Respect Life Month



October 2024

TWENTY SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Readings This Weekend:

Gen 2:18-24 Hebrew 2:9-11 Mark 10:2-16

Readings Next Weekend:

Wisdom 7:7-11 Hebrew 4:12-13 Mark 10:17-30



In today's gospel we see described and taught the miracle of marriage. If your marriage is even reasonably working, it is a miracle. We live in an age that is poisonous to PASTOR marriage. Successful marriages need to be seen for the miracle they are: namely, that

God can take two, and make them one. The gospel begins with a **REJECTION** of God's plan for marriage. The Pharisees approached Jesus and assert that they are free to divorce their wives, if they wish. Jesus responses to them by teaching that their rejection of marriage and their wives is the sign of the hardness of their hearts. Jesus then points to the **RESTORATION** of God's plan for marriage. For it is true that Moses had permitted divorce, but this was not God's original plan. Jesus reminds them that in God's plan the two become one flesh, and that what God has joined together, no one must divide. Jesus then announces the **REALITY** that divorce and remarriage amount to adultery. Whatever human papers from some human judge that we shake in front of God's face, God does not recognize the human dividing of marriages he has truly made. These are hard words in a culture like ours, where divorce is so common. And yet, as with every difficult passage, we must remember that the Lord is announcing a grace that is available to us. In this case, it is a grace that he offers us that we can actually love our spouse, and seek to have our love deepen each year. Next comes a RE-**EMPHASIS** by Jesus. He takes a little child and warns the disciples never to hinder a child in finding their way to the kingdom. This passage relates to the previous text because children are the fruit of godly marriage and it is in the context of a stable and harmonious marriage that children best find their way to the kingdom of God. Finally, there is a **REASSURANCE** where Jesus encourages us to receive this difficult teaching like a little child. In other words, when challenged by a difficult teaching we should, be like little children seeking God's help, rather than to bristle and proudly reject it. This gospel does not simply present demands, but rather, offers grace and help.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, October 6 Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00am Danielle Brown (B'day) Michael Anthony Young † 9:30am

11:00am Georgiana Louis Barnes (B'day 9/30) †

7:00pm Ellis Poole †

Monday, October 7 Our Lady of the Rosary

7:00am Sheila Barbara Ray †

Tuesday, October 8

7:00am Alice Neale Thornton †

Wednesday, October 9 St. Denis, Bishop & Companions, martyrs

7:00am Doris Middleton † Thursday, October 10

Mary Shaw + 7:00am Friday, October 11

7:00am Jean Myrick (B'day)

Saturday, October 12 For the People 8:00am 4:30pm Guadalupe Acosta †



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.
- 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 to the gift/donation. Questions? Contact Kim Peaks (kpeaks@hcscchurch.org or 202-546-1885).



Stay Connected

- Visit our website hcscchurch.org
- Subscribe to Flocknote to receive emails and updates
 - 1. Text **HCSC** to **84576** OR
 - 2. Visit https://hcscchurch.flocknote.com/
- Download the MyParishApp to your mobile phone and turn on notifications to get parish updates
- Follow us on social media



Facebook.com/HCSCChurch



hcsc church

MASS ATTENDANCE **September 29, 2024**

4:30pm	36
8:00am	56
9:30am	33
11:00am	192
7:00pm	63
Total:	380

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

Monday (10/7)

7:00pm Young Adult Bible Study 7:00pm Adult Choir Rehearsal

Tuesday (10/8)

7:00pm Adult Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday (10/9)

7:30pm Bible Study (Zoom)

Friday (10/11)

6:00pm Holy Hour/Confession

DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY:	GAL 1:6-12	LUKE 10:25-37
TUESDAY:	Gal 1:13-24	LUKE 10:38-42
WEDNESDAY:	GAL 2:1-2, 7-14	LUKE 11:1-4
THURSDAY:	Gal 3:1-5	LUKE 11:5-13
FRIDAY:	Gal 3:7-14	LUKE 11:15-26
SATURDAY:	Gal 3:22-29	LUKE 11:27-28



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 family, or call 202-546-1885 or hcscstaff@hcscchurch.org. 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.

27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PARISH LIFE



CONGRATULATIONS to Ronald Claude and Roselande Louis and who were joined in the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony at HCSC on September 27th. We pray that their union will be blessed with love and devotion to both God and each other.



RESPECT LIFE MONTH: Every October the Church in the United States celebrates Respect Life Month, and the first Sunday of October is observed as Respect Life Sunday. As Catholics, we are called to cherish, defend, October 2024 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 and resources on Respect Life Month, visit: www.respectlife.org/respect-life-month.





The HCSC MUSIC MINISTRY 52nd ANNIVERSARYCONCERT is Sun., Oct. 27nd at 4pm. It is a FREE concert (a free-will offering will be taken). Theme: GOD IS IN CONTROL! Please consider placing an ad or memorial in the concert program. Deadline is Oct. 6th. See flyer for details or contact a

choir for information. Come and Praise the Lord with us in song and music! Invite family, friends and neighbors!

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN LEARNING ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH? Classes on the fundamental teachings of the Catholic faith has begun (held Sunday's at 9:30AM in the rectory). Classes are designed for non-Catholics who are considering becoming a Catholic, but also an opportunity for adult Catholics who missed receiving one or more sacrament and for those returning to Church after a long absence and want to enrich their faith. Questions? For information or to find out if this is something that will help you in your faith journey, contact at 202-546-1885 rectory office or email: rciahcsc@gmail.com. Registration forms in rear of church. Or, just stop by one Sunday and check it out.

BIBLE STUDIES AT HCSC



YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY: Mondays at 7PM in the rectory w/Msgr. Charles Pope.



FRIENDLY SENIORS BIBLE STUDY: held the second Tuesday of every month at 10:30AM in the chapel. Deacon James Flagg is the facilitator.



WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY: held every Wednesday via Zoom at 7:15PM w/Msgr. Charles Pope. Sign up at hcscchurch.flocknote.com to receive Zoom link.



This year, our parish will set our focus on the "Biblical Basics of the Greatest Story Ever Told". The Scriptures teach us why and how we exist, what happened to us in Original Sin and How God, in his great mercy, has redeemed us and called us back to Him in newness of life. This will be a whole-parish catechesis, led by our pastor, in three stages. Words from a keynote song titled Just a Little Talk with Jesus helps us to understand the 3 stages:

- **OUR FALL** I once was lost in Sin,
- ii) OUR REDEPMTION But Jesus took me in,
- iii) OUR GRACE And then a little Light from Heaven Filled my Soul.

A reflection written by Msgr. Pope on the bible stories will be in the bulletin (beginning this weekend) and run every other week. They are also on our website and emailed via FlockNote along with a video. To sign-up for FlockNote to receive these emails, go to: hcscchurch.flocknote.com and sign up for Bible Basics. FlockNote is a FREE service!

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 also heard at this time.





Copies of the Mass in Slow Motion by Msgr. Charles Pope, is available for \$5 in the Candlelight (Usher) Store in rear of church or contact rectory office (202-546-1885). This is a step-by-step detail of the Catholic Massexplaining the liturgical protocols and their

meanings. It is just a small effort to deepen our understanding of the Holy Mass and to realize that every word and gesture has rich layers of meaning: historical, theological, catechetical, and devotional. Hopefully, it will assist in appreciation and understanding of the Mass and to see its inner harmony and purpose.



Are you a Catholic staffer on Capitol Hill? Do you know of someone? Consider joining the Congressional Catholic Staff Association. CCSA hosts speaker events, service projects, and professional development opportunities to help

build a stronger Catholic community. CCSA is an official, non-partisan, bicameral Congressional Staff Organization. To sign up visit: **congressional catholic staff.com** or contact: James Mazol at james mazol@armedservices.senate.gov.

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.

MASS TIMES: Saturday Sunday

8AM & 4:30AM (vigil);

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

The 35th Annual East of the River Revival



"Anchored in God: Hold on to Your Purpose--Unapologetically"





Revivalist:

Rev. Ajani Gibson, Pastor of St. Peter Claver Catholic Church, New Orleans.

Rev. Gibson received a Bachelor of Arts in Theology and Religious Studies and Master of Arts in Liturgical Studies from The Catholic University of America in Washington D.C. He earned a Master of Divinity from the Notre Dame Seminary and was ordained to the Priesthood on June 5, 2021 at 27 years old.

Rev. Gibson is one of the youngest African American priests in the United States.

October 7, 8, and 9, 2024 at 7 PM Mount Calvary Catholic Church 6700 Marlboro Pike Forestville, MD 20747

SAVE THE DATE! FURTHER DETAILS ARE FORTHCOMING.

The Greatest Story Ever Told

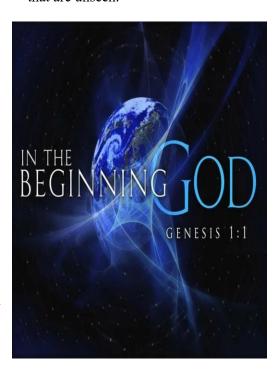
A Back-to-Basics Catechesis

The greatest story ever told is the great drama of God with His people. It begins with the simple but awesome words, "In the beginning God..." (Gen 1:1). That is to say, in the beginning, before anything ever was, God IS. He has always been, He always will be, and He is the very act of being itself! Everything else that "is" or has being, takes its existence and is sustained by Him. We are not living in a machine. Creation is a loving work and revelation of God. St. Paul says of this creation, "For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood from His workmanship" (Rom 1:20). Yes, even before the Bible we have the "book of creation" that teaches us of God's wisdom, His order, His design, His purposes and His eternal law. All things work together in a wondrous harmony and synchrony. Above us the stars and planets, the sun and moon set forth a clock-like precision and a glorious song:

Though they in solemn silence, all Move round our dark terrestrial ball. In reason's ear they all rejoice, And utter forth a glorious voice. Forever singing, as they shine, The Hand that made us is Divine!

Yes, the hand that made all is Divine! And God did not make us because He was lonely. Creation is an act of pure love. It is the nature of love to be effusive, that is, to pour itself out in generous sharing. God bestows His power, His existence, His life and order on all things in many and different ways. There are flowers with delicate beauty, Mountains with craggy grandeur. There is the vast cosmos beyond telling, and tiny, hidden worlds in a mere drop of

water. There are fabulous things that we see, and even more glorious things that are unseen.



An old hymn says,

This earth, with its store of wonders untold, Thy power O God hath founded of old; Established it fast by a changeless decree, And round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.

Thy bountiful care, What tongue can recite? It breathes in the air, it shines in the light. It streams from the hills, it descends to the plain, And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

Yes, God has done all things well. In the beginning, God!



The Story of Creation

The story of creation is wonderfully described in the opening chapters of Genesis (a word which means "beginnings"). Many debate today if Genesis is a literal account which describes with scientific precision what happened, or if it is a more poetic account using allegory and symbol. The Catholic answer to this is generally a moderate approach. What we are surely taught is that God, by a sovereign and loving act made everything out of nothing. He did so in an orderly way and oversaw every detail. He continues to maintain and sustain every aspect of creation from its grandest glory to its most hidden minutia. Every mighty galaxy rolls through space by His power, every hair of our head is numbered. Further, we are instructed by the Church to safely hold that Adam and Eve are historical figures, actual persons directly created by God. They are not symbolic figures merely representing "mankind." They are indeed our actual parents from whom all human beings descend. (see: Humani Generis, 37, Catechism #s 359, 371, 375, 388, 402, 404, 417).

In the Book of Genesis God creates all things by "speaking" them into existence. When God says, "Let there be light," there is light! The New Testament clarifies and elaborates this when it teaches us that the Word through whom God the Father creates all things is His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ who is also the Word made Flesh (see John 1:1,3, 14). The Letter to the Colossians says, "All things were created through Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together." (Col 1:16-17) The Gospel of John echoes: "Through Him all things were made, and without Him nothing was made

that has been made." (Jn 1:3) So, the Father created all things, but always with and through His Son, Jesus, both of them working in the unity of their Love who is the Holy Spirit.

The "days" of creation may not be literal days of 24 hours. Though one is free to hold this, Catholics are also free to hold that these days represent epochs or periods of time longer than an earth-day. It will be noted that the sun and moon, which clock our days here on earth, were not created until the fourth day. Whatever the case we have a beautiful description of what God does in the Biblical accounts of Genesis 1 and 2.

In a poetic sort of way God goes about creating certain "canvases" first and then paints in the details, by creating them.

On the first day God begins by creating a canvas of light and darkness and separating them.

On the second day, God creates the canvas of the "sky" and separates the heavens from the earth.

On the third day, God creates the canvas of the sea, separating it from the dry land.

On these canvases of the earth, the sea and the sky, God now "paints in the details." He begins with the earth, creating vegetation of all kinds (also day three).

On the fourth day God turns to the canvas of the Sky creating the Sun, the moon and the stars.

On the fifth day God turns to the canvas of the sea creating all the sea creatures of every kind. He turns back to the sky and creates the birds.

On the sixth day God turns to the canvas of the earth and creates every beast of the earth, wild and tame, each according to its kind. And then, as the pinnacle of His earthly creation, he

made Adam and Eve and commanded them to be fruitful and multiply, to fill the earth and subdue it.

On the seventh day God rested and looking upon all He had made and pronounced it all to be very good.

A Doxology for God's Creation from Scripture:

How beautiful are all God's works, delightful to gaze upon and a joy to behold! All of them differ, one from another, yet none of them has He made in vain; For each in turn, as it comes, is good; can one ever see enough of their splendor?

The beauty of the celestial height and the pure firmament, heaven itself manifests its glory. The sun at its rising shines at its fullest, a wonderful instrument, the work of the Most High! Great indeed is the LORD who made it, at whose orders it urges on its steeds. It is the moon that marks the changing seasons, governing the times, their lasting sign The beauty of the heavens and the glory of the stars, a shining ornament in the heights of God. Now, behold the rainbow! Then bless its Maker.

The thunders of His voice make the earth writhe; by His power He shakes the mountains. A word from Him drives on the winds, whirlwind, hurricane, and storm winds. He makes the snow fly like birds; Its shining whiteness blinds the eyes; the mind is baffled at its steady fall.

Those who go down to the sea recount its extent, and when we hear them, we are awestruck; In it are His creatures, stupendous, amazing, all kinds of life, and the monsters of the deep.

Lift up your voices to glorify the LORD as much as you can, for there is still more. Beyond these, many things lie hidden; only a few of His works have we seen. (Sirach 42-43 selected verses).

A Summons to Wonder and Awe

And so, as we see, God did a wonderful thing and set forth all creation well. For us there remains a summons to wonder and awe. Too often today, many fail to revere the mystery of all things and the glory of all things great and small. We reduce and simplify the glory and intricacy of creation and think that, because we know some things, we know all things. We do not. Indeed, the more we learn, the more we discover what we do not know. As St. Paul observed. knowledge puffs us, but love builds up. Ask the Lord for an increase in love for Him and what He has done. Ask also for humility and awe as well as the mystical vision that faith supplies. Creation is no mere machine or physical reality. It is a revelation of God himself who made it. Be amazed and humbled at the love He shows in His extravagant creation. He did not create because He was lonely or bored. He created all things purely out of the extravagance of His love and wanted to share His glory and His gifts with all creation, especially us. Yes, be amazed and deeply grateful.

In the beginning God...

The greatest story ever told begins with creation, a creation God called "very good." (Gen 1:31) Sadly, things go awry due to human sinfulness. A drama of good and evil is introduced into the beautiful stage of creation. Future flyers will detail this. But through it all, do not forget that what makes this the greatest story ever told is that God never gives up on us. He is faithful, even when we are unfaithful, He loves even when we hate. The greatest story ever told is a love story, a love that never fails. Prepare your hearts for a story of unrelenting love even in the face of human sinfulness. And always remember, God can make a way out of no way.

Holy Comforter - Saint Cyprian Church Choir

52nd Anniversary Concert GOD IS IN CONTROL



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2024 @4:00PM

Holy Comforter - Saint Cyprian Roman Catholic Church

1357 East Capitol Street, SE, Washington, DC 20003

WWW.HCSCCHURCH.ORG / (202) 546-1885

George Stewart, Director of Music

Reverend Monsignor Charles Pope, Pastor

- FREE -

(A free will offering will be collected to help offset related costs)

The Holy Comforter-Saint Cyprian Church Choir began under the pastoral care of the late Reverend Richard J. Swift, S.S.J., who recognized the need for African-American Catholics to express their musical gifts in Catholic worship. For more than 30 years of its existence, the choir was under the musical leadership of the incomparable Kenneth W. Louis. For the past 8 years, the choir has been under the directorship of George Stewart, who possesses more than 35 years of excellence.

The HCSC Church Choir's repertoire includes diverse sacred music offerings (anthems, church hymnody, spirituals and traditional as well as gospel music). The members bring over 500 years collectively in singing experience to the ministry. The choir has sung in concert and worship services throughout the Washington, DC, Baltimore metropolitan areas, as well as, toured the south/east coasts and heartland regions of the United States. They have performed with many international artists, served as featured artists in hospitals, churches, government agencies and concert halls. The choir continues their charge to leave no soul untouched, or spirit unchanged, as they lift their hearts and minds in musical ministry.

This October will mark 52 years of ministry, and in keeping with our tradition, we are developing a Souvenir Programme booklet to commemorate the event. The booklet will be PLAYBILL size (5.5"x8.5"). We ask that you support this effort by submitting an advertisement of your choosing: for a business, an event, a congratulatory sentiment, or a memorial.

GUIDELINES

- *Hardcopy Submissions*: Camera-ready ads are encouraged, but not mandatory pages should be clear black images on clean white paper. Ads can be given to any choir member or Rectory Office (*one form per ad*), and should include applicable payment(s).
- <u>Electronic Submissions</u>: They must be in one of the following document types (.DOC, .JPG, .BMP, .TIF, .PNG, .PDF), and must include all the information reflected below, and then emailed to Choir@HCSCChurch.org.



Make payable to "Holy Comforter-Saint Cyprian Church". Notate the document-type and size of the ad submitted in the memo section of the check.



Select "Choir Concert 2024" in the dropdown. Notate the document-type and size of the ad submitted in the Note

Name:	EMAIL:	PHONE#:
DETAILS:		

		< CIRCLE ONE >		
FULL (5" x 8")	HALF (5" x 4")	QTR (2.5" x 4")	BUS CARD	Sponsor / 1-Liner
\$100	\$50	\$25	\$20	\$10

DEADLINE: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2024



In Memory of John N. Graham Catherine E. Graham Joan M. Graham Ernestine C. Jackson

Always Loved. Remembered. Missed



Administrative Office 5540 Marlboro Pike Forestville, MD 20747 (301) 568-4100

www.popefuneralhomes.com

Forestville Chapel, P.A. 5538 Marlboro Pike Forestville, MD 20747 (301) 568-4100



Family Owned & Operated

Stewart Funeral Home, Inc.

4001 Benning Road, NE Washington, DC 20019 (202) 399-3600

www.StewartFuneralHome.com

Pre-Arrangement Services Available

In Loving Memory of

Eleman Miah Darren Miah

The Family

REESE FUNERAL PROFESSIONALS INC **Complete Funeral Service**

Chapel Facility • Cremation

Serving DC, MD, and VA

based on professionalism rather than cost, every service is designed to meet your personal budget We are dedicated to provide to our families financial assistance in their time of need ent to Eternal Rest is Sacred, Paramount, and Foremost

311 N. Patrick St. • Alexandria, VA 22314 • 703-646-9320





In Loving Memory of

IAMES A. AND ELIZABETH G. HILL

Metropolitan Region Chapel

4701 Lydell Road

Cheverly, MD 20781 (202) 583-5400

VERMELLE H. HOWARD

Love Always, The Family

In Memory of

In Loving Memory of OTHA JOHN HAMER JR. OTHA JOHN HAMER III "ETERNAL LOVE

Anna, Othalene, Lataunya Betty - wife and mother

In Loving Memory of

The Deceased Jenifers:

Oscar, Mary, Helena, Bay, David,

Baby Sis, Beverly, Frankie, David,

Neal, Kimberly, Cyprian Jr., Jovan

& Very Dear, The Family

100 Still Loved, Still Missed In Loving Memory of

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

In Memory of

Winnie,

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 Loving Memory HCSC SODALITY To Our Beloved

OUR DECEASED

SODALISTS

We'll always love you, Mom, Kids & Denita



IN LOVING **MEMORY OF** Anthony **Maxwell Smart** (Tony)

The Family

Ray, Bertie

In Loving Memory of **James & Hattie** Nicholson & Norman Williams

♥ From the Family

In Memory of Hump, Will, Phil Henny

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

The Family



February Special - 15% Off - New York Thin day, Wednesday, Thursday & Sunday Only

Order Online, On Phone or On-Site Promo Code: SaintCyprian

dellabarbapizza.com (202) 845-3033



Get this bulletin emailed to you every week.

Simply go to

www.DM.CHURCH/3276



%DISCOVERMASS

In Loving Memory of Damian A. Jones

In Loving

Memory of

Devin M. Wright

Love Always,

The Family

Son, Brother, Father We Love You Always

Willie & Gwendolyn Jones

In Loving Memory of Deceased Members of

Macon Family Holton Family Johnson Family **Anderson Family**

Always Remembered and Loved



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Nurturing Husbands & Fathers especially Dennis C. Williams & Thomas E. Smith

Loving Memories from The Family

ADVERTISE

Promote your Business AND support your Parish.

Tony Melchiorre ~ 717-421-3242 tmelchiorre@diocesan.com

