Advent
~ a time for preparation ~
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Fourth Sunday of Advent

Readings This Weekend:
Micah 5:1-4a Hebrews 10:5-10 Luke 1:39-45
Readings Next Weekend:
1 Sm 1:20-22,24-28 1 John 3:1-2,21-24 Luke 2:41-52

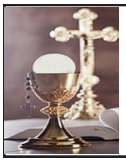
Message from the Pastor

Notice in this Gospel today several stages that in some ways remind us of a Mass. First, there is **Procession:** Mary proceeds in haste to be with her cousin Elizabeth. And when they gather, there is **Praise!** Mary and Elizabeth are having church. Then there is **Proclamation:** a word that is exchanged. Mary's word of greeting does not merely convey her voice, with Jesus in her womb the presence of God accompanies her voice and Elizabeth is filled with joy. During Sunday service, when the presence of the Lord is in the lector, the deacon, and the preacher you know that not only are they speaking, but also God, and you are filled with joy!? Then, comes **Perception:** Elizabeth understands that Mary is Mother of the Lord and carries in her the Lord Jesus. John also leaps for joy, recognizing Christ. At Mass we too fall to our knees with joy as the priest says, "Behold the Lamb of God and we recognize Jesus in the breaking of the bread." So, in today's Gospel, there's just a little Mass going on, just havin' a little Church up in there.

FUNERALS: Matthew Bowlding—December 21st
Vernon Creek—December 22nd

† MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK †

Sunday, December 19 *Fourth Sunday of Advent*
8:00am Walter Stafford †
9:30am Albert Butler †
11:00am Deceased of the McPherson Family †
7:00pm For those suffering from the affects of natural disasters
Monday, December 20
7:00am Ray Bierria (B'day-12/22)
Tuesday, December 21 *St. Peter Canisius, Priest & Doctor of the Church*
7:00am Sharlene Carter (B'day)
Wednesday, December 22
7:00am David Addison (B'day)
Thursday, December 23 *Saint John of Kanty, Priest*
7:00am For the Intentions of Rachel Collins
Friday, December 24 *The Nativity of the Lord*
7:00am Louis George Butler (B'day) †
6:00pm Chauncey Jones (B'day: 12/25) †
12midnight Larry Elgin †
Saturday, December 25 *The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph*
10:00am Otha J. Hamer, Jr. (B'day) †



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 7:10-14		Luke 1:26-38
Tuesday:	Zep 3:14-18a		Luke 1:39-45
Wednesday:	1 Sm 1:24-28		Luke 1:46-56
Thursday:	Mal 3:1-4,23-24		Luke 1:57-66
Friday (Daily):	2 Sm 7:1-5,8b-12,14a,16		Luke 1:67-79
Friday (Vigil):	Is 62:1-5	Acts 13:16-17,22-25	Mt 1:1-25
Saturday:	Is 52:7-10	Hebrews 1:1-6	John 1:1-18

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

2021 CHRISTMAS COLLECTION: This year, our parish will designate our Christmas collection to benefit the St. Joseph Society of the Sacred Heart (The Josephites) and the Oblate Sisters of Providence (OSP) in gratitude for their many years of service to this parish community. This will also assist with their mission to spread the Gospel of the Lord to all, with a special focus on minority communities. Please use your Christmas Collection envelope included with your monthly tithing envelopes for your donation. Additional Christmas Collection envelopes are available in the rear of the church or the rectory office. Thank you for your donation. To learn more about the mission of these two communities, visit: oblatesisters.com and josephites.org.

Mass Attendance for Dec. 12, 2021

4:30pm	31
8:00am	59
9:30am	40
11:00am	140
7:00pm	58
Total:	**328**

Feast of the Immaculate Conception—Dec. 8th

10:00am	37
7:00pm	42
Total:	**79**

FAITH DIRECT (Electronic Tithing): With the approaching holiday season, we'd like to invite you to join Faith Direct, our parish's electronic giving program. Our to-do lists can get lengthy during preparations for the celebration of the birth of our Lord. But Faith Direct's eGiving program will give you one less thing to remember each week--no more envelopes to find before you go to Mass. Pick up a brochure in the rear of the church or go online to faith.direct/DC59 for more information and to register for this **FREE** service. Questions, contact Kim Peaks at 202-546-1885 or pam@hcscchurch.org. Thank you for your support.

This Week at the Parish

Sunday (12/19)
9:30am R.C.I.A.
9:15am Meet & Greet St. Nick

Tuesday (12/22)
6:00pm Choir rehearsal

Friday (12/24)
(rectory closes at 2pm)
6:00pm Family Mass
11:00pm—Song service before Midnight Mass

Saturday (12/25) Christmas
10:00am Mass
(No 4:30pm vigil Mass)

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.

Parish Life

RECTORY OFFICE CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Friday, Dec. 24th—Rectory Closes at 2:00pm

WE NEED YOUR HELP! Come and help decorate the church for Christmas on **Dec. 19th** after the 11am Mass. Contact Kimberly Peaks at 202-546-1885 or pam@hcscchurch.org for info. Light snacks and refreshments provided! ***Many hands make light work!!***

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: Your donation supports our beautiful floral Christmas arrangements. 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 **Monday, Dec. 20th**. Envelopes are in the rear of the church and the rectory office. **PLEASE PRINT NAMES.**

Christmas Season Mass Schedule

Friday, Dec. 24th—Christmas Eve
6:00pm—Family Mass w/Youth Pageant
11:00pm—Song service begins prior to Midnight Mass

Saturday, Dec. 25th—Nativity of our Lord
10:00am—Mass
(No 4:30pm vigil mass)

Sunday, Dec. 26th—Feast of the Holy Family
9:00am, 11:00am and 7:00pm
(No 8:00am or 9:30am Mass)

Friday, Dec. 31st —Watch Night
6:00pm and 11:00pm

Sat., Jan. 1st—Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
(This is a Holy Day of Obligation)
10:00am
4:30pm —Vigil Mass for Sun, Jan 2nd

Sunday, Jan 2nd—Feast of the Epiphany
9:00am, 11:00am and 7:00pm Mass
(No 8:00am or 9:30am Mass)

COVID-19 Safety Protocols

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.

ANNUAL HOLIDAY GIFT SALE: Christmas cards and small religious gift items to benefit the **Oblate Sisters of Providence (OSP)** will be on sale in the vestibule of the church this Sunday after the 8am, 9:30am and 11am masses. Great opportunity to buys some Christ centered-gifts and cards.

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.

to all who contributed to the **WINTER COAT DRIVE** this Advent Season. The Knights of Columbus collected over 8 large bags of coats to be donated to the local coat closet in the community. Thanks for your help to provide warmth to our neighbors!

CHRISTMAS DAY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception provide meals for hundreds of poor, homeless, elderly, and needy individuals living in the DMV area on Christmas Day. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the national shrine will not host in-house dinners but they will deliver it to people. If you'd like to help with the preparation and delivery of these meals on Christmas day, visit https://www.nationalshrine.org/event/2021-christmas-dinner-registration/ or call 202-526-8300.

UPDATE ON THE ANNUAL ADVENT TREE PROJECT? We apologize that our Social Concerns Ministry was unable to host our annual Advent Tree campaign this season. We are in need of volunteers to assist with these community projects. Let us know if you are interested or just want to learn more about how you can help those in need. Contact us at 202-546-1885 or hcscstaff@hcscchurch.org

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 **hcscchurch.flocknote.com** to receive the RSVP. The bible study will resume in January. Stay tuned.

Join Msgr. Pope for **Wednesday Evening Bible Study via Zoom at 7:15pm.** Sign up to receive the Zoom link at **hcscchurch.flocknote.com.** The bible study will resume in Jan. 2022. Stay tuned.

Holy Comforter-Saint Cyprian Roman Catholic Church
1357 East Capitol Street, SE, WDC 20003
(202) 546-1885 ❖ www.hcscchurch.org
Rev. Msgr. Charles Pope, Pastor (www.msgrpope.com)

For information on membership, sacraments and funerals contact rectory staff at hcscstaff@hcscchurch.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

View Our Parish Supporters at www.DiscoverMass.com

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Catherine E. Graham
Joan M. Graham
Ernestine C. Jackson
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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 C. Jones
Son & Father
We'll always love you,
Mom, Kids & Venita

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Anthony Maxwell Smart
(Tony)
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Will, Hump, Bertie, Ray, Winnie

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