

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Readings This Weekend:

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

Readings Next Weekend:

Isaiah 42:1-7 Acts 10:34-38 Matthew 3:13-17



The Wise Men in today's Gospel seek to understand the light of the star and come to understand the light of the world, Jesus. Notice first their **Journey**. God summons them by the star to seek him and they set out. A lot of folks follow movie stars, or sports stars. What star are you following? Is it Jesus? Their journey is not an easy one. Travel was always difficult and dangerous in the ancient world. Next, notice the **Jeopardy** they encounter. As they arrive in Israel two things threaten to misdirect their mission. First, there are Sleepy Saints. As they arrive in Jerusalem the Wise Men expect to find wild celebration. But the town seems quite sleepy. And when Herod, who strangely knows nothing about the birth of a King, summons the religious leaders they rather sleepily give the prophecies and show little or no enthusiasm. The Wise Men could have been quite discouraged by this but they persevere. The second threat they face is that Herod is scheming to use them so that he can kill the child. This is surely not their mission and his secret scheme almost renders them dupes but they are later warned. Finally, in this Gospel we see the **Justification** of the Wise Men. Coming at last to Jesus the text says they worship him and offer him gifts. They also manifest conversion, for having been warned of Herod's plot, they take another route home. That is, they change how they have been walking, they make a course correction if your will. Praise God for the example of the Wise Men who journey to Christ despite jeopardy and thus they find justification.

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 this weekend (January 4-5, 2020).

Mass Attendance Dec. 24—29, 2019

6:00pm	220 (Family Mass)
12:00am	172 (Midnight Mass)
10:00am	68 (Christmas Day)
4:30pm	45
8:00am	114
11:00am	200
7:00pm	99
Total:	918

NOTE: Due to the Christmas holiday, the publisher required early submission of this bulletin. Therefore, we will not post Stewardship data for the weekend of December 29th in this week's bulletin. Figures will be updated later.

† MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK †

Sunday, January 5 *Epiphany of the Lord*

8:00am For the People
11:00am Kenyon C. Jones †
7:00pm Larry Elgin †

Monday, January 6

7:00am Juanita Chadwick † (birthday)

Tuesday, January 7

7:00am Donald W. Greenfield † (birthday)

Wednesday, January 8

7:00am Tyrone Adams † (birthday)

Thursday, January 9

7:00am Coulter Nakamura †

Friday, January 10

7:00am For the intentions of Pat Chase

Saturday, January 11

8:00am Louise Boone † (and family)
4:30pm For the intentions of Karl Hoff

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

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday: 1 John 3:22—4:6 Matthew 4:12-17, 23-25
Tuesday: 1 John 4:7-10 Mark 6:34-44
Wednesday: 1 John 4:11-18 Mark 6:45-52
Thursday: 1 John 4:19—5:4 Luke 4:14-22
Friday: 1 John 5:5-13 Luke 5:12-16
Saturday: 1 John 5:14-21 John 3:22-30

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

Sunday (1/5) 9:30am RCIA 9:30am Sunday School 8:00pm AA	Wednesday (1/8) 11:00am Friendly Seniors 6:30pm Dance Ministry 7:00pm Bible Study
Monday (1/6) 6:30pm Ministry Quarterly mtg 8:00pm YAM Bible Study	Friday (1/10) 6:00pm Eucharistic Adoration
Tuesday (1/7) 7:00pm Adult Choir rehearsal	Saturday (1/11) 1:00pm Women's Min Fellowship 9:00am Holy Name Society mtg 10:00am Dance Ministry

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.

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

PARISH LIFE



MEANING OF EPIPHANY:

Epiphany isn't an everyday Christian word like sin or salvation. It comes from a Greek word for manifestation or appearance. For many Christians, Epiphany refers to the manifestation of the divine nature of Jesus, is celebrated as a feast day on January 6th, and marks the end of the Christmas season. Other names for Epiphany Day are Three Kings Day, Twelfth Day, Theophany, and Little Christmas. Epiphany commemorates the manifestation of God to the world through Jesus Christ.

YOUTH SUNDAY NEXT SUNDAY: Every second Sunday we celebrate our parish youth at the 11am Mass. We invite all our youth to come and sit together at mass next week. If you'd like to, please invite a friend to attend mass with you.



BRING IN THE NEW YEAR WITH HCSC WOMEN'S MINISTRY on **Sat., Jan., 11th** at the school. Doors will open at 1PM. All are invited. Come and see what we are about!

For more information contact either June Johnson (301-529-7114) or Shirley Austin (202-368-7231).

HOLY NAME SOCIETY is a spiritual organization for Catholics whose purpose is to give honor to the Most Sacred Names of God and Jesus. Members are called to contribute to the evangelization mission of the Church and in Corporal Works of Mercy. HCSC Holy Name Society gathers for the 8AM Mass every second Sunday of the month followed by a fellowship in the school auditorium. For information contact Joseph Mitchell (301-577-5194).



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.**

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.

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!



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!*

HCSC BULLETINS ONLINE: Did you know that we post our bulletins for up to a year on our website (www.hscchurch.org)? So, if you are traveling or away from church, you can still know what is happening at the parish. Visit our website and find out what you've been missing!

HELP OUR MARRIAGE: Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouville (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 Retrouville 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.

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: