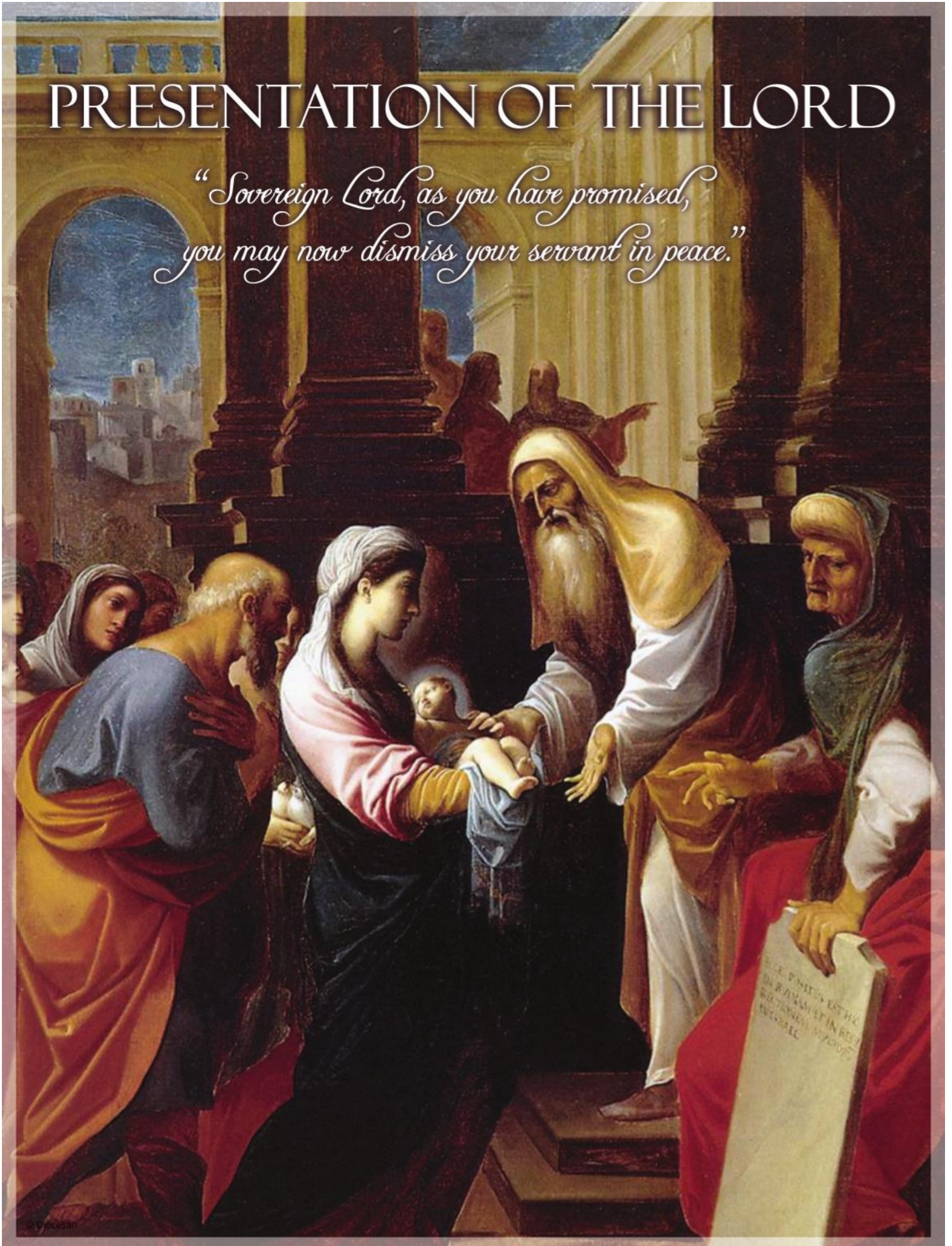


PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

*“Sovereign Lord, as you have promised,
you may now dismiss your servant in peace.”*



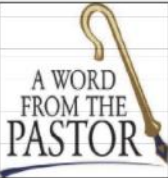
THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Readings This Weekend:

Malachi 3:1-4 Hebrews 2:14-18 Luke 2:22-40

Readings Next Weekend:

Isaiah 6:1-2a, 3-8 1 Cor 15:1-11 Luke 5:1-11



The liturgical focus of the Feast of the Presentation, which we celebrate today, is light. Christ is our light, and the people who walked in darkness have seen a great



light! In the Gospel, Simeon holds the infant Jesus and calls Him “a light for revelation to the Gentiles.” Thus, this feast has long featured the carrying of candles by the faithful in procession and the blessing of candles. For this reason, the feast was often called Candlemas. Today’s feast also celebrates the “purification” of Our Lady. As a Jewish woman, she presented herself forty days after giving birth to be blessed and welcomed back to the community. The Gospel opens with this description: *When the days were completed for their purification....* Mary received a blessing from one of the priests of the Temple (Simeon) and they both presented Jesus since every firstborn male is consecrated to the Lord. It might strike us as odd or even irritating that a woman would need to be purified after giving birth. This is not about moral cleansing; it is about ceremonial or ritual cleansing. Ancient Jewish practice exhibited great reverence for the rituals of both birth and death because they are great mysteries. Blessing a woman forty days after birth was a great privilege.

† MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK †

Sunday, February 2 *Presentation of the Lord*
 8:00am Intentions of James Jenifer
 9:30am Sr. Eleanor Marie Edge, OSP †
 11:00am Intentions of Jovita Chambliss
 7:00pm James Campbell †
Monday, February 3
 7:00am Sr. Mercia Delgado, OSP †
Tuesday, February 4
 7:00am Mildred Smith †
Wednesday, February 5 *St. Agatha, Virgin and Martyr*
 7:00am Cheryl Campbell-Murga †
Thursday, February 6 *St. Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs*
 7:00am Ruth Campbell †
Friday, February 7
 7:00am Charles Smothers †
Saturday, February 8 *St. Josephine Bakhita, Virgin*
 8:00am For the People
 4:30pm Austina Jones (B'day) †

MASS INTENTIONS: It is a spiritual work of mercy to pray for others. If you would like to offer a Mass in memory of a friend or family (living or deceased) call 202-546-1885 or email: hcsstaff@hcschurch.org. The stipend is \$10 per intention.

DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY: HEBREWS 11:32-40 MARK 5:1-20
TUESDAY: HEBREWS 12:1-4 MARK 5:21-43
WEDNESDAY: HEBREWS 12:4-7, 11-15 MARK 6:1-6
THURSDAY: HEBREWS 12:18-19, 21-24 MARK 6:7-13
FRIDAY: HEBREWS 13:1-8 MARK 6:14-29
SATURDAY: HEBREWS 13:15-17, 20-21 MARK 6:30-34



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@hcschurch.org or 202-546-1885).



Stay Connected

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



hcschurch

MASS ATTENDANCE

January 26, 2025

| | |
|---------------|------------|
| 4:30pm | 30 |
| 8:00am | 72 |
| 9:30am | 60 |
| 11:00am | 160 |
| 7:00pm | 46 |
| Total: | 368 |

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

| | |
|---|--|
| Tuesday (2/4) 7:00pm Adult Choir Rehearsal | Friday (2/7) 8am-7pm All-Day Adoration |
| Wednesday (2/5) 7:30pm Adult Bible Study (Zoom) | |



FIRST FRIDAY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION:

Feb. 7th from 8AM (*Mass at 7AM*) until 7PM in the church. Consider stopping by or sign up by scanning the QR code or call the rectory office at 202-546-1885

to pray for an hour. Consider spending time with Jesus in the blessed sacrament.



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.

to pray for an hour. Consider spending time with Jesus in the blessed sacrament.

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 PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

PARISH LIFE



HCSC YOUTH MINISTRY SERVICE PROJECT:

We invite youth (ages 6-12) along with their families on **Sun., Feb. 2nd** following the 11AM Mass to the rectory basement for a special Valentine Day service project. This fun activity provides a way for youth to exhibit in word the true love of God by writing messages in Valentine Day cards for our seniors. Light refreshments provided. We invite families to stop by the rectory!



February is Black History Month

in the USA—This month is an annual commemoration of Black Americans' history and celebrated in honor of their contributions to the United States and the world. In

1926, this celebration was founded by Harvard-trained historian Carter G. Woodson and was initially called Negro History Week. During the nation's bicentennial in 1976, President Gerald R. Ford extended the celebration to a month. Throughout the month, our parish will provide resources and other information so that we all may become more aware of the gifts of our multi-cultural community.

The USCCB has also designated Sunday, Feb. 2nd, as **The National Day of Prayer for the African-American and African Family**. This day along with a special prayer was created by Fr. James Goode, OFM in 1989. Through his relationship with Jesus, Father Goode understood in a deep way that Christ's role on earth was to serve as the face of God the Father, drenching us with his mercy. He wanted us all to know that God's mercy endures forever. This National Day of Prayer is a day set aside to give special thanks to God for our families and place our every care in the arms of Jesus. All are welcome to join in unity as one community under God.



MANY THANKS to all who donated to our 'Gifts of the Spirit Advent Giving Campaign'. Through your generosity, we donated multiple bags of clothing and household goods, \$375 in gift cards and \$3,350 in cash to 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, they provide a nurturing community where families heal from the past, overcome barriers, and take hold of their future.

2024 HCSC YEAR-END CONTRIBUTION (TITHING) STATEMENTS

—will be prepared **only upon request** beginning **Fri., Feb. 7, 2025**. Statements will **not** be automatically distributed. Contact the rectory office (202-546-1885 or hscstaff@hscchurch.org) to request your statement. It can be mailed, emailed or picked up from the rectory. **NOTE:** only cash donations (submitted in an envelope with your name) and checks payable to Holy Comforter-Saint Cyprian are included in your statement. Your statement will **not** reflect loose cash donations.

FAITH DIRECT YEAR-END TITHING STATEMENTS:

Parishioners who tithe electronically through Faith Direct will automatically receive their 2024 year-end giving statement directly from Faith Direct as part of the online giving program.

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!



Holy Name Society 'Warm Faith & Works' Clothing Drive!

Donate your gently used or new winter clothing items. Collection boxes are in rear of church. **Last day to donate:** Feb. 9th. **For details:** See flyer in rear of church or visit: hscchurch.org.

BIBLE STUDIES AT HCSC



YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY: Mondays at 7:15PM in the rectory w/Msgr. Charles Pope.



FRIENDLY SENIORS BIBLE STUDY: held the **second** and **fourth** Tuesday of every month at 10:30AM in the chapel. Deacon J.P. Flagg is the facilitator.



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



FREE TAX PREPARATION: If your income is under \$67k, you are eligible for **FREE** tax preparation by IRS VITA certified volunteers.

Tax preparation done on Saturdays from 9AM-4PM at the Catholic Charities Financial Stability Network (924 G St., NW, WDC, 20001). **To register:** call 202-738-9957. Sponsored by Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of Washington.

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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 (jpfllag2@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, FEBRUARY 7, 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!**



GOD OF MERCY AND LOVE

we place our African American and African Families before You today. May we be proud of our history and never forget those who paid a great price for our liberation. Bless us one by one and keep our hearts and minds fixed on higher ground. Help us to live for you and not for ourselves, and may we cherish and proclaim the gift of life. Bless our parents, guardians and grandparents, relatives and friends. Give us the amazing grace to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. Help us, as Your children, to live in such a way that the beauty and greatness of authentic love is reflected in all that we say and do. Give a healing anointing to those less fortunate, especially the motherless, the fatherless, the broken, the sick and the lonely. Bless our departed family members and friends. May they be led into the light of Your dwelling place where we will never grow old, where we will share the fullness of redemption and shout the victory for all eternity. This we ask in the Precious Name of Jesus, our Savior and Blessed Assurance. Amen. Holy Mary, Mother of Our Families, pray for us.

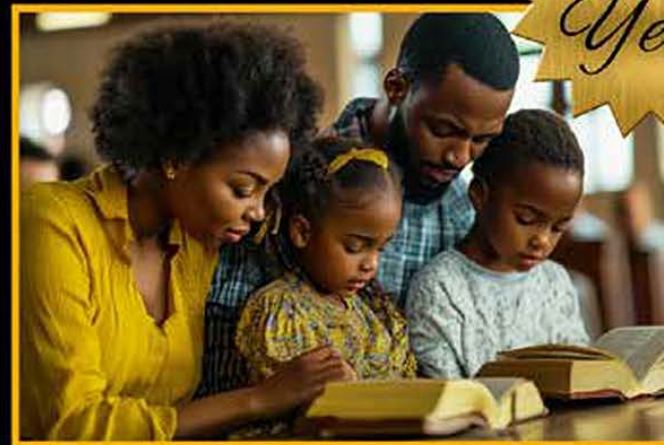
Prayer composed by FR. JIM GOODE, OFM, who in 1989 founded this National Day of Prayer for the African American and African Family



Produced by The National Black Catholic Congress, 2025

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE AFRICAN AMERICAN AND AFRICAN FAMILY

36th
Year



*Bless Our Families
Heal Our Land*

FEBRUARY 2, 2025
FIRST SUNDAY OF
BLACK HISTORY MONTH

BLESS OUR FAMILIES. HEAL OUR LAND...THIS WE PRAY

By Therese Wilson Favors

Today we take pause to give God the glory for Family. We pause to take note of the divine beauty of God's creation called Family and we seek God's blessings on our Families. Some say that Family is God's way of giving us a love hug. Generation after generation we have seen God's hug of love manifest itself. It shows that God moves through and within our human affairs called Family.



Family is not only a collection of people... it is a continued journey of a people's connection with God and an expression of the values of that family. In this, we realize that our deepest hopes and dreams are never singular... not just for one person. Rather, they are always connected to others. It is a journey of Us! That is why we pause to pray for our Families and to seek God's blessing and governance over our Family. God is "Our Father".

Here's some spiritual wisdom as we pray for our Family. Always be on the ready to place God in the middle of the Family, especially when serious decisions need to be made. God is our shelter and our strength, always ready to help in times of trouble (Psalm 46:1). Always step back and look at what Jesus would do when relationships among the Family are fragile and weary. Remember that Jesus instituted Christianity as a culture of reconciliation rather than a cancellation of a person or a people. Wounds can fester when disagreements, challenges and broken relationships show up. In these

situations ... go get some supernatural help from God. He moves through human affairs. We all know that invisible wounds are the hardest to heal. Their closure depends on God's grace and the love of others with patience, understanding and justice. Jesus says that the golden rule of life is Do to others whatever you would have them do to you (Matthew 7:12).

This same strategy of healing is warranted in these times within our land. Wounds are festering and there is a lot of pain out there. Let's look to God's Word and God's Ways to find a healing ointment. In places that are in need of healing...Work towards reconciliation with love, patience and true justice. Do all your work in love (1 Corinthians 16:14) and remember that God never stops working (John 5:17). Let us therefore lean on the Lord, for great is God's faithfulness and His mercies endure forever.



FAMILY/RVCULABACSSR

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John N. Graham
Catherine E. Graham
Joan M. Graham
Ernestine C. Jackson
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 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
*Love Always,
 The Family*

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