

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Readings This Weekend:

Jeremiah 31:31-34 Hebrews 5:7-9 John 12:20-33

Readings Next Weekend:

Isaiah 50:4-7 Phil 2:6-11 Mark 14:1—15:47



Fifth Sunday of Lent **PECULIAR**—The Gospel begins in somewhat of an odd way. Some Greeks say they want to meet Jesus. Now this seems ordinary but Jesus treats it as an extraordinary moment. But he does not rush over to greet them. Rather, he makes a solemn announcement that the hour for him to be glorified (crucified) has arrived. **PURPOSE**—Why does this requested visit provoke such a response? Well, one of Jesus' central purposes was to reunite the human family that had been scattered by sin. This request that non-Jews make to see the Jewish Messiah indicates an open door. **PREREQUISITE**—But notice, Jesus cannot go through it yet. He must first suffer and die to affect this reunion and healing from sin. First, as He says, the grain of wheat must fall to the earth and die if it is to produce abundant fruit later. Never forget, the price of our healing and reunion cost Jesus dearly. Jesus then delivers the teaching to us: **PRESCRIPTION**—As he has done, so we must also do. If we want increasing freedom from sin and greater unity in our human family then we must be willing to lose our lives in order to save them. We must be willing to die to the "me first" agenda and make sacrifices for peace. If you are willing to lose, to let go of some things, you will find your life but whoever clings to this world and its prerogatives is already dead.

FUNERAL—Alice Saunders (March 23rd)



Sunday, March 22 *Fifth Sunday of Lent*
 4:30pm (Sat) Venus Walker Giles †
 8:00am Virginia H. Washington (birthday) †
 11:00am Dr. Hasina Outtz Reed (birthday)
 7:00pm For the People
Monday, March 23 *Saint Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop*
 7:00am Juanita J. Moore
Tuesday, March 24
 7:00am John A. Savoy, Jr. (10th anniversary) †
Wednesday, March 25 *The Annunciation of the Lord*
 7:00am Gary B. McPherson (birthday) †
Thursday, March 26
 7:00am Agnes Newsome
Friday, March 27
 7:00am Simeon Williams †
Saturday, March 28
 8:00am William McPherson †
 4:30pm For the Intentions of Mary McPherson

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday: Daniel 13:41-62 John 8:1-11
Tuesday: Numbers 21:4-9 John 8:21-30
Wednesday: Isaiah 7:10-14; 8:10 Hebrews 10:4-10 Luke 1:26-38
Thursday: Genesis 17:3-9 John 8:51-59
Friday: Jeremiah 20:10-13 John 10:31-42
Saturday: Ezekiel 37:21-28 John 11:45-56

Music Schedule

Processional
 "Trust Me" R. Smallwood
Responsorial Psalm
 "Create in me a clean heart, O God"
Gospel Acclamation
 "Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ" K. Harris & R. Holland
Offertory
 * "Give Me A Clean Heart" LMGM #625
 ** "Choral Praise"
Communion
 "Jesus Is Here Right Now" LMGM #751
 * 8:00am Ruby Robertson, Cantor—Gwen Myles, Music Associate
 ** 11:00am Church Choir

Mass Attendance for March 15, 2015

4:30pm	53
8:00am	97
11:00am	298
7:00pm	71
Total:	519

Stewardship Report 2014—2015

Weekly Budget Amount Needed	\$16,346
Actual Tithes Collected (3/15)	\$23,080
Actual Surplus	+ \$6,734



EASTER FLOWERS—All names that are submitted with your Easter Flower offering envelope will be printed in the Easter program. If you would like to include a loved one on this list, please return your envelope to an usher or the rectory **NO LATER THAN**

Monday, March 30th. An "Easter Flower" offering envelope was included with your monthly tithing envelopes or ask an usher. **PLEASE PRINT NAMES CLEARLY.** Thank you.

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

Sunday (3/22)
 9:30am RCIA
 9:30am Sunday School
 7:00pm Mass
 8:00pm AA
Monday (3/23)
 8:00pm YAM Bible Study
Tuesday (3/24)
 6:30pm Youth Ensemble
 7:00pm Adult Choir
Wednesday (4/25)
 11:00am Friendly Seniors
 6:30pm Liturgical Dance
 7:00pm Soup & Scripture
Thursday (4/26)
 6:30pm Passion Play rehearse
 7:00pm Knights of Columbus
Friday (4/27)
 6:00pm Lenten Holy Hour
 7:00pm Stations of the Cross
 8:00pm NA
Saturday (4/28)
 9:00am S.O.M.E. (off-site)
 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

THIRD SCRUTINY—At the 11am Mass this weekend, we celebrate the third and final scrutiny for our elect Janet L. Jones-Berry and Mark Nugent. The scrutinies help those who will be baptized and receive other sacraments at Easter to be strengthened by God’s Grace to persevere on the way to salvation. Please keep them in prayer.

PALM SUNDAY MASS, March 29th, commemorates the Lord’s Entrance into Jerusalem. Solemn Procession will form in front of the church on the plaza for 11am Mass. Solemn Entrance will also be observed before the 4:30pm and 8am Masses. Please plan to arrive early!

CONFESSIONS are being heard after each Mass this weekend. Please take a moment to go to confession during Lent. Parishioners who ARE NOT going to confession are kindly asked to quietly leave the sanctuary at the end of Mass in respect to those preparing for confession.

 **ALL LITURGICAL MINISTERS**—In preparation for the Holy Week and Easter liturgies, Msgr. Pope will hold the annual liturgical script meeting **Sat., March 28th** from **9:00—11:00am** at the church.

MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS AWARENESS T-SHIRTS—Our own, **Monique Davis**, along with many others, is battling multiple sclerosis (MS). Monique is working on a T-shirt campaign to raise awareness of the everyday battle with this chronic illness. Her goal is to sell 50 T-shirts. All funds benefit the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. Deadline to contribute is March, 31st. To read Monique’s story and for more information visit booster.com/mindstrongmoresway. Flyer are also available in the rear of the Church.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR LENT?

FINAL LENTEN HOLY HOUR and STATIONS of the CROSS is **Friday, March 27th** starting with the **Holy Hour at 6pm** followed by the **Stations of the Cross at 7pm**. Stations will be hosted by the **Women’s Ministry**. All are welcome to join Jesus in his journey to Calvary.



Haven’t been to confession in a while? No problem. Pick up the “How To” Guide on Reconciliation in the rear of the church. On any Wednesday during Lent from 6:30—7:15pm come to the church to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

LENTEN SOUP & SCRIPTURE—will have our final meeting at **7pm** in the rectory basement, but it’s not too late to participate in this year’s theme: **“Decide to Follow Jesus.”** Come and join us for a meal and bible study.

OPERATION RICE BOWL—If you have been participating in the annual Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Rice Bowl project of alms-giving during Lent, please return your Rice Bowl next weekend, **March 29th**. It’s not too late to donate. You can still pick up a Rice Bowl in the rear of the church.

Youth Ministry News

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

YOUTH MINISTRY TRIP TO “JOSEPH” at the Sight & Sound Theater in Lancaster, PA, on June 20th. **COST:** \$125 (13 & above); \$65 (3-12). **Deposit of \$25 due.** Contact Shirley Austin at 202-368-7231.

LAST CALL!! GOOD FRIDAY DRAMATIC READING—The Youth Ministry is looking for youth willing to participate in the Good Friday Dramatic reading of the Passion of Our Lord. Rehearsals are every Thursday 6:30—7:30pm. Adults are needed to assist with props, design, and management. Please contact the Youth Ministry Director.

SAVE THE DATE!!—HCSC YOUTH RETREAT—April 18th at the Oblate Sisters of Providence Motherhouse, Baltimore, MD. We need your registration as soon as possible. See flyer in rear of Church for details!

HCSC Young Adult Ministry

Paula Lancaster/Felicia Miller ♦ YAM@hscchurch.org

12th ANNUAL 7 CHURCH WALK—Young adults will visit 7 churches in downtown DC for prayer and reflection, **Sat., March 28th**. Info? Go to: <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/7-church-walk-2015-tickets-15916132581>.


SPRING THEOLOGY ON TAP—Series on Marriage, **April 7th—May 12th** at Buffalo Billiards in Dupont Circle on **Tuesday evenings**. All young adults 21 yrs. and over are invited for Happy Hour specials from 6-7pm with a talk and Q/A to follow from 7-8pm.

YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY—meets every Monday evening at 8pm in the rectory. For info contact Stephanie Keene at sakeene@gmail.com.

We’d like to hear from our young adults (age 18 to 40^{ish})! Tell us what activities interest you. Check out the HCSC Young Adults Ministry on **Facebook** and tell us your thoughts, or send an email: yam@hscchurch.org. Follow us on **Twitter** for updates at **HCSCYoungAdults!**

CORRECTION

In a February bulletin, we incorrectly noted that the Holy Name Society conducted the Winter Coat Drive in December. The **Knights of Columbus is the ministry that conducted the coat drive. Sorry for the error.**

S.O.M.E. (So Others Might Eat)—Parishioners are invited to help prepare meals for S.O.M.E. located at 71 “O” St., NW, on **Sat., March 28th**.  Your cooked chicken is **desperately** needed (**see flyer in rear of the church for recipe**). Drop off your non-frozen chicken at the rectory before close of business on Fri., March 27th. Questions? Call Earlene Capers on 301-910-1763.



HONEYBAKED HAM SALE—HCSC Women’s Ministry is sponsoring a sale of HoneyBaked Hams, Turkeys, and Desserts. Place your order online at **HONEYBAKEDFUNDRAISER.com**. **Deadline to order is Mon., March 30th**. Pick up on **Sat., April 4th**. Questions? Call June Johnson at 301-529-7114.