

**HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH**

**Readings This Weekend:**

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 Col 3:12-21 Matt 2:13-15, 19-23

**Readings Next Weekend:**

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



It is the Feast of the Holy Family today and we ought to meditate on the central purpose of Marriage and family which is the birth and raising of children. In recent decades we have seen a shift in this understanding. Most people today see the happiness of the couple as the central purpose of marriage. But God set forth marriage with this central mission: Be fruitful and multiply, fill the earth and subdue it (Gen 1:28). While the happiness of the couple may be a nice goal and something to hope for, we all know that happiness has its ups and downs in every aspect of life. In the "old days" parents were often known to "stick it out for the sake of the kids." This is because children need stability and a dedicated mother and father to form them best. Job Number One in the family is children and their well-being. Notice therefore in today's Gospel that, when Jesus' life is threatened by Herod, Joseph and Mary set everything else aside and go to Egypt. Joseph, when instructed to go there did not protest about his comfort or his career. The text says that Joseph arose that very night and took Jesus and Mary away from harm. He stayed in Egypt as long as required for Jesus' safety. It is clear that his vocation as (foster) father and Husband had priority over his career and his business prospects. And thus we are taught to have the same priorities.

**FUNERAL:** Judith Douglas (12/23/13)



**Sunday, December 29** *Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph*

4:30pm (Sat) William & Catherine Miles †  
 8:00am Kenyon C. Jones †  
 11:00am Jimmie Claire Walker (birthday)  
 7:00pm The Poor Souls

**Monday, December 30**

7:00am Kenyon C. Jones †

**Tuesday, December 31** *Saint Sylvester I, Pope*

7:00am James Edelin  
 11:00pm Miriam Townsend-Edelin (birthday)

**Wednesday, January 1** *Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God*

10:00am William Jenkins †

**Thursday, January 2** *Sts Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops*

7:00am David Lawrence Proctor †

**Friday, January 3** *The Most Holy Name of Jesus*

7:00am Velma J. Proctor †

**Saturday, January 4** *Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious*

8:00am For the People  
 4:30pm Judith Douglas †

**DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

**Monday:** 1 John 2:12-17 Luke 2:36-40  
**Tuesday:** 1 John 2:18-21 John 1:1-18  
**Wednesday:** Numbers 6:22-27 Gal 4:4-7 Luke 2:16-21  
**Thursday:** 1 John 2:22-28 John 1:19-28  
**Friday:** 1 John 2:29-3:6 John 1:29-34  
**Saturday:** 1 John 3:7-10 John 1:35-42

**Music Schedule**

**Processional**  
 "Angels We Have Heard on High" LMGM #246  
**Responsorial Psalm**  
 "Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways"  
**Gospel Acclamation**  
 "Alleluia!"  
**Offertory**  
 \* "O Come All Ye Faithful" LMGM #262  
 \*\* "For God So Loved the World" L. Wolfe  
**Communion**  
 "What Child is This" LMGM #277  
 \* 8:00am Ruby Robertson, Cantor—Gwen Myles, Music Associate  
 \*\* 11:00am Church Choir

**NOTE:** Due to the Christmas holiday and early submission of the bulletins to the printer, Stewardship figures and Mass Attendance data for the weekends of December 22<sup>nd</sup> and January 5<sup>th</sup> will not be available for posting. Updated figures will be posted in the January 12<sup>th</sup> bulletin.

**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**

<b>Sunday (12/29)</b> 2:00pm Aux #64 Mtg 7:00pm Mass 8:00pm AA	<b>Friday (1/3)</b> 8:00pm NA
<b>Tuesday (12/31)</b> 11:15pm Watch Night Mass	<b>Saturday (1/4)</b> 10:00am Liturgical Dance 10:00am Sacramental Parent Mtg 4:30pm Mass
<b>Wednesday (1/1)</b> <i>Solemnity of Mary</i> <b>RECTORY CLOSED</b> 10:00am Mass	

**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**

**RECTORY HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**

Rectory will close early at 3pm on **Tues., Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>** and will be closed **Wed., Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>**.

**HCSC FEDERAL CREDIT UNION**—will be closed **Sun., Jan. 5<sup>th</sup>**.

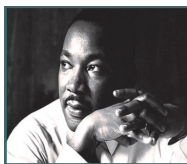


to all parishioners and staff who helped prepare our church for Christmas and ministered liturgically!

**GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT “ADVENT” TREE**—Through your generosity, the Social Concerns Ministry collected enough food and toys to fill approximately 100 Christmas Baskets (which were distributed to needy families in the community). Thank you for your wonderful outpouring of love and a very special thank you to all the volunteers who help pack and distribute the baskets.

**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 are welcome to join us!

**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!*



**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. 11<sup>th</sup>, 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. 18<sup>th</sup>** 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.

New Year’s Mass Schedule

**Watch Night Mass**  
11:15pm Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup>

**Mass on New Year’s Day**  
10:00am Wednesday, January 1<sup>st</sup>

Parking is available on the school lot at 15<sup>th</sup> Street  
**DO NOT DOUBLE-PARK OR IN REAR OF RECTORY!**

**Youth Ministry News**

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

**ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON YOUTH RALLY & MASS FOR LIFE**—will be **Wed., Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup>**, 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.

**HCSC Young Adult Ministry**

**Paula Lancaster/Felicia Miller** ♦ YAM@hscchurch.org

Many thanks to those who donated coats to the Annual Coat Drive. We collected bags and bags of warm coats for those who need them the most. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

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

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



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

**SUPPORT OUR TROOPS** by donating your old cell phones. The Holy Name Society has a box in the rear of the church for you to donate your phones thru Dec. 30<sup>th</sup>.

**SUNDAY MISSALS FOR 2014 AVAILABLE**—in the Candlelight Store and the rectory office for \$3 per copy.

**ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A CHURCH HOME?** If you are visiting our church and are interested in joining, stop by our rectory office located next to the church or contact our staff at 202-546-1885 or hscstaff@hscchurch.org for registration information.

**Holy Comforter-Saint Cyprian Roman Catholic Church**

1357 East Capitol Street, SE, WDC 20003  
202-546-1885 ♦ [www.hscchurch.org](http://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>