

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Readings This Weekend:

Jer 1:4-5, 17-19 1 Cor 12:31—13:13 Luke 4:21-30

Readings Next Weekend:

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



The First reading today is of the Call of Jeremiah the Prophet. In it we learn three things about our own prophetic call. First, that there is a Call. Jeremiah is told by God that he has been called to be a prophet long before his birth. It is not as if God, on a whim, pointed to him and said, "He'll do." Rather, God has very carefully prepared and planned for Jeremiah's prophetic call. So it is with us too. God has summoned you to prophesy not in some sort of vague manner but in a long planned for way. Each interaction has been provided beforehand. Next, notice the Courage of the call. Jeremiah is to accept the fact that he will be opposed and ridiculed. But he is to stand fast and remember that God has everything under control and that Jeremiah has all he needs to accomplish his task. He is not to be afraid. The same is true for us. We may not feel up to the task of evangelization but that doesn't matter. It is God who is the real evangelizer and He will use us as he sees fit. Finally, there is the Conclusion of the prophetic task. An old Spiritual says: "... see what the end shall be." And the end or conclusion is always victory if we trust the Lord. So fight on. Stay on the battlefield and know that ultimate victory awaits you.



Sunday, January 31

8:00am For the Intentions of Aaron S. Brown
 11:00am David E. Quarles †
 7:00pm For the People

Monday, February 1

7:00am For the Intentions of Kamren Reynolds

Tuesday, February 2 *The Presentation of the Lord*

7:00am For the Intentions of Lize Claggett

Wednesday, February 3 *St. Blaise, Bishop & Martyr; St. Ansgar, Bishop*

7:00am For the Intentions of Rhonda Monroe

Thursday, February 4

7:00am For the Intentions of Pope Francis

Friday, February 5 *Saint Agatha, Virgin & Martyr*

7:00am For the Intentions of Elizabeth "Lize" Claggett

Saturday, February 6 *St Paul Miki & Companions, Martyrs*

8:00am For the Intentions of Jacqueline Johnson
 4:30pm For the Intentions of Mary Turner

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.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday: 2 Samuel 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13 Mark 5:1-20
Tuesday: Mal 3:1-4 Heb 2:14-18 Luke 2:22-40
Wednesday: 2 Samuel 24:2, 9-17 Mark 6:1-6
Thursday: 1 Kings 2:1-4, 10-12 Mark 6:7-13
Friday: Sirach 47:2-11 Mark 6:14-29
Saturday: 1 Kings 3:4-13 Mark 6:30-34

Music Schedule

Processional
 "I'm So Glad" LMGM #498
Responsorial Psalm
 "I will sing of your salvation"
Gospel Acclamation
 "Alleluia!"
Offertory
 * "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" LMGM #592
 ** "I Will Sing Hallelujah" D. Harper
Communion
 "Jesus is Here" LMGM# 751
 * 8:00am Ruby Robertson, Cantor—Gwen Myles, Music Associate
 ** 11:00am Church Choir

Mass Attendance for January 24, 2016

4:30pm	4
8:00am	15
11:00am	40
7:00pm	<u>45</u>
Total:	104

Due to inclement weather, we do not have the Stewardship report for last week. Please make sure you are able to make up your tithes for last week if you were unable to attend. Unfortunately, storms such as this one can create even more expenses for the parish. With snow removal, damage/repairs from the massive amount of snow and other issues, we are always grateful for your steady and continued support.



JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY CORNER

"With how much love Jesus looks at us! With how much love He heals our sinful heart! Our sins never scare Him. Let us consider the prodigal son who, when he decided to return to his father, considers making a speech, but the father doesn't let him speak. He embraces him (cf. Lk 15:17-24). This is the way Jesus is with us. 'Father, I have so many sins...' — But He will be glad if you go: He will embrace you with such love! Don't be afraid." — Pope Francis, March 13, 2015. Reflect on God's love and mercy in your life at mercy.adw.org.

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

Sunday (1/31) 9:15am RCIA 9:30am Sunday School 1:00pm Lenten Family Day 7:00pm Mass 8:00pm AA	Wednesday (2/3) 11:00am Friendly Seniors 6:30pm Liturgical Dance 7:00pm Bible Study
Monday (2/1) 6:30pm Parish Council meeting 8:00pm YAM Bible Study	Friday (2/5) 8:00pm NA
Tuesday (2/2) 6:30pm Youth Ensemble 7:00pm Adult Choir	Saturday (2/6) 10:00am Liturgical Dance 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

HCSC AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH begins with the recognition of our ancestors on whose shoulders we continually stand. This year, we ask our parishioners to submit the *surnames* for their families and drop them in the baskets in front of the Mary and Joseph altars. These names will be on display in the church sanctuary throughout the month of February. **Deadline for submission is Sunday, Jan. 31st.** NOTE: This act of recognizing those who are deceased will be moved to the month of November during the Church's observance of All Souls.

HCSC LENTEN FAMILY DAY: Join us on **Sun., Jan., 31st** at **1pm in the school cafeteria.** Lunch will be provided and sessions will be held for both adults and youth. Invited guest speakers (**Fr. Aaron Qureshi**, Parochial Vicar at St. Joseph's Parish in Largo, MD, and **Will Frye**, our resident seminarian) will join us for a workshop on the season of Lent and how to prepare along with a presentation and discussion on Mercy (*in celebration of the Jubilee Year of Mercy declared by Pope Francis*). All are welcome!

2016 CARDINAL'S APPEAL: "**Seek First the Kingdom of God**" (Matthew 6:33). Many parishioners have already received a mailing from Cardinal Wuerl asking you to make a pledge to the 2016 Cardinal's Appeal. The Cardinal's Appeal campaign is different from a one-time special collection because it funds a multitude of community services throughout the Washington region, including our own ministries, such as Social Concerns, and the Welcome Home Program. We have the capability of helping the kingdom of God be present in our lives and in the lives of those around us through our works of charity, love, and compassion. For information, see brochure in your pew and in your bulletin.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH: As our parish celebrates AAHM, join us on **Sun., Feb. 14th,** at **1pm** at the school cafeteria, to hear **Rev. Fr. Donald A. Sterling's** presentation on "**The Hope for Racial Justice in the Church and Society is Cracking the Code of our History**". Rev. Sterling, holds the distinction of being the first African-American ordained to the priesthood in 1974 for the Archdiocese of Baltimore. Lunch will be provided.

ELECTRONIC TITHING—When you can't attend Mass due to the weather, **Faith Direct** electronic tithing can make it easier to keep up with your weekly tithes. You can have your tithes deducted from your bank account TWICE a month or charged to a credit card. It is a secure, convenient way to support your parish. Enrollment forms in the rear of the church, the rectory, or sign up at www.faithdirect.net. (**HCSC code: DC59**). Call Kim Peaks in the rectory office for information. It's easy and it's FREE!

END OF THE YEAR CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS are prepared **only upon request.** Statements **will be available starting Mon., Feb. 1st** and **will not be automatically mailed.** You can have your statement mailed or left at the rectory for pick-up. You must contact the rectory by phone or email to request your statement. **NOTE:** only cash donations (submitted in an envelope) and checks payable to Holy Comforter-Saint Cyprian are included in your statement. Loose cash (not in an envelope) given at collection cannot be reflected on your statement.

Youth Ministry News

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

SPECIAL THANKS to **Zion Humphrey** and **Sean Smart** who represented HCSC at The March and Rally for Life.

HCSC-SINGLETARY EDUCATION AWARDS: Are you a registered member of HCSC who is graduating high school this Spring? Active in church activities and involved in community service? Is your grade point average 2.5 or higher? Are you applying to a college, technical or trade school in 2016? Then you may be eligible for one of three monetary awards from the HCSC-Singletary Education Fund. First award is \$4,000; Second is \$3,000; and the third is \$2,000. This **one-time award** will be issued to the institution you enroll at next Fall. Stay tuned for details.

ATTENTION ALL YOUTH: If your birthday is in December, January or February let us know so it can appear in the next edition of the HCSC Youth Newsletter.

SAVE THE DATE: ANNUAL YOUTH RETREAT is **March 12—13**, at Camp Maria in Leonard, MD. See flyer for info.

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.

All young adults (college-age thirties) are invited to join Silver Spring Catholic for **ALPHA** to explore the meaning of life in an informal, fun and friendly environment. The Alpha Course consists of a series of talks, looking at topics including 'Who is Jesus?' and 'Why and how do I pray?', with the option of a weekend away. You don't have to commit to the whole course – just come along for the first session and see what you think. The **Alpha course starts Tues., Feb. 9th at 7:30pm at St. Michael the Archangel Church in downtown Silver Spring.** For more information and to RSVP, email the YA Silver Spring Catholic community at sscatholics@gmail.com or visit facebook.com/silverspringcatholic/events. We look forward to seeing you!

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.

SAVE THE DATE: OBLATE SISTERS OF PROVIDENCE will hold their **8th Annual Chicken Dinner, Sat., Feb. 27th, 11am to 3pm** at Saint Frances Center, 501 East Chase Street, Baltimore, MD. Cost: \$10. Proceeds for the upkeep of the Oblate Motherhouse and care of the sisters. Questions? Contact Sr. Helene Theresa 1-410-536-5687.

PARISH CONNECTIONS—Visit our Parish-related links and websites and spread the word:

Parish Website: www.hscchurch.org

Fr. Pope's Sermons online: www.frpope.com

Fr. Pope's Blog: <http://blog.adw.org>

