

**SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**Readings This Weekend:**

Sirach 15:15-20      1 Cor 2:6-10      Matthew 5:17-37

**Readings Next Weekend:**

Lev 19:1-2, 17-18      1 Cor 3:16-23      Matthew 5:38-48



One critical point to understand about the Sermon on the Mount is that the Lord is describing more than prescribing. In other words he is not merely giving moral rules that are more stringent than those in the Old Testament, he is describing a transformed human being. Jesus is fundamentally saying that when he really begins to live his life in us this is what we will be like. He then gives (in today's gospel) four antitheses as examples of what he means. They are called "antitheses" because they have the form: "You have heard that it was said...but I say to you." What the Lord teaches us today is that when he begins to live his life in us we will begin to have authority over our anger, we will no longer give way to hateful and retributive anger that seeks to wound, or even kill, others. This sort of anger will abate. Further, we will have authority over our sexuality so that lustful, unchaste thoughts and behavior will give way by the power of God's grace. We will see spousal and family love increase in ourselves so that our fidelity to the marriage vow is strengthened and divorce or infidelity is no longer even a consideration. And, we will experience an integrity between our words and actions. We will stop rendering false promises and vows. When we make commitments we will follow through and we will speak the truth in love. Understand that the Lord is not simply giving you and me a list of prescribed behaviors. He is describing what the power of his cross and grace will do for us if we allow him access to our heart.

**† MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK †**

**Sunday, February 12**  
 8:00am Joseph F. Contee †  
 11:00am For the intentions of Alice Allen White  
 7:00pm For the intentions of Lydia Brown  
**Monday, February 13**  
 7:00am Deon Rush (birthday)  
**Tuesday, February 14** *Sts Cyril, Monk, and Methodius, Bishop*  
 7:00am Lucy Myrick † (birthday)  
**Wednesday, February 15**  
 7:00am Elle H. O. Reed (1<sup>st</sup> birthday)  
**Thursday, February 16**  
 7:00am For the People  
**Friday, February 17** *Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order*  
 7:00am For the intentions of Beatrice Youngblood  
**Saturday, February 18**  
 8:00am Deceased Hill, Cole & Greene Family Members  
 4:30pm Ephraim Richards, Sr. †

*If you want to place a mass intention, call the rectory at 202-546-1885.*

**DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

**Monday:** Genesis 4:1-15, 25      Mark 8:11-13  
**Tuesday:** Genesis 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10      Mark 8:14-21  
**Wednesday:** Genesis 8:6-13, 20-22      Mark 8:22-26  
**Thursday:** Genesis 9:1-13      Mark 8:27-33  
**Friday:** Genesis 11:1-9      Mark 8:34-9:1  
**Saturday:** Hebrews 11:1-7      Mark 9:2-13

**Respect Life** **SANCTUARIES FOR LIFE (SFL)** programs work to build a network of medical, tangible, emotional and spiritual assistance to women that make a life-affirming decision after facing an unintended pregnancy. This is accomplished through coordinating affordable prenatal/labor delivery care, and linking to other support services such as food, rental/utility assistance, housing, mentoring, etc. We offer referrals to pregnancy counseling for expectant mothers and fathers and have information and services available regarding adoptions. **Contact:** 301-441-1472 or visit <https://www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/SanctuariesforLife>. Sanctuaries for Life is one of the many organizations that are supported by the Cardinal's Appeal and your generosity.

**Mass Attendance for February 5, 2017**

4:30pm	54
8:00am	137
11:00am	225
7:00pm	60
<b>Total:</b>	<b>476</b>

**Stewardship Report 2016—2017**

Weekly Budget Amount Needed	\$16,346
Actual Tithes Collected (2/5)	\$17,734
Actual Surplus (+)	+ \$1,388

**"SEEK FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD"** (Matthew 6:33). This weekend we hold the in-pew commitment portion of the Annual Cardinal's Appeal. Note that this campaign allows you to give a gift over 10 months instead of a one-time collection. Your pledge to this Appeal touches the lives of many (see the brochures in the pew). If you received your pledge form in the mail, please complete it and mail it back. If you are completing it at Mass today drop it into the Appeal Collection basket or bring it back to church next week. Thank you for your generosity.

CARDINAL'S APPEAL 2017

**THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH**

<b>Sunday (2/12)</b> 9:30am RCIA 9:30am Sunday School 7:00pm Mass 8:00pm AA	<b>Wednesday (2/15)</b> 11:00am Friendly Seniors 7:00pm Bible Study
<b>Monday (2/13)</b> 6:30pm Finance Council mtg 8:00pm YAM Bible Study	<b>Saturday (2/18)</b> 9:00am Women's Fellowship 10:30am Social Concerns Min 4:30pm Mass
<b>Tuesday (2/14)</b> 6:30pm Adult Choir vocals 7:00pm Adult Choir rehearsal	

**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.

## PARISH LIFE

**YOUTH 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 in the pews in front of the clergy. Parents are invited to sit with your child.

**AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH PROGRAM:** *"The Journey: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow"* Sun., Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> at the school, following 11am Mass. Join us for a light meal and a celebration of African American History. RSVP to the rectory office is required. **Parishioners are invited to wear their African attire to Mass.** See flyer.



**FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS:** Monsignor Pope is encouraging parishioners to commit to **First Saturday** devotions from March thru July. At the heart of this devotion is the Request of Our Lady, Mary, that we pray for the conversion of sinners and peace in the world. Your commitment involves attending 8am Mass in the church on the **first Saturday of five consecutive months beginning Saturday, March 4<sup>th</sup>**. Your commitment also includes praying the rosary communally after that Mass and going to confession within the first week of each month. Please consider signing up on the list in the rear of the church and prayerfully assist in the conversion of souls! Monsignor will speak more on this commitment at Sunday Masses prior to March 4<sup>th</sup>. Flyers with more details on this devotion are available in the rear of the church.

**CANNED GOODS COLLECTION WEEKEND:** The second weekend of each month, we invite you to bring nutritious and non-perishable high protein canned foods (**meats, stews, tuna, peanut butter, fruit**) to Mass to restock our food pantry. Our ushers will collect your items. If you were not able to bring canned food this weekend please consider giving to the Poor Box on the wall by the exits as these funds are used for this purpose.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR FREE TAX CLINIC:** Capitol Hill Group Ministries (CHGM) needs volunteers for their low income free tax prep clinic. The clinic operates by appointment only, and each tax clinic volunteer is responsible for 2-3 returns per night. This year, the clinic is at the Capitol Hill Presbyterian Church, 201—4<sup>th</sup> St., SE., **on Thursday evenings starting March 2<sup>nd</sup> and every Thursday evening through April 13<sup>th</sup>, and then again on Monday, April 17<sup>th</sup>**. To volunteer contact Abby Sypek at [sypek@chgm.net](mailto:sypek@chgm.net), or 202-544-0631 ext. 200.

**Important**  
**END OF THE YEAR CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS** will be prepared **ONLY UPON REQUEST**. Statements will not be automatically mailed. You must contact the rectory by phone or email to request your statement. You can have your statement 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. Loose cash (not in an envelope) given at collection cannot be reflected on your statement. **The Archdiocese has recently transitioned our data into a new software package creating a delay in processing the statements. We appreciate your patience. Rectory staff will call when statements are ready.**

## Youth Ministry News

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

**ATTENTION!!! SAVE THE DATE!** The annual "Walk in the Light" Youth Retreat is **March 11-12, 2017**. **COST: \$125—middle/high school (age 12+) overnight; \$45—elementary school (age 11 and under), March 11<sup>th</sup> (one day only)**. Registration fee includes transportation, meals, overnight accommodations at Camp Maria in Leonardtown, MD, and T-shirt. We are happy to report that Fr. Adam DeLeon will return as our retreat facilitator. See flyer for details.

## HCSC Young Adult Ministry

[YAM@hscchurch.org](mailto:YAM@hscchurch.org)

**CATHOLIC DATE NIGHT:** the ADW Office of Family Life and Office of Young Adult Ministry are co-hosting "Catholic Date Night" for engaged and newly married couples. Catholic Date Night will meet monthly on **Saturday nights from 6—7pm at Our Lady of Lourdes in downtown Bethesda, MD, on Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>, March 25<sup>th</sup>, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, and May 13<sup>th</sup>**. These events are **FREE!** The night will begin with fellowship, free wine and cheese, prayer, and an inspiring talk on growing together in faith and love and focus on your relationship with one another with Christ in the center. **RSVP to: [www.dccatholic.eventbrite.com](http://www.dccatholic.eventbrite.com)**.



**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.

We'd like to hear from our young adults (age 18 to 40)! Check out the HCSC Young Adults Ministry on **Facebook** and follow us on Twitter at [HCSCYoungAdults!](https://twitter.com/HCSCYoungAdults)

**ELECTRONIC TITHING:** Have you considered electronic tithing through the **Faith Direct** program here at HCSC? You can have your tithes deducted from your bank account **TWICE a month** or charged to a credit card. **It's Easy, it's FREE and it's a Secure**, convenient way to support your parish community. Enrollment forms are in the rear of the church, the rectory office, or you can sign up online at [www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net). (HCSC church code: DC59). Call Kim Peaks at the rectory office for more information.

### Holy Comforter-Saint Cyprian Roman Catholic Church

1357 East Capitol Street, SE, WDC 20003  
202-546-1885 ♦ [www.hscchurch.org](http://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 [hscstaff@hscchurch.org](mailto:hscstaff@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.

Follow us on Social Media:

Fr. Pope's Blog: [blog.adw.org](http://blog.adw.org)

