

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Readings This Weekend:

Is 40:1-5, 9-11 Ti 2:11-14, 3:4-7 Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

Readings Next Weekend:

Isaiah 62:1-5 1 Corinthians 12:4-11 John 2:1-11



In today's Liturgy we celebrate the fact of Jesus' Baptism. In the Gospel we note first the **PATTERN** of Baptism. Jesus comes to be baptized and John protests. We tend to think of Baptism only in terms of washing away sin. It does do that for us, though Jesus was not in need of this. Why then does he insist on baptism? Because there is more to baptism than washing: there is also dying and rising. This is the pattern. In baptism by immersion this is especially seen when, for a moment the person goes under the water and passes from sight. This is a symbol of death. But then they arise out of the water in a resurrection to new life. Jesus establishes this pattern for us in baptism and chooses to exhibit it himself to show us the way. St. Paul refers to this pattern of our life when he describes us as: Always carrying around in our body the dying of Jesus, so that also the life of Jesus may be revealed in our body (2 Cor 4:10). This is the whole pattern of our life: the paschal mystery. Next notice the **PURCHASE** of Baptism. Jesus goes into the water and gets four things for us: **ACCESS** – for the text says that the heavens are opened; **ANOINTING** – for the text says that the Spirit descended on Jesus; **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT** – for the Father says to Jesus and through Jesus to us, "This is my beloved Son"; and finally, **APPROVAL** – for the Father says of him and through him to us, "I am well pleased." Today rejoice in the pattern and purchase of your baptism. The Lord died to give this to us. Let us rejoice.

FUNERAL—Rita Sheridan (December 30th)



Sunday, January 10 *Baptism of the Lord*
 8:00am David Monteé Atkinson, Jr. †
 11:00am Melba B. Butler †
 7:00pm For the Intentions of Peter Anzenberger

Monday, January 11
 7:00am George Leftwood

Tuesday, January 12
 7:00am John L. Colston, Jr. †

Wednesday, January 13 *St Hilary, Bishop & Doctor of Church*
 7:00am Raymond J. Vanzego, Sr. †

Thursday, January 14
 7:00am For the Intentions of our Clergy

Friday, January 15
 7:00am For those who are ill and in nursing homes

Saturday, January 16
 8:00am For the People
 4:30pm Elizabeth G. Hill †

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday: 1 Samuel 1:1-8 Mark 1:14-20
Tuesday: 1 Samuel 1:9-20 Mark 1:21-28
Wednesday: 1 Samuel 3:1-10, 19-20 Mark 1:29-39
Thursday: 1 Samuel 4:1-11 Mark 1:40-45
Friday: 1 Samuel 8:4-7, 10-22 Mark 2:1-12
Saturday: 1 Samuel 9:1-4, 17-19, 10:1 Mark 2:13-17

Music Schedule

Processional
 * "Walk in the Light" LMGM #274
 ** "Jesus Oh What A Wonderful Child"

Responsorial Psalm
 "The Lord will bless his people with peace"

Gospel Acclamation
 "Alleluia!"

Offertory
 * "On Jordan's Banks" LMGM #240
 ** "O Healing River" F. Minkoff

Communion
 "Jesus in the Morning" LMGM #132

Post Communion Praise
 "Joyful, Joyful, Lord We Adore Thee" adapted by M. Warren

* 8:00am Ruby Robertson, *Cantor*—Gwen Myles, *Music Associate*
 ** 11:00am *Youth Ensemble* – L'Tanya Holley, *Coordinator*; Joshua Graf, *Music Associate*; Liturgical Dancers – Gail Bell, *Coordinator*

Mass Attendance for January 3, 2016

4:30pm	48
8:00am	134
11:00am	241
7:00pm	108
Total:	531

Stewardship Report 2015—2016

Weekly Budget Amount Needed	\$16,346
Actual Tithes Collected (1/3)	\$19,482
Actual Surplus (+)	+ \$3,136



JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY CORNER

"It is obvious that today's world is in need of mercy and compassion... We are accustomed to bad news, cruel news and the worst atrocities that offend the name and the life of God. The world needs to discover that God is the Father, that there is mercy. ... This is the time for mercy. We are all sinners, all of us carry inner burdens. I felt that Jesus wanted to open the door to His heart, that the Father wants to show us his innate mercy, and for this reason he sends us the Spirit." (Pope Francis on why he called for a Year of Mercy). Reflect on God's mercy with us this year at mercy.adw.org.

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

Sunday (1/10)
 9:15am RCIA
 9:30am Sunday School
 7:00pm Mass
 8:00pm AA

Monday (1/11)
 8:00pm YAM Bible Study

Tuesday (1/12)
 7:00pm Adult Choir

Wednesday (1/13)
 11:00am Friendly Seniors
 6:30pm Liturgical Dance
 7:00pm Bible Study

Thursday (1/14)
 6:30pm Knights of Columbus

Friday (1/15)
 6:30pm Catechist meeting
 8:00pm NA

Saturday (1/16)
 10:00am Liturgical Dance
 10:30am Usher Board meeting
 4:30pm Mass

OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

Holy Comforter-Saint Cypryan 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

FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD: Today the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Baptism of Our Lord. This brings to an end the season of Christmas. The Church recalls Our Lord's second manifestation, or epiphany, which occurred on the occasion of His baptism in the Jordan. Jesus descended into the River Jordan to sanctify its waters and to give them the power to beget sons of God. The event takes on the importance of a second creation in which the entire Trinity intervenes.



CONGRATULATIONS—to **Anita & Bradford Alexander** who were joined in the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony at HCSC on **January 2nd**. We pray that their union will be blessed with love and devotion to both God and each other.

YOUTH SUNDAY: We celebrate our parish youth at the 11am Mass this weekend and invite our youth to come sit together in front of the clergy. Parents are welcome to sit with their child.

WELCOME HOME RE-ENTRY PROGRAM NEEDS MENTORS: The Archdiocese of Washington Catholic Charities needs mentors to be trained to walk with men and women as they transition home from jail or prison. This weekend Fr. Michael Bryant, Chaplain at the DC Detention Facility, Karen Harrison, the DC Re-Entry Coordinator for the program, and Deacon Bobby White will be at all Masses Jan. 9-10 to share more information and answer questions.

ADULT & FAMILY RALLY & MASS FOR LIFE: Continue your *Walk with Francis* on **Fri., Jan. 22nd**. Rally: 9—10am; Mass: 10—11:30am at Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle, 1725 Rhode Island Ave., NW. Celebrant—Bishop Mario Dorsonville; Homilist—Fr. Dan Leary, Pastor, St. Andrew Apostle Parish. To register go to: www.adw/jan22.

HAS YOUR CHILD STOPPED GOING TO MASS? You may find the help you're looking for in the new publication **RETURN: HOW TO DRAW YOUR CHILD BACK TO THE CHURCH** by award-winning author Brandon Vogt, with the foreword by Bishop Robert Barron. This book is strongly suggested for parents who desire to bring their child back to the church but have no idea where to begin. *Limited supply available in the Candlelight Store.* **Cost: \$10.**

SAVE THE DATE!!! HCSC LENTEN FAMILY DAY—Sun., Jan 31st at 1pm at the school. Lunch provided! Stay tuned



CALENDARS FOR 2016: A variety of 2016 calendars will be available after Mass in the rear of the church.

END OF THE YEAR CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS—will be **prepared only upon request** beginning **Mon., Feb. 1, 2016**. Statements will not be automatically mailed. You must contact the rectory during office hours to request your statement and have it either mailed or left at the rectory for pick-up. **NOTE:** only cash donations (submitted in an envelope) and checks payable to Holy Comforter-Saint Cyprian are included in your statement. Your statement will not reflect loose cash donations not placed in an envelope.

Youth Ministry News

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

DEADLINE EXTENTION 2016 ESSAY & DRAWING CONTEST: The Sodality Union of the Archdiocese of Washington is sponsoring its second **Essay and Drawing Contest**. **NEW** entry deadline is **January 20th**. Essay contest open to all youth 8 to 18 year olds. This year's theme: **"What can I offer in sacrifice to help the Poor and help save the Earth?"** Drawing Contest is limited to 8 thru 10 year olds. Guidelines for submitting an essay or drawing available in the rear of the church or at sodalityunionadw.org/Committee_Reports. For questions, contact the Youth Ministry Director.

YOUTH RALLY AND MASS FOR LIFE: Any youth interested in attending this annual event on **Fri., Jan. 22nd**, please contact the Youth Ministry Director. We have a limited number of tickets remaining.

SAVE THE DATE: The Annual Youth Retreat is **March 12-13**, at Camp Maria in Leonard, MD. Stay tuned for more details.

ATTENTION ALL YOUTH—if you have a birthday in the months of December, January, or February please let us know so it can appear in the next edition of the HCSC Youth Newsletter.

HCSC Young Adult Ministry

Paula Lancaster/Felicia Miller ♦ YAM@hscchurch.org

YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY—has resumed and will meet 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})! Tell us what activities interest you. Check out the HCSC Young Adults Ministry on **Facebook** and tell us your thoughts. Follow us on Twitter at [HCSCYoungAdults!](https://twitter.com/HCSCYoungAdults)

4th ARCHDIOCESAN WOMEN'S CONFERENCE: *Divine Mercy—in Prayer and Action* sponsored by ADW Office of Family Life and the Council of Catholic Women, **Sat., Feb. 27th, 8AM—4PM**, at Elizabeth Seton High School, Bladensburg, MD. Keynote speaker is our pastor, Msgr. Charles Pope, scheduled to speak on *Perfect Mercy*. **Cost: \$40.** For more information: adw.org/womensconference.

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 7:00am (Chapel)
Saturday at 8:00am (Chapel) and 4:30pm
Sunday at 8:00am, 11:00am, and 7:00pm

Office Hours: Monday thru Wednesday, 9:00am—8:00pm, Thursday, 9:00am-5:00pm; Friday, 9:00am-8:00pm; Saturday, 9:00am—1:00pm; and Sunday, 9:00am—2:00pm.

For information on sacraments & funerals call the rectory office.

Follow us on Facebook! Fr. Pope's Blog: <http://blog.adw.org>