



The child grew and became
strong, filled with wisdom; and
the favor of God was upon him.
-Luke 2:40

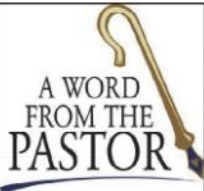
THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

Readings This Weekend:

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 Col 3:12-21 Luke 2:41-52

Readings Next Weekend:

Isaiah 60:1-6 Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6 Matthew 2:1-12



It is the Feast of the Holy Family today and we ought to meditate on the central purpose of marriage and family which is the birth and raising of children. In recent decades we have seen a shift in this understanding. Most people today see the happiness of the couple as the central purpose of marriage. But God set forth marriage with this central mission: Be fruitful and multiply, fill the earth and subdue it (Gen 1:28). While the happiness of the couple may be a nice goal and something to hope for, we all know that happiness has its ups and downs in every aspect of life. In the “old days” parents were often known to “stick it out for the sake of the kids.” This is because children need stability and a dedicated mother and father to form them best. Job #1 in the family is children and their well-being. Notice, therefore, in today’s Gospel that, when Jesus’ life is threatened by Herod, Joseph and Mary set everything else aside and go to Egypt. Joseph, when instructed to go there did not protest about his comfort or his career. The text says that Joseph arose that very night and took Jesus and Mary away from harm. He stayed in Egypt as long as required for Jesus’ safety. It is clear that his vocation as (foster) father and husband had priority over his career and his business prospects. And thus, we are taught to have the same priorities.



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



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NOTE: Due to the Christmas holiday, the publishing deadlines required early submission of the bulletin. Therefore, we will not post Mass Attendance data for the weekend of December 22nd in this week’s bulletin. Attendance data will be posted in an upcoming bulletin.

† MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK †

Sunday, December 29 *Feast of the Holy Family*
 8:00am Nathaniel & Nannie Williams †
 9:30am Intentions of Jimmye Claire Walker (B'day)
 11:00am James Edelin †
 7:00pm Delores Butler †
Monday, December 30
 7:00am Frances Jackson †
Tuesday, December 31
 7:00am John Nelson, Jr. †
 7:00pm Margaret Darlington †
 11:15pm Intentions of Miriam Townsend-Edelen (80th B'day)
Wednesday, January 1 *Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God*
 10:00am Elza Maria Moraes †
Thursday, January 2 *St.s. Basil & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops & Drs. of Church*
 7:00am For the People
Friday, January 3 *Holy Name of Jesus*
 7:00am Clare Francis Steinemann †
Saturday, January 4 *St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious*
 8:00am Peter Riehle †
 4:30pm Thomas Riehle †

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

Monday (12/30) Rectory closes at 3PM	Wednesday (1/1) Solemnity of Mary 10:00am Mass
Tuesday (12/31) Rectory closes at 3PM 7:00pm Vigil Mass for Jan 1 st 11:15pm Watch Night Mass	Friday (1/3) Rectory closes at 3PM 8am-7pm Eucharistic 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.

DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY:	1 JOHN 2:12-17	LUKE 2:36-40
TUESDAY:	1 JOHN 2:18-21	JOHN 1:1-18
WEDNESDAY:	NUM 6:22-27 GAL 4:4-7	LUKE 2:16-21
THURSDAY:	1 JOHN 2:22-28	JOHN 1:19-28
FRIDAY:	1 JOHN 2:29-3:6	JOHN 1:29-34
SATURDAY:	1 JOHN 3:7-10	JOHN 1:35-42

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.

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

PARISH LIFE



FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY: This feast was instituted by Pope Leo XIII in 1893. It is a liturgical celebration in the Catholic Church in honor of Jesus of Nazareth, his mother, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and his foster father, Saint Joseph, as a family. The primary purpose of this feast is to present the Holy Family as a model for Christian families. This Roman Catholic religious festival falls on the first Sunday after Christmas. Although feast days exist for each member of the Holy Family—Jesus, Mary, and Joseph—the **Feast of the Holy Family** commemorates their life together, celebrates and focuses on religious family life.



CONGRATULATIONS to *Brixton David Bland* who was Baptized into the family of the Sacrificial Lamb, Jesus Christ, on **Dec. 15th**. May God bless him and his parents as they begin his journey.

RECTORY OFFICE HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Mon., December 30th — Rectory closes at 3:00PM
Tues., December 31st — Rectory closes at 3:00PM
Wed., Jan 1st — Rectory office closed
Friday, Jan 3rd — Rectory closes at 3:00PM



- ⇒ to all who assisted with the decorating of our sanctuary for the coming of the newborn King, Jesus Christ! It is beautiful and worthy of our Lord's entrance into our lives on earth. We are always grateful to our parish family for their support and love of this community.
- ⇒ to those who gave donations and purchased items for our *Advent Giving Campaign* for St. Ann's Center for Children, Youth & Families We are still accepting donations!
- ⇒ to those who purchased Christmas cards and other items from our Christmas Store this past few weeks. Your support benefits the Oblate Sister of Providence.

CHRISTMAS SEASON MASS SCHEDULE



TUESDAY, DEC. 31ST — SOLEMNITY OF MARY
 7:00pm — Vigil Mass and 11:15pm — Watch Night Mass

WED., JAN. 1ST — SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD
 10:00am — Mass

SUNDAY, JAN. 5TH — FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY
 Mass: 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am and 7:00pm
 (Sat., Jan. 4th — 4:30pm — Vigil Mass)

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!



FIRST FRIDAY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION:
January 3rd 8AM (Mass at 7AM) until 7PM in the church. Our monthly First Friday All-Day Eucharistic Adoration is held on the first Friday of each month. Consider stopping by or sign up (scan QR code or call rectory office at 202-546-1885) to pray for an hour. Spend some time with Jesus.



2025 WALL CALENDARS: available this weekend at Mass. Pick up calendar in the rear of the church or ask an usher. **We have a limited supply so we kindly ask you to take only what you need at this time and return next week to see if there are extra remaining.** We want to ensure that all parishioners have an opportunity to receive a calendar.

HCSC BIBLE STUDY HOLIDAY SCHEDULE



YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY: will not be held on Mon., Dec 30th or Jan. 6th. Bible Study resumes on Mon., Jan. 13th at 7:15pm w/Msgr. Pope.



WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY: will not be held Wed., Jan 1st but will resume Wed., Jan 8th (via Zoom).

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 (jpflaggII@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, JANUARY 3, 2025

**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!**



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John N. Graham
Catherine E. Graham
Joan M. Graham
Ernestine C. Jackson
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 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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 Deceased Members of
Macon Family
Holton Family
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