

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Readings This Weekend:

Isaiah 55:10-11 Romans 8:18-23 Matthew 13:1-23

Readings Next Weekend:

Wisdom 12:13-19 Romans 8:26-27 Matthew 13:24-43



The readings today remind us that our celebration of God's Word each Sunday, and in private devotion, is not meant to be mere information. But, rather, transformation! The first reading contains a **PROMISE** and uses the image of the snow and rain which come down from the heavens and do not return there until they have watered the earth, giving it life and fruit. God's Word has this same power. If we authentically and attentively listen to God's Word, it will refresh us and bring forth the fruit of transformation. No one can authentically attend to God's Word and go away unchanged. But, in the Gospel, the Lord Jesus alerts us to certain **PROBLEMS** that arise which keep us from attending to God's Word. Just because we have ears to hear, does not mean we are really listening. Perhaps it is worldly preoccupations, the lure of riches, or fear of persecution. Perhaps it is a lazy mind or a rebellious spirit. The Lord teaches us to be sober about these things, for they choke off the power of God's Word and keep it from growing in us. We ought to ask the Lord for increasingly fertile soil in our soul so that the promise and power of the Word will come forth. Finally, the Lord invites us to examine the **PROOF** of God's Word. For, those who are open to this Word will, and do, experience its power to change their lives. As our thinking is changed by the Word so also our priorities and decisions, indeed, our very behavior begin to change. Are you a Proof to the power of God's Word? I am.

FUNERAL—DeVon A. Turner (7/14)



Sunday, July 13

4:30pm (Sat) Austina Jones †
 8:00am Marc E. Simmons, Sr. †
 11:00am Lawrence Barnes (birthday) †
 7:00pm For the People

Monday, July 14 *Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin*

7:00am Charlena D. Addison (birthday) †

Tuesday, July 15 *St Bonaventure, Bishop & Doctor of the Church*

7:00am For the Intentions of Deacon Kevin Butler

Wednesday, July 16

7:00am DeVon A. Turner †

Thursday, July 17

7:00am For the Intentions of Audwin Vaughn

Friday, July 18 *Saint Camillus de Lellis, Priest*

7:00am For the Intentions of Pierre Martin

Saturday, July 19

8:00am For the People

4:30pm For the Intentions of Kenneth Louis

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday: Isaiah 1:10-17 Matthew 10:34–11:1
Tuesday: Isaiah 7:1-9 Matthew 11:20-24
Wednesday: Isaiah 10:5-7, 13-16 Matthew 11:25-27
Thursday: Isaiah 26:7-9, 12, 16-19 Matthew 11:28-30
Friday: Isaiah 38:1-6, 7-8, 21-22 Matthew 12:1-8
Saturday: Micah 2:1-5 Matthew 12:14-21

Music Schedule

Processional
 "Plenty Good Room" LMGM #714
Responsorial Psalm
 "The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest"
Gospel Acclamation
 "Alleluia!"
Offertory
 * "In Christ There Is No East or West" LMGM #664
 ** "More Than Anything" L. Campbell/K. Louis
Communion
 "Standing on the Promises" LMGM #562
 * 8:00am *Ruby Robertson, Cantor—Gwen Myles, Music Associate*
 ** 11:00am *Women's Ensemble*

Mass Attendance for July 6, 2014

4:30pm	68
8:00am	103
11:00am	228
7:00pm	51
Total:	450

Stewardship Report 2014—2015

Actual Tithes (7/6)	\$17,171
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CARDINAL'S APPEAL UPDATE—Thanks to all who participated in the 2014 Annual Cardinal's Appeal. Thus far **174** donors have pledged **\$49,981**. This is **95.4%** of our \$52,368 goal. If you have not yet pledged to this year's appeal please do so soon. Ushers can provide pledge forms. Please help us reach our goal which is so near at hand!. Remember, all the money you give goes directly to help the needy and poor in our area.

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

Sunday (7/13) 7:00pm Mass 8:00pm AA	Friday (7/18) 8:00pm NA
Tuesday (7/15) 7:00pm Adult Choir 8:00pm YAM Bible Study	Saturday (7/19) 4:30pm Mass



FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND—If a family member is sick, hospitalized or homebound, please call the rectory on 202-546-1885 or you can send an e-mail to: hccstaff@hccchurch.org so that your family member can be scheduled to receive a home visit and the sacrament.

MASS INTENTIONS—It is a spiritual work of mercy to pray for others, both living and deceased. To offer a Mass for a friend or family, call 202-546-1885. Note that dates fill in quickly. The customary donation is \$5 per intention.

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



BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS to our **Pastor Msgr. Charles Pope** in the old tradition of when women wore “crowns” to church. Happy Birthday Father Pope, who celebrated his birthday on **Thurs., July 10th**. May the Lord continue to bless and keep you in his love and care.

200 QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON THE CATHOLIC FAITH—is a publication written by our own pastor, Msgr. Pope. It first appeared in OUR SUNDAY VISITOR and is now available in the Candle Light store. Donation: \$5.

CANNED GOODS COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND—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. An usher will collect your donation. If you were unable to donate, please give to the Poor Box located on the wall near the exits.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL FOR THE FAMILY—HCSC will host its Annual Family Vacation Bible School with three other parishes on **Wednesdays** from **July 30th thru August 20st at 6:30pm** at **St. Benedict the Moor**. Dinner will be served so you must register. **For more details and to register please see flyer in the bulletin.**



We need your help to make our Vacation Bible School an enjoyable event to remember. If you can help with hall set-up and/or food distribution **PLEASE** contact Kim Peaks online at pam@hscchurch.org or call 202-546-1885.



HCSC Friends & Family Picnic Committee will meet **Sun., July 20th from 9:30 to 10:30am** in the **rectory basement**. We need help from many parishioners to make this a successful event. Many different types of talents are needed, so please come to the meeting. **If you can't make the meeting, call Annette Brooks on 202-361-4699 to find out how you can help plan and carry out this activity.** The picnic is Sat., Sept. 13th at Cosca Park in Clinton, MD. This change of date allows us to return this event to its original intent as a part of our celebration of our patron Saint Cyprian.

“WINNIE’S WALKERS”—The family of Mary Harris “Winnie” Freeman extends a huge thank you to the HCSC family for your prayers, donations, and support in the PurpleStride 5K Walk/Run back on June 14th. PurpleStride aims to raise awareness and funding for research of pancreatic cancer. **“Winnie’s Walkers” raised \$2,665, that is over 250% of the \$1,000 goal, in Mary’s memory.** A special “Thank You” to all HCSC parishioners who joined the Freemans in the PurpleStride Walk/Run. For team members and info visit: www.purplestride.dc.org.

VACATION NOTE—While you are on vacation this summer don’t forget to attend Mass wherever you may be visiting. Go to: www.masstimes.org for Mass times and locations around the country.

Youth Ministry News

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

DO YOU NEED COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS? HCSC has opportunities for students who need to earn community service hours to add to your middle or high school transcripts. We have some opportunities to provide assistance in the rectory and Church over the summer. Contact Kim Peaks on 202-546-1885 or pam@hscchurch.org for more information.

MANY THANKS—to our youth Renard Blanchard Jr., Tymon Clark, Kristin Peaks, and Tarrin Weston who attended the National African American Youth Conference in Ohio. The theme and focus was *“Inspiring Youth For A Better Tomorrow.”* Our attendees will offer their reflections on the conference in the next youth newsletter.

HCSC Young Adult Ministry

Paula Lancaster/Felicia Miller ♦ YAM@hscchurch.org

BUSTED HALO—Are you *“spiritual but not religious?”* Join a conversation with other young people about where faith and real life meet. “Busted Halo” reaches out to young adults with a variety of media and ministry that helps them reconnect with faith and help them return to the community of the Church. Flyers and brochures available in the rear of the church. For more info, visit www.bustedhalo.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. **Do you Tweet?** Follow us on Twitter for updates at [HCSCYoungAdults!](https://twitter.com/HCSCYoungAdults)



2015 HCSC PILGRIMAGE TO PORTUGAL, SPAIN and FRANCE—Our parish is planning a 10-day pilgrimage in **October of 2015**. If you are interested in participating in the experience contact Deborah Vanzego at 202-277-1823 or DVanzego@cmht.com.

SAVE THE DATE—Come one and all to the **184th National Oblate Sisters of Providence Homecoming** to be held **August 3rd**, at Our Lady of Mount Providence Motherhouse in Baltimore, MD from 10am until 4pm. All students of Oblate programs and schools are encouraged to come and bring a friend. For more information, call 410-536-5687. Lots of fun, special raffles, and a special lecture on Mother Lange.

COMMUNITY ACTION GROUP (CAG) FRIENDS & FAMILY DAY—“Come out and be blessed by the Lord birthed out of love” on **Sun., July 27th, 8:30am—10:30am** at Mary Virginia Merrick Center at 4275—4th St., SE.

PARISH CONNECTIONS—Visit our Parish-related links and websites and spread the word:
Parish Website: www.hscchurch.org
Fr. Pope’s Sermons online: www.frpope.com
Fr. Pope’s Blog: <http://blog.adw.org>

