

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Readings This Weekend:

Acts 2:42-47 1 Peter 1:3-9 John 20:19-31

Readings Next Weekend:

Acts 2:14, 22-33 1 Peter 1:17-21 Luke 24:13-35



Thomas the apostle, for many, has been given the name "the doubter." Certainly not a very flattering title. Even in everyday speech, we speak of a "doubting Thomas." Yet, if we consider a little more carefully the role of the apostle Thomas in the gospel, we have to be grateful to him. He, like most of the other apostles did not fully understand the

words of Scripture, that Jesus had to suffer, die, and then rise from the dead. It was only gradually that they would understand these truths. What we have to be grateful for is that once Thomas and the other disciples recognized Jesus, they put their total faith in him. Thomas overcame his doubts with the Lord's help and went on to give his life proclaiming Jesus as Lord. It is said that he went as far to the east as India! Perhaps his name should not be "Doubting" Thomas, but "Getting it Done" Thomas. Or "Thomas the Tireless Traveler. Well, you get the point. There was more to Thomas than his doubt.

POPE FRANCIS'S PRAYER TO MARY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

O Mary, you always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm.

You, Salvation of Your People, know what we need, and we are sure you will provide so that, as in Cana of Galilee, we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who has taken upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows to lead us, through the cross, to the joy of the resurrection. Amen.

Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.

COMMUNICATION AT HCSC: Please visit our parish website at hscchurch.org for video greetings and weekly homilies from the Pastor and other updates on our parish. Download **MyParishApp** onto your mobile device to stay in touch with what's happening at the parish. Visit myparishapp.com (available for android & Apple phones).

TITHING DURING THIS PANDEMIC: This is a very difficult time for everyone both spiritually and financially. If you are able to send your tithes, please know that you can submit it electronically and securely through **Faith Direct**. Visit faith.direct/DC59 or call 1-866-507-8757 to begin eGiving or to make a one-time donation. If you are unable to use electronic tithing, you are welcome to drop your contribution off at the rectory office or mail it to the rectory (1357 E. Capitol St., SE, WDC, 20003). Please do not leave your donation in the church if clergy or staff is not present. Thank you for your support and generosity.

† MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK †

- Sunday, April 19** *Divine Mercy Sunday*
Clergy Mass—Page Miller †
- Monday, April 20**
Clergy Mass—George P. Dyson †
- Tuesday, April 21**
Clergy Mass—Intentions for Sylvia Hall
- Wednesday, April 22**
Clergy Mass—Alice N. Thornton †
- Thursday, April 23**
Clergy Mass—Intentions for Joyce Williams
- Friday, April 24**
Clergy Mass—Intentions for Zoe Elgin-Cossart
- Saturday, April 25** *Feast of Saint Mark*
Clergy Mass—For the People

MASS INTENTIONS DURING THE PANDEMIC: Although our parish is unable to celebrate a public Mass until further notice, Msgr. Pope will celebrate his private Mass (Clergy Mass) daily and will include the Mass Intention for that day. If there is more than one Mass on that day (ex: Saturday & Sunday), then he is only obligated to have ONE Mass intention per day. Thus, on Saturday he will use the 8AM Mass intention and on Sunday he will use the 11AM Mass intention. Thus, if there is a pre-scheduled Mass intention for the 4:30pm Mass on Saturday and the 8:00am and 7:00pm Mass on Sunday, our staff has been instructed to move those Mass intentions to another day. **We are still accepting new Mass intentions for future dates.** If you have questions or would like to enter a Mass intention, contact the rectory at 202-546-1885 or email: jcwalker@hscchurch.org

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

Sunday (April 19) 7:30-8am Confessions 10-10:30am Confessions 6:30-7pm Confessions	Wednesday (April 22) 6:30-7pm Confessions 7:00pm Bible Study (ZOOM)
Monday (April 20) 8:00pm Bible Study (ZOOM)	Friday (April 24) 6-7:00pm Confessions
	Saturday (April 25) 4-4:30pm Confessions

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday: Acts 4:23-31	John 3:1-8
Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37	John 3:7-15
Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26	John 3:16-21
Thursday: Acts 5:27-33	John 3:31-36
Friday: Acts 5:34-42	John 6:1-15
Saturday: 1 Peter 5:5-14	Mark 16:15-20

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.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

PARISH LIFE



DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY (Second Sunday of Easter) was instituted by Saint John Paul II calling it “the Sunday of Thanksgiving for all goodness that God has shown us in the whole Easter mystery.” The Divine Mercy devotion began in the late 1930s by St. Faustina Kowalska, a Polish nun who had a vision of Jesus in which He asked for devotions to His Divine Mercy on the Sunday after Easter. Msgr. Pope has recorded a homily for Divine Mercy Sunday which is available on our website (hscchurch.org). Visit www.thedivinemercy.org to learn more and instructions on how to recite the Divine Mercy chaplet

TAKEN FROM THE MAGNIFICAT: On this Divine Mercy Sunday we recall the words of Saint Thomas Aquinas: “Mercy consists in bringing a thing out of non-being into being.” We see this transpire concretely in the life of the early Church. The believers “devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of bread and to prayers.” They were filled with awe; they were witnesses of wondrous signs; they lived for the good of the other; they were selfless and generous; they overflowed with “exultation and sincerity of heart.” God “in his great mercy” gave them—and us—“a new birth to a living hope” through the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. That is what the Apostle Thomas is looking for in the Lord’s open side. Today, in the midst of our fears and the feeling that we are locked in, prevented from our normal routines and even from our usual practices of the faith, we are confident that the Lord can break through any barrier and reach us with his grace.

 **NIGHTLY ROSARY:** The Council of Catholic Women for the Archdiocese of Washington (CCW-ADW) invites all, who would like to unite in prayer at this time of uncertainty, to join in a nightly Rosary at **8PM, 7 days a week**. We offer this prayer for the healing of the Church and for our currently health-challenged world. To join us, call **605-468-8016. ID: 357090#**. If you have any questions, please email archdiocesecw@gmail.com. For other prayer resources visit <https://www.councilofcatholicwomen-adw.com/>. See the tab: Coronavirus Prayer Resources, which lists many opportunities for daily meditations.

CONFESSION TIMES AT HCSC: Although we are unable to celebrate a public Mass at our church during the pandemic, Msgr. Pope is able to offer the time schedule listed below to hear confessions (*in the sanctuary*):
Sun. 7:30-8:00AM; 10:00-10:30AM; 6:30-7:00PM, and Sat. 4:00-4:30PM

LIVE STREAM THE ROSARY: The Servants of the Lord invite you to join them LIVE **every day** to pray the Rosary at **7PM**. You can participate via YouTube at youtube.com/user/SSVMUSA. The Sisters will continue to LIVESTREAM their devotions every day during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. **NOTE:** If you live in the neighborhood, please join the Sisters as they walk and recite the Rosary around Lincoln Park (13th & E. Capitol St., SE). You can meet up with them a few minutes prior to 12:30noon in front of HCSC or just join them in the park.



During this pandemic, you are invited to join Msgr. Pope **online through ZOOM**. If you’d like to be added to the invite list to receive the link for the bible studies, please send your name via email to pam@hscchurch.org and indicate which bible study you prefer (or both if you like).

- ⇒ **Monday Bible Study group** will begin at **8PM**.
The current topic is ***Acts of the Apostles***.
- ⇒ **Wednesday Bible Study group** will begin at **7:15PM**.
The current topic is the ***First Letter to Timothy***.

From the ADW Office of Missions

Be a missionary from home – Most times, we believe being a missionary means going to a faraway land. However, preaching the Gospel message of Jesus Christ and being a missionary is not always about going away. Sometimes it means staying right where we are and using the gifts God has given to bring Christ to another. We can be a missionary from home!

Pray – Set time every day to have a personal conversation with God. Throughout the day stop, talk to Jesus. Simply say a Hail Mary, an Our Father or even the prayer the angel taught the children in Fatima, “My God I believe, I adore, I hope and I love you! I ask pardon of you for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope and do not love you!” These little prayers will draw our hearts and minds closer to God.

Bring love and joy to the family – Spend time with spouse, parents, brothers, and sisters face-to-face or via FaceTime. Pray together, eat meals together, play games together, laugh together, etc. Jesus says, “For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.” MT 18:20. Imitate the Holy Family.

Sanctify – Make holy the work that God has given each of us. All the work we do throughout the day at home whether it be work, schoolwork, chores, games, etc., do it with love and offer it to God. St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta said, “Do small things with great love.” Small things brings us closer to God and makes us saints.

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

Rectory Office Hours (during pandemic):
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 10:00am—3:30pm;
Thursday, Saturday & Sunday—closed

For information on sacraments and funerals call the rectory office.

- Pastor’s Media Links: MSGRPOPE.com
- HCSC App:  myParishapp.com (for Android & Apple)
- Follow us on Social Media:   