

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Readings This Weekend:

Isaiah 25:6-10 Phil 4:12-14, 19-20 Matthew 22:1-14

Readings Next Weekend:

Matthew 22:15-21 Isaiah 45:1, 4-6 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5



The fundamental theme of the Gospel today is "Party or Perish." Now this may need some PASTOR explanation. Note first the REPAST. A King (God) has sent out an invitation for all to come to the

wedding feast of his Son (Jesus is wedded to the Church). At one level the wedding feast is the invitation to faith in general. But more biblically, the wedding feast of the Lamb described in the Book of Revelation is also the Liturgy of Heaven we call the Mass. Note next, the REJECTION! The invited guests ignore and reject the invitation, some even abuse and kill the servants who remind them of the feast! Jesus describes their rejection as being rooted in a preference for the things of the world. Next comes their RUIN. The king destroyed them and burned their city. Historically, this happened to ancient Israel in 70AD, forty years after Jesus' resurrection. After having extended the invitation for a long forty years, the "No" of the invited quests became definitive and led to their ruin. It is the same for us. All our life the Lord invites us to accept his kingdom, but in the end, if we don't want it we don't have to accept it. Yet, at death our choice is fixed, and if it is "No" our ruin is sure, for outside the kingdom, there is nothing but ruin. But next notice God's RESOLVE. When some reject, he merely widens the invitation. He wants his Son's wedding feast full. Finally, notice the REQUIREMENT. Simply showing up to the feast is not enough. Upon entering the wedding feast we must put on God's robe of righteousness. Without righteousness one cannot be in the wedding feast, and will ultimately be cast out. We must be dressed in a way that befits the kingdom, clothed in righteousness.



FUNERAL: Robert Stevenson (Oct. 17th)

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, October 15 Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time 8:00am Alfred Miner +

9:30am Intentions of those suffering from crime & violence

11:00am David Louis Cornish †

7:00pm William Roger Kochis †

Monday, October 16

7:00am Arthur Nathan Smith +

Tuesday, October 17

7:00am Intentions of those suffering in warfare † Wednesday, October 18 Feast of Saint Luke, Evangelist

7:00am Thomas Stephen Foley †

Thursday, October 19 SS John de Brebeuf & Isaac Joques, Priests

7:00am Charles Kittrell +

Friday, October 20

7:00am Michael Anthony Young †

Saturday, October 21

8:00am Robert Stevenson †

4:30pm For the People

DAILY RIDLE PEADINGS

DAILT DIBLE READINGS		
MONDAY	ROMANS 1:1-7	LUKE 11:29-32
TUESDAY	Romans 1:16-25	LUKE 11:37-41
WEDNESDAY	2 Тімотну 4:10-17	Luke 10:1-9
THURSDAY	Romans 3:21-30	LUKE 11:47-54
FRIDAY	Romans 4:1-8	LUKE 12:1-7
SATURDAY	ROMANS 4:13 16-18	LUKE 12.8-12



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

- Scan the QR code to the right.
- Text "Enroll" to 301-478-8900 to give.
- 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 (kpeaks@hcscchurch.org or 202-546-1885).



Stay Connected







- Visit our parish website (hcscchurch.org) for news.
- Subscribe to Flocknote by texting "HCSC" to 84576 or visit https://hcscchurch.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

October 7-8, 2023

4:30pm 62 8:00am 61 9:30am 40 11:00am 128 7:00pm 67 Total:

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

Monday (10/16)

6:00pm Finance Council 7:00pm Adult Choir Rehearsal

Tuesday (10/17)

6:00pm Youth Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Adult Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday (10/18) 7:30pm Adult Bible Study

Friday (10/20)

6:00pm Holy Hour w/ confession

Saturday (10/21)

10:00am Baptism Class (Zoom) 5:30pm Marriage Enrichment



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. All are welcome.



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 (living or deceased), call 202-546-1885. The customary stipend is \$10 per intention.

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.

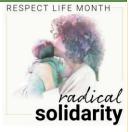
OUR VISION STATEMENT:

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

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Parish Life

RESPECT LIFE MONTH: Every October the Church in the United States celebrates Respect Life Month. As Catholics, we are called to cherish. defend, and protect those who are most vulnerable, from the beginning of life to its end, and at every point in between. During the month, the Church asks us to reflect more deeply



on the dignity of every human life. Our parish will provide information in the bulletin and in the rear of the church on life issues. For more church teachings on Respect Life Month, scan QR code or visit: respectlife.org/celebrate.



HCSC MARRIAGE **ENRICHMENT** FELLOWSHIP: Our parish has formed a marriage ministry for those who are married (any length of time). It is a forum of food and fellowship with both secular and spiritual discussion among married couples. ministry meets once a month on the 3rd Saturday after the 4:30pm Mass in the rectory basement. Our next fellowship is Sat., Oct. 21st. Sounds interesting? Stop by and see!

BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS: If you have an infant or young child that needs the Sacrament of Baptism. Msgr. Pope will offer a baptismal preparation class via Zoom on Sat., Oct. 21st at 10:00am. Contact the rectory office at 202-546-1885 or hcscstaff@hcscchurch.org if you are interested or need more details.



The HCSC MUSIC MINISTRY 51st ANNIVERSARY CONCERT will be Sun., Oct. 22nd at 4pm. Theme: In Our Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow: We Give You Praise! Due to COVID, our last concert was in 2019 but we now continue to lift our voices in praise

and song with a FREE concert! A free-will offering will be taken at the concert. Our youth choir will also be featured. Invite your family and friends!



HELP STOCK THE HCSC FOOD **PANTRY!** The HCSC Social Concerns Pantry Ministry provides food to those in our community who are in need. As we enter into our yearlong celebration of Living With Christ in the Eucharist, let

us not only provide the Eucharist with is the Bread of Life but also assist our brothers and sisters who are in need of bread to eat. On the 4th weekend of every month, please consider donating food items for the food pantry. Our first weekend to collect your donation of food is Oct. 29th. See flier in bulletin for details on what items to donate and if you want to volunteer in the pantry.

ARE YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH? Classes on the fundamental teachings of the Catholic faith (called RCIA) are designed for non-Catholics considering becoming a Catholic, but also for adult Catholics who missed receiving one or more of the sacraments. contact the rectory office at 202-546-1885 or rciahcsc@gmail.com. Come and See!



LIVING WITH JESUS IN THE HOLY EUCHARIST

In this, the Year of the Holy Eucharist, our parish will seek to root and link all our activities, retreats and functions to Jesus who is present with us in the Holy Eucharist. We hope to deepen our personal encounter with the Lord Jesus who is truly and really present in the Holy Liturgy and Eucharist, to reinvigorate our devotion to Holy Mass and Eucharistic adoration, and to draw others to the realization that Jesus is here right now!

Our parish is planning specific events and IRA teachings which we will list on our website and bulletin. Check back throughout the year since dates and times may be adjusted. Scan the QR code to link to the webpage.



We began our 'Mass in Slow Motion' series written by Msgr. Charles Pope last week and it will continue throughout the year. This is a twenty-two part series explaining the parts of the Mass and the relevance of everything within the liturgy. We will have copies in the bulletin, rear of the church and on our website.

Jesus is Here right now!

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION / HOLY HOUR is held EVERY FRIDAY from 6-7PM in the sanctuary. Parishioners are invited to attend a wonderful opportunity to gather and reflect in guiet prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. Confessions are also heard during the holy hour.



HCSC BIBLE STUDIES

YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY meets in-person on Mondays at 7:30pm in the rectory basement. NOTE: Bible Study will resume in November. Receive email notifications when you sign up at hcscchurch.flocknote.com for Young Adult Bible Study.



Join Msgr. Pope (via Zoom) for Wednesday Evening Bible Study at 7:15pm every week. Sign up to receive the weekly Zoom link at

hcscchurch.flocknote.com. Questions? Contact the rectory office at 202-546-1885 or hcscstaff@hcscchurch.org.

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1357 East Capitol Street, SE, WDC 20003 202.546.1885 * www.hcscchurch.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 hcscstaff@hcscchurch.org or (202) 546-1885.

MASS TIMES: Saturday 8am & 4:30pm (vigil) 8am, 9:30am, 11am and 7pm Sunday

Weekdays Mon—Fri: 7am in chapel (8am on holidays)

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS:

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

HOLY COMFORTER-SAINT CYPRIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH MUSIC MINISTRY

51st Anniversary Concert

IN OUR YESTERDAY...
OUR TODAY...
OUR TOMORROW...

WEGIVE YOU PRAISE!



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2023 - 4:00 PM

1357 EAST CAPITOL STREET, SE, WASHINGTON, DC 20003 HCSCCHURCH.ORG

Concert is FREE! A free-will offering will be taken.

So shall I keep thy law continually for ever and ever. And I will walk in freedom: for I seek thy precepts. Psalm 119:44-45

Why do we need commandments? Why did the Torah contain 613 precepts? Why so many laws? Are some more important than others? We have many questions about God's law. Why is it that so many of our questions challenge the wisdom of God? Why don't more of our questions seek to accept, understand, and appreciate God's commands? Ultimately God's commands are to liberate us, to set us free. Who but God could have devised an equation where obedience equals freedom?

Consider one area in your life in which God has revealed to you that you have been obedient. Isn't it an area of your life about which you can say you are completely free? Pray God for the grace that you might experience the blessings and freedom of obeying his command to "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse."

Questions & Answers

What is the tithe? The tithe is <u>first</u> 10% of all our income that is to be given back to God. ♣

Should we tithe the gross or the net of our income? The tithe comes off the top. For this reason we are called to tithe our gross income, not merely the net. Our obligation to God comes before our obligation to government (taxes) or to any other creditor.

Are my tithes and my offerings to the poor the same thing? No, the Scriptures distinguish between tithes and offerings. The tithe is the first 10% that we bring to God's house without fail. Offerings to the poor and other worthy causes are given out of the remaining 90% of our income. Although we are not given a specific percentage by God, we are surely called to be generous in our giving to the poor. Here too a promise is given by God: Give and it shall be given unto you (Luke 6:38). #

Should I tithe if I owe other people money? If you owe me money don't rob God in order to pay me! If fact if you get right with God in the tithe, before long you will be paying me what you owe me for your barns will be filled with plenty! (Cf Prov 3:10)

What if one cannot afford to tithe? The answer is, we cannot afford not to tithe. Who can afford to rob God? Those who rob God are impoverished and they perpetuate the melancholy state of the Church today. One may say, "If I tithe I won't have enough." Yet that is why you don't have enough! The Bible says, "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things will be added unto you." Matt 6:33 +

Isn't tithing a hardship on the poor? How could it be? Tithing is God's plan, and it

comes with a promised blessing: And try me in this says the Lord of Hosts: shall I not open for you the floodgates of heaven to pour down a blessing upon you without measure? (Mal 3:10) To deny or exempt the poor this message is to deprive them of God's word and God's promised blessing #

the What is best procedure for the tither who has difficulty handling money making ends meet? The best procedure for anyone is to begin with the tithe. Take it off the top! It is set aside as holy unto the Lord and must not be touched. Many have found when they were faithful to God's word to tithe, their financial situation became much more organized and priorities became clearer. Give your tithe and be glad: God loves a cheerful giver. (2 Cor 9:7) +

Honor the Lord with thy substance and with the first fruits of all thine increase and so shall thy barns be filled with plenty and thy presses burst out with new wine. Proverbs 3:9-10

No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.

Matthew 6:24-25

And concerning the tithe of the herd, or of the flock, even of whatsoever passeth under the rod, the tenth shall be holy unto the Lord. Leviticus 27:32.

Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, "Wherein have we robbed thee?" In tithes and offerings! Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of Hosts: if I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. Malachi 3:8-10

Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, you hypocrites. You pay tithes of mint and dill and cumin, and have neglected the weightier things the law: judgement and mercy and fidelity. [But] these you should have done without neglecting the others.

Matthew 23:23

Be generous when you worship the Lord, and do not stint the first fruits of your hands. With every gift

show a cheerful face, and dedicate your tithe with gladness. Sirach 35:10-11

All the tithes of the land, whether in grain from the fields or in fruit from the trees, belong to the Lord as sacred to him. Leviticus 27:30

You shall Tithe all the yield of your seed, which comes forth from the field, year by year: Deuteronomy. 14:22.

One man gives freely yet grows all the richer; another withholds what he should give and only suffers want. Prov 11:24

If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will entrust you with the trues riches? And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's who will give you that which is your own. Luke 16:11-12

HELP RESTOCK OUR FOOD PANTRY

HCSC has a food pantry that serves people in our community. We need your help to kepp the pantry full of food. Every 4th Sunday of the month, we ask you to bring nonperishable food items to Mass and give to an usher. The next collection is the weekend of Oct. 29th. Monetary donations are also welcome. Just put your donations in the Poor Box on the walls near the church doors or give through Faith Direct.

Following is what we need you to bring:

CANNED PROTEINS

Tuna or Chicken - snack packs or canned Canned Salmon Vienna Sausage **Potted Meat** Sardines

SOUPS/PASTA

Beef Stew & Hearty Soups Spaghetti Spaghetti Sauce (canned/plastic only) Macaroni & Cheese (boxed)

BREAKFAST

Pancake Syrup (16 or 24 oz Pancake Mix Cereal (vouth and adult) Oatmeal Grits

JUICE/FRUIT

Apple, Grape or Cranberry Juice Sunny D Canned Fruits (all types)

MISCELLANEOUS

Dry or Shelf-Ready Milk Crackers (single packs if possible) All Types of Canned Vegetables







The Mass in Slow Motion



The Altar is Reverenced

This is a series on the Mass explaining the meaning and history of what we do each Sunday. This series of flyers is an attempt to add insight and understanding to our celebration of the Sacred Liturgy. You are also invited to learn more by attending Sunday School classes for adults which take place in the school cafeteria each Sunday from 9:45 am. to 10:45 am.

This series will follow the Mass in order.

As the Entrance procession draws to its close something rather unusual happens! Upon entering the sanctuary, (the part of the Church where the Altar and Tabernacle are located) the priest and deacon enter the sanctuary and kiss the altar as a sign of reverence and veneration. Many of us who go to Mass all the time may hardly notice this gesture. But to someone observing Mass for the first time this gesture may seem quite unusual and raise questions. Why kiss an altar? Where did this gesture come from and what does it mean?





The significance of this kiss has had the following historical development: At first it was intended simply for the altar itself where the Sacrifice of the Lord would occur. Subsequently this idea was enlarged to include the understanding that the altar, built of stone, represented Christ himself, the rock, the cornerstone. (cf. 1 Cor. 10:4). Later, as the relics of saints were ordinarily placed within the altar stone, the kiss was also seen as a salutation of the saint and through the saint the whole Church Triumphant in heaven.

But why is there a kiss, rather than a bow or some other salutation? The kiss was actually very common in ancient culture. The temple was honored by kissing the threshold. Likewise, it was not

uncommon in the ancient world to kiss the family meal table before the meal. Hence, it was not surprising to find the practice brought into Christian worship.

Until the 13th century it was customary at Rome to kiss the altar only upon coming in for Mass and departing. However, in the later Middle Ages the kissing of the altar seems to have been multiplied. In the Traditional Latin Mass prior to 1965, the altar was kissed numerous times:

- * At the beginning of the Mass;
- Any time the priest turned away from the altar, faced the people and addressed them. According to one explanation the priest does this in order to confirm his communion with the Church Triumphant in heaven and then turns to greet the Church on earth;
- ❖ At the words ex hac altare participatione (Then as we receive from this altar...) in the canon;
- ❖ Before the sign of peace. Again, an explanation advanced is that the priest kisses the altar here in order to receive the kiss from Christ, (whom the altar represents), in order to pass it on to others;
- Upon leaving the altar at the end of the Mass.

Today the altar is kissed only twice in conformity with the earlier tradition.





The design of Altars has varied over the years. The current practice of celebrating Mass facing the people has tended to require a rather simple table form to modern altars. But Mass facing the people is a rather recent phenomenon. Until very recently, Mass everywhere was celebrated with the priest and people facing the same direction, toward the East, or at least toward the Crucifix and tabernacle (if there was one on the altar). This allowed the altar design to be much more elaborate. Altars tended to back up onto the apse (back) wall and had a vertical dimension that was often quite splendid and decorative.

The Second Vatican Council directed that new altars should be free standing, that is, they should not be attached to the wall, and should allow the priest to walk around all four sides. While this was only for new altars, this tragically led some to conclude that many beautiful older altars should be removed. That was not however what the Council directed. While an altar facing the people tends to imply a simpler design, it is not necessarily required that this be so, since it is still possible to place ornate designs, called a reredos, in the area behind the altar if this is desired.

Our own parish still has the original altar (under the marble canopy) and that altar has been used to say Latin Masses and is still used for some private Masses. That altar is now often called the "high altar" since it is on a higher platform. It is also called the "altar of repose" since, on it, is the tabernacle where our Lord, in the Blessed Sacrament is reposed (or placed).

The main altar of our parish is the altar where almost all of our masses are celebrated. It has the simpler form of a table and it is possible for the celebrant to walk around all four sides of it. It also allows Mass to be celebrated facing the people, which is the widespread custom today.

Ideally, the altar should be made of stone and be fixed (immovable). Our main altar is not currently fixed and is made of wood. However, under the altar cloths there is a center section of stone, called the altar stone. Having the altar moveable and made of wood is not ideal. But for pastoral reasons it is good to have the flexibility of being able to move the altar and enlarge the sanctuary area for other liturgical functions and to permit occasional use of the high altar.



The altar is a place of great reverence, for on it takes place the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. It is fitting that it should be reverenced with a holy kiss. Further, it represents Christ, for the altar stone reminds us, as the old song says, that "Jesus is a rock in a weary land!" It is from the altar that we are fed the Body and Blood of Jesus. As St. Paul says, [Our ancestors] drank from the rock that followed them in the desert, and the rock was Christ (1 Cor 10:4). Christ is still our rock and still feeds us with the manna of his true flesh and drink that is his true blood.

Holy Comforter-Saint Cyprian Catholic Church 1357 East Capitol Street, S.E. Washington, D.C. 20003 202-546-1885 www.hescchurch.org

DISC VER

中 In Memory of 中 John N. Graham Catherine E. Graham Joan M. Graham Ernestine C. Jackson Always Loved, Remembered, Missed



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Our Deceased Members



Holy Name Society



& Denita

In Memory of

OUR DECEASED SODALISTS



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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



To Our Beloved

In Loving Memory

Austina H. Jones J. Mother

We Love You Always

Willie, Lawrence & Maria

Kenyon C. Jones 🌞 Pon & Father We'll always love you, Mom, Kids

IN LOVING MEMORY OF Anthony Maxwell Smart (Tony)

The Family

In Memory of Winnie, Ray, Bertie

In Memory of Hump, Will. Henny



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

In Loving Memory of

James & Hattie Nicholson & Norman Williams

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