequences, but hardly anyone is alive now who is not aware of the weight and loss inflicted by the pandemic. Yes we can look within, sense the pain, and fear the helplessness and isolation. We do not want to stay in that suffering, but to remind us of the condition of sinners by redemption. Sin was everywhere, but hard to pull out by the roots. The losses we know in life from Covid, can help us to recognize the loss that came with a world without grace and redemption.

Just as John the Baptist helped people to see the need to repent and be healed, so too the sense of powerlessness that many of us have felt in the past months puts us in touch with the felt need for redemption. There is still waiting for both; the end of the pandemic and the joy of the kingdom of God. Revisit all those experiences of being restrained and limited; on top of them add the uncertainty of how and when we will experience the joy of freedom. Relish that and think about the bursting forth of Joy and freedom- we will experience as the virus recedes, and imagine that many times over the joy of redemption by a loving, self-sacrificing God. That is indeed Christmas.

Giving Tree: Our Giving Tree Family was overwhelmed and quite emotional with the outpouring of generosity from our parish. Please know they are very grateful and appreciative of each and every gift received from you. God bless you all for your generous hearts.

Christmas Masses Due to the 50% capacity state restrictions, reservations are strongly suggested for all Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses. We are accepting reservations for those Masses until **COB Tuesday, December 22**. 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. Make your reservations SOON. The Christmas schedule is at the end of the bulletin. **Please arrive at least 10 minutes before Mass on Christmas Eve-EVEN IF YOU HAVE A RESERVATION. Three minutes before Mass begins, any remaining pews will be filled by anyone waiting outside without a reservation.** We are limiting congregations to 40- 60 people depending on households. **We are planning five masses on Christmas Eve, 3 pm; 5pm; 7pm; (ALL THREE MASSES ARE CLOSED FOR NEW RESERVATIONS); 9pm; and midnight-STILL HAVE OPENINGS. We will have 2 masses on Christmas Day; 8 am and 10 am.-STILL HAVE OPENINGS.**

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.

HYBRID FAITH FORMATION continues this Sunday, December 20th at 10:00-11:00 AM. "A" week families will be in-person this week, and "B" week families will be doing faith formation virtually. Please remember to STAY HOME if you or anyone in your family is exhibiting any symptoms of illness, or if you have been advised to quarantine. Virtual Faith Formation is ALWAYS an option for anyone. We're all in this together to help keep each other healthy!

NO Faith Formation on December 27th. Have a joyous Christmas!

CONFIRMATION PREP, in-person and virtually, returns this Sunday, December 20th at 5:00-5:55 PM. Please remember to STAY HOME if you or anyone in your family is exhibiting any symptoms of illness, or if you have been advised to quarantine. We're all in this together to help keep each other healthy!

NO Confirmation Prep on December 27th. Have a joyous Christmas!

VIRTUAL FAITH FORMATION is available with family-style learning at your pace during each week. Contact Sarah MacMillan at ignatiusreligion@gmail.com or call (301)885-7020 if you'd like to learn more.

YOUTH GROUP is happening **IN-PERSON** this Sunday, December 20th for an **Advent Craft and Gingerbread Creche Making Night!** Physical distancing and masks are a must! All middle and high schoolers and their friends are welcome. Contact Sarah MacMillan at ignatiusreligion@gmail.com or call (301)885-7020 to find out more.

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.

Christmas Memorial Flower Donation Envelopes can be found on 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.

Help Our Marriage Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue, or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi with a long i) helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. This program has helped many couples experiencing difficulties in their marriage. For confidential information or to register for the upcoming program beginning with a weekend on January 29th - January 31st, 2021, please visit: www.HelpOurMarriage.org, call (443) 400-7017, or email: 3015@HelpOurMarriage.org.

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.*

Upcoming Retreats for 2021:
Ignatian Weekend Retreats *We Journey in Hope: January 8-10 (Men), January 22-24 (Men); January 29-31 (Men and Women), February 26-28 (Men), March 5-7 (Men), March 12-14 (Women).* *The weekend retreat fee is \$245/ \$195 for first time retreatants or young adults (35 years and younger).* **Directed and Private Retreat: January 4-8, 2021** *Fee: \$425; Directed/ \$380 private.* **Days of Prayer January 11, 2021--All things New; February 15, 2021—God so Loved the World; March 1 and March 29, 2021—Finding Hope in the Cross.** *Each day of prayer begins at 9 am and includes: Continental breakfast, Lunch, and Mass. Fee \$40.* **Young Adult Retreat** (For Adults 18-35); **His Name was Ignatius: March 26-28 2021** *Fee: \$165.*

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.**

Christmas Collection This year has been difficult for everyone. Most of us have escaped any serious encounter with the corona virus, but it has changed our interactions and especially our ability to join together in person. Those of you who are able have been very generous in continuing your support of our parish. We have not had to take any extreme measure to continue to pay our bills. Thank you so much for your generosity and confidence in our mission. I would just like to remind you that as always the Christmas collection is exempt from the tax for the diocese. This collection has always been an end of the year boost. As long as your contribution is in a Christmas Collection envelope, has Christmas collection on the memo line, or is contributed in the on-line giving for Christmas, it will still be exempt. Thank you again.

Collection Report for the weekend of December 5-6, 2020: Offertory \$3,803; Christmas Flowers \$343; Immaculate Conception \$141; Priest Retirement \$45; Solemn. Of Mary \$10; Christmas \$310; All Saints \$10; TOTAL: \$4,662. Thank you for your generosity.

Please remember the following people in your daily prayers: Judy LeSage, Keech Edelen, Charlie Hayden, 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 Hamnes, 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.



Saint Ignatius Church - Chapel Point
Christmas Masses and Penance Service 2020

Tuesday, December 22, 2020

Advent Penance Service with
confessions – 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 24, 2020

Christmas Eve Masses

3:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m.,

**FIRST 3 MASSES ARE FULL-NO MORE
RESERVATIONS**

9:00 p.m., Midnight Mass 12:00 a.m.

STILL HAVE ROOM-CALL SOON

Fri., December 25, 2020

Christmas Day Masses

8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

STILL HAVE ROOM – CALL SOON

Sat., December 26, 2020

Feast of The Holy Family-Vigil 5:00 p.m.

Sun., December 27, 2020

Feast of the Holy Family 7:30, 9:00,

11:15 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Thurs., December 31, 2020

Vigil-Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

5:00 p.m.

Friday, January 1, 2021

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Mass 10:00 a.m.

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The 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass will be livestreamed for those that don't feel comfortable attending. The dispensation for Mass attendance is still in effect. Access the livestream Mass by going to the St. Ignatius facebook page.