

**HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH**

**Readings This Weekend:**

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 Colossians 3:12-21 Luke 2:22-40

**Readings Next Weekend:**

Isaiah 60:1-6 Ephesians 3:2-6 Matthew 2:1-12



It is the Feast of the Holy Family today and we ought to meditate on the central purpose of marriage and family which is the birth and raising of children. In recent decades we have seen a shift in this understanding. Most people today see the happiness of the couple as the central purpose of marriage. But God set forth marriage with this central mission: Be fruitful and multiply, fill the earth and subdue it (*Gen 1:28*). While the happiness of the couple may be a nice goal and something to hope for, we all know that happiness has its ups and downs in every aspect of life. In the “old days” parents were often known to “stick it out for the sake of the kids.” This is because children need stability and a dedicated mother and father to form them best. Job #1 in the family is children and their well-being. Notice, therefore, in today’s Gospel that, when Jesus’ life is threatened by Herod, Joseph and Mary set everything else aside and go to Egypt. Joseph, when instructed to go there did not protest about his comfort or his career. The text says that Joseph arose that very night and took Jesus and Mary away from harm. He stayed in Egypt as long as required for Jesus’ safety. It is clear that his vocation as (foster) father and husband had priority over his career and his business prospects. And thus we are taught to have the same priorities.



**Sunday, December 28** *Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph*

4:30pm (Sat) William & Catherine Miles †  
 8:00am For the Intentions of Mona Winters  
 11:00am Lester Chance (birthday)  
 7:00pm William G. Williams, III (birthday-12/29) †

**Monday, December 29** *St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr*

7:00am Jimmie Claire Walker (birthday)

**Tuesday, December 30**

7:00am Kenyon Jones †

**Wednesday, December 31** *Saint Sylvester I, Pope*

7:00am Miriam Townsend-Edelen (birthday)  
 11:00pm Miriam Townsend-Edelen (birthday)

**Thursday, January 1** *Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God*

10:00am For the Intentions of Betty Hamer

**Friday, January 2** *Saints Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops*

7:00am For the Intentions of Michael L. Barnes

**Saturday, January 3** *The Most Holy Name of Jesus*

8:00am For the Homeless  
 4:30pm For the People

**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:** 1 John 2:3-11 Luke 2:22-35  
**Tuesday:** 1 John 2:12-17 Luke 2:36-40  
**Wednesday:** 1 John 2:18-21 John 1:1-18  
**Thursday:** Nmbrs 6:22-27 Gal 4:4-7 Luke 2:16-21  
**Friday:** 1 John 2:22-28 John 1:19-28  
**Saturday:** 1 John 2:29—3:6 John 1:29-34

**Music Schedule**

**Processional**  
 Angels We Have Heard on High” LMGM #246  
**Responsorial Psalm**  
 “Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways”  
**Gospel Acclamation**  
 “Alleluia!”  
**Offertory**  
 \* “O Come All Ye Faithful” LMGM #262  
 \*\* “For God So Loved the World” L. Wolfe  
**Communion**  
 “What Child is This” LMGM #277  
 \* 8:00am Ruby Robertson, Cantor—Gwen Myles, Music Associate  
 \*\* 11:00am Church Choir

**NOTE:** Due to the Christmas holiday and early submission of the bulletin to the printer, no Stewardship figures or Mass Attendance data for the weekend of December 21<sup>st</sup> is available for posting in this week’s bulletin. Updated figures will be posted next weekend.

**CHRISTMAS COLLECTION**—Our school roof needs to be replaced and we will incur some debt to make the repair to our building. Your generosity to the Christmas collection will allow us to replenish our Maintenance/Repair Account used for building upkeep. Please use your Christmas collection envelope to support this effort. Envelopes are also available in the rear of the church. Thank you.

**END OF THE YEAR CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS** will be prepared only upon request beginning **Mon., Feb. 2, 2015**. Statements will not be automatically mailed. You must contact the rectory during office hours to request your statement and have it either mailed or left at the rectory for pick-up. **NOTE:** only cash donations (submitted in an envelope) and checks payable to Holy Comforter-Saint Cyprian are included in your statement. Your statement will not reflect loose cash donations not placed in an envelope.

**THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH**

**Sunday (12/28)**  
 9:30am RCIA  
 2:00pm St Thomas Ladies #64  
 7:00pm Mass  
 8:00pm AA  
**Monday (12/29)**  
 8:00pm YAM Bible Study  
**Wednesday (12/31)**  
 3:00pm **Rectory Closes Early**  
 11:00pm Watch Night Mass  
**Thursday (1/1)**  
**Solemnity of Mary**  
 10:00am Mass  
**Rectory Closed**  
**Friday (1/2)**  
**Rectory Closed**  
 6:00pm First Friday Holy Hour  
 8:00pm NA  
**Saturday (1/3)**  
 9:30am Liturgical Dance  
 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.*

**PARISH LIFE**

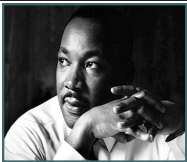
**RECTORY HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**

The Rectory will close early at **3pm** on **Wed., December 31<sup>st</sup>** and remain closed through **Fri., January 2<sup>nd</sup>**.

**FRIST FRIDAY ADORATION**—All parishioners are invited to attend a wonderful opportunity to gather together and reflect in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. Details have been provided to each ministry leader inviting them to select a Friday to host. Come spend some quality time with Jesus! Please consider taking time for prayer on **Fri., Jan. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6—7pm** in the church for a Eucharistic Holy Hour.



**SOLEMN LATIN MASS FOR EPIPHANY**—will be **Tues., Jan. 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm**. The music will feature Gregorian chant and beautiful choral singing of the music by the Priest, Thomas Luis Victoria of the 1500s. This Mass will likely attract a number of people from around the city who appreciate both the old mass and the music of the Renaissance. You are encouraged to come experience the Mass as it was celebrated for over a thousand years.



**2015 MASS CELEBRATING REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.**—The annual concert and liturgy celebrating the legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. is **Sat., Jan. 17<sup>th</sup>, at 3pm** here at Holy Comforter-Saint Cyprian Church. Concert features the Archdiocese of Washington Mass Gospel Choir directed by our own Kenneth Louis. Cardinal Wuerl, Archbishop of Washington, is the celebrant and homilist for 4:30pm Mass.

**THE WORD AMONG US**—January issues available in the Candlelight Store for \$3 each. 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 Mass readings.

**LITURGICAL MINISTER'S WORKSHOP**—Msgr. Pope will convene a Liturgical Minister's Workshop on **Sat., Jan. 24<sup>th</sup>** from **9:30am—1pm** in the Church. Deacon Keith Hathaway will facilitate. Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers, Altar Servers and others are asked to attend. Stay tuned for more details.

**GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT "ADVENT" TREE**—Through your generosity, the Social Concerns Ministry collected enough food to fill approx. **70** Christmas Baskets to distribute to needy families. Thank you for your wonderful outpouring of love and a very special thank you to all the volunteers who helped pack and distribute the baskets.

New Year's Mass Schedule

**Watch Night Mass**  
11:15pm Wednesday, December 31<sup>st</sup>

**Mass on New Year's Day**  
10:00am Thursday, January 1<sup>st</sup>

Parking is available on the school lot at 15<sup>th</sup> Street  
**DO NOT DOUBLE-PARK OR IN REAR OF RECTORY!**

**Youth Ministry News**

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

**MANY THANKS** to all the hands and hearts who participated in the Youth Ministry project for the **Unique Residential Care Center**.

**ALSO, THANK YOU** to all the youth and adults who participated in making our production of the play "The King is Coming!!! a memorable Christmas event.

**ESSAY/DRAWING CONTEST**—The Sodality Union of the Archdiocese of Washington invites all youth between 8-18 to respond to the question: **"What can I do to preserve the earth?"** Entries must be received by **January 20<sup>th</sup>**. Please contact the HCSC Youth Director or Mrs. Brown at 301-899-8995 for more details.

**ANNUAL YOUTH RALLY & MASS for LIFE**—at the Verizon Center is **January 22, 2015**. There are a limited number of tickets for youth for the event. Please contact the Youth Director for further information.

**HCSC Young Adult Ministry**

**Paula Lancaster/Felicia Miller** ♦ YAM@hscchurch.org

Special thanks to all who participated and/or donated to the **CARING FOR OUR HOMELESS** project. Many lives were blessed by your generosity.

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

We'd like to hear from our young adults (age 18 to 40<sup>ish</sup>)! Check out the HCSC Young Adults Ministry on **Facebook** or on **Twitter** #HCSCYoungAdults!



**CALENDARS FOR 2015**—A variety of 2015 calendars will be available after Mass in the rear of the church.



**2015 HCSC PILGRIMAGE TO PORTUGAL, SPAIN and FRANCE**—Msgr. Pope is planning a 10-day pilgrimage in October of 2015. If you are interested in participating in the experience contact Deborah Vanzego at 202-277-1823 or DVanzego@cmht.com.



to all parishioners and staff who helped prepare our church for Christmas and ministered liturgically!

**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, 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>