

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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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.

Weekdays: 8:00 a.m.

Sunday Mornings: 7:30, 9:00, 11:15 a.m.

Holy Days: 8:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Sunday Evening: 6:00 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.

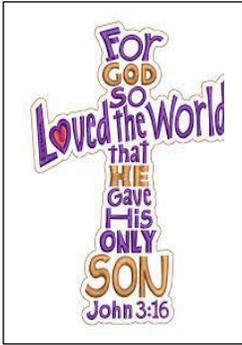
Cemetery: There are grave sites available for active parishioners in the new section at the base of the hill. Catholic Cemeteries of the Archdiocese of Washington administers the sale of lots and burial. Because we do not have an adequate endowment, the costs of maintenance come from general parish funds. 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 must attend baptism classes. Please contact Sarah MacMillan to schedule the class ignatiusreligion@gmail.com.

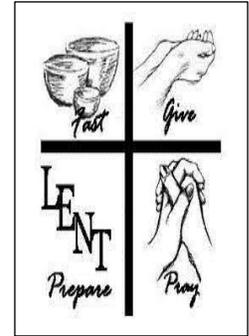
Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: If you would like to learn about becoming a Catholic, please contact the Religious Education Office. Classes begin at the end of the summer.



Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 14, 2021

“For by grace you have been saved through faith,
and this is not from you; it is the gift of God;
it is not from works, so no one may boast.”



Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 13 – 5:00p.m. – Michael Bartolomeo +
Sunday, March 14 – 9:00 a.m. – Pat and Lois Connor +
Sunday, March 14 – 11:15 a.m. – The Mark Partee family
Monday, March 15 – 8:00 a.m. – Gus Bowling +
Tuesday, March 16 – 8:00 a.m. – Shirley Watson +
Wednesday, March 17 – 8:00 a.m. – Sarah Vaughan (surgery)
Thursday, March 18 – 8:00 a.m. – Stan Leck +
Friday, March 19 – 8:00 a.m. – Jimmy Brest +

We are not waiting for the rebuilding of the Temple in Jerusalem Christ; as we read last week; is our temple. On the Forth Sunday of Lent, we are reading the very last verses of the book of Chronicles. The last chapter recounts God’s repeated frustration with the infidelity of his people and the story of their exile and return to Jerusalem. The Temple of Jesus time was the second temple which lasted until its destruction in 70 AD by the Romans. There are those in the larger Christian community who await the return of Israel to its biblical borders; hoping to usher in the return of Christ. This as you might suspect is a small minority of Christians.

Christians, by in large, believe in a New Covenant which is not limited to a single people or nation. In the ancient world, nations developed their own understanding of a divine being or beings. Those ideas of gods were associated with individual nations. There were gods of the Mesopotamians, the Hittites, Egyptians, the Greeks, the Romans and many more. Ancient Hebrews also saw the God of Abraham and Moses as their God, even if they also saw their God as creator and omnipotent over all; more than just a family God.

The decree of Cyrus, King of the Persians, at the conclusion of Chronicles, sets in motion the rebuilding of the temple that would serve as the point of pilgrimage for Jesus and the Jews of his time. We read those concluding verses from the Christian perspective. Yes; Cyrus calls on the nations he ruled to let the Chosen people return and rebuild; but he also places the Lord as the God of Heaven, who gave Cyrus all the kingdoms of the earth. For those who rebuilt the Temple, God had returned his people to his favor, but we can also hear as we do in some of the Hebrew Wisdom literature, a recognition of one God above all and for all; not of single people.

What is amazing is how many who believe that Christ died for the salvation of all, want to return to belief in a national God. As Christians, we do believe that Jesus died for all and we stand before God at death to be saved as individuals; yet there are those who would make God the enforcer of collective guilt, nullifying the gift of redemption and turning the eventual end of the world not as Christ’s victory over sin and death, but the condemnation of a world-wide generation.

Second Collection – Catholic Relief Services This week we take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection to help **Jesus in disguise**. This collection helps six Catholic agencies to provide relief and support for struggling communities and to work for peace and reconciliation among our marginalized brothers and sisters here and around the world. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection. Learn more about the collection at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.

Happy Birthday to Jim Smoot who turned 80 years YOUNG on Friday!

Covid Precautions Continue On March 3rd, the governor lifted most restrictions in the state - except for mask wearing. As in all things, the removal of a legal restraint does not really mean we can do whatever we want. We still need to make sound decisions. Many in the parish have, due to our ages, received our Covid vaccination. Many due to their relative youth have not. There is also still some real threat of the spread of the virus. Wednesday the number of new infections in the U.S. was 58,530. In Maryland there were 900 new cases. The seven day average in the country was 63,273. Maryland's total new cases from February 25 to March 10 was 331. So there is no question that we are a lot better off than the April to June 2020, and October 2020 to February 2021. Nationally 10% of the population is fully vaccinated and 11.2% in Maryland – this is all to the good. We are safer, but not yet safe.

There are certainly people who have been fully vaccinated over 2 weeks ago who are at maximum protection and may wish to return to in person and you would be most welcome.

The Archdiocese has told us not to change procedures yet. We will continue to sit people in alternate rows. With co-living family members, we at times have exceeded 50 people at individual masses, without use of the balcony or turning anyone away. The 7:30 am and 11:15 Masses can absorb the most additional people, but all the Masses can take some more, using the balconies.

Adults who have not been confirmed Since Confirmation is when adults affirm their desire to be Catholic Christians and are confirmed in that choice by the Church, serving as a sponsor/godparent or entering into a Catholic marriage, requires that one be confirmed. If you are an adult Catholic, but not confirmed, please contact Fr. Clifford soon for preparation for an adult confirmation class.

Catholics over the age of 14 in the United States are obliged to: Abstain from the eating of meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays during Lent. For those from age 18 to 59 are obligated to fast: limiting oneself to one full meal and two lesser ones on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Some other form of penance should be voluntarily practiced throughout the year in keeping with the ancient traditions of abstinence. For those of you who would like more info: <https://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/liturgical-year-and-calendar/lent/catholic-information-on-lenten-fast-and-abstinence>

Friday - Stations of the Cross This ancient practice of praying as if we were walking in the footsteps of Christ in the Holy Land continues. We will have stations at 7pm on Fridays in Lent beginning on Feb 19. We will be in the church following the usual social distancing rules.

Confessions during Lent Confessions will be heard on Friday evenings at 6:30 p.m. before Stations of the Cross. Confessions will also be held at the usual time on Saturdays from 4:00-4:45 p.m. before the 5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass.

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.

Thanks for continuing to fill your CRS Rice Bowls throughout Lent!

Faith Formation continues in-person this Sunday at 10 AM! Virtual Faith Formation remains available.

Confirmation Prep class continues in-person and virtually this Sunday at 5:00 PM.

EIGHTH GRADERS! Confirmation Retreat is on March 20th 9:00 AM-1:00 PM.

No Youth Group this week.

YOUTH GROUP returns on March 21st with our spring Bonfire Night!

VBS returns in-person this summer! Mark your calendars for July 12th-16th.

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.

Evening Mass in Charles County Looking for an evening Mass this Lenten season? Please join us: Mon-Tue-Thu-Fri at 6:30pm St. Catherine of Alexandria 7865 Port Tobacco Rd (five miles off of Route 301).

Chesterton Chat 2! You are invited to join us for an informational meeting about a new high school, The Chesterton Academy of St. Mary's!! Tuesday, March 16, 2021 7pm-8:30pm at St. John Francis Regis Catholic Church, Hollywood, MD (and on Zoom)

Chesterton Academy Offers:

- Strong Catholic Identity, including daily Mass and the oath of fidelity to the magisterium of the Catholic Church for faculty
- Affordable Tuition
- Classical Liberal Arts Education with an integrated curriculum rooted in the faith
- Successful Model, with 28 schools in the US and abroad
- A Formational School focused on truth, beauty and goodness and the development of virtue, character and joyful souls
- Reclaiming athletics towards camaraderie and fun

Join us to learn how you can support and be a part of this exciting opportunity to benefit our St. Mary's County high school students and our entire community!! For more information and Zoom link, visit: <https://www.ChestertonStMarys.org>

Easter Schedule Unless it is bitter cold, raining or snowing, we will have a Easter Sunday “sunrise” mass at the Shrine of our Lady of the Rosary at 7am. We will also livestream the 9 a.m. Mass and have an 11:15 a.m. Mass. A full schedule will be out next weekend.

Daylight saving time this weekend On Sunday March 14, our clocks turn ahead one hour, so you can set your clock ahead and get that extra hour of rest.

The Feast of Saint Joseph and Friday Abstinence The Feast of Saint Joseph, March 19th, is a solemnity in the Church calendar. Since it falls on a Friday of Lent this year, there is no obligation to abstain from meat on that day. No dispensation is necessary because the exception is contained within the law itself (can. 1251).

Wayside Food Bank February Report On Saturday, February 20, WFB volunteers braved the cold and icy conditions to serve our community with our modified drive thru service during the pandemic.. We served 28 families (5 that were first timers); which represents 65 adults, 7 teens and 23 children; for a total of 95 people served. Weis gifts cards were given to each family to provide the opportunity to buy things they can't get at WFB. Special thanks to all our volunteers, shoppers and a BIG thank you this month to Cobb Island Baptist Church for their continued contribution and support and the Knights of Columbus for their generous contribution to help with WFB's effort in the southern Charles community. The next distribution is Sat., March 20; with stocking on Wed., March 17. If you have any questions, please email Dianne Lyon, d.e.lyon@comcast.net.

No Catholic Charities Lenten Food Drive We received notice from Catholic Charities that in light of the pandemic, and to protect their staff and volunteers, they would not be providing bags for the annual Lenten Food Drive. We are still accepting non perishable food donations for Wayside Food Bank, as always. Please leave donations in the back of the church on the rolling cart.

Loyola on the Potomac: Days of Prayer March 29, 2021; *Finding Hope in the Cross*. Each day of Prayer begins at 9:00 am and includes; Continental breakfast, Lunch and Mass. **Fee: \$40.**
Ignatian Weekend Retreat Schedule: March 12-14 (Women) • March 19-21 (Men) April 9-11 (Women) • April 16-18 (Men and Women); April 23-25 (Spanish-Men and Women) **Fee: \$245, \$195** for first time retreatants or young adults (35 and younger) **Holy Week and Triduum Programming:** *Gods' Word in Silence: A Centering Prayer Retreat*; March 29-31 **Fee: \$285. Directed or Private Retreat** March 29-April 4, 2021 **Fee: \$560 Directed/ \$510 Private Triduum Retreat: Rising Up in Faith** April 1-4, 2021 **Fee: \$295. To Register go to www.loyolaonthepotomac.com.** For more information-contact alice.case@loyolaretreat.org or call Alice Case (301)-392-0819.

LENTEN MISSION at St. Mary's Bryantown Sunday-Wednesday March 21-24 7-9pm

Presented by nationally known speakers, presenters will be Dan and Caroline Dirkes. The theme of the mission is " **There Is More**" – as in, there is so much more that the Lord wants to do for us if we will only open our hearts and minds. The mission is free and open to all. Virus safety protocols will be observed. For more information contact Father Conley at frconley@comcast.net

Saint Francis de Sales Church in Benedict, MD will host our annual Spring Oysterfest on Saturday, March 20th from 12 -3 pm, or until sold out, at the hall, 7209 Benedict Avenue. Come enjoy local oysters fried, scalded and on the half-shell at outdoor raw bar, shrimp, smoked brisket, variety of homemade salads & sides. Drive-thru takeout. This year featuring Saint Joseph's Table. \$25 per adult; reserve table for six and one person eats free. Call for family rates: 301-274-3416. Checks to "Saint Francis de Sales Church", mail to: SFDS, PO Box 306, Benedict MD 20612.

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 an upcoming program, please visit: www.HelpOurMarriage.org, call (443) 400-7017, or email: 3015@HelpOurMarriage.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 stigoffice@yahoo.com.

To make a reservation to attend weekend Masses, email: stigoffice@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 between the two accounts.**

Collection Report for March 6-7, 2021: Offertory \$5,286; Votives \$32; Ash Wed. \$25; Catholic Relief Services \$140; TOTAL: \$5,483. Thank you for your support.

Please remember the following people in your daily prayers: Sarah Vaughan, Candice and Miles, Brenda Pilkerton, Sharon Reilly and the Reilly family, Lyn Gibson, Fred Mower, Kelly LeSage, Martha Murphy, Clare, Bruce Posey, Lee Pilkerton, William Coughlon, Judy LeSage, Keech Edelen, Charlie Hayden, Peggy and Dave Gaestal and family, Marie Jenkins, Traci Renner, Gary Stumpf, Ruth Watson, Van Watson, Pat Kirkland, Eddie Fitzpatrick, Rose Langley, Francis Knott, Chuck Gould, Danny LeSage, Joe, The staff and residents of assisted living and nursing homes, Amelia Zito, Karen Muhlenkamp, Peter Dahl, Elizabeth McCarthy, Alice Pickett, 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, 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, Victoria Liberty, Tamera Scroggins, James J. Nalley, Theresa San Luis, Elaine Gaddis, Butch Hayden, Stacie Hayden.