

The image features a vibrant, bokeh-style background with overlapping circles in shades of blue, purple, magenta, and green. In the center, four white, stylized flame icons are arranged in a diamond pattern. Each flame is set within a semi-transparent circular background that matches the color of the bokeh circles. The word "Advent" is written in a large, white, elegant serif font at the bottom of the image.

# Advent

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Readings This Weekend:

Baruch 5:1-9      Philipians 1:4-6, 8-11      Luke 3:1-6

Readings Next Weekend:

Zephaniah 3:14-18      Philipians 4:4-7      Luke 3:10-18

*Message from the Pastor* The Gospel today presents some Practical Principles of Prophecy as we focus on the ministry of John the Baptist. Note first, the **Portrait of Proper Prophecy**. Note the content of John's preaching: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" Here is a balance to get right. The preacher and the prophet must speak frankly of sin but also of the grace available to conquer that sin. Hence, John the Baptist is willing and able to declare the reality of sin and the necessity of repenting from it. But he is also able to declare the availability of the Kingdom wherein one is able to find the grace to overcome sin. Too many preachers lack this balance. In the past it was all fire and brimstone. Today it is too often, the steady diet of "God is love" with little reference to the need to repent. Next, note the **Product of Powerful Prophecy**. The text describes how many came to John repenting of their sins. The truest measure of success in preaching is a long line for the confessional. Next, note the **Purity of Powerful Prophecy**. The text shows that John the Baptist had no fear of people's opinion and would not compromise the message based on his audience. All the credentials of the temple leaders did not impress him. Neither did the status of the Jews as the chosen people cause him to soften his message. Finally, note the **Person of Powerful Prophecy**. When his audience wants to know more about him, John talks instead about Jesus. That's the message, "Jesus, not me."

 **FUNERALS:** Marcia Washington — December 1<sup>st</sup>  
Barbara Colbert — December 10<sup>th</sup>

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

**Sunday, December 5** *Second Sunday of Advent*  
8:00am Mable Henson (B'day 12/8) †  
9:30am Gary McPherson (2<sup>nd</sup> Anniv.) †  
11:00am George T. Holton, III (B'day)  
7:00pm Patricia Hines-Stafford †  
**Monday, December 6** *St. Nicholas, Bishop*  
7:00am Kathleen Arslanian †  
**Tuesday, December 7** *St. Ambrose, Bishop/Doctor of the Church*  
7:00am Deacon Kevin Butler (4<sup>th</sup> Anniv. 12/5) †  
**Wednesday, Dec. 8** *Immaculate Conception of Blessed Virgin Mary*  
7:00am Intentions of Sr. Mary Charlotte Marshall, OSP  
10:00am Robin Brooks (B'day)  
7:00pm Marcia Washington †  
**Thursday, December 9** *St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin*  
7:00am Gershon Peaks (B'day 12/10)  
**Friday, December 10**  
7:00am Andrew J. Barnes, Jr. (B'day) †  
**Saturday, December 11** *St. Damasus I, Pope*  
8:00am For The People  
4:30pm Coulter Nakamura †

 **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 FOR THE WEEK

**MONDAY:** ISAIAH 35:1-10      LUKE 5:17-26  
**TUESDAY:** ISAIAH 40:1-11      MATTHEW 18:12-14  
**WEDNESDAY:** REV 11:19, 12:1-6, 10      LUKE 1:26-38  
**THURSDAY:** ISAIAH 41:13-20      MATTHEW 11:11-15  
**FRIDAY:** ISAIAH 48:17-19      MATTHEW 11:16-19  
**SATURDAY:** SIRACH 48:1-4, 9-11      MATTHEW 17:9-13

Stay Connected 

Visit our parish website ([hcschurch.org](https://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 (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!

MASS ATTENDANCE		
	11/21/21	11/28/21
4:30pm	48	35
8:00am	46	62
9:30am	35	37
11:00am	160	131
7:00pm	58	78
<b>Total:</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>343</b>
<b>Thanksgiving Eve Mass (11/24): 39</b>		

 **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](http://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](mailto:pam@hcschurch.org) or (202) 546-1885. Thank you for your continued support of our parish community.

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

<b>Sunday (12/5)</b> 9:30am R.C.I.A. 9:45am Sunday School	<b>Wednesday (12/8) Immaculate Conception</b> 10:00am Mass 7:00pm Mass
<b>Monday (12/6)</b> 7:30pm YAM Bible Study	<b>Friday (12/10)</b> 6:00pm Confessions / Holy Hour

**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.*

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### PARISH LIFE

**FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION** of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a Holy day of Obligation celebrated on **Wed., Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>**. *What Is the Immaculate Conception?* Many people think it refers to the conception of Christ through the action of the Holy Spirit. But, correctly, the Immaculate Conception refers to the state Mary was in from the very moment of **her** conception in the womb of **her** mother, **Saint Anne**, allowing Mary to be free from Original Sin. **Join in celebration of the conception of Mary at Mass, on Wed., Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00am, 10:00am and 7:00pm.**



**THE WORD AMONG US and MAGNIFICAT: FREE** copies of the Advent issues of *The Word Among Us* and *Magnificat* are available in the rear of the church. These publications are 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. *Pick yours up today!*

**BEST  
Advent  
EVER**

There are things that draw you toward the light. And, there are things that draw you into the darkness. So much of the world wants to draw you into the darkness of worry, fear, procrastination, negative self-talk, toxic relationships...the list goes on. *This Advent*, discover and choose the things that draw you to the light! Get inspiring daily video reflections sent straight to your inbox—**for free**. Taken from Matthew Kelly's life-changing new book, *Life Is Messy*, each reflection will help you infuse your life with prayer, reading, authentic love of self, genuine friendship, beautiful kindness and more! And, when Christmas arrives, you'll be ready to share the light you've gathered along the way! **Visit: [dynamiccatholic.com/advent/about-advent.html](http://dynamiccatholic.com/advent/about-advent.html)**.

**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 12<sup>th</sup>**. If you are in need or know of someone who needs a coat, contact the rectory office at (202) 546-1885 for details.

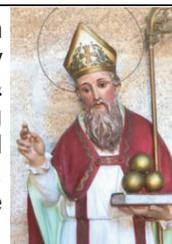


**UPDATE:** You are not mandated to wear a mask to attend Mass. **We have designated the 8:00am Mass on Sunday as a 'mask-only' Mass** where you **must** wear a mask. The following safety protocols will remain in place:

- ◆ 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.

**MEET & GREET WITH SAINT NICK** on **Sun., Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:15AM** in the Center City Public Charter School cafeteria at 15<sup>th</sup> & East Capitol St., SE (enter through parking lot). Our youth and their families are invited to meet and learn about Saint Nicholas. Snacks, games and activities will be available. **Please RSVP—see flyer!**



**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](mailto:youthdirector@hscchurch.org).

**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS:** Your donation supports our beautiful floral Christmas arrangements in the sanctuary. To include a loved one on the "In Memory/Honor of..." list included in the Christmas Mass program, return your Christmas Flower offering envelope to the rectory by **Sun., Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>**. Envelopes are in the rear of the church and the rectory office. **PLEASE PRINT NAMES.**



**ANNUAL HOLIDAY GIFT SALE:** Holiday cards and small religious 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.



**SAINT 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.

### 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](http://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](http://hscchurch.flocknote.com).

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(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 membership, sacraments and funerals contact rectory staff at [hscstaff@hscchurch.org](mailto: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



# Meet & Greet with Saint Nicholas

**Sunday, December 19th**  
9:15am-10:30am

Free for youth and families!



Center City Public Charter School Cafeteria  
15th & E. Capitol Streets, SE (enter thru parking lot in alley)



Please RSVP to [youthdirector@hscchurch.org](mailto:youthdirector@hscchurch.org) or  
202-546-1885 by Dec. 15th

Holy Comforter-St. Cyprian Roman Catholic Church



# ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

**Saturday, Dec. 18th**

10:00AM

A number of clergy will be available to hear confessions following a brief service. Please be sure to have your confessions heard in preparation for Christmas.



*"Come to me all you who are weary and burdened."*

Matthew 11:28

1357 East Capitol Street, S.E., Washington, DC ♦ [hscchurch.org](http://hscchurch.org) ♦ 202.546.1885

*In Memory of*  
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**Catherine E. Graham**  
**Joan M. Graham**  
**Ernestine C. Jackson**  
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**Shirley Ann Jackson**  
*The Family*

*In Loving Memory of*

**Mattie Barclay**  
**Helene Crutchfield**  
**Edgell Fairfax**  
**Elizabeth Fairfax**  
**Clyde Fairfax Sr.**  
**Clyde (Guy) Fairfax Jr.**  
*The Family*

*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*



**IN LOVING  
 MEMORY OF**

**Anthony  
 Maxwell Smart  
 (Tony)**

- The Family

*In Memory of*

**Will, Hump,  
 Bertie, Ray,  
 Winnie**

*In Loving Memory of*

**James O. &  
 Reba L. Neale**  
 and  
**Alice Neale Thornton**  
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