

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Readings This Weekend:

Isaiah 60:1-6 Ephesians 3:2-6 Matthew 2:1-12

Readings Next Weekend:

Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7 Acts 10:34-38 Matthew 3:13-17



The Wise Men in today's Gospel seek to understand the light of the star and come to understand the light of the world, Jesus. Notice first their **Journey**. God summons them by the star to seek him and they set out. A lot of folks follow movie stars, or sports stars. What star are you following, is it Jesus? Their journey is not an easy journey. Travel was always difficult and dangerous in the ancient world. Next notice the **Jeopardy** they encounter. As they arrive in Israel two things threaten to misdirect their mission. First there are Sleepy Saints. As they arrive in Jerusalem the wise men expect to find wild celebration. But the town seems quite sleepy. And when Herod, who strangely knows nothing about the birth of a King summons the religious leaders they rather sleepily give the prophecies and show little or no enthusiasm. The Wise Men could have been quite discouraged by this but they persevere. The second threat they face is that Herod is scheming to use them so that he can kill the child. This is surely not their mission and his secret scheme almost renders them dupes but they are later warned. Finally, in this Gospel we see the **Justification** of the Wise Men. Coming at last to Jesus the text says they worship him and offer him gifts. They also manifest conversion, for having been warned of Herod's plot, they take another route home. That is, they change how they have been walking, they make a course correction if your will. Praise God for the example of the Wise Men who journey to Christ despite jeopardy and thus they find justification.



Sunday, January 5 *The Epiphany of the Lord*

4:30pm (Sat) Jaronslaw & Natalie Bodnaruk †
 8:00am Nelson Mandela †
 11:00am Virgie M. Hamilton †
 7:00pm Charles & Nancy Pope †

Monday, January 6 *Saint André Bessette, Religious*

7:00am Joan Wilson

Tuesday, January 7 *Saint Raymond of Penyafort, Priest*

7:00am Rose Marie "Bonnie" Singletary †

Wednesday, January 8

7:00am Karen Elizabeth Fulford †

Thursday, January 9

7:00am John DePaul Winters †

Friday, January 10

7:00am Bessie Walker Boulware †

Saturday, January 11

8:00am For the People
 4:30pm James & Dorothy Walker †

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday: 1 John 3:22-4:6 Matthew 4:12-17, 23-25
Tuesday: 1 John 4:7-10 Mark 6:34-44
Wednesday: 1 John 4:11-18 Mark 6:45-52
Thursday: 1 John 4:19-5:4 Luke 4:14-22
Friday: 1 John 5:5-13 Luke 5:12-16
Saturday: 1 John 5:14-21 John 3:22-30

Music Schedule

Processional
 "Angels We Have Heard on High" LMGM #246

Responsorial Psalm
 "Lord every nation on earth will adore you"

Gospel Acclamation
 "Alleluia!"

Offertory
 * "Praise to the Lord the Almighty" LMGM #439
 ** "O God Let All the Nations Praise You" C. Petty

Communion
 "Your Sacrifice" LMGM #761

* 8:00am *Ruby Robertson, Cantor—Gwen Myles, Music Associate*
 ** 11:00am *Church Choir*

NOTE: Due to the Thanksgiving holiday and early submission of the bulletin to the printer, no Stewardship figures nor Mass Attendance data for the weekend of December 29th are available for posting in this week's bulletin. Updated figures will be posted next weekend.

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION—This year's Christmas



collection will be put toward the purchase of a new grand piano for our sanctuary. Our beloved piano has begun to show its age and is constantly being repaired and tuned. Both the Christmas and Easter collection will be for this purchase. Kenneth Louis and the music ministry are grateful for your generosity! Christmas Collection envelopes are available from the ushers or in the rear of the church.

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

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| Sunday (1/5) 9:30am Sodality meeting 9:30am Sunday School 7:00pm Mass 8:00pm AA | Thursday (1/9) 7:00pm Knights of Columbus |
| Tuesday (1/7) 6:30pm Youth Ensemble 7:00pm Adult Choir | Friday (1/10) 7:00pm Catechist mtg 8:00pm NA |
| Wednesday (1/8) 11:00am Friendly Seniors 6:30pm Liturgical Dance 7:00pm Alpha Program | Saturday (1/11) 10:00am Holy Name Society 10:00am Liturgical Dance 4:30pm Mass/Keep the Dream Alive Awards |

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.

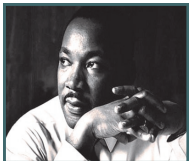
OUR MISSION STATEMENT:
 Holy Comforter-Saint Cyprian Roman Catholic Church, empowered by the Holy Spirit, exists to evangelize and to uphold Christian values by promoting the teachings of the Church in Word, Sacrament and Witness.

OUR VISION STATEMENT:
 A welcoming, embracing and joyful faith family richly rooted in the community today, tomorrow and forever.

PARISH LIFE

HCSC FEDERAL CREDIT UNION—will be closed **Sun., Jan. 5th**.

The HCSC Sodality of the Virgin Mary—will hold its first meeting of the New Year on **Sun., Jan. 5, 2014**. We begin the rosary at 7:30am. After 8am Mass we have our fellowship meeting in the school. All HCSC ministries are invited to join us!



MLK CELEBRATION AT HCSC—Catholic Charities USA (CCUSA) and Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington will host the **Keep the Dream Alive Mass and Awards Ceremony** at HCSC on **Sat., Jan. 11th, at 4:30pm**. This Mass and

Awards Program celebrates the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and honors national and local figures who work to reduce poverty and promote racial justice. Bishop Holley will be the celebrant. The HCSC Music Ministry will provide the music under the direction of Kenneth Louis. All are welcome.

SAVE THE DATE—Archdiocese of Washington Office of Black Catholics Annual Rev. Dr. Martin L. King, Jr. Celebration is **Sat., Jan. 18th** at Mount Calvary Catholic Church in Forestville, MD, featuring the ADW Mass choir under the direction of our very own Kenneth Louis. The program begins at 3pm followed by Mass. Stay tuned for more details.

ATTENTION LITURGICAL MINISTERS—the new schedule has been distributed via e-mail or mailed to those who do not have internet access. The schedule is also posted on our website. Additional hard copies are available in the sacristy. Please remember that each minister is responsible for making arrangements for any changes to their assigned schedule.

NEW 7:00PM SUNDAY EVENING MASS!! If you haven't heard, we have a 7:00pm Mass every Sunday evening. Spread the word!

THE WORD AMONG US—January issues are available in the Candlelight Store for \$2 each. This publication is designed to help Catholics find genuine renewal and refreshment in God's grace, encouragement to read the Word of God, and offers daily meditations based on the Mass readings. *Limited supply!*

END OF THE YEAR CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS will be prepared **only upon request** beginning **Mon., Feb. 3, 2014**. Statements will not be automatically mailed. You must contact the rectory during office hours to request a statement. You can have your statement mailed or left at the rectory for pick-up. Note that 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

THANK YOU to all the youth and adults who participated in making our annual production of the play "The Crippled Lamb" a memorable Christmas event.

ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON YOUTH RALLY & MASS FOR LIFE—will be **Wed., Jan. 22nd**, 7am until 11:30am, at the Verizon Center. The Youth Ministry has a limited number of tickets for youth who are interested in attending. Youth come from all around the country to attend this uplifting Mass. If you are interested in more information, please contact Nicki.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!! The Youth Ministry is looking for volunteers to help with our quarterly newsletter to be issued the end of January 2014. Contact Nicki.

HCSC Young Adult Ministry

Paula Lancaster/Felicia Miller ♦ YAM@hscchurch.org

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, or send an email: yam@hscchurch.org. **Do you Tweet?** Follow us on Twitter for updates at HCSCYoungAdults!



HOLY NAME SOCIETY RAFFLE WINNERS!!! Thank you to everyone for your support of the HNS annual raffle. The winners of the prizes were: Dwain Harrell (50 in. flat screen TV); George Kave (Galaxy tablet 3); and Sharon Lewis (\$100).



CALENDARS FOR 2014—We will have a variety of 2014 calendars available after Mass in the rear of the church.

HELP OUR TROOPS CALL HOME—Phone donations are extended to Jan. 26th. The Holy Name Society is collecting gently used cell phones for an organization that recycles the parts and uses the money to purchase phone cards for troops overseas. If you received a new phone for Christmas, this is an opportunity to get rid of your old one. Drop old phones in the box in the vestibule.

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>