

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Readings This Weekend:

Isaiah 2:1-5 Romans 13:11-14 Matthew 24:37-44

Readings Next Weekend:

Isaiah 11:1-10 Romans 15:4-9 Matthew 3:1-12



There is an old Gospel song that says, "Jesus says, Here I stand, Won't you please let me in? And you said, I will, but tomorrow. Tomorrow? Who promised you tomorrow? Better choose the Lord today, for tomorrow very well might be too late." Today's Gospel warns of the possible suddenness of death or the Lord's second coming. Are you ready to die and face judgment? The Scripture often emphasizes the suddenness of death and judgment: *Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour.* (Matt 25:13). *So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.* (Matt 24:44). *Watch, therefore, you do not know when the lord of the house is coming—whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cock crow, or in the morning. May He not come suddenly and find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to all: "Watch!"* (Mk 13:35-37) *When people are saying, "Everything is peaceful and secure," then disaster will fall on them as suddenly as a pregnant woman's labor pains begin. And there will be no escape.* (1 Thess 5:3). An old spiritual says, "I would not be a sinner, I'll tell you the reason why. I'm afraid my Lord might call my name and I wouldn't be ready to die." Yet another old Gospel song says, "My mother taught me how to pray. So, if I die and my soul be lost, it's nobody's fault but mine." OK, by now you get the point. Advent is not just a time to prepare for Christmas and the baby Jesus, it is also a time to prepare to meet a very adult Jesus who is Lord and God. Are you ready?



PROVERBS 24 COMMUNITY UPDATE:

We continue to build on our communal effort to support life issues from birth to death. Our first effort on Nov. 12th to witness in front of the Planned Parenthood clinic in NE was well attended and peaceful. But, the struggle continues and we need your help. **Our next 'Witness' event is Sat., Dec. 3rd from 10:30am—12:30noon.** We will gather at St. Peter's Church on Capitol Hill at 10:30am and carpool to the Planned Parenthood clinic for peaceful prayer. Some will pray in front of the clinic, others will pray back at the Church while others will prepare a meal for all. Please consider joining us. We need you to **Witness...Pray...Serve.** Contact us at P24community@gmail.com or call Kim Peaks at 202-546-1885 for more information.

NOTE: Due to the Thanksgiving holiday and early submission of the bulletin to the publisher, no Stewardship figures or Mass Attendance data for the weekend of November 20th are available for this week's bulletin. Updated figures will be posted next weekend.



If you were expecting a great guest in your home, what would you do to get ready? You probably start by cleaning and de-cluttering. You would also prepare the meal with care, use the best china and dress well. All of this is not bad advice for preparing to meet the Lord and advent is a time to focus on making those preparations. A good confession is the equivalent of a house cleaning, sweep your soul clean by going to confession. De-clutter by examining your life and considering if there are any things that tend to clutter your life and crowd out the spiritual. What meal does Jesus want? He once said, Doing the Father's will is the food that sustains me (John 4:31). So prepare a meal of obedience and deck yourself in the garments of righteousness.

† MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK †	
Sunday, November 27 <i>First Sunday of Advent</i>	
8:00am	Nathaniel & Nannie Williams †
11:00am	For the intentions of Shirley Austin
7:00pm	For the People
Monday, November 28	
7:00am	All Souls
Tuesday, November 29	
7:00am	Bessie Bowler Walker † (46 th anniversary)
Wednesday, November 30 <i>Saint Andrew, Apostle</i>	
7:00am	All Souls
Thursday, December 1	
7:00am	Pat Hull †
Friday, December 2	
7:00am	Mabel McWaine †
Saturday, December 3 <i>Saint Francis, Xavier</i>	
8:00am	Marcia Spinner †
4:30pm	For the intentions of Mary McPherson
<i>To place a Mass intention, please call 202-546-1885</i>	

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

Sunday (11/27)	Wednesday (11/30)
9:30am Sunday School	11:00am Friendly Seniors
9:30am RCIA	6:30pm Liturgical Dance
1:00pm Youth Pageant practice	7:00pm Bible Study
7:00pm Mass	
8:00pm AA	Friday (12/2)
	6:00pm First Friday Holy Hour
Monday (11/28)	Saturday (12/3)
7:00pm Adult Choir	10:00am Liturgical Dance
8:00pm YAM Bible Study	4:30pm Mass
Tuesday (11/29)	
6:30pm Youth Ensemble	
7:00pm Adult Choir	

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday: Isaiah 4:2-6 Matthew 8:5-11
Tuesday: Isaiah 11:1-10 Luke 10:21-24
Wednesday: Romans 10:9-18 Matthew 4:18-22
Thursday: Isaiah 26:1-6 Matthew 7:21, 24-27
Friday: Isaiah 29:17-24 Matthew 9:27-31
Saturday: Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26 Matthew 9:35–10:1, 5-8

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



FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION: All parishioners are invited to attend a wonderful opportunity to gather together in the church and reflect in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. The **Music Ministry** will host the Eucharistic Holy Hour on **Fri., Dec. 2nd, 6—7pm.**

The **257th U.S. ARMY BAND** presents **“The Holidays in Concert”** on **Mon., Dec. 5th at 7pm.** This **FREE** concert features traditional Patriotic, Christmas and Holiday classics. Bring your family and friends!



ATTENTION LECTORS: The new liturgical year begins **Sun., Nov. 27th** with the **First Sunday of Advent.** Personalized copies of the **2017 Lectors Workbook** have arrived and are available in the sacristy. There is one copy per household. Please take only your copy.

CHRISTMAS GIFT SALE: The Oblate Sisters of Providence (OSP) Alumnae Association will be selling Christmas cards and other gift items after Mass beginning **Sun., Dec. 11th & 18th.** All proceeds benefit the OSP.



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: If you would like to include a loved one on the “In Memory/Honor of...” list included in the Christmas Mass program, return your Christmas Flower offering envelope by **Sun., Dec. 18th** to the rectory. Envelopes are available from any usher or the rectory office. **PLEASE PRINT!**

SAVE THE DATE: CALLING THE MEN OF HCSC!! You are invited to fellowship at our Annual Men’s Retreat at **Loyola on the Potomac, Jan. 6—8, 2017.** Facilitated by Deacon Timothy Tilghman. Open to all ages. Special rates for first-time attendees and men up to age 30. Cost covers room, meals, and facilitator. Contact Richard Bennett: 202-436-0425 or hcscholyname@gmail.com.

ADVENT 2016

ADVENT SOUP & SCRIPTURE—on Wednesdays starting Nov. 30—Dec. 14 with a light meal at 6:30pm followed by bible study at 7pm. Msgr. Pope will lead bible study, **“Running to Meet the Lord”** based on the Song of Songs book of the bible. Open to all. If you’d like to help prepare a meal please contact the rectory office (202-546-1885).

THE WORD AMONG US: FREE Advent issues are available in the rear of the church. This publication is designed to help Catholics find genuine renewal and refreshment in God’s grace, encouragement to read the Word of God, and offers daily meditations based on the Mass readings. *Limited supply!*



GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT “ADVENT” TREE: HCSC Social Concerns Ministry continue its annual Advent food drive for the needy by asking you to donate food items for Christmas baskets. The food items are on our Advent Tree ornaments. Please take one or more ornaments and bring the listed item back to the church by **Sun., Dec. 11th.** We look forward to your participation.

Youth Ministry News

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

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT: The Youth Ministry is looking for actors for our Annual Youth Christmas Pageant. **First rehearsal is Sun., Nov. 27th** following 11AM Mass. We also need adults to help with costumes, set design, and technical logistics. Contact the Youth Ministry Director.

NEWSLETTER: If you’ve participated in a **Faith-In-Action** activity, please share your experience in an article for the Youth Newsletter. Also, if you **celebrate a birthday** during October, November or December and would like it posted in the Youth Newsletter, please contact the Youth Director.

HCSC Young Adult Ministry

YAM@hcschurch.org

FALL THEOLOGY ON TAP SERIES: Join other young adults (ages 21-39) at Buffalo Billiards in Dupont Circle for our 4-week speaker series on **“Beyond Politics: Working through Conflict to Build a Peaceful World”**, **Tuesday evenings Nov. 29—Dec. 6.** We have encountered daily examples of conflict in politics, violence on our streets, across borders, and in our own lives. How do we make a change to build peace in our world, communities, and in our hearts? Speakers include a communications director, and a hostage survivor. **Happy Hour specials from 6-7pm, followed by discussion and Q/A from 7-8pm.** Learn more at adw.org/tot. #totdc

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.

SAINT JOSEPH 2017 SUNDAY MISSALS are available in the Candlelight Store. **COST: \$3 Limited supply.**



2017 ITALY PILGRIMAGE:

HCSC Parish is hosting an 11-day pilgrimage to Italy, **Nov. 6—16, 2017.** Brochures are now available on our website (www.hcschurch.org) and in the Church. **Contact:** Debbie Vanzego at 202-408-4641 or dvanzego@cohenmilstein.com.

Holy Comforter-Saint Cyprian Roman Catholic Church

1357 East Capitol Street, SE, WDC 20003
202-546-1885 ♦ www.hcschurch.org
Rev. Msgr. Charles Pope, Pastor

If you want to know more about our parish community or are interested in joining, contact us at hcsstaff@hcschurch.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

