

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.



Sunday, March 10

4:30pm (Sat) Joseph e. Bailey & Helen B. Tyler †

8:00am Antonia Contreras

11:00am J. J. Evangelista (22nd anniversary) †

Monday, March 11

7:00am Tammy & Wayne Hiatt (wedding anniv. 3/9)

Tuesday, March 12

7:00am Florence G. Queenan †

Wednesday, March 13

7:00am Ralph Brown, Sr. & family

Thursday, March 14

7:00am Glendora Thomas & sons †

Friday, March 15

7:00am Juanita Moore (birthday)

Saturday, March 16

8:00am For the People

4:30pm Ruth Leftwich †

MASS INTENTIONS—It is a spiritual work of mercy to pray for others, both living and deceased. To offer a Mass in memory of a friend or family, call 202-546-1885. The customary stipend 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

"Jesus" In the Pews

Responsorial Psalm

"Taste and see the goodness of the Lord"

Gospel Acclamation

"Praise and honor to you Jesus Christ, glory to your name"

Offertory

* "Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling" LMGM #175

** "Stand by Me" T. Kendzia

Communion

"Glory to His Name" LMGM #46

Post Communion

"The Question Is" Winans

* 8:00am *Ruby Robertson, Cantor—Gwen Myles, Music Associate*

** 11:00am Youth Ensemble – L'Tanya Holley, Choir Coordinator

– Josh Graf, Music Associate

Youth Liturgical Dance Ministry – Gail Bell & Susan Jenifer, Coordinators

Mass Attendance for March 3, 2013

| | |
|---------------|------------|
| 4:30pm | 51 |
| 8:00am | 176 |
| 11:00am | 255 |
| Total: | 482 |

Stewardship Report 2012—2013

| | |
|------------------------|-----------|
| Budgeted Tithes (3/3) | \$609,577 |
| Actual Tithes (3/3) | \$600,747 |
| Difference | \$-8,830 |

SECOND SCRUTINY—At the 4:30pm Mass on Saturday we celebrated 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 catechumen and candidate in prayer during their journey.

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

Sunday (3/10)

8:00am Ladies of Charity mtg
9:30am Holy Name Society mtg
9:30am Sunday School
9:30am RCIA/Inquirers
8:00pm AA

Thursday (3/14)

7:00pm Knights of Columbus mtg

Friday (3/15)

6:00pm Holy Hour
7:00pm Stations of the Cross
8:00pm NA

Monday (3/11)

6:30pm Youth Leaders meeting
7:00pm Novena

Saturday (3/16)

10:00am Altar Servers Rehearsal
10:00am Liturgical Dance
10:30am Sodality Orientation
12:00pm Ladies Aux #73 mtg
4:30pm Mass

Tuesday (3/12)

7:00pm Adult Choir

Wednesday (3/13)

11:00am Friendly Seniors
6:30pm Synod Listening Session

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

SYNOD LISTENING SESSIONS—The Archdiocese of Washington is conducting a **Synod**—the process of gathering all the faithful in a given region to encourage us to reflect on church life. HCSC Parish is hosting **five** Synod sessions every Wednesday during Lent. The next session is **Wed., March 13th at 6:30pm** on **“Community” and “Social Concerns”** (see flyers for details). A light meal will be served at 6:30pm. Visit our website for details. **Please plan to attend.**

TODAY IS YOUTH SUNDAY—Every second Sunday we celebrate our parish youth at the 11am Mass. We invite all our youth to come and sit together in the pews in front of the clergy. Parents are welcome to sit with their children.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR LENT?

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**. On **March 15th HCSC Ladies of Charity and WIN** will host the Stations. All are welcome to join Jesus in his journey to Calvary.

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) either one day a week or each weekday. The Mass is especially designed with workers in mind and ends promptly by 7:30am. Come and pray to start your day. Morning prayer from the Liturgy of the Hours is celebrated at 7:30am following Mass for those who wish to stay.



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

On Wednesday evenings during Lent, visit any church in the Archdiocese and entrust yourself to God through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. If it's been a long time since you've gone to confession, don't worry! Any priest will guide you or pick up a brochure on making a good Confession in the rear of our church or visit www.thelightison.org. **HCSC has Wednesday confessions 6:30—7:15pm.**

OPERATION RICE BOWL—Our Sunday School students have begun their Lenten alms-giving project. Parishioners are also asked to participate. We will pray, fast, learn and give as a way to reach out in solidarity with our brothers and sisters around the world through this simple yet powerful Lenten practice. **Rice bowls are in the rear of the church and should be returned by Palm Sunday.**

SHARE IN HOPE FOOD DRIVE—If you didn't bring your food drive items this weekend you can still drop off your paper bag of food items to the rectory on **Monday, March 11th before 12:00 noon**. **Please note that no food contributions will be accepted after this date.** This food drive benefits our food pantry and the Capital Area Food Bank. Thank you for your support and generosity.


Youth Ministry News

Danita L. Colbert, Director of Youth Ministry
202-546-1885 ext. 25 (voicemail) ♦ Youthdirector@hscchurch.org

AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY TOUR—The Youth Ministry hosts an African-American History Tour, traveling throughout the Nation's Capital, on **Sat., March 16th**. Cost: \$20/parishioner; \$10/HCSC youth, includes motor coach transportation and lunch. See flyer for details. Questions?

HCSC Young Adult Ministry

Paula Lancaster ♦ plancaster723@aol.com

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK—Check out the *Holy Comforter-Saint Cyprian Young Adults Ministry* on Facebook and check out our upcoming events. 

SODALITY ORIENTATION—for prospective members on Sat., March 16 at 10:30am in the rectory.



SECOND EDITION OF LEAD ME GUIDE ME—Congratulations to Kenneth Louis, our Minister of Music who has more than 70 contributions to the new Lead Me Guide Me Hymnal—the second highest contributor! We are so proud of this accomplishment. This weekend is your last chance to join your fellow parishioners in dedicating a hymnal! Please see an usher for a form or stop by the rectory. Thank you!



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 25th**. An “Easter Flower” offering envelope was included with your monthly tithing envelopes or ask an usher. **PLEASE PRINT NAMES CLEARLY.**

PAPAL TRANSITION—It all begins in Rome, where the man who will be Vicar of Christ (Christ's representative on earth) is chosen not to rule, but to serve. But, how is a Pope chosen? Learn who is eligible, who votes, and the significance of the white smoke rising from the Sistine Chapel. We have a limited number of free brochures in the rear of the church detailing the process.

FREE TAX CLINIC—The Capitol Hill Group Ministry sponsors a Free Tax Clinic (for household incomes under \$57,000) **every Thursday from 6:30-8:30pm until April 11th, by appointment only** at Lincoln Park United Methodist Church. Please bring with you:

- * Copies of your 2011 federal and state tax returns;
- * If you own your home, a copy of your real estate tax bills that were paid during 2010;
- * Copies of all W-2s, 1099 forms, and proof of other income, including pensions and Social Security received by you and your spouse;
- * Social Security numbers for you, your spouse, and any dependents.

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>

