Saint Vincent Ferrer
Roman Catholic Church
Incorporated May 17, 1923

CHURCH: 925 EAST 37TH STREET, BROOKLYN **OFFICE: 1603 BROOKLYN AVENUE, BROOKLYN, NY 11210**
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**

August 16, 2026 – 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jean Germain Drouais, Christ and the Canaanite Woman 1784, Oil on Canvas, Louvre, Paris

OUR STAFF:

Pastor:
Very Rev. Michael J.S. Bruno, S.T.D.

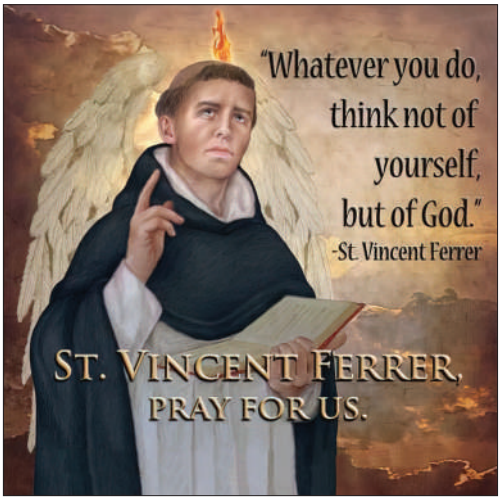
Parochial Vicar/Hospital Chaplain:
Rev. Chinedu Achusim, S.T.D. (cand.)

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

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 16, 2026

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, August 15 **5:00 p.m.**
20th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Dorrel Arthur — Blessings and Healing

Sunday, August 16 **8:00 a.m.**
20th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Georgette Lucie Nau — In Memoriam
Requested by Ketty Numa

11:00 a.m.
The People of Saint Vincent Ferrer Parish — Blessings
Johan Payne — Birthday Blessings
Requested by Irmin Payne
Andrea Marguerite Veriquain — In Memoriam
Requested by Marie Carmel Veriquain and Family
Eric Whitman and Michelle Nasir — In Thanksgiving
Kim and Quentin McKeney
— Wedding Anniversary Blessings
Requested by Irmin Payne
Dawn Kerr — Blessings and Thanksgiving
Requested by Saint Vincent Ferrer Parish

Monday, August 17 **9:00 a.m.**
John and Agatha McFarlane
— 38th Wedding Anniversary Blessings

Tuesday, August 18 **9:00 a.m.**
Father Michael J.S. Bruno — Birthday Blessings
Requested by Saint Vincent Ferrer Parish

Wednesday, August 19 **9:00 a.m.**
Saint John Eudes, Priest
Lyn Duplessy — In Memoriam
Requested by Saint Vincent Ferrer Parish

Thursday, August 20 **9:00 a.m.**
Saint Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church
Judith Gullap — Blessings and Healing
Requested by Saint Vincent Ferrer Parish

Friday, August 21 **9:00 a.m.**
Saint Pius X, Pope
Lyn Duplessy — In Memoriam
Requested by Kim and Quentin McKeney

Saturday, August 22 **9:00 a.m.**
The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Pierre Joseph Myrthil — Birthday Memoriam
Requested by Jocelyn Myrthil

GIFTS AND INTENTIONS

Sanctuary Candle
John and Agatha McFarlane
— 38th Wedding Anniversary Blessings

Bread and Wine
Monica Walker — Blessings and Healing

Altar Flowers
Sheila Scope — Blessings and Healing

Altar Candles
Lucille Anthony — Blessings and Healing

Saint Joseph Candle
Barbara Dhanieram — Blessings and Healing

Mary's Chapel
Eileen Morancie — Blessings and Healing

Annunciation Chapel
Barbara Mark — Blessings and Healing

PLEASE NOTE

The Rectory Office will be closed on Friday, August 21, and will re-open on Monday, August 24. Thank you.

MASS INTENTIONS

THE 2026 MASS BOOK IS OPEN

We encourage you to honor and/or memorialize a loved one, living or deceased, with a Mass, a gift of bread and wine, sanctuary candle, altar candle, chapel candle or altar flowers.

Requests must be submitted on or before the Friday, two weeks before the desired date.

Place your request together with your **name** and **phone number**, in a sealed envelope in the offering basket.

Please make a Donation of $20 as set by the Diocese of Brooklyn with each request.

Scripture Reflection

Today's Gospel recounts the encounter of Jesus with a Canaanite woman outside the territory of Israel (cf. Mt 15:21-28). She asks him to free her daughter, who is tormented by a demon. But the Lord pays no attention to her. She insists, and the disciples advise Jesus to acknowledge her so she would stop. Jesus, however, explains that his mission is directed to the children of Israel, using this image: "It is not fair to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs". And the courageous woman responds, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master's table". Then, Jesus says to her, "'O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire.' And her daughter was healed instantly" (vv. 26-28). This is a beautiful story. And this happened to Jesus.

We see that Jesus changed his attitude. What made him change was the strength of the woman's faith. Let us pause briefly over these two aspects: the change in Jesus and the woman's faith.

The change in Jesus. He was directing his preaching to the chosen people. Later the Holy Spirit would push the Church to the ends of the world. But what happens here, we could say, is an anticipation through which the universality of God's work is already manifested in the episode of the Canaanite woman. Jesus' openness is interesting. On hearing the woman's prayer, "he anticipates the plan"; faced with her concrete case, he becomes even more sympathetic and compassionate. God is like this: he is love, and the one who loves does not remain rigid. Yes, he or she stands firm, but not rigid; they do not remain rigid in their own positions, but allow themselves to be moved and touched. They know how to change their plans. Love is creative. And we Christians who want to imitate Christ, we are invited to be open to change. How good it would do our relationships, as well as our lives of faith, if we were to be docile, to truly pay attention, to soften up in the name of compassion and the good of others, like Jesus did with the Canaanite woman. The docility to change. Hearts docile to change.

Now let us look at the woman's faith, which the Lord praises, saying that it is "great" (v. 28). According to the disciples, the only thing that seemed "great" was her insistence; but Jesus sees her faith. If we think about it, that foreign woman had probably little or no awareness of the laws and religious precepts of Israel. What does her faith consist of then? She does not have a wealth of concepts but of deeds — the Canaanite woman draws near, prostrates herself, insists, takes part in a close dialogue with Jesus, overcomes every obstacle just to speak with him. This is the concreteness of faith, which is not a religious label but is a personal relationship with the Lord. How many times we fall into the temptation to confuse faith with a label! This woman's faith is not fraught with theological gallantry, but with insistence — she knocks at the door, knocks, knocks. Her faith is not made up of words, but of prayer. And God does not resist when he is prayed to. This is why he said, "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you" (Mt 7:7).

Brothers and sisters, in light of all this, we can ask ourselves a few questions beginning with the change in Jesus. For example: Am I capable of changing opinion? Do I know how to be understanding and do I know how to be compassionate, or do I remain rigid in my position? Is there some rigidity in my heart? Which is not firmness: rigidity is awful, firmness is good. And beginning with the woman's faith: What is my faith like? Does it stop at concepts and words, or is it truly lived with prayer and deeds? Do I know how to dialogue with the Lord? Do I know how to insist with him? Or am I content to recite beautiful formulas? May Our Lady make us open to what is good and concrete in the faith.

— Pope Francis' Angelus Message for the 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time, August 20, 2023

Daily readings for the 20th Week in Ordinary Time

Sunday, August 16
Isaiah 56:1, 6-7
Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8
Romans 11:13-15, 29-32
Matthew 15:21-28

Monday, August 17
Ezekiel 24:15-23
(Psalm) Deuteronomy 32:18-19, 20, 21
Matthew 19:16-22

Tuesday, August 18
Ezekiel 28:1-10
(Psalm) Deuteronomy 32:26-27ab, 27cd-28,30, 35cd-36ab
Matthew 19:23-30

Wednesday, August 19
Ezekiel 34:1-11
Psalm 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6
Matthew 20:1-16

Thursday, August 20
Ezekiel 36:23-28
Psalm 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19
Matthew 22:1-14

Friday, August 21
Ezekiel 37:1-14
Psalm 107:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9
Matthew 22:34-40

Saturday, August 22
Ezekiel 43:1-7ab
Psalm 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14
Matthew 23:1-12

Annual Prayer Breakfast

"Take My Yoke Upon You"

(Matthew 11:22)

Saturday, October 3 10:00 am – 1:30 pm

In the Lower Church

925 East 37th Street, Brooklyn NY 11210

Guest Speaker:
Rev. Father Chinedu Achusim, STD (Cand.)

Followed by a Revival October 5–7
starting with the Rosary at 6:30 p.m.

Praise, worship and teaching each night, ending with Mass on the final night

Come join in prayer, praise and worship, and nourish on the Word!

Thank you,
IHLCPG

SCHOOL OF RELIGION REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

School of Religion Registration is open for new and returning students for the school year 2026-2027. Classes begin in September.

The registration forms can be found online at saintvincentferrer.org under the Education tab. If you prefer a printed copy of the registration form, please call the Rectory at 718 859-9009 and we will mail the form to you.

If you are registering a new student, please bring the original copies of the Birth and Baptism certificates along with the registration fee to the Rectory.

The registration fee is $50.00 per family and can be paid by cash or money order. Please bring the payment to the Rectory, 1603 Brooklyn Avenue. The office is open Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. There are no evening or weekend office hours.

Please check the website and your email for further updates.

If you have any questions, please call
Miss Margaret Bambara at 718-859-9009, ext. 4.

VIRTUS TRAINING UPDATE

Dear Parish Ministers and Volunteers:

Thank you for being an active member of Saint Vincent Ferrer Parish. We are especially grateful that you volunteer your time and talent in service to God.

In compliance with Diocesan and State regulations, all parish ministers and volunteers are required to complete an annual online Virtus refresher. This year's module is, "Protecting God's Children from Maltreatment 4.1". It was e-mailed to your Virtus account.

You can either visit Virtusonline.org to complete the module online, or you can attend any of the online presentations sponsored by the Parish.

Thank you again for all that you do for Saint Vincent Ferrer!

The next Virtus training class will be held on Saturday, August 22, at 1:00 p.m. in the Lower Church.

Please call the Rectory to register.

MINISTERS OF THE WORD SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2026

	Saturday 5PM Mass	Sunday 8AM Mass	Sunday 11AM Mass
	August 15	**August 16**	**August 16**
Lector # 1	Christoper	Carolle	Charmaine
Lector # 2	Alana	Anna	Marina
	August 22	**August 23**	**August 23**
Lector # 1	Fritz	Jared	Geralda
Lector # 2	Alison	Daisy	Donald
	August 29	**August 30**	**August 30**
Lector # 1	Mattheus	Jeri	Aiden
Lector # 2	Cynthia	Lancine	Gloria
	September 5	**September 6**	**September6**
Lector # 1	Jocelyne	Daisy	Lester
Lector # 2	Lydia	Anna	Marcia
	September 12	**September 13**	**September 13**
Lector # 1	Mary	Carolle	Donald
Lector # 2	Jonnett	Jeri	Geralda

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2026

Saturday 5PM Mass	Sunday 8AM Mass	Sunday 11AM Mass
August 15	**August 16**	**August 16**
Mary	Francesca	Gillian
August 22	**August 23**	**August 23**
Pat	Roxanne	Joan
August 29	**August 30**	**August 30**
Lydia	Camille	Kim
September 5	**September 6**	**September 6**
Jean	Ignatius	Marie-Rosa
September 12	**September 13**	**September 13**
Jocelyn	Brenda	Gloria

PROFILES OF THE SAINTS

Saint Edith Stein (Sister Teresa Benedicta of the Cross) — Feast Day August 9

Saint Edith Stein

The Church celebrates the feast day of Saint Edith Stein on August 9.

Edith was born in Breslau, Germany, on October 12, 1891, the youngest of eleven children in a practicing Jewish family. When Edith was two years old, her father died, leaving her mother to care for the family alone. As a teenager, Edith gave up practicing her faith and praying to God. This was very disappointing to her mother.

Edith was an excellent student who loved to read and learn. In her studies, she searched for truth and meaning in life. She wrote a paper on empathy— understanding and sharing in what others are feeling. She received a university degree in philosophy, the study of wisdom, knowledge, and meaning in life. When World War I began, Edith became a nurse. She cared for wounded soldiers in a hospital in Austria. After the war ended and the hospital closed, she went back to her studies.

In 1921, when she was thirty years old, Edith read the life story of Saint Teresa of Ávila. She finished the book in one night. She believed she had found the truth. She decided to turn back to God and become a Catholic. She was baptized in 1922. She later became a Carmelite sister and took the name Sister Teresa Benedicta of the Cross. She continued to study, teach, and write.

Meanwhile, the Nazis were coming into power in Germany. They were persecuting Jews. When it was no longer safe for Edith to stay in Germany, the Carmelite community moved her to Holland. The Nazis' power continued to grow, and Edith was captured with her sister, Rosa. They were taken to a prison camp and killed a week later. Before Edith died, she tried to comfort the people with her, especially the children. The Church named Edith a saint in 1998.

Edith is an example of courage in times of great difficulty and dedication to the truth found in Christ. She helped and cared for those around her. She was willing to die for and with the Jewish people. At the time of her arrest, she told her sister, Rosa, "Come, let us go for our people."

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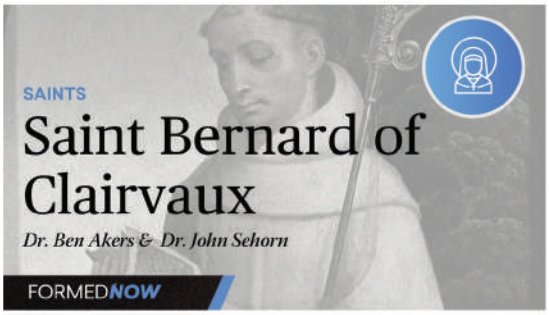
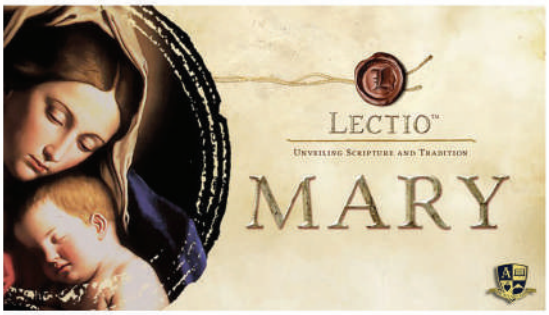
This Week on Formed

Week of August 16, 2026



Saint Bernard of Clairvaux | Catholic Saints

Who was St. Bernard of Clairvaux? In this FORMED Now episode, Dr. Ben Akers is joined by Dr. John Sehorn to discuss this great saint and Doctor of the Church.



The Queen Mother | Lectio: Mary | Episode 4

Mary serves as our Queen Mother. What does that mean? Join Dr. Brant Pitre as he explores the scriptural roots of this title.

Pope Saint Pius X | Catholic Saints

Join Dr. Ben Akers with Lucas Pollice as they discuss the life of Pope St. Pius X and his work to restore all things in Christ.

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

20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

D	O	G	S	F	S	Z	L	W	S	D	S	C	R	A	P	S	V	N
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JESUS
WITHDREW
REGION
TYRE
SIDON
BEHOLD
CANAANITE
WOMAN
DISTRICT
CALLED
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PITY
LORD
SON
DAVID
DAUGHTER
TORMENTED
DEMON
ANSWER
DISCIPLES
ASKED
SEND
AWAY
KEEPS
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AFTER
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A woman asked Jesus to heal someone.
Who was it?

Use the star code to fill in the missing letters.

☆ = a ☆☆☆ = r

☆☆ = e ☆☆☆ = u

H ___ ___

d ___ ___ ght ___ ___

A Canaanite woman came crying to Jesus for help.
What did she say?

Use the code to fill in the letters.

♡=A	♡=E	★=I	☆=M	◑=Q	□=U	◨=Y
♥=B	♥=F	☆=J	★=N	◑=R	■=V	⊡=Z
♡=C	♡=G	★=K	○=O	◑=S	◫=W	
♡=D	☆=H	★=L	●=P	⊙=T	◧=X	

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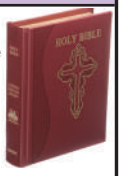

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