

# St. Ignatius Church – Chapel Point

8855 Chapel Point Road, Port Tobacco, MD 20677  
Sharing God's Word and Sacraments Since 1641  
[www.chapelpoint.org](http://www.chapelpoint.org)



Rev. Thomas F. Clifford, S.J. – Pastor  
[pastorchapelpoint@yahoo.com](mailto:pastorchapelpoint@yahoo.com)

Brenda Canter – Business Manager  
[stigoffice@yahoo.com](mailto:stigoffice@yahoo.com)  
Office Hours: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Monday- Friday

Emily Vara - Director of Religious Education  
Email: [ignatiusreligion@yahoo.com](mailto:ignatiusreligion@yahoo.com)

For all parish offices call: 301-934-8245

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

*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.

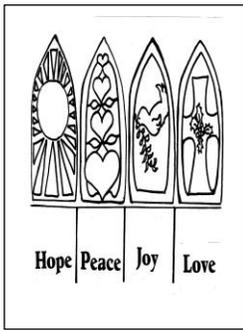
**Cemetery:** There are grave sites available for active parishioners in the new section at the base of the hill. Catholic Cemeteries of the Archdiocese of Washington administers the sale of lots and burial. Because we do not have an adequate endowment, the costs of maintenance come from general parish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

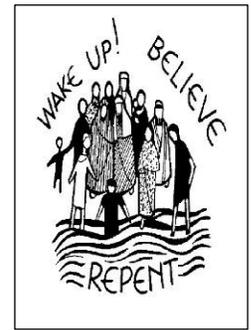
**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults:** If you would like to learn about becoming a Catholic, please contact the Religious Education Office. Classes begin at the end of the summer.



# First Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2019

"You also must be prepared,  
for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."



## MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, November 30 – 5:00 p.m. – April Sage (Happy Birthday!)

Sunday, December 1 – 11:15 a.m. – Marija Jankovic +

**Penitence and Advent** The liturgical color of advent is violet, just as it is in Lent. It is a penitential season. The idea of penance and fasting has been a bit confused because of its close association with making up for sins. We also practice penances and fasting; to focus our attention, to remove distractions, to free ourselves to enter into a mystery. Jesus fasted in the desert, John's disciples shared in his preparatory ministry by fasting. In Lent we are preparing for Good Friday and the Lord's suffering, in Advent, we prepare for the joyous event of Christ's birth. Penitential practices in Advent do not need to associate with sorrow, but with raising our hearts to God.

Three years ago, when we had today's reading from the Gospel according to Matthew, Pope Francis gave these reflections:

*The Word of God emphasizes the contrast between the normal unfolding of events, the everyday routine, and the unexpected coming of the Lord. Jesus says: "For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, and they did not know until the flood came and swept them all away" (vv. 38-39): so says Jesus. It always strikes a cord when we think about the hours which precede a great disaster: everyone is calm, and they go about their usual business without realizing that their lives are about to be turned upside down. Of course, the Gospel does not want to scare us, but to open our horizons to another, greater dimension, one which, on the one hand puts into perspective everyday things, while at the same time making them precious, crucial. The relationship with the God-who-comes-to-visit-us gives every gesture, every thing a different light, a substance, a symbolic value.*

*From this perspective there also comes an invitation to sobriety, to not be controlled by the things of this world, by material reality, but rather to govern them. If, by contrast, we allow ourselves to be influenced and overpowered by these things, we cannot perceive that there is something very important: our final encounter with the Lord: this is important. That encounter. And everyday matters must have this horizon, and must be directed to that horizon. This encounter with the Lord who comes for us. In that moment, as the Gospel says, "Then two men will be in the field; one is taken and one is left" (v. 40). It is an invitation to be vigilant, because in not knowing when he will come, we need to be ever ready to leave.*

*In this season of Advent, we are called to expand the horizons of our hearts, to be amazed by the life which presents itself each day with newness. In order to do this, we must learn to not depend on our own certainties, on our own established strategies, because the Lord comes at a time that we do not imagine. He comes to bring us into a more beautiful and grand dimension.*

**Please read this weekend's insert which contains an important letter from our Pastor, Fr. Tom Clifford.**

**Safenights Update** Our next planning meeting will be this Monday, December 2 at 7 p.m. in the parish hall. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact Brenda Canter, Host Site Coordinator, at 301-934-8245 ext. 2 or [stigoffice@yahoo.com](mailto:stigoffice@yahoo.com).

*'For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?' 'Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.' ~Matthew 25*

**The Annual Giving Tree** is up in the back of the church. We have adopted two families for Christmas; one is homeless, the second is a family of six children, a mother and father that are needy. We will also have tags on the tree for gift cards for the homeless who will be our guests during Christmas week. It's difficult for them to carry anything bigger than a gift card; so it's thought that's the best gift, if anyone feels led to give them something for Christmas. The tags will say "Safenights" on them. Please return your wrapped gift by December 15.

**Annual Coat Drive** Please donate new or CLEAN, gently used coats to our coat drive. We are also accepting new hats, gloves and scarves. There is a need for very large coats as well. A container is in the back of the church for donations.

**The Annual Charles County Holiday Trail** We will be participating in the Holiday Trail again this year. St. Thomas Manor will be decorated for Christmas with live greenery. Fr. Clifford and our docents will give tours of the church and Manor House. The dates and times are: Saturday, Dec. 7, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 8, 12:30 p.m. - 4 p.m. We will serve delicious home baked goods and refreshments. Fr. Clifford could use some help with docents and tours. Please contact him if you'd like to help. We could also use help with being a host or hostess in the Manor House Saturday and Sunday; to greet our guests and keep our refreshments nice for visitors. We could also use an experienced person to help decorate with live greens on Friday morning. A clipboard is on the back table for signing up to be a docent and serve as hosts/hostesses. We are waiting on more brochures about The Holiday Trail and other Charles County events being held this Christmas season.

**The Annual St. Ignatius Advent tea** will take place on Dec. 7 at 2 pm. Bring an appetizer or dessert. All lady parishioners and friends are invited for fellowship and fun. Make it part of your Holiday Trail visit. If you have any questions, contact Mary-Jo Kamin 301-392-3869.

**Religious Education:** We do not have class this Sunday, Dec 1. We do have class next Sunday, as well as the Christmas Babysitting event from 1-4PM. There is a box in the Hall for any SafeNights donations to be dropped off.

**Confirmation:** We do not have Confirmation class this Sunday, Dec 1. We do have class next weekend, Dec. 8, where your Saint papers and presentations are due. For service hours, please come help us watch the CCD kids from 1-4PM on Dec. 8. Also Dec 15, we will be caroling to the elderly and homebound from 1-4PM.

**Youth Group Meeting:** Our next Youth Group meeting will be December 15<sup>th</sup> where we will celebrate with our Christmas Party! Bring some cookies or snacks and join us for a night of Christmas trivia, games and fun! We are beginning to narrow down ideas for our summer trip so be on the lookout!

**Baptism Class:** Our next baptism class will be held in December. If you are interested in having your child baptized at our parish, please contact Emily Vara at [ignatiusreligion@yahoo.com](mailto:ignatiusreligion@yahoo.com)

**Office Hours:** The Religious Education Office will be open Mon-Thurs 9AM-3PM. Feel free to come in, call or email any time!

**The All Soul's Book of Remembrance** The Book will be kept on the altar during the month of November to remember All Souls.

**News about our a couple of former Pastors at St. Ignatius**

**Fr. Ed Dougherty** Fr. Dougherty had a fall in late October and broke his femur. He is doing well and is rehabilitating in Philadelphia, but it will take time until he's back at St. Josephs. If you'd like to send Fr. Dougherty a card; his address while in rehab is: Manresa Hall, 261 City Ave., Merion Station, PA 19066.

**Fr. Sal Jordan** After several health setbacks and rehabilitation in New York, Fr. Sal was moved to the Jesuit Community in Baltimore to reside. If anyone would like to send him a card, his address is Columbiere Jesuit Community, 5704 Roland Ave, Room 108, Baltimore, MD 21210.

**Gift Shop** will be open on Sunday after the 9 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Masses. The new 2019 Christmas ornaments are in! It depicts the painting behind the altar.

**Ignatian Weekend Retreats** January 3-5 (Men); January 10-12 (Men); January 24-26 (Men and Women); **Fee: \$245; \$195** for first time retreatants And young adults (Under 30). **Loyola Sainly Tea-** December 15, 2019; 3:00 to 5:00 pm **Fee: \$25; Loyola on the Potomac - A Jesuit Retreat House**, P.O. Box 99270 Loyola Retreat Rd., **Faulkner, MD 20632** [www.loyolaonthepotomac.com](http://www.loyolaonthepotomac.com) (301) 392-0819.

**Financial Report: Weekend of Nov. 23-24, 2019:** Offertory \$5,810; Renovation \$1,305; Votives \$14; Green env. \$45; TOTAL: \$7,174. Please double check the dates on your checks. The bank is sending back several every week. Thank you for your understanding.

**Please remember the following people in your daily prayers:** Mike Mandeville, Mercedes Vaira, Xavier Bean and family, Marian Melillo, Brian Thomason, Toni Gallagher, Bessie Farmer, Traci Renner, Bill Murphy and family, Bobby Terrett, John Abell, Tyler Sage, Dottie Gray, Ruth Watson, Pat Anderson, Rose Langley, Cliff Barnes, Skyla Shirriel, Steve and Joann Oliff, Antoine Watson, Victims families and survivors of abuse, Douglas Hammes, Sharon Ryan, The staff and residents of assisted living and nursing homes, John Reese, Frankie Chiorcariello and family, Tim Moore, James Johnson, Shirley Watson, Victoria Liberty, Tamera Scroggins, Becky Dement, James J. Nalley, Mr. Johnson, Theresa San Luis, Elaine Gaddis, Butch Hayden, Stacie Hayden.

