

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Readings This Weekend:

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 Col 3:12-21 Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

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 Number One 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.

† MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK †

Sunday, December 29 *Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph*

8:00am Eliza Yates †
 11:00am Leola E. Greenfield † (birthday)
 7:00pm Jimmie Claire Walker (birthday)

Monday, December 30

7:00am Gary McPherson, Jr. †

Tuesday, December 31 *Saint Sylvester I, Pope*

7:00am Larry Elgin †
 7:00pm For the intentions of Diane Tucker
 11:15pm Miriam Townsend-Edelen (birthday)

Wednesday, January 1 *Solemnity of Mary*

7:00am Mary H. Thomas (birthday)

Thursday, January 2 *Sts Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen*

7:00am Coulter Nakamura †

Friday, January 3 *Holy Name of Jesus*

7:00am Austin Roe Ketchum †

Saturday, January 4 *Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious*

8:00am For the intentions of Ken Hoff
 4:30pm For the People

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

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday: 1 John 2:12-17 Luke 2:36-40
Tuesday: 1 John 2:18-21 John 1:1-18
Wednesday: Nm 6:22-27 Gal 4:4-7 Lk 2:16-21
Thursday: 1 John 2:22-28 John 1:19-28
Friday: 1 John 2:29—3:6 John 1:29:34
Saturday: 1 John 3:7-10 John 1:35-42

Music Schedule

Processional

* Joy to the World LMGM #249
 ** Come and Worship Roger Holland

Responsorial Psalm

Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

Offertory

* O Come Let Us Adore Him LMGM #430
 ** TBD

Communion

What Child Is This LMGM #277

Post Communion

** Silent Night LMGM # 244

Recessional

Go Tell It On the Mountain LMGM #253

* 8:00am Ruby Robertson, Cantor—George Stewart, Music Director
 ** 11:00am Church Choir—George Stewart, Music Director

NOTE: Due to the Christmas holiday, the publisher required early submission of this bulletin. Therefore, we will not post Stewardship or Mass Attendance data for the weekend of December 22nd in this week's bulletin. Figures will be updated later.



2019 CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

will be used for the much needed renovation of our bathrooms in the rear of the church. We are currently soliciting designs and plans for the renovation. Please use your

Christmas Collection envelope included with your monthly tithing envelopes for your donation. Additional Christmas Collection envelopes are available in the rear of the church or the rectory office. Thank you for your donation.

SPECIAL ARCHDIOCESAN COLLECTION: The Archdiocese for the Military Services (AMS) is faced with many challenges, including a severe shortage of Catholic priest-chaplains and a flock spread out among military installations across the world, in constant transition. Each parish is being asked to support the AMS which receives no funding from the military or the government and must rely solely on private donors. Catholic service members and their families, and veterans cared for in a Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, deserve the same faith opportunities as Catholics here at home. Prayerfully consider making a donation to these clergy who serve our country on the front lines of war. The collection will occur the weekend of January 5, 2020.

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

Sunday (12/29)

8:00pm AA

Monday (12/30)

8:00pm YAM Bible Study

Tuesday (12/31)

3:00pm Rectory Closes Early

7:00pm Solemnity of Mary vigil

11:15pm Solemnity of Mary vigil

Wednesday (1/1)

No 7:00 a.m. Mass

RECTORY OFFICE CLOSED

10:00am Solemnity of Mary Mass

Friday (1/3)

6:00pm Eucharistic Adoration

Saturday (1/4)

4:30pm Epiphany Vigil 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.

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

PARISH LIFE



FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY: This feast day was instituted by Pope Leo XIII in 1893. It is a liturgical celebration in the Catholic Church to honor Jesus of Nazareth, his mother, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and his foster father, Saint Joseph, as a family. The primary purpose of this feast is to present the Holy Family as a model for Christian families. This Roman Catholic religious festival falls on the first Sunday after Christmas. Although feast days exist for each member of the Holy Family—Jesus, Mary, and Joseph—the **Feast of the Holy Family** commemorates their life together, celebrates and focuses on religious family life.

RECTORY HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Tues., Dec. 31st Rectory will close at 3PM
Wed., Jan. 1st RECTORY CLOSED
Thur., Jan. 2nd Regular rectory office hours resume

THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY—A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION: In the Catholic Church, Holy Days of Obligation are days the faithful are expected to attend Mass. **The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God** (January 1st), is a Holy Day of Obligation. Please come ponder the mystery of God's selection of the virgin Mary to give birth to our Savior, Jesus Christ, by attending a Holy Mass either on **Tues., Dec. 31st at 7PM, or 11:15PM, or Wed., Jan. 1st at 10AM.**

THE WORD AMONG US: January issues are available in the Candlelight Store. **Cost: \$2 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 the mass readings. *Limited supply!*

COAT DRIVE ANNUAL COAT DRIVE: The Gospel instructs us to clothe those without clothing. In partnership with DC Catholic Charities and the Knights of Columbus—St Cyprian Council #10008, our parish is taking part in the annual *Coats of Many Colors* drive. Please donate your lightly used coats to the less fortunate. The collection bin is in the vestibule of the Church. **Please contribute to this effort by January 19, 2020.**

Solemnity of Mary (New Year's) Mass Schedule

Solemnity of Mary (Vigil Mass)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31ST
7:00p.m. & 11:15 p.m.

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God Holy Day of Obligation

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1ST
10:00 a.m.

(Note: There will **not** be a 7:00 a.m. Mass)

Epiphany of the Lord

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5TH
8:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
(Vigil Mass on Sat., Jan. 4th at 4:30 p.m.)

Youth Ministry News

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

YOUTH RALLY & MASS FOR LIFE: Join thousands of youth from all over the world as we gather **Fri., Jan. 24, 2020**, at the Capital One Arena for a rally and mass to promote life. The rally/mass will be followed by the **Annual March for Life** on the national mall. If you are interested in attending, contact the HCSC Youth Director.

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 are studying the **Book of Genesis**. Come and meet other young adults!



CALENDARS FOR 2020: A variety of **FREE** 2020 calendars will be available after Mass in the rear of the church. Limited supply!



HELP OUR MARRIAGE: Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi with a long i) helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. This year, with the help of our Almighty God, the Retrouvaille team has helped 55 out of 60 couples in the MD/DC region experiencing difficulties in their marriage to stay married. For confidential information or to register for the upcoming program beginning the weekend of January 24-26, 2020, visit: www.HelpOurMarriage.org.

HCSC YEAR-END CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS—will be prepared **only upon request** beginning **Mon., Feb. 3, 2020**. 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.

FAITH DIRECT YEAR-END STATEMENTS for HCSC parishioners who tithe through Faith Direct will automatically receive their 2019 year-end giving statement directly from Faith Direct at no additional cost as part of the Faith Direct program.

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

To learn more about our parish community or if you are interested in joining, contact us at: hscstaff@hscchurch.org or 202-546-1885.

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

Office Hours: Mon, Tues, and Fri, 9am—8pm;
Wed and Thurs, 9am—5pm; Sat, 9am—1pm; and, Sun, 9am—2pm.
For information on sacraments and funerals call the rectory office.

- Pastor's Media Links: MSGRPOPE.com
- HCSC App: myParishapp.com
- Follow us on Social Media: