

**TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**Readings This Weekend:**

Wisdom 2:12, 17-20 James 3:16—4:3 Mark 9:30-37

**Readings Next Weekend:**

Numbers 11:25-29 James 5:1-6 Mark 9:38-48



In today's gospel, the Lord is calling a crucial question. The gospel begins with a **Processional** and we are told that Jesus is beginning a journey through Galilee. This means he is heading south, into conflict, on his final journey, which will end with his cross, death and resurrection. Jesus' procession is not unlike our own, wherein, as we head toward our eventual death, we must increasingly confront the empty promises of this world, and set our eyes firmly on the kingdom of heaven. But note the **Pain**. Jesus gives the second prediction of his passion, death and resurrection. Jesus, who knew the torture that awaited him, expresses his pain. Sadly, his Apostles become avoidant, they are afraid to ask him any questions about this, and they seem to draw apart and become engaged in a foolish debate about who's the greatest. So, then comes the **Point**, the crucial, question. Jesus asked, "What were you arguing about on the way?" In other words, what is important in your life? What do you spend your time thinking and talking about? Is it really the things of God, or is it foolish and passing things of the world like who's the greatest, who's the big cheese, and how do I rank? Jesus answers their foolishness, (our foolishness), with a shocking paradox: the greatest, in God's eyes, is not those who are served, but those who serve. At the \$10,000 a plate fund raiser, God is not drawn to the head table, or to the dais. He is drawn to those who serve the table. God does not run to the rope line first, he walks into the kitchen and greets the cooks and dishwashers. And so, the crucial question for us is, "What are you discussing as you make your journey, what is important to you?" Is it important to God?

**† MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK †**

**Sunday, September 23**

8:00am Norma B. Jackson † (birthday-Sept. 20)  
 11:00am Curtis Lee Walton †  
 7:00pm For those suffering from natural disasters

**Monday, September 24**

7:00am For the People

**Tuesday, September 25**

7:00am For the intentions of Ruby L. Roberts

**Wednesday, September 26** *Saints Cosmas & Damian, Martyrs*

7:00am Charlena D. Addison †

**Thursday, September 27** *Saint Vincent de Paul, Priest*

7:00am Dwayne T. Holton (birthday)

**Friday, September 28** *Sts. Wenceslaus & Lawrence Ruiz, Martyrs*

7:00am Esther Akers †

**Saturday, September 29** *Sts. Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, Archangels*

8:00am Gloria Mathews Bradley †  
 4:30pm Sylvester Campbell †

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

**DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

**Monday:** Proverbs 3:27-34 Luke 8:16-18  
**Tuesday:** Proverbs 21:1-6, 10-13 Luke 8:19-21  
**Wednesday:** Proverbs 30:5-9 Luke 9:1-6  
**Thursday:** Ecclesiastes 1:2-11 Luke 9:7-9  
**Friday:** Ecclesiastes 3:1-11 Luke 9:18-22  
**Saturday:** Revelation 12:7-12 John 1:47-51

**Music Schedule**

**Processional**

\* Jesus Is All the World to Me LMGM #370  
 \*\* The Glory of the Lord Stephen Hurd

**Responsorial Psalm**

The Lord Upholds My Life Psalm 54

**Offertory**

\* My Heavenly Father Watches Over Me LMGM #579  
 \*\* The Lord Is My Light

**Communion Hymn**

\* Be Not Afraid LMGM #583  
 \*\* Worthy Is the Lamb Hillsong

**Post Communion**

\*\* Heal Our Land Oscar Williams

**Recessional**

\*\* Go Out W. Clifford Petty

\* Ruby Robertson, Cantor – George Stewart, Director of Music  
 \*\* Church Choir—George Stewart, Director of Music

**Mass Attendance  
September 16, 2018**

4:30pm 96  
 10:00am 361  
 7:00pm 91  
**Total: 548**

**Stewardship Report: Sept. 1—21, 2018**

Budgeted Tithes: Sept. 1—21, 2018	\$47,307
Actual Tithes Received: Sept. 1—21, 2018	\$45,066



**ELECTRONIC TITHING (FAITH DIRECT):**

We are thankful for all the generous gifts that you provide to our parish, but we realize that you cannot be with us every Sunday of the year. Please consider using our secure electronic giving program, *Faith Direct*. *Faith Direct* will automatically process any offertory or second collections donation of your choosing. Visit [www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net) and use our church code: **DC59**. If you have questions, you can call Kim Peaks at 202-546-1885. Thank you for your continued support of our parish family!

**THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH**

<b>Sunday (9/23)</b> 9:30am RCIA 2:00pm St. Thomas Ladies 8:00pm AA	<b>Wednesday (9/26)</b> 11:00am Friendly Seniors 6:30pm Liturgical Dance 7:00pm Bible Study
<b>Monday (9/24)</b> 8:00pm YAM Bible Study	<b>Friday (9/28)</b> 5:30pm Holy Name meeting
<b>Tuesday (9/25)</b> 6:30pm Youth Choir 7:00pm Adult Choir	<b>Saturday (9/29)</b> 10:00am Liturgical Dance

**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



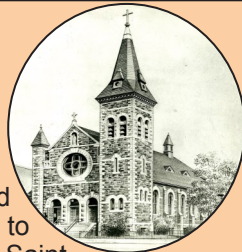
**IT'S NOT TOO LATE!** You can still register your child. Classes for Pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> grade are held **at 9:30am at the school.** Sunday school is for all youth, including youth who need to receive the sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation. Registration forms are available in the rear of the church, in the rectory, and on the HCSC website. Questions? Contact Shirley Austin 202-546-1885 or at: mre@hscchurch.org.



**SUNDAY SCHOOL NOVENA:** If you didn't start your HCSC Religious Education Novena last week, please start this week. This is a prayerful effort to strengthen our faith community and our Religious Ed Program. Parishioners are asked to offer a series of prayers, a 9-day Novena, for "whole family participation" in our Sunday School. Our Novena honors St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. Copies of the 9-day novena to Mother Seton are located in the rear of the church and on our website. Pray alone or with a group.

**CELEBRATING the 125<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY of the ESTABLISHMENT of SAINT CYPRIAN PARISH**

*"How Firm A Foundation"*



We are planning various activities and events **throughout 2018—2019** to celebrate the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Saint Cyprian Catholic Church. Displays of photos and artifacts from Saint Cyprian Church, prior to the merger with Holy Comforter in 1966, are featured in the HCSC vestibule and throughout the church. **You are invited to submit photos and memorabilia from Saint Cyprian Parish for display.** All items will be handled with care and returned to the owner. See the featured brochure in your bulletin for a list of upcoming events. Questions? Contact Kim Peaks (pam@hscchurch.org, or 202-546-1885).

**SEASON OF HEALING IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON:** In recognition of the ongoing need for healing in the Catholic church, join us as a parish community to come together in prayer, to give voice to the pain and suffering of the survivors of clergy sexual abuse, while also recognizing the pain and wound of the whole Church. HCSC will hold a **Holy Hour/Eucharistic Adoration in the sanctuary each Friday through Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm.** **NOTE:** Msgr. Pope and other staff will be available following Holy Hour on Friday, Oct. 5<sup>th</sup> to facilitate discussions on how we are currently protecting our youth in this parish through the VIRTUS program. This discussion will be beneficial to parents but open to all.

**26<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL WEEK of PRAYER & FASTING—** is an annual effort to unite people for **Nine Days to Save the World, Sept. 29<sup>th</sup> thru Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>.** Participants are asked to pray and fast: for peace and conversion; to build a culture of life; to defend the sanctity of marriage and family life; and implore God for holiness for His Church. See flyer in the rear of the church for info on how to participate and register. For information: call 703-707-0799 or visit: www.iwopf.org.

Youth Ministry News

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

**ANNUAL EAST OF THE RIVER REVIVAL YOUTH RALLY—Sat., Sept. 29<sup>th</sup>, 10AM—4:30PM, St. Thomas More Catholic Church.** Join other youth, age 7—18, from local churches in a day of fun and fellowship. All HCSC youth and their families are invited. Parents will have their own Breakout Session. Flyers available in the rear of the church. Contact Nicki Gebrehiwot for more details.

**SAVE THE DATE: TRIP TO "JESUS":** Join the HCSC Youth Ministry on a trip to the Sight and Sound Theater in Lancaster, PA, **Thurs., Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>** to see the biblical production of Jesus. Transportation and meal included. Stay tuned for more information.

HCSC Young Adult Ministry

**YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY** meets **Mondays at 8PM** in the rectory. Join other young adults with Msgr. Pope in the discussion of scripture. We have started studying the **Book of Job.** This is a good opportunity to meet other young adults in the parish.



**Thanks** To **Annette Brooks and her hard-working committee members and volunteers** for a very successful and fun-filled **parish picnic.** The food was plentiful and delicious and the weather was surprisingly awesome. Looking forward to next year!! A very special thanks to the Servants of the Lord for assisting with our youth. Their love to serve God's people in such a loving manner is truly special and greatly appreciated.

**THANK YOU!** To **Shirley Austin & Nicki Gebrehiwot** for coordinating the **Feast Day celebration** and for all the volunteers who came forward to provide assistance. A special show of gratitude to **Joe Mitchell and Cyprian Jenifer** who said "yes" when we really needed their help. We could not have pulled the day together without teamwork and commitment to our parish community.



From **Reverend Mr. Ralph Cyrus, Jr.** to those who arranged my 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration and the parishioners of the faith community of Holy Comforter Saint Cyprian Catholic Church: *'Thank You' is inadequate to express the love and blessings I received on Sunday. Let it be known that this parish is truly a blessing to me. I am so grateful to the Lord and the Cardinal Archbishop of Washington for my time of service with the diaconate and for allowing me to serve HCSC. Let me end by saying the blessings of the Lord be with you always.*

**PARISH CONNECTIONS:** Visit our Parish-related social media links, websites and apps to help spread the word:

- ♦Parish Website: [www.hscchurch.org](http://www.hscchurch.org)
- ♦Fr. Pope's Blog & Homilies online: [www.msgrpope.com](http://www.msgrpope.com)
- ♦HCSC App: [myParishapp.com](https://myParishapp.com)
- ♦Follow or Like us on social media: