

Pray for Peace



"Like a swallow, like a crane, so I twitter;
I moan like a dove; my eyes look wistfully to the heights;
O lord, I am oppressed, be my security"

Isaiah 38:14

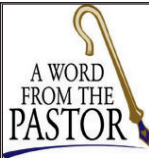
TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

READINGS THIS WEEKEND:

ISAIAH 45:1, 4-6 1 THESSALONIANS 1:1-5 MATTHEW 22:15-21

READINGS NEXT WEEKEND:

EXODUS 22:20-26 1 THESSALONIANS 1:5-10 MATTHEW 22:34-40



The Gospel today contains lots of interesting juxtapositions: Hatred for Jesus but grudging respect for him, real questions versus rhetorical questions, politics and faith, duties to Caesar and duties to God. First, note the **PLOTTING OF THE PERPETRATORS**.

Jesus' enemies plot together how they might trap him and set forth a question that will theoretically pin him down so that, no matter how he answers, he is in trouble. He will offend politics or faith. They ask if it is lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not. Yet, it is interesting how they grudgingly offer him respect in indicating that he will answer truthfully no matter the consequences. Frankly, there are very few among us who do not alter their speech based on the crowd and consequences. Next, note the **PROTESTING OF THEIR PRETENSE** – Jesus acknowledges their question as phony. They don't really want an answer, they merely want to trap Jesus. He goes on to call them hypocrites (actors) and demonstrates that by the fact that they are able to produce a Roman coin. This means that they make use of the very thing they are criticizing and, though they may belly-ache about the Roman oppressors, they are more than willing to trade and make money in the Roman system. Finally, note the **PRONOUNCING OF THE PRINCIPLE**. Fundamentally, Christians have a double duty. Our first duty is always to God (worship, obedience, tithe, witness), but God also expects us to be law-abiding citizens who participate and contribute to the commonwealth and common good of the nation. We are to pray for our leaders, pay taxes, obey just laws and be part of the political process. Render to God what is God's, and to Caesar what belongs to Caesar.

TITHING AND DONATIONS



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 (kpeaks@hscchurch.org or 202-546-1885).



NOTE: If you prefer to use **tithing envelopes**, contact the rectory office at 202-546-1885 or hscstaff@hscchurch.org to request envelopes which will be mailed every two months.

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

October 14-15, 2023

4:30pm	32
8:00am	66
9:30am	40
11:00am	145
7:00pm	70
Total:	353

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

Tuesday (10/24)

7:00pm Adult Choir Rehearsal

Friday (10/27)

6:00pm Holy Hour w/confession

Wednesday (10/25)

7:30pm Adult Bible Study

Saturday (10/28)

10:00am Sodality Bd. mtg

11:00am Knights of Peter Claver



FUNERAL: Cahli Marcus Thomas (Oct. 27th)



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.

† MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK †

Sunday, October 22 *Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

8:00am James Young (B'day)

9:30am James C. Walker †

11:00am Cahli Marcus Thomas †

7:00pm Deacon Richard Walker †

Monday, October 23 *Saint John of Capistrano, Priest*

7:00am Phillip L. Whitlock †

Tuesday, October 24

7:00am Richard W. Day, Jr. †

Wednesday, October 25

7:00am Pauline Macon (B'day) †

Thursday, October 26

7:00am Austina Jones †

Friday, October 27

7:00am For the People †

Saturday, October 28 *SS Simon & Jude, Apostles*

8:00am Robert Stevenson

4:30pm Gladys Lancaster †

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

MONDAY	ROMANS 4:20-25	LUKE 12:13-21
TUESDAY	ROMANS 5:12, 15-21	LUKE 12:35-38
WEDNESDAY	ROMANS 6:12-18	LUKE 12:39-48
THURSDAY	ROMANS 6:19-23	LUKE 12:49-53
FRIDAY	ROMANS 7:18-25	LUKE 12:54-59
SATURDAY	EPHESIANS 2:19-22	LUKE 6:12-16

PARISH LIFE

Last week, Msgr. Pope introduced our **ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP** program to encourage every parish family to view tithing or stewardship as a deep commitment to the person of Jesus Christ and to His call to discipleship. Your gifts of *Time*, *Talent* and *Treasure* are indispensable resources for our parish programs and ministries. This **weekend**, Msgr. Pope will ask you to discern, pray and make a commitment. The gift of yourself and all you have to offer to Jesus Christ is an act of love. We are so grateful.

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.



THANK YOU to Annette Brooks and her awesome volunteers for coordinating our rescheduled Annual Family & Friends Picnic on Oct. 14th. We had a line dancing instructor, magician, food and lots of fun. It's always good to gather as a faith community so that we can meet each other and worship as a Christ-centered family.



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!* We will 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 RESTOCK THE HCSC FOOD PANTRY! The HCSC Social Concerns Ministry provides food to those in need in our community. As we enter our yearlong celebration of *Living With Christ in the Eucharist*, let us not only provide the Eucharist which is the Bread of Life but also bread to eat. See the flier in the bulletin for which foods are needed and bring to Mass on the weekend of Oct. 29th.



PRAYERS FOR THE DEAD: One of the spiritual works of mercy is to pray for the dead. November is the Church's traditional month to pray for our deceased friends and family. Mass will be celebrated every other day for the *Poor Souls*. To include your relatives and friends, write their names on the All Souls Day envelope (included with tithing envelopes or in rear of church) and drop in collection basket or rectory office. A donation is not needed to submit names but is appreciated. The envelopes will be placed on altar throughout the month of November.

FAITH DIRECT USERS: If you tithe via Faith Direct, email your names to hscstaff@hscchurch.org or call 202-546-1885.



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 events and 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 currently offer our 'Mass in Slow Motion' series written by Msgr. Pope which 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 have copies in the bulletin, rear of the church and on our website.

EUCCHARISTIC 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 quiet prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. Confessions are also heard during the holy hour.



HOLY HOUR INTENTION (10/27): *We pray for Christian families around the world; may they embody and experience unconditional love and advance in holiness in their daily lives.*



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.

HCSC BIBLE STUDIES



Join Msgr. Pope (via Zoom) for **Wednesday Evening Bible Study at 7:15pm** every week. Sign up to receive the weekly Zoom link at hscchurch.flocknote.com. **Questions?** Contact the rectory office at 202-546-1885 or hscstaff@hscchurch.org.

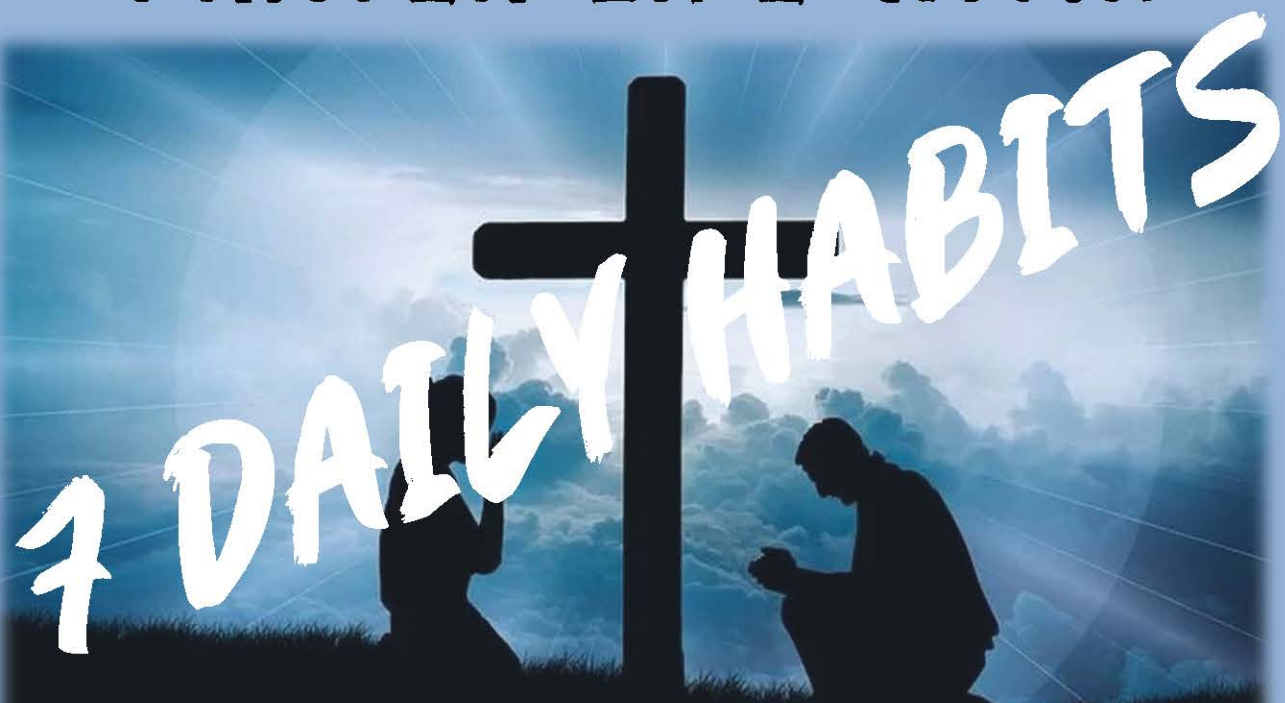
HOLY COMFORTER-SAINT CYPRIAN ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
 1357 East Capitol Street, SE, WDC 20003
 202.546.1885 ❖ www.hscchurch.org
 Rev. Msgr. Charles Pope, Pastor (www.msgrpope.com)
 Deacon James P. Flagg II

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 in chapel (8am on holidays)

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

**POWER UP YOUR
PRAYER LIFE WITH:**



Pray always and do not lose heart, Luke 18:1

Men's Evening of Reflection

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2023

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

**HOLY COMFORTER - ST. CYPRIAN
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
1357 EAST CAPITOL STREET, S.E.
WASHINGTON, DC 20003**

HELP RESTOCK OUR FOOD PANTRY

HCSC has a food pantry that serves people in our community. We need your help to keep the pantry full of food. **Every 4th Sunday of the month**, we ask you to bring non-perishable 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 (youth and adult)
Oatmeal
Grits

JUICE/FRUIT

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

MISCELLANEOUS

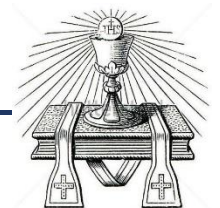
Dry or Shelf-Ready Milk
Crackers (single packs if possible)
All Types of Canned Vegetables

We also need volunteers
to help pack bags! Call the
rectory at 202-546-1885
or
kpeaks@hscchurch.org.





The Mass in Slow Motion



The Altar is Incensed

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.

Holy Smoke! What is all that incense about? The reaction is rather mixed when it comes to incense. Some love it, and some love to hate it. But the bottom line about incense is that it is a symbol of prayer. As the incense gently rises it images our prayers going up to God (cf Ps 141:2 quoted below). As the incense slowly settles in is a fragrant symbol for God's graces. And don't fan that incense away! Take a breath! It is holy smoke. Like holy water that literally showers a blessing on us, so too does the fragrant incense, blessed by the priest bring us God's blessings as we breathe it in. Perhaps it is a blessing best received in moderation but it is a blessing.

So here at the beginning of the Mass the priest may incense the Altar. We do not use incense at all Masses, as we shall see below, but it is used for more special occasions. The altar is incensed by the celebrant, the priest, circling the altar and swinging a smoking censer of fragrant incense. In addition to the altar, the Crucifix near the altar is also incensed at this time.

Why do we use incense? What is the history of this action and what is our intention?

In the first place, the use of Incense is another way of showing prayerful reverence. Here at the beginning of Mass we incense the altar, which, as we have seen is a symbol for Christ. It is also a holy place where on the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will take place. Thirdly the relics of the saint within the altar stone represent the Church triumphant and we honor the presence of the saints in incensing the altar. That the crucifix near the altar is incensed is a sign of its special dignity as well, for it bears the image of Christ crucified, and is the sign and image of our salvation. Hence, we honor it as well.



The use of incense does not take place at every Mass, as we have already noted. It is an option, and although it may be used at the discretion of the celebrant, it tends to be reserved to special occasions and to more significant feasts of the Church. The General Instruction indicates it is to be used "when the occasion warrants it." In the old Latin Mass the use of incense was restricted to solemn and sung Masses. Today there are few restrictions on its use but ironically it is seen less often.

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 so, the use of incense tends to be oriented to a heightening of the solemnity. As with so many externals: vestments, flowers, music, and the like, there is intended an aid to the senses in grasping the greatness of the feast.



The use of Incense lends itself especially to religious symbolism, especially as an image for prayer. Such imagery is used in the 141st psalm which says: *Let my prayers rise like incense before you O Lord* (Psalm 141:2). Revelation 8:4 also says: “*The smoke of the incense of the prayers of the saints ascended before God from the hand of the Angel.*” It is therefore a sign of our prayers rising to God and His blessings descending upon us. The incensing prayer to be recited by the priest at the incensing of the gifts that was recited by the priest in the Extraordinary Form of the Latin Mass beautifully describes this image: “*May this incense, blessed by You, ascend to You O Lord, and many your mercy descend upon us.*”

In addition, the burning of incense symbolizes the burning zeal which should consume the Christian, and the sweet fragrant odor is the fragrance of Christian virtue. Here too the prayers of the priest in the older Latin Mass described this. The priest says as he hands the thurible to the Deacon at the Offertory: *May the Lord enkindle in us the fire of His love, and the flame of everlasting charity. Amen.*



Thurible (Censer)

Boat and spoon

History of Incense - The use of incense in the culture of the early Church was common in wealthier homes as its perfume was in demand. It was a strong part of burial traditions and it was a major component in both the Jewish Temple and in pagan worship. It was probably its connection with pagan worship that limited its use in early Church. However, with the virtual disappearance of paganism after the 4th century, incense found its way gradually into the Liturgy, being carried especially in processions. By the 9th century incense was in use, at least at the beginning of the Mass, and, by the 11th Century, there is explicit mention of the incensing of the altar.

During the Middle Ages the use of incense at other points during the Mass was introduced. Likewise, the objects of incense became more numerous. Now persons, relics, and the oblations were incensed as well as the altar. The Latin Missal from the 16th Century prescribed that, when incense was used, it was to be used at the following times:

1. The altar, cross, and celebrant are incensed at the beginning.
2. The Gospel is incensed just prior to its being sung.
3. At the offertory, the gifts of bread and wine, the altar, the cross, the priest, the deacon, subdeacon, choir, and the assembly are all incensed in this order.
4. The host and chalice after each consecration are incensed as they are held aloft.

Today, this “schedule” of incensations is retained with the exception of the incensation of the celebrant at the beginning. This is now done only at the offertory.

Have you noticed that YOU are also incensed? This takes place at the offertory and is recognition of your dignity and the honor due to you. You are an invited guest to the Mass, God himself has invited you. You are created and redeemed by God, and indwelt by the Holy Spirit. All this makes you holy, and honor is due to you on account of it. Thus, at the offertory, you are invited to stand and the Deacon or thurifer bestows on you the blessed incense which honors your dignity.

After incensing the altar at the beginning of the Mass, the celebrant goes immediately to the chair.

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

Mass schedule: Sundays: 8 am, 9:30 am, 11 am & 7 pm; Saturdays: 8 am & 4:30 pm; Daily: 7 am in the chapel

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John N. Graham
Catherine E. Graham
Joan M. Graham
Ernestine C. Jackson
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The Family*

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Charles Myrick Sr.
Leon (Tony) Myrick
Lucy Myrick
Lucy Jones
Shirley Ann Jackson
The Family

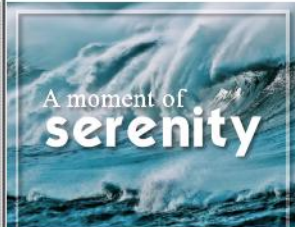
In Loving Memory of
Mattie Barclay
Helene Crutchfield
Edgell Fairfax
Elizabeth Fairfax
Clyde Fairfax Sr.
Clyde (Guy) Fairfax Jr.
The Family

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
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

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Memory of*
**James & Hattie
Nicholson &
Norman Williams**
♥ From the Family ♥

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