

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Readings This Weekend:

1 Kings 3:5-12 Romans 8:28-30 Matthew 13:44-52

Readings Next Weekend:

Isaiah 55:1-3 Romans 8:35-39 Matthew 14:13-21



In today's Gospel, three key words come to mind to summarize it: **What**, **Worth**, and **Warning**. In terms of **what**, the kingdom of heaven is compared to buried treasure, and a pearl of great price. In both cases, the image is of something that is both costly, and precious. By these images, the Lord Jesus wants us to see the kingdom of heaven in this regard. It is to be something very precious to us. Yet, sadly, many regard faith and the things waiting for them in heaven, including God himself, to be of little value or worth. Surely they would not sell all they have, or forsake many things of this world to have it. Even getting to church on Sunday is too much for many. How do you see the kingdom of heaven? Honestly?

As for the **worth** of the kingdom of heaven the point is not so much that we have to give up things for it, but, because we value it so highly, we are more than willing to do so. In the world, when we find something we really want, we are willing to part with money in order to have it. And thus, when we really want Heaven, we are willing to part with the things of this world to have it. Is the kingdom of heaven worth more than the things of this world for you? Really? Finally, as to the word of **warning**, the Lord says there is ultimately a decision we must make, and he will one day recognize. The image of the dragnet catching all sorts of things is an image for the universal world. It is going out to everyone. But when the net is taken ashore, those who have valued the kingdom of heaven will be taken in, those who do not, will be set aside. This is the warning: we will either value the kingdom of heaven, and choose it, whatever the cost, or we won't. What is your decision?



Sunday, July 27

4:30pm (Sat) Intentions of Veronica Rodgers
 8:00am Lillian White †
 11:00am Arthur Gamble, IV †
 7:00pm Charles & Quinzle Isom (50th wedding anniv.)

Monday, July 28

7:00am Walter Bradley †

Tuesday, July 29 *Saint Martha*

7:00am Charles Ginyard

Wednesday, July 30 *St. Peter Chrysologus, Bishop & Doctor of Church*

7:00am Intentions of Aaron Brown

Thursday, July 31 *Saint Ignatius of Loyola, Priest*

7:00am Intentions of Mary McPherson

Friday, August 1 *St. Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop & Doctor of Church*

7:00am Esther Akers (birthday) †

Saturday, August 2 *St. Eusebius of Vercelli, Bishop*

8:00am For the People
 4:30pm William (Bill) Williams

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday: Jeremiah 13:1-11 Matthew 13:31-35
Tuesday: Jeremiah 14:17-22 John 11:19-27
Wednesday: Jeremiah 15:10, 16-21 Matthew 13:44-46
Thursday: Jeremiah 18:1-6 Matthew 13:47-53
Friday: Jeremiah 26:1-9 Matthew 13:54-58
Saturday: Jeremiah 26:11-16, 24 Matthew 14:1-12

Music Schedule

Processional
 "Plenty Good Room" LMGM #714
Responsorial Psalm
 "Lord, I love your commands"
Gospel Acclamation
 "Alleluia!"
Offertory
 "Order My Steps" LMGM #527
Communion
 "Standing on the Promises" LMGM #562
 8:00am Ruby Robertson, Cantor—Gwen Myles, Music Associate
 11:00am Church Choir

Mass Attendance for July 20, 2014

4:30pm	48
8:00am	88
11:00am	245
7:00pm	57
Total:	438

Stewardship Report 2014—2015

Actual Tithes (7/20)	\$8,150
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TITHING WHILE ON VACATION—Church attendance during summer months tends to drop as families go on vacation. But the services we provide within the parish community continue year round, as do their associated expenses. Your consistent financial support of our parish is vital to achieve our stewardship mission. The easiest way to be sure that your gift of treasure reaches us, even when you can't be here, is to enroll in our electronic offertory program: **Faith Direct**. Once enrolled, you can relax knowing that Holy Comforter-Saint Cyprian will receive your gifts throughout the summer. Enrollment forms are available in the rectory office or to enroll online, go to: www.faithdirect.net. Our parish code is DC59. Call Kim Peaks at 202-546-1885 if you have questions.

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

Sunday (7/27) 2:00pm St. Thomas Ladies #64 7:00pm Mass 8:00pm AA	Wednesday (7/30) 6:30pm Vacation Bible School (Rectory closes at 5pm)
Tuesday (7/29) 7:00pm Adult Choir 8:00pm YAM Bible Study	Friday (8/1) 8:00pm NA Saturday (8/2) 4:30pm Mass

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



CONGRATULATIONS to Charles and Quinzie Isom who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on July 25th. May God continue to bless their union.



RECTORY OFFICE SUMMER HOURS—Starting **Wed., July 23rd** through **Wed., August 27th** the Rectory Office will close on **Wednesdays at 5pm**. Regular Wednesday evening hours will resume on **Wed., September 3rd**.

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.**



PLEASE, we need your help to make our Vacation Bible School an event to remember. If you can help with set-up or food distribution contact Kim Peaks at 202-546-1885 or pam@hscchurch.org.

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 Candlelight store. Donation: \$5.

MINISTRY & ORGANIZATION CALENDARS—All chairs should have received their calendar submission forms last week. Please complete and return your ministry calendar to the rectory office as soon as possible or to hscstaff@hscchurch.org. Please note the **new calendar begins Oct. 1, 2014 and ends Sept. 30, 2015**. For questions or info, contact Kim Peaks on 202-546-1885 or pam@hscchurch.org.



HCSC Friends & Family Picnic Committee will meet **Sun., Aug. 3rd from 9:30 to 10:30am** in the **rectory parlor**.

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 part of our celebration of our patron Saint Cyprian.



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 on 202-277-1823 or DVanzego@cmht.com.

184th NATIONAL OBLATE SISTERS OF PROVIDENCE HOMECOMING—on **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 info, call 410-536-5687.

Youth Ministry News

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

HCSC VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL for all ages Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm starting **July 30st thru August 20th** at St. Benedict the Moor parish. Special sessions are planned for all our youth and teens! Feel free to invite your friends from school!

DO YOU NEED COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS? HCSC has opportunities for students who need to earn community service hours for your 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.

HCSC Young Adult Ministry

Paula Lancaster/Felicia Miller ♦ YAM@hscchurch.org

We are planning a **YAM "Grill the Priest" Cookout** event this summer so please make sure to **"Like"** us on Facebook for more details.

Tell us what activities interest you. Please complete the brief young adult (age 18 to 40^{ish}) survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/KHJML7Q> to help us plan future events. Check out the HCSC Young Adults Ministry on **Facebook** or send an email: yam@hscchurch.org. **Do you Tweet?** Follow us on Twitter at HCSCYoungAdults!

CAG FAMILY & FRIENDS COOKOUT—**Sat., Aug. 16th** at Oxon Run Park, Mississippi Ave., & Wheeler Rd., SE, from 12 noon to 7pm. Entertainment by DJ Raymond. Monetary donations accepted. Contact: Shanta on 202-415-0677.

ONE CONGREGATION. ONE FAMILY.—Many low-income families in the District are homeless or on the verge of homelessness. The Government has many financial efforts to help but these families need more. The **One Congregation. One Family.** program steps in to fill the void by providing hope and guidance through connections in our faith communities. If you are interested in learning more about this program and how you can help, contact Kim Peaks at 202-546-1885 or pam@hscchurch.org. We are looking for a few parishioners to attend an information meeting this summer.

FREE CONCERT—by **LIBERA** at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, **Thur., Aug. 7th at 7:30pm**. Libera, a choral group of young boys from South London in the UK, tours internationally for the purpose of assisting other charities in their fundraising. The group performs modern pop classics as well as classic choral music. More information is available in the rear of the church.

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.

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>

