



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

February 12, 2017 — 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

PARISH STUDY: PRAY WITH UNDERSTANDING

Our Spring Parish Study program continues this Tuesday at 6:45 PM in the Parish Hall at St. Vincent Ferrer. James Wetzel will speak on the Ordinary of the Mass - Polyphonic Settings.

FRASSATI FELLOWSHIP MONTHLY DINNER AND HOLY HOUR

Today, Sunday, February 12, the Frassati Fellowship will have its monthly dinner and Holy Hour following the 6:00 PM Mass. Young adults in their 20s and 30s are welcome to attend!

FAMILY COFFEE

Join us for coffee (tea), cake, and conversation next Sunday, February 19 after the 10 AM Mass in the St. Catherine of Siena Vestibule.

YOU ARE INVITED

The Parish's Director of Music James D. Wetzel is getting married to Kimberly L. Preiss in a Solemn Nuptial Mass this Saturday, February 18th at 12:00 NOON at the High Altar of St. Vincent Ferrer. Fr. Walter C. Wagner, o.p. will be the celebrant and homilist and Bp. John J. O'Hara will preside. A reception will immediately follow the Mass in the Priory parlors. All parishioners are most cordially invited. Choral music for the Mass will include Josef Rheinberger's *Mass in E Flat Major*, Op. 109, 'Cantus Missae' and C.H.H. Parry's *Blest pair of sirens*.

SECOND COLLECTION

Thank you for your generous support in last week's Peter's Pence Collection! As a parish, we collect \$36,000. Our contributions will be combined with those from our brothers and sisters around the world to help Pope Francis provide essential relief to people in need. If you missed the collection, it is not too late to give, visit www.usccb.org/peters-pence, and click on the "How to Give" link on the left.

MARDI GRAS - SAVE THE DATE

Our Parish Mardi Gras Party, with buffet dinner, music, and raffles, will be held on Saturday, February 25th, at 6:30 PM, in St. Dominic Hall at St. Catherine's. Tickets for the party can be purchased for \$30 per person for adults in advance (through February 20, and \$40 after, and at the door). To encourage our parish families this year, a Family Ticket (for 2 adults and up to 4 children of any age) can be purchased for \$50, only available through February 20. Tickets can be purchased after all Masses beginning this weekend, as well as in the Parish Office at St. Vincent's and St. Catherine's during the week. Please join us for what will surely be a fun-filled evening!

PURGATORIAL CANDLES

St. Catherine's remembers our deceased with a weekly Mass celebrated at 7 AM on Friday for those who have been enrolled in the Purgatorial Society. In conjunction with these remembrances, we have restored 6 Requiem candlesticks, which allows the burning of memorial candles for our beloved dead. These candles are now available for \$10 each, and can be arranged through the parish office.

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

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. 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

DOMINICAN SHRINE OF

ST. JUDE

(212) 249-6067
www.dominicanshrineofsaintjude.org

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. Please call the Parish Office to schedule a meeting with a priest.

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.frassati.nyc.

MASS INTENTIONS
ST. VINCENT FERRER

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12
6:00 pm (Vigil) Patrick & Catherine Naughton (D)
8:00 am For the People of the Parish
12 pm Rev. Terence O'Shaughnessey, o.p. (D)
6:00 pm Marguerite Tourre Boyd (D)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13
8:00 am William C. Cunningham (D)
12:10 pm Jeanne Gorski (D)
6:00 pm Gereldine Young (D)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14
8:00 am Lucille McGrath (D)
12:10 pm Elizabeth & William Schwede, Sr. (D)
6:00 pm Nancy & Luke A. Foye, Sr. (D)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15
8:00 am Teresa McGovern (D)
12:10 pm Mary Greason (D)
6:00 pm Patricia, Richard, & Garrett Keegan (D)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16
8:00 am For the Deceased members of the Parish & the Order (D)
12:10 pm Mark Flesher (D)
6:00 pm Katherine S. Meehan (D)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17
8:00 am Bart & Bridget McGovern (D)
12:10 pm Martin Burns (D)
6:00 pm Carol Premone (D)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18
8:00 am Joseph McGovern & Kathleen Redmond (D)

MASS INTENTIONS
ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12
4:00 pm (Vigil) Cox, Foster, Nadel, Sunan Families (D)
10:00 am For the patrons of the Shrine of Saint Jude
5:00 pm Christine Jackowski (D)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13
7:00 am For the Province of St. Joseph
5:15 pm Sr. Timothy Goettisheim, o.p. (D)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14
7:00 am Mary Higgins (D)
5:15 pm Wilton Craig Calderon

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15
7:00 am Ronald Noble (D)
5:15 pm Kevin Quinn

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16
7:00 am Cecelia McCornick (D)
5:15 pm Renato S. Ventigan

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17
7:00 am St. Catherine of Siena Purgatorial Society (D)
5:15 pm Miguel & Teodola Lucido

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18
9:00 am John Connors (D)

PARISH PRAYER
INTENTIONS

Contact the Parish Office to add a name to this list

Len Bencivenga, Joseph Cannistraci, Joseph Robert Cusimano, Maria Gruziano, Rev. Chris Johnson, O.P., Helen Johnson, Carolyn Kelly, John Kelly, Lillian Krasnow, Anthony Mendola, Maria Guillen de Ribone, Anchalee Sae-Lim, Wasinee Wannapahul, & Aquila Zacharilla.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Fr. Lararus Augustine, Hank Fins, Peter Gimbel, Matthew Martinez, Margartet Mintz, Rita Mountain, Mildred Moscarello, Sophia Stainton, & 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
Ramon & Fernando Gonzalez (I); Jack Ryan Keegan (I); Edward C. Perry (d); Anna Schwede (d); For the People of the Parish; Intention of Donor; Intention of Donor

St. Vincent - Sanctuary Madonna
Michelle Gylkes

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

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.

REGARDING THE TIMES

A perennial question asks how preachers should behave when society struggles with issues. Obviously it's time to entertain the question again. From my vantage point social and political issues have riveted our collective attention as at no time in my recent memory. How should the Gospel intersect with all of the tumult?

I suppose the most obvious, and convenient, answer would be that the priest should stick to talking about God and let society wrestle with its politics and culture. This idea harmonizes with our received notions of the separation of church and state, and at a deeper level it preserves a clear distinction between what is secular and what is sacred. Finally, it guarantees that going to Mass will provide relief from the relentless commentary people receive through our ever-multiplying media. Jesus himself seemed to make no comment on the political issues of his day: for example, the Gospels do not record His take on the morality of the Roman occupation of His country, or of the Jewish insurgency against it.

But He did give the Sermon on the Mount, and therein, per last Sunday's Gospel, He referred to us as the "Salt of the Earth," and the "Light of the World." The "Similies of Salt and Light" mandate us to engage comprehensively with society. Interacting with the culture and politics of our times comprises a vital part of being Christian. We buy and sell, go to restaurants and movies, and take political action as Christians, not in spite of our religion, nor compartmentalized from it. "A city set on a hill" (the assembly of Christians) is still a city, and its citizens must have commerce with each other, and with those of other cities. We hope the Church illumines the world around her not by avoiding the square and the market, but by entering them with the ethics and insights given by her Master. Indeed, when he says that we should render to Caesar what belongs to Caesar He is telling us to pay taxes and so makes public duties moral acts.

But does the social comprehensiveness of the Gospel make the Minister of the Gospel authoritative in the social sphere, qualified, *ex officio*, to weigh in definitively on current issues? If we accept this, relevance begins to outweigh other values and the line between preacher and "talking head" begins to blur.

How do we strike the right balance in such live times?

Perhaps it lies within the teaching itself. The Sermon on the Mount issues a call to conversion that touches each aspect of life and works steadily against any compartmentalization of life. The truth of the Christian me undermines the walls protecting the non-Christian me. Quite naturally, I resist, but in the end, the Spirit persuades more eloquently than my contrary inclinations. But there is no way for me to change that does not in the end affect my engagement with you. In this way the Gospel quietly disrupts social patterns, challenging patterns of doing business, and of course meddles in romance.

It follows that if the preacher has the task of articulating a call to growth, he must address all the ways in which his hearers interact with the world. One of our jobs in the pulpit is to show people the deep significance of ordinary life. Indeed, part of the beauty of each Christian life is the impact it has on the life around it. At the same time his work must respect the singular quality of each life. I try not to tell people what to do: rather I seek to show them the tools the Gospel gives for reaching a conclusion that is genuinely their own. I have found that people receive preaching and apply it in ways helpful to them, that never occurred to me. If I keep this in mind then what I do remains truly a ministry, a service.

In the case of culture and politics this often means coming at an issue "sideways." The work here is to show people the Gospel's surprising take on life which often shows the points in common that lie beneath so many disputes and the human sameness behind so much apparent disparity. Indeed, what Jesus offers us in his teaching and sacraments is a new way of seeing events and people. For this reason, we cannot insulate ourselves from our times, for studying them gives the raw material grace uses to train us in the ways of challenge, in the ways of mercy, and in the ways of contemplation.

Peace!



Fr. Walter

LAY FRATERNITY OF ST. DOMINIC

Our Lady of the Assumption Chapter of the LFSD meets on the third Thursday of each month for approximately two hours, directly after attending the 6:00 PM parish Mass in St. Vincent Ferrer Church (meeting in 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>.

MASS FOR COUPLES MARRIED 50 YEARS DURING 2017

Couples celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary anytime during 2017 are invited to attend the Annual Golden Wedding Jubilee Mass with Cardinal Dolan at the Cathedral of St. Patrick, Sunday, June 11th at 2 pm. Pre-registration is required. Please contact your parish for registration. The closing date to register for the Mass is Friday, May 12, 2017. This event is sponsored by the Family Life Respect Life Office of the Archdiocese of New York.

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.

SIGN UP NOW!

ONLINE FAITH FORMATION COURSES

The Archdiocese of New York and Fordham University have partnered to offer new online courses for those in parish ministry and those who simply wish to learn more about their faith. Courses which are: **Relevant** to contemporary people, **Convenient** for busy schedules, and **Faithful** to the Church.

For a limited time, these courses are being offered for FREE! To learn more and sign up visit www.nycatholicfaith.org/learn.

COLLECTION

FEBRUARY 5, 2017

Regular Offertory: \$13,759

Peter's Pence: \$4,567

Attendance: 1081

ATTENTION MARRIED COUPLES

CATHOLIC COUPLE CHECKUP GIVEAWAY

The Archdiocese of New York's Family Life Respect Life Office is excited to announce that as part of World Marriage Week, we are offering 100 free codes for married couples to take the Catholic Couple Checkup!

What is the Catholic Couple Checkup?

The Catholic Couple Checkup is an online tool designed to identify the unique relationship strengths and growth areas of dating, engaged, or married couples. Research has shown this process improves relationships by stimulating honest dialogue, increasing understanding, and empowering couples. It's an enjoyable, easy, private way to take the temperature of your relationship and start some meaningful conversations. Best of all...it's on us!

Visit nyfamilylife.org during the month of February to get your free code. Don't miss out - the free codes are first come, first serve! For questions or further information, contact Izabella Nagle at izabella.nagle@archny.org.

THE EMMAUS MINISTRY FOR GRIEVING PARENTS

To meet the spiritual needs of Catholic parents whose children of any age have died by any cause - no matter how long ago - the Family Life Respect Life Office offers the Emmaus Ministry for Grieving Parents. A unique, faith-based program providing spiritual retreats for grieving parents offered by grieving parents, the Emmaus Ministry offers a safe place where you can find peace, comfort, and hope. Join us at one of the following Emmaus Ministry Catholic retreats now being offered in the Archdiocese of New York.

St. Joseph's Seminary

201 Seminary Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10704
Saturday, February 25, 2017

Church of the Magdalene

525 Bedford Road, Pocantico Hills, Tarrytown, NY 10591
Saturday, April 1, 2017


Cost: \$25 per person, \$40 per couple

Scholarships are available

To register online: www.emfgp.org/archny
Or, contact Sue DiSisto, Coordinator, Parenting and Family Life Education at susan.disisto@archny.org or (646) 794-3191.

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 St. 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.



The Parish of
St. Vincent Ferrer
& St. Catherine of Siena

Saturday,
February 25 • 6:30 pm

Parish Mardi Gras Party

Buffet Dinner • Music • Raffles
Fun for the Whole Family

St. Dominic Hall
at the Church of
St. Catherine of Siena

**KIDS
FREE**

Individual Ticket:
\$30pp on or before 2/20
or \$40pp after 2/20

Family Ticket:
\$50 (2 adults and up to 4 kids)

parish@svsc.info • (212) 744-2080



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.

GOD and DEATH: *the* VICTORY of JESUS

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

"I BELIEVE IN GOD, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth" These are the first words of the Apostles Creed, articulating the first article of Christian faith: belief in the creator God. And what did God create? "Heaven and earth" is the Christian's answer. In other words, "everything." But according to the Book of Wisdom, which Catholic Christians regard as Biblical, there is one thing that God did not make. "God did not make death" (Wis 1:13).

IF GOD DID NOT MAKE DEATH, how did death come to be? Is death an exception to the rule that "all things came to be through [God's Word] and without him nothing came to be" (John 1:3)? The Church's philosophical tradition (or at least a prominent part of it) would say No. Because death is not something but nothing. Death does not have being, but is a lack of being, the privation of a life that God made. I think the philosophical distinction between beings and privations of being is a necessary part of how we can account for the presence of death and other evils in the world God made. But it is not a sufficient answer to the question of how death came to be. Nor does it answer the question of what the creator God plans to do about it. Those answers are revealed to us in Sacred Scripture.

"THROUGH ONE PERSON sin entered the world, and through sin, death" (Rom 5:12). "In Adam all die" (1 Cor 15:22). Saint Paul gives a definite answer to the question of where death came from. It came in and through Adam. Saint Paul is referring to the sin of Adam (and Eve) that is narrated in the Book of Genesis. In that narrative, God warns Adam, "when you eat from [the tree of knowledge of good and evil] you shall die" (Gen 2:17). After God discovers that Adam and Eve have eaten from the forbidden tree, God makes known to them the consequences of their disobedience, concluding with the sentence, "By the sweat of your brow you shall eat bread until you return to the ground from which you were taken; For you are dust, and to dust you shall return" (Gen 3:19).

WHAT ARE WE TO MAKE OF THIS? Genesis seems to present death a punishment that God inflicts. But the Book of Wisdom says, "God did not make death." Furthermore, Saint Paul not only identifies death's source, as we have seen. He also describes death's relationship to God. To God, Saint Paul says, death is "the last enemy to be destroyed" (1 Cor 15:26). How can we make sense of these different Biblical teachings about death? Is death God's enemy, God's punishment, or something that God is not responsible for making?

I THINK ALL THREE ARE TRUE. I think death is the enemy of God's life creating purpose, the merciful punishment for life distorting human sin, and the negation of the life God has made in His image. God did not make death, but God did permit death to enter the good world He made. Why? Because human beings sinned and thereby distorted God's good creation. For God to allow His good creation to remain perpetually distorted would be to accept defeat. Paradoxically, God chose to permit death as a consequence of life distorting human sin, so that God might defeat death and thereby restore life. The Christian gospel proclaims that God has done that and is doing that through Jesus Christ. "For just as in Adam all die, so too in Christ shall all be brought to life" (1 Cor 15:22).

THE CHRISTIAN ACCOUNT OF GOD AND DEATH has several meaningful and consoling consequences for every human person, and especially for those who experience death as an immanent or present reality.

FIRSTLY, it tells us that death is not a punishment that God arbitrarily inflicts. Death is not something that God is doing to me or something God has done to someone I love. God permits death in order to defeat it. God has allowed my loved one to die so that she might have eternal life, not in a world marred by sin and suffering, but in God's new creation. Death does not happen because God is angry and cruel, but because God's is merciful and wills that we should all share His righteousness.

SECONDLY, the Christian gospel proclaims that God has defeated death through Jesus Christ, and especially through Jesus' own death and resurrection. In other words, death is not just something God prescribes for us. It is something God takes upon himself. In Jesus, God died a human death and, by rising again, inaugurated a new and everlasting human life that has left sin a death behind. Our death is not separation from God and the life God created. Our death is the way we accompany God who, in Jesus, shared our death so we could share His life.

THIRDLY, death is not God's way of revoking His creating love. We might be tempted to read the Genesis account in this way: In His love, God gave life to human beings; when they sinned, God revoked that love and inflicted death. We might be tempted to interpret the deaths of our loved ones that way. God made them in love, but for some reason God now hates them and decrees their deaths. Jesus puts the lie to that way of thinking about God and death. "God proves His love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us" (Rom 5:8)