

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Readings This Weekend:

Isaiah 55:10-11 Rom 8:18-23 Matthew 13:1-23

Readings Next Weekend:

Wis 12:13, 16-19 Rom 8:26-27 Matthew 13:24-43



The readings today remind us that our celebration of God's Word each Sunday, and in private devotion, is not meant to be mere information. But, rather, transformation! The first reading contains a **PROMISE** and uses the image of the snow and rain which come down from the heavens and do not return there until they have watered the earth, giving it life and fruit. God's Word has this same power. If we authentically and attentively listen to God's Word, it will refresh us and bring forth the fruit of transformation. No one can authentically attend to God's Word and go away unchanged. But, in the Gospel, the Lord Jesus alerts us to certain **PROBLEMS** that arise which keep us from attending to God's Word. Just because we have ears to hear, does not mean we are really listening. Perhaps it is worldly preoccupations, the lure of riches, or fear of persecution. Perhaps it is a lazy mind or a rebellious spirit. The Lord teaches us to be sober about these things, for they choke off the power of God's Word and keep it from growing in us. We ought to ask the Lord for increasingly fertile soil in our soul so that the promise and power of the Word will come forth. Finally, the Lord invites us to examine the **PROOF** of God's Word. For, those who are open to this Word will, and do, experience its power to change their lives. As our thinking is changed by the Word so also our priorities and decisions, indeed, our very behavior begin to change. Are you a Proof to the power of God's Word? I am.

FUNERAL: Barbara Coehins (Monday, July 13th)

† MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK †

Sunday, July 12

8:00am Ben Spanier †
 11:00am Charlena Addison † (birthday)
 7:00pm For the intentions of Fr. William Frei

Monday, July 13 *Saint Henry*

7:00am Joan Graham †

Tuesday, July 14 *Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin*

7:00am Tyree Gilliam, Sr. (birthday)

Wednesday, July 15 *St. Bonaventure, Bishop & Doc. of Church*

7:00am For the intentions of Doretha Holley

Thursday, July 16 *Our Lady of Mount Carmel*

7:00am For the intentions of Anna Maria DiPilla

Friday, July 17

7:00am Dorothy Elizabeth Thomas †

Saturday, July 18 *St. Camillus de Lellis, Priest*

8:00am For the intentions of William Zandi, Jr.

4:30pm For the People

To place a mass intention, call the rectory at (202-546-1885)

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday: Isaiah 1:10-17 Matthew 10:34-11:1
Tuesday: Isaiah 7:1-9 Matthew 11:20-24
Wednesday: Isaiah 10:5-7, 13-16 Matthew 11:25-27
Thursday: Isaiah 26:7-9, 12, 16-19 Matthew 11:28-30
Friday: Isaiah 38:1-8, 21-22 Matthew 12:1-8
Saturday: Micah 2:1-5 Matthew 12:14-21

PARISH NEWS



FLOCKNOTE, is a communications tool that enables us to efficiently manage distribution lists and send email messages. It enables you to choose the news you want, giving you direct access to manage your subscriptions and change your contact info. Currently, bible study and general parish news are now sent from **Flocknote**, and we will continue to expand to other areas of interests. **Subscribe and stay connected.** It's quick and easy! Text **HCSC** to **84576** or visit <https://hcschurch.flocknote.com/> to receive emails with updates from the parish.

COMMUNICATIONS AT HCSC: Visit our parish website (hcschurch.org) for updates from the Pastor and on the parish during this pandemic.



Download **MyParishApp** onto your mobile device to stay in touch with what's happening at our parish. Visit your app store (*available for android & Apple phones*). Make sure to turn on your notifications after you download so you can receive updates and information.

HCSC is also on social media (**Facebook, Instagram and Twitter**). Make sure you stay in touch!



TITHING: This is a very difficult time for everyone both spiritually and financially. Especially during this challenging time, we depend on your donations to continue our ministries. If you are able to tithe, consider submitting it electronically and securely through **Faith Direct** at 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 at the rectory office or mail it to the rectory (1357 E. Capitol St., SE, WDC 20003). Thank you for your support and generosity.

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

Monday (7/12) **Friday (7/16)**
 8:00pm Bible Study (ZOOM) 6-7:00pm Holy Hour
Wednesday (7/14)
 6:30-7pm Confessions
 7:15pm Bible Study (ZOOM)

Mass Attendance July 5, 2020

4:30pm	23
8:00am	64
11:00am	55
7:00pm	36
Total:	178

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.

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PARISH NEWS



REV. WILLIAM FREI, who served here at HCSC as a seminarian and assisted with Sunday school, was ordained into the priesthood on July 10th and will celebrate his first mass on **July 12th** at **Holy Spirit Catholic Church, Johns Island, South Carolina**. Pray that God's grace continues to fall upon Fr. Will as he serves His people.

RE-OPENING THE CHURCH

Restrictions (due to COVID-19) continue to allow up to 100 people in attendance at any of our **Public Masses**. This means we are able to resume our regular liturgical schedule: **Saturday-4:30pm; Sunday-8am, 11am & 7pm**. Please note there are still a number of restrictions and protocols that we must continue to follow at each Mass:

- ◆ To enter the sanctuary, only the middle front doors and the handicap ramp will be open.
- ◆ To allow for social distancing some pews have been blocked off and our Ushers will escort you to a seat.
- ◆ Attendees must social distance themselves and wear a mask. Hand sanitizer is available.
- ◆ Attendance at Mass will be on a first-come, first-serve basis until the 100 attendee count is reached.
- ◆ Instructions will be given at Mass for safe reception of Holy Communion.

At the end of Mass all doors will be opened for exit. You are reminded to refrain from congregating out on the plaza after Mass.

We are being prudent and cautious because we care for you and your family's safety and well-being. We continue to ask for your patience and continued prayer as we press forward during these challenging times. We are grateful to be able to celebrate the sacrifice of the Mass with all of our parish family and friends. God bless you all.



HELP IS STILL NEEDED FOR CHURCH RE-OPENING: To assist with the re-opening of the Church over the next few weeks, **we need volunteers** who are willing

to serve as ushers and hosts at our weekend Masses. Please contact the rectory at hscstaff@hscchurch.org or 202-546-1885 with your name and email or phone number and we will send information on how you can help.

Please note that our church sanctuary is **OPEN** every day from 8AM-8PM for private prayer. Please remember to wear your mask and follow appropriate physical distancing. Hand sanitizer is available in the sanctuary.



If my people who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land. 2 Chronicles 7:14

Join with us in prayer every Friday for **Holy Hour with Eucharistic Adoration** at 6PM in the church. Clergy will also be available to hear confessions at that time. Let us gather in prayer for the 'healing of our land'.

Youth Ministry News

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



Calling 2020 Graduates! If you graduated from middle school, high school, or college your HCSC parish family would like to recognize your accomplishment. Please visit our website and complete the *Graduate Recognition Form* or contact Nicki Gebrehwot.

SUNDAY MASS LIVE-STREAMED: Thank you to all the volunteers who assisted with the production of the taped liturgies from HCSC during the pandemic. Although HCSC will no longer offer a taped mass online, there are still several opportunities to view mass online on Sundays:

- ◆ **Archdiocese of Washington TV Mass** at 10:30AM on WDCW-50 (or view the taped Mass at any time at adw.org/tvmass)
- ◆ **View a listing of live-streamed Masses around the Archdiocese** at <https://adw.org/live-streamed-masses-and-prayers/or/facebook.com/adw.org/>

WHAT IF I CAN'T ATTEND MASS?: The dispensation issued by Archbishop Gregory from the obligation to attend Mass during this time **remains in effect**. All persons who are subjects of the Archbishop of Washington no matter where they may be, and all other persons who are actually present in the Archdiocese of Washington who are under the obligation, are dispensed from the obligation until further notice (cann. 87 §1, 91).

HCSC PARISH FOOD PANTRY: We realize that during the pandemic many people are facing less familiar and more stressful situations. If you are in need or know of someone in need of food please remember that HCSC maintains a food pantry. Contact the rectory at 202-546-1885 or hscstaff@hscchurch.org to request non-perishable food.

DONATIONS TO FOOD PANTRY: **For those who would like to donate food**, we need the following: *tuna, salmon, sardines, canned potatoes, spaghetti & sauce, cereal, macaroni & cheese, rice or rice sides, peanut butter & jelly, pancake mix & syrup*. Drop off at the rectory or bring to Mass and give to an usher. **DO NOT** leave in church.



During the pandemic, join Msgr. Pope online via Zoom. To receive the link and subsequent recordings, add yourself to our email list by subscribing to the group of your choice at hscchurch.flocknote.com.

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

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

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