



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

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

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

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

January 3, 2021 – Epiphany of the Lord

PARISH COVID PROTOCOLS

We have resumed our regular Mass and confession schedule. The following guidelines should be observed while in church: masks are required throughout the Mass, practice social distancing as indicated by the markers, make frequent use of the hand sanitizer provided, and follow the instructions for the distribution of Holy Communion. The Churches are cleaned between Masses.

EPIPHANY

Sunday, January 3 is the Solemnity of the Epiphany. Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament will be offered at St. Vincent Ferrer following the 12 NOON Solemn Mass, concluding with Benediction at 5 PM. James Wetzel will offer an extended prelude of Christmas organ music from 4:30-5 PM.

The Epiphany is a very ancient feast with origins in the Christian East. It highlights the mystery of the manifestation of Jesus Christ to all peoples, as exemplified by the Magi who came to worship the King of the Jews just born in Bethlehem, the Baptism by John in the Jordan River, and his first miracle at the wedding feast of Cana. This feast is traditionally celebrated on January 6 is also known as 'Little Christmas' or 'Three Kings Day,' and is considered the 'peak' of Christmastide.

Customarily on this day (or during this tide), Epiphany water, frankincense, gold, and chalk is blessed. The chalk is used to write the letters C+M+B over the doors of churches and homes. This formula represents the names of the Magi (by tradition, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar), and also the phrase *Christus mansionem benedicat* (May Christ bless the house).

Also on Epiphany, the proclamation of the movable feasts is sung. This ritual dates from a time when calendars were not widely available. The Roman Missal provides a formula using the tone of the Easter Vigil's *Exsultet*, announcing the dates of Ash Wednesday, Easter, Ascension, Pentecost, Corpus Christi, and the First Sunday of Advent.

Gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh were standard gifts to honor a king or deity in the ancient world: gold as a precious metal, frankincense as perfume or incense, and myrrh as anointing oil. When describing Jerusalem's glorious restoration, Isaiah tells of nations and kings who will come and "bring gold and frankincense and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord" (Isaiah 60:6). Although Matthew's Gospel (2:1-11) does not include the names or number of the magi, many believe that the number of the gifts is what led to the tradition of the Three Wise Men. In the Christian tradition, the three gifts foretell three aspects of Christ's life: gold for a king; frankincense for a priest; and myrrh as embalming oil for the dead.

CATHOLICS COMMUNICATION COLLECTION

This weekend, our second collection supports the Catholic Communication Campaign. This campaign connects people with Christ in the United States and in developing countries around the world through the internet, television, radio, and print media. 50% of the money collected remains here in the Archdiocese of New York to fund local communications efforts. Your support helps spread the Gospel message! To learn more, visit www.usccb.org/cc.

MASS AND CONFESSIONS

ST. VINCENT FERRER

Weekdays: 8 AM, 12:10 PM*, 6 PM

Saturday: 8 AM, 6 PM (VIGIL)

Sunday: 8 AM, 9:30 AM,
12 NOON (SOLEMN)*, 6 PM

CONFESSIONS

Weekdays: 5:20-5:50 PM

Wednesday: 7:15-7:55

Saturday: 5-5:50 PM

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA

Weekdays: 7 AM, 5:15 PM

Saturday: 9 AM*, 4 PM (VIGIL)

Sunday: 10 AM, 5 PM

CONFESSIONS

Weekdays: 4:40-5:05 PM

Saturday: 3-3:50 PM

*Mass is livestreamed via svsc.info.

LITURGY OF THE HOURS AND OTHER PRAYER

ST. VINCENT FERRER

Weekdays:

7:25 AM: READING AND LAUDS

5:30 PM: ROSARY AND VESPERS

Wednesday:

6:30 PM: EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Saturday:

8:30 AM: READING AND LAUDS

5:30 PM: ROSARY AND VESPERS

Sunday:

8:45 AM: READING AND LAUDS

5:30 PM: ROSARY AND VESPERS

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA

Weekdays:

4:50 PM: ROSARY

Thursday:

5:45 PM: EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Sunday:

3 PM: EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

LIVESTREAM ROSARY

Weekdays: 9 AM

Saturday: 8:30 AM

PARISH OFFICE

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

St. Vincent Ferrer
869 Lexington Ave, NY, NY 10065
Office Hours: Monday–Friday:
9 AM–1 PM and 2 PM–4 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, O.P.
Pastor

Rev. Joseph Allen, O.P.
Vicar

Rev. Joseph Hagan, O.P.
Vicar for Formation

Bro. Damian McCarthy, O.P.
Sacristan

Bro. Frassati Davis, O.P.
Deacon

Bro. Albert Dempsey, O.P.
Deacon

Deacon John M. Powers
Lee Ann Rubino
Business Manager

James D. Wetzel
Director of Music and Organist

Lisa Harrelson
Director of Religious Education

Ginny McCusker
Administrative Assistant

Tony Hicks
Church Custodian

Tracey Hicks
Church Custodian

ST. VINCENT FERRER

HIGH SCHOOL

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

DOMINICAN SHRINE OF

ST. JUDE

(212) 249-6067
jude.parish.opeakst.org

HEALTH CARE EMERGENCIES

For health care emergencies please call (212) 988-1351. The Dominican Friars Health Care Ministry of New York provides pastoral and sacramental care to patients and their families at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center, and Hospital for Special Surgery. Please visit healthcareministry.org to learn more about the Ministry.

ONLINE GIVING

Fulfill your stewardship with an online service. Liturgical Publications (WeShare) allows you to make donations anytime, based on your personal schedule. Donations can be made with a credit card, debit card, or e-check. To enroll, visit svsc.info and go to "Donate."

CORPORATE MATCHING GIFTS

Does your employer participate in corporate matching or corporate grants? If so, we are a registered non-profit with Benevity Causes. Donations can be made through your work place giving portal or SPARK. Please search your company portal for *The Roman Catholic Church of Saint Vincent Ferrer and Saint Catherine* to submit your matching donation.

ALMSGIVING SUNDAY

Next weekend, a second collection will be taken-up to help offset our Parish's operating deficit. Donations will also be taken-up after Mass by members of the Social Concerns Committee to support the work of the New York Common Pantry. Thank you for your generosity.

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Next Sunday, January 10, is the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. It was historically fixed on January 13 as the Octave of the Epiphany, with the Sunday after the Epiphany observing the Feast of the Holy Family (now celebrated on the Sunday within the Octave of Christmas). The Baptism is the official end of the Christmas season, although some Christmas traditions continue until Candlemas.

FROM FR. JOSEPH HAGAN & THE HILLBILLY THOMISTS

It's my joy to announce a special early release of The Hillybilly Thomists' second album: *Living for the Other Side*.

Admittedly this is a strange offer. You may not regularly listen to bluegrass and American folk music, especially as recorded by a group of Catholic priests. Plus, you may not even have a way to play CDs in this age of digital downloads.

But for those who have heard our debut album back in 2017, I hope this album is reason enough to try out the second. With your help, we reached #3 on the Billboard Bluegrass charts.

For those new to the Hillbilly Thomists, try it out. Our music speaks to those who feel like they are just surviving but desire to start living. This album takes up that desire and points it heavenward to Jesus Christ. For seeking Him, we move past surviving the day-to-day, and we start living for the other side!

The CDs are available for purchase at St. Vincent Ferrer and St. Catherine of Siena for \$10. Again, this is an early release. Supplies will be limited. All proceeds will help the friars in formation. Our general release will be on January 28, including digital downloads, merchandise, and music videos.

MUSIC NOTES

Next week, for the Baptism of the Lord, the Schola will sing two motets from the Spanish Renaissance to conclude the Christmas season.

Missa O magnum mysterium

– Tomás Luis de Victoria (c. 1548-1611)

Pastores loquebantur – Videntes autem cognoverunt

– Francisco Guerrero (1528-1599)

**MASS INTENTIONS
ST. VINCENT FERRER**

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3
6:00 PM (Vigil) Letizia B. Rizzo
& the Deceased Members of the
Barbetta & Rizzo Families
8:00 AM Gislaine Rameau
Bastien (D)
9:30 AM For the People
of the Parish
12 NOON Marie & Jack Powers (D)
6:00 PM Nancy & Luke A.
Foye Sr. (D)

MONDAY, JANUARY 4
8:00 AM For the Deceased of the
Parish and the Order
12:10 PM Mary Borg (D)
6:00 PM Robert Mullen (D)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 5
8:00 AM Deceased Members of the
Sharbel Family
12:10 PM Rev. John McCartney
6:00 PM Carlos Manuel Torres (D)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6
8:00 AM Jean Edouard Gelin
12:10 PM Manola Gelin
6:00 PM Tony Scudero (D)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7
8:00 AM The Deceased Members of
the McGovern Family
12:10 PM Roseann Connelly
6:00 PM For the Intentions of Susan
Wafer

FRIDAY, JANUARY 8
8:00 AM Bart & Bridget
McGovern (D)
12:10 PM Catherine & Patrick
McGlade (D)
6:00 PM Julia & Joseph
Monaco (D)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9
8:00 AM Rose & Andrew Minnella
and Angelina Finguerra (D)
6:00 PM (Vigil) Robert Chiavich

**MASS INTENTIONS
ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA**

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3
4:00 PM (Vigil) David
Gale (D)
10:00 AM Jenara Madina & Gabriel
Malave (D)
5:00 PM Dominga Suarez (D)

MONDAY, JANUARY 4
7:00 AM For the Province of
St. Joseph
5:15 PM Poor Souls in Purgatory

TUESDAY, JANUARY 5
7:00 AM Rogelio Asuncion (D)
5:15 PM Teresita Anceja Castro (D)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6
7:00 AM Patrons of the Shrine of
St. Jude
5:15 PM Wilma Kahler &
Family (D)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7
7:00 AM Ms. Lucille Amicone
5:15 PM In Thanksgiving for God's
Love and Mercy

FRIDAY, JANUARY 8
7:00 AM For the Purgatorial Society
of St. Catherine of Siena
5:15 PM Juanita Carmona (D)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9
9:00 AM James Stolba (D)
4:00 PM (Vigil) Xandra & Rob
Bernardo

**ADVENT WREATH CANDLE INTENTIONS
ST. VINCENT FERRER**

- 1) Mary & Angelo Soldato
- 2) Jack Ryan Keegan
- 3) Mae Mazza
- 4) Patrick McCarthy (D)

**PARISH PRAYER
INTENTIONS**

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

August Arace, Roseann Connelly,
Andrew Fraser, Maggie Heath,
Ramoncito Isidore Sr., David Ruck
Keene, Thomas Linson, Rosie Mann,
Maurice A. Murphy, David Olivier,
Adolfo Sardina, Blair Scribner, Fern
Taller.

Please pray for the repose of the
souls of Edward Greason, Gilbert
Hart Kinney, Catherine, Michael,
& Alexandro Martinez, James
Neville, Marie O'Brien, Juan de
Jesus Peraquive, Wayne Rogers,
Jack Scaccio, Sr. Padraic Mary,
Celia Vestey, 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,
Rockefeller University Hospital, and
the Intentions of the Dominican
Friars Health Care Ministry.

CANDLE INTENTIONS

St. Vincent – Sanctuary Lamps
Mary Wilson (D); Ramon &
Fernando Gonzalez (L); Margaret
Williams (D); Helen Donnelly (D);
Souls in Purgatory; The People of the
Parish; Christmas Novena.

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

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 Donor

St. Catherine – Blessed Mother Candle
Priscilla Ventigan

*St. Catherine – St. Martin de Porres
Candle*

Maria Marta Litrenta

*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 of Siena Monday–Friday, 10 AM–3 PM.*

OVERDOING IT

Early bulletin deadlines will not relent this year. I am preparing for the confessions of Reconciliation Monday: it is really too early for me to wrap my mind around the mystery of the Epiphany. I was glad to rediscover the insights below from 2018. The text below comes from the Liturgy of today's feast.

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, flows 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 too long. John the Baptist snuffs out 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

THIS WEEK OF GRACE

January 3, 2021 - January 9, 2021

The Pope's Prayer Intention for January 2021

- May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.

From the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

- January is Poverty Awareness Month.
- Pray for those thrust into poverty by the pandemic.
- Remember the homeless in difficult winter months.

Antiphon of the Blessed Mother for the ending of the pandemic.

- At Night Prayer during Advent and Christmas this Antiphon takes the place of the usual Salve Regina. It may give voice to what is in our hearts at this time.

*Mother of Christ! Hear thou thy people's cry,
Star of the deep, and portal of the sky!
Mother of him who they from nothing made,
Sinking we strive, and call to thee for aid;
Oh, by that joy which Gabriel brought to thee,
Thou Virgin first and last, let us thy mercy see.*

Sunday, January 3

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 and 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.

January 4

The Memorial of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

- St. Elizabeth (1774-1821) was a native of our city and a member of its mercantile upper class. She married for love but lost husband and fortune with tragic swiftness. She became a Catholic, an educator, and then a founderess.
- Pray for St. Elizabeth's community, the Sisters of Charity.
- Pray for all who work for the underprivileged.

January 5

St. John Neumann, Bishop, (Memorial)

- St. John lived from 1811 to 1860. He emigrated from Bohemia and joined the Redemptorists. He became the fourth Bishop of Philadelphia. He founded great numbers of parishes and a system of parochial schools to serve an immigrant Church.
- Pray then for immigrants to this country whose gifts have so molded the American Church.
- Pray for the Redemptorists in their great work of mission preaching and educating.

January 7

St. Raymond of Penyafort, O.P. (Memorial for the Order)

- St. Raymond (1175-1275) was a noted confessor and canon lawyer.
- Pray for those who administer the Law of the Church, for their wisdom, courage, and discretion.

St. Vincent Ferrer
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