

St. Ignatius Church – Chapel Point

8855 Chapel Point Road, Port Tobacco, MD 20677

Sharing God's Word and Sacraments Since 1641

www.chapelpoint.org



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Archbishop Neale School
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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 must attend baptism classes. Please contact Sarah MacMillan to schedule the class ignatiusreligion@gmail.com.

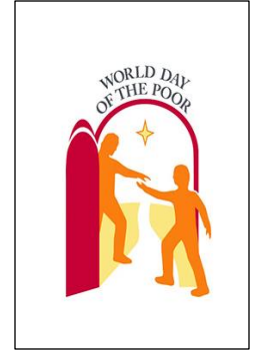
Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: If you would like to learn about becoming a Catholic, please contact the Religious Education Office. Classes begin at the end of the summer.



Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 14, 2021

“Heaven and earth will pass away,
but my words will not pass away.”



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, November 13 – 5:00 p.m. – Dolly Williams +

Sunday, November 14 – 7:30 a.m. – Margaret Foster-Massey +

Sunday, November 14 – 11:15 a.m. – Lindi Romine (Happy Birthday)

Friday, November 19 – 8:00 a.m. – Braylen Sage (Happy Birthday)

WORLD DAY OF THE POOR - OUTREACH TO THE NEEDY

World Day of the Poor November 14 - the Pope calls us to remember Jesus' particular concern for the poor. Jesus statement; *“The poor you will always have with you, and whenever you wish you can do good to them, but you will not always have me”*, was a response to criticism of the woman who poured an expensive scented ointment on his head. He stands up for the devout woman and reminds those who have faked horror in the waste of money- that they have the opportunity to assist the poor themselves at all times. So this annual day is a way of reminding us to serve the poor. On the weekend of November 13-14, we encourage you to respond in a means you feel appropriate. You can donate to the parish outreach. Please write a check and make sure in the memo line it indicates “outreach”.

BOXES OF JOY Today is the day to return your filled Box of Joy to the back of the church.

Wayside Food Bank In November, we're asking for a few things that our clients may need for the holidays: small bags and containers of sugar, flour, and condiments like salt, pepper, catsup, mustard and mayonnaise. We could also use small containers of bleach, detergent and bars of soap and all non perishable food. You can leave your donations in the back of church.

Wayside Food Bank has another request: we are trying to get a list of "back up volunteers" to help when our regular volunteers can't be at stocking or distribution. The time commitment for either is a couple of hours, as needed. If you are able to help with either (some lifting is needed), please email Dianne Lyon. Her contact information is below. Our next distribution is Saturday, November 20, with stocking on Wednesday, November 17. If you can help or have any questions, please contact Dianne Lyon at d.e.lyon@comcast.net.

Coat Drive Lifestyles of Southern Maryland is again taking donations of coats. We'll have a container in the back of the church for donations of CLEAN, GENTLY USED coats. We are also collecting NEW hats and gloves.

Christmas Giving Tree We're planning on our annual Giving Tree again this year. The tree with gift tags will go up next weekend.

The All Souls Book of Remembrance The book will remain on the altar during November with names of our deceased loved ones. All will be prayed for during Masses this month.

Annual Retired Priests of the Archdiocese of Washington Second Collection this weekend

Our priests touch our lives in many ways: they baptize our children, comfort us in the confessional, witness our marriage vows and hold our loved ones hands as the Lord calls them home. Let's join together to help provide care and housing for our retired priests so they can live their retirement in dignity. Please be as generous as you are able.

Adult Religious Formation The Parables -- Learn and Pray ---On Wednesdays, at 8:45 am and 7 pm, Fr. Clifford will have sessions on the Parables of Jesus. We will look at parables as a distinct type of preaching. Sometimes there are multiple meanings which we find in various levels of the story. They open up Jesus' teaching in ways we might miss. They can also help us to pray, not just to walk away with a moral saying. We will use excerpts from The Forty Parables of Jesus by Gerhard Lofink.

BAPTISM PREP RETREAT will be offered this month on **November 20th from 9:00 AM until 11:30 AM**. Please register ahead of time. Retreats will typically be offered on the **SECOND** Saturday of the month from 9:00 AM until 11:00 AM. Please register ahead of time. Contact Sarah MacMillan at ignatiusreligion@gmail.com or (301)885-7020 to register or find out more information.

RCIA: Are you looking to learn more about God and the Catholic Faith? Are you a teen or adult who still needs to receive sacraments? Are you thinking of being received into the Catholic Church? Our parish welcomes you, and we are here to help you discern your faith. RCIA stands for Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults, and it is a process where we support individuals through inquiry and the catechumenate to study the Catholic Faith, and to prepare to be initiated into the Catholic Church through the sacraments. Contact Sarah MacMillan at ignatiusreligion@gmail.com or (301)885-7020 for more information.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD is offered during the 9:00 AM Mass on Sundays. This is a wonderful opportunity for children ages three through six to hear the Word at their level.

CANNED GOODS DRIVE in FAITH FORMATION & CONFIRMATION PREP this month! Please bring non-perishable items to donate. A friendly competition for a prize goes to the class with the most donated goods.

FAITH FORMATION & CONFIRMATION PREP are fully virtual & self-paced on Sunday, November 14th. No in-person classes will be held on the 14th, in consideration of the school holiday added to the calendar. We will have in-person Faith Formation on Sunday, November 21st, 2021. If you have any questions, please email Sarah MacMillan at ignatiusreligion@gmail.com or call (301)885-7020.

YOUTH GROUP will have **SERVICE NIGHT** on **Sunday, November 21st at 7:00 PM**. We will be organizing our sock drive! I understand it's a school night so come for how long you can, but we will all wrap up by 9:00 PM. All middle and high schoolers are welcome! Contact Sarah MacMillan at ignatiusreligion@gmail.com or (301)885-7020 for more information.

Help Wanted at Loyola on the Potomac Part time, weekend help is needed in the kitchen at Loyola. This is a great opportunity for high school kids (16 and up) who need a weekend job. Contact Freda Wells at 301-392-0800 for immediate consideration.

Substitutes Needed Archbishop Neale School is in need of substitute teachers. If you are interested, please contact the school office at 301-934-9595 for more information. Any applicant must be in full compliance with the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington's Child Protection Policy.

Gift Shop will be open after 9 am and 11:15 am Masses, Sundays November 14 and 28. There is a variety of Advent calendars for children and Advent candles and wreaths for family use. Christmas items are also available.

Thanks to Allan Canter, who hand painted and donated new church signs for the northbound and southbound lanes of Route 301 in Bel Alton.

Pick-up truck – Are you looking for one or trying to get rid of one? We have a 25 year old Chevy pick-up (automatic) with 105,000 miles. It has emission inspection issues. It would be perfect for a farm truck. We need a somewhat newer, pickup with automatic transmission that can pass inspection. If you would like to donate or sell a reasonably reliable pickup; or if you could use a truck on the farm that won't pass emissions, contact Fr. Clifford.

Catherine Foundation is searching for instructors to present their clients with parenting skills that will strengthen their relationship with God and their children; to provide guidance and encouragement to the families that have said yes to life! Early Childhood Education background is helpful but not necessary, curriculum provided. For more information please contact info@catherinefoundation.org.

CHESTERTON ACADEMY - Open House for Prospective Students & Parents

- Wednesday, November 17, 2021
- 6:30 PM 8:30 PM
- Come and discover Chesterton Academy of St. Mary's, an affordable high school in the Catholic tradition!
- Meet our faculty and students, and learn about our rigorous classical curriculum, Catholic identity, and environment of joyful comradery!
- Visit our website for more information and to RSVP: www.ChestertonStMarys.org

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. The giving link can be found on the lower half, on the right side of the home page of the website.

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. Add "Restore & Renew" to the memo line, but make the check out to the church.**

Collection Weekend Report **Weekend of November 6-7, 2021:** Offertory \$6,661; Votives \$8; All Saints Day \$367; TOTAL: \$7,036. Thank you for your continued support.

Please remember the following people in your daily prayers: Susan Schwab, Blake Oliver Burch, David Gardiner, Joann Plowman, Denise Edelen, Joyce Edelen, Buddy and Peggy Burch, Candice and Miles, Brenda Pilkerton, Sharon Reilly and the Reilly family, Lyn Gibson, Kelly LeSage, Judy LeSage, Peggy and family, Marie Jenkins, Gary Stumpf, Ruth Watson, Van Watson, Pat Kirkland, Eddie Fitzpatrick, Rose Langley, Francis Knott, 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 Oliff, Victims, families and survivors of abuse, The Sage family, Douglas Hamnes, Sharon Ryan, John Reese, Frankie Chiorcariello and family, Tim Moore, James Johnson, Victoria Liberty, Tamera Scroggins, James J. Nalley, Elaine Gaddis, Butch Hayden, Stacie Hayden

Why a Synod?

During the Second Vatican Council, Pope Paul VI established a process of holding Synods of bishops from around the world on a regular basis. The need of the Pope to consult with bishops became clear, then the need of bishops to consult their diocese became clear. Modern communications has made it more practical to interact with great groups of people. Jesus did not use a cell phone, but that does not mean we should not. Popes before the mid twentieth century could hardly imagine truly consulting with bishops of the world. That should not stop them.

Now under the rules of Paul VI, with regular synods meeting every 3-4 years, we seem either to be preparing for a synod or digesting the material and exhortation from the previous one. Pope Benedict handed on to his successor the obligation of reflecting on the Synod on Evangelization of 2012. Since then, there have been regular three year synods in 2015 and 2018 and the extraordinary Synod on the Family in 2014. There are regional Synods including the Pan-Amazon Synod of 2019. So it is time to begin preparations for the next one. The topic however is unique. A Synod on Synodality sounds a bit silly. Some the reactions prove how essential the topic is. Synods are not so much a new thing as an old thing, whose revival has not always made a difference to the Church. The laity, some priests and some bishops question the emphasis on consultation, though they often want to be heard.

We will be having one or more listening sessions this winter, as well as opportunities to offer reflections electronically. We will set the date for those gatherings at Chapel Point, but first the mandatory background on synods; and how we as the American Church have been great practitioners of synod.

In the historical circumstances of the early centuries, the church resorted to regional meetings composed of various representatives of the church to settle doctrinal questions, to develop consistent disciplinary policies, and just to know where the Spirit was moving. Prior to modern communication and travel, it would have been nearly impossible for local churches to seek and receive answers from a single authoritative source such as the Pope. In biblical times, St. Paul and St. Peter differed over whether gentiles would need to be circumcised and follow Jewish dietary laws in order to become Christians. Paul's resistance to Peter's insistence on ancient traditions, led to what we call the Council of Jerusalem; but truly an early regional synod. The church held Peter in high regard, but also recognized that he should have good information before holding fast to traditions in an all new circumstance.

So the Apostles and Presbyters met in Jerusalem. Having received a mystical experience, Peter urged the Council to end the burdens placed on gentiles. The first council refocused the ministry of the Church and encouraged a wave of gentile conversions. They knew both that they should respect the movement of the Spirit, and that they should present a united front to those who simply saw the church as another Jewish sect. Without that consultation, what would the church have become?

As soon as the major persecution of Christians ended and the church could gather safely, there were numerous synods or councils to address the two great questions of the day. Jesus was God and Man but what did we mean by that, how could that be true? Secondly, how should the Christian church deal with Christians who had surrendered to threats from civil authorities and offered sacrifices to the Roman gods. These questions was clearly larger than the authority of a single bishop and there was little consensus. Both discipline and doctrine often divided the local church into factions, which could only be bound together by a larger consensus.

Synods occurred all around the Mediterranean. Carthage became the home of repeated Synods in the fourth, fifth and sixth centuries. The Councils of Alexandria gathered all bishops of Egypt and Libya. Antioch and Alexandria were the centers of theological thought which engaged in lively debate settled at the Councils of Nicaea and Chalcedon in the Creed. Local and regional synods raised and debated questions that moved up to higher synods to be settled.

The churches of Africa gathered at Carthage in 252, while the churches of Asia Minor met in Antioch during 264. More synods or councils followed in Ancyra in 314, Arles in 314. If regional meetings of the church existed when there were good Roman Imperial roads, the crumbling of the empire, and the spread Christian churches demanded more not few synods. By the fourth century, the Metropolitan bishop of Nicaea was required to call bishops of the province together in two synods per year. Other regions such as Gaul, held periodic meetings in various cities in the fourth and fifth centuries. Synods of Rome were regional meetings but the Pope as Bishop of Rome sought to make their decisions effective beyond that one province.

By the ninth century, Cathedral chapters gathered the priests serving the bishop in his church for regular consultation. Other city priests known as canons increasingly lived a common life in collegiate chapters, to assist in governance through consultation. At the end of the first millennium, as the Pope exercised more power, so did archbishops within their metropolitan Sees.

As nation-states emerged there were national councils or Synods, which came to reflect divisions among nations. The Reformation in decentralizing the Protestant churches relied on Synods to oversee local churches. After initial attempts to counter the Reformation regionally, the Catholic Church turned to a definitive council at Trent. That Council, rather than forbidding local and regional synods, mandated them for each diocese every year. Local, regional and National Synods or councils continued to address local and cultural issues. Concordats or agreements between civil government and the church, allowed kings to limit and advise bishops within their territories. This tendency continued until the 1917 Universal code of Canon law.

For Americans, the Sacred Office of Propaganda has particular importance as a means gathering information and establishing local rules in the absence of a bishop. No Roman Catholic bishop would have dared to appear in the American colonies to consult with local Catholics, but the Sacred office communicated with priests especially those here in Maryland to help guide them in uncharted waters.

The first American History interpretation which stuck in my head, was that there had been a silent revolution before 1776. Americans being far from Europe and relying on common interests, developed an affinity for local participative decision making in counties. The same was at least as true for the Catholic Church in the English colonies. The Jesuits funded themselves through the manors and make pastoral decisions with their Jesuits confreres and superiors. Once the Pope dissolved the Jesuits in 1773, they simply re-formed themselves into the Select Body of Clergy and governed themselves, in the absence of Jesuit superiors and bishops but in consultations with The Sacred office. When Congress refused to provide the Vatican with a nominee as the first bishop of Baltimore, the Select Body of Clergy was consulted and nominated John Carroll. As soon as he was named, but before he was consecrated, he called a Diocesan Council to set certain rules for U.S. Catholics. In 1810, after he had consecrated three other bishops, they immediately met for two weeks to confer and ratify rules for American Catholics. That was the first of 10 Councils of the Diocese of Baltimore. Once there were other Archdioceses, they too gathered for councils or synods. The growing Catholic population and the rise of national tensions compelled the Provincial Council of Baltimore to ask for a Plenary Council representing all the diocese with their 100 bishops. The 3 Plenary Councils of Baltimore met in 1852, 1866 and 1884. Concern about a largely exaggerated fear of an Americanist heresy, brought an end to the Councils until the crisis of World War I. With the sanction of Cardinal Gibbons of Baltimore; the National Catholic War council met not to aid the War effort, but to hold the church together in that face of a rapidly changing national government and serve its members from many of the warring nations. After the War; the national bishops created a permanent body to speak for the bishops, which it could only do through consultation. That has evolved into the National Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Gathering priests and bishops for consultation is not new, refusing to do so would be new and very odd. So we will be gathering the Parish and the Archdiocese as part of a long tradition of gathering information in the Church. This should benefit those who reflect on their role in the Church and those who receive those reflections.

<https://adw.org/about-us/resources/synod/>