

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Readings This Weekend:

1 Kings 3:5-12    Romans 8:28-30    Matthew 13:44-52

Readings Next Weekend:

Isaiah 55:1-3    Romans 8:35-39    Matthew 14:113-21



In today's Gospel, three key words come to mind to summarize it: **What, Worth, and Warning.** In terms of **what**, the kingdom of heaven is compared to buried treasure, and a pearl of great price. In both cases, the image is of something that is both costly, and precious. By these images, the Lord Jesus wants us to see the kingdom of heaven in this regard. It is to be something very precious to us. Yet, sadly, many regard faith and the things waiting for them in heaven, including God himself, to be of little value or worth. Surely they would not sell all they have, or forsake many things of this world to have it. Even getting to church on Sunday is too much for many. How do you see the kingdom of heaven? Honestly? As for the **worth** of the kingdom of heaven the point is not so much that we have to give up things for it, but, because we value it so highly, we are more than willing to do so. In the world, when we find something we really want, we are willing to part with money in order to have it. And thus, when we really want Heaven, we are willing to part with the things of this world to have it. Is the kingdom of heaven worth more than the things of this world for you? Really? Finally, as to the word of **warning**, the Lord says there is ultimately a decision we must make, and he will one day recognize. The image of the dragnet catching all sorts of things is an image for the universal world. It is going out to everyone. But when the net is taken ashore, those who have valued the kingdom of heaven will be taken in, those who do not, will be set aside. This is the warning: we will either value the kingdom of heaven, and choose it, whatever the cost, or we won't. What is your decision?

**FUNERAL: Cheryl Diane Quander-Taylor (Fri., July 24<sup>th</sup>)**

† MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK †

**Sunday, July 26**

8:00am Shirley Ann Jackson † (birthday)  
11:00am For the intentions of Harold Jackson  
7:00pm For the intentions of Cora Campbell

**Monday, July 27**

7:00am Helene Crutchfield † (birthday)

**Tuesday, July 28**

7:00am For the intentions of Iwo Fairow

**Wednesday, July 29**

7:00am For the intentions of Ronald Jones

**Thursday, July 30**

7:00am Corrine Mercer (birthday)

**Friday, July 31**

7:00am Marion Tompkins (birthday)

**Saturday, August 1**

8:00am For the People  
4:30pm Harry J. Phillips, Jr. †

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

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

**Monday:** Exodus 32:15-24, 30-34    Matthew 13:31-35  
**Tuesday:** Ex 33:7-11, 34:5-9, 28    Matthew 13:36-43  
**Wednesday:** Exodus 34:29-35    Matthew 13:44-46  
**Thursday:** Exodus 40:16-21, 34-38    Matthew 13:47-53  
**Friday:** Lv 23:1, 4-16, 27, 34-37    Matthew 13:54-58  
**Saturday:** Leviticus 25:1, 8-17    Matthew 14:1-12

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](http://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](http://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 (7/27)**    **Friday (7/31)**  
8:00pm Bible Study (ZOOM)    6-7:00pm Holy Hour

**Wednesday (7/29)**  
6:30-7pm Confessions  
7:15pm Bible Study (ZOOM)

Mass Attendance July 19, 2020

4:30pm	32
8:00am	51
11:00am	74
7:00pm	47
<b>Total:</b>	<b>204</b>

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.

## SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### PARISH LIFE



**PRAY THE ROSARY ONLINE:** Join the **HCSC SODALITY** in praying the Rosary on **August 2<sup>nd</sup>** via ZOOM at **10AM**. Simply dial 301-715-8592, and the meeting ID is 617 144 7521 (or enter this link into your browser: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6171447521>). The next date for the rosary via ZOOM: September 6<sup>th</sup>. Stay tuned for the link closer to the date.

### RE-OPENING THE CHURCH

Restrictions (due to COVID-19) continue to allow only up to 100 people in attendance at any of our **Public Masses**. This means we are able to resume our regular Mass 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.



*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'.

### Bible Study

everyone is welcome

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](http://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**.

### Youth Ministry News

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



**WE NEED HELP FOR OUR CHURCH RE-OPENING:** We need volunteers who are willing to serve as ushers and hosts at our weekend Masses. Please contact the rectory at [hscstaff@hscchurch.org](mailto: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. **Thank You!**

**SUNDAY MASS LIVE-STREAMED:** 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](http://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/](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).

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.



**HCSC FOOD PANTRY:** HCSC maintains a food pantry for those in need. If you or someone you know need food, contact the rectory office (202-546-1885). If you are able to donate food, we need the following: *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.

### Holy Comforter-Saint Cyprian Roman Catholic Church

1357 East Capitol Street, SE, WDC 20003

202-546-1885 ♦ [www.hscchurch.org](http://www.hscchurch.org)

Rev. Msgr. Charles Pope, Pastor ([www.msgrpope.com](http://www.msgrpope.com))

For information on parish membership, sacraments and funerals contact the rectory office at: [hscstaff@hscchurch.org](mailto:hscstaff@hscchurch.org) or 202-546-1885.

**Mass Hours:** Saturday 8AM & 4:30PM (vigil); Sunday 8AM, 11AM and 7PM; Weekdays Monday—Friday 7AM

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

## SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### CATHOLIC CHARITIES VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY:

Current undergraduate students looking for a remote internship opportunity should apply to the Outreach and Events Intern at Catholic Charities D.C. for the Fall semester. Intern works with the Volunteer Engagement Office and is responsible for project coordination and communication with other volunteers. Job description and apply online at <https://www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/2020-summer-internships/>

*"...do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God." Philipians 4:6*

During this time where many of us around the United States and the world are being asked to quarantine or keep isolated, the **Catholic Apostolate Center** has compiled a special resource page to accompany you through this time. While we find ourselves in situations that are outside the norm, situations that may be difficult or stressful, turning to prayer can often be a welcome respite. Visit our website: [www.catholicapostolatecenter.org/covid-19.html](http://www.catholicapostolatecenter.org/covid-19.html) to submit a prayer intention and to see what resources (webinars, prayers, videos, etc.) we have for you.

**A MILLION ROSARIES:** Every prayer counts! Join the Little Sisters of the Poor in praying one million Rosaries to conquer the coronavirus pandemic. Sign up at: <http://littlesistersofthepoor.org>.



**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](mailto: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.

**MISSION IN ACTION:** During this difficult time our world is facing with the coronavirus, we have the opportunity to grow in our friendship with Jesus and to pray and offer sacrifices on behalf of others who are in need. We are missionaries even at home.

### What can I do to as missionary at home?

1. Pray the Mission Rosary with your family for peace and healing in the whole world.
2. Clean your room and do extra things around the house to help your mom and dad or siblings.
3. Say the Divine Mercy Chaplet and ask the Holy Spirit to be at the bedside of someone sick or dying.
4. Read the Sunday Mass readings.

As a family, participate in a live-streamed Sunday Mass if you are unable to attend Mass at your parish. Visit the following link to find spiritual resources for live-streamed masses and prayers: <https://adw.org/live-streamed-masses-and-prayers/>

### FROM THE OFFICE OF FAMILY LIFE (ADW)

During this month of July, Pope Francis invites us to pray with him for families: "that today's families may be accompanied with love, respect and guidance." Families should be accompanied, not only by their extended families and Church, but also by society. Let us all pray, that today's families be accompanied with love, respect and guidance.

### NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING INTRODUCTORY CLASS:

As part of the ADW celebration of the NFP Awareness Week, all married couples are invited to join an introductory NFP Class online **Thur., July 30<sup>th</sup>, 7—8PM**. To register or for more information, contact the Office for Family Life (301-853-4546 or email: [visiblesign@adw.org](mailto:visiblesign@adw.org)).

### ON-LINE MARRIAGE PREPARATION CLASS:

The ADW Office for Family Life will be offering a virtual marriage preparation class for 4 evening sessions **August 11, 13, 18, and 20, from 7—9:30PM**. Couples must attend all four sessions. Space is limited. If you are getting married in 2020, please contact the Office for Family Life at 301-853-4546 or email: [visiblesign@adw.org](mailto:visiblesign@adw.org).

### CATHOLIC RESPONSE TO THE 2020 CENSUS:

It is estimated that the state of Maryland lost nearly a billion dollars in state funding during the 2010 census, and subsequently, the state did not obtain its share of funding. The 2020 Census is safe and confidential. It does not have a citizenship question. Every person, regardless of immigration status, has the right to be counted. Completing the Census is easy. People can also respond – online, by paper, or by phone. Help is available in many languages. Visit <https://2020census.gov/en.html> or call 844-330-2020. The Census Bureau has extended the response period to August 14, 2020.

**WAITING FOR YOUR STIMULUS CHECK?** If you did not file a tax return in 2018 or 2019 and/or do not receive social security, you need to take action to get the money owed to you from the emergency assistance stimulus package. In partnership with the IRS, Catholic Charities offers a free program to help you get money owed to you as a result of the COVID-19 shutdown. Typical payments range from \$1200 to \$3900 depending on the number of people in a household and your income. To qualify, you must: have a Social Security Number (ITIN holders are excluded); and NOT be a tax dependent of someone else. Contact Catholic Charities at [fsn@cc-dc.org](mailto:fsn@cc-dc.org).

### FEMALE VETERANS EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE:

The Savings Assessment and Financial Education (S.A.F.E) program provides assistance with rent, deposits, and utility to all female Veterans and U.S. military reserve component service members who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness via an interest free loan. Contact: FINAL SALUTE PROGRAM, [www.finalsaluteinc.org](http://www.finalsaluteinc.org) or email: [info@finalsaluteinc.org](mailto:info@finalsaluteinc.org), or 703-224-8845.

### PRINCE GEORGE COUNTY'S EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE:

Emergency assistance for rental, utility and burial payments is available for PG County tenants whose employment income has been negatively impacted by COVID-19. For contact information in your PG area visit: [mypgc.us/renthelp](http://mypgc.us/renthelp) or call 301-864-7161. Payments will be made directly to the landlord, utility, or funeral director.

### **Prayer During This Pandemic**

Merciful God, hear our fervent prayer for all who suffer from the coronavirus.

May those who are infected receive the proper treatment  
and the comfort of your healing presence.

May their caregivers, families and neighbors be shielded  
from the onslaught of the virus.

Give solace to those who grieve the loss of loved ones.

Protect and guide those who strive to find a cure,  
that their work may conquer the disease and restore communities to wholeness and health.  
Help us to rise above fear. We ask all this through the intercession of Our Lady of Lourdes,  
and in the name of your Son, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

### **Christ Our Light!**

Your light rises in our darkness and assures us that you are present with us  
and that your powerful closeness to us transforms our fear into hope.

May we join with our Holy Father, Francis, in spreading a "contagion" of  
hope "from heart to heart".

Protect all your selfless servants who continue to serve the needs of the  
most vulnerable by both hands and heart.

Give our elected leaders wisdom of heart in decision-making that the  
common good of our human family may be achieved and the gift of each  
person's human dignity respected.

May the new Easter fire of love, energy and resilience burn within our  
hearts so that we may give witness to the mystery of your resurrected life  
among us and within us.

Amen