



Advent

~ a time for preparation ~



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Readings This Weekend:

Jer 33:14-16 1 Thes 3:12—4:2 Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

Readings Next Weekend:

Bar 5:1-9 Phil 1:4-6, 8-11 Lk 3:1-6

Message from the Pastor

There is an old Gospel song that says, "Jesus says, 'Here I stand. Won't you please let me in?' And you said, I will, but tomorrow. Tomorrow? Who promised you tomorrow? Better choose the Lord today, for tomorrow very well might be too late." Today's Gospel warns of the possible suddenness of death or the Lord's second coming. Are you ready to die and face judgment? Scripture often emphasizes the suddenness of death and judgment: Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour. (Mt 25:13) So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come. (Mt 24:44) Watch, therefore, you do not know when the lord of the house is coming—whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cock crow, or in the morning. May He not come suddenly and find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to all: "Watch!" (Mk 13:35-37) When people are saying, "Everything is peaceful and secure," then disaster will fall on them as suddenly as a pregnant woman's labor pains begin. And there will be no escape. (1 Thes 5:3) An old spiritual says, "I would not be a sinner, I'll tell you the reason why. I'm afraid my Lord might call my name and I wouldn't be ready to die." Yet, another old Gospel song says, "My mother taught me how to pray. So, if I die and my soul be lost, it's nobody's fault but mine." OK, by now you get the point. Advent is not just a time to prepare for Christmas and the baby Jesus, it is also a time to prepare to meet a very adult Jesus who is Lord and God. Are you ready?

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

- Sunday, November 28** *First Sunday of Advent*
 8:00am Nicarsia K. Mayes †
 9:30am Carole Wise (birthday)
 11:00am Bessie B. Walker †
 7:00pm Gregory Vines (birthday)
- Monday, November 29**
 7:00am ALL SOULS
- Tuesday, November 30** *St. Andrew, Apostle*
 7:00am William Brousseau (birthday)
- Wednesday, December 1**
 7:00am Intentions of Nancy Roberts
- Thursday, December 2**
 7:00am Stephen Keleti †
- Friday, December 3** *St. Francis Xavier, Priest*
 7:00am Leroy May †
- Saturday, December 4** *St. John Damascene, Priest & Doctor of the Church*
 8:00am Ryan Fortune †
 4:30pm Rawle Fortune †



MASS INTENTIONS: It is a spiritual work of mercy to pray for others, both living and deceased. To offer a Mass in memory of a friend or family, call 202-546-1885. The customary stipend is \$10 per intention.

DAILY READINGS

- MONDAY:** Isaiah 2:1-5 Matthew 8:5-11
TUESDAY: Romans 10:9-18 Matthew 4:18-22
WEDNESDAY: Isaiah 25:6-10a Matthew 15:29-37
THURSDAY: Isaiah 26:1-6 Matthew 7:21, 24-27
FRIDAY: Isaiah 29:17-24 Matthew 9:27-31
SATURDAY: Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26 Matthew 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

Stay Connected



Visit our parish website (hcschurch.org) for updates from the pastor and events in the parish. Here are other ways to stay in touch:

Subscribe to **Flocknote** by texting "HCSC" to 84576 or visit <https://hcschurch.flocknote.com/> to receive emails with updates from the parish such as bulletins, recorded mass links, and homily notes. It's **FREE** and easy!

Download the **MyParishApp** onto your mobile device to stay in touch with what's happening at our parish. To get the app: visit your app store (*available for Android & Apple phones*). Turn on your notifications after you download so you can receive updates and information.

And, follow us on social media (**Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and YouTube**). Make sure you stay connected!

NOTE: Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, the publisher required early submission of the bulletin. No Mass Attendance data for the weekend of November 21st are available for this week's bulletin. Updated figures will be posted next weekend.

eGiving or electronic tithing is a great stewardship habit – it streamlines your giving and lets you do even more to help Holy Comforter-St. Cyprian grow our ministries that share the Good News. You can sign up from your computer, smartphone or tablet, and set up a recurring donation or make a one-time gift. **It's FREE, EASY, and CONVENIENT**, as your money will be automatically deducted each month for you. Sign up at faithdirect.net using our church **code DC59**, or pick up an enrollment form in the rear of the church. Questions? Contact Kim Peaks at pam@hcschurch.org or (202) 546-1885. Thank you for your continued support of our parish community.

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

- | | |
|--|--|
| Monday (11/29)
7:30pm YAM Bible Study | Friday (12/3)
6:00pm Confessions / Holy Hour |
| Tuesday (11/30)
7:15pm Adult Bible Study | |

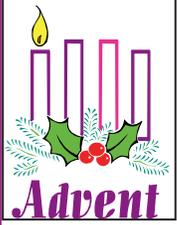
OUR MISSION STATEMENT:
 Holy Comforter-Saint Cyprian Roman Catholic Church, empowered by the Holy Spirit, exists to evangelize and to uphold Christian values by promoting the teachings of the Church in Word, Sacrament and Witness.

OUR VISION STATEMENT:
 A welcoming, embracing and joyful faith family richly rooted in the community today, tomorrow and forever.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

PARISH LIFE

First Sunday of



Advent

If you were expecting a great guest in your home, what would you do to get ready? You probably start by cleaning and de-cluttering. You would also prepare the meal with care, use the best china and dress well. All of this is not bad advice for preparing to meet the Lord and advent is a time to focus on making those preparations. A good confession is the equivalent of a house cleaning, sweep your soul clean by going to confession. De-clutter by examining your life and considering if there are any things that tend to clutter your life and crowd out the spiritual. What meal does Jesus want? He once said, Doing the Father's will is the food that sustains me (John 4:31). So prepare a meal of obedience and deck yourself in the garments of righteousness.

NOTE: Stay tuned for information on a planned Penance Service during this Advent at our parish.

THE WORD AMONG US: FREE Advent issues of *The Word Among Us* are available in the rear of the church. 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!*

BLACK CATHOLIC HISTORY MONTH 2021

In July 1990, the National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus of the U.S. designated November as Black Catholic History Month to celebrate the history and proud heritage of Black Catholics.



This year, our parish focused on **Mother Mary Elizabeth Lange**, foundress of the Oblate Sisters of Providence (OSP) in Baltimore, MD. Mother Lange is also on the journey toward sainthood. Visit motherlange.org and oblatesisters.com to learn more about Mother Lange and the rich and important history of the Oblate Sisters of Providence.

ST. JOSEPH 2021 SUNDAY MISSALS are available in the Candlelight Store and the rectory office. **COST: \$3 each.** This missal is a companion guide for the Church year's Sunday masses and includes all mass readings.

COVID-19 SAFETY PROTOCOLS

UPDATE: At the printing of this bulletin, the indoor mask mandate in the District of Columbia was being updated so please listen for announcements at Mass regarding mask mandates. The **following** still applies:

- ◆ To allow for some social distancing, every other pew will remain roped-off until further notice.
- ◆ Automatic hand sanitizing units are available at doors.
- ◆ Wearing of masks and sanitizing of hands by minister's will remain in place for safe reception of Holy Communion.

We kindly ask everyone to be respectful of each other as we continue to navigate these changing policies.



ANNUAL WOMEN'S MINISTRY RETREAT: "I RISE" - April 29—May 2, 2022 at the Claggett Center, Adamstown, MD. **Cost:** \$370 (includes private room, meals, materials and transportation). **Facilitator:** Reverend Dr. Thomasina M. Portis. For info:

See flyer in rear of church or visit: hscchurch.org.

THANK YOU to those who participated in the Honey Baked Ham Fundraiser in support of the HCSC Women's Ministry. Your support will help fund the ministry's programs and annual retreat for this parish.



YOUTH CHRISTMAS PAGEANT: The Youth Ministry is looking for youth actors for our Annual Youth Christmas Pageant held on Christmas Eve (12/24) at the **6:00pm Family Mass**. Youth of all ages are welcome! **We also need adults** to help with costumes, set design, and logistics. Contact Nicki Gebrehiwot at youthdirector@hscchurch.org.



WINTER COAT DRIVE: Join with the Knights of Columbus St. Cyprian Council for a coat drive to benefit Catholic Charities DC. Donate your new or clean, gently used coats from November 21 to December 12. Drop off your coats in the barrel in the rear of the church **NO LATER THAN December 12th**. If you are in need or know of someone who needs a coat, contact the rectory office at (202) 546-1885 for details.

ANNUAL HOLIDAY GIFT SALE: Holiday cards and small gift items to benefit of the **Oblate Sisters of Providence (OSP)** will be on sale in the vestibule on Sundays after the 8am, 9:30am and 11am masses. Questions? Call Bertha Colbert (301) 567-9786. 

HCSC YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY



OUR YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY meets **Mondays at 7:30pm** in the **rectory basement**, preceded by a short social at 7:00pm. Gather with young adults and Msgr. Pope in the discussion of scripture. Subscribe to the YAM Bible Study on

Flocknote at hscchurch.flocknote.com to receive the RSVP and schedule. Questions? Call (202) 546-1885.



Join Msgr. Pope for **Wednesday Evening Bible Study via Zoom at 7:15pm**. To receive the Zoom link via email, subscribe to Wednesday Night Bible Study on Flocknote at hscchurch.flocknote.com.

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(202) 546-1885 ❖ www.hscchurch.org
Rev. Msgr. Charles Pope, Pastor (www.msgrpope.com)

For information on membership, sacraments and funerals contact rectory staff at hscstaff@hscchurch.org or (202) 546-1885.

Mass Times: **Saturday** 8am & 4:30pm (vigil);
Sunday 8am, 9:30am 11am and 7pm;
Weekdays Mon—Fri: 7am (8am on holidays)

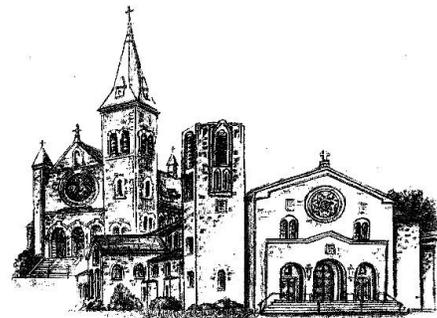
Rectory Office Hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday: 10am—6pm
Thursday, Saturday & Sunday: Closed

HOLY COMFORTER-SAINT CYPRIAN ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

1357 East Capitol Street, Southeast
Washington, District of Columbia 20003

202.546.1885 ❖ www.hscchurch.org



November 24, 2021

Dear Parishioners,

Mayor Muriel Bowser lifted the mask mandate for indoor gatherings in Washington D.C. as of November 22nd. We would like to accommodate all who want to attend Mass but may be reluctant due to this recent change. After discussion with staff, we have decided upon an indoor mask policy that we hope will work for our parishioners. Please note that since this policy is being implemented mid-week, we may need to be patient as everyone may be hearing about it for the first time when they come to Mass this weekend and will need time to adjust.

In order to provide an option to those who prefer to attend a Mass where all are masked while in the sanctuary, it is my decision to designate the 8:00am Mass for that option. Hence, beginning this Sunday, Nov. 28th, we will ask all who attend the 8:00am Mass to wear a mask and keep it on during Mass. At our other Masses, the wearing of a mask will be optional. Although, we recommend that if you have not been vaccinated that you wear a mask not just for others, but for your own safety. I hope this accommodation will be helpful in meeting the needs of those who seek a greater sense of safety. Our ushers will certainly supply a mask to any who may need one.

In situations like these it is important to listen to one another and show mutual charity. We will continue to rope off every other pew in the sanctuary to allow for social distancing. And, we have enough Masses scheduled over the weekend so that they are not overcrowded. I ask your patience and cooperation in this matter.

Please know of my love and concern for all of you and of my strong desire to be sure that Holy Mass and the reception of the Holy Eucharist is best available to all. May God be praised and may his Charity remain in us all.



Rev. Msgr. Charles Pope
Pastor

Give The Gift of Warmth!

COAT DRIVE

to support Catholic Charities DC

We need your donations of new or gently used & clean coats/scarves/gloves and hats.



Drop your clean donations in the barrel in the rear of the Church by December 12th.

If you know of someone in need of a winter coat, visit: <https://www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/coats/> for locations to receive a coat. You can also call the rectory at 202-546-1885

Coordinated at our parish by the Knights of Columbus St. Cyprian Council

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Catherine E. Graham
Joan M. Graham
Ernestine C. Jackson
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In Memory of
 Our Deceased Members
HCSC
 Holy Name Society

 In Memory of
OUR DECEASED SODALISTS
 HCSC SODALITY

In Loving Memory of
 The Deceased Jenifers:
 Oscar, Mary, Helena, Bay, David,
 Baby Sis, Beverly, Frankie, David,
 Neal, Kimberly, Cyprian Jr., Jovan

*Still Loved, Still Missed
 & Very Dear, The Family*

In Loving Memory of
OTHA JOHN HAMER JR.
OTHA JOHN HAMER III
 "ETERNAL LOVE"
 ~Anna, Othalene, Lataunya,
 Betty - wife and mother

In Loving Memory Of
 Vandy L. Jamison Sr.
 Cyprian H. Colbert Sr.
 Cornella & William B Simmons Sr.
 Marc E. Simmons Sr.
 William (Billy) B. Simmons Jr.

In Loving Memory
Austina H. Jones
Mother
We Love You Always
Willie, Lawrence & Maria

To Our Beloved
Kenyon E. Jones
Son & Father
*We'll always love you,
 Mom, Kids
 & Venita*



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Anthony Maxwell Smart
(Tony)
 - The Family

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