

St. Ignatius Church – Chapel Point

8855 Chapel Point Road, Port Tobacco, MD 20677

Sharing God's Word and Sacraments Since 1641

www.chapelpoint.org

Merry Christmas to All!



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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.



Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

December 26, 2021

“Put on, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved,
heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience,
bearing with one another and forgiving one another.”



MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, December 26 – 7:30 a.m. – Fr. Bill Rakowicz, S.J. +
Sunday, December 26 – 9:00 a.m. – Rose Moore (healing)
Sunday, December 26 – 11:15 a.m. – Fr. Sal Jordan, S.J. +
Tuesday, December 28 – 8:00 a.m. – Ray LeSage +
Thursday, December 30 – 8:00 a.m. – Agnes and Kirby Carpenter +

Christmas God Incarnate and so are we Being in the flesh means that we are always changing. We grow to physical and mental maturity. We plateau into regular productive work, sometimes the same, always changing. If we are ever changing, so too is Christmas. Yes, there are timeless church and family traditions. There are images impressed into our youthful minds, but just as we blend the nativity stories of Luke and Matthew, we have blended our past into a snapshot of Christmas, when it is really many overlapping videos.

My first Christmas in the Jesuits, it was wonderful to sing in a novice choir, blending voices with the Missionary Sisters of the Precious Blood up the road in Shillington. I still try to sing the base line for *Lo How a Rose E're Blooming*- probably no better that I did forty nine years ago. I even sang with the Midnight Mass choir at Fordham and then got up for the Mass at dawn. Each year piled on the ones before was different. Some of those memories are confirmed by early 8mm movies, others perhaps less accurate stand alone in memory. The constants were mostly food; my youngest brother keeps some of those alive by baking poppy seed and nutbread, with a side of walnut cookies. Places, people present, and interactions, were always a bit different.

Whether we want to or not, our accumulated historical experiences keep changing even as they stay the same. The same we hope is true of faith in the one whose birth we celebrate. If college students had the faith of three year olds ripping paper off presents, it would hardly be faith, or survive the jostling to adulthood. On the other hand, if young parents tried to explain the hypostatic union to toddlers, they would certainly fold before their children could share their awe and wonder at the Christ child. No human expression of the past or present can perfectly capture it or pass it on. In each new year, we encounter God afresh, whether we are paying attention or not, whether we understand it or not. St. Ignatius called us to “find God in all things.” The challenge is to find God, now not as nostalgic. Find God who chose to come into the world in this world now, and again tomorrow.

Masking We still have people who are concerned about returning to church, and some who if people were not wearing masks, would feel at risk. So I would ask you to please consider wearing masks for the safety and peace of mind of fellow parishioners. We will continue to have masks and hand sanitizer in the back of the church.

RESTORATION - Do you hear what I hear? Yes, things are about to happen with our church exterior restoration. It took a long time and a lot of effort to get all the ducks in a row, for a careful respectful restoration of an active building at the center of a community. It isn't just four intermeshed buildings, it is not just a meeting place, and it is not just a monument to the past, it is all of those things yet so much more as a spiritual home.

The first steps will seem a bit sudden and the last steps a bit slow, but that is part of the challenge of respecting the past and living in the present.

One might think that the stained glass windows might be later stage, but they will be first. The stained glass windows must be removed for restoration.

They are not being replaced nor merely repaired. Much of the original painted images especially on the north side have flaked and faded. Restoration requires artistic skill and time. The wood sashes will also be repaired and renewed. The clarity and coloration of the windows will be much improved. The south side windows were substantially altered in about 1943. Changes in those will be less notable. Soon after the windows go to the workshop, scaffolding will appear. The brick and mortar will be restored or repaired as needed. The woodwork will be cleaned, restored or replaced depending on its condition.

The church will be open for Masses and other services, with temporary window coverings. At this point, it would be impossible to give a complete time line, old buildings and weather have a way of altering plans. Now that we have an approved plan and contractors under contract, we will be able to provide timely updates.

Please see a financial report as of October 31, for the Capital Campaign that follows at the end of this bulletin.

FAITH FORMATION FULLY VIRTUAL at 10:00 AM Sunday, January 2nd, 2022. Be on the lookout for an email with a Zoom link!

CONFIRMATION PREP HYBRID IN-PERSON/VIRTUAL for your comfort level at 5:00 PM on January 2nd, 2022. Zoom link will be emailed.

DIFFERENT TIME! YOUTH GROUP IN-PERSON JANUARY SERVICE PROJECT for

SAFENIGHTS! We'll join together to help prepare lunches for SafeNights on Sunday, January 2nd at 3:30 PM. Be on the look-out for a Sign-Up Genius link to be emailed by the end of December. Contact Sarah MacMillan at ignatiusreligion@gmail.com or (301)885-7020 for more information.

BAPTISM PREP: Are you expecting, or have you had a child, and you are looking to formally welcome your child into the community of believers through the sacrament of baptism? Contact Sarah MacMillan at ignatiusreligion@gmail.com or (301)885-7020 to find out more information on how to get prepared for the sacrament.

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.

2022 St. Ignatius calendars, courtesy of Mike and Tina Raymond of Raymond Funeral Service are in the back of the church.

OUTREACH TO THE NEEDY

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

Safenights Helping the homeless of Charles County – We have an opportunity to help Sacred Heart, La Plata when they open their doors to the homeless the first two weeks of January 2022. Our youth will be making lunches for two of the days and our parish will be serving dinner at Sacred Heart on Thursday, January 13. We have been blessed with a donation of the meal for that evening. **The sign up sheet for a couple of more homemade, pre packaged desserts is in the back of the church, if you are able to help with this important ministry.** For questions, contact Brenda Canter in the parish office, stigoffice@yahoo.com or 301-934-8245 ext. 2.

Christmas Collection I would like to remind you that 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.

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 December 18-19, 2021:** Offertory \$3,925; Votives \$15; Flowers \$885; Christmas \$850; Sol. Of Mary \$10; Immaculate Conception \$5; TOTAL: \$5,690. Thank you for your continued support.

Please remember the following people in your daily prayers: Rose & Tim Moore, 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, James Johnson, Victoria Liberty, Tamera Scroggins, James J. Nalley, Elaine Gaddis, Butch Hayden, Stacie Hayden



RESTORE
&
RENEW

The Capital Campaign Committee is pleased to release our financial report as of October 31, 2021:

Restoration Funds collected prior to campaign	\$318,965.00
Pledges Made – Restore & Renew	\$582,605.18*
Cash Donations – Restore & Renew	\$246,575.24
Interest Received	\$ 691.98
Maryland Capital Grant	<u>\$250,000.00</u>
Total Campaign	\$1,398,837.40
Repairs of ceiling, basement, aisle floor	\$ 30,995.00
BECS – engineering, consultant fees	\$ 52,180.00
Printing, signage, ACH/Credit card fees	<u>\$ 3,737.81</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 86,912.81
Total Cash on Hand	\$884,433.20

*Most pledges are payable over three years. As of October 31, 2021, we have collected \$420,637.18

The contractor will begin removal of our stained-glass windows for restoration the first week of January. If you haven't already, please take a look at the deterioration of some of these windows so you can truly appreciate the amount of work that will be required to restore them to their former beauty.

With the recent approval of the project by the Maryland Historic Trust, the exterior restoration work will begin in January.