

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master's joy."

Matthew 25:21

The Parable of the Talents by Willem de Poorter, 17th century

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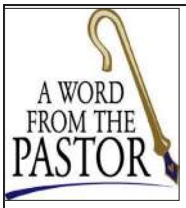
THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Readings This Weekend:
Proverbs 31: 10-13,19-20,30-31 1Thessalonians 5:1-6 Matthew 25:14-30
Readings Next Weekend:
Ezekiel 34:11-12,15-17 1Corinthians 15:20-26,28 Matthew 25:31-46



The Gospel today teaches us to increase our altitude with an attitude of gratitude. Three men are given resources to use. Two succeed, one fails. Why the difference? Ultimately, it would seem to be the difference between fear and resentment vs. confidence and gratitude. Consider the plan of the first two men who succeed. They 1.Receive riches, 2. Risk reinvestment, 3. Render a report, and 4. Rise in the ranks. At some level they see the owner of the riches as a man they can deal with. They have a healthy respect for him but not an unhealthy fear. They receive the funds gladly with gratitude and go to work with them. But the man who fails follows a different plan, a plan which is fruitless (for he buries the treasure), he is furious (for he considers the owner unjust and a "hard man"), and he thus forfeits (for the owner realizes he cannot trust this man with resources, and gives them to another). The failed man gives way to anger, resentment and indulges his fears that the owner is out to get him and the deck is stacked against him. He is not grateful for the opportunity afforded him by the owner. The lesson is what we feed will grow. Will we feed our gratitude for opportunities and gifts, or will we give way to fear and feed the anger and resentment that follows. What are you and I feeding right now?

FUNERALS — Reginald Smith (11/20)

† MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK †

Sunday, November 15 *Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time*
8:00am Richard Thomas †
9:30am Intentions for the HCSC Pilgrimage Attendees
11:00am Mary Bouma (B'day) †
7:00pm *For the Poor Souls*
Monday, November 16 *Sts.Margaret of Scotland & Gertrude, virgins*
7:00am *For the Poor Souls*
Tuesday, November 17 *Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, religious*
7:00am Dwyn Conway †
Wednesday, November 18 *The Dedication of Sts. Peter & Paul, apostles*
7:00am Kenneth Louis †
7:00pm Denise Barfield †
Thursday, November 19
7:00am Intentions of Jeremie Johnson (B'day)
Friday, November 20
7:00am Peter Crutchfield (B'day)†
Saturday, November 21 *The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary*
8:00am *For the Poor Souls*
4:30pm Intentions of the DeStefano Family

DAILY MASS READINGS FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY:	REVELATION 1:1-4, 2:1-5	LUKE 18: 35-43
TUESDAY:	REVELATION 3:1-6,14-22	LUKE 19:1-10
WEDNESDAY:	REVELATION 4:1-11	LUKE 19:11-28
THURSDAY:	REVELATION 5:1-10	LUKE 19:41-44
FRIDAY:	REVELATION 10: 8-11	LUKE 19:45-48
SATURDAY:	REVELATION 11: 4-12	LUKE 20:27-40

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

ELECTRONIC TITHING: Our parish offers electronic tithing through *ParishSOFT Online Giving*. For more information:

1. Scan the QR code to the right ➔
2. Or, text 'Enroll' to 301-478-8900
3. Visit: giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/FD-59

This service is **FREE** and **SECURE.** You can have your tithes automatically deducted weekly, monthly **or** you can give a one-time gift/donation using your bank, credit card or other method of payment. **Questions?** Kim Peaks 202-546-1885 or kpeaks@hcscchurch.org.

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 receive parish updates.
- Follow us on social media:
  Facebook.com/HCSCChurch hcsc_church

MASS ATTENDANCE
November 8, 2026
4:30pm 28
8:00am 67
9:30am 42
11:00am 144
7:00pm 67
Total: 348

For where two or three come together in my name, I am there with them. Matthew 18:20

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

Sunday (11/15)
9:15am Sunday School
9:30am Ladies of Charity Mtg

Tuesday (11/17)
10:30am Senior Bible Study
7:00pm Adult Choir Rehearsal
7:00pm OCIA/Faith Formation

Wednesday (11/18)
7:30pm Adult Bible Study (Zoom)

Friday (11/20)
6pm-7pm Eucharistic Adoration

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

⇒ **EVERY FRIDAY from 6—7PM** in the sanctuary. Clergy available to hear confessions.

⇒ **EVERY FIRST FRIDAY** of the month from **8AM until 7PM** in the sanctuary.



MASS INTENTIONS: It is a spiritual work of mercy to pray for others, both living and deceased. To offer a Mass in memory of a friend or family, call 202-546-1885. 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.

Thirty-Third Sunday In Ordinary Time

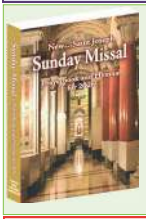
Parish Life

Black Catholic History Month 2026

The Catholic Church in the United States recognizes November as Black Catholic History Month to commemorate the rich history and proud heritage of Black Catholics in the United States. We celebrate the contributions that African and African-Americans have made and continue to make to our Church. It is a unique opportunity to share, learn, and celebrate this cultural part of the Catholic Church's history. We will post events within the Archdiocese of Washington along with other resources. **See flyer in the bulletin.**



PRAYERS FOR THE DEAD: One of the spiritual works of mercy is to pray for the dead. November is the Church's traditional month to pray for our deceased friends and family. Mass will be celebrated every other day in November for the *Poor Souls*. **To include your relatives/friends**, write names on the *All Souls Day* envelope (included with tithing envelopes or in rear of church) and drop in collection basket or rectory office. Names are placed on the altar during November. A donation is not needed but is appreciated. **ParishSoft Giving USERS:** If you donate electronically, email your names to hcscstaff2@hcscchurch.org or call 202-546-1885.



SAINT JOSEPH'S MISSALS for 2027 are available for $3.50 in the Candlelight Store *(located in the rear of the church)* **or** the rectory office. This missal is a companion guide for the Church year of Sunday masses. It lists the Sunday readings, parts of the Mass and other prayers. Ask an usher if the store is closed.



ATTENTION LECTORS: The 2027 liturgical year begins **Sun., Nov. 29th** *(First Sunday of Advent)*. Personalized copies of the new *Lectors Workbook* are available in the sacristy on the counter. Please pick up your workbook over the next couple of weeks. If you don't see your name, call the rectory office. **Please take only the workbook with your name.**

As we prepare to celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday and welcome the season of Advent (*which begins Sun., Nov. 29th*), we invite our parish family to come together in prayer and gratitude on **Wed., Nov. 25th at 7:00 PM** for a Mass of Thanksgiving. Morning Mass on Thanksgiving Day (11/26) is at 8:00 AM in the chapel.



THANK YOU to those who donated to the ADW Retired Priest Fund last weekend. You donations will provide funds for the retirement needs of our aging clergy. If you still want to donate, pick up an envelope in the rear of the church, read the instructions and drop in the collection basket.

BIBLE STUDIES AT HCSC

FRIENDLY SENIORS BIBLE STUDY: held the **third** and **fourth** Tuesday of every month at 10:30 AM in the chapel.

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

Many Gifts, One Body

Liturgical Ministry Recruitment Campaign

Our parish has begun our ***Many Gifts, One Body Liturgical Ministries Recruitment Campaign***—a six-week invitation to discover the many ways you can share your gifts in service to our parish community as a member of one of the liturgical ministries.

Over the last two months, members of our Adult & Youth Choirs, Lectors, Ushers, Sound Ministry, Altar Guild/Sacristan Ministry, Altar Servers, and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion shared with you what they do, why their ministry matters, the gifts and skills that are helpful, and the time commitment involved. We pray you received much information to assist you in discerning your commitment to this parish.

Those who completed an interest card or signed up for more information, should be receiving calls, texts or emails from the ministries you have selected over the next few weeks for further instructions and details.

If you have not had an opportunity to sign up or express an interest in a ministry, contact the rectory office at 202-546-1885 and we will make sure you receive resources that will help you learn more about our liturgical ministries and how to contact them. Stay tuned.



ATTENTION: Msgr. Charles Pope's email account was recently hacked. If you received an email from Msgr. Pope with the subject line: **Pastoral Reference Request - DO NOT CLICK THE LINK THAT IS IN THE EMAIL! Immediately delete the email.** For future consideration: if you receive an email that seems unfamiliar or strange even from friends or family, it is most prudent to contact the person by text or phone and verify. **DO NOT** click any links or open attached files. Also, be careful with **Evites** and other digital invitation emails or text. Verify and confirm before responding! Be safe on the internet.

SAVE THE DATE: MEET & GREET WITH SAINT NICK on **Sun., Dec. 6th** at **9:30 AM** at the Center City Public Charter School (*15th & East Capitol Sts., SE*). We invite youth and their families to enjoy arts/crafts and light refreshments while learning about Saint Nicholas. Stay tuned for details.



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 (msgr.charles.pope@gmail.com)
Rev. Patrick Aboagye, Parochial Vicar (sirpatrick2@gmail.com)
Deacon James P. Flagg II, Permanent Deacon (jpflaggII@gmail.com)

For information on membership, funerals, sacraments (*baptism, first communion, confirmation, matrimony*) contact the rectory office at hcscstaff@hcscchurch.org or 202.546.1885.

Mass Times:

Saturday	8 AM & 4:30 PM (vigil)
Sunday	8 AM, 9:30 AM, 11 AM & 7 PM
Weekdays	Mon—Fri: 7 AM (8 AM on holidays)
Wednesdays	7 PM (confessions 6 PM)

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

Commemorating Black Catholic History Month in the United States

Meet the Black Catholics on the Road To Sainthood

This weekend, we re-introduce the **seven** Catholics of African descent from the United States whose causes are under formal consideration for canonization in the Catholic Church. We provide a quick synopsis on their lives but encourage you to visit their websites to learn more about their lives of holiness and dedication to the Catholic church amidst racism and many other challenges.



Venerable Henriette Delille was born in New Orleans, LA, in 1813 to Marie-Josèphe "Pouponne" Díaz, a free woman of color, and Jean-Baptiste Lille Sarpy, a native of France. Her parents were united as part of the plaçage system wherein European men had common law marriages with African American and Creole women. Henriette was trained in French literature, music and dancing with the expectation that she too would find a plaçage partner. Instead, Henriette rallied against the plaçage system and was drawn to the Catholic Church, in particular to Sister Mathe Fontier who opened a school for girls of color in New Orleans. She began teaching at a Catholic school when she was 14, caring for and educating the poor. This educational work led her to found a small congregation of nuns named the Sisters of the Presentation. Together the group of Creole women cared for the sick and poor, and educated both free and enslaved children and adults. They also opened America's first Catholic home for the elderly. In 1837 the religious order received formal recognition, and in 1842 they changed their name to Sisters of the Holy Family. The sisters' legacy includes caring for the sick during the Yellow Fever epidemic and running parochial schools. They remain active today. To learn more: visit henriettedelille.com or scan the QR code.



Venerable Fr. Augustus Tolton was born a slave to parents, Peter and Martha, in Missouri. His family escaped slavery: Peter fled and joined the Union Army, and Martha escaped with their children to the free state of Illinois. Once in Illinois, the family, including Augustus' mother and siblings, worked for a tobacco company. There Augustus met Father Peter McGirr, an Irish immigrant priest who helped him attend St. Peter's parochial school during the winter months. Allowing an African American child into the school was met with great resistance, but Father McGirr continued to advocate for Augustus and allowed him to continue his education. Augustus desired to be a priest, but was rejected by every American seminary. Father McGirr continued to advocate for him, and eventually Augustus was able to study in Rome. He graduated from St. Francis Solanus College and attended Pontifical Urbaniana University. Tolton was ordained to the priesthood in Rome in 1886 at age 31, making him the first Black Roman Catholic priest in the U.S. His first public Mass was in St. Peter's Basilica on Easter Sunday in 1886. He returned to Quincy, IL, where he still faced challenges and opposition due to racism. He was eventually assigned to Chicago. There he led the development of "negro national parish," St. Monica's Catholic Church. The parish grew from 30 parishioners to 600 with the construction of the new church building, and brought him national recognition. Saint Mother Katherine Drexel, an heiress, contributed financially to Father Tolton's parish. He died while on retreat at the age of 43 on July 8, 1897. To learn more: visit tolton.archchicago.org or scan the QR code.



Venerable Mary Elizabeth Lange was born in Cuba, in a Haitian community, in 1784. She immigrated to the U.S. in the early 1800s, eventually settling in Baltimore, MD. When she arrived in the city, the free African American population was growing rapidly. Despite the efforts of other religious organizations opening schools to meet this growing need, they could not keep up. Elizabeth saw this need and opened a school in her home to educate African American children. The trajectory of her life changed when she met Sulpician priest James Nicholas Joubert, S.S., a French native. He taught the catechism to African American children, but struggled to do so because many of the students were not good readers. A friend introduced him to Elizabeth and Marie Balas. Together they agreed to start a school for girls, and founded a new religious order. Their order, the Oblate Sisters of Providence, was the first religious congregation of women of African descent in the U.S. Elizabeth took the name "Sister Mary," and became the order's first religious superior. Together she and four other sisters founded a school, later known as St. Frances Academy, which is still in operation today. Despite fighting against racism and poverty, the Oblate Sisters evangelized the black community through Catholic education, including classes for women and career training. They also established homes for widows and orphans, and aided the sick during the cholera epidemic. Lange died on February 3, 1882, at age 98. To learn more: visit motherlange.org or scan the QR code.



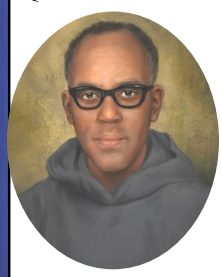
Venerable Pierre Toussaint was born in Haiti in 1766 as a slave to the Berard family. He was trained as a house slave and was taught to read and write by his grandmother. As slaves and free people of color began to rise in rebellion in Haiti, the Berard family fled to New York taking Pierre with them. Upon arrival in New York, Pierre apprenticed as a hairdresser. After Jean Berard died, Pierre stayed on with the widow. Before the widow died in 1807, she freed Pierre. Four years later, he married Marie Rose Juliette, whose freedom he had purchased since he became financially successful. They later adopted Euphémie, his orphaned niece. Within the Catholic community, Toussaint was an exceptionally devout and charitable person. Every day he attended the 6:00am Mass in St. Peter's Church, where he was a pewholder for many years. He raised funds to build the original St. Patrick's Cathedral and St. Vincent de Paul Church. Pierre donated to various charities, generously assisting blacks and whites in need. They opened their home to orphans and educated them. The couple also nursed abandoned people who were suffering from yellow fever. Urged to retire and enjoy the wealth he had accumulated, Pierre responded, "I have enough for myself, but if I stop working I have not enough for others." To learn more: visit https://archny.org/ministries-and-offices/cultural-diversity-apostolate/black-ministry/venerable-pierre-toussaint/or scan the QR code.



Servant of God Thea Bowman was born in Yazoo City, MS in 1937. While her grandfather was a slave, her parents had successful careers—her father a doctor, and her mother a teacher. With their permission, Thea converted to Catholicism when she was 9-years-old, and later joined the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration in Wisconsin as the only African-American member. Her education was extensive. She earned a B.A. in English before attending the Catholic University of America in D.C., earning a M.A. and Ph.D., both in English. Following graduation, she taught at schools all over the U.S. for 16 years. She then moved to Jackson, MS, where she served as the diocesan consultant for intercultural awareness. Thea used her dynamic mind, voice and personality to give presentations across the country. Her goal was to break down racial and cultural barriers, and she encouraged others to communicate and understand one another. Thea played a tremendous role in publishing the Catholic hymnal, Lead Me, Guide Me: The African American Catholic Hymnal. Within the hymnal is an essay written by Thea, wherein she wrote, "Black sacred song is soulful song". Immediately before her death, Thea spoke to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops from her wheelchair. When she finished speaking, they stood linking arms and singing as Thea led them in the spiritual, "We Shall Overcome." She died of breast cancer on March 30, 1990, aged 52. To learn more: https://www.sistertheabowman.com or scan the QR code.



Servant of God Julia Greely was born into slavery in Missouri. When she was only 5-years-old, her eye was permanently injured by a slave master's whip that he was using on her mother. She was freed under the Emancipation Proclamation in 1865. She took employment as a cook and nanny to Julia Pratte Dickerson of St. Louis. She moved with Julia and her husband, William, to Denver, CO. Julia was baptized Catholic in 1880, and thereafter received the Eucharist daily. She was known for her devotion to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Eucharist. Her faith was so strong that she walked the streets distributing information from the Sacred Heart League, all while quietly suffering from painful arthritis. According to Julia's obituary: "Every door in the parish was open to her. Her marvelous piety and her constant charity made her the friend of everybody. She was known in every convent of Denver, for, as might be expected, she loved the Sisters." She was perhaps best known for her "little red wagon," which she pulled through the streets of Denver at night, distributing food, coal and clothing to needy families. Julia did her charitable works under the cover of darkness so she wouldn't embarrass those accepting charity from a poor, black woman. In 1901, Greeley joined the Secular Franciscans. In recognition of her dedication to the poor, Greeley has been dubbed "Denver's Angel of Charity.". To learn more: https://juliagreeley.org or scan QR code.



Servant of God Friar Martin de Porres Maria Ward: Born in 1928 in Boston, Massachusetts, to a bi-racial family, Friar Martin de Porres dedicated 51 years of his life to the Conventual Franciscan Friars, much of which was spent in Andrelândia, Brazil. Friar Martin became the first African American Conventual Franciscan in North America. He was ordained to the priesthood June 4, 1955, and he volunteered for missions in Brazil. He was well-known for his cheerful, charitable and humble demeanor. He dedicated himself to the people of Andrelândia, particularly the poor. His commitment to faith was reflected in his practice of the virtues of simplicity, joy, poverty and humility. Friar Martin was a devoted friar and priest with a profound devotion to the Eucharist. Scan QR code.

Meet & Greet with Saint Nicholas



Sunday, December 6th

9:15am-10:30am

Free for youth and families!

Center City Public Charter School

15th & E. Capitol Streets, SE (enter thru parking lot in alley)





Please RSVP by scanning the QR code to register or call: 202-546-1885 or email: hcscstaff2@hcscchurch.org by Nov. 30th

In Memory of
John N. Graham
Catherine E. Graham
Joan M. Graham
Ernestine C. Jackson
Sharon L. Graham
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Darren Miah
The Family

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Leon (Tony) Myrick
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The Family

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Clyde (Guy) Fairfax Jr.
The Family

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Ray,
Bertie

In Memory of
Hump,
Will, Phil
Henny

In Memory of our Deceased
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AND
VERMELLE H. HOWARD
Love Always,
The Family

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~Anna, Othalene, Lataunya, Betty - wife and mother

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

To Our Beloved
Kenyon C. 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
Nannie E. Williams
Love Always,
Dr. Sharon Lewis
and Brandon Lewis

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Johnson Family
Anderson Family
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