

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Readings This Weekend:

Isaiah 63:16-19; 64:2-7 1 Cor 1:3-9 Mark 13:33-37

Readings Next Weekend:

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11 2 Peter 3:8-14 Mark 1:1-8



As we enter Advent we are encouraged by the readings to reflect on our need for a savior. The First reading presents a good description of our needy state. We are depicted as **DRIFTING** for the text describes us as wandering and hard of heart. The text depicts us as **DISAPPOINTED** for it has us wish that God would rend the heavens and come down and do some of the great deeds of the past that we read of in the Old Testament. The text also depicts us as **DEPRAVED** for we are described as not doing what is right, as being sinful and unclean. We are also shown as **DISCOURAGED** for we are wracked by guilt and even our good deeds seem to us as so many filthy rags. Further we are shown as **DISAFFECTED** for it seems that too many of us do not even have the desire to rouse ourselves and go and cling to God and seek his mercy. But finally, we are depicted as having **DIGNITY**. For we are the clay and God himself is the potter who cares about us and is molding and fashioning us, if we let him. Indeed, it is our dignity to say "...we are all the work of your hands." So, come Lord Jesus, mold us, fashion us and thereby save us!

MEMORIAL SERVICE—Ronda Jordan (11/21/14)



Sunday, November 30

4:30pm (Sat) For the Intentions of the Rodgers Family
 8:00am Nathaniel Williams †
 11:00am Cyrus Artz
 7:00pm For the People

Monday, December 1

7:00am Joyce Francine Walker †

Tuesday, December 2

7:00am Mabel McWaine (birthday) †

Wednesday, December 3 *Saint Francis Xavier, Priest*

7:00am Shawntee Rowe

Thursday, December 4 *St John Damascene, Priest & Doctor of Church*

7:00am Charles Henry Kittrell (birthday) †

Friday, December 5

7:00am George Holton, III

Saturday, December 6 *Saint Nicholas, Bishop*

8:00am Rivers D. McCreary, Sr. †

4:30pm Stanlie M. Barton (1st anniversary) †

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.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday: Isaiah 2:1-5 Matthew 8:5-11
Tuesday: Isaiah 11:1-10 Luke 10:21-24
Wednesday: Isaiah 25:6-10 Matthew 15:29-37
Thursday: Isaiah 26:1-6 Matthew 7:21, 24-27
Friday: Isaiah 29:17-24 Matthew 9:27-31
Saturday: Isaiah 30:19-26 Matthew 9:35—10:1, 5-8

Music Schedule

Processional
 "We Must Work" LMGM #642
Responsorial Psalm
 "Lord make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved."
Gospel Acclamation
 "Alleluia!"
Offertory
 * "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" LMGM #420
 ** "Lord Make Us Turn to You" L. Roberts
Communion
 "Emmanuel"
 * 8:00am Ruby Robertson, Cantor—Gwen Myles, Music Associate
 ** 11:00am Church Choir

NOTE: Due to the Thanksgiving holiday and early submission of the bulletin to the printer, Stewardship figures and Mass Attendance data for the weekend of November 23rd will not be available for posting. Updated figures will be posted in the December 6th bulletin.



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.

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

Sunday (11/30) 9:30am RCIA 7:00pm Mass 8:00pm AA	Thursday (12/4) 6:30pm Pageant rehearsal
Monday (12/1) 8:00pm YAM Bible Study	Friday (12/5) 6:00pm First Friday Holy Hour 8:00pm NA
Tuesday (12/2) 6:30pm Youth Ensemble 7:00pm Adult Choir	Saturday (12/6) 10:00am Liturgical Dance 1:00pm Baptism Class 4:30pm Mass
Wednesday (12/3) 11:00am Friendly Seniors 6:30pm Liturgical Dance 7:00pm Bible Study	

PARISH CONNECTIONS—STAY IN TOUCH!!

Parish Website: www.hcscchurch.org
 Fr. Pope's Sermons online: www.frpope.com
 Fr. Pope's Blog: <http://blog.adw.org>



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 is a wonderful opportunity to gather and reflect in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. HCSC holds Eucharistic Adoration every first Friday of each month at 6:00pm. The HCSC Women's Ministry will host the **December 5th Adoration** and all parishioners are invited to attend. This Advent, find a moment and spend some quality time with Jesus!

BAPTISM CLASS—If you are making baptism preparations for a child, our next baptism class is **Sat., Dec. 6th at 1pm** in the Chapel. Please call the rectory staff (202-546-1885) to register your child.



The **257th U.S. ARMY BAND** presents *The Holidays in Concert* at HCSC on **Mon., Dec. 15th at 7pm**. This **FREE** concert features traditional Patriotic, Christmas and Holiday classics. Bring your family and friends!

HCSC CREDIT UNION CLOSING—The board of directors and staff of the Holy Comforter-St. Cyprian Federal Credit Union would like to thank our members for the privilege of serving this parish for over 50 years. Due to our declining ability to generate revenue and offer competitive services to our members, we were forced to merge with the Dept. of Agriculture Federal Credit Union on November 4, 2014. If you have any questions or are a member that we were not able to reach, contact the Dept. of Agriculture FCU at 800-368-3552 or members@agriculturefcu.org for more details.

SAINT JOSEPH 2015 SUNDAY MISSALS—are available in the Candlelight Store. Cost: \$3. The new missal begins with the First Sunday of Advent on Nov. 30th.

ADVENT 2014

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!*

FIND THE PERFECT GIFT ADVENT CAMPAIGN—The Archdiocese begins its *Find the Perfect Gift* initiative to encourage us, and those who are not practicing their faith to celebrate the joy of the Jesus, our Perfect Gift this Christmas. Pick up a yard sign and place at your home (limited supply in the rear of Church) and visit FindthePerfectGift.org to explore opportunities to donate time and resources to those in need!

ANointing OF THE SICK MASS will be **Sat., Dec. 13th at 11am**. Confessions will be heard from 10:30am until just prior to the start of Mass.



GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT "ADVENT" TREE—the Social Concerns Ministry continues our Advent food drive for the needy by asking you to donate food items for Christmas baskets. Ornaments on the tree list needed food items. You are asked to take one or more ornaments from the tree and bring the listed item back to the church by **Sun., Dec. 14th**. Questions? Call the rectory office at 202-546-1885.

Youth Ministry News

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

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT REHEARSALS for "*The King is Coming!!!*" have begun. The next rehearsal is **Thur., Dec. 11th at 6:30pm**. Please contact the Youth Director if you are interested in participating in the production. Adults are also needed!

HCSC YOUTH NEWSLETTER—We are looking for articles for the January newsletter that demonstrate your "**Faith in Action**". Please submit your article for publication to the Youth Director.

IS YOUR BIRTHDAY COMING UP?! Any parish youth celebrating a birthday in **December, January or February**, if you'd like your birthday listed in the next edition of the HCSC Youth Newsletter please contact the Youth Director or the rectory (202-546-1885) with your name, birth month, and day.

HCSC Young Adult Ministry

Paula Lancaster/Felicia Miller ♦ YAM@hscchurch.org

YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY—meets every Monday evening at 8pm in the rectory. For info contact Stephanie Keene at sakeene@gmail.com.

FALL THEOLOGY ON TAP SERIES: "Things to Know by 30"—runs Tuesday evenings through Dec. 9th. All young adults are invited to Buffalo Billiards in Dupont Circle for Happy Hour from 6-7pm with a talk and Q/A to follow from 7-8pm. Info on speakers at: www.facebook.com/DCCatholic/events.

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)



SAVE THE DATE—MLK Concert & Liturgy—**Sat., Jan 17, 2015 at 3:00pm**. Come and celebrate the legacy of Dr. King with praise and worship. Stay tuned for details.

END OF LIFE ISSUES—The ADW Department of Life Issues has compiled many resources as an aid for reflection on end of life issues and what it means to have a hopeful and holy death. We've included one document in this bulletin. You can find more information at www.adw.org/transformfear (or #TransformFear). Copies of the pastoral letter is located in the rear of the Church.

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, call the rectory at 202-546-1885 or hscstaff@hscchurch.org.

Mass Schedule: Monday thru Friday at 7:00am (Chapel)
Saturday at 8:00am (Chapel) and 4:30pm
Sunday at 8:00am, 11:00am, and 7:00pm

Office Hours: Monday thru Wednesday, 9:00am—8:00pm, Thursday, 9:00am-5:00pm; Friday, 9:00am-8:00pm; Saturday, 9:00am—1:00pm; and Sunday, 9:00am—2:00pm.

For information on sacraments & funerals call the rectory office.

Follow us on Facebook! Fr. Pope's Blog: <http://blog.adw.org>