

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Readings This Weekend:

Wisdom 2:12, 17-20 James 3:16—4:3 Mark 9:30-37

Readings Next Weekend:

Numbers 11:25-29 James 5:1-6 Mark 9:38-48



In today's gospel, the Lord is calling a crucial question. The gospel begins with a kind of **Processional** and we are told that Jesus is beginning a journey through Galilee. What this means is that he is heading south, into conflict, on his final journey, which will end with his cross, death and resurrection. Jesus' procession is not unlike our own, wherein, as we head toward our eventual death, we must increasingly confront the empty promises of this world, and set our eyes firmly on the kingdom of heaven. But note the **Pain**. For Jesus gives the second prediction of his passion, death and resurrection. Jesus, who knew the torture that awaited him, expresses his pain. Sadly, his Apostles become avoidant, they are afraid to ask him any questions about this, and they seem to draw apart and become engaged in a foolish debate about who's the greatest. So then comes the **Point**, the crucial, question. Jesus asked, "What were you arguing about on the way?" In other words, what is important in your life? What do you spend your time thinking and talking about? Is it really the things of God, or is it foolish and passing things of the world like who's the greatest, who's the big cheese, and how do I rank? Jesus answers their foolishness, (our foolishness), with a shocking paradox: the greatest, in God's eyes, is not those who are served, but those who serve. At the \$10,000 a plate fund raiser, God is not drawn to the head table, or to the dais, He is drawn to those who serve the table. God does not run to the rope line first, he walks into the kitchen and greets the cooks and dishwashers. And so, the crucial question for us is, "What are you discussing as you make your journey, what is important to you?" Is it important to God?



Sunday, September 20

4:30pm (Sat) Bernadette Nicholson (birthday)
 8:00am Joan M. Graham †
 11:00am Deceased HCSC Ushers
 7:00pm Molly Moore †

Monday, September 21 *Saint Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist*

7:00am William & Elizabeth Jackson †

Tuesday, September 22

7:00am For the Intentions of Marie K. Jean-Bart

Wednesday, September 23 *Saint Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest*

7:00am Joseph Vanzego †

Thursday, September 24

7:00am For the Intentions of Marie K. Jean-Bart

Friday, September 25

7:00am Charlena D. Addison † (8th anniversary)

Saturday, September 26 *Saints Cosmas and Damian, Martyrs*

8:00am For the People
 4:30pm Catherine Dunn †

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday: Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13 Matthew 9:9-13
Tuesday: Ezra 6:7-8, 12, 14-20 Luke 8:19-21
Wednesday: Ezra 9:5-9 Luke 9:1-6
Thursday: Haggai 1:1-8 Luke 9:7-9
Friday: Haggai 2:1-9 Luke 9:18-22
Saturday: Zechariah 2:5-9, 14-15 Luke 9:43-45

Music Schedule

Processional
 "Standing on the Promises" LMGM #562
Responsorial Psalm
 "The Lord upholds my life"
Gospel Acclamation
 "Alleluia!"
Offertory
 * "Give Me A Clean Heart" LMGM #625
 ** "Give Us Peace" L. Roberts
Communion
 "Jesus in the Morning" LMGM #391
 * 8:00am Ruby Robertson, Cantor—Gwen Myles, Music Associate
 ** 11:00am Youth Ensemble

Mass Attendance for September 13, 2015

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| 4:30pm | 41 |
| 10:00am | 340 |
| 7:00pm | 84 |
| Total: | 465 |

Stewardship Report 2015—2016

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| Weekly Budget Amount Needed | \$16,346 |
| Actual Tithes Collected (9/00) | \$20,229 |
| Actual Surplus (+) | + \$3,883 |

ELECTRONIC TITHING—What is the best way to ensure your parish receives the support needed for our operating expenses and ministries? Try *eGiving* through Faith Direct! Enroll today by visiting www.faithdirect.net or call Kim Peaks at 202-546-1885. Our church code is DC59. Increased enrollment with Faith Direct will help stabilize our parish finances. Thank you for your continued support!

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

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| Sunday (9/20) 9:15am RCIA 9:30am Sunday School 7:00pm Mass 8:00pm AA | Thursday (9/24) 6:30pm Knights of Columbus |
| Monday (9/21) 6:30pm Finance Council mtg 8:00pm YAM Bible Study | Friday (9/25) 8:00pm NA |
| Tuesday (9/22) 7:00pm Adult Choir | Saturday (9/26) 9:00am Women's Ministry 9:00am S.O.M.E. 10:00am Liturgical Dance 10:30am Sodality Board mtg 4:30pm Mass |
| Wednesday (9/23) 12:00noon RECTORY CLOSED | |

MASS INTENTIONS—It is a spiritual work of mercy to pray for others, both living and deceased. To offer a Mass for a friend or family, call 202-546-1885. Note that dates fill in quickly. The customary donation is \$5 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.

PARISH LIFE

YOUTH SUNDAY: We are celebrating our September Youth Sunday at the 11am Mass this weekend. We invite all our youth to come and sit together in front of the clergy! Parents are welcome to sit with their children.

RECTORY OFFICE WILL CLOSE EARLY—Wednesday, September 23rd at 12:00 noon.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY MONTHLY FELLOWSHIP—is Sat., Sept. 26th at the school. Doors open 9:30am. Guest speaker: Melanie Rigney, author of *Blessed are You: Finding Inspiration from Our Sisters in Faith*. Her theme for this talk: "Rejoice and Be Glad." All are invited.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: Sunday School classes begun today for youth in Pre-K thru 12th grade. Classes meet every Sunday at 9:30am at the school. You can still register your child(ren). Forms available in the rear of the church or on our website. **Adult Bible Study** is held in conjunction with Sunday School. Contact Shirley Austin on 202-546-1885 or mre@hscchurch.org.

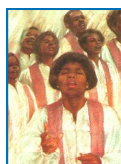
DO YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH? Are you or do you know someone interested in becoming Catholic? Did you or a family member, or friend, miss receiving the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation or Holy Communion? Are you searching for a greater knowledge and appreciation of your faith? Enroll in the Holy Comforter-Saint Cyprian **Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)** Adult Catechetical Program! Classes will begin this Fall on Sunday mornings. Registration forms with more information are available in the rear of the church and in the rectory office.

OBLATE SISTERS OF PROVIDENCE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION—is selling collectible Oblate dolls in the Candlelight Store. The dolls are handmade by the Oblates and dressed in two distinct habits from their past. Stop by the store in the rear of the church and see. Orders must be placed in advanced and will be ready in 2-3 weeks.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY RETREAT—at the Oblate Sisters of Providence Motherhouse, 701 Gun Road, Baltimore, MD, **Nov. 6—8, 2015.** **COST: \$225** covers private room, transportation, meals, and spiritual enrichment. **Theme: "Holding on to my joy while striving to live my faith."** **Facilitator: Charlene Howard.** Flyers in rear of the Church with more information.

26th ANNUAL EAST OF THE RIVER REVIVAL! Let's continue "The Walk with Pope Francis" and celebrate the **JOY OF THE GOSPEL, Mon., Oct. 5th—Thurs., Oct. 8th, 7pm,** at Holy Family Catholic Church, Hillcrest Heights, MD. Revivalist: Deacon Harold Burke-Silvers. Closing Mass on Thursday w/Bishop John Ricard, SSJ. Tuesday night is "Youth Night". See flyer in rear of church.

SAVE THE DATE: The HCSC Choir's 43rd Anniversary Concert, **Sun., Oct. 25th, at 4pm.** This will be Mr. Kenneth Louis' final appearance at HCSC. Tickets are available from any choir member or in the rectory. Donation: \$20. See back of flyer for information on placing an ad.



Youth Ministry News

Nicki Gebrehiwot, Director of Youth Ministry
202-546-1885 ext. 25 (voicemail) ♦ youthdirector@hscchurch.org

DO YOU NEED COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS FOR SCHOOL? Please consider volunteering every 4th Saturday of the month at S.O.M.E. (So Others Might Eat) with other youth from HCSC. We help prepare and serve food to those who are in need during the lunch service (about 2-3 hours). Our next S.O.M.E. weekend is **Sat., Sept. 26th from 10:30-12:30noon.** Transportation is provided from the church to and from the S.O.M.E. location. Contact the Youth Director if you would like to serve and earn service hours for your school.

ALL YOUTH!!! If you are interested in becoming a news reporter for the **HCSC Youth Newsletter**, please contact the Youth Director.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS: If you celebrate a birthday during August, September, or October and would like it posted in the next HCSC Youth Newsletter contact the Youth Director.

SAVE THE DATE!!! Annual East of the River Fall Revival Youth Night is **Tuesday, Oct. 6th** at 7pm at Holy Family Catholic Church, 2210 Callaway St., Hillcrest Heights, MD. For information, contact the Youth Director.

WE NEED YOU FOR OUR YOUTH MINISTRIES! Many of our youth have graduated and become young adults. We are looking for more youth to serve in our Youth Ministries: *Altar Servers; Dance Ministry; Junior Ushers; Youth Ensemble; Youth Lectors.* If you are interested in joining any of our youth ministries, or helping with one of the youth ministries, contact the Youth Ministry Director.

HCSC Young Adult Ministry

Paula Lancaster/Felicia Miller ♦ YAM@hscchurch.org

YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY—meets every Monday evening at 8pm in the rectory. For info contact Stephanie Keene at sakeene@gmail.com.

We'd like to hear from our young adults (age 18 to 40^{ish})! Check out the HCSC Young Adults Ministry on **Facebook** and tell us your thoughts, or send an email: yam@hscchurch.org. Follow us on Twitter for updates at HCSCYoungAdults!



"WE OFFER PRAISE" CD—is Mr. Louis' final recording project with the HCSC Music Ministry. Pick up a copy in the Candlelight Store or the rectory. **COST:** Just \$10 each!

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

If you want to know more about our parish community or are interested in joining, call the rectory at 202-546-1885 or hscstaff@hscchurch.org.

Mass Schedule: Monday thru Friday at 7am (Chapel)
Saturday at 8am (Chapel) and 4:30pm
Sunday at 8am, 11am, and 7pm
Office Hours: Mon, Tues, Wed and Fri, 9am—8pm;
Thursday, 9am—5pm;
Saturday, 9am—1pm and Sunday, 9am—2pm

For information on sacraments & funerals call the rectory office.
Follow us on Facebook! Fr. Pope's Blog: <http://blog.adw.org>