

**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:** Robert Dunlap (Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>)  
**FUNERAL MASS:** Edna Brown (Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>)

**† MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK †**

**Sunday, December 3**  
 8:00am Mable V. Henson (106<sup>th</sup> B'day-Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>)  
 11:00am Bernard Peaks †  
 7:00pm For the intentions of the Peaks family  
**Monday, December 4**  
 7:00am For the intentions of Russell Colbert, Sr.  
**Tuesday, December 5**  
 7:00am George T. Holton, III (birthday)  
**Wednesday, December 6**  
 7:00am For the People  
**Thursday, December 7**  
 7:00am Beverly Cyrus †  
**Friday, December 8** *Immaculate Conception Blessed Virgin Mary*  
 7:00am For the intentions of Adam Surowiec  
 10:00am Marie Temple †  
 7:00p.m. Nicholas Huzil †  
**Saturday, December 9**  
 8:00am Edna Brown †  
 4:30pm Bertha R. Vanzego †

*If you'd like to place a Mass intention, call the rectory at 202-546-1885.*

**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:** Gn 3:9-15, 20      Eph 1:3-6, 11-12      Lk 1:26-38  
**Saturday:** Isaiah 30:19-26      Matthew 9:35—10:1, 5-8

**Music Schedule**

**Processional**  
 \* Prepare ye the way of the Lord LMGM #237  
 \*\* Prepare ye the way of the Lord LMGM #235  
**Responsorial Psalm**  
 Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.  
**Offertory**  
 \* My Lord what a morning LMGM #693  
 \*\* Are you ready LMGM #243  
**Communion**  
 \* While we are waiting, come LMGM #233  
 \*\* I don't mind waiting/Soon and very soon  
**Recessional**  
 \*\* Soon and very soon LMGM #691  
 \* 8:00am Ruby Robertson, Cantor—George Stewart, Accompanist  
 \*\* 11:00am Church Choir—George Stewart, Music Director

**Mass Attendance for November 26, 2017**

4:30pm	51
8:00am	106
11:00am	210
7:00pm	100
<b>Total:</b>	<b>467</b>

**Stewardship Report 2017—2018**

Actual Tithes Collected (Nov. 26)	\$15,011
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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**

<b>Sunday (12/3)</b> 9:30am RCIA 7:00pm Mass 8:00pm AA	<b>Wednesday (12/6)</b> 11:00am Friendly Seniors 7:00pm Bible Study
<b>Monday (12/4)</b> 8:00pm YAM Bible Study	<b>Friday (12/8)</b> 10:00am Mass 7:00pm Mass
<b>Tuesday (12/5)</b> 7:00pm Adult Choir	<b>Saturday (12/9)</b> 10:00am Usher Ministry mtg 4:30pm Mass

**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.*

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### PARISH LIFE

**CHRISTMAS COLLECTION:** This year will be devoted to hurricane victims in the U.S. Virgin Islands. As many of you know the Diocese of St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands is the sister diocese of our own Archdiocese of Washington. Bishop Brevard is well known to our parish and has celebrated several confirmations for our youngsters. There is still much damage and suffering due to the two hurricanes. Please be generous so that we can in turn be generous to our fellow citizens in the U.S. Virgin Islands. All funds will be given to the diocese of St. Thomas.



**BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO MS. MABLE HENSON** celebrating her **106<sup>th</sup> birthday, Fri., Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>**. As she continues to stand strong in her faith, may our Lord continue to bless and keep her in His love and care.

The **257<sup>th</sup> U.S. ARMY BAND** presents **"The Holidays in Concert"** on **Mon., Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> at 7pm**. This **FREE** concert held at HCSC features traditional Patriotic, Christmas and Holiday classics. Bring your family and friends!



**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 **Wed., Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>** to the rectory. Envelopes are available from any usher or the rectory office. **PLEASE PRINT!**

**SAVE THE DATE:** Ladies of Charity Bake Sale, **Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>** in the rectory basement, **9am—2pm**.

### ADVENT 2017



Due to the lack of registration numbers, our **Advent Family Day** event, which was scheduled for Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>, had to be **cancelled**.

**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!*

**ADVENT SOUP & SCRIPTURE:** *"Jesus is Coming, Are you Ready?"* We will explore the theme of readiness for the Coming of the Lord and of our judgment by studying several advent hymns and exploring their scriptural roots. **We will meet on three consecutive Thursdays in the Rectory basement.** Themes are:

- Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>—The Day of Judgment Described
- Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>—The Case for the Clemency We Need
- Dec 21<sup>st</sup>—The Call for Compassion

Meal begins at 6:30pm and bible study begins at 7:15pm.

**GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT "ADVENT" TREE:** HCSC Social Concerns Ministry has begun our annual Advent food drive for the needy. Parishioners are asked to donate food items for Christmas baskets. The food items are listed on the Advent Tree ornaments. Please take one or more ornaments and **return the listed item back to the church by Sun., Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>**.



### Youth Ministry News

**Nicki Gebrehwot, Director of Youth Ministry**

202-546-1885 ext. 25 (voicemail) ♦ youthdirector@hscchurch.org

**ANNUAL YOUTH CHRISTMAS PAGEANT!!!** Calling all youth actors who would like to participate in the Youth Christmas Pageant held on **Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>** at the **6pm Family Christmas Mass**. If you are interested (any age is welcome), come to rehearsal in the church on **Sun., Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>** immediately following the 11am Mass, or contact Nicki Gebrehwot. Adults are also needed to help with costumes and set!

**SAVE THE DATE! BRUNCH WITH SAINT NICHOLAS** is **Sun., Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am** at the school. Food, games and a visit from Saint Nick!

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** The HCSC Youth Ministry is looking for teen volunteers to help organize and create gift bags. The program is sponsored by Catholic Charities Holiday Volunteer Projects. The event is scheduled for **Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>** from **1-to-4pm**. Please contact the Youth Director for further details.

### HCSC Young Adult Ministry

[YAM@hscchurch.org](mailto:YAM@hscchurch.org)



**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 2018 SUNDAY MISSALS** are available in the Candlelight Store. **COST: \$3 Limited supply.**

**EXHIBIT ON THE RESTORATION OF JESUS' TOMB:** Journey to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and the Tomb of Christ in a new, immersive 3-D exhibit at the National Geographic Museum near St. Matthew Cathedral in Washington. "The Tomb of Christ" takes you to Jerusalem and into the church virtually. See the cave walls of Jesus' tomb, hidden for centuries and uncovered during an historic 2016 restoration, and test technology used in the restoration. Get details and group information at [nationalgeographic.org/dc/exhibitions/tomb-of-christ](http://nationalgeographic.org/dc/exhibitions/tomb-of-christ).

### 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.

♦ Fr. Pope's Sermons online: [www.frpope.com](http://www.frpope.com)

♦ Fr. Pope's Blog: <http://blog.adw.org>

♦ **NEW!!** HCSC App: [myParishapp.com](http://myParishapp.com) 

♦ Follow us on Social Media: 