



Parish of St. Vincent Ferrer
and St. Catherine of Siena

December 24, 2023 – 4th Sunday of Advent



"The Evening before the Birth of Christ," Michael Reiser, 1869, Private Collection

St. Vincent Ferrer

MASS TIMES

Weekday	8 AM, 12:10 PM, 6 PM
Saturday	8 AM, 9:30 AM (Dominican Rite), 6 PM (Vigil)
Sunday	8 AM, 9:30 AM, 12 NOON (Solemn), 6 PM

CONFESSION TIMES

Monday– Saturday	5:15–6 PM (plus Wednesday at 7:15–7:55 PM)
Sunday	7:45–8 AM, 9:15–9:30 AM, 11:30 AM–12 NOON, 5:15–6 PM

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Wednesday	6:30–8 PM
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St. Catherine of Siena

MASS TIMES

Weekday	7 AM, 5:15 PM
Saturday	9 AM, 4 PM (Vigil)
Sunday	10 AM, 5 PM

CONFESSION TIMES

Weekday	4:40–5:05 PM
Saturday	3–3:50 PM

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Sunday	3–4:30 PM (September 14 through Corpus Christi)
Thursday	5:45–7 PM

The Parish

Parish Information

GENERAL INFORMATION

Phone Number (212) 744-2080

Email parish@svsc.info

PARISH STAFF

Pastor Rev. Peter Martyr Yungwirth, O.P.

Parochial Vicar Rev. Joseph Allen, O.P.

Parochial Vicar Rev. Reginald Hoefler, O.P.

Parochial Vicar Rev. Francis Belanger, O.P.

Sacristan Bro. Damian McCarthy, O.P.

Deacon Deacon John M. Powers

Business Manager Lee Ann Rubino

Director of Music and Organist James D. Wetzel

Director of Religious Education Lisa Harrelson

Administrative Assistant Ginny McCusker

Custodian SVF Tony Hicks

Custodian SVF Tracey Hicks

Custodian SCS Terrance Freeman

ST. VINCENT FERRER HIGH SCHOOL

Principal Sr. Martha Kunesh, O.P.

Phone (212) 535-4680

DOMINICAN HEALTHCARE MINISTRY

Contact Fr. Hyacinth Grubb, O.P.

Email director@healthcareministry.org

Website healthcareministry.org

St. Vincent Ferrer

GENERAL INFORMATION

Address 869 Lexington Avenue
New York, NY 10065

Office Hours Mon-Fri, 9 AM-1 PM and 2-4 PM

LITURGY OF THE HOURS AND OTHER PRAYERS

Weekday 7:25 AM Matins and Lauds
5:25 PM Rosary and Vespers

Saturday 8:30 AM Matins and Lauds
5:25 PM Rosary and Vespers

Sunday 8:45 AM Matins and Lauds
5:25 AM Rosary and Vespers

St. Catherine of Siena

GENERAL INFORMATION

Address 411 East 68th Street
New York, NY 10065

Office Hours Mon-Fri, 10 AM-3 PM

LITURGY OF THE HOURS AND OTHER PRAYERS

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 8 AM Lauds
4:45 PM Rosary
7 PM Vespers

Tuesday 8 AM Lauds
4:45 PM Rosary
6 PM Vespers

Saturday 8:40 AM Rosary
9 AM Lauds during Mass

Sunday 7 PM Vespers

Sacraments and Sacramentals

SACRAMENTAL RECORDS

To request a copy of your certificate of Baptism, Marriage, First Holy Communion, or Confirmation visit:

[svsc.info/sacramental-record-request](https://www.svsc.info/sacramental-record-request).

BAPTISM

To arrange for the baptism of a child at St. Vincent Ferrer or St. Catherine of Siena please visit our website, [svsc.info/baptism](https://www.svsc.info/baptism) and download the Baptism request form and email it to parish@svsc.info. A priest will be in touch with you to set up a meeting and to schedule the Baptism.

MARRIAGE

For information about the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony at either St. Vincent Ferrer or St. Catherine of Siena, visit:

[svsc.info/sacrament-of-holy-matrimony](https://www.svsc.info/sacrament-of-holy-matrimony). Please review the Wedding and Marriage Preparation Policy and note that it takes a minimum of six months preparation time before the wedding.

RCIA

For adults looking to become Catholic or receive Confirmation, email rcia@svsc.info to ask about our RCIA program.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION

To learn more about having a child begin formal preparation for First Holy Communion or Confirmation, email Lisa Harrelson, Director of Religious Education at LHarrelson@svsc.info.

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 church or at home (for those who are homebound). Email parish@svsc.info or call **(212)-744-2080** to set up an appointment.

Parish Prayer Intentions

GENERAL PRAYER INTENTIONS

Elaine Arace, Annette Cunningham, Concepcion De La Cruz, Jeremy Kyser, Judy McLennan, Nidia Pichardo, Robert J. Quackenbush, Elizabeth Rice, Virginia Riviera, Helen Skoratowicz, and Ingrid & Guido Urzua.

FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF

James P. Allen III, Stanley Castillo, Dalvin Castillo, Adele Cerasoli, Maureen Dorsey, Sr. Pius Fagan, O. P., Oscar Fermin, Fr. William Holt, O.P., Ellorine Martinez, Jeanne Conway O'Connor, Peggy Phillips, Steven Rinaldi, Jr., Edna Rivera, William Young, and the souls of all our recently deceased.

HOSPITAL PRAYER INTENTIONS

We continue to pray for the sick, the dying, and their families in Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York-Presbyterian Hospital, Hospital for Special Surgery, Rockefeller University Hospital, Residents of the Mary Manning Walsh Home, and the Intentions of the Dominican Healthcare Ministry.

Join and Donate



COME JOIN THE PARISH

We welcome all new parishioners who would like to join our Parish community. Visit [svsc.info/join-our-parish](https://www.svsc.info/join-our-parish), or stop by the Parish office to register as a parishioner.

To receive up to date information also, sign-up for Parish emails via our website or email the Parish office, parish@svsc.info.



DONATE TO YOUR PARISH

You can fulfill your stewardship with an online service through WeShare. Donations can be made with a credit card, debit card, or e-check. To enroll in online giving, visit [svsc.info/ways-to-give](https://www.svsc.info/ways-to-give).

You can also give via text message: text keyword **SVSC** to **(800) 950-9952**. Click the link and complete your donation.

Intentions

St. Vincent Ferrer Mass Intentions

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

6 PM (Vigil) For the People of the Parish
8 AM Rene Concepcion (D)
9:30 AM Members of the Reynolds & Lukas Families (L&D)
12 NOON Romero & Presciutti Families
6 PM (Vigil) No Announced Intentions
9:30 PM No Announced Intentions

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

12 AM No Announced Intentions
8 AM No Announced Intentions
9:30 AM Christmas Octave Intentions
12 NOON People of the Parish
6 PM No Announced Intentions

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26

8 AM Deceased of the Parish, the deceased parents of members of the Order, and the deceased brothers, sisters, familiars, and benefactors of the Order
12:10 PM Christmas Octave Intentions
6 PM Michael & Elizabeth Regan (D)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27

8 AM Adolfo Sardina (D)
12:10 PM Christmas Octave Intentions
6 PM Foye, Armstrong, Gorman, Donohoe & Murphy Families (D)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28

8 AM Christmas Octave Intentions
12:10 PM Andres Quintian (D)
6 PM Ellen Gorman Murphy & Thomas Gorman (D)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29

8 AM Christmas Octave Intentions
12:10 PM Gorski Family (L&D)
6 PM Mary Ellen & Patrick Foye (D)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

8 AM Christmas Octave Intentions

St. Catherine of Siena Mass Intentions

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

4 PM (Vigil) David Gale
10 AM Advent Novena
5 PM (Vigil) No Announced Intentions

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

10 AM Advent Novena
5 PM No Announced Intentions

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26

7 AM For the Province of St. Joseph
5:15 PM Felicitia Spani (D)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27

7 AM For the Patrons of the Shrine of St. Jude
5:15 PM Maria Abella (D)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28

7 AM John & Franziska Koestner (D)
5:15 PM Lucido Family (D)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29

7 AM For the Purgatorial Society of St. Catherine of Siena
5:15 PM Cesar Bernardo (D)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

9 AM Thomas & Helen Fahey (D)

Candle Intentions

ST. VINCENT FERRER

Sanctuary Lamps

Ramon Javier & Fernando Jose Gonzalez;
Mary Wilson (D); Elizabeth Donnelly (D);
Jack Ryan Keegan; Intention of Donor;
People of the Parish; and Souls in Purgatory.

Sanctuary Madonna Advent Wreath

Mary & Angel Soldato
The Mazza Family
Peter & Aquila Zacharilla
The McCusker & Lane Families

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA

Purgatorial Candle

Renato S. Ventigan (D); Rosa J. Silan (D);
Marie E. Litrenta (D); Olga Rose Litrenta (D);
Pedro Litrenta, Sr. (D); and Pedro
Litrenta, Jr. (D)

Blessed Mother Shrine,

Sanctuary Lamp

Priscilla Ventigan

St. Martin de Porres Candle

Maria Marta Litrenta; Rose Ann
Connolly (D); Bridget Heeran (D)

St. Thomas Chapel, St. Dominic, Sacred Heart of Jesus, St. Joseph, St. Margaret of Castello, Priory Chapel, and St. Jude Shrine

Maria Marta Litrenta

Rosary Altar

Maria Marta Litrenta; Letty Dolan

Mass Intentions and Candles may be reserved in the Parish Office Monday–Friday, 9 AM–1 PM and 2 PM–4 PM, and in the Church Office of St. Catherine Monday–Friday, 10 AM–3 PM.

Hearts prepared for Christmas

T.S. Eliot wrote, "April is cruelest month" (*The Waste Land*, part 1). I think that here in New York City, December is the busiest month. Especially this year when there are only three weeks of Advent, so much seems to be tossed into the mix for December. From Tuba Christmas to Christmas concerts, from skating in the park to finding the best giant Christmas tree, from office parties to dinners with friends, from traveling to visit family to everything in between, so much happens here in December in a city that is already busy.

In the midst of this, we can lose sight of the fact that Christ wants to come dwell among us. He travels the road from heaven to earth, and he journeys with Mary and Joseph from Nazareth to Bethlehem. He does this all for us. He wants to come to us and to rest in our hearts. He desires to be with us.

As we come to the end of Advent and launch into the Christmas Season, it can be helpful to pray for the grace to be attentive to the Lord's coming. In the midst of all the busy-ness and lest we miss His coming, it is so important not to forget to prepare our hearts.

May this Christmas be filled with many graces for you and your loved ones, and may this Christmas Eve poem, from the vantage of St. Joseph, help you to welcome Christ the Lord.

In Christ,
Fr. Peter Martyr Yungwirth, O.P.

THE ROYAL ROAD

After roads hard
such words are sparred
still the doors are barred

The message came
in truth no shame
Love like a flame

Set out with speed
mother in need
for the royal deed



"Christmas Eve - 'And There Was No Room for Them in the Inn,'" Arthur Melville, 1900-1904, National Galleries of Scotland: National, Edinburgh

Long roads we've seen
cold nights have been
yet Fire stirs so keen

Love came to be
Truth came to free
yet none hear the plea

At last the one,
"The inn is done,
but I cannot shun"

To manger led
ox by the bed
welcoming the Head

To virgin's breast
humble King is pressed
now I take my rest

"The voice of my beloved! Behold, he comes, leaping upon the mountains, bounding over the hills....Behold, there he stands behind our wall, gazing in at the windows, looking through the lattice.... Come, my beloved, let us go forth into the fields, and lodge in the villages." (Songs 2:8a, 9; 7:11)

Upcoming Events

DECEMBER

Christmas Schedule

The Christmas schedule is available in both churches and on the parish website, svsc.info. It was also included in the weekly parish email. Please sign up for parish emails to stay informed about church events.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

Parish Coffee Hour

Our parish coffee hour is usually held at St. Vincent after the 12 Noon Mass. So that we all may enjoy Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve with our family and friends, coffee hour will be canceled this Sunday, December 24 and next Sunday, December 31. Coffee hour will resume January 7.



MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

Merry Christmas!

"For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." (Luke 2:11-12)

May the celebrations of this season fill your hearts and your homes with the love and joy of Christ.

DECEMBER 25-26

Parish Office Closed

The Parish Offices will be closed December 25 and 26 as well as January 1 and 2.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25, 5 PM

Solemn Vespers of Christmas

Solemn Vespers of the Nativity of the Lord will be celebrated at 5 PM on Christmas Day. The Schola will sing *Magnificat Primi Toni* (1576) by Orlando di Lasso. Please consider joining and making this a part of your Christmas observance.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26, 6 PM

Feast of St. Stephen

For the Feast of St. Stephen, Protomartyr, there will be a Sung Mass at 6 PM at St. Vincent's for this Second Day of Christmas. Stephen was a deacon of the early church, and this Feast is mentioned in John Mason Neale's Christmas carol "Good King Wenceslas."

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 6 PM

Feast of St. John the Divine

For the Feast of St. John, Apostle and Evangelist, there will be a Sung Mass at 6 PM at St. Vincent's for this Third Day of Christmas. John and his brother James were Galilean fishermen, called the "sons of thunder," and were chosen to be among the Twelve Apostles. John and his community of followers are credited with writing the fourth Gospel. According to some traditions, the same John wrote the Book of Revelation.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28, 6 PM

Feast of the Holy Innocents

For the Feast of the Holy Innocents, martyrs, there will be a Sung Mass at 6 PM at St. Vincent's for this Fourth Day of Christmas. This feast commemorates the massacre of the young boys of Bethlehem by King Herod in his attempt to kill the infant Jesus, as told in St. Matthew's Gospel (2:16-18).

CHRISTMASTIDE

December 26-30

The season of Christmas, known as Christmastide, runs from the Nativity of the Lord itself through the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord (January 8 this year). Further, Nativity scenes and crèches may be displayed through the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas), on February 2, which marks the consecration of Jesus to the Lord and the purification of Mary forty days after giving birth. Within Christmastide is the Christmas 'Octave', ending on the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, or 'Octave Day', on January 1. The most important feasts of the liturgical year have such 'octaves' for the express purpose of continuing the celebration and highlighting the magnitude of the feast. The 6 PM Mass at St. Vincent Ferrer will be a Sung Mass every weekday within the Octave.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

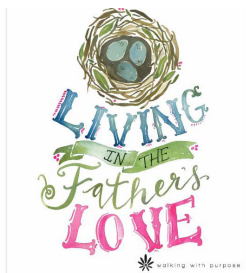
Feast of the Holy Family

The Sunday within the Octave of Christmas is the Feast of the Holy Family. Observance of this feast began locally in Canada and France in the 17th century. In 1893, Pope Leo XIII, who had a personal devotion to the Holy Family, approved it as a feast for Canada, and Pope Benedict XV had it added to General Roman Calendar in 1921 on the Sunday within the Octave of the Epiphany. After the 1969 revision of the Calendar, it was moved to the Sunday within the Octave of Christmas, or, in years when there is no mid-Octave Sunday, on December 30.

**MONDAY, JANUARY 1****Octave Day – Mary, Mother of God**

New Year's Day, is the Octave Day of the Nativity: the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. The Parish will offer a regular weekday schedule of Masses and Confessions. There will be a Solemn Mass at 6 PM at St. Vincent Ferrer for which the Schola Cantorum will sing. The Parish Offices will be closed on Monday, January 1.

The Octave Day of the Nativity celebrates the Circumcision of our Lord. In the Old Law, by the rite of Circumcision, every male Jew became a member and shared in the privileges and blessings of the chosen people of God. Our Lord, the sinless Son of God by nature who therefore did not need adoption into the membership of God's children, nevertheless submitted to the ancient Law. The Feast of the Holy Name follows on the heels of Octave Day to celebrate Jesus' name given at the Circumcision.

**THURSDAYS, FEBRUARY 1 – MARCH 7****Women's Bible Study**

On Thursdays, from February 1 to March 7, the Women's Bible Study will meet again for a study on reclaiming friendship. The study will be from 9:30-11:30 AM in St. Joseph Hall at St. Catherine's. Please note that registration ends on January 5. Here's a little description:

Do you desire lasting and abiding friendships? Do you want to move beyond the past hurts of relationships gone wrong? Reclaiming Friendship was written for any woman who wants a true and deep connection that lasts.

In a world plagued by loneliness, you are invited to encounter God personally through Scripture. Let God reshape how you see and experience intentional relationships, deal with your past friendship wounds, and become a woman who is capable of the lifelong bond of true friendship.

We hope you will be able to join us for this short but powerful 6-week study.

To register, please email ebgurley@gmail.com. Registration ends January 5. Cost is \$40 which includes the book and refreshments. We will have optional childcare for an additional fee.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27**Retreat for Married Couples**

Save the date for an all-day retreat for married couples on January 27, 2024— Learning prayer with the Holy Family— presented to you by the Holy Family School of Faith from Kansas. Registration details will be provided in early January.

MUSIC NOTES**for Advent and Christmastide**

While many other church choirs take a break immediately after Christmas, it makes no liturgical sense: the days following Christmas are some of the most significant in the Church year. So in our Parish, we continue to celebrate these days with the festal music they deserve. By doing so, we hope it will serve as an added encouragement for you to return often – to keep the 'Mass' in Christmas, not just on the day but throughout the tide.

For Sunday, December 31, 12 Noon

- Missa Brevis in D Major*, K. 194
– Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)
- Parvulus hodie natus est*
– Girolamo Giacobbi (1567-1629)
- O admirabile commercium*
– Melchior Franck (1580-1639)

For Monday, January 1, 6 PM

- Missa Princeps pacis*
– William Lloyd Webber (1914-1982)
- Hodie Christus natus est*
– Francis Poulenc (1899-1963)
- Quem pastores laudavere*
– James Bassi (b. 1961)

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