Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

HOLY COMFORTER-SAINT CYPRIAN ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

MARCH 24

PALM SUNDAY

Readings This Weekend:					
Mark 11:1-10 Isaiah	50:4-7 Philippians 2:6-11	Mark 14:1-15:47			
Readings Next Weekend:					
Acts 10:34a, 37-43	Col 3:1-4	John 20:1-9			



It is a day of contrasts. We begin by singing loud Hosannas and praising Jesus as the Son of David and Messiah. But we human beings are fickle and before long we also shout "Crucify Him!" Would you have considered joining the crowd? Perhaps you would have been in the first crowd and

shouted Hosanna. But, would you have been in the second crowd? It's too easy to think that we could never say "Crucify Him." But, we are fickle. One minute we're here praising the Lord on a Sunday morning and next thing you know, even in the car on the way home, we are anything but a child of God! It's so easy for us to be carried away by our emotions or let events overtake us; but somewhere in the midst of all this changeability in us there is a God whose love never changes, who is steadfast and firm. His name is "I AM" not "I MIGHT BE IF I'M IN THE RIGHT MOOD." Praise the Lord! Today, we acknowledge that we are capable of great and wonderful things and have the capacity to powerfully praise him. But we are also capable of great sin and inconstancy. But at the cross we encounter a God who loves us anyway.

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FUNERAL: Annie Parker (3/22)

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, March 24 PALM SUNDAY			
8:30am Intentions of Stacy Rubens (B'day 3/29)			
11:00am John A. Savoy, Jr. +			
7:00pm Marlene Whitlock +			
Monday, March 25			
8:00am Gloria Ramsey †			
Tuesday, March 26			
7:00am Intentions of Kiandra Harris (B'day)			
Wednesday, March 27			
7:00am Tyrone Adamst			
Thursday, March 28 Holy Thursday			
7:00pm Harvey Clapp †			
Saturday, March 30 Holy Saturday			
8:00 pm Christopher Nesmith (B'day) †			



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 of a friend or family, memory call 202-546-1885 or hcscstaff@hcscchurch.org. The customary stipend is \$10 per intention.

DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday	ISAIAH 42:1-7	Јони 12:1-11
TUESDAY	Isaiah 49:1-6 John 13:21-33, 3	
WEDNESDAY	Isaiah 50:4-9a	MATTHEW 26:14-25
THURSDAY	Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14	1 Cor 11:23-26 John 13:1-15
FRIDAY	ISAIAH 52:13-53:12	Јони 18:1-19:42
SATURDAY	GENESIS1:1-2:2	Exodus 14:15-15:1
	ISAIAH 55:1-11	BARUCH 3:9-15, 32-4:4
	Luke 24:1-12	

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

- Scan the QR code to the right. 1.
- 2. Text "Enroll" to 301-478-8900.

Stay Connected

3. Online: go to faith.direct/DC59 to register. This eGiving service is FREE. You can register 过 to have your tithes automatically deducted twice a month or give a one-time gift/donation. Peaks Contact Kimberly Questions? (kpeaks@hcscchurch.org or 202-546-1885).



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).

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THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

Monday (3/25) 7:00pm Adult Choir Rehearsal

Tuesday (3/26) 7:00pm Adult Choir Rehearsal

Thursday (3/28) Holy Thursday (No morning Mass) 7:00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper Friday (3/29) Good Friday (No morning Mass) 12noon – Neighborhod Stations 3:00pm Choral Stations 7:00pm Lord's Passion

Saturday (3/30) Holy Saturday (No morning Mass) 8:00pm Easter Vigil Mass



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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 ourselves and each other as we face many challenges and struggles throughout our daily lives. All are welcome.



HCSC PILGRIMAGE TO IRELAND: Join Msgr. Pope on a pilgrimage to Ireland, the land of Saint Patrick, on Nov. 4-14, 2024. Cost includes non-stop roundtrip flights from

Dulles Int'l Airport (United Airlines) along with hotels, meals, tour bus and guides. See brochure in rear of church for details.

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, March 29th at 1:00pm, and will be **closed Mon.,** April 1st and Tues., April 2nd. NOTE: The rectory office will have the following hours on Wed., April 3rd and Fri., April 5th—10:00am-4:00pm. This schedule is subject to change.

SUNDAY SCHOOL will not be held on Easter Sunday, March 31st. School will resume Sunday, April 7th at 9:30am.

EASTER FLOWERS: Remember your loved ones this Easter by submitting their names with vour Easter Flower envelope. All names submitted will be listed in the Easter bulletin. If you use Faith Direct for a donation, email name(s) to kpeaks@hcscchurch.org. To include а memorial for your loved ones, please return your



envelope (or email) to an usher, or the rectory, NO LATER THAN Sun., March 24th. Envelopes are available in the rear of church or from an usher. PLEASE PRINT NAMES CLEARLY.



REFLECTIONS: HCSC HOLY WEEK Theme: "We All Have Crosses, do we carry them WELL?" - As we enter Holy Week, join with Fr. Larry Swink on March 25th & 26th at 7:00pm in the chapel. Monday's Reflection: a

witness talk on Job and suffering. Tuesday's Reflection: praying with St. Paul, "...a thorn in my flesh ... " (2 Cor, 12:7).

EASTER TRIDUUM SCHEDULE

Holy Thursday—March 28th

(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-March 29th

(No morning Mass) A day of fasting and abstinence

- **12Noon** Neighborhood Stations of the Cross (gather inside the church and then process outside)
- **3:00pm** Choral Stations of the Cross w/HCSC Music Ministry
- 7:00pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion, Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion. Youth presentation of the Passion.

Holy Saturday—March 30th

(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-March 31st

Mass at 8:30am, 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.



LIVING WITH JESUS IN THE HOLY EUCHARIST

In this, the Year of the Holy Eucharist, our parish seeks 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!

We are planning events, exhibits and videos which are on our website (hcscchurch.org) and bulletin. Visit throughout the year since dates and times may change. Scan QR code to the right with cellphone camera→ to link directly to the church webpage.



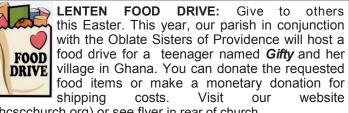
We offer the 'Mass in Slow Motion' series by Msgr. Pope, throughout the year. This twenty-two part series explains the parts of the Mass and the relevance of everything within the liturgy. Copies are in the weekly bulletin and on our website under Living with Jesus in the Holy Eucharist. (or scan QR code above).

Visit our 'Eucharistic Miracles' exhibits in the rear of the sanctuary and learn about the supernatural power of the Eucharist. NOTE: The exhibit changes every 2-3months.

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: - pray for the continued fruits of the Forty Hours of Adoration that it will renew our parish with the fire of God's love.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to help decorate the church for Easter. We have two opportunities: Thur., March 28th between 1-4pm or Sat., March 30th at 10am to help with flowers. If you can help, contact Kim Peaks: 202-546-1885 or kpeaks@hcscchurch.org.



(hcscchurch.org) or see flyer in rear of church.

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 (pastor1@hcscchurch.org) Deacon James P. Flagg II (jpflaggll@gmail.com)

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

Aass Times:	Saturday Sunday Weekdays	8am & 4:30pm (vigil); 8am, 9:30am, 11am and 7pm; Mon—Fri: 7am (8am on holidays)
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Rectory Office Hours:

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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., S.E. Washington, DC 20003 202-546-1885 ★ www.hcscchurch.org Reverend Monsignor Charles Pope, Pastor Daily Mass: 7:00am (M-F) Saturday Vigil: 4:30pm, Sunday: 8:00am, 11:00am, and 7:00pm

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 which 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 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** (**March 24th**). 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** (which is *Holy Thursday, Good Friday & Holy Saturday*).



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 (March 25th). 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 Chapel at 7:00am**.

TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK (March 26th). 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 Chapel at 7:00am.**

WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK (March 27th). 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 Chapel at 7:00am.**

HOLY THURSDAY (March 28th) 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 12 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 (March 29th). 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 **Choral Stations of the Cross at 3:00pm** encourages us to join Jesus on his journey to Calvary through music and 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 come forward, one by one, to venerate the cross with a kiss. Our hunger from this day of fasting is satisfied with Holy Communion distributed at the end of this liturgy.

HOLY SATURDAY (March 30th). 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!

The Mass in Slow Motion

The Sign of Peace



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.

The Rite of Peace follows the "Our Father" and the prayer "Lord Jesus Christ you said to your Apostles, "...I leave you peace...", by which the Church asks for peace and unity for herself and for the whole human family, and the faithful express to each other their ecclesial communion and mutual charity before Holy Communion. The manner of expressing this sign of peace is established by Conferences of Bishops in accordance with the culture and customs of the peoples. It is, however, appropriate that each person offer the sign of peace only to those who are nearest and in a sober manner. (cf G.I.R.M. # 82)

What is the History of the Sign of Peace— Among the early Christians the "kiss of peace" was an important gesture to manifest love and unity, both within the liturgy and outside of it. In numerous places Paul and others encourage the Christians to "greet one another with a holy kiss." (Rom 16:16, I Cor 16:20, II Cor 13:12, and also, I Peter 5:14)



The location in the liturgy of this gesture has been various. Early on it seems to have been exchanged at the end of the service of readings just before the preparation of the gifts. This was in response to the directive of the Lord in Matthew 5:23ff "wherein we should be reconciled with our brethren before bringing a gift to the altar." However, in the Roman Rite, as early as the 6th Century, it was moved to the place it is today.

In addition, the sign of peace came to be regarded as a preparation for communion and was exchanged even when communion was received outside of Mass. It was exchanged by all who were to receive communion. Those who were not going to receive communion were instructed not to exchange the kiss of peace. Later, however, the kiss was exchanged by all.

An interesting practice that developed was the use of the osculatorium. This was an elaborately carved board that was passed around the congregation and kissed by all. It was thus a way of sharing the kiss through the whole congregation. However, over time the exchange of peace declined and in the Latin Mass, codified by the Council of Trent, it was exchanged only at the Solemn Mass among the clergy. This is at least partly related to the declining frequency of reception of communion and various other factors such as the stylizing of the embrace. Today the whole matter has been restored more to its original scope.

Today, instructions in the Missal indicate that exchange of peace is shared "if appropriate" and that the celebrant "gives the sign of peace to a deacon or minister." The instruction adds that the priest may give the sign of peace to the servers nearby but always remains within the sanctuary, so as not to disturb the celebration. In some cases, the clergy exchange the sign of peace in a manner that resembles a formal embrace, such as in the photo above.

Some things to emphasize about the sign of peace:

- The purpose of the prayer and rite is that the Church asks for peace and unity for herself and the whole world.
- The faithful express to each other ecclesial communion and mutual charity before receiving Holy Communion.
- One should share the sign of peace only with those nearest to them. Hence, the leaving of one's pew is generally not appropriate.
- The sign of peace is to be shared in a sober manner. Hence loud greetings, lengthy conversations, etc. Sober need not mean a mere handshake (which might be silly for a married couple, for example). But the greeting should be cordial and generally to the point.
- There is no required expression that the faithful should say. But if something is said the instructions recommend: "The peace of the Lord be with you always."
- The priest is not to leave the sanctuary but is only to exchange the sign of peace with the deacon or other ministers nearest him.
- The exchange of Peace is optional and is shared "if appropriate." There are times, such as in flu season, at special liturgies such as funerals, or when pressed for time, that the celebrant may choose to omit the exchange of peace.

Way back in 1977 the Bishop's Committee on the Liturgy also issued some direction on the Sign of Peace which fills out some of this:

Neither the people nor the ministers need try exhaust the sign by attempting to give the greeting personally to everyone in the congregation or even to a great number of those present...Unless the sign of peace is clearly tailored to a specific occasion, such as a marriage, ordination, or some small intimate group, the more elaborate and individual exchange of peace by the celebrant has a tendency to appear clumsy. It can also accentuate too much the role of the celebrant or ministers, which runs counter to a true understanding of the presence of Christ in the entire assembly." (Bishops Committee on the Liturgy: The Sign of Peace, 1977)

Hence, both celebrant and the faithful are encouraged to sobriety. The sign of peace is not a "meet and greet" but rather it symbolizes the communion and peace of the whole Church in Christ. Because we are one in Christ and all members of the Body of Christ, to exchange the sign of peace with a few is to exchange it with all. Hence, it is not necessary or even desirable (due to disruption) to greet large numbers or to leave the pew or begin conversations.

Pastoral Note—The profound communion we have in Christ and the peace for which we pray should not be understood in a shallow way or as the mere absence of conflict. Peace (shalom) in the richer Hebraic understanding is the presence in the relationship of all that should be there: mutual respect, reciprocity, generosity and mutual appreciation. Our greeting of one another at this moment of the Mass should not be construed as a mere "have a nice day" or "How you doin"?" Given our membership in the Body of Christ, and the Holy Communion we are about to receive, we both wish others and seek to experience shalom. The greeting we extend is no mere human greeting, it is the greeting of Christ: "May the peace of the Lord be always with you."

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

