

# 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**  
CliffordT@adw.org

**Fr. Larry Smith, S.J. – Senior Priest**  
lsmith@jesuits.org

**Brenda Canter – Business Manager**  
stigoffice@yahoo.com

**Coordinator of Religious Education,  
Sarah MacMillan**  
ignatiusreligion@gmail.com

**For all parish offices call: 301-934-8245**

Archbishop Neale School  
**Teresa Skinner - Principal**  
301-934-9595

## The Eucharist

**Saturday Evening: 5:00 p.m.**

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

**Sunday 9:00 a.m.: Children's Liturgy of the Word**

**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 registered, active and contributing parishioners at the bottom 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 at ignatiusreligion@gmail.com. Classes begin at the end of the summer.



## The Octave of Christmas Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God

January 1, 2023



**"The LORD bless you and keep you! The LORD let his face shine upon you,  
and be gracious to you! The LORD look upon you kindly and give you peace!"**

**New Year 2023** - **Mother of Jesus, Mother of God** the New Year begins on a Sunday, that also means that the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God falls on a Sunday. In the popular mind the closeness in time links the two. But the way they are celebrated is usually far apart. While we think of Church and family gatherings on Christmas; New Year, even for those who observe the "Solemnity of", is primarily associated with parties from the small and intimate to huge gatherings in public places to wait for the moment which signals the "new" year. Many people watch the celebrations around the world as each longitude rolls to January 1. Many people watch the fireworks in Sydney harbor to kick off hours of anticipation. Sydney is 16 time zones ahead of the U.S. east coast.

People commit in a loose way to New Year's resolutions, promising themselves to correct bad habits and begin good ones. Unlike Lenten resolutions which tend toward one's spiritual health, New Year tends to relate to our attractiveness to others.

The reason for the title Mary, Mother of God, actually blends the human and divine in a wonderful way. There were those in the early church who did not accept the unity in one person of God and man. They saw that Jesus would have to be born of a woman but they thought more that the human Jesus was a vessel holding the Divine Son of God and therefore believed that Mary was the bearer of the "anointed one" who was human, not the Son of God who was divine. So Mary's title follows from an insistence that two natures human and divine were unified in the one person Jesus. Saying that Mary was the Mother of God makes that point. It also makes the point that our salvation comes from a perfect unity of God and humanity.

To follow Christ, we ourselves must combine our faith in God and our living in the world into one person-ourselves. As we begin this New Year, we ought to think about how we can better connect our faith and our actions.

That unity of spirit and nature is always important, it is even more so now. Nearly three years ago our life habits changed a lot. We stopped gathering a groups, we even avoided going to church for a few months. We developed different patterns of using our time and connecting to one another and to God.

While there are clearly still some health risk inside our shared spaces, we need to recommit to a shared life. When I became pastor ten years ago on January 1, I was presented with wonderful groups of people who took care of many things, assisting with funerals as Aramatheans, preparing and serving repasts after parish funerals, decorating the church on all occasions, taking the Eucharist to people in nursing homes and the hospital. Many of those wonderful people were retired and in their mid-sixties to mid-seventies. Some of those have passed away and other, like me, feel the need to be active, but know that others need to join us to carry on the important ministries of the parish. This year again, we were able to have music provided by parishioners at all 5 of the Christmas masses, which meant there were some who ministered at more than one mass.

The Blessed Mother gave birth to Jesus as God and human. We have all been given birth to carry the Spirit of God in our mortal human selves. This is the time when we might see how we can bring the Divine into our lives. This New Year as a parish, we need to see how we might celebrate shared unity in our parish and its ministries, by welcoming more of the parish of all ages into each of our shared works and ministries.

**2023 St. Ignatius Calendars** are held up at the printer. We are told they will be here in January. Stay tuned.

**Safenights** Please drop off your homemade desserts Thursday morning, January 12 to the parish hall. If you were called to help that evening to serve and clean up, please arrive at 5:45 p.m. to the Friendship Room at Sacred Heart.

**YOUTH SERVICE OPPORTUNITY** for SafeNights. Be on the lookout for an email from Sarah MacMillan with opportunities to help us make lunches for SafeNights. There will be a Sign-Up Genius sent out to all Faith Formation for food to be dropped off by January 11th.

**JANUARY 12th** at 4:00 PM Youth Group will make lunches in Parish Hall Kitchen for Safe Nights. Contact Sarah MacMillan at [ignatiusreligion@gmail.com](mailto:ignatiusreligion@gmail.com) or (301)885-7020 with any questions.

**NO FAITH FORMATION OR CONFIRMATION PREP CLASS** until January 8th! Have a blessed Christmas and happy New Year!

**INQUIRY COURSE** on the Church (RCIA) meets on THURSDAYS at 6:30 PM in the Parish Hall Religious Education Office. Do you know someone who wants to learn about our faith? Are you wanting to learn more about your faith? Contact Sarah MacMillan at [ignatiusreligion@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:ignatiusreligion@gmail.com) or (301)885-7020 to find out more information on how to get prepared for the sacrament.

**Looking ahead**...if you are planning on receiving the sacrament of holy Matrimony, we will be offering a Pre-Cana Marriage retreat here on March 4th, 2023 8:00 AM-4:30 PM. Both future spouses must attend. Please contact Sarah MacMillan at [ignatiusreligion@gmail.com](mailto:ignatiusreligion@gmail.com) or call (301)885-7020 to register or find out more.

**Gift Shop** Thanks to Stessy Jones, who created a replica of the "Immaculate Heart of Mary" window for our 2022 ornament. Her elves got busy and within four days produced 50 ornaments in time for Christmas. If you were unable to get an ornament on December 18<sup>th</sup>, the gift shop will be open Sunday, January 8, 2023 after the 9 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Masses. The gift shop will close for the winter months but will be glad to place special orders during that time. Leave a request in the collection basket marked gift shop, included your name and phone number. Thanks for your support throughout the years.

**Coat Drive** We are collecting **CLEAN, GENTLY USED**, hats, coats and gloves to be donated to the needy. **Just coats please.** Please be sure they're **CLEAN** before donating. The container is in the back of the church.

**Christmas Collection this year** The Christmas collection is traditionally exempt from the archdiocesan tax. This year, since Christmas falls on a Sunday, it is in effect a Sunday collection and a Christmas collection. We take the average collection and pay the tax on that, the rest belongs completely to the parish. Please be generous, on-line, in person and by mail.

**Collection Report for Weekend of December 24-25, 2022:** Christmas/Offertory \$15,306; Votives \$36; Christmas flowers \$95; Retired Religious \$10; Restore/Renew \$500; TOTAL: \$16,047. Thank you for your generous support to the parish and its ministries.

**Please remember the following people in your daily prayers:** James Johnson, Jim Dunbar and family, Jimmie Roberts, Chuck Gould, Abby Shlagel, Jim Abell, WhitneyHart, Dina Delozier, Carrie Tucker, Evelyn Jackson, Tess Franch, David Braunstein, Raymond L. Zuknick, Sr., Butch Hayden, Rose Langley, Zayden and Laurie and family, Mary Margaret Clarke, Michelle Goldsmith, Roy Maier, Tim Moore, Denise Edelen, Buddy Burch, Candice and Miles, Marie Jenkins, Ruth Watson, Van Watson, Pat Kirkland, Eddie Fitzpatrick, Francis Knott, The staff and residents of assisted living and nursing homes, Amelia Zito, Karen Muhlenkamp, Peter Dahl, Elizabeth McCarthy, Alice Pickett, Dorothy Simms, Antoine Watson, Vickie & Greg Pickeral, David A. Proctor, Irene Proctor, Mary Jane Zuknick, Toni Gallagher, Bessie Farmer, John Abell, Pat Anderson, Steve Oliff, Victims, families and survivors of abuse

