

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY

Readings This Weekend:

Isaiah 49:14-15 1 Corinthians 4:1-5 Matthew 6:24-34

Readings Next Weekend:

Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7 Romans 5:12-19 Matthew 4:1-11



When we read today's Gospel we must be careful not to misinterpret its basic vision. Jesus is not telling us what to do, but offering us something to receive. The wrong way to interpret this gospel is to simply hear Jesus say, "Stop worrying." We all get this advice from people every day and it isn't very helpful. This is NOT what Jesus is saying. Remember, in the Sermon on the Mount in which we are reading, Jesus is describing what a transformed human person is like. And what he is teaching us here is that, as he begins to live his life in us many of our anxiety's will diminish and go away. The transformed human person trusts God and is even able to see God's hand in the difficulties of life. It is this trust growing in us by God's grace that ultimately diminishes and removes fear. Trust in God and our fear diminishes. This is the gift that Jesus offers us today.

Mass Attendance for Feb. 19, 2017	
4:30pm	42
8:00am	112
11:00am	334
7:00pm	94
Total:	582

† MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK †

Sunday, February 26
 8:00am Martha Hurd Campbell † (birthday-2/23)
 11:00am Catherine Chandler (birthday-2/23)
 7:00pm For the People

Monday, February 27
 7:00am Alma Rollins †

Tuesday, February 28
 7:00am For the intentions of Terry Bell

Wednesday, March 1 Ash Wednesday
 7:00am For the intentions of Christian Johns
 10:00am For the intentions of Elaine Carter
 7:00pm Gloria Downing †

Thursday, March 2
 7:00am For the intentions of Deacon Carlos Hernandez

Friday, March 3
 7:00am O'Sha J. Hamilton †

Saturday, March 4
 8:00am For the intentions of Deacon Kevin Butler
 4:30pm Houston Richards †

To place a Mass intention, call the rectory office (202-546-1885)

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday: Sirach 17:20-24 Mark 10:17-27
Tuesday: Sirach 35:1-12 Mark 10:28-31
Wednesday: Joel 2:12-18 2 Cor 5:20-6:2 Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday: Deuteronomy 30:15-20 Luke 9:22-25
Friday: Isaiah 58:1-9 Matthew 9:14-15
Saturday: Isaiah 58:9-14 Luke 5:27-32

Respect Life Legislation has been introduced this year before the Maryland General Assembly (HB 370/SB 354) that would legalize physician-assisted suicide allowing doctors to legally prescribe a lethal medication at the request of a patient who has received a six-month or less terminal diagnosis. This proposal, which is almost identical to failed legislation from 2015 and 2016 was filed again by a national group from Colorado called Compassion & Choices. There is a lot of misinformation surrounding this debate and the proposed legislation. We want you to clearly understand why this bill is so troubling for Maryland. To see an in-depth set of reasons as to why we strongly oppose this bill and why it does not support a culture of life visit <http://stopassistedsuicidemd.org/about/know-the-facts/>.

Stewardship Report 2016—2017	
Weekly Budget Amount Needed	\$16,346
Actual Tithes Collected (2/19)	\$11,316
Actual Deficit (-)	- \$5,030

"SEEK FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD" (Matthew 6:33). Thank you to all who participated in the in-pew campaign last week. This Appeal provides an opportunity to share our financial gifts in order to help provide education, ministry and services throughout the Archdiocese. Every parishioner is a part not only of his or her parish but also of the Universal Church. If you have not yet done so, please fill in a pledge card located in the pews and submit it by dropping it in the collection basket, giving it to an usher, or dropping it off at the rectory office. Thank you.

HCSC FINANCIAL REPORT FY 2015-16: Copies of the parish's financial report for fiscal year 2015-16 are available in the rear of the Church. The reports list information on our income and expenses along with details on each financial area. Additional copies available. If you have questions, contact the rectory office at 201-546-1885.

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH	
Sunday (2/26) 9:30am Sunday School 9:30am RCIA 2:00pm St. Thomas Ladies #64 7:00pm Mass 8:00pm AA	Wednesday (3/1) 10:00am Mass 7:00pm Mass
Monday (2/27) 8:00pm YAM Bible Study	Friday (3/3) 6:00pm Lenten Holy Hour 7:00pm Stations of the Cross
Tuesday (2/28) 6:30pm Youth Ensemble 7:00pm Adult Choir	Saturday (3/4) 10:00am Liturgical Dance 4:30pm Mass

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

ASH WEDNESDAY is **March 1st** and opens the season of Lent. Ashes will be distributed during **7am, 10am, and 7pm Masses only**. It is a day of fasting and abstinence. Come and begin your preparations for Lent.



LENTEN ADORATION & STATIONS OF THE CROSS: All parishioners are invited to attend a wonderful opportunity to gather together and reflect in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament on **Friday, March 3rd, 6—7pm**. Following adoration, we will hold Stations of the Cross. **The Sodality and Social Concerns Ministry will host** the evening. Come and begin the journey with Christ to Calvary.

FREE COPIES OF THE WORD AMONG US: To encourage parishioners to read the Word of God daily during the Lenten season, free copies of THE WORD AMONG US are available in the rear of the church.



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 Sat., March 4th**. 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 4th. Flyers with more details on this devotion are available in the rear of the church.

SODALITY ANNUAL LENTEN DAY OF REFLECTION: Join the Sodality on **Sun., March 5th** at 7:30am to recite the Rosary before 8am Mass, followed by the Annual Lenten Day of Reflection at the school. Guest speaker is Deacon Richard L. Walker, Jr. from St. Luke. All are welcome!

A SPECIAL THANK YOU to Annette Frederick, the AAHM Committee and all who helped make last Sunday's African American History Month program a wonderful event for the entire family. Thank you to our two presenters and the music and youth ministry for their participation.



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 to 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.**

Youth Ministry News

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

YOUTH RETREAT: 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 11th (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. Flyers in rear of the church.

DISCOVER CAMP ST. CHARLES: Boys & Girls Catholic Over-night Summer Camp. Open House is March 12th, 11am to 3pm. Learn more about Camp St. Charles with lunch, a tour, a ride on the giant swing, and an opportunity to meet the staff. Thousands of children have been making friends, learning to work together, and developing an appreciation for Creation while camping out, riding horses, working their way through a challenge course, trying archery, paddling on the river, and lots of activities. For more info and to sign up, go to: www.campstcharles.org or call 301-934-8799.

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.

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. (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
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 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

