

PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S

PASSION

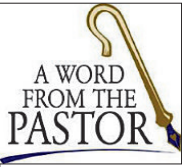
PALM SUNDAY

Readings This Weekend:

Mt 21:1-11 Isaiah 50:4-7 Phil 2:6-11 Mt 26:14-27:66

Readings Next Weekend

Acts 10:34a, 37-43 Col 3:1-4 John 20:1-9



In the sweeping events of today's liturgy we go from crying "Hosanna!" to "Crucify Him!" in a matter of an hour. And this is what we are like and what God has to deal with. Yet, still he loves us and endures his passion for us. Consider the WONDER of the passion.

Who is God that he would die for the likes of us. Truly it was not nails that held him to that cross, it was love. Consider the WILLINGNESS of the passion. For Jesus was not merely a victim, but a willing victim. He said, "No one takes my life from me, I lay it down freely" (John 10:18). Isaiah 53:7 says of Jesus, "He was offered because he willed it." Consider too the WRETCHEDNESS of the passion. For the sufferings of the Lord was horrible on account of our sins. The word "excruciating" comes from the Latin "ex cruce" meaning "from the cross." When the Romans saw something awful they could think of nothing more awful to compare it to than to say of it: ex cruce! (i.e. "That is almost as bad as the cross!") And so the word excruciating comes to us and refers to something most awful! Finally consider the WALK of the passion. The Lord has told us to follow him. There is a cross for us all, but if we are faithful, it leads only to glory. The paschal mystery (that is, the dying and rising of Christ) is our life's pattern: Always carrying about in our body the death of Christ, so that his life may be manifest in us (2 Cor 4:10).



FAITH DIRECT (Electronic Tithing): We offer electronic tithing through *Faith Direct*. Here are 3 ways to get info and register:

1. Scan the QR code to the right →
2. Text "Enroll" to 301-478-8900 to give.
3. Go online to faith.direct/DC59 and register.

This eGiving service is **FREE**. You can register to have your tithes automatically deducted twice a month or give a one-time gift/donation.

Questions? Contact Kim Peaks (pam@hscchurch.org or 202-546-1885).



Stay Connected



- Visit our parish website (hscchurch.org) for news.
- **Subscribe to Flocknote** by texting "HCSC" to 84576 or visit <https://hscchurch.flocknote.com/> to sign up to receive emails with updates from the parish such as bulletins and homily notes. It's **FREE** and easy!
- Download the **MyParishApp** onto your mobile device. To get the app: visit your app store (*available for Android & Apple phones*). Turn on notifications so you can receive parish news. **And**, follow us on social media (**Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and YouTube**).

MASS ATTENDANCE
March 26, 2023

4:30pm	54
8:00am	61
9:30am	39
11:00am	139
7:00pm	75
Total:	368

† MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK †

Sunday, April 2 Palm Sunday

9:00am William McPherson, Jr. †
11:00am Mary S. Turner †
7:00pm intentions of those suffering through natural disasters

Monday, April 3

7:00am Mike Hill (*killed in Nashville, TN*)

Tuesday, April 4

7:00am Intentions of Fr. Larry Swink

Wednesday, April 5

7:00am For the people

Thursday, April 6 Holy Thursday

7:00pm Gary Vincent Scott †

Saturday, April 8 Holy Saturday

8:00pm Fr. Joseph Conway Rodney, SSJ †



MASS INTENTIONS: It is a spiritual work of mercy to pray for others, both living and deceased. If you would like to offer a Mass intention 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 42:1-7	John 12:1-11
Tuesday:	Isaiah 49:1-6	John 13:21-33, 36-38
Wednesday:	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Matthew 26:14-25
Thursday:	1 Cor 11:23-26	John 13:1-15
Friday:	Isaiah 52:13-53:12	John 18:1-19:42
Saturday:	Isaiah 55:1-11	Luke 24:1-12

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

Monday (4/3)

7:30pm Young Adult Bible Study

Thursday (4/6) Holy Thursday

(No morning Mass)
7:00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

Friday (4/7) Good Friday

(No morning Mass)
12noon Neighborhood Stations
3:00pm Traditional Stations
7:00pm The Lord's Passion

Saturday (4/8) Holy Saturday

(No Morning Mass)
10:00am Vigil Mass rehearsal
8:00pm Easter Vigil Mass



OUR CHURCH SANCTUARY IS OPEN FROM 8AM—8PM every day for you to come in for private prayer. Consider spending quiet, personal time in the presence of our Lord and pray for healing, strength, courage and for each other as we face many challenges and struggles throughout our daily lives. All are welcome.

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.

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF OUR LORD

PARISH LIFE

UPCOMING CHURCH CLOSINGS

HCSC RECTORY OFFICE will close early on Good Friday, April 7th at 1PM, and will be **closed Easter Monday (4/10) and Tuesday (4/11)**. **NOTE:** The rectory office will have the following hours on Wed, April 12th and Friday, April 14th—10:00am-4:00pm. This schedule is subject to change.

SUNDAY SCHOOL will not be held on Easter Sunday, April 9th. School will resume Sunday, April 16th at 9:30am.

EASTER FLOWERS: Remember your loved ones this Easter by submitting their names with your Easter Flower envelope. All names submitted will be listed in the Easter bulletin. If you use Faith Direct, email your name(s) to kpeaks@hscchurch.org. To include a memorial for your loved ones, return your envelope (or email) to an usher, or the rectory, **NO LATER THAN Sun., April 2nd**. Envelopes available in the rear of church or from an usher. **PLEASE PRINT NAMES CLEARLY.**



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to help decorate the church for Easter. We have two opportunities: **Thur., April 6th between 1-4pm** or **Sat., April 8th at 10am** to help with flowers. If you can help, please contact Kim Peaks: 202-546-1885 or kpeaks@hscchurch.org.

EASTER TRIDUUM SCHEDULE

Holy Thursday—April 6th

(No morning Mass)

7:00pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, Washing of Feet, Transfer of the Holy Eucharist, Prayer and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the Repository until 11:00pm.

Good Friday—April 7th

(No morning Mass) A day of fast and abstinence

12Noon Neighborhood Stations of the Cross
(gather inside the church and then process)

3:00pm Scriptural Stations of the Cross

7:00pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion, Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion. Youth presentation of the Passion.

Holy Saturday—April 8th

(No morning or 4:30pm Mass)

8:00pm EASTER VIGIL—Service of Light, Easter Proclamation, Liturgy of the Word, Liturgy of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.

Easter Sunday—April 9th

Mass at 9:00am, 11:00am and 7:00pm

NOTE: Please allow time to find legal parking during Holy Week & Easter. Additional parking is available in the school parking lot at 15th & East Capitol St. **DO NOT** double-park or park behind the rectory. Thank you.



LENTEN FOOD DRIVE: We are grateful for the food donations received from our parishioners. And, we also received donations delivered to the rectory from online orders. If you would like to donate to our food pantry, put your monetary donations in the Poor Boxes on the walls of the church; or, drop your check in the collection (*with food pantry in the memo*). You can also make monetary donations via Faith Direct. Pick up a flyer in the rear of the church for more details on how to donate.



Join with Msgr. Pope, the Servants of the Lord and our Sunday School families as they make a **Consecration to the Sacred Heart of Jesus through Mary** beginning April 11th. The consecration will be held online (via FlockNote). Visit our website (hscchurch.org) for information on what is a Consecration to Mary and how to participate.



The National
BLACK CATHOLIC
Congress

The **National Black Catholic Congress XIII Gathering** will be **July 20-23, 2023** at the Gaylord Convention Center in Orono, ME.

Join with other Black Catholics and those who minister to Black Catholics in the United States for a celebration of our faith and culture. For more information, visit: nbccgathering2023.org/Home or scan the QR code.



HCSC YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY meets in-person on **Mondays at 7:30pm** in the **rectory basement**. To receive email notifications, sign up for Young Adult Bible Study on hscchurch.flocknote.com.



Join Msgr. Pope (via Zoom) for **Wednesday Evening Bible Study at 7:15pm** every week. Sign up to receive the weekly Zoom link and at hscchurch.flocknote.com. Bible Study **NOT** be held **Wed., April 11th**. **Questions?** Contact the rectory office at 202-546-1885 or hscstaff@hscchurch.org.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION / HOLY HOUR is held **EVERY FRIDAY from 6—7PM** (*except Good Friday*) in the sanctuary. Parishioners are invited to attend a wonderful opportunity to gather and reflect in quiet prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. Confessions are also heard during the holy hour.



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)

Deacon James P. Flagg II

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

Celebrating Holy Week at Holy Comforter-Saint Cyprian Catholic Church

1357 East Capitol St., SE, Washington, DC 20003

202.546.1885 ♦ www.hcscchurch.org

Reverend Monsignor Charles Pope, Pastor ♦ Deacon James P. Flagg, II

Daily Mass: 7am (M-F) Saturday: 8am & 4:30pm (vigil), Sunday: 8am, 9:30am, 11am, and 7pm

At the heart of our faith is the Paschal Mystery: *the Passion, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension of Jesus Christ*. All of salvation history leads up to and goes forth from these saving events. **The purpose of this flyer is to describe Jesus' Final week.** We call this "Holy Week" for Jesus' public ministry culminates with his suffering, death and resurrection. **Keep this flyer near at hand and read it each day of this week.** Prayerfully walk with Jesus in his most difficult and yet glorious week. Plan to attend some or all of the special liturgies of Thursday, Friday and Saturday here at Holy Comforter-Saint Cyprian. By celebrating them in community, we make them present today and learn again, in a new way, the reality of our Risen Lord alive in our midst.



Our celebration of Holy Week begins on **PALM SUNDAY (April 2nd)**. On this Sunday, we remember and make present the triumphal entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem to begin his final week and initiate his Passion. All four Gospels recount this triumphant entry that Sunday Morning so long ago, but made present to us today. As you receive your palms, consider that you are part of that vast crowd. How will you journey with Jesus this week? Let the palm remind you to praise him with your prayerful presence during the sacred Triduum. According to Mark 11:11, Jesus returned that evening to Bethany which is a suburb of Jerusalem. Perhaps he stayed with his friends Martha, Mary and Lazarus. Pray with Jesus this evening as he considers the difficult days ahead of him.

MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK (April 3rd). According to Matthew 21, Mark 11 and Luke 19, Jesus returns to Jerusalem today and upon seeing shameful practices in the Temple area, he cleanses the Temple. John's Gospel also records that he rebuked the unbelief of the crowds. Mark 11:19 records that he returned to Bethany that night. Pray with Jesus as he is zealous to purify us. **Mass is celebrated in the Church at 7:00am.**

TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK (April 4th). According to Matthew, Mark and Luke, Jesus again returns to Jerusalem where he is confronted by the Temple leadership for what he did yesterday. They question his authority. He also teaches extensively using parables and other forms. There is the parable of the vineyard (*cf* Mt 21:33-46) and the parable of the wedding banquet (*cf* Mt. 22:1). There is also the teaching on paying taxes (*cf* Mt 22:15) and the rebuke of the Sadducees who deny the resurrection (*cf* Mt. 22:23). There is also the fearful prophecy about the destruction of Jerusalem if the inhabitants do not come to faith in him. He warns that not one stone will be left on another (*cf* Mt 24). Continue to pray with Jesus and listen carefully to his final teachings just before his passion. **Mass is celebrated in the Church at 7:00am.**

WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK (April 5th). Traditionally this day was called "Spy Wednesday" for it was on this Wednesday before the crucifixion that Judas conspired to hand Jesus over. For this he was paid thirty pieces of silver (*cf* Mt. 26:14). Jesus likely spent the day in Bethany. In the evening, Mary of Bethany anoints Jesus with costly perfumed oil. Judas objects but Jesus rebukes him and says Mary has anointed him for his burial! (*cf* Mt 26:6). The wicked are besetting Jesus and plotting against him. Are you praying? **Mass is celebrated in the Church at 7:00am.**

HOLY THURSDAY (April 6th) marks the beginning of the sacred Triduum, or “three days.” Earlier that day Jesus had given instructions to the disciples on how to prepare for this most holy meal, which will be his last supper. Through the day they make these preparations (cf Mt 26:17). In the **Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:00pm**, we remember and make present that Last Supper which Jesus shared with his disciples. We are in the upper room with Jesus and the Apostles and do what they did. Through the ritual of washing the feet (Jn 13:1) of parishioners, we unite in service to one another. Through our celebration of this first Mass and Holy Eucharist (Mt 26:26), we unite ourselves to Jesus and receive his Body and Blood as if for the first time. At this Eucharist, we especially thank God for his gift of the ministerial priesthood. After the Last Supper (First Mass) the apostles and Jesus made a short journey across the Kidron Valley to the Garden where he asks them to pray and he experiences his agony (cf Mt 26:30). We too will process in Church with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament to a garden (the altar of repose) which has been prepared. The liturgy ends in silence. It is an ancient custom to spend an hour before the reposed Blessed Sacrament tonight. We are with Jesus in the Garden and pray as he goes through his agony. **The church will be open until 11:00pm.** It was near Midnight when Jesus was betrayed by Judas, arrested and then taken to the house of the High Priest (cf Mt. 26:47).



GOOD FRIDAY (April 7th). All through the night Jesus has been locked in the dungeon of the high priest's house. Early this morning he was brought before Pilate who transferred his case to Herod. Herod sent him back to Pilate who, sometime in the mid-morning, bowed to the pressure of the Temple leadership and the crowds, and condemned Jesus to a horrible death by crucifixion. In the late morning, Jesus was taken by the soldiers through the city and up the hillside of Golgotha. By noon, he is nailed to the cross where he hangs in agony for some three hours. He dies around three in the afternoon. He is taken down from the cross and placed in the tomb hastily before sundown. **Today is a day of prayer, fasting and abstinence.** Whenever possible, Christians are urged to keep today free of work, social engagements and entertainment. You are urged to devote yourself to communal prayer and worship. At **noon** we will gather inside the church to journey forth through our neighborhood following the **Way of the Cross**. This public procession and pilgrimage allows us to see Jesus on our own streets and in the faces of our neighbors. We preach Christ crucified through our witness. The **Scriptural Stations of the Cross at 3:00pm** encourages us to join Jesus on his journey to Calvary through prayer. In the evening, at **7:00pm**, we gather quietly to enter into the **Passion of our Lord** presented by the youth of our parish. We also pray for the needs of the world. To acknowledge the power of the cross in our lives today, we venerate the cross as it is brought into the sanctuary. Our hunger from this day of fasting is satisfied with Holy Communion distributed at the end of this liturgy.

HOLY SATURDAY (April 8th). The body of Jesus is in the tomb but His soul is among the dead to announce the kingdom. *The hour is coming and is now here when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will Live* (John 5:25). Consider what it must have been like for the dead in Sheol to awaken to the voice of Jesus! Meanwhile, the Disciples, heartbroken at the death of Jesus, observed the Jewish Sabbath in sorrow. They had forgotten the promise of Jesus that **He would rise**. We cannot forget His promise. We cannot forget. **Tonight, we gather in church at 8:00pm** to experience Him rising from the dead. We gather in darkness and light the Easter fire which reminds us that Jesus is light in the darkness. He is the light of the world. We enter into the church and attentively listen to Bible stories describing God's saving work of the past. Suddenly, the church lights are lit and the *Gloria* is sung as we celebrate the moment of Christ's resurrection. **He Lives!** In the joy of the resurrection we then celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist for our Catechumens and Candidates who have prepared for many weeks for this night. As a Church we sing *Alleluia* for the first time in forty days. Do everything you can to be present on this evening and invite friends and family to join us. Our Vigil ushers in an Easter joy that never ends!



HOLY COMFORTER-SAINT CYPRIAN ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

1357 East Capitol Street, Southeast
Washington, District of Columbia 20003
202.546.1885 ❖ www.hcscchurch.org



Dear Parishioners,

Below is a letter from our Archbishop, Wilton Cardinal Gregory. In it he explains that he is lifting the suspension that was made during COVID-19 of the distribution of the Precious Blood at Mass. Here at Holy Comforter–Saint Cyprian Parish, we will offer the Precious Blood at the Mass of Holy Thursday. We will then resume its distribution at the 8:00am and 11:00am Masses beginning, April 23rd. At these times, all who wish to receive from the Chalice may do so.

Please recall that no one is obliged to receive from the Chalice since, in receiving the Host, one receives the Lord Jesus, wholly and entirely, His Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity. There may be some of you are eager to resume the reception of the Lord under both forms and we are happy to offer this. Others, however, may have reasons that they do not prefer to sip from the common Chalice. This is not a matter of right and wrong, it is purely the choice of every communicant and we are all called to reverence and respect the personal choice in this matter of every communicant.

After a period of reintroducing the distribution of the Precious Blood, we may decide to expand this offering, but for now it seems fitting to begin modestly at the Sunday Masses and then review what is best in the near future.

Cardinal Gregory's letter is below for your consideration and review. God bless you all for your faithfulness and Love of our Lord and the Church!

Msgr. Charles Pope,
Pastor

LETTER FROM THE CARDINAL

The distribution of the Precious Blood was suspended in the Archdiocese during the Covid-19 pandemic. This was to ensure that the reception of Holy Communion under the species of wine would not in itself present a danger.

The character of the pandemic has changed, and the concern that prompted this particular precaution nearly three years ago has diminished. So, having received advice from the Presbyteral Council and from medical experts, I have decided to remove the restriction on the distribution of the Precious Blood, effective Holy Thursday, April 6, 2023.

Individual pastors, administrators, and chaplains, after appropriate consultation with those they serve, are free to determine if this option is appropriate for their communities as well as what the appropriate timeframe for reintroducing the Precious Blood may be.

At the same time, it is my fervent desire that this year, at the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, the Precious Blood be made available to communicants, who are always free to receive or not. However, the pastor or administrator or chaplain may also refrain from exercising this option if he prudently discerns that this cannot be done for a particular reason.

Our participation in the Mass appropriately culminates in our reception of Holy Communion if we are properly disposed; and fittingly, the reception of Holy Communion includes the reception of the Precious Blood. I am grateful that now, under God's providence, we are all able to receive the Precious Blood once again, and I urge everyone to make use of this great gift in their own celebration and reception of the Most Holy Eucharist.

With every prayerful wish for a fruitful Lent, a joyful Easter, and a renewed life in the Eucharist year-round, I am

Fraternally yours in Christ,

Wilton Cardinal Gregory, +
Archbishop of Washington

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John N. Graham
Catherine E. Graham
Joan M. Graham
Ernestine C. Jackson
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Remembered,
Missed*



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AND
VERMELLE H. HOWARD

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The Family*

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In Loving Memory of
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Charles Myrick Sr.
Leon (Tony) Myrick
Lucy Myrick
Lucy Jones
Shirley Ann Jackson
The Family

In Loving Memory of
Mattie Barclay
Helene Crutchfield
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Clyde Fairfax Sr.
Clyde (Guy) Fairfax Jr.
The Family

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Our Deceased Members

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Holy Name Society

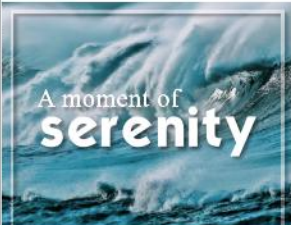
In Memory of
**OUR DECEASED
SODALISTS**

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
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
& Denita*



**IN LOVING
MEMORY OF**
**Anthony
Maxwell Smart**
(Tony)
- The Family

In Memory of
**Winnie,
Ray,
Bertie**

In Memory of
**Hump,
Will,
Henny**

*In Loving
Memory of*
Devin M. Wright
*Love Always,
The Family*

In Loving Memory of
**James O. &
Reba L. Neale**
and
Alice Neale Thornton
The Family

*In Loving
Memory of*
**James & Hattie
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