

St. Ignatius of Loyola

*Established 1859
Hilltop, Maryland*



St. Catherine of Alexandria

*Established 1911
Port Tobacco, Maryland*



December 20 ~ Fourth Sunday of Advent

During COVID-19, the Mass schedule is as follows:

SUNDAY MASS

St. Catherine Sat 4:00pm
St. Catherine Sun 10:30am
St. Ignatius Sun 8:30am

CONFESSIONS

St. Catherine Sat 3:00-3:45pm
St. Ignatius Sun 7:45-8:15am
St. Catherine Thu 5:30-6:15pm

DAILY MASS

St. Catherine Mon-Tue-Thu-Fri 6:30pm

ADORATION

St. Catherine Mon-Tue-Thu-Fri 5:30-6:30pm

OFFICE & STAFF

St. Catherine / St. Ignatius
7640 Port Tobacco Rd.
Port Tobacco, MD 20677

Website: www.stcsti.org

Phone: 301-934-9630

Flocknote: Text "ROUTE6" to 84576

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St. John Paul II

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Catholic Counselor

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Francis Rodriguez	Ignatius Cooper	Michael DeLane
Amanda Gushura	Kelly Welch	Dawn Walters
David Price	John Shifflett	Brenda Greer
Mary Ann Skinger	Avery Sandiford	Raymond
Polly Butler	Bobby Vermillion	DiGiovanni
Delores Jamieson	Marcus Elam	Hailey Sellers
Alicia Brady	Robert Ansell	Linda D. Welch
Sam Gray	Robin Proctor	Vincent Jamieson
Leon Higgs	Sarah Smith	Clarke Hettel
Mike Hancock	Daniel Jameson	Jean Ambrose
Joe Cooper	Sissy Cooper	DeAngelo Ball
Marie Boteler	Craig Doshen	Carina Gibbs
Marcella Palmer	Irene Proctor	Kayla Kiley
Hank Galotta	Aubrey Proctor	Xenia Hernandez
Ramona Dobry	Jean Carter	Logan Willey

Please keep in your prayers those with long term illnesses and their caregivers. To have names added to or removed from the prayer list or if you need a priest at the hospital, nursing home or assisted living facility, call (301) 934-9630. Please leave your name, phone number, person's name, facility and room number.

Sacrificial Giving

Weekend of December 6, 2020

St. Catherine
Offertory: \$2,791

St. Ignatius
Offertory: \$1,355

Thank you for your support of our church and ministries!

Clothing Shed



The Clothing Shed for the Knights of Columbus is reopened. If you have any clothes you want to give away, please consider putting them in a bag into the storage shed outside the St. Catherine's Meeting Hall.

Mass Intentions and Readings

Saturday, December 19- Vigil – Fourth Sunday

In Advent

4:00pm People of the Community

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 16 Rom 16:25-27 Lk 1:26-38

Sunday December 20 – Fourth Sunday in

Advent

8:30am Repose of the soul of Deacon Raymond

L. Chaput

10:30am Robert Dobry Sr.

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 16 Rom 16:25-27 Lk 1:26-38

Monday December 21- Late Advent Weekday

6:30pm Catherine Bona Collins

Sg 2:8-14 Lk 1:39-45

Tuesday December 22 – Late Advent Weekday

6:30pm Thelma and Claude Houck

1 Sm 1:24-28 Lk 1: 46-56

Wednesday December 23 – Late Advent

Weekday

No Mass at St. Catherine's

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24 Lk 1:57-66

Thursday December 24 – Late Advent Weekday

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 Lk 1:67-79

Friday December 25 - The Nativity of the Lord

10:00am People of the Community

Is 52:7-10 Heb 1:1-6 Jn 1:1-18

Offertory Envelopes



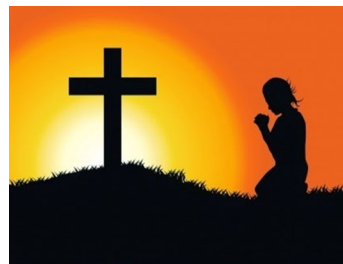
We have arranged with Our Sunday Visitor to mail your weekly offering envelopes to your home. You will receive two months of envelopes at a time. Your first set of envelopes (for January and February) will arrive in late December. Likewise in late February, you will receive March and April and etc. You will no longer need to pick up your envelopes at church or the Rectory.

Should your address change, it is important to let the Rectory know so we can forward your envelopes to your new address.

Prayer for Beginners

Our Christmas gift to you is *Prayer for Beginners*. by Peter Kreeft.

- Be sure to pick up your copy on Christmas.
- We will discuss together during Lent.



2021 Calendars

Please take a 2021 Calendar. They are full of beautiful religious art!

Many thanks to Arehart-Echols Funeral Home for providing these calendars to our parishes.



From Fr. Q's Desk

This weekend our Adult Faith Formation wraps up a fascinating series of classes on the book *Why We're Catholic* by Trent Horn. We've had some interesting chapters to discuss:

- Why We Believe in Science
- Why We Aren't Bible-Only Christians
- Why We Have Priests
- Why We Believe in Spite of Scandal
- Why We Defend Marriage

Trent Horn has a gift for boiling things down to their essentials—each topic was covered in about five pages, using simple explanations and examples. The book was such a success that a number of our students—myself included—picked up an extra copy to give to a friend.

[Incidentally, we have a number of extra copies of the book which I'll leave at the churches. You are welcome to take one home and read it for yourself... or give it to a friend and see where the conversation takes you!]

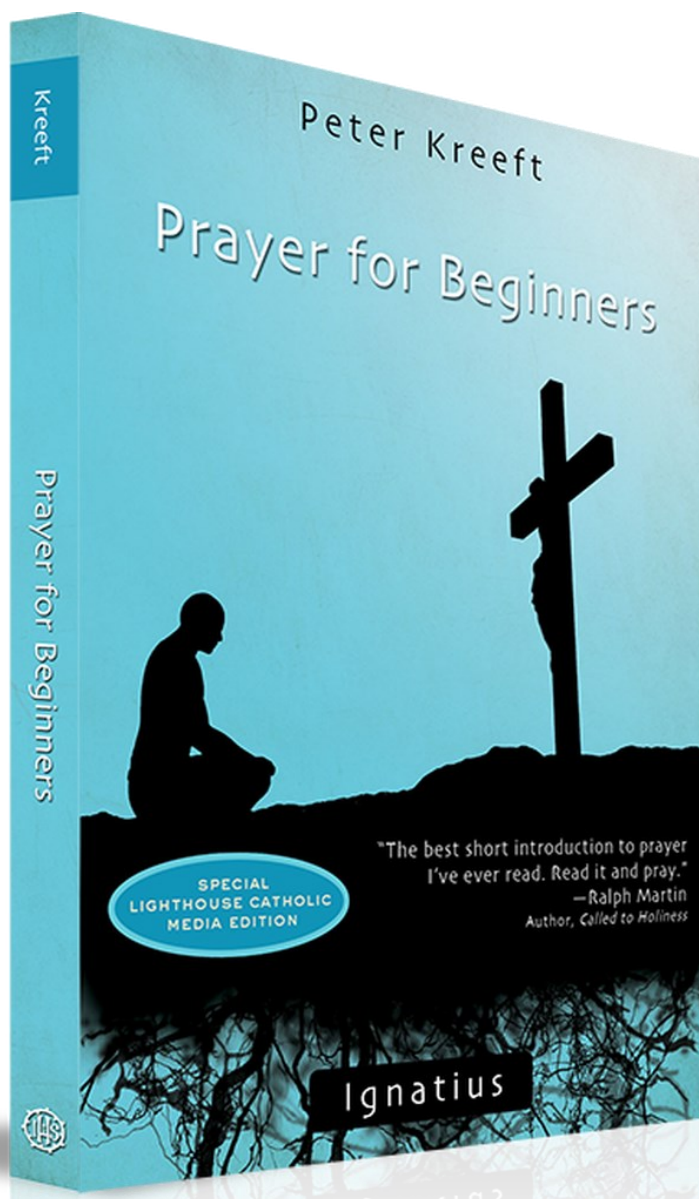
As you know, ongoing study is an important component of our Catholic faith. Unfortunate-

ly, it seems like for a lot of Catholics, their knowledge about the faith stopped with their last CCD class in 8th grade. That's a shame; we have such a rich, deep and intellectually satisfying faith that you could never exhaust it all. And with modern technology, there are so many options for continued learning about our faith:

- **Subscribe to a Catholic podcast** like "Catholic Stuff You Should Know", or "The Liturgy Guys"
- **Listen to an audiobook on FORMED**, our free media service [look for signup info on the last page of this bulletin!]
- Curl up by the fireplace this winter with a **good biography** of your favorite saint
- Watch **Bishop Barron's** stimulating videos on Youtube

Our next book for our Adult Faith Formation will be Peter Kreeft's *Prayer for Beginners*. We all know we should pray, but it's hard making the time and effort on a consistent basis, and harder to know if we're doing it "right"!

But as Catholics we are blessed with so many avenues to prayer, and this book will introduce us to some of them. This book will be our parish's Christmas present to you, and we'll discuss it during the Saturdays of Lent. Please join us for our next great adventure in growing in our faith as adults. See you there!



ST. CATHERINE CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES



The St. Catherine 4:00pm Christmas Eve Mass is sold out and there are limited tickets left for the 10:00pm Mass. We are asking parishioners to reserve your tickets soon. **You must have a ticket to attend these Masses. There will be no Stand By at the church at the time of the Mass.** Please call the Rectory to pick up your ticket(s) for either Mass

We have a waiting list, so if you do not think you will use your ticket, kindly return it to the Rectory.

The 7:00pm Christmas Eve Mass at St. Ignatius and the 10:00am Christmas Day Mass at St. Catherine's will not require tickets—"first come, first served".

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

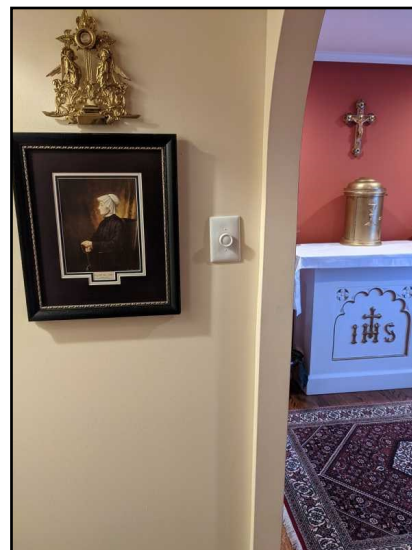
Dec. 24 - 4:00pm St. Catherine – tickets required
Dec. 24 - 7:00pm St. Ignatius Hilltop
Dec. 24 - 10:00pm St. Catherine – tickets required
Dec. 25 - 10:00am St. Catherine

A Grateful Plate

Thank you to all who helped with the success of A Grateful Plate in December. For our community, 103 dinners were prepared and picked up. A great team effort by all!



Do you want to make a Christmas Gift to the Rectory?



People always wonder what to get a priest for Christmas. (I do too!) I've been wanting some icons for our rectory chapel to make my life -- and that of future pastors -- still better! I spend a lot of time in that chapel... mostly praying for you all. ;) You can give any amount you want in increments of \$25, by check or card. Best of all, since this is a gift to the parish rectory, your contribution is tax-deductible, and we will note it on your year-end statement. Thank you for your generosity! –Fr. Q

See our parish website or visit:

<https://www.plumfund.com/charity-fundraising/chapel-icons-2020>

Catechism of the Catholic Church

The Liturgy - Work Of The Holy Trinity

I. The Father-Source and Goal of the Liturgy

1081 The divine blessings were made manifest in astonishing and saving events: the birth of Isaac, the escape from Egypt (Passover and Exodus), the gift of the promised land, the election of David, the presence of God in the Temple, the purifying exile, and return of a "small remnant." the Law, the Prophets, and the Psalms, interwoven in the liturgy of the Chosen People, recall these divine blessings and at the same time respond to them with blessings of praise and thanksgiving.

1082 In the Church's liturgy the divine blessing is fully revealed and communicated. the Father is acknowledged and adored as the source and the end of all the blessings of creation and salvation. In his Word who became incarnate, died, and rose for us, he fills us with his blessings. Through his Word, he pours into our hearts the Gift that contains all gifts, the Holy Spirit.

1083 The dual dimension of the Christian liturgy as a response of faith and love to the spiritual blessings the Father bestows on us is thus evident. On the one hand, the Church, united with her Lord and "in the Holy Spirit," blesses the Father "for his inexpressible gift in her adoration, praise, and thanksgiving. On the other hand, until the consummation of God's plan, the Church never ceases to present to the Father the offering of his own gifts and to beg him to send the Holy Spirit upon that offering, upon herself, upon the faithful, and upon the whole world, so that through communion in the death and resurrection of Christ the Priest, and by the power of the Spirit, these divine blessings will bring forth the fruits of life "to the praise of his glorious grace."

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God in your Everyday Moments

The Journey

Advent comes along every year and will continue to do so until Jesus returns. As this season draws to a close, we can each ask ourselves, "Am I now any better a disciple of Jesus Christ and more of a steward of all my gifts than before the Advent season started?" I have been on this earth for 40+ years. I have had 40+ Advents to draw closer to God and to work on taking more seriously my baptismal call. Some have gone better than others, but I would like to think my spiritual life progressed at least a small amount during each of them.

Conversion is a process. Stewardship is about a way of living and it is about more than simply being generous when a situation calls for it. Stewardship and conversion go hand-in-hand and we are always moving closer to holiness in Jesus Christ. Living in this way takes practice and commitment. If this Advent didn't go as you had hoped, remember is not really an end. It is just another step along your journey.

This Christmas, while you are giving and receiving gifts and hopefully spending time with those you love, may you take the time to cherish the true gift that came to us over 2000 years ago and continues to call us to this day: Jesus. Let us be grateful beyond measure for this gift above all gifts, let us continue on our journey, and let our lives give testimony to the one who leads us.

– Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 20, 2020

Visit [FORMED.org](https://www.formed.org) with a web browser

- Click on Register (lower right of page)
- Enter Parish Access Code: **84PVM3**
- Enter your email and create a password

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD



READ: *Mary: God's Yes to Man (Redemptoris Mater)* by Saint Pope John Paul II

Pope John Paul II's only encyclical on our Blessed Mother, with introduction by the Cardinal Prefect of the congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, and commentary by one of the world's leading Catholic theologians, Hans Urs von Balthasar. The Church's supreme magisterium and representative of the Church's most penetrating theological reflection combine to provide for all the faithful a rich and concise compendium of the Mother of the Redeemer.

The development of traditional Marian dogma in the light of the present day bears the Pope's unmistakable personal stamp. The three parts of the encyclical ("Mary in the Mystery of Christ", "The Mother of God in the Midst of the Pilgrim Church" and "Motherly Mediation") draw predominantly from two sources: Sacred Scripture and the central documents of the Second Vatican Council. There is a particular emphasis on ecumenism. What binds all Christians to Mary becomes ever clearer: she is the model of their faith.

"Preparing for the advent of the year 2000, the great memorial of Christ's birth, is a fundamental concern of the encyclical. In the liturgy, Advent is a Marian time: the time when Mary made room in her womb for the Savior of the world and bore within her humanity's hope and expectation. Celebrating Advent means becoming Marian, imitating Mary's unconditional Yes which is ever anew the place of God's birth, the 'fullness of time'"
— Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger

The **nativity of Jesus** is described in the Biblical gospels of Luke and Matthew. The two accounts agree that Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, his mother Mary was betrothed to a man named Joseph, who was descended from King David and was not his biological father, and that his birth was caused by divine intervention.

The nativity is the basis for the Christian holiday of Christmas on December 25, and plays a major role in the Christian liturgical year. Many Christians traditionally display small manger scenes depicting the nativity in their homes, or attend Nativity Plays or Christmas pageants focusing on the nativity cycle in the Bible. Elaborate nativity displays called "creche scenes", featuring life-sized statues, are a tradition in many continental European countries during the Christmas season.

KIDS CORNER

GROWING WITH THE *Gospel* CYCLE B



COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



4th Sunday of Advent • Luke 1:26-38