

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Readings This Weekend:

Isaiah 60:1-6 Ephesians 3:2-6 Matthew 2:1-12

Readings Next Weekend:

1 Sam 3:3-10, 19 1 Cor 6:13-20 John 1:35-42



The Wise Men in today's Gospel seek to understand the light of the star and come to understand the light of the world, Jesus. Notice first their **Journey**. God summons them by the star to seek him and they set out. A lot of folks follow movie stars or sports stars. What star are you following, is it Jesus? The Wise Men's journey is not an easy one. Travel was always difficult and dangerous in the ancient world. Next notice the **Jeopardy** they encounter. As they arrive in Israel two things threaten to misdirect their mission. First there are Sleepy Saints. As they arrive in Jerusalem the Wise Men expect to find wild celebration. But the town seems quite sleepy. And when Herod, who strangely knows nothing about the birth of a King, summons his religious leaders they rather sleepily give the prophecies and show little or no enthusiasm. The Wise Men could have been quite discouraged by this but they persevere. The second threat they face is that Herod is scheming to use them so that he can kill the child. This is surely not their mission and his secret scheme almost renders them dupes but they are later warned. Finally, in this Gospel we see the **Justification** of the Wise Men. Coming at last to Jesus the text says they worship him and offer him gifts. They also manifest conversion, for having been warned of Herod's plot, they take another route home. That is, they change how they have been walking, they make a course correction if you will. Praise God for the example of the Wise Men who journey to Christ, despite jeopardy, and thus they find justification.

FUNERAL: Albert Bernard Butler, Jr. (Fri., Jan. 5th)

† MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK †

Sunday, January 7
 8:00am Deceased Cole, Curtis, Greene & Hill Family Members
 11:00am Suzie Mae Brooks †
 7:00pm Beulah Stewart †
Monday, January 8 *Baptism of the Lord*
 7:00am For the intentions of Deacon Ralph Cyrus
Tuesday, January 9 *First Week in Ordinary Time*
 7:00am Ryan Marcey †
Wednesday, January 10
 7:00am Stanley L. Snowden †
Thursday, January 11
 7:00am For the intentions of Adam Surowiec
Friday, January 12
 7:00am Raymond J. Vanzego, Sr. †
Saturday, January 13 *St. Hilary, Bishop & Dr. of the Church*
 8:00am For the People
 4:30pm Barbara V. Ketchum †

If you'd like to place a Mass intention, call the rectory at 202-546-1885.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday: 1 John 5:1-9 Mark 1:7-11
Tuesday: 1 Samuel 1:9-20 Mark 1:21-28
Wednesday: 1 Samuel 3:1-10, 19-20 Mark 1:29-39
Thursday: 1 Samuel 4:1-11 Mark 1:40-45
Friday: 1 Samuel 8:4-7, 10-22 Mark 2:1-12
Saturday: 1 Samuel 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1 Mark 2:13-17



It is with great sympathy we acknowledge the passing of the mother of George Stewart, Mrs. Beulah Stewart, who passed on Tuesday, January 2, 2018. We ask that you offer prayers for the repose of the soul of Mrs. Stewart, as well as for George and his family. Funeral arrangements are forthcoming.

**Mass Attendance
for December 31, 2017**

4:30pm	46
10:00am	218
7:00pm	55
11:15pm	92 (Watch Night)
Total:	411

Stewardship Report 2017—2018

Actual Tithes Collected (12/31)	\$15,309
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ELECTRONIC TITHING (FAITH DIRECT): The twelve days of Christmas culminate with the celebration of the wonderful Feast of Epiphany. We are thankful for all the generous gifts that you provide to our parish, but we realize that you cannot be with us every Sunday of the year. Please consider using our secure electronic giving program, *Faith Direct*. *Faith Direct* will automatically process any offertory or second collections donation of your choosing. Visit www.faithdirect.net and use our church code: **DC59**. If you have questions, you can call Kim Peaks at 202-546-1885. Thank you for your continued support of our parish family!

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

Sunday (1/7) 9:30am RCIA 9:30am Sunday School 8:00pm AA	Wednesday (1/10) 11:00am Friendly Seniors 6:30pm Liturgical Dance 7:00pm Bible Study
Monday (1/8) 6:30pm Ministry Meeting 8:00pm YAM Bible Study	Thursday (1/11) 6:30pm Knights of Columbus
Tuesday (1/9) 6:30pm Youth rehearsal 7:00pm Adult choir rehearsal	Saturday (1/13) 10:00am Liturgical Dance

OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

Holy Comforter-Saint Cyprian Roman Catholic Church, empowered by the Holy Spirit, exists to evangelize and to uphold Christian values by promoting the teachings of the Church in Word, Sacrament and Witness.

OUR VISION STATEMENT:

A welcoming, embracing and joyful faith family richly rooted in the community today, tomorrow and forever.

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

PARISH LIFE



STEWARDSHIP INSIGHT: What gifts do you bring to the Lord this day? The Feast of the Epiphany helps us to reflect on what gifts we would bring. The gold symbolizes our wealth and strength. The frankincense symbolizes our worship. And, the myrrh (which is burial ointment) symbolizes the gift of our very self as we die to ourselves and live for Christ. Here then are some gift ideas for the King. What gifts do you plan to bring to the King in this New Year?

BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS: If you have an infant or young child that needs to receive the Sacrament of Baptism, please contact the rectory office on 202-546-1885 or hcscstaff@hscchurch.org. Parents will be required to attend a baptismal preparation class prior to the baptism. Our next scheduled class is **Sat., Jan. 13th at 1pm** in the rectory basement. Please call the rectory if you want to attend the class.

YOUTH SUNDAY NEXT SUNDAY: Every second Sunday we celebrate our parish youth at the 11am Mass. We invite all our youth to come and sit together at Mass next week. You are welcome to bring a friend!



CANNED GOODS COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND:

HCSC Social Concerns Ministry operates a food pantry right in our own church basement. We need your donations to keep this pantry stocked with **non-perishable** food. On the second Sunday of every month, we invite you to bring nutritious and non-perishable high protein foods (**canned meats, tuna, stews, peanut butter**) to Mass. Please do not bring cereal or perishable foods. Our ushers will collect your items next weekend after each Mass.

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. ANNUAL CELEBRATION:

All are welcome to the annual archdiocesan celebration of the Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on **Sat., Jan. 13th** at St. Joseph Church in Largo, MD. This year's celebration will include the screening and discussion of the documentary film *13th* at 1:30pm. Praise and Worship will follow at 4:30pm, featuring the Gospel Mass Choir, and Mass at 5pm will be celebrated by Bishop Roy Campbell. *13th* is a powerful film that explores the history of race and the criminal justice system in the United States. This will be a great opportunity to mark the beginning of educated, continuous, and courageous conversations that will help to build respect and solidarity within our communities and convey God's boundless love for all the human family. For information, contact the Office of Cultural Diversity and Outreach at 301-853-5335 or culturaldiversity@adw.org.

END OF THE YEAR CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS will be prepared **only upon request** beginning **Mon., Feb. 5, 2018**. Statements will not be automatically mailed. You must contact the rectory during office hours to request your statement and have it either mailed or left at the rectory for pick-up. **NOTE:** only cash donations (submitted in an envelope) and checks payable to Holy Comforter-Saint Cyprian are included in your statement. Your statement will not reflect loose cash donations not placed in an envelope.

Youth Ministry News

Nicki Gebrehiwot, Director of Youth Ministry
202-546-1885 ext. 25 (voicemail) ♦ youthdirector@hscchurch.org

➔ **SAVE THE DATES** ◀

YOUTH RALLY & MASS FOR LIFE: January 19, 2018 at the Capital One Arena. Join thousands of youth from all over the country as we gather for a rally and mass to promote life. The rally/mass will be followed by the **Annual March for Life** on the national mall. Contact the youth director if you are interested in attending with HCSC.

HCSC YOUTH RETREAT: March 17-18, 2018 at the Msgr. O'Dwyer Retreat House. Youth in grades 1—12 are invited to participate. Stay tuned for registration details.

HCSC Young Adult Ministry

YAM@hscchurch.org



YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY meets **Mondays at 8pm** in the rectory. Join other young adults with Fr. Pope in the discussion of scripture. This is a good opportunity to meet other young adults in the parish.

ADULT AND FAMILY RALLY FOR LIFE—Jan. 19, 2018:

The rally will begin at 8:30am at St. Matthew's Cathedral (1725 Rhode Island Ave., NW, WDC) and the Mass is at 9am. **Celebrant:** Most Reverend Mario E. Dorsonville Auxiliary Bishop of Washington; **Homilist:** Msgr. Robert Panke, Director of Priest Formation, John Paul II Seminary. **Speakers:** David Bereit, Pro-Life Advocate and founder of "40 Days for Life". Please be aware that due to heightened security, new security check points may be in place for the March itself, and groups headed directly to the March should be in place before 10:30am. Visit <http://marchforlife.org/march-life-2018/rally-march-info/> for updated information, including a list of prohibited items.

ATTENTION LITURGICAL MINISTERS:

The January—February liturgical schedule has been distributed via e-mail (or mailed to those without internet access). The schedule is also posted on our HCSC website (limited hard copies are available in the sacristy). Please remember that each minister is responsible for finding a replacement for any assignment they find they will not be able to meet.

Holy Comforter-Saint Cyprian Roman Catholic Church

1357 East Capitol Street, SE, WDC 20003

202-546-1885 ♦ www.hscchurch.org

Rev. Msgr. Charles Pope, Pastor

If you want to know more about our parish community or are interested in joining, contact us at: hcscstaff@hscchurch.org or call 202.546.1885.

Mass Schedule: Monday thru Friday at 7am (Chapel)
Saturday 8am (Chapel) and 4:30pm (Vigil)
Sunday 8am, 11am, and 7pm

Office Hours: Mon, Tues, Wed and Fri, 9am—8pm;
Thursday, 9am—5pm;
Saturday, 9am—1pm; and,
Sunday, 9am—2pm.

For information on sacraments and funerals call the rectory office.

♦ Fr. Pope's Sermons online: www.frpope.com

♦ Fr. Pope's Blog: <http://blog.adw.org>

♦ **NEW!!** HCSC App: myParishapp.com

♦ **Follow us on Social Media:**