Hope

Advent

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Readings This Weekend:

Isaiah 63:16-19; 64:2-7 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 Mark 13:33-37

Readings Next Weekend:

2 Peter 3:8-14 Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11 Mark 1:1-8



As we enter Advent we are encouraged by the readings to reflect on our need for a savior. The First Reading presents a good description of our needy state. We are depicted as **DRIFTING** for the text describes us as wandering and hard of text heart. The depicts

DISAPPOINTED for it has us wish that God would rend the heavens and come down and do some of the great deeds of the past that we read of in the Old Testament. The text also depicts us as **DEPRAVED** for we are described as not doing what is right, as being sinful and unclean. We are also shown as DISCOURAGED for we are wracked by guilt and even our good deeds seem to us as so many filthy rags. Further, we are shown as **DISAFFECTED** for it seems that too many of us do not even have the desire to rouse ourselves and go and cling to God and seek his mercy. But finally, we are depicted as having **DIGNITY** for we are the clay and God himself is the potter who cares about us and is molding and fashioning us, if we let him. Indeed, it is our dignity to say "...we are all the work of your hands." So, come Lord Jesus, mold us, fashion us, thereby save us!



FUNERALS: Michael Boyd (December 6)

Gayle Jones (December 7)

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, December 3 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:00am Alfreda Reavis † 9:30am Aaron Brown † 11:00am Cahli Thomas †

7:00pm Deceased members of the Browder Family † Monday, December 4 St. John Damascene, Priest & Doc of Church 7:00am Deceased members of the Mandong Family †

Tuesday, November 5

7:00am George T. Holton III (B'day)

Wednesday, December 6 SAINT NICHOLAS, BISHOP

7:00am Gary E. McPherson +

Thursday, December 7 St. Ambrose, Bishop & Doc of Church

Deacon Kevin Butler † 7:00am

Friday, December 8 FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

7:00am Mary Alston + 10:00am John Ford † David Atkinson † 7:00pm

Saturday, December 9 SAINT JUAN DIEGO CUAUHTLATOATZIN

8:00am For the People Antionette Womack † 4:30pm

DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK

ISAIAH 2:1-5 **MATTHEW 8:5-11** MONDAY: Isaiah 11:1-10 TUESDAY: LUKE 10:21-24 WEDNESDAY: ISAIAH 25:6-10 MATTHEW 15:29-37 THURSDAY: ISAIAH 26:1-6 MATTHEW 7:21, 24-27 GENESIS 3:9-15, 20 EPHESIANS 1:3-6, 11-12 FRIDAY:

LUKE 1:26-38

SATURDAY: ISAIAH 30:19-21, 23-26 MATTHEW 9:35-10:1,5A, 6-8



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.
- 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 November 26, 2023

4:30pm 8:00am 59 9:30am 44 11:00am 144 7:00pm 41 327 Total:

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

Wednesday (12/6) 7:15pm Advent Bible Study Friday (12/8) Feast of the Immaculate Conception 7:00am Mass 10:00am Mass 6:00pm Holy Hour w/confession 7:00pm 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.



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 in memory of a friend or family, 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.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

PARISH LIFE

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If you were expecting a great guest in your home, what would you do to get ready? You probably start by cleaning and de-cluttering. You would also prepare the meal with care, use the best china and dress well. All of this is not bad advice for preparing to meet the Lord, and Advent is a time to focus on making those

preparations. A good confession is the equivalent of a house cleaning that allows you to sweep your soul clean. De-clutter by examining your life and considering what things that clutter your life and crowd out the spiritual. What meal does Jesus want? He once said, Doing the Father's will is the food that sustains me (John 4:31). So prepare a meal of obedience and deck yourself in the garments of righteousness.

NOTE: Confessions are heard 1/2 hour before each Mass during the weekend **and** during the Holy Hour which is held in the sanctuary every Friday from 6-7pm. You can also call the rectory and arrange for confession.

FEAST OF THE **IMMACULATE** CONCEPTION of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a <u>Holy day of obligation</u> celebrated on **Friday**, **Dec.** 8th. 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 Friday, Dec. 8th at 7:00am, 10:00am and 7:00pm.



CONGRATULATIONS to Aurora Bennett and Nadia Carreño Karp who were Baptized into the family of the Sacrificial Lamb, Jesus Christ, on Nov. 24th and 25th. May God bless these families as they begin this journey to salvation.

ADVENT BIBLE STUDY with MSGR. POPE: Dec. 6,13, 20 at 7:30pm via Zoom. The theme is "Jesus Comes to Be with His Bride". Explore the old and new testament teachings on the beautiful union of Christ with the Church. Sign up to receive the weekly Zoom link at hcscchurch.flocknote.com. Select 'Advent Bible Study'. Questions: call 202-546-1885 or kpeaks@ hcscchurch.org.

ANNUAL HOLIDAY GIFT SALE: Christmas cards and small gift items are on sale in the Usher Store in the rear of the Church on Sundays after the 8am, 9:30am & 11am masses. Cash and checks accepted. All proceeds benefit the Oblate Sisters of Providence (OSP).



GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT "ADVENT" TREE: HCSC Social Concerns Ministry has begun our annual Gifts of the Spirit campaign in which we ask our parishioners to give and support others this

Advent. This year we will ask for donations of personal items for the following religious communities: Oblate Sisters of Providence and Servants of the Lord. Donations of items or money are accepted. See flyer in the bulletin for details.



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 🔳 👯 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 with your phone camera to link to the church webpage.



We offer the 'Mass in Slow Motion' series by Msgr. Pope, and 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 and on our website.

Visit our 'Eucharistic Miracles' exhibits in the rear of the sanctuary and learn about the supernatural power of the Eucharist.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION / HOLY HOUR is held EVERY FRIDAY from 6-7PM in the sanctuary. Gather and reflect in quiet prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. Confessions are also heard at this time. HOLY HOUR **INTENTION FOR 12/8**—we pray for the virtue of Peace.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: Your donation to the Christmas flower fund allows us to purchase the beautiful floral Christmas arrangements for the sanctuary. To include loved ones (deceased or



living) on the "In Memory/Honor of ... " flyer included in the Christmas bulletin, return your Christmas flower offering envelope to the rectory by Sun., Dec. 17th. Envelopes are in rear of church and rectory office. PLEASE PRINT NAMES.

NOTE: If you donate electronically through Faith Direct, please submit your names to 202-546-1885 or kpeaks@hcscchurch.org.

The 257th U.S. ARMY BAND presents a holiday concert at HCSC on Mon., Dec. 11th at 7pm. This FREE concert features traditional Patriotic, Christmas and Holiday classics performed by a military band. All are welcome!



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) Deacon James P. Flagg II

For information on membership, sacraments and funerals contact rectory staff at hcscstaff@hcscchurch.org or (202) 546-1885.

8am & 4:30pm (vigil); Mass Times: Saturday

Sunday 8am, 9:30am, 11am and 7pm; Mon—Fri: 7am (8am on holidays) Weekdays

Rectory Office Hours:

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

HOLY COMFORTER-ST. CYPRIAN FRIENDLY SENIORS BIBLE STUDY

COME JOIN THE FRIENDLY SENIORS BIBLE STUDY AS WE RE-CONVENE ON DECEMBER 12, 2023







Deacon J.P. Flagg, Moderator



We look forward to spiritual enrichment and great discussion.

1ST MEETING - DECEMBER 12, 2023 (2ND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH) TIME: 10:30AM TO 12NOON

Location – Holy Comforter-St. Cyprian Church Chapel
(Enter the Chapel via Mary's Garden)

1357 East Capitol Street, SE

Washington, DC 20003

If you are a senior (or if you know of someone) and you want to meet and fellowship with other seniors in our parish, please contact:

Elizabeth Colston (301) 248-1566

The Mystery of the Immaculate^a



Join the Holy Comforter-Saint Cyprian Women's Ministry For a virtual fellowship (Via Zoom)

Saturday, December 9, 2023 12:00—2:00 pm

Meeting ID: 824 7265 1128

Meeting Password 224634

Or dial in using your phone at 301-715-8592

All are Welcome

Invite others. We ask all participants to find a quiet place with the least amount of background distractions and mute your microphones when not speaking.

For additional information, contact one of the following

Laura Stanton (301) 326-9467 Wanda Ross (301) 523-1017

Bertha Colbert (301) 567-9786 Miriam Townsend-Edelen (301) 219-7986

Robin Brooks (202) 271-2940 Linda Simpson (301) 735-6432 Shirley Austin (202) 368-7231 Brenda Worthy (202) 355-4075

Our Guest Speaker

Charlene Howard Director of Spiritual Life

Archbishop Carroll High School



Charlene Howard

Charlene Howard wears many hats. She is the Director of the Religion Department at Archbishop Carroll High School and has a master's degree in Catechesis and Religious Education from Catholic University. She is a mother of 4 children and the grandmother of 4. She works with her husband, Michael Howard, presenting workshops at various catechetical conferences, assisting in the formation of catechists and writing curriculum for the University of Dayton Virtual Classes for Faith Formation program. At her parish of St. Teresa of Avila, she is a spiritual mama to a wide range of people and coordinates the Faith Links Small Groups to cultivate missionary discipleship and evangelization within her parish and the Archdiocese of Washington. Additionally, Mrs. Howard serves as the National Secretary on the Pax Christi USA National Board working to further the organizations presence in responding to issues of racial justice, the inclusion of youth and young adults in the work of the organization, as well as, increasing the visibility and viability of the organization among communities of color. Most importantly, Charlene Howard is a child of God working to proclaim the good news that we are made in His image and greatly loved.

HOLY COMFORTER-SAINT CYPRIAN SOCIAL CONCERNS MINISTRY ADVENT TREE/GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT CAMPAIGN

During this season of Advent, we want to share our "Gifts of the Spirit" with those within our parish and surrounding community. This year will be a bit different. We are asking our parishioners to donate personal items to support our religious communities:

Servants of the Lord/Virgins of Matara and the Oblate Sisters of Providence

Purchase items from the list on the back and drop at the rectory or in the church (during Mass times) **NO LATER THAN** Sunday, Dec. 17th. The items will be wrapped and presented to the Sisters prior to Christmas. Please be generous and donate a couple of items so that all Sisters will receive a special gift. Monetary donations and gift cards are also accepted. And, you can purchase online and ship items to the rectory.

"if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully." Romans 12:7-8

Following is the list of items that you are asked to donate. We also welcome monetary donations (checks payable to HCSC and write ADVENT TREE in the memo) or gift cards (see list below). **All donations are due by Sunday, December 17th**. They can be left at the rectory office or in the Church after weekend Mass. Monetary donations can be dropped in the collection basket, left at the rectory during office or use Faith Direct (look for *Advent Tree*). You can also order online and ship to: *Holy Comforter-St. Cyprian Catholic Church, 1357 E. Capitol Street., S.E., Washington, D.C. 20003*. You can put to the attention of: Advent Tree.

VOLUNTEERS: We need volunteers to sort and pack bags the week of Dec. 17th. We will schedule the exact time for an evening on either Dec. 18 or 19. Let us know if you are interested by calling 202-546-1885 or email: hcscstaff@hcschchurch.org and leave your name, number and email.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and support.

Facial Tissue (full sized box)	Thank You Notes/Cards or Personal Stationary	GIFT CARDS
Bar Soap (Dove, Irish Spring or Dial)	Word Search or Crossword Puzzle Books	Walmart Gift Cards
Body Wash (Dove or other gentle brand)	Scenic Puzzles (500 pcs or more)	Target Gift Cards
Toothpaste	Hard Candy (mints, Werthers, mixed)	VISA Gift Cards
Toothbrush	Toilet Paper/Paper Towels	Safeway Gift Cards
Body Lotion (Vaseline Intensive Care or similar)	Foot Powder	Amazon Gift Cards
Hand Sanitizer (personal sized)	Shampoo	
Liquid Hand Soap (small pump bottles)	Lysol Wipes/ Fabuloso	
Postage Stamps	Murphy Oil Soap/Bona for Wood Floors	
Tylenol Capsules (for arthritis)	Nyquil, Therma Flu, Alka Seltzer	
Body Powder	13-Gallon Trash Bags	

The Mass in Slow Motion



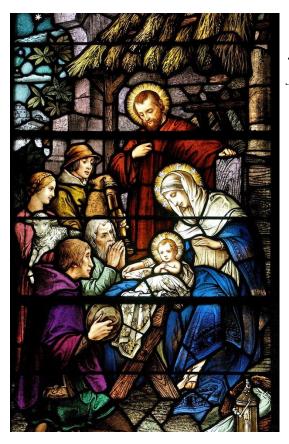


The Gloria

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.

We have gathered and acknowledged God's presence in several ways — hymn of praise, incense, veneration of the altar, and the greeting of the celebrant. We have examined our consciences and asked God to give us pure hearts and minds to praise him. At most Sunday Masses what comes next is a kind of outburst of praise called the Gloria — "Glory to God in the highest!" or in Latin, "Gloria in excelsis Deo!" Knowing and experiencing God's presence and mercy brings forth joy and a desire to praise him. And so, we sing:



Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you; we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Gloria is a very old and venerable hymn of the Church. It is sung by the congregation, or by the congregation alternately with the choir. If it is not sung it is to be recited by all in unison or alternately. It is sung on Sundays outside the Advent and Lenten seasons, as well as on solemnities and feasts and at special, more solemn celebrations. The text of the Gloria echoes the song of the angels at the Nativity. Further, it praises and invokes both the Father and Son and concludes with a brief doxology to the Trinity.

History - The Gloria was not created originally for the Mass. It is an heirloom from the treasure of ancient church hymns. Indeed, it is a precious remnant of a literature now mostly lost but once certainly very rich. These hymns imitated and borrowed from biblical themes. They may even be said to take after the tradition established by Mary who proclaimed her *Magnificat* (My soul proclaims the greatness of God...) by borrowing heavily from the biblical themes. So too, Zechariah in his *Benedictus* (Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel. He has come to his people and set them free...). Both of these hymn-like praises are found in the Gospel of Luke in the first chapter. Few of the other early hymns of the Church remain, however. One other hymn which does remain is the *Te Deum*, (We praise you Oh God and acknowledge you to be Lord...). It too is a hymn of thanksgiving and praise to God. Unlike the Gloria, it has retained its existence apart from the Mass.



The roots of the Gloria may be found as early as the 4th Century where a text very close to our present text is found. Likewise, another text from the 7th Century is also very close. Again, this hymn was not originally part of the Mass but was probably sung as the *Te Deum* is today in celebrating liturgical feasts. It was sometimes included in the Mass as a hymn as early as the 6th Century and perhaps even earlier by some accounts. But definitely by the 6th Century Pope Symmachus permitted its use on Sundays and feasts of martyrs but only at a Mass presided over by a Bishop. Pope Gregory allowed its use at the Easter Mass even if the Celebrant was only a priest. It was not until the 11th Century that the distinction allowing it only for Bishop's Masses was dropped. This was due to continual requests that it be allowed. Today, the Gloria is said at all Masses of a festive character outside of penitential seasons.

A full analysis of the hymn could be a course in itself. However, suffice it to say that it is understood to be a hymn of praise which is almost ecstatic in quality. So, it is fitting that the Gloria be sung if possible. Reciting the Gloria comes in at a very poor second. It is a bit like reciting the National Anthem. We just don't do this because the very festivity and honor of the song requires it be sung. The Gloria is like this, if at all possible, it should therefore be sung. However, this is not always possible and it ends up being recited. It should at least be recited in a vibrant and pious manner to avoid the possibility of the text becoming wooden and dull.

In the end, these introductory rites of procession, penance and praise all serve to establish the fact that we are in the presence of God. Casting aside our sin and sorrow, we enter God's presence with reverence, confidence and joy. Next, as we shall study, we will listen attentively to God speak to us.



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

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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VERMELLE H. HOWARD

Love Always, The Family



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Lillian H. Myrick 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



Our Deceased Members



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 19

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

J. Mother We Love You Always

Willie, Lawrence & Maria

To Our Beloved Kenyon C. Jones 🌞 Pon & 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



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

From the Family 7



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