



THE PARISH OF ST. VINCENT FERRER AND ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA

CHURCH OF ST. VINCENT FERRER: 869 Lexington Ave, New York, NY 10065

CHURCH OF ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA: 411 East 68th Street, New York, NY 10065

www.svsc.info | (212) 744-2080 | parish@svsc.info

October 9, 2016 — 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

SECOND COLLECTION

This weekend, Sunday, October 9, there will be a second collection to help the parish's Deficit Reduction. Thank you for your support.

COLUMBUS DAY - OFFICE CLOSED

In observance of the federal holiday, Columbus Day, the CHURCH OFFICES will be closed on Monday, October 10. The churches will be open all day Monday, and Masses will be celebrated as usual.

SECOND COLLECTION - NEXT WEEKEND

A special collection for World Mission Sunday will be taken up at all the Masses next weekend, October 16. We ask you to be especially generous in your response to this appeal. We are most grateful for your continued support.

FOOD SUNDAY - OCTOBER 23

Money for the New York Common Pantry will be collected at all Masses during the weekend of October 22-23 and each Food Sunday thereafter through the month of May. Volunteers will be at the doors of each church before and after each Mass.

The New York Common Pantry is located at 8 East 109 Street and is open 365 days a year, providing food for the homeless and all in need. Your donations will be greatly appreciated.

PARISH VESPERS

Parish Vespers are being held every Sunday at St. Vincent Ferrer. A chant class is taught by our Music Director, James Wetzels, at 4:30 PM, followed by Vespers at 5:15 PM.

PARISH STUDY

On Tuesday, October 11 at 6:45 PM we will continue our new series of Parish Study lectures in the Parish Hall at St. Vincent Ferrer. This Fall we are focusing on the Book of Psalms. Books for the Study, Psalms 1-72: Volume 22 & Psalms 73-150: Volume 23, will be available for \$14.95 each.

FORMED: ONLINE CATHOLIC LEARNING RESOURCES

The Archdiocese of New York has partnered with the online Catholic learning resource website FORMED to provide free access for parishes across the Archdiocese. The website has videos, audio recordings, and books available for streaming and/or download on a variety of topics, including the Bible, the Sacraments, and the Saints. To register, visit www.formed.org and input the St. Vincent Ferrer and St. Catherine of Siena Parish Code: 2ZFMH7.

NEW YORK PURGATORIAL SOCIETY

On Monday, October 17, at 7:00 PM, a Requiem Mass in the Extraordinary Form (Tridentine rite) will be offered at the Rosary Altar at St. Vincent Ferrer.

MASS AND CONFESSIONS ST. VINCENT FERRER

SATURDAY VIGIL: 6:00 PM

SUNDAY: 8:00 AM, 12:00 PM,
6:00 PM

WEEKDAYS: 8:00 AM, 12:10 PM,
6:00 PM

SATURDAY: 8:00 AM

Confessions

SATURDAY: 5:00–5:50 PM

WEEKDAYS: 5:20–5:50 PM

Parish Vespers

SUNDAY: 5:15 PM

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA

SATURDAY VIGIL: 4:00 PM

SUNDAY: 10:00 AM, 5:00 PM

WEEKDAYS: 7:00 AM, 5:15 PM

SATURDAY: 9:00 AM

Confessions

SATURDAY: 3:00–3:50 PM

WEEKDAYS: 4:40–5:05 PM

LITURGY OF THE HOURS & OTHER PRAYER ST. VINCENT FERRER

MONDAY–FRIDAY:

7:40 AM (MORNING PRAYER)

5:30 PM (OFFICE OF READINGS
AND EVENING PRAYER)

WEDNESDAY:

6:30 PM (ROSARY)

7:30 PM (HOLY HOUR)

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA

THURSDAY:

4:00 PM (HOLY HOUR)

MONDAY–FRIDAY:

5:00 PM (ROSARY)

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP
PRAYER GROUP

WEDNESDAY: 6:30 PM

QUEEN OF PEACE PRAYER GROUP

SATURDAY: 9:30 AM

PARISH OFFICE

St. Vincent Ferrer
869 Lexington Ave, NY, NY 10065
(212) 744-2080 | parish@svsc.info
Office Hours: Monday–Friday:
9 am–1 pm, 2–5 pm

St. Catherine of Siena
411 East 68th Street, NY, NY 10065
Office Hours:
Monday – Friday: 10 am–3 pm

PARISH STAFF

Very Rev. Walter Wagner, OP
Pastor

Rev. Joseph Allen, OP
Vicar

Rev. Albert Paretsky, OP
Vicar

Rev. Innocent Smith, OP
Vicar for Formation

Bro. Damian McCarthy, OP
Sacristan

Deacon John F. Powers

Lee Ann Rubino
Business Manager

James D. Wetzel
Director of Music and Organist

Lisa Harrelson
Director of Catechesis and
Youth Ministry

Rachel Miller
Administrative Assistant

Sr. Padraic Mary McGuinness, OP
Receptionist

Tony Hicks
Church Custodian

Tracey Hicks
Church Custodian

ST. VINCENT FERRER HIGH SCHOOL

(212) 535-4680
Sr. Gail Morgan, OP
Principal

PARISH INFORMATION

REGISTRATION

Please register as a member of our parish if this is where you regularly attend Mass. Registration forms are available in the Parish Office, or online at www.svsc.info/register.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

To arrange for the baptism of a child, call the Parish Office. Baptisms are usually celebrated on Saturdays, but other arrangements may be made depending upon the circumstances. A baptism preparation class is held at St. Vincent Ferrer on the second Saturday of the month at 12 PM. Please call the Parish Office to register.

SACRAMENTS OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND FIRST RECONCILIATION

Youth participate in the sacramental preparation program coordinated by Lisa Harrelson (lharrelson@svsc.info).

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Youth participate in the sacramental preparation program coordinated by Lisa Harrelson (lharrelson@svsc.info). Adults who have not been confirmed should inquire with the Parish Office about preparing for confirmation.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

To begin making arrangements for a wedding at St. Vincent Ferrer or St. Catherine of Siena, contact the Parish Office to arrange a meeting with a priest. More information is available at www.svsc.info/weddings.

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please contact the Parish Office if you or a loved one would like to receive the Anointing of the Sick at the parish, at a nearby hospital, or at home (for those who are homebound).

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

RCIA is a class for adults interested in becoming Catholic. To learn more, contact Fr. Innocent Smith, OP, at the Parish Office.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN

For information and/or registration for classes held at St. Vincent Ferrer or St. Catherine of Siena, contact Lisa Harrelson (lharrelson@svsc.info).

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR ADULTS

Parish Study is a program for adults interested in learning more about the Catholic faith. It meets on Tuesday evenings in the Fall and Spring. To learn more, contact the Parish Office or check our website at www.svsc.info.

YOUNG ADULTS

St. Vincent Ferrer often hosts events of the New York Frassati Fellowship. For more information, visit www.frassatiny.com.

MASS INTENTIONS
ST. VINCENT FERRER

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9
6:00 pm (Vigil) Rose Ann Sharbel (D)
8:00 am Catherine & Patrick McGlade (D)
12 pm Jack, Natalie, Marie, & Francis Egan O'Brien (D)
6:00 pm For the Deceased members of the Foye, Armstrong, Gorman, Donohoe, & Murphy Families (D)

MONDAY, OCTOBER 10
8:00 am For the Deceased members of the Parish & the Order (D)
12:10 pm For the Deceased members of the O'Connor Family (D)
6:00 pm Andres Reyes (D)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11
8:00 am Marie Lewis (D)
12:10 pm Marie & Jack Powers (D)
6:00 pm Riad Hallal (D)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12
8:00 am Garvey & Mary Meade (D)
12:10 pm Jeanne Gorski (D)
6:00 pm Angelo A. Soldato (D)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13
8:00 am For the People of the Parish
12:10 pm Maria Nicosia (D)
6:00 pm Nancy & Luke A. Foye, Sr. (D)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14
8:00 am Mary Elizabeth Letoile (D)
12:10 pm Garrett Keegan (D)
6:00 pm Anna & Philip Donohoe (D)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15
8:00 am Katherine Ruggiero (D)

MASS INTENTIONS
ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9
4:00 pm (Vigil) Pat Keegan (D)
10:00 am For the patrons of the Shrine of Saint Jude
5:00 pm For the intention of Eileen & Richard Harris

MONDAY, OCTOBER 10
7:00 am For the Province of St. Joseph
5:15 pm Miguel & Teodolan Lucido

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11
7:00 am For the Deceased Benefactors of the Church
5:15 pm Blanca Noval

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12
7:00 am Eleanor Breslin (D)
5:15 pm Dorothy Huber (D)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13
7:00 am Special Intention
5:15 pm John Flanagan (D)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14
7:00 am St. Catherine of Siena Purgatorial Society (D)
5:15 pm Visitacion Baquiran (D)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15
9:00 am For the Living Benefactors of the Church

PARISH PRAYER
INTENTIONS

Contact the Parish Office to add a name to this list

Len Bencivenga, Monica Farren, Be Frias, Christopher Heath, Rev. Chris Johnson, O.P., Helen Johnson, John Kelly, Raisa Kokareva, Sarah McDermott, Seangdoen Naempranam, Stephen Osso, Chantale Pierre, Anchalee Sae-Lim, Fiona Wigan, & Aquila Zacharilla.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Ethel Garcia, Sr. Timothy Goettisheim, O.P., Matthew Martinez, Stefano Sciubba, & Amelie Starkey and the souls of all our recently deceased.

We continue to pray for the sick, the dying, and their families in Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital, the Hospital for Special Surgery, and Rockefeller University Hospital.

CANDLE INTENTIONS

The seven-day candles are available for an offering of \$15 each.

St. Vincent - Sanctuary Lamps
Ramon & Fernando Gonzalez (I); Nancie Lochard (I); Anthony Morelliti (I); Edward C. Perry (d); Anna Schwede (d); For the People of the Parish; Special Intention

St. Vincent - Sanctuary Madonna
Jack Ryan Keegan

St. Vincent - Pieta Lamp
Well-being of Christians in the Middle East

St. Catherine - Mary Candle
Priscilla Ventigan

St. Catherine - Sanctuary Lamp
George Spherhac

Mass Intentions may be reserved in the Parish Office Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, and in the Church Office of St. Catherine of Siena Monday through Friday, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

THE DEVIL IN THE DETAILS

Gaffes have become the spectator sport of the election season. Sometimes faux pas come from loss of temper, or from fits of enthusiasm that burst the dykes raised by careful handlers. But most often gaffes come from tripping over pesky details. Every candidate must brave the “gotcha” moments of life. We know that they actually know the answer, or didn’t mean it to come off that way, but their missteps, miscues, and malapropisms allow us to exact a pound of flesh from them for being in our faces so much, for so long.

Details make up that intractable part of life that does not conform to great visions and ideological purities. Details make fun of these grand things and ask how you actually plan to accomplish this project and pay for it. I expect that details will be nipping at our parochial heels for the next year.

Ahead of us are months of the nuts and bolts work needed to make our new parish a comfortable dwelling. We will try to deal with these on as systematic a basis as possible.

Some concrete means of looking at “the little picture” are:

After months of administrative change we will begin to deepen the collegial and collaborative culture we already have between the staff and friars.

The preparation of a liturgical “Customary” so that celebrants, ministers, and sacristans in both churches find themselves on the same page.

Development of a plan for the governance of the Parish. This will enable the whole parish to understand better the responsibilities of the Parish Trustees, the Finance Council, the Pastoral Council, and the Committees of the Parish.

We will also work to continue to develop the means of communication available to our parish community.

Matters of detail often entail a particular “conflict of interest.” One person finds a matter to be central, which another regards as trivial. The only counsel to give both parties is patience. Patience in a community such as ours works in two key ways. First, I must be patient while others spend much time, and speak many words about matters I find to be unimportant. At the same time I must exercise patience when things important to me remain undecided, so that real order in these affairs can emerge. The order that is imposed does not last, while that which is permitted to emerge is tailored, sustainable, and enduring. It is beautiful.

So I ask your prayers for the parishioner, staff, and clergy who need to work out so many things so that our Parish life has the serenity people look for in the Church.

Peace!



Fr. Walter

**LECTURE SERIES ESPECIALLY FOR
YOUNG ADULTS & PROFESSIONALS**

Natural Law Lecture Series (20th Annual Wethersfield Lectures) given by Rev. Joseph W. Koterski, SJ, Fordham Professor. It will be a six-part series on Tuesdays in midtown, beginning 9/27 thru 11/1, at 6:30-7:30 PM, followed by optional Q & A., \$60 series, \$15 per lecture, at the Roosevelt Hotel, 45 E. 45th Street. See [www.wethersfieldgarden.org /events](http://www.wethersfieldgarden.org/events) For additional information call Tom Donahoe, Director (973) 452-3992.

LAY FRATERNITIES OF ST. DOMINIC

Our Lady of the Assumption Chapter of the LFSD meets on the third Thursday, for approximately two hours each month, directly after attending the 6:00 PM parish Mass in St. Vincent Ferrer Church (meeting in the Parish Center, street level, left of Priory stairs). Dominican Laity share deeply the spiritual charisms of the Dominican Order, while remaining in the lay state. More information is available at <http://www.laydominicans.com>.

RESPECT LIFE MONTH MOMS AND BABIES GIFT DRIVE

During the month of October, the Church invites the faithful to become engaged with supporting the dignity of the human person, the gift of every person's life. As part of our parish's commemoration of Respect Life Month, new items will be collected for the moms and babies served by the Sisters of Life. These gifts will be distributed to moms and their children at an annual Christmas Party the Sisters have for them each December. A playpen with tags will be set up in the vestibules of both St. Catherine's and St. Vincent's during the month of October. Parishioners are invited to take one or more tags from the playpen, purchase the specified gift, and return the new, wrapped gift with the tag attached to the playpen. Thank you in advance for your generosity in helping to make this Christmas a little brighter for these moms and babies!

A MESSAGE FROM THE SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE

The Social Concerns Committee has started our bingo games for the women living at the Park Avenue Armory. Last bingo season, our parish provided enough items for almost 1100 prizes. These gifts were greatly appreciated by the women. As usual, we need handbags, baseball caps, tops, sweat pants, socks, medium to large size bottles of shampoo, conditioner, face wash, body wash, body lotion, hair brushes and combs... tooth brushes and toothpaste...cologne, and slightly used jewelry. Anything you think the women would use. Kindly leave your donations at the Parish Office.

ITEMS NEEDED FOR PARISH CHRISTMAS FAIR

Our Parish Christmas Fair will take place from Friday, December 2 through Sunday, December 4, in St. Dominic Hall at St. Catherine of Siena. This festive event is an opportunity to shop for holiday gifts, enjoy seasonal treats, try a chance at winning one of our many raffle baskets, or simply savor the season.

Parishioners are invited to support this event by donating new or gently used items which can be sold or raffled at the Christmas Fair. Popular items in past years have included jewelry, handmade items, electronics, women's handbags, sports memorabilia or tickets, bottles of wine or liquor, kitchen or household items, children and baby items, and restaurant gift certificates. All donations can be dropped off at the Parish Office, either at St. Catherine's or St. Vincent's. While items will be accepted anytime before the fair, please try to drop off your donation before the weekend of November 12-13, so that items can be sorted in advance of the fair.

The next meeting of the Christmas Fair Planning Committee will take place on Thursday, October 13, at 7:00 PM in St. Dominic Hall at St. Catherine's. For more information about how you can get involved with the fair, please e-mail Kim Quatela at kburde3@gmail.com.

PURGATORIAL SOCIETY

Each Friday, the 7:00 AM Mass at St. Catherine of Siena is offered for the deceased enrolled in the St. Catherine's Purgatorial Society. Enrollment of a deceased family member or friend is available in the church office for \$35.

CHILD PROTECTION

Anyone who needs to report an alleged incident of sexual abuse of a minor by a priest, deacon, religious, or lay person serving in the Archdiocese of New York is asked to contact Sr. Eileen Clifford, O.P. at 212-371-1000, ext. 2949 or Deacon George J. Coppola at 917-861-1762. Both may also be reached via e-mail at victimassistance@archny.org. Information can also be found on the Archdiocesan website, www.archny.org. In keeping with the Archdiocesan policy regarding sexual abuse of minors, this information is provided to ensure that our children remain safe and secure.

COLLECTIONS

October 2, 2016

Regular Offertory: \$18,041

Attendance: 1,585

SAINT VINCENT FERRER HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Saint Vincent Ferrer High School, our own Parish High School, will hold its Open House for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students and their parents on Saturday, October 15 from NOON until 3:30 PM. Entrance to the Open House is on Lexington Avenue next to the Church. Saint Vincent Ferrer High School is a Catholic College Preparatory school for girls. We have carried on the Dominican tradition of study and academic excellence since 1888. For more information visit our website www.saintvincentferrer.com or contact Sister Christine Cosgrove, O.P. at ccosgrove@saintvincentferrer.com, or (212) 535-4680, ext. 102.

CATHEDRAL HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Cathedral High School, an all girls college preparatory high school located at 350 E 56th Street in Manhattan will host its Open House on Sunday, October 23, 2016 from 12:00 to 2:30 PM. Please visit our website www.cathedralhs.org for more information.

XAVIER HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Xavier High School will hold an Open House on Saturday, October 22nd, from 1:00 - 4:00 PM, at 30 West 16th Street, New York, NY. Students will receive a student-led school tour, as well as be able to speak with our teachers, coaches, moderators, and administrators about life at Xavier. Families can access our application through our website, admissions.xavierhs.org. A paper application can be obtained by contacting the admissions office directly. The application for admission and the application for need-based tuition assistance are both due on December 1st.

TEST FOR ADMISSION INTO CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL (TACHS)

The test for Admission into Catholic High School (TACHS), the entrance test for Catholic high schools in the Archdiocese of New York, will be administered on Friday, November 4, 2016 in selected high schools throughout the Archdiocese. Students may register 7 days a week online via www.tachsinfo.com or via telephone from 8 AM - 7 PM at 1-866-61TACHS (1-866-718-2247). By applying early, they will have a much better chance of being assigned to a test site of their choice.

CATHOLIC VOLUNTEER NETWORK

Would you like to make a difference in your community, the country, or the world? Do you want to serve those in need and work for social justice? Check our *RESPONSE 2017*, a free guide listing nearly 200 faith-based volunteer programs and thousands of opportunities. Volunteers serve full-time for periods of one week to one year or more across the United States and in more than 100 countries worldwide. Summer and school break opportunities are also available. Our volunteers are from all walks of life - from high school to senior citizens and every stage in between. Positions are available for both single and married volunteers, including those with children.

Contact Catholic Volunteer Network to receive your free copy/copies of *RESPONSE 2017*. Call 800-543-5046 or email infor@catholicvolunteernetwork.org. You can also search *RESPONSE 2017* online at www.catholicvolunteernetwork.org.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE - SEPT. 28 - NOV. 6

This fall's "40 Days for Life" campaign will be held September 28 - November 6, 2016. "40 Days for Life" is a peaceful, highly-focused, non-denominational initiative that focuses on 40 days of prayer and fasting, peaceful vigil at abortion facilities, and educational outreach with the goal of protecting mothers and their children from abortion. At least 11,796 unborn children have been saved from abortion during 40 Days for Life campaigns, and 75 abortion facilities have closed. To learn more about the 40 Days for Life Campaign, visit: www.40daysforlife.com.

For information about participating in the 40 Days for Life campaigns in the Archdiocese, contact the following leaders:

Bronx: Fr. Peter Pilsner (718) 881-8000, ext. 451
frpilsner@cardinalspellman.org
Manhattan: Jill Gadwood (949) 280-9494
Jill.Gadwood@gmail.com
Spring Valley: Eileen Peterson (845) 492-6709
RachelMinister1@aol.com
Goshen: Kathy Taylor (845) 238-0536
ktaylor1124831@yahoo.com
Newburgh: Wendy Wood (845) 820-4366
OCRighttolife@gmail.com
White Plains: Gerald Yeung (914) 837-7008
broger8@gmail.com
Poughkeepsie: Maureen Haege (845) 853-6529
dutchessforlife@gmail.com



DFHCM of NY

DOMINICAN FRIARS HEALTH CARE
MINISTRY OF NEW YORK

Reflections on Ethics, Faith & Health Care

EDITOR: FR. JONAH POLLOCK, O.P., S.T.L.

The IMPORTANCE of STORYTELLING in HEALTH CARE

By Fr. Jonah Pollock, O.P., S.T.L., Associate Director, Dominican Friars Health Care Ministry of New York

IN ONE OF THEIR "SUNDAY REVIEW" SECTIONS, *The New York Times* published an article titled "Why Doctors Need Stories." It was written by Peter D. Kramer, a professor of psychiatry at Brown University, whose focus in the article is on the advantages of including stories about the treatment of particular patients in medical journals and of using such stories to inform the understanding and practice of (particularly psychiatric) medicine. In concluding the article, he states, "We need storytelling, to set us in the clinical moment, remind us of the variety of human experience and enrich our judgment." I would like to suggest that Dr. Kramer's thesis could be applied more broadly to include patients and caretakers of all sorts. We all need stories. We need to tell stories and we need to hear stories.

PATIENTS NEED TO TELL STORIES. I vividly remember my first appointment at a neuro-oncology clinic where for ten years I received follow-up care while being in remission from brain cancer. A nurse practitioner conducted an interview with me that must have lasted a full hour. She didn't just ask me about my cancer, the symptoms I experienced, the treatments I received, and so forth. She prompted me to tell my story, the story of my life and how cancer had become a part of it. That was important to me. It didn't seem particularly important from a medical perspective. What I needed (and continue to need) is to have regular MRI scans and to have those scans professionally evaluated to determine whether I have remained cancer free. It was important, however, to feel that I was being treated as a human being and not just a specimen, to know that someone there knew me as a person, as a priest, and as a friend and would really care if I ever suffered a relapse.

DOCTORS AND OTHER MEDICAL CARETAKERS need to hear patients' stories. This is important not only in order to correctly diagnose and effectively treat the patient's illness, but also to remind the doctor of his or her proper role in relation to the patient. Doctors and patients are equals with respect to their human dignity, but are not equal when it comes to the balance of power and knowledge in the clinical setting. This imbalance can have the perverse effect of inclining doctors and other caretakers to think and act as though they were technicians whose job it is to fix the broken human bodies in their charge. Listening to patients' stories, doctors and other caretakers are reminded of their patients' humanity, which is the basis of their fundamental equality. They are better equipped to think and act as healers, whose job it is to help their fellow men and women achieve restoration of health and

wholeness. Since medical doctors are healers of the body, they will naturally listen to the stories of their patients paying special attention to their experience of bodily activities, functions and ailments. However, if they also attend to the entirety of their patients' experience, they are more likely to recall that, while it is bodies that they are healing, it is persons whom they are helping.

CHAPLAINS, PRIESTS, AND PASTORAL CARETAKERS also need to hear patients' stories. They need to hear patients' stories because patients need to tell stories, and medical professionals, as much as they might be willing, do not always have time to listen to all a patient needs to tell. Chaplains can take on the role of "professional listener" for this purpose. Having listened, a chaplain or pastoral minister may be in a position to offer encouragement or counsel.

AS A PRIEST working in the hospital setting, I have often been called a "doctor of the soul." There is certainly truth to that. By virtue of my priestly ordination, I am able to administer the sacraments of healing, absolving sins and anointing the sick. These sacraments impart special graces of God in the souls of those who receive them. To achieve their intended healing effects, however, the sacraments must be received by free persons who willingly cooperate with the grace God bestows. Cultivating such willing hearts is the task of pastoral ministry, and that begins with listening.

LISTENING TO A PERSON'S STORY is the first step in establishing a relationship of trust. When trust is established, when genuine care grounds the interaction between persons, then one person is truly able to hear what the other has to say from a place of loving concern. Hearing the patient's story, the pastoral caretaker will naturally pay special attention to the story of the soul, just as a medical caretaker will be more attentive to the story of the body. Nevertheless, an effective pastoral minister will attend to the story of the whole person, knowing that it is the whole person whom God seeks to save. For the Christian pastoral minister, and indeed for any Christian witness, it is listening that begins to establish the conditions in which the gospel can be proclaimed and received. And it is when the gospel is proclaimed and received that the sacraments are most fruitfully administered, conferring God's saving grace.