



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

January 7, 2018 — The Epiphany of the Lord

EPIPHANY SUNDAY

Today, Sunday, January 7 is the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. The 12 NOON Solemn Mass at St. Vincent Ferrer will include a Procession of the Three Kings, bringing the Magi to the Creche.

EPIPHANY PARISH COFFEE

Join us for an Epiphany Parish Party today, Sunday, January 7, after the 12 NOON Mass in the St. Vincent Ferrer Priory Parlors. Coffee, tea, and delicious food will be served.

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Monday, January 8 is the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. There will be a Sung Mass at 6 PM at St. Vincent Ferrer.

PARISH STUDY ON JEREMIAH

This Spring, Fr. Albert Paretsky, O.P. will lead a Parish Study series on the Book of Jeremiah. Beginning on January 16 and continuing through March 20, the class will meet each Tuesday evening from 6:45 – 7:45 PM in the Lower Church (Parish Hall) of St. Vincent Ferrer.

SECOND COLLECTION - NEXT WEEKEND CATHOLIC COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN

Today, January 7, our second collection is for the Catholic Communication Campaign. This campaign connects people with Christ, here and around the world in developing countries, through the internet, television, radio, and print media. Fifty percent of funds collected remains in our diocese to fund local communications efforts. Your support helps spread the gospel message! To learn more, visit www.usccb.org/cc.

CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED

In observance of the federal and state holiday of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, the church offices will be closed on Monday, January 15. There will be a regular Mass and confession schedule.

ONLINE GIVING

Fulfill your stewardship with an online service. Liturgical Publications (ParishPay) allows you to make donations to the Parish of St. Vincent Ferrer and St. Catherine of Siena anytime, based on your personal schedule. Donations can be made with a credit card, debit card, or e-check. To enroll, visit www.svsc.info and go to "Sign up for Online Giving," or visit www.churchgiving.com/?pc=ztm3ks26 and click "Start Giving."

MASS AND CONFESSIONS ST. VINCENT FERRER

SATURDAY VIGIL: 6:00 PM

SUNDAY: 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM,

12:00 NOON, 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 AND OTHER PRAYER ST. VINCENT FERRER

MONDAY–FRIDAY:

7:35 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

Alexander Pattavina

Assistant Organist

Lisa Harrelson

*Coordinator of Catechesis and
Youth Ministry*

Rachel Miller

Administrative Assistant

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 CALENDAR

JANUARY

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7 – EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Catholic University of America/Catholic Communication Collection
12 NOON Solemn Mass with Three Kings Procession at St. Vincent Ferrer
1 PM Festive Parish Coffee at St. Vincent Ferrer

MONDAY, JANUARY 8 – BAPTISM OF THE LORD

6 PM Sung Mass at St. Vincent Ferrer

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14 – SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MONDAY, JANUARY 15 – MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY

Parish Offices Closed – Regular Mass Schedule

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21 – THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Deficit Reduction Collection and Food Sunday Collection

MONDAY, JANUARY 22 – NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER AND PENANCE FOR THE PRESERVATION OF LIFE

THURSDAY, JANUARY 25 – CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL

6 PM Sung Mass at St. Vincent Ferrer

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28 – FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

11 AM Parish Coffee at St. Catherine of Siena

FEBRUARY

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2 – PRESENTATION OF THE LORD (CANDLEMAS)

5:15 PM Mass is cancelled at St. Catherine of Siena
6:30 PM Solemn Mass and Procession at St. Catherine of Siena
Party Follows in St. Dominic Hall

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3 – ST. BLASE

Blessing of Throats at all Masses today

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4 – FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Peter's Pence Collection
1 PM Parish Coffee at St. Vincent Ferrer

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11 – SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12 – OUR LADY OF LOURDES

5:15 PM Sung Mass at St. Catherine of Siena

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14 – ASH WEDNESDAY

7 AM Low Mass at St. Catherine of Siena
8 AM Low Mass at St. Vincent Ferrer
10 AM Sung Mass at St. Vincent Ferrer
12:10 PM Sung Mass at St. Vincent Ferrer
1 PM Sung Mass at St. Catherine of Siena
5:15 PM Low Mass at St. Catherine of Siena
6 PM Solemn Mass at St. Vincent Ferrer
7:30 PM Holy Hour with the Imposition of Ashes at St. Vincent Ferrer
Imposition of Ashes will take place at all Masses.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16 AND ALL FRIDAYS IN LENT

Stations of the Cross following the evening Mass
at St. Vincent Ferrer and St. Catherine of Siena

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18 – FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19 – PRESIDENT'S DAY

Parish Offices Closed – Regular Mass Schedule

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Stations of the Cross following the evening Mass
at St. Vincent Ferrer and St. Catherine of Siena

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25 – SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Deficit Reduction Collection
Food Sunday

OVERDOING IT

I put together this bulletin's "Week of Grace" before writing this essay, and it occurred to me that the Epiphany antiphon I placed there merited some commentary. I reproduce it below for your convenience.

Today the Church has been joined to her heavenly bridegroom since Christ has purged her of her sins in the River Jordan: the Magi hasten to the royal wedding feast and offer gifts: the wedding guests rejoice since Christ has changed water into wine, alleluia.

To borrow a culinary concept, all the elements of this text marry each other in the image of the wedding. In this lies the coherence of the words, and of their interpretation of today's mystery. Bottom line, this text says, "if you really want to recognize Christ, think about getting married." What an absence of analysis! The antiphon does not spell out Christ's identity as Son of Mary and Divine Son of God, His Eternal Word. Neither does it delve into his teaching. Finding out who Christ is, and what He teaches comes after recognizing him. Think about how this matches human life. You fall in love, and then, maybe, you figure out why.

The Scriptures themselves back this up. When the Magi arrive at Bethlehem, they conduct no methodical interview of Mary and Joseph to ascertain if the child in the manger corresponds to their divination. They simply fall down in homage and present their gifts. When Jesus stands before John the Baptist to be washed in the Jordan, his cousin asks for no ID. The Father does not say, "This is my beloved Son," until John has already said, "I should be baptized by you." At the Wedding at Cana, the followers of Jesus believe in him because he changes water into wine, but that sign does not say outright who Jesus is, or what he teaches. The nuptial work of the Holy Spirit precipitates each of these recognitions, so that the Lord is recognized before he can be explained. From the recognition, flow doctrine and its authority.

In the weeks ahead we will see the same pattern in the calling of the disciples. They encounter Jesus, he calls them, and they follow. He gives no manifesto, no platform, only a summons, and it is obeyed.

In all these encounters we find the immediacy, the urgency, and the intimacy of falling in love. Imprudence and extravagance mark each of these episodes. The gifts of the Magi are as over the top as their journey is long. John the Baptist subsumes his own ministry in deference to Jesus, and the disciples place their whole future into his hands. Even Jesus himself creates vastly too much wine at Cana.

Quite simply, Jesus presents himself as the lover of the human race and of each soul, and this is not a romantic image, but the law for the authentic spread of the Gospel. As Jesus presents himself to the Magi, to John the Baptist, to the wedding party at Cana, and to his disciples, so he also presents himself to us, and enables us to present him to others.

So often Christians forget the recognition, the falling in love with Christ that grounds and orients the practice of the faith. Without this, our starting point lies in the moral life and the discipline of the life of faith. Both of these are very happy things if they retain their connection to the recognition. But when this is absent evangelization looks like telling the world to behave, and since we do not succeed in the behavior department ourselves the effort falls flat.

Rather, I must start by telling people that the Risen Lord has come to meet me at the very point of my incompleteness. He has made my barrenness fruitful, connected me in my isolation, and accepted me beyond my achievements. After sin upon sin upon sin, he remains my friend, the one who does not give up on me. In response to this I embrace the disciplines of the Christian life, for the recognition of my soul's best friend shows them to be intimacies.

Here lies a whole new perspective on going to Mass, pursuing justice, practicing temperance, and deploying energy.

Think about it. Is there someone you know who might be ready for this encounter. If you invite someone else to share the fulfillment you find in Christ, the wedding happiness in your own heart is sure to grow.

Cheers.



Fr. Walter

MASS INTENTIONS
ST. VINCENT FERRER

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7
6:00 PM (Vigil) For the People of the Parish
8:00 AM For the Deceased members of the McGovern Family (D)
9:30 AM Maired Corbet (D)
12 NOON Donald Trump
6:00 PM James W. Kennedy (D)

MONDAY, JANUARY 8
8:00 AM Mars Custodio (D)
12:10 PM Mary T. Greason (D)
6:00 PM For the Deceased members of the Foye, Armstrong, Gorman, Donohoe, & Murphy Families (D)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 9
8:00 AM Bart & Bridget McGovern (D)
12:10 PM Catherine & Patrick McGlade (D)
6:00 PM Jack, Natalie, Marie, & Francis Egan O'Brien (D)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10
8:00 AM Peter Strife (D)
12:10 PM Monica Gorski (D)
6:00 PM Mars Custodio (D)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11
10:00 AM James R. Fay, Sr. (D)
12:10 PM Mr. Nicola Seripierri (D)
6:00 PM Mary O'Brien Heller (D)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12
8:00 AM Luz V. Gonzalaz (D)
12:10 PM Jeanne Gorski (D)
6:00 PM Natalie Papadam (D)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13
8:00 AM Paula Froetscher (D)

MASS INTENTIONS
ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7
4:00 PM (Vigil) Lise & Ed Baker (D)
10:00 AM Anabella Mendoza (D)
4:00 PM Nancy & Luke A. Foye, Sr. (D)

MONDAY, JANUARY 8
7:00 AM For the Province of St. Joseph
5:15 PM Fr. George Concordia, o.p. & Fr. Thaddeus Murphy, o.p. (D)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 9
7:00 AM Tim Lichtenwalter (D)
5:15 PM Dr. Marcelino Custodio (D)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10
7:00 AM For the patrons of the Shrine of Saint Jude
5:15 PM Lorraine Kipel (D)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11
7:00 AM Barbare Natali (D)
5:15 PM Flor Sanchez (D)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12
7:00 AM St. Catherine of Siena Purgatorial Society (D)
5:15 PM William Cameron (D)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13
9:00 AM Letty Dolan

PARISH PRAYER
INTENTIONS

Contact the Parish Office to add a name to this list

Joseph Becker, Joseph Robert Cusimano, Carolyn Kelly, John Langelier, Sarah McDermott, Stanley Nadel, Dolores Ninneral, Gabriella Pratt, Rita Sullivan, & Mary Wilcher.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Fransisca Garcia & Lourde Garcia, 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
Tom Chestano; Rene Concepcion (d); John Downey (d); Ramon & Fernando Gonzalez (l); Anthony Morelliti; William J. Schwede, Sr. (d); For the People of the Parish

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

Advent Wreath
1) Sean O'Rahilly & Family
2) Raul Castello Valle (d)
3) Jacquelyn Piraquire (l)
4) Jack Ryan Keegan (l)
5) Veronica & Joseph Downey (d)

St. Catherine – Sanctuary Lamp
Maria Marta Litrenta

St. Catherine – Purgatorial Candle
Renato S. Ventigan (d); Rosa J. Silan(d)

St. Catherine – Rosary Altar Candle
Maria Marta Litrenta; Intention of the donor

St. Catherine – Blessed Mother Candle
Priscilla Ventigan

Mass Intentions may be reserved in the Parish Office Monday – Friday, 9:00 AM–5:00 PM, and in the Church Office of St. Catherine of Siena Monday – Friday, 10:00 AM–3:00 PM.

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD NOTES

The Sound of Silence

In a recent interview a priest was asked to share advice for those who are just learning to pray. His beautiful response speaks to our life with the children in the atrium. He suggested that one should learn to enjoy silence. If you come to enjoy silence when you are alone, you will come to find out that you are not alone and then you can begin a conversation. If you do not like silence, it will be very difficult.

In the Atrium, we offer opportunities for silence both at the prayer table and during presentations. At the prayer table, or during an activity like the Silence Game, we begin with a short period of time and progressively lengthen it. The moments of silence will extend the child's attention span and develop his or her listening skills. Silence helps to focus the child's inner calm and keep every part of his or her body still. The silence becomes a vehicle for contemplation. There is no prayer without silence.

The Silence Game

To read about silence in the Atrium, we look to Gianna Gobbi, who writes in her book *Listening to God with Children*, (available at www.cgsusa.org) about how silence needs to be nourished and practiced. It is not something that the adult imposes on the child. Maria Montessori noticed a woman who came into a room with a sleeping baby. The children were fascinated. Dr. Montessori said to them, "None of you could breathe as the baby does, without making a sound." The children tried. Dr. Montessori said you could barely hear the baby breathe. The children said, "Yes, we can do that!" Dr. Montessori saw what delight they took in making silence. Later, she tried it with other children. She said to the children, "I'm going to practice silence. I am going to see if I can even make my body quiet."

As we settle down from the excitement of Christmas and settle into this new year, may we all practice some silence so that we may hear from God.

MUSIC NOTES

For the Solemnity of the Epiphany, we sing one of the great hymns of the English repertoire: *The First Nowell*. At six verses, is great both in its quality and in its length.

Unfortunately, most Catholics experience hymns one or two verses at a time, usually sung during Mass to cover over some other action – a procession, incensation, collection, etc. This is the liturgical equivalent of busy work and is detrimental not only to the liturgy but to the beautiful role that hymns.

The chant Propers appointed at the Entrance, Offertory, and Communion of each Mass are brief sentences to which psalm verses can be attached, thus allowing them the flexibility necessary to accommodate the liturgical actions to which they are attached.

Conversely, if we bear in mind that most hymns are narrative in their poetic construction, we cannot tailor the number of verses to suit anything else. Hymns tell stories, and it is nothing less than absurd to hear only the first part of one. Just as no one would stop reading *A Visit from St. Nicholas* at 'That shook, when he laughed like a bowlful of jelly,' neither should *The First Nowell* stop after, 'And so it continued both day and night.' By this point in the poem, the Magi have not even been introduced!

So, when you sing *The First Nowell* this weekend, or when you contemplate the poetry on its own accord as I encourage you to do, carry on until the very end, for it is only then that the hymn gives its fulfillment.

LIFE WRITING/MEMOIR: A WEEKEND WRITING RETREAT

This weekend retreat is for everyone. This weekend is centered on the belief that when we leave behind the disruptions of our busy lives and gather in a supportive community we make important breakthroughs in our writing. The weekend will reinforce the writer's life, offer daily workshops, craft discussion, feedback, motivation, inspiration, time to work on projects, and a weekend of peace and quiet. The retreat is open to writers of every genre, beginners and advanced. Writers will sharpen writing skills, meet other exceptional writers, take walks with a view of the mountains and river, and have time for meals and plenty of breaks.

When: Friday, January 26 – Sunday, January 28

Where: The Mariandale Center

299 N. Highland Avenue, Ossining, NY 10562

Fee: \$225. A \$75 deposit required at registration; early registration is encouraged. Please pay in full by January 15.

For more information call (914) 941-4455 or visit www.mariandale.org/event/life-writing/.

COLLECTIONS

DECEMBER 24, 2017

Regular Offertory: \$12,220

Attendance: 610

PARISH STUDY ON THE
BOOK OF JEREMIAH



Led by Rev. Albert Paretsky, O.P.

Tuesdays from 6:45-7:45 pm
January 16–March 20, 2018

Lower Church (Parish Hall) of St. Vincent Ferrer
869 Lexington Ave.
New York, NY 10065

VISITATION CIRCLE

On Saturday, December 16, VC celebrated its Annual Christmas Party in the gracious parlors of the St. Vincent Ferrer Priory. The glow of the priory Christmas tree set the tone for a festively decorated holiday meal enjoyed by all. The gathering also featured carol singing, a grab bag, and group photo, all capping an active year of monthly fellowship, service, and social events in St. Vincent and St. Catherine's program dedicated to serving single, widowed and divorced women – and modeled on the Blessed Mother's friendship with her cousin, St. Elizabeth. Warm thanks to Fr. Walter for his longstanding support of our program.

We welcome new members every month. Our next Mass with Rosary, followed by a light lunch, will be on Saturday, February 3.

CAMP FATIMA AND CAMP BERNADETTE

Camp Fatima for boys and Camp Bernadette for girls are now accepting registrations for the 2018 summer. The camps, in the Lakes Region of New Hampshire, offer 2-week overnight sessions for children, ages 6 – 15. Round trip buses are available out of Long Island. To learn more or to request a brochure, contact Brendan Stackhouse at (603) 364-5851, or email brendan@bfcamp.com, or visit and register online at www.bfcamp.com.

YOUNG ADULT RETREAT

Come join other young adults (ages 22-35) married or single, to take a step back from our busy lives. This will be a time to examine your personal faith and your relationship with God, your family members, and yourself. Our time will be filled with prayer experiences, peer group discussions, Eucharist, and lots of fun!

When: February 9-11

Where: Marianist Family Retreat Center

417 Yale Avenue, Cape May Point, NJ 08212

Cost: \$130 per person, some financial aid is available

Register at: www.capemaymarianists.org or (609) 884-3829

THIS WEEK OF GRACE

Sunday, January 7. The Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

This celebration weaves together three recognitions of Jesus as Son of Mary and as Divine Son of God; the Adoration of the Magi, the Lord's Baptism in the Jordan, and the Wedding at Cana. This antiphon from Morning Prayer for this feast shows you the whole mystery in all its parts.

Today the Church has been joined to her heavenly bridegroom since Christ has purged her of her sins in the River Jordan: the Magi hasten to the royal wedding feast and offer gifts: the wedding guests rejoice since Christ has changed water into wine, alleluia.

- Pray that our contemporaries also may recognize the Christ who is the healer of body and spirit, the teacher of the mind, and the bridegroom of the soul.
- Pray for the beneficiaries of this week's second collection:
 - The communications efforts of our Archdiocese and our Bishops' Conference.
 - The Catholic University of America, both of which have the goal of making Him known.
- Since this feast holds crucial importance for the churches of the East, it will behoove us today to pray for the union of Christ's whole Body in the world.

Monday, January 8. The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

Usually this feast has its own Sunday, but when the Epiphany falls on the 7th or 8th it is transferred to the following Monday. This is a great day to give thanks for your own Baptism. Recall its effect and look for them in your life.

- Forgiveness of Sin.
 - The forgiveness of Original Sin, Actual Sin, and their punishment
- A New Creation.
 - The Grace of Adoption, by which we are counted along with Christ as the Fathers beloved sons and daughters and become a temple of the Holy Spirit.
- Sanctifying Grace, enabling us to
 - Believe in God through Faith, desire God for ourselves through hope, and love Him through Charity.
 - The power to live and act under the prompting of the Holy Spirit (The Gifts of the Holy Spirit).
 - Do good in the world through the renewal of the moral virtues of prudence, justice, temperance, and fortitude.
- Incorporation into the Church.
 - A living communion with all the baptized on earth, the faithful departed, and the saints.
- A share in Christ's work as Priest, Prophet, and King.
 - Here is the privilege and the duty of being active before God as a worshipper, a hearer and teller of His Truth, and as a servant of others.
- Baptismal character, by which baptism leaves a permanent effect on the soul. No matter how far we may wander, we are marked as Christ's own.

Adapted from the Catechism of the Catholic Church, nos. 1262 - 1274

For your reflection, note that at the heart of the work of the Second Vatican Council was the desire that each Christian realize the potential of his or her baptismal identity.