

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Readings This Weekend:

Ezekiel 33:7-9 Romans 13:8-10 Matthew 18:15-20

Readings Next Weekend:

Sirach 27:30—28:7 Romans 14:7-9 Matthew 18:21-35



The Gospel today issues the call to compassionate Christian correction. Note first the **PRESCRIPTION**. Jesus says, if your brother sins against you, tell him about it. Note, tell HIM, not 15 other people. Start with him. Scripture tells us in many places that we are obliged to correct the sinner (e.g. James 5:19; Col 3:16; 1 Thess 5:14; Gal 6:1; Lev 19:17; Ez 3:17). Next, note the **PURPOSE** of correction. The text speaks of him as listening and being won over. We do not correct to win an argument. We correct to win a brother over from sin to grace. Next, notice the **PROCESS**. The text says that we should speak privately to him. Secondly, if he persists in serious sin, take one or two along with you and strive to prevail on him. If he still persists in serious sin, tell it to the Church. If he still will not repent then the Church may need to excommunicate him. Here too note that Scripture often mandates this last resort of excommunication as a strong medicine to bring about conversion (e.g. 1 Cor 15:33; 2 Thess 3:6; 2 Thess 3:14; 1 Cor 5:1ff). Finally, note the **POWER** of correction. Scripture speaks of excommunication and other measures used by the Church as being recognized in heaven. Further, we are told that if we agree on earth and pray for conversion that our prayer will be recognized by the Father. Hence, in the presence of sin we are called to do more than just shrug and say, "none of my business." We are called to work for compassionate Christian correction.

† MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK †

Sunday, September 6

8:00am Nathaniel & Nannie Williams †
 11:00am James & Dorothy Young (58th wedding anniv.)
 7:00pm For all those suffering through this pandemic

Monday, September 7 *Labor Day*

8:00am Ann Bailey †

Tuesday, September 8 *Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

7:00am Betty Hamer (birthday)

Wednesday, September 9 *Saint Peter Claver, Priest*

7:00am Coulter Nakamura †

Thursday, September 10

7:00am For the People

Friday, September 11

7:00am Gary K. Johnson †

Saturday, September 12 *The Most Holy Name of Mary*

8:00am Mary Kaasa †

4:30pm Marc Theroux †

MASS INTENTIONS: It is a spiritual work of mercy to pray for others, both living and deceased. To offer a mass intention in honor or memory of a friend or family, contact the rectory (202-546-1885 or jwalker@hscchurch.org). The customary stipend is \$5 per intention.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday:	1 Corinthians 5:1-8	Luke 6:6-11
Tuesday:	Micah 5:1-4 Rom 8:28-30	Matthew 1:1-23
Wednesday:	1 Corinthians 7:25-31	Luke 6:20-26
Thursday:	1 Corinthians 8:1-7, 11-13	Luke 6:27-38
Friday:	1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-27	Luke 6:39-42
Saturday:	1 Corinthians 10:14-22	Luke 6:43-49

PARISH NEWS



Our parish is currently using an online communication tool called **FLOCKNOTE** to send messages to our parishioners via email during this pandemic. Flocknote allows you to choose the news you want, and direct access to manage your **FREE** subscription. Currently, bible study and general parish news are sent via **Flocknote**. If you have not done so, **subscribe and stay connected**. It's quick and easy! Text **HCSC** to **84576** or visit <https://hscchurch.flocknote.com/> to receive emails with updates from the parish.



PASTOR'S HOMILIES: If you are unable to attend weekend Mass, Msgr. Pope provides a recording of his homilies online at frpope.com/audio/recordings.php. The homilies are also emailed to those who have subscribed to it via **Flocknote**. See the information box above on how to subscribe to Flocknote.

COMMUNICATIONS AT HCSC: Visit our parish website (hscchurch.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!

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

Monday (9/7)

RECTORY CLOSED
 8:00pm Bible Study (ZOOM)

Friday (9/11)

6:00pm Holy Hour

Wednesday (9/9)

7:15pm Bible Study (ZOOM)



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: 1357 E. Capitol St., SE, WDC 20003. Thank you for your support and generosity.

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.

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PARISH LIFE



RECTORY CLOSED—Mon., Sept. 7th in observance of **Labor Day**. Rectory office will re-open on Tues., Sept. 8th.

RE-OPENING THE CHURCH

Under the Archdiocese of Washington and local health officials' guidelines we are celebrating Mass in the sanctuary. **The sanctuary is also open daily from 8AM-8PM for private prayer and meditation.**

Restrictions allow up to 100 people in attendance at any of our public **Masses**. Our regular Mass schedule is: **Saturday-8:00AM and 4:30PM (vigil); Sunday-8AM, 11AM & 7PM and daily Mass (Monday-Friday) at 7AM in the sanctuary.**

Please note there are still a number of restrictions and protocols that we 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 facial mask or covering. 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.
- ◆ Ushers will dismiss by pew at the end of Mass. Please refrain from congregating out on the plaza.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: If you are able to serve as an usher at a weekend Mass, contact us with your name, email/phone number at hscstaff@hscchurch.org or 202-546-1885.

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 prayers during these challenging times. God bless you all.

SUNDAY MASS LIVE-STREAMED: If you are unable to attend Mass in person, there are 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/](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).

BACK TO SCHOOL PRAYER

Blessed are you, Lord God, Creator of body and mind and heart; you have sent the Spirit of wisdom and knowledge to guide your people in all their ways.

At the beginning of this new school year, in this time of uncertainty and anxiety, we implore your mercy. Bless and protect our students, teachers, staffs, and their families.

Give wisdom to the decision makers, be they in our schools or in our homes. Expand the horizons of our minds, and deepen our commitment to seek the truth of your ways.

Enliven our faith to reach out to those in need, particularly those isolated and lonely.

In these days when so much has changed, help us to trust in the love of your Son Jesus, our Divine Teacher, who is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Amen.



Msgr. Pope hosts his weekly bible studies online via Zoom. To receive the link, please subscribe to the Bible Study of your choice on Flocknote 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 Book of Philemon**.



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'.

SAVE THE DATE—EAST OF THE RIVER VIRTUAL REVIVAL: "Things Change But God Remains the Same" hosted by St. Luke Catholic Church, **Mon., Oct. 5th at 7PM**. Stay tuned for more details.

URGENT CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS WITH CATHOLIC CHARITIES: Calling energetic early-risers who can do some moderately heavy lifting to join us at the **SHARE Warehouse** on a Friday or Saturday for the monthly food-package assembly and distribution. We start early! **Get information and sign up here:** SHARE Food Package Distribution (<http://bttr.im/iuidn>).

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 (www.msgrpope.com)

For information on membership, sacraments and funerals contact the rectory staff at 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 10AM—4PM;
Thursday, Saturday & Sunday—Closed