

Hope



Advent

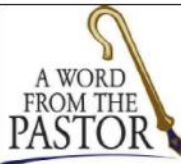
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Readings This Weekend:

Jer 33:14-16 1 Thes 3:12-4:2 Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

Readings Next Weekend:

Baruch 5:1-9 Phil 1:4-6, 8-11 Luke 3:1-6



There is an old Gospel song that says, "Jesus says, 'Here I stand. Won't you please let me in?' And you said, I will, but tomorrow." Tomorrow? Who promised you tomorrow? Better choose the Lord today, for tomorrow very well might be too late."

Today's Gospel warns of the possible suddenness of death or the Lord's second coming. Are you ready to die and face judgment? The Scripture often emphasizes the suddenness of death and judgment: Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour. (Matt 25:13). So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come. (Matt 24:44). Watch, therefore, you do not know when the lord of the house is coming—whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cock crow, or in the morning. May He not come suddenly and find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to all: "Watch!" (Mk 13:35-37) When people are saying, "Everything is peaceful and secure," then disaster will fall on them as suddenly as a pregnant woman's labor pains begin. And there will be no escape. (1 Thes 5:3). An old spiritual says, "I would not be a sinner, I'll tell you the reason why. I'm afraid my Lord might call my name and I wouldn't be ready to die." Yet another old Gospel song says, "My mother taught me how to pray. So, if I die and my soul be lost, it's nobody's fault but mine." OK, by now you get the point. Advent is not just a time to prepare for Christmas and the baby Jesus, it is also a time to prepare to meet a very adult Jesus who is Lord and God. Are you ready?

† MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK †

Sunday, December 1 *First Sunday in Advent*
 8:00am Mable Thompson (B'day) †
 9:30am Intentions of Lawrence Jones
 11:00am Kelvin Groggins †
 7:00pm Intentions of Gregory Vines (B'day—11/28)

Monday, December 2
 7:00am Mabel McWaine (B'day) †

Tuesday, December 3 *St. Francis Xavier, Priest*
 7:00am Intentions of Bill Brousseau (B'day—11/30)

Wednesday, December 4 *St. John Damascene*
 7:00am Walter Coehins †

Thursday, December 5
 7:00am George T. Holton, III (B'day)

Friday, December 6 *St. Nicholas*
 7:00am Gary McPherson Jr. †

Saturday, December 7 *St. Ambrose*
 8:00am For the People
 4:30pm Wynette Wilkins †

DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY: ISAIAH 2:1-5 MATTHEW 8:5-11
TUESDAY: ISAIAH 11:1-10 LUKE 10:21-24
WEDNESDAY: ISAIAH 25:6-10A MATTHEW 15:29-37
THURSDAY: ISAIAH 26:1-6 MATTHEW 7:21, 24-27
FRIDAY: ISAIAH 29: 17-24 MATTHEW 9:27-31
SATURDAY: ISAIAH 30:19-26 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:

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).



Stay Connected

- Visit our website - hscchurch.org
- Subscribe to Flocknote to receive emails and updates
 1. Text **HCSC** to **84576** OR
 2. Visit <https://hscchurch.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



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NOTE: Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, the bulletin had to be submitted early. Mass Attendance data for the weekend of November 24th was not available at the time of submission. Updated figures will be posted next weekend.

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

| | |
|--|---|
| Monday (12/2) 7:15pm Young Adult Bible Study | Saturday (12/7) 9:00am Holy Name Exec Bd |
| Wednesday (12/4) 7:30pm Adult Bible Study (Zoom) | Sunday (12/8) 9:00am Holy Name Gen Mtg 9:30am Sunday School 9:30am RCIA |
| Friday (12/6) 8AM-8PM All-Day Adoration | |



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 or hscstaff@hscchurch.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.

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

PARISH LIFE

First Sunday of



Advent

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, sweep your soul clean by going to confession. De-clutter by examining your life and considering if there are any things that tend to 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 or by request if you contact the rectory at 202-546-1885.

THE WORD AMONG US: FREE ADVENT issues of *The Word Among Us* are available in the rear of the church. This publication is designed to help Catholics find genuine renewal and refreshment in God's grace, encouragement to read the Word of God, and offers daily meditations based on the Mass readings. *Limited supply!*



FIRST FRIDAY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION: December 6th 8:00AM (*morning Mass at 7AM*) until 7:00PM in the church sanctuary. Our monthly First Friday All-Day Eucharistic Adoration is held on the first Friday of each month. Consider stopping by or signing up to pray for an hour. To **sign-up:** scan

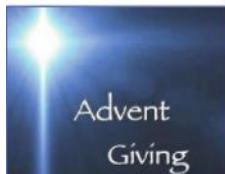
QR code or call the rectory at 202-546-1885. Come and spend some private time with Jesus during this season of Advent.



The 257th U.S. ARMY BAND presents a holiday concert at HCSC on **Mon., Dec. 9th at 7PM**. This **FREE** concert features traditional Patriotic, Christmas and Holiday classics performed by a military band. All are welcome!



SAINT JOSEPH 2025 SUNDAY MISSALS are available in the Candlelight Store and the rectory office. **COST: \$3.50 each.** *Limited supply.*



'GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT' ADVENT GIVING CAMPAIGN:

This year for Advent, we are seeking donations for the *St. Ann's Center for Children, Youth Infant & Families*. This center strengthens and supports families on their journey toward stability. Inspired by Catholic social teaching and Gospel values, St. Ann's Center provides a nurturing community where families heal from the past, overcome barriers, and take hold of their future. You can make monetary donations or purchase requested items. See the flyer for details or visit: hscchurch.org. The deadline for donations is Mon. Dec. 23rd. Thank you.

Biblical Basics of the Greatest Story Ever Told



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:

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

A reflection by Msgr. Pope on the bible stories will be in the bulletin **every other week**. They are also on our website (scan the QR code) or have them emailed via **FlockNote** along with a video. To **sign-up** to receive emails/videos, or visit: hscchurch.flocknote.com and sign up for Bible Basics! FlockNote is a FREE service!



Yes, Just a little talk with Jesus made me whole!



YOUTH CHRISTMAS PAGEANT: The Youth Ministry needs youth actors for our Annual Youth Christmas Pageant held on Christmas Eve (12/24) at the **6:00PM Family Mass**. Youth of all ages are welcome! **We also need adults** to help with costumes, set design, and technical logistics. **Contact:** Nicki Gebrehiwot at youthdirector@hscchurch.org.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS:

Your donation to the Christmas flower fund allows us to purchase beautiful floral Christmas arrangements for the sanctuary. To include loved ones (deceased or living) on the "In Memory/Honor of..." list included in the Christmas Mass bulletin, return your Christmas flower offering envelope to the rectory by **Sunday, Dec. 22nd**. Envelopes are in the rear of the church and the rectory office. **PLEASE PRINT NAMES.**



NOTE: If you tithe or donate through Faith Direct electronically, submit your names to 202-546-1885 or kpeaks@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 (pastor1@hscchurch.org)
Deacon James P. Flagg II (jpflaggll@gmail.com)

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

MASS TIMES: **Saturday** 8AM & 4:30AM (vigil);
Sunday 8AM, 9:30AM, 11AM and 7PM;
Weekdays Mon—Fri: 7AM (8AM on holidays)

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday: 10AM—6PM
Thursday, Saturday & Sunday: Closed

Holy Comforter-Saint Cyprian
Honoring Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament
Come and Join us!



FIRST FRIDAY ALL-DAY ADORATION

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6 TH

**MASS AT 7AM FOLLOWED BY EXPOSITION AND ADORATION UNTIL
7PM IN THE CHURCH.**

**Our parish will hold First Friday All-Day Adoration every first
Friday of the month. Please share this information along
with the sign-up information to others.**

TO SIGN UP:

**SCAN THE QR CODE OR CONTACT THE RECTORY OFFICE AT 202-546-1885 OR
HCSCSTAFF@HCSCCHURCH.ORG. EVEN IF YOU DO NOT SIGN-UP, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO
STOP BY AT YOUR CONVENIENCE. BRING A FAMILY MEMBER OR FRIEND!**



THE SOUNDS of the SEASON



A FREE HOLIDAY CONCERT

presented by

The 257th U.S. Army Band



Mon., December 9th - 7PM
Holy Comforter-Saint Cyprian Church

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


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In Memory of our Deceased
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

HCSC

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JAMES A. AND ELIZABETH G. HILL
 AND
VERMELLE H. HOWARD
*Love Always,
 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 of
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

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 Memory of
**Winnie,
 Ray,
 Bertie**

In Memory of
**Hump,
 Will, Phil
 Henny**

In Loving Memory
Austina H. Jones
Mother
We Love You Always
Willie, Lawrence & Maria

To Our Beloved
Kenyon L. Jones
Son & Father
*We'll always love you,
 Mom, Kids & Venita*



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
Anthony Maxwell Smart
 (Tony)
 - The Family

In Loving Memory of
James & Hattie Nicholson & Norman Williams
 From the Family

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

In Loving Memory of
Devin M. Wright
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 The Family*

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Willie & Gwendolyn Jones


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DISCOVERMASS

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 Deceased Members of
Macon Family
Holton Family
Johnson Family
Anderson Family
Always Remembered and Loved

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 Nurturing Husbands & Fathers,
 especially Dennis C. Williams & Thomas E. Smith
 Loving Memories from
 The Family

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