

## SAINT CYPRIAN of CARTHAGE BISHOP & MARTYR



Saint Cyprian's full name was Thascius Caecilius Cyprianus. He was an African nobleman born in Carthage, North Africa, about 200 A.D. Cyprian was born of a wealthy noble family. He was a skilled master of rhetoric and had taken up a career in law before his conversion to the Christian faith from paganism. Despite his high social rank and seemingly carefree life, he was besieged by a feeling of emptiness and, as he described it, a "hidden desperation." It was in these circumstances that, at the age of 35, he embraced the faith and was baptized on Easter Day of 246 A.D. He marveled over the dramatic change the faith brought about in his life and so impressed the Christians of Carthage that a mere three years later, when their Bishop Donatus died, they requested Cyprian as his successor. No sooner was he elected than a savage persecution broke out against the Christians all throughout the Roman Empire and Carthage was no exception.

Nevertheless, Cyprian took the helm and held his community together. From a self-imposed exile he wrote hundreds of encouraging letters to those enduring the ordeals and gave them a shepherd's care. Within two years Cyprian was able to return to Carthage where he zealously and pastorally led his Church. Cyprian was a dedicated student of the Scriptures and read closely the works of the theologians and philosophers of his time. Cyprian himself was a writer and addressed some extremely important issues in the early Church. Many of his works were very influential on the teachings of the Catholic Church and his Treatise on the "Our Father," was considered by many to be a work of genius. He is numbered among the "Father's of the Church." This term describes those, who, through the exercise of their pastoral office and by their teaching and preaching, decisively influenced the development of Christian doctrine and the understanding of Sacred Scripture in the first centuries of the Church.

In the year 257 A.D. persecutions once again broke out against the Church. Cyprian was arrested and then exiled. Refusing to recant his faith, Cyprian knew his time had come to make his supreme witness to Christ. When the death sentence was pronounced he cried out "Thanks be to God!" and that same day September 14, 258, he was beheaded. He was the first African Bishop to be martyred for the faith.

*All Christ did, all he taught, was the will of God. Humility in our daily lives, an unwavering faith, a moral sense of modesty in conversation, justice in acts, mercy in deed, discipline, refusal to harm others, a readiness to suffer harm, peaceableness with our brothers, a whole-hearted love of the Lord, loving in him what is of the Father, fearing him because he is God, preferring nothing to him who preferred nothing to us, clinging tenaciously to his love, standing by his cross with loyalty and courage when there is any conflict involving his honor and his name, manifesting in our speech the constancy of our profession and under torture confidence for the fight, and in dying the endurance for which we will be crowned – this is what it means to wish to be a co-heir with Christ, to keep God's command; this is what it means to do the will of the Father.*



**ROBERT E. PERSON RADIO SHOW:** HCSC's very own Robert Person has his own radio show "**SOULFUL SESSIONS**" on the WBGR Gospel Network. The show airs online at [www.wbgronline.com](http://www.wbgronline.com) every Friday from 10—10:30am. Robert continues to expand his Jazz and Inspirational music brand by highlighting new and independent artists in Gospel (Traditional, Contemporary, and Praise & Worship) and Inspirational and Contemporary Jazz.

**PILGRIMAGE TO EASTERN EUROPE:** The Sodality Union is sponsoring a 12-day Pilgrimage to Eastern Europe (Poland, Austria, Yugoslavia) **July 9–20, 2018**. This pilgrimage is open to everyone, not just Sodality members. For more information, please contact Elizabeth Colston at [lizcolston@comcast.net](mailto:lizcolston@comcast.net) or 301-248-1566.

**I'M NOT TEXTING, I'M PRAYING!** is the slogan for our very own app called *myParish*. With the *myParish* app you can receive parish messages, read bulletins, listen to homilies and much more. Enjoy useful faith-building resources such as, daily Mass readings, a full list of traditional Catholic prayers, and more. Visit [MyParishApp.com](http://MyParishApp.com) to download to your phone.



**The Mother Lange Guild Board hosts its ANNUAL TEA TIME, Sat., Oct. 21<sup>st</sup>, 11:30am—3pm** at the Oblate Sisters of Providence Mother house, 701 Gun Road, Baltimore, MD. **Cost: \$35** per person. Contact: Kim Peaks at [pam@hscchurch.org](mailto:pam@hscchurch.org). Donations are always welcome.

**ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A CHURCH HOME?** If you are visiting our church and interested in joining, stop by our rectory office next to the church to register. Contact our staff on 202-546-1885 or at [hscstaff@hscchurch.org](mailto:hscstaff@hscchurch.org).

**The Sunday TV Mass:** Would you like to be on TV? Join the congregation at a taping of the TV Mass! Your presence at the TV Mass is a wonderful way to bring the Mass to those who are homebound. Two Masses are taped on the same evening, from **7:30-8:45pm** in the Crypt Church of the Basilica at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception at 400 Michigan Ave., NE. Come for one Mass or stay for both! Upcoming Thursday taping dates are September 21 and October 5. To receive the free Celebrate! TV Mass newsletter, please email [communications@adw.org](mailto:communications@adw.org) with your mailing address.

**HCSC BULLETINS ONLINE:** Did you know that we post our bulletins for up to a year on our website ([www.hscchurch.org](http://www.hscchurch.org))? So if you are traveling or away from Church, you can still know what is happening at the parish. Visit our website and find out what you've been missing!



**JUST A REMINDER:** Please turn off or silence all cell phones and electronic devices during Mass. Thank you for your cooperation.



**PRAYING COLLEGE MOMS** is a Catholic non-profit organization established to support students and their parents during this critical time at which students experience independence, may be faced with temptations, and are called upon to make good choices for themselves. For more information and resources, visit [www.prayingcollegemoms.org](http://www.prayingcollegemoms.org).

**CATHOLIC DIGEST:** Get your **FREE** copy of this popular Catholic magazine that uses stories of real people to demonstrate life guided by faith can be exciting, challenging, enlivening, and joyous. Issues contain meaningful ways to connect faith with everyday life; tips for strengthening family ties and friendships; plus recipes, jokes, puzzles, and more. *Limited Supply* in rear of church!

**28<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL EAST of the RIVER FALL REVIVAL**, sponsored by the Southeast Deanery of the ADW and partnering churches, begin with the **Youth Rally, Sat., Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>, 10am—3:30pm** at Church of the Incarnation, 880 Eastern Ave., NE. Theme: "**WHERE THERE IS LIGHT, THERE IS HOPE!**" Our revivalist, **Fr. Roy Lee**, is a distinguished minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, sought as a lecturer, educator, counselor, retreat-master and homilist. Remaining events at Holy Family Parish-Hillcrest, 2210 Callaway St., Hillcrest Heights, MD, **start at 7pm: Family Night, Mon., Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>; Reconciliation Night, Tues., Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup>; and Closing Mass, Wed., Oct. 4<sup>th</sup>.**

**EWTN:** The first Catholic Broadcasting Network (founded by Mother Angelica) airs family and religious programming (on radio, cable, internet) from a Catholic point of view with inspiring talk shows, entertaining children's animation, exclusive teaching series, live coverage or Church events, and thought-provoking documentaries. The spiritual heart of EWTN's mission is to bring the **Eternal Word, Jesus Christ**, to all. Find out more at [www.ewtn.com](http://www.ewtn.com).

**Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend:** "And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit.'" Let the Holy Spirit infuse your marriage with increased trust and intimacy by participating in a **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend on October 27-29, 2017 in Gaithersburg, MD**. For more information and to apply online visit: [welovematrimony.org](http://welovematrimony.org), or email: [applications@welovematrimony.org](mailto:applications@welovematrimony.org), or call 301-541-7007.

**Holy Comforter-Saint Cyprian Roman Catholic Church**

1357 East Capitol Street, SE, WDC 20003  
202-546-1885 ♦ [www.hscchurch.org](http://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](mailto: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](http://blog.adw.org)

