

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Readings This Weekend:

Acts 14:21-27 Revelation 21:1-5 John 13:31-35

Readings Next Weekend:

Acts 15:1-2, 22-29 Rev 21:10-14, 22-23 John 14:23-29



The Gospel today contains a mandate that we should love one another. But there is danger in thinking that Jesus is saying that we, with our own unaided flesh power are supposed to do this. Of course, this seems impossible and leads to frustration. That's why it is important to get this Gospel right. Notice three stages to this Gospel. First, there is a **PRE-REQUISITE**. Jesus indicates that the hour has come for him to be glorified. He is referring to his passion, death, and resurrection. In this saving act Jesus acquires for us the power to live a wholly new life. In order for him to command us to love one another he must first equip us to do so. He does this on the cross and in his rising to new life. Next, note the **POWER**. He gives us a new command and says, "Love one another as I have loved you." In other words, I have loved you and placed my love in you. Now you are able and must discover the power you have to love others. Jesus commands us only because he has first equipped us. Finally, notice the **PROOF**. Jesus concludes by saying that we will know, that is we will experience, that we are his disciples when we love each other. It is almost as if he is saying, "Try me in this and begin to experience that you DO have this power because you are my followers and someone who has my grace." Do you believe that the Lord has equipped, empowered and enabled you to love others?



Sunday, April 24 *Fifth Sunday of Easter*

8:00am Jackie Jones, Sr. †
11:00am Theresa Lindsey (birthday)
7:00pm Benjamin Wang (birthday)

Monday, April 25 *Saint Mark, Evangelist*

7:00am Willis & Thelma Waters † (4 / 23-wedding anniv.)

Tuesday, April 26

7:00am For the People

Wednesday, April 27

7:00am For the intentions of the Adams Family

Thursday, April 28 *Saint Peter Chanel, Priest & Martyr*

7:00am For the intentions of Annie Do

Friday, April 29 *St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin & Doc. of Church*

7:00am Frank James (birthday-4/30)

Saturday, April 30 *Saint Pius V, Pope*

8:00am Theresa & Frank James (19th wedding anniv.)
4:30pm Helen B. Tyler †

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: 1 Peter 5:5-14 Mark 16:15-20
Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28 John 14:27-31
Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6 John 15:1-8
Thursday: Acts 15:7-21 John 15:9-11
Friday: Acts 15:22-31 John 15:12-17
Saturday: Acts 16:1-10 John 15:18-21

Music Schedule

Proclamation

* Joyful, Joyful, We adore You" LMGM #435
* * "In the Beauty of Holiness" LMGM #456

Responsorial Psalm

"I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God."

Gospel Acclamation

"Alleluia!"

Offertory

* "The Holy City"
* * "He has the power"

Communion

* "His Name is Wonderful" LMGM #372
* * "I Know It Was the Blood" LMGM #382

Post Communion

* "We're Marching to Zion" LMGM #706
* * "Rejoice" LMGM #310

* 8:00am Ruby Robertson, Cantor—George Stewart, Director of Music
* * 11:00am Church Choir—George Stewart, Director of Music

Mass Attendance for April 17, 2016

4:30pm	47
8:00am	108
11:00am	285
7:00pm	100
Total:	539

Stewardship Report 2015—2016

Weekly Budget Amount Needed	\$16,346
Actual Tithes Collected (4/17)	\$14,657
Actual Deficit (-)	-\$1,689



JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY CORNER

MERCY—Emily shares that one of the greatest encounters of mercy she's experienced came through Confession: "For many years my confessions had been just going through the motions. I'd been holding onto a sin for a long time, not bringing it to the Lord out of fear and shame. But I reached a point where I knew I needed to confess it. I cried in the confessional line because I was so scared, but when I shared it with the priest, he didn't condemn me like I thought he would. He was super gentle and merciful. After absolution, I left feeling so free from the burden of that sin! I needed mercy and healing, not condemnation, and that's what God gave me. God is always there, waiting to extend his mercy. I just wish I hadn't waited for so long!" Find ways to receive God's mercy at: mercy.adw.org.

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

Sunday (4/24)

9:15am RCIA
9:30am Sunday School
2:00pm St Thomas Ladies Aux #64
7:00pm Mass
8:00pm AA

Wednesday (4/27)

11:00am Friendly Seniors
6:30pm Liturgical Dancers
7:00pm Bible Study

Monday (4/25)

6:30pm Finance Council
8:00pm YAM Bible Study

Thursday (4/28)

6:30pm Knights of Columbus

Tuesday (4/26)

6:30pm Youth Ensemble
7:00pm Adult Choir

Friday (4/29)

8:00pm NA

Saturday (4/30)

8:00am Sodality Union Mass
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



FIRST COMMUNION CLASS FOR 2016: The following youth will celebrate First Holy Communion this Sunday, **April 24th** at the **11am Mass: Dominic Acosta, Marcus McQueen, Emmanuel Nuel-Ejiofor, Natalie Powell, and Zamir Walls.** They received Reconciliation earlier this week. Please pray that these youth, with their parents' help, may make this the first communion of a life-long practice of receiving Holy Communion every Sunday. The Catechist are: Mrs. Shirley Austin, Minister of Religious Education; Sister Corredemptrix; and Mrs. Natleen Chance.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. PLANNING COMMITTEE: The Archdiocese of Washington's Office of Cultural Diversity and Outreach is looking for a few good parishioners to help develop, plan and execute its Annual Concert and Mass to celebrate the life and legacy of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. The Planning Committee will look to serve the mission and vision of the Office of Cultural Diversity, as well as identify key goals and actions that it should focus on to ensure that Dr. King's life and legacy are presented in a fashion that members of the Archdiocesan community can embrace. If you'd like to participate, contact Kim Peaks on 202-546-1885, or kpeaks@hscchurch.org for more information.

MOTHER'S DAY SALE: Corsages and spiritual plaques dedicated to mothers and grandmothers will be available for purchase after the 8am & 11am Masses for the next two weekends. Proceeds benefit Oblate Sisters of Providence.

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS—are sponsoring a bus trip to Atlantic City, **Sat., May 14th**. Bus departs at 8am from St. Benedict the Moor, 320 21st St., NE. **COST: \$45**, includes transportation, cash back, and refreshments. For tickets, call Grand Knight Joe Gigliotti at 202- 258-0184.

MINISTRY & ORGANIZATION LEADERS GATHERING: The HCSC Parish Council invites all Parish Ministries and Organizations Leaders to gather on **May 16th** in the rectory at **6:30pm** for a Pentecost Party and meeting. We kindly request that each Ministry send its Chairperson or a representative. **RSVP by Mon., May 9th** to pc@hscchurch.org or 202-546-1885.

SPRING PRAYER BREAKFAST—hosted by HCSC Women's Ministry, **Sat., May 21st, 9am—12 noon**, at Center City Public Charter School. **Keynote Speaker: Theresa Wilson Favors. Cost: \$25** (tickets will NOT be sold at the door). For tickets, contact the rectory office (202-546-1885). **ALL** are invited! (See bulletin flyer)

THE LORD IS RISEN! As Christ's disciples, we are called to go forth and spread the good news of His Resurrection. Our parish's many ministries are examples of how many of you answer that call and they require not only gifts of time and talent, but also of financial help. Please prayerfully consider supporting Holy Comforter-St. Cyprian with electronic tithing through **Faith Direct**. It's **FREE** and convenient! You can sign up online at www.faithdirect.net using our church **code DC59** or pick up an enrollment form from the parish office. Questions? Contact Kim Peaks on 202-546-1885 or pam@hscchurch.org.

Youth Ministry News

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

CONGRATULATIONS: to **Jordan Shepard** who won the **Saint Timothy Award for Excellence**, the highest recognition from the Diocese to confer upon a junior or senior high school youth who: lives as a disciple of Christ, setting a positive example for other youth; witnesses to their faith by exhibiting Catholic morals and integrity; demonstrates Gospel values through service to others; and, exhibits Christian leadership in parish, school, and/or community settings. from the Archdiocese of Washington Office of Youth Ministry/Catholic Youth Organization.

HCSC SINGLETARY EDUCATION AWARD: Applications are available in the rear of the church, in the rectory office, and on the website under **Parish News**. **Application deadline: Sun., May 1st.**

2016 CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL FAIR: Designed for rising 7th and 8th grade students, the Archdiocese of Washington hosts a Catholic High School Fair featuring all of the Catholic high schools. A learning center fair and information sessions about financial aid and placement testing are featured in the event **Sat., April 30th from 11am—2pm at the College Park Marriott Hotel** (3501 University Blvd., Hyattsville, MD). Registration is free. Contact Wendi Williams at: wwilliams@adw.org, with student's name, current school, and current grade level.

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. Follow us on Twitter at **HCSCYoungAdults!**

WOMEN'S MINISTRY ANNUAL RETREAT: Join the HCSC Women's Ministry on a spirit-filled retreat, **Sept., 2—4**, at Loyola Retreat House, Faulkner, MD. **Facilitator: Sister Anita Baird. Cost: \$270 per person.** For more information, contact Bertha Colbert (240-495-2666).

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE SALESPERSON: The Holy Land Franciscans have a job opportunity in their individual and group pilgrimage travel to the Holy Land and other spiritual destinations. Under the guidance of the Pilgrimage Director, the applicant will be responsible for both digital and print marketing efforts; follow up with contacts by phone and email; contact parishes, schools and organizations to initiate plans for creating a customized pilgrimage. Some travel will be expected. Send inquiries to: Father David Wathen, OFM, Pilgrimage Director, or email: dwfm1400@hotmail.com

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>

