Saint Vincent Ferrer
Roman Catholic Church
Incorporated May 17, 1923

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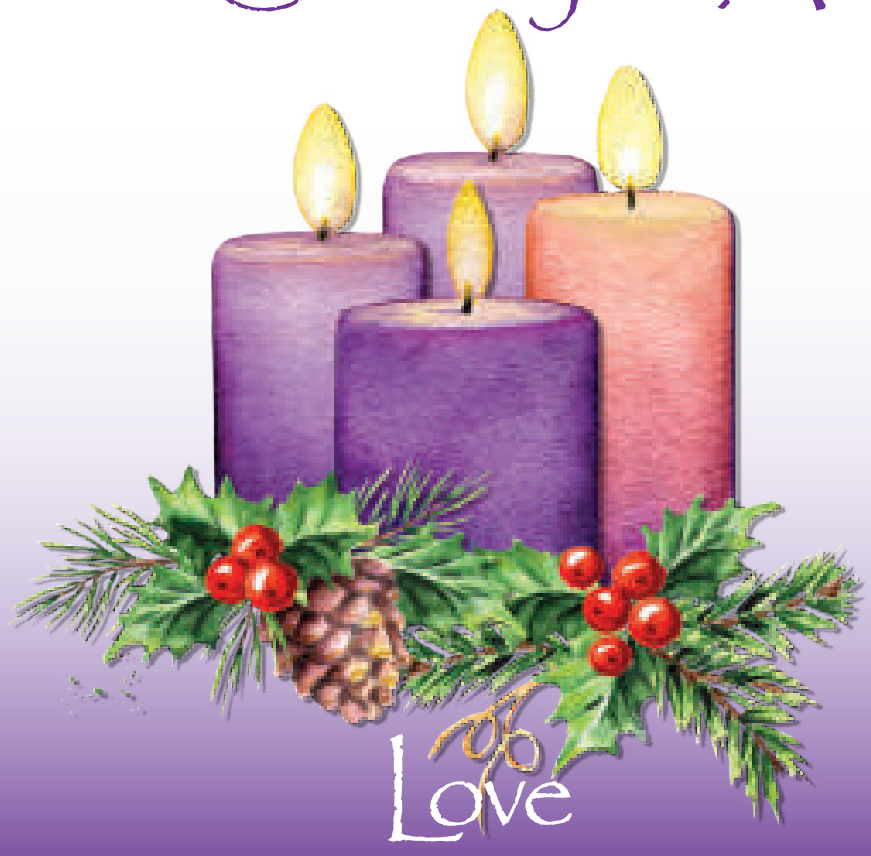
PHONE: 718-859-9009 FAX: 718-859-9032 EMAIL: info@saintvincentferrer.org
Office Hours: Monday to Friday 9:30 a.m. — 4:30 p.m. Evenings and Weekends: By Appointment

DECEMBER 21, 2025 –FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Fourth Sunday of Advent



OUR STAFF:

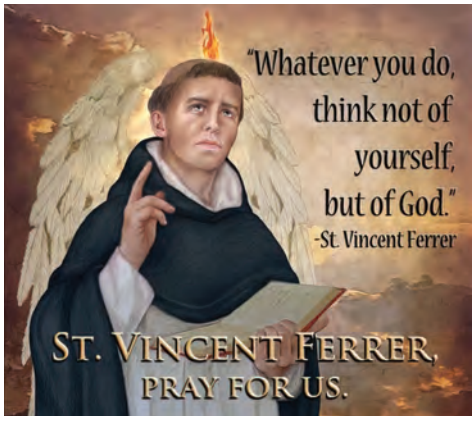
Pastor:
Reverend Father
Michael J. S. Bruno, S.T.D.

Parish Secretary:
Allison Gullap

School of Religion:
Margaret Bambara

Maintenance:
Richard Mahabir

www.saintvincentferrer.org



MASS SCHEDULE

Monday-Saturday: 9:00 a.m.
Saturday: 5:00 p.m. – Vigil Mass
Sunday: 8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
HOLY DAYS: 9:00 a.m.

SCHOOL AFFILIATION

Midwood Catholic Academy
(Pre-K3-Grade 8)
1501 Hendrickson Street
Brooklyn, NY 11234
718-377-1800
www.midwoodcatholicacademy.org

Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 21, 2025

MASS INTENTIONS:

Saturday, December 20 **5:00 p.m.**
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Jack Schaffer — In Memoriam (First Anniversary)
Requested by James Bambara

Sunday, December 21 **8:00 a.m.**
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Juliet Wright — Blessings and Healing
Requested by Margaret and James Bambara

11:00 a.m.
Jocelyn Myrthil — Birthday Blessings
Carol Gillies — Birthday Blessings
Requested by the Gillies Family

Monday, December 22 **9:00 a.m.**
Rev. Father Coman V. Brady — In Memoriam

Tuesday, December 23 **9:00 a.m.**
Saint John Cantius (John of Kanty), Priest
Lidia Patricia Solarte — In Memoriam
Requested by Saint Vincent Ferrer Parish Staff

Wednesday, December 24 **9:00 a.m.**
Niki McGlinchey — Blessings and Healing
Requested by James Bambara

5:00 p.m.
Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord
Christmas Mass Remembrance
The People of Saint Vincent Ferrer Parish

Thursday, December 25 **12:00 a.m. (Midnight)**
The Nativity of the Lord
Christmas Mass Remembrance
The People of Saint Vincent Ferrer Parish

11:00 a.m.
The People of Saint Vincent Ferrer Parish

Friday, December 26 **9:00 a.m.**
Octave of Christmas
Christmas Mass Remembrance
Saint Stephen, the First Martyr
Rev. Father Raymond Dundon — In Memoriam

Saturday, December 27 **9:00 a.m.**
Octave of Christmas
Christmas Mass Remembrance
Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist
Terrance Redhead — In Memoriam
Requested by The Redhead Family

GIFTS AND INTENTIONS:

Bread and Wine
Roy Redhead — Blessings and Healing

Altar Flowers
Monica Walker — Blessings and Healing

Altar Candles
Sheila Scope — Blessings and Healing

Sanctuary Candle
Jean Souffrant — Blessings and Healing

Mary's Chapel
Grace Elizabeth Akom Ofori — In Memoriam
Requested by Claudia Hooper

Annunciation Chapel
Gladys Builes — Blessings and Healing

THE RECTORY OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED

for the Christmas Break from Wednesday, December 24th to Monday, January 5th

In case of emergency or other urgent matter, please call the Rectory and leave a message.

SECOND COLLECTIONS

December 21: **Christmas Gift to My Church**
December 25: **Catholic Charities**
January 11: **Diocesan Mission**
Please be generous.

Lectio Divina

Read the following scripture: Matthew 3:1-12.

Take some time to reflect in silence on one or more of the following questions:

- What word or words in this passage caught your attention?
- What in this passage comforted you?
- What in this passage challenged you?

Read the Scripture passage one more time. Bring to the Lord the praise, petition, or thanksgiving that the Word inspires in you.

Scripture Reflection

What conversion of mind, heart, and life is the Lord asking of me?

Joseph her husband … was a righteous man. What injustices do I see in my community? How can I work to eliminate these injustices and build a community of righteousness and peace?

He will save his people from their sins. How can I express my gratitude for God's gift of salvation? How can I grow in my reliance on God's mercy?

When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home. How do I discern God's will for my life? How can I become more docile to God's will?

Closing Prayer

The LORD's are the earth and its fullness;
the world and those who dwell in it.
For he founded it upon the seas
and established it upon the rivers.

Who can ascend the mountain of the LORD?
or who may stand in his holy place?
One whose hands are sinless, whose heart is clean,
who desires not what is vain.

He shall receive a blessing from the LORD,
a reward from God his savior.
Such is the race that seeks for him,
that seeks the face of the God of Jacob.

(From Psalm 24)

DAILY READINGS FOR THE FOURTH WEEK OF ADVENT

Sunday, December 21
Isaiah 7:10-14 Psalm 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6
Romans 1:1-7 Matthew 1:18-24
Jesus is Emmanuel, "God with us" (1,3), risen from the dead (2). He is the king of glory (Ps).

Monday, December 22
1 Samuel 1:24-28 (Psalm) 1 Samuel 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd
Luke 1:46-56
Hannah's thanksgiving for her son (1, Ps) is echoed in the great hymn of Mary's Magnificat (2).

Tuesday, December 23
Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24 Psalm 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14
Luke 1:57-66
As God sent Elijah (1), so, too, is John (from the Hebrew Yehôḥānān, meaning *Yahweh is gracious*), raised up to herald the Lord's coming (2) which is at hand (Ps).

Wednesday, December 24
2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16
Psalm 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 Luke 1:67-79
The kingdom of David will last forever (1, Ps) in the person of Jesus, the Dayspring from on high (2).

Thursday, December 25 — Christmas Day
Isaiah 52:7-10 Psalm 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6
Hebrews 1:1-6 John 1:1-18
God has spoken to us through his Son (2), the Word made flesh (3). Thus has salvation been revealed (1, Ps) to all the nations.

Friday, December 26
Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59 Psalm 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17
Matthew 10:17-22
Filled with the Spirit (2), Stephen entrusts his life (Ps) to the Lord for the sake of the gospel (1).

Saturday, December 27
1 John 1:1-4 Psalm 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12
John 20:1a, 2-8
John testifies to what he has seen (1): Jesus risen from the dead (2). And so, let us rejoice (Ps)!

Saint Vincent Ferrer Roman Catholic Church

925 East 37th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11210

May you be guided with the light of wisdom on your path and your journey of life. Celebrate this Epiphany with your family and friends.

Three Kings Raffle

Sunday, January 4th, 2026

after 11 A.M. Mass

Donation - $10.00

For Information or Raffles

Call the Rectory:
(718) 859 - 9009

Tickets will be sold after all Masses

PRIZES

First Prize:
Qeensbury Expandable Spinner Luggage Collection

Second Prize:
Bed In the Bag

Third Prize:
Modoker Rolling Garment Duffel Bag for Travel w/ Detachable Rollers

Win a Complimentary Basket

The Ministry of Mercy

would like to thank all parishioners for your support during 2025.

We take this opportunity to wish you Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year for 2026.

Joyeux Noel et Bonne Annee 2026!

Saint Vincent Ferrer Roman Catholic Church

Church–925 East 37th St
(Corner of Glenwood Road)
Phone 718-859-9009

Office–1603 Brooklyn Ave
Brooklyn, NY 11210
Fax: 718-859-9032

2025 Christmas/New Year's Mass Schedule

Monday, December 15th — Reconciliation Monday
3:00-6:00 p.m./7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
Confessions will be heard in the Church

Saturday/Sunday, December 20th-21st — Fourth Sunday of Advent
Saturday Mass at 5:00 p.m.
Sunday Mass at 8:00 a.m.
Sunday Mass at 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday, December 24th — Christmas Eve
Family Mass at 5:00 p.m.
Midnight Mass
(Carols begin at 11:00 p.m.)

Thursday, December 25th — Christmas Day
Mass at 11:00 a.m.

Saturday/Sunday, December 27th-28th — Feast of the Holy Family
Saturday Mass at 5:00 p.m.
Sunday Mass at 8:00 a.m.
Sunday Mass at 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday, December 31st — New Year's Eve
Family Mass at 5:00 p.m.
Holy Hour begins at 10:00 p.m.
New Year's Eve Mass at 11:00 p.m.

Thursday, January 1st — New Year's Day
Mass at 11:00 a.m.

Saturday/Sunday, January 3rd-4th — Feast of the Epiphany/Three Kings
Saturday Mass at 5:00 p.m.
Sunday Mass at 8:00 a.m.
Sunday Mass at 11:00 a.m.

We celebrate the 12 Days of Christmas beginning December 25th!

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

(Now we have come) to the fourth and final Advent candle. We light this on the fourth Sunday of Advent. It is a purple candle and it represents love. And love is the whole point. So whether we have just a couple of days of that fourth week of Advent or an entire week, we get to contemplate love. Love himself came for us at Christmas and we get to live with love himself all of the days of our life. And this is the whole point. This is the whole point of the Christian life. This is what we strive for. And so especially I think love is a good theme for us this last week of Advent because we are likely at this time preparing to celebrate Christmas with friends or family. And that may bring with it some challenges or tensions or old wounds, things like that. And so what better thing to meditate on during this last week of Advent, than the love of God that is born in our hearts and is meant to overflow into love of neighbor.

So as we prepare for Christmas this last week of Advent. As we do our cooking and cleaning and packing and traveling and hosting and chatting, may love be ever on our minds. Again, this is something that we cannot do apart from the Lord. We cannot love with a supernatural love without the grace of God in our hearts. But it is what is given to us at Christmas. It is the great gift of this season, and we get to choose to accept it. And when we accept the love of Jesus in our own hearts, we start to see with His vision. And so maybe the people that are difficult for us or the situations that really sting, we can start to see it with a new vision.

We can see these people may be a little bit more the way God sees them, and that increases the love, the true charity in our hearts. And so as we light that fourth Advent candle, we may pray something like,

Lord Jesus, you are the love of my life. Lord, I don't know how to love well. I need you to teach me. And I know that is why you came to be our model of holiness. So Lord, help me love, fill my heart with so much of your love that it can't help but overflow onto everyone that I'll interact with this week. Everyone from the supermarket, to the post office, to the people I'll share a roof with. Lord, I want everything that I do to point back to you. So would you help me Lord? I love you. Amen.

— Olivia Spears

Olivia Spears lives in Kentucky with her husband and four children. She holds degrees in theology and catechetics from the Franciscan University of Steubenville, educates her kids at home, and relishes a brimming flower garden. She is the founder of Into the Deep, where you can find faith formation resources that help Catholic parents build a legacy of faith in their homes.

Reprinted from praymoreretreat.org: "The Catholic Symbolism in The Advent Wreath – Advent 2025"

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This Week on Formed

Week of December 21, 2025

The Story of Christmas | Benjamin Cello Christmas Special

In this special hour-long television event, Benjamin Cello and his friends travel to Pennywhistle Park for a spectacular shadow puppet retelling of "The Story of Christmas" by Brother Joseph and "The Shadow of His Wings" puppet theater.

Christmas | Sacred Art

Join Dr. Ben Akers and Taylor Kemp as they look at the painting Adoration of the Shepherds by Gerard van Honthorst to celebrate the Nativity of our Lord. This famous painting reveals the Christ Child as the light that has come into the world and also depicts the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph, and the shepherds to be models of adoration to our humble Lord who came as a helpless baby.

What Catholics Believe About Christmas: Traditions, Santa Claus

Join Dr. Michael Barber as he answers some of the Internet's most popular questions about Christmas. What are the 12 days of Christmas? Was Santa Claus a real person? What is Advent?

Our parish has a Formed subscription.
Visit signup.formed.org and enter 11210 to find St. Vincent Ferrer Church.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

X	N	J	O	S	E	P	H	T	Z	B	S	H	N	C	B	H
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BIRTH
JESUS
CHRIST
CAME
ABOUT
MOTHER
MARY
BETROTHED
JOSEPH
BEFORE
LIVED
TOGETHER
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WITH
CHILD
THROUGH
HOLY
SPIRIT
HUSBAND
RIGHTEOUS
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EXPOSE
SHAME
DECIDED
DIVORCE
QUIETLY
INTENTION
BEHOLD
ANGEL
LORD
APPEARED
DREAM
SAID
DAVID
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PEOPLE
SINS
FULFILL
THROUGH
PROPHET
BEHOLD
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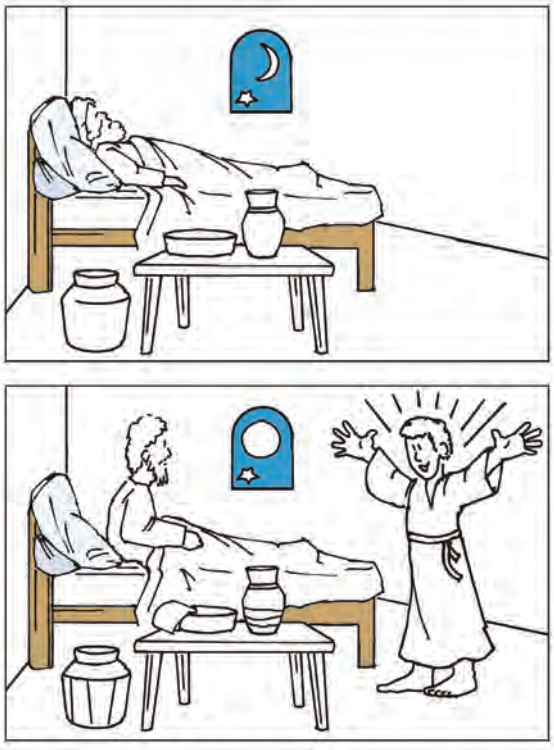
AWOKE
COMMANDED
TOOK
INTO
HOME

An angel of the Lord
appeared to Joseph in a dream.

Circle the 6 differences in the bottom picture.



What else did the angel say?

Use this code to find out.

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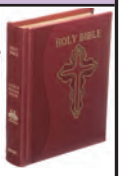

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