

17 July 2022



Confessions

Saturday 9-9:45 am

in the chapel (in the church on 1st Saturdays)

3:30-4:15 pm

in the church

Tuesday 6:30-7:30 pm

in the church

Masses

Saturday 4:30 pm [anticipated] Sunday 8 am, 9:30 am, 11 am

Daily Mass in the chapel
Monday-Friday at 9 am
Saturday at 10 am
(First Saturdays in the church)

Holy Hours

confessions & eucharistic adoration in the church

Tuesday 6:30-7:30 pm First Saturday 9 am (followed by Mass at 10 am)

2315 Brinkley Road • Fort Washington, MD 20744

CHOOSING THE BETTER PART

...In the scene from today's Gospel, Jesus reveals the answer in his interaction with the two sisters in Bethany. Martha and Mary welcome Jesus to their home, but they seek to welcome him in two different ways. Martha seeks to please the Lord by doing various things for him. The Gospel doesn't specify what she was doing, but anyone who has hosted a guest knows the types of things that would have characterized her hospitality. She would have been finishing up whatever cleaning might be done, setting up the place to eat, and doubtless preparing a meal.

Yet when Martha similarly spares no effort to welcome God-incarnate with loving attention to detail, and solicits Jesus' authoritative help in persuading her sister Mary to do her fair share of the preparations, Martha receives what at first glance seems to be a mild rebuke.

What Jesus was not saying here was that Martha's efforts were somehow evil or not appreciated....Jesus was clearly not castigating Martha for that service. What he was saying to her, however, was that none of those efforts was, strictly speaking, essential. Therefore there was no reason to get worked about them. There was something more important, something that Mary, who had chosen the "better part," realized and that Martha didn't.

Here's what Mary recognized: Jesus had come to their home not to be fed, but to feed. The welcome he sought most was their time, their friendship, their love, their open ears and open hearts. Mary understood this and sat at Jesus' feet listening to him as if nothing in the rest of the world really mattered - because, in fact, Jesus implies, nothing in the rest of the world really does matter anywhere near as much as that.

Jesus once said in a parable, "The kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it." Jesus was for Mary that pearl of great price more valuable than everything else put together.

...We're called to imitate Mary in choosing the better part and truly allowing Jesus to feed us as he desires to do. It's not enough for us to know what our priority should be. We also have to choose it. It's not enough just to know where the treasure is buried, we need to make the choice to sell off other things that own us so that we can buy the field. That means reorienting our life to make Jesus truly its center.

One of the most common problems facing many even faithful Catholics today, and preventing their spiritual growth, is that they put many things ahead of God, on Sunday, on Monday and throughout the week. I like to call this mixed up set of priorities the "Jesus is an important part of my life" syndrome. They try to squeeze Jesus into their schedule if they still have room and are not exhausted after having completed all the other activities they believe they "have to" do, whereas what we're supposed to be doing is making God truly the God of our life, giving him first place, and then centering all the rest we do around our relationship with him.

Those who center their life around Jesus will have a totally different attitude toward Eucharistic adoration, to daily Mass, and to adult education opportunities where Jesus seeks to feed us than those who are just trying to fit him in, as if Jesus is just one more important person or duty in a long series. To choose Jesus as the best part of all was Mary of Bethany's great wisdom and we will be wiser the more we imitate her.

From a homily given on 7 October 2014 by Fr. Roger Landry. Fr. Landry is a priest of the Diocese of Fall River, MA and national chaplain of Catholic Voices USA and the Thomas Merton Institute, as well as giving weekly homilies on the Gospel for the popular podcast Conversations with Consequences of the Catholic Association, which airs on EWTN radio.

The acts of charity you do not perform are the injustices that you commit.

—St. Basil the Great

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS All who are suffering or sick and all caregivers who minister to the sick:

Theresa Koshut, Jackie Windsor, Jack Figel, Sonya Estrada, Dave Hoppe, Barbara Manning; Andy, Paula, and Marian Luther; Jackie Chancio, Carollyn Grimm, Mark Mangione, Richard Thompson, Barbara Jo Russell, Marie Norment, Harold Joyce, Levi Harris, Joanne Newsom, Anne Marie Whittaker, Greg and Felicia Yohe, Joe Coleman, John Hogan, Danny Hart, Amy Howard, Mary Morehead and family, Curtis Bailey, Leondre Massey, Sister Constance Ward, Mark Anthony Turner, Rachel Fisher, Patricia Ransom, Beverly A. Woods, Kerianna Prather, Domingo G., M.M., R.M., K.M., C.M., C.A., E.D., E.G., W.B., and J.M., H.G., and J.G.

Please call or email the office to add a name to the prayer list. Before calling, please be sure you have spoken to the person [or a member of his family] about adding the name—we do not want to inadvertently disregard someone's desire for privacy.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUMMER SCHEDULE FOR TUESDAY HOLY HOURS

Our Tuesday Holy Hours will only be held on the third Tuesdays in July and August [July 19th and August 16th]. Confessions will be heard every Tuesday this summer from 6:30 to 7 pm in the chapel.

The regular Tuesday schedule resumes in September.

THE PATRONAL FEAST OF ST. IGNATIUS is on Sunday, July 31st. We will be having a parish potluck and ice cream social to celebrate this great feast for our parish. Mark your calendar and pull out your casserole dish. We ask all parishioners to bring a main course or side dish to share. The parish will be providing the ice cream and fixings. The festivities start at 12:30 pm, following the 11 am Mass.

ST. IGNATIUS IS IN NEED OF LECTORS for the Saturday/Sunday 4:30pm, 8:00am and 9:30am masses. If you are interested in this ministry, please call Fr. Vidal at 301 567-9570 or Connie Somerville at 301 248-7111. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated.

A SODALITY OF ST. MONICA is forming here in the parish. Do you have family members and friends who have left the practice of their faith, or who have never found a home in Christ's Church? Join the Sodality in prayer!

Prayer cards are available in the narthex for daily petition, and the Rosary will be offered for this intention at the 1st Saturday Holy Hours. For more information, contact Rosemary Coller at russ.coller@gmail.com.

GOOD CITIZENSHIP requires information to make good choices. The Maryland Catholic Conference has a webpage with resources from finding out your district to learning the positions of candidates on various issues. Visit **mdcatholic.org/elections** for help with your voting decisions.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, 16 July

Anticipated Mass for the Fifth Sunday after Trinity 4:30 pm pro populo

Sunday, 17 July

The Fifth Sunday after Trinity
8 am in thanksgiving for the overturning of Roe v. Wade
9:30 am Karoly Szekrenyessy +
11 am Lorraine Wright

Monday, 18 July

Camillus de Lellis, Priest

9 am living and deceased friends of the Madan-Casas family

Tuesday, 19 July

Feria

9 am Joanne C. Wallace +

Wednesday, 20 July

Apollinaris, Bishop and Martyr 9 am Edward Amorosi +

Thursday, 21 July

Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest and Doctor of the Church 9 am Lorraine Wright

Friday, 22 July

Mary Magdalene

9 am Edward Guinivan

Saturday, 23 July

Bridget of Sweden, Religious

10 am living and deceased benefactors of the Madan-Casas family

Anticipated Mass for the Sixth Sunday after Trinity

4:30 pm pro populo

Sunday, 24 July

The Sixth Sunday after Trinity
8 am in thanksgiving for Fr. Catania
9:30 am Brian Smith + [anniversary commemoration]
11 am Corazon Bilgera +

St. Ignatius Finance Council

Jackie Chancio ◆ George Hendrix Joseph Somerville ◆ Clifford Woods

> office@saint-ig.org SAINT-IG.ORG 301-567-4740



Rev. John Vidal, pastor Rev. Jason Catania, parochial vicar Rev. David Ousley, assisting priest

Joint Pastoral Council

Joseph Chancio • Rosemary Coller
Michael Taylor • James Guinivan
Ada Okafor • Elizabeth Shivone
Cesar Andaya • Connie Somerville
Patrick Delaney - ex officio
Susan White - ex officio

St. Luke's Finance Council

Patrick Delaney *Co-chair* ◆ Dave Hoppe David Lewis ◆ Franco Madan

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