

WELCOME TO
St. Cecilia Church
December 20, 2020
Fourth Sunday of Advent



About Our Church

St. Cecilia Roman Catholic Church is located in St. Mary's City, MD.

Our Pastor is Father Scott Woods

The Assistants are Deacon Tony Sweeney & Deacon Mark Kijesky

CONTACT INFORMATION

Address: 47950 Mattapany Road, P.O. Box 429, St. Mary's City, MD 20686

Phone: (301) 862-4600

E-mail: stcecilia@md.metrocast.net

Social Media: [St. Cecilia Website](#) & [St. Cecilia Facebook Page](#)

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday from 8:30am – 12:00pm

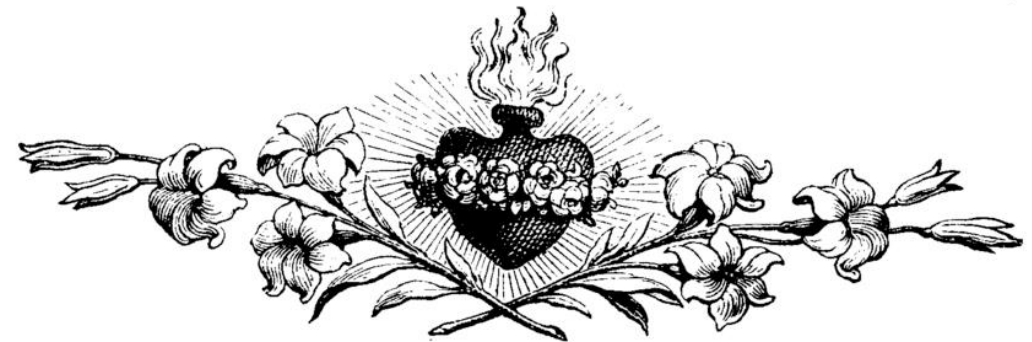
The office will be closed on Thursdays, Holy Days and Federal Holidays.

Other Contact information

St. Peter Claver: 301-872-5460

St. Michael Church: 301-872-4321

Catholic Cemeteries: 301-475-5005 or 301-932-1766



Prayer Intentions

Please remember all who have asked for our prayers: Gerald Adkinson, Virginia Alice, Bradley Anderson and Ernie, Kristin Austin, Judy and Jim Ballantine, Ivan Barnes, Joyce Bean, Dorothy Berry, Leon Briscoe, Cathy Bush, Carla and Adam, Annie Carroll, Ted Carroll, Francis Carroll, Robert Carter, Steven Carter, Sr. Colleen Clair, Nancy Cotter, Debi Clark, Joey Cosgrove, Jack Cullison, Celia DeVoe, Erica Dingle, Ed Dishman, Norman Fenwick, Eileen Garvey, Mary Glynn, Mary Jean Goldsborough, Mary Gorman, Hannah Gravelle, Mary Jane Hall, Jeff Harris Family, Baby Hancock, James Hensley, Larry Hobbs, Sonny Hunt, John Jovan, Bambi Kwiatkoski, Lynn, John Lolli, Adam Lumpkins, Helen Lococo, Shirley D. Major, George Matthew, Dennis MacQuilliam, Bill Morris, James Morris, Michelle Nelson, Cecilia Plymale, Eileen Peterson, Angie Prucha, Bill Rayle, Don Robinson, Frances Reddix, Clarence Rose, Ellen Rose, Jacob Remis, ZaNiya G. Rice, Joel Rivera, Kimberly Sariago, Tiny Taylor, John F. Thompson, Susan Windburn, William Woodland, Lisa, Donna Burriss, Elaine McNeil, Tara Sewell, Doris Rose Yates, James Young, Eva Butler, Francis Birch, Evan Beck, Michael Hammett Jr., Andrew Farrand, Joe Dziewit,. We thank God for the many people He has healed, bodies, minds, *and* souls.

Mass Intentions for December 19 – 25

Saturday 4:30 PM For the intentions of our parishioners
Sunday 8:00 AM For the peaceful repose of the soul of Mr. Krall
Monday 7:30 AM For the intentions of Andrew Pasqualle
Tuesday 7:30 AM For the intentions of Elizabeth & John Dochod
Wednesday 7:30 AM For the peaceful repose of the soul of Fran Owens
Thursday 7:30 AM For the intentions of the Orlowski Family
Friday 7:30 AM For the intentions of our parishioners
Saturday 8:00 AM Mass at St. Peter Claver

Announcements & Events

- There will be a second collection for the Maintenance Fund on the weekend of December 26 & 27. There will also be a collection for Christmas on December 24 & 25.
- **The church office will be closed** for Christmas and New Year from December 23 until January 4. Please know that we will still be answering voicemails and emails during that time if you need anything! The staff at St. Cecilia's wishes you all Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
- **Make a difference.** "Every dollar makes a difference in covering our expenses," says a Trappist abbot. Hundreds of US religious communities struggle to provide for aging members because most senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for little pay. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps these communities bridge the gap, offering support for medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please be generous.
- **All young adults in their 20s and 30s** are invited to take part in the local Catholic young adult group "PAX Catholic." Although the pandemic has slowed events down, we are now revamping our ministry once again! As it is safe to do so, we will host bonfires, socials, evenings of recollection, and "Theology on Tap." For more information, please visit our website at www.paxcatholicmd.org, or send us an email at paxcatholicstmarys@gmail.com.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve Vigil – 4:30 PM at St. Cecilia

Midnight Mass – 12:00 AM Latin High Mass at St. Ignatius Chapel

Christmas Day – 8:00 AM at St. Cecilia & 10:00 AM at St. Peter Claver

Important Note: If you are planning to attend the Midnight Mass at St. Ignatius, we highly recommend getting there early to reserve seats. Due to social distancing requirement, seating will be limited, and on a first-come, first-serve basis.



Mass & Confession Time

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 PM

Sunday Morning: 8:00am

Weekday Mass: Monday – Friday 7:30am

Daily Adoration: Monday - Friday 6:00am – 7:15am

Weekly Confession: Saturdays 3:00pm – 4:00pm

Latin Mass Schedule at St. Peter Claver

Monday & Wednesday – 6:00 PM

Sunday Afternoon – 12:00 PM

Morning Offering: O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer you my prayers, works, joys, and sufferings of this day. For all the intentions of Thy Sacred Heart, in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world, in reparation for my sins, for the reunion of Christendom and for the Holy Father's intentions of the month.

December: For a Life of Prayer - We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.



Weekly Advent Reflection

The Witness of Mary and Joseph – *Fourth Sunday of Advent*

“Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.” Luke 1:38 (Year B)

As we enter into the fourth week of Advent, we are given our Blessed Mother and St. Joseph to reflect upon. Though our Blessed Mother was perfect, and St. Joseph was a deeply virtuous man, they were both still fully human and would have walked through Mary’s pregnancy and Jesus’ birth with every human emotion and experience.

St. Joseph was faced with an extraordinary mystery as he discovered his wife was pregnant. He knew her to be a woman of exceptional virtue and holiness and had to reconcile that with her surprising pregnancy. Even after the angel appeared to him in a dream, he would have had questions arise in his mind as he faced this situation.

Our Blessed Mother was also invited by God to face her pregnancy in faith. Her response was perfect, “Let it be done to me according to your word.” She could not explain nor understand what was happening but, nonetheless, she knew deep in her soul that God was in charge leading all to His glory.

Both Mary and Joseph are wonderful models of faith and obedience. They were obedient to the will of God despite the fact that the will of God drew them into an incredible and unfathomable mystery. They were first-hand witnesses to the salvation of the world and to the greatest act ever known. And they both embraced this mystery and accepted it in faith.

Reflect, today, upon your own invitations from God to embrace the mysteries of life. God’s ways are often more than we can comprehend and figure out. Mary and Joseph give us the witness of how we are to handle every mystery God invites us to participate in. Say yes to the will of God just as this holy couple did.

Dearest Mother Mary and Saint Joseph, pray for me that I may have the faith you both lived. When questions arise in my heart, help me to respond generously to God as you did. May I trust in all that God has spoken in imitation of each one of you. Jesus, I trust in You.