

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

**Readings This Weekend:**

Joshua 5:9, 10-12    2 Cor 5:17-21    Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

**Readings Next Weekend:**

Isaiah 43:16-21    Philippians 3:8-14    John 8:1-11



**Fourth Sunday of**



The Gospel today is familiar, perhaps too familiar. What happens with the familiar is that, thinking we know all about it we tune out and miss the details. Here are a few details I'd like to call to your attention. First, there was a Father who had TWO sons. Both sons are very different and both have their issues. But the Father loves them both. So it is with God, our Father. Though we are all different and have our own issues the Father loves us. Secondly, both sons are distant from the Father. We like to think of the one son as obedient and the other not. But it is not that simple. Even the obedient son struggles to love his father and sees obedience to his Father as a kind of slavery. He resents his Father and is angry that his Father hasn't given him everything he wants. He wanted a "kid goat to celebrate with my friends." But the goal in life is not to celebrate with your friends but to celebrate with the Father. And when the Father does celebrate, the son resentfully refuses to enter. His Father pleads with him to enter. And then the story ends. Did the son enter or stay outside? This story must be completed by you and me. The Father is pleading for us to enter. Will we? Will our children and spouses, family and friends enter? You finish the story.

**FUNERAL:** Elaine Lomax (March 4<sup>th</sup>)



**Sunday, March 6** *Fourth Sunday of Lent*

8:00am Jovan E. Jenifer †  
 11:00am George T. Holton, Jr. † (birthday)  
 7:00pm Joseph Bailey †

**Monday, March 7** *Saints Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs*  
 For the Conversion of the Islamic State

**Tuesday, March 8** *Saint John of God, Religious*  
 7:00am For the Intentions of Hasina & Elle Reed

**Wednesday, March 9** *Saint Frances of Rome, Religious*  
 7:00am Helen P. Johnson †

**Thursday, March 10**  
 7:00am Joseph F. Contee †

**Friday, March 11**  
 7:00am Beatrice C. Hall †

**Saturday, March 12**  
 8:00am For the People  
 4:30pm For the Intentions of Beulah Stewart

**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:** Isaiah 65:17-21    John 4:43-54  
**Tuesday:** Ezekiel 47:1-9, 12    John 5:1-16  
**Wednesday:** Isaiah 49:8-15    John 5:17-30  
**Thursday:** Exodus 32:7-14    John 5:31-47  
**Friday:** Wisdom 2:1, 12-22    John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30  
**Saturday:** Jeremiah 11:18-20    John 7:40-53

**Music Schedule**

**Processional**  
 "A Follower of Christ" LMGM #628  
**Responsorial Psalm**  
 "Taste and see the goodness of the Lord."  
**Gospel Acclamation**  
 "Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ ..."  
**Offertory**  
 \* "Somebody's knocking at your door" LMGM #283  
 \*\* "Even me"  
**Communion**  
 "Taste and See" LMGM #750  
 \* 8:00am  
 \*\* 11:00am Church Choir

**Mass Attendance for February 28, 2016**

4:30pm	48
8:00am	167
11:00am	304
7:00pm	89
<b>Total:</b>	<b>608</b>

**Stewardship Report 2015—2016**

Weekly Budget Amount Needed	\$16,346
Actual Tithes Collected (2/28)	\$18,600
Actual Surplus (+)	+ \$2,254



**JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY CORNER**

**SHARING MERCY** often involves putting the good of others above our own comfort. We can practice this in small ways every day, but sometimes the stakes are higher! Consider the January blizzard: snow-covered cars, unplowed streets, and limited Metro service. Still, calls came into the Catholic Charities ChAMPS program (Child and Adolescent Mobile Psychiatric Service) about kids with urgent mental health needs and our clinical professionals were on call. They braved the storm to reach these kids and help them. These "Wicked Weather Warriors" remind us that as we practice sharing God's mercy in small ways, we allow God to use us in big ways as well. Find ways to share mercy with others and to support ministries like ChAMPS at [mercy.adw.org](http://mercy.adw.org).

**THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH**

<b>Sunday (3/6)</b> 9:15am RCIA 9:30am Sunday School 1:00pm Youth Pageant rehearse 7:00pm Mass 8:00pm AA	<b>Thursday (3/10)</b> 6:30pm Knights of Columbus
<b>Monday (3/7)</b> 8:00pm YAM Bible Study	<b>Friday (3/11)</b> 6:00pm Lenten Holy Hour 7:00pm Stations of the Cross 8:00pm NA
<b>Tuesday (3/8)</b> 6:30pm Youth Ensemble 7:00pm Adult Choir	<b>Saturday (3/12)</b> 10:00am Holy Name meeting 10:00am Liturgical Dance 10:30am Social Concerns mtg 4:30pm Mass
<b>Wednesday (3/9)</b> 11:00am Friendly Seniors 6:30pm Liturgical Dance 7:00pm Bible Study	

**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

**SECOND SCRUTINY:** At the 4:30pm Mass on **Sat., March 5<sup>th</sup>**, we celebrate the second of three scrutinies for our candidates. The scrutinies help those who will be baptized at Easter to confront the reality of sin in their lives and to be strengthened by God's Grace to persevere on the way to salvation. Please keep our catechumens and candidate in prayer during their journey.



**CONGRATULATIONS TO:** Alyssa Milana Carter, Amelia Raine Carter, Bailey Elizabeth Freeman, and Tyler Daniel Freeman who were recently Baptized into the family of Jesus Christ. May God bless them in their journey of faith.

Time Change



**DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS NEXT WEEKEND:** Remember to "Spring Forward" one hour the night of **March 12<sup>th</sup>**.

**YOUTH SUNDAY NEXT WEEK:** Every second Sunday we celebrate our parish youth at the 11am Mass. We invite our youth to come and sit together at Mass. Feel free to invite a friend! Parents are welcome to sit with their child.

## WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR LENT?

**DAILY MASS:** It is a worthy practice to attend daily Mass during Lent. Consider attending Mass on a weekday in the Chapel (Monday—Friday at 7am, and 8am on Saturday).

**The Light is ON  for You.**  
*Celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation*

**Haven't been to confession in a while?** No problem. On **any Wednesday during Lent from 6:30—7:15pm** you can stop by our church and receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Open to all ages. Please note that all churches in the diocese are open to hear confessions.

**LENTEN SOUP & SCRIPTURE w/MSGR. POPE** is every **Wednesday during Lent at 7pm** in the rectory basement. The theme is "Making Mercy Real: The Corporal and Spiritual works of Mercy." **The March 9<sup>th</sup> topics are:** "Visit the Imprisoned"; "Bear Wrongs Patiently"; and "Forgive Willingly." Monsignor Pope and Deacon Kevin Butler are the facilitators. The series include a video along with teaching and conversation. A light meal is served at 6:30pm, instruction begins at 7:15pm. Join us for a meal and bible study! **Come and joins us!**

**HOLY HOUR and STATIONS OF THE CROSS**—are held **throughout Lent every Friday** in the church starting with a **Holy Hour at 6pm** and followed by **Stations of the Cross at 7pm, hosted March 11<sup>th</sup> by the Youth and Young Adult Ministries.** All are welcome to join Jesus in his journey to Calvary.

**LENTEN FOOD DRIVE:** Thank you to all the parishioners who returned their food donations this weekend for the food drive. If you forgot, then you can return it tomorrow, **MONDAY, MARCH 7<sup>th</sup> by 10am.** The Archdiocese will come to pick up the donations by Monday.

## Youth Ministry News

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

**YOUTH EASTER PAGEANT** will hold rehearsal in the rectory basement **Sun., March 6<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm** following Mass. Any youth interested in participating, can come to the rehearsal or call the youth director. Adults are also needed to help with the production.

**ANNUAL YOUTH RETREAT** is **March 12-13** at Camp Maria in Leonardtown, MD. Registration forms in the rear of the Church, rectory office and website. **NOTE: Due to the lateness, please contact Nicki directly as soon as possible if you want to attend.**

**HCSC-SINGLETERY EDUCATION AWARDS:** Are you a registered member of HCSC who is graduating high school this spring and looking to further your education? Active in church activities and involved in community service? Is your grade point average 2.5 or higher? You may be eligible for one of three monetary awards from the HCSC-Singletary Education Fund. Awards: \$4,000; \$3,000; and \$2,000. Applications are available in the rear of the Church, rectory office and website (hscchurch.org). **Application deadline: Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup>.**

## 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<sup>ish</sup>)! 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!

**ANNUAL SALUTE TO SENIORS: Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup>,** All seniors are invited to this dinner and celebration. RSVP is due by **Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup>.** See the flyer to RSVP.



**EASTER FLOWERS:** All names that are submitted with your Easter Flower offering envelope will be printed in the Easter program. If you would like to include a loved one on this list, please return your envelope to an usher or the rectory **NO LATER THAN Mon., March 21<sup>st</sup>.** An "Easter Flower" offering envelope was included with your monthly tithing envelopes or ask an usher. **PLEASE PRINT NAMES CLEARLY.** Thank you.

**2016 ANNUAL JUBILARIAN MASS:** Cardinal Donald Wuerl will celebrate the Jubilarian Mass honoring couples married 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 and 51+ years on **Sun., June 19<sup>th</sup>, at 2pm** at the Basilica of the National Shrine. Call the rectory at 202-546-1885. **Names of jubilarians need to be turned in to the rectory office by Mon., April 11<sup>th</sup>.**

**END OF THE YEAR CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS** are prepared upon request only. **Statements will NOT be automatically mailed.** To request a statement, contact the rectory at 202-546-1885 or hscstaff@hscchurch.org. Statements can be mailed or picked up. Only donations submitted in an envelope and checks payable to HCSC are included in your statement.