

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Readings This Weekend:

Ezekiel 37:12-14 Romans 8:8-11 John 11-45

Readings Next Weekend:

Mt 21:1-11 Is 50:4-7 Phil 2:6-11 Mt 26:14—27:66



Fifth Sunday of



Today's Gospel is the amazing story of the raising of Lazarus from the dead. In this Gospel we see the journey we must make with God in order to experience new life. First, there is a **DESIGN** at work.

When informed of the grave illness of Lazarus, Jesus says, "This illness is not to end in death, but is for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it." We don't always understand God's designs, how his plans for us work out, but if he allows difficulties to beset us, it is ultimately for glory, if we believe. Next, note the **DELAY**. Jesus waits four whole days before going to Lazarus' aid, and Lazarus dies as a result. Here too, we don't always understand why God delays in answering our prayers. But, over and over in scripture we are told to "wait on the Lord." He has his reasons and is testing and strengthening our faith. All we can say is 'Lord, help me to hold out, until my change comes!' Next, note the **DETERMINATION** of Jesus to raise Lazarus. To do this he must go into harm's way and saving Lazarus will ultimately cost him his own life because by this incident the Temple leaders resolve to kill Jesus. Next, there is **DIALOGUE**. Jesus inquires into the faith of Martha. Our faith is more precious to the Lord than our physical well-being. Above all Jesus wants to strengthen our faith because this is the way he saves us. Next, **DRAMA** ensues. Jesus approaches the grave and scripture says he was deeply troubled and quite angry. Here the Lord comes face-to-face at what sin has done to us. Here the devil's victory is displayed. Jesus is angry in the sense that he is stirred into battle for us. Finally, there is **DELIVERANCE**. Jesus summons Lazarus, and us, out of the tomb. But notice, the deliverance is not just to get his life back. Lazarus (who is us) must be untied and set free from what still binds him. Hence, our deliverance is on-going. Our life in faith is more than answering an altar call or being baptized. We must allow the Lord to untie us and let us go free.

† MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK †

- Sunday, April 2** *Fifth Sunday of Lent*
8:00am Annise C. Smith †
11:00am Barbara V. Ketchum †
7:00pm For the People
- Monday, April 3**
7:00am Elizabeth Colston (birthday)
- Tuesday, April 4** *Saint Isidore, Bishop & Doctor of the Church*
7:00am For the intentions of Barbara Bolger
- Wednesday, April 5** *Saint Vincent Ferrer, Priest*
7:00am JayQuan Holloway †
- Thursday, April 6**
7:00am Ainsley Stewart †
- Friday, April 7** *Saint John Baptist de la Salle, Priest*
7:00am For the intentions of our Confirmandeas
- Saturday, April 8**
8:00am Francis D. Campbell †
4:30pm Willie Mae Richards Honeysucker †

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

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

- Monday:** Daniel 13:1-9, 15-62 John 8:1-11
- Tuesday:** Numbers 21:4-9 John 8:21-30
- Wednesday:** Daniel 3:14-20, 91-92, 95 John 8:31-42
- 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

Respect **MARYLAND MARCH FOR LIFE**
Life **rescheduled to Mon., April 3rd.** There is a march through Annapolis and Rally at Lawyer's Mall as a visible witness in support of defending vulnerable life in Maryland! It will feature keynote speaker **David Bereit**, founder and former CEO of 40 Days for Life. The evening concludes with free Chick-fil-A! **Please arrive in St. Mary's** (109 Duke of Gloucester St., Annapolis, MD) **parking lot no later than 6:00 pm.** The lot will then close for Marchers to assemble **5:30-6:00.** A bill is currently being pushed through the Maryland legislature that would use state taxpayer money to fund Planned Parenthood in the event that Planned Parenthood is defunded nationally. We need to show up and show opposition to this bill! Now is a critical time for us to bear witness to a pro-life Maryland! For more information visit www.marylandmarchforlife.org for more information.

Mass Attendance for March 26, 2017

| | |
|---------------|------------|
| 4:30pm | 49 |
| 8:00am | 127 |
| 11:00am | 285 |
| 7:00pm | 119 |
| Total: | 580 |

Stewardship Report 2016—2017

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Weekly Budget Amount Needed | \$16,346 |
| Actual Tithes Collected (3/26) | \$11,738 |
| Actual Deficit (-) | -\$4,608 |



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, April 10th.** An "Easter Flower" offering envelope was included with your monthly tithing. Additional envelopes are located in the rear of the church or ask an usher. **PLEASE PRINT NAMES CLEARLY.** Thank you.

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

- Sunday (4/2)**
9:30am RCIA
9:30am Sunday School
7:00pm Mass
8:00pm AA
- Monday (4/3)**
6:30pm Parish Council meeting
7:00pm Adult Choir rehearsal
8:00pm YAM Bible Study
- Tuesday (4/4)**
7:00pm Adult Choir
- Wednesday (4/5)**
11:00am Friendly Seniors
6:00pm Lenten Reconciliation
6:30pm Lenten Bible Study
6:30pm Liturgical Dance
- Friday (4/7)**
6:00pm Lenten Holy Hour
7:00pm Stations of the Cross
- Saturday (4/8)**
9:30am 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



PALM SUNDAY is April 9th—Commemoration of the Lord's Entrance into Jerusalem: Solemn Procession will form in front of the church for the 11am Mass. Solemn Entrance inside the church will also be observed before the 4:30pm, 8am and 7pm Masses. Please plan

to arrive early!

THIRD SCRUTINY: At the 11am Mass this weekend, we celebrate the third and final scrutiny for our catechumens. The scrutinies help those who will be baptized and receive other sacraments at Easter to confront the reality of sin in their lives and to be strengthened by God's Grace to persevere on the way to salvation. Please keep them in prayer during their journey.



CONGRATULATIONS to **Korey and Nneamaka McLeod** who were joined in the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony at HCSC on **March 18th**. We pray that their union will be blessed with love and devotion to both God and each other.

A DEATH IN THE FAMILY: It is with deep sympathy that we acknowledge the death of the father of **George Stewart (Director of Music) Ainsley Stewart**, who died March 23rd. His funeral is Thurs., April 6th at Breath of Life SDA Church, 11310 Fort Washington Rd., Fort Washington, MD (301-292-2100). Viewing 10AM; Funeral 11AM; Burial at Resurrection Cemetery, Clinton, MD. Repast at the church. Cards of condolences may be left at the rectory office.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR LENT?

The Light is ON  for You.
Celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation

God created us for relationship with Him and one another. We invite you to renew your relationship with the Lord through the

Sacrament of Reconciliation this Lent. Every parish in the Archdiocese of Washington, including our own, will offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation on **Wednesday evenings**. **HCSC will hear confessions from 6:00-7:15pm**. Visit: theLightisON.org to find the times for other Catholic parishes in your neighborhood.

LENTEN SOUP & SCRIPTURE w/MSGR. POPE is every **Wednesday evening** during Lent in the rectory basement. This year's theme, "**Great Change Since I Been Born**" will cover the life changing transformative relationship we are called to have with Christ. Monsignor Pope will be assisted by Deacon Richard Walker of Saint Luke's parish. Light meal served at **6:30pm**, instruction starts at 7:15pm. All are welcome.

LENTEN FISH FRY: HCSC Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a fish fry at Saint Benedict the Moor, 320—21st Street, NE, **April 7th & 14th**, 11am—6pm (both days). See flyer in your bulletin.

HOLY HOUR and STATIONS OF THE CROSS are held throughout Lent every Friday starting with a **Holy Hour at 6pm**, followed by **Stations of the Cross at 7pm**. On **April 7th** the **Women's Ministry and WIN** will lead the **Stations**. All are welcome to join Jesus in his journey to Calvary.

Youth Ministry News

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

GOOD FRIDAY YOUTH PAGEANT: Our youth ministry will host a youth presentation of the Lord's passion at the Good Friday 7pm service on April 14th. If you are interested in participating, please contact Nicki Gebrehiwot.

HCSC Young Adult Ministry

YAM@hscchurch.org

7 CHURCH WALK—LENTEN URBAN PILGRIMAGE: DCCatholic invites all young adults to the **14th Annual 7-Church Walk** on **Sat., April 8th**! Join hundreds of young adults for this one-day Lenten pilgrimage and walk to seven DC churches in the Brookland neighborhood, praying together at each station, and concluding with a 5pm Mass with Cardinal Wuerl at the St. John Paul II Shrine. **Register at:** DCCatholic.eventbrite.org. See flyer in rear of the church for more details.



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!

HCSC SODALITY HOLY LAND EXPERIENCE: Join the HCSC Sodality **June 10-16** on a 7 days—6 nights bus trip to **The Holy Land Experience & 7 Fantastic Shows** in Orlando, FL. **COST: \$610 per person** includes bus transportation, lodging, meals and gratuities, and much more. **DEADLINE to sign-up is April 10th**. For more details pick up a flyer in the rear of the church.

FREE TAX CLINIC: Capitol Hill Group Ministries (CHGM) is offering **Free Tax Preparation for low income DC residents**. The clinic operates by appointment only at the Capitol Hill Presbyterian Church, 201—4th St., SE., **on Thursday evenings** through April 13th, the final on **Mon., April 17th**. Questions? Contact Abby Sypek at sypek@chgm.net, or 202-544-0631 ext. 200.

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

