



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

December 11, 2016 — 3rd Sunday of Advent

SECOND COLLECTION

This weekend, December 11, we will be collecting alms for the Retirement Fund for Religious that benefits 34,000 senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. Your support is deeply appreciated.

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe will be celebrated on Monday, December 12, with a Sung Mass and procession at 6 PM at St. Vincent Ferrer.

MISA DE GALLO

Misa de Gallo begins December 16, at 6 AM, at St. Vincent Ferrer. This year, we are offering the masses as a Novena of Prayer for safe childhood.

LESSONS AND CAROLS

Please join us for Advent Lessons and Carols on Saturday, December 17 at 7:30 PM at St. Catherine of Siena. A reception will follow in St. Dominic Hall.

PARISH COFFEE

Join us for coffee (tea), cake, and conversation next weekend, Sunday, December 18 after the 10:00 AM Mass at St. Catherine of Siena in St. Dominic Hall.

PARISH VESPERS

Parish Vespers now begin at 5:30 PM and the chant class preceding it will begin at 5:00 PM. The coming few weeks of the class will focus specifically on the different chants sung at Vespers during the season of Advent.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Christmas cards, designed especially for the parish by Sister Mary Grace, O.P. at Caterina Benincasa Dominican Monastery, are available in the St. Vincent Ferrer vestibule.

CHRISTMAS NOVENA MASS CARDS

Cards are now available at the St. Vincent Ferrer Church Office which enables one to remember the living and/or deceased in the Novena of Masses offered at St. Vincent Ferrer beginning on Christmas Day.

CHRISTMAS WITH THE DOMINICAN FRIARS

Christmas CDs, recorded by the Schola Cantorum of the Dominican Friars at the Dominican House Studies, are available in the back of St. Vincent Ferrer church for \$15.

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: 5:30 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 M. 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, DECEMBER 11
6:00 pm (Vigil) Deceased members
of the Bowler and Yerkes Families;
Andrew & Arthur Williams (D)
8:00 am Catherine & Patrick
McGlade (D)
12 pm Lorna Maria Medina (D)
6:00 pm Plunkett Foye (D)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12
8:00 am For the Deceased members
of the Parish & the Order (D)
12:10 pm Carol Premore (D)
6:00 pm For the People of the Parish

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13
8:00 am Edwin Rustum (D)
12:10 pm Jeanne Gorski (D)
6:00 pm For the Deceased members
of the Foye, Armstrong, Gorman,
Donohoe, & Murphy Families
(D)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14
8:00 am Ghislaine de Montigny (D)
12:10 pm Patricia, Richard, &
Garrett Keegan (D)
6:00 pm Salvatore & Joan M.
Carvo (D)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15
8:00 am James J. & Irene M.
Clarke (D)
12:10 pm Walter & Dorothy
Corke (D)
6:00 pm For the Deceased members
of the Lay Fraternities of
St. Dominic (D)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16
8:00 am Steven & Anne Craig (D)
12:10 pm Mark Flesher (D)
6:00 pm Irene Tomoe Cooper

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17
8:00 am William & Rose Marotti (D)

MASS INTENTIONS
ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11
4:00 pm (Vigil) Miguel & Teodolan
Lucido
10:00 am For the patrons of the
Shrine of Saint Jude
5:00 pm Frances Creegan (D)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12
7:00 am For the Province of
St. Joseph
5:15 pm Marianne T. Bogunovich

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13
7:00 am Marianne T. Bogunovich
5:15 pm Marianne T. Bogunovich

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14
7:00 am Frankziska & John Koestner
5:15 pm Lillian O'Hanlon (D)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15
7:00 am Edward Lasko
5:15 pm Jon R. Rampengan (D)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16
7:00 am St. Catherine of Siena
Purgatorial Society (D)
5:15 pm Marina Lucido & Maria
Cecilia Punzalan

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17
9:00 am Juan Carlos Taglialagna &
Antonia Hirtum

PARISH PRAYER
INTENTIONS

*Contact the Parish Office to add a
name to this list*

Len Bencivenga, Maggie Heath, Rev.
Chris Johnson, O.P., Helen Johnson,
Carolyn Kelly, John Kelly, Anthony
Mendola, Maria Guillen de Ribone,
Raymond Wells, & Aquila Zacharilla.

Please pray for the repose of the
souls of Richard Eustace Parker
Bowles, Edgar Brandau, Bradford
Meckel, Rosemarie Morace, Leonina
Santacroce, Archangel Sebastian,
Ernest Witty, & Lucille Witty, 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
Rene Concepcion (d); Ramon &
Fernando Gonzalez (l); Living &
Deceased members of the McGovern
Family; Raymond J. Schwede (d); For
the People of the Parish; Intention of
Donor; Special Intention

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

Advent Wreath

- 1) Jack Ryan Keegan
- 2) Mercedes
- 3) Estela Dayao-Portes

St. Catherine - Mary Candle
Priscilla Ventigan

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 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, *GAUDETE*

As I write these lines on Monday, December 5, we have just concluded our Parish Christmas Fair and the annual Christmas Party thrown by the Social Concerns Committee for the women of the Park Avenue Armory Women's Shelter. One could more effectively convey the happy mayhem of the weekend by pointing out that it was also Food Sunday, and that there was a Parish Coffee after the 12 PM Solemn Mass.

All told, the time from December 2 until December 4 offered a concentrated experience of human generosity and it put real flesh upon the Gospel. Together came the energies of donors, decorators, displayers, recipients, and shoppers. Both parish halls sported marvelous Christmas trappings and radiated welcome and warmth. Where generosity appears happiness follows, and it lit the faces of all involved. It would be a great thing to make such a report in any year, but in this year, didn't we need it! Over and over again, I have seen that the practice of generosity heals and renews. When people extend themselves they exorcise pettiness, self-absorption, and anxiety. So as these events directed resources to good purposes they also raised the heads of all involved so that truly we may perceive the "nearness of our God."

So let me thank all involved in the abundance of the weekend. It was preaching more eloquent than any homily.

As we enter the second part of Advent and prepare for Christmas let me offer two helps available in our parish. The first will be our celebration of Advent Lessons and Carols at St. Catherine's next Saturday, December 17 at 7:30 PM. The service will be followed by a parish party in St. Dominic's Hall. Let Scripture, music, and community give you a fresh look at something so very familiar.

The second will be our "Masses at Cockcrow." We have been celebrating the Misa de Gallo for a number of years now. This year we are adding a prayer intention which you might share, even if the early hour (6 AM) is too daunting. These nine days of Masses will be offered for the safety of children everywhere. In these days of mass migration, human trafficking, and increased awareness of abuse, it will be timely to recall that Jesus himself experienced a precarious childhood. By contrast, what we want for young people is safety and plenty around the Christmas tree. To pray that children at risk may find a secure home will open our own hearts to what Christ came to give.

Advent Peace!



Fr. Walter

ADVENT IN OUR PARISH

OPPORTUNITIES FOR GIVING

- Toy Drive** Sponsored by the New York Common Pantry
- Gifts for Women** Sponsored by our Social Concerns Committee for the Residents of the Park Avenue Armory Women's Shelter
These gifts are given at our Shelter Christmas Party Next Saturday, December 3.
- Christmas Cards** Christmas cards, designed especially for the parish by Sister Mary Grace, O.P. at Caterina Benincasa Dominican Monastery, are available in the St. Vincent Ferrer vestibule.

ADVENT CELEBRATIONS

December 11 **The Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday)**
Music of Healey Willan, William McKie, and Edward Bairstow at the Solemn Mass

December 12 **The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe**
Sung Mass and Procession 6 PM St. Vincent Ferrer

December 16 - 24
Misa de Gallo 6 AM St. Vincent Ferrer - Rosary Altar
A Novena of prayer for safe childhood

December 17
Advent Lessons and Carols 7:30 PM St. Catherine of Siena
Reception follows in St. Dominic's Hall

This service will make a scriptural and musical pilgrimage through Advent, with lessons from the Old Testament prophets, motets sung by the Schola Cantorum, and congregational hymns. Choral works of Manz, Mendelssohn, Neswick, Ord, Preston, and others. A reception follows in St. Dominic Hall.

December 18 **The Fourth Sunday of Advent**
Reconciliation Sunday
Family Mass and Coffee 10 AM St. Catherine of Siena
Music of Tomás Luis de Victoria, Cristóbal de Morales, and Francisco Guerrero at the Solemn Mass
Parish Vespers 5:30 PM St. Vincent Ferrer

December 19
Reconciliation Monday 4 - 8 PM Confessions heard in both churches

HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE

Saturday, December 24, 2016

Mass of the Vigil with Carols at 4:00 PM
- St. Catherine

Sung Mass of the Vigil at 6:00 PM - St. Vincent
Christmas Lessons and Carols at 9:00 PM
- St. Vincent

Solemn Mass During the Night at 9:30 PM
- St. Vincent

Midnight Mass in the Dominican Rite at 12:00 AM
- St. Catherine

CHRISTMAS DAY

Sunday, December 25, 2016

Mass at Dawn at 8:00 AM - St. Vincent
Sung Masses During the Day at 10:00 AM
- St. Vincent & St. Catherine

Solemn Mass During the Day at 12:00 Noon
- St. Vincent

*There will be no 5 PM or 6 PM Masses on
Christmas Day

NEW YEAR'S EVE

Saturday, December 31, 2016

Low Mass at 8:00 AM - St. Vincent
9:00 AM - St. Catherine

NEW YEAR'S DAY

Sunday, January 1, 2017

Low Vigil Mass: Saturday, December 31 at 4:00 PM
- St. Catherine

Sung Vigil Mass: Saturday, December 31 at 6:00 PM
- St. Vincent

Sunday Masses: Low Mass at 8:00 AM - St. Vincent
High Mass at 10:00 AM - St. Catherine
Solemn Mass at 12:00 Noon - St. Vincent
Sung Mass at 5:00 PM - St. Catherine
Sung Mass at 6:00 PM - St. Vincent

COLLECTION

NOVEMBER 27, 2016

Regular Offertory: \$15,280
Attendance: 1143

DECEMBER 4, 2016

Regular Offertory: \$15,084
Deficit Reduction: \$8,620
Attendance: 1231

FROM THE SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE

Would you believeanother request!!!!!!

TOYS (unwrapped) for young children and GIFT CARDS (\$25) for pre-teens for the New York Common Pantry to distribute. Please turn in items before December 13 to the Parish Office.

As usual, and again and again, MANY THANKS in advance for your generosity

PARISH CHOIR

Join the Parish Choir: Please consider joining the volunteer Parish Choir that sings for the Sunday 10:00 AM Mass.

Family Mass at St. Catherine of Siena. Rehearsals are on Sunday mornings from 9:00-10:00 AM in the choir loft at St. Catherine's; there is no weeknight rehearsal. The ensemble is open to all adults, regardless of previous experience. Anyone interested in finding out more or joining the Choir should contact James Wetzel, the Director of Music, at jwetzel@svsc.info or (412) 951-7441.

ANGELICA CHOIR

Angelica Women's Chamber Choir, directed by Marie Caruso, presents a December concert, "Sweet Was the Song," in New York City. The program celebrates Yuletide with medieval, renaissance, and contemporary selections, including music from the Cistercian convent of Las Huelgas de Burgos in Spain, and the Benedictine convent of St. Mary-on-the-Hill in Chester, England. The group will also sing Francisco Guerrero's "Gabriel Archangelus," as well as contemporary works by Stephen Caracciolo, William Hawley, and Joan Szymko.

Please join Angelica, a group hailed for its "perfect blend" and "beautiful, transcendent sound," at this upcoming concert:

Date: Sunday, December 18th, 3:00 PM

Location: Church of St. Vincent Ferrer,
869 Lexington Ave. at E. 66th St., NYC 10065

Suggested Donation: \$20; \$10 seniors & students.
Tickets sold at the door.

63RD U.S. NATIONAL ROSARY PILGRIMAGE LOURDES, FRANCE

Father Joseph Allen, O.P. invites you to join him on the 63rd U.S. National Pilgrimage to Lourdes: June 22 - July 1, 2017. Accompanied by a medical staff, clergy, and volunteers to assist the needs of the pilgrims. For details contact Fr. Joseph Allen, O.P., email: Joseph.Allen@opeast.org or the Lourdes Pilgrimage Office: Toll Free: 1-877-276-7279, email: lourdespilgrimageoffice@comcast.net, website: www.lourdes-pilgrimage.com. The deadline for reservations is March 15, 2017.



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.

FACING ILLNESS *and* DARING to HOPE

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

*For he assumed at his first coming the lowliness of human flesh,
and so fulfilled the design you formed long ago,
and opened the way to eternal salvation,
that, when he comes again in glory and majesty
and all is at last made manifest,
we who watch for that day may inherit the great promise
in which we now dare to hope.*

THESE WORDS ARE TAKEN from Preface I of Advent, which begins the Eucharistic Prayer of the Catholic Mass from the First Sunday of Advent until December 16. In the Roman Missal, this preface is subtitled, “The two comings of Christ.” Praying this prayer, we are situated in between those two comings. We gratefully recall “his first coming” and hopefully look forward to “when he comes again.” We remember how, in his first coming, Christ “fulfilled the design” that the Father “formed long ago.” Remembering God’s faithfulness in that first coming, we have renewed confidence that, “when he comes again in glory and majesty,” Christ will again – once and for all – fulfill the “great promise in which we now dare to hope.”

What is that “great promise”? Here are just a few of the New Testament tests that answer that question:

Then the king will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed of my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. (Matt 25:34)

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day. (John 6:54)

Beloved, we are God’s children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. (1 John 3:2)

The victor shall inherit these gifts, and I shall be his God, and he will be my son. (Rev 21:7)

GOD’S “GREAT PROMISE” TO US is eternal life, happiness in His kingdom, beatific vision. We are made for God: to know Him, to love Him, to serve Him, to share in His life, and to live in His kingdom. This is God’s great promise; this is our great hope. But why must we “dare to hope” in this great promise? “Daring” suggests something difficult. It suggests

that there are obstacles that threaten to impede our hope and turn us to despair. What might those obstacles be?

ONE OBSTACLE IS OUR OWN INABILITY to achieve what we hope for. By our own power, we cannot attain eternal happiness. Hoping to “inherit the great promise,” therefore, requires faith that God is able to give us what we are unable to acquire for ourselves. It also requires trust that God will be faithful, that His love will be steadfast, and that He will give to us what He has promised to give. Another obstacle to hoping in God’s great promise is the experience of illness.

ILLNESS CAN TEMPT US TO DESPAIR. The Advent preface calls us to a hope for the future that is rooted in the saving events of the past. Illness can make past and present seem bleak and the future hopeless. In the face of serious, debilitating, even life-threatening illness, God might seem absent. Prayers seem to have gone unanswered. What God has done in the past seems to offer little hope for what God might do in the future.

IT IS ONE THING TO FEEL the sorrow, grief, and apparent God-forsakenness that can result from illness. It is another thing to despair. Jesus himself heard the silence of what seemed like unanswered prayer and experienced the torture of what felt like abandonment. *My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me (Matt 26:38-39). My God, my God, why have you forsaken me (Matt 27:46)?* Yet his faith and trust remained firm. The prayer that began with, *let this cup pass from me*, ended with, *not as I will, but as you will*. Psalm 22, which Jesus starts reciting on the cross, ends with hope-filled praise. Jesus experienced human sorrow and grief in full measure, but his feelings could never undercut his faith or cause him to lose hope in the promise of his heavenly Father.

IN THE FACE OF ILLNESS, Christians dare to hope. We know that God is faithful. God has been faithful to His promises in the past, God is faithful in His pledge to remain with us in the present, and God will be faithful to His great promise for our future. Illness can be devastating. It robs us of our health. It can even rob us of our mortal lives. But nothing, not even the worst of illnesses, *will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord (Rom 8:39).*

Be strong and take heart, all who hope in the Lord (Ps 31:25).