



St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Community

Madison Heights, MI www.stvincentferrer.net

NOVEMBER 3, 2024 † THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

From The Pastor

Even those who learned Christianity\Catholicism from the Baltimore Catechism or before, know that God is One. God is Lord alone. Further, we learned we are to love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. This essential truth of our faith flows seamlessly into the comparative love of one's neighbor as oneself. We know the words and what they mean, but what is behind them? Where did they come from and how did these two Commandments of love come to be one?

The first reading reveals the foundation of the words and their meaning. The reading urges us to 'Fear the Lord your God...' This is a primary example where the word fear means reverence and awe. This is not the fear of punishment, fright, or retaliation. Fear in the sense of fright or punishment will never be a secure ground to build a relationship of faith and love.

In faith, as an act of love, we reverence God through worshipful respect with awe and wonder. God is worthy of our love and adoration. Our reverential worship of God expresses our faith and trust in the sovereignty and authority of the Divine nature. This reverent worship has two expressions.

Internally, we reverence God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength; meaning we love God with our whole self. Externally, we express our love for God actively in obedience to the Ten Commandments, love of neighbor, and personal expressions of service for the good of others. This includes our personal prayer life, our Church worship, and our rhythms of life that reflect the Christian way.

This is not a one-way street. Why are we drawn to love and reverence God, obey Divine commandments, and seek to love our neighbor? Because God has first loved and revered us. God reverences and honors all that God has made in love, for love, and out of love to reveal the Divine nature in all created things. This is God loving us from his inner nature. In an active and outer way, God reverences us through the Incarnation of Jesus. God seeks to be one with us in real and personal relationships. God freely chooses to share our human nature in the person of Jesus. This is a profound act of reverence and honor that God would come in human flesh showing us the fulness of what we can be in Christ. In Jesus, God shows us what is possible for human beings who live the way of surrendering love for the sake of others. God's love for us is not sentimental. God's love is real, active, and personal in the life of Jesus. Nor can our love for God be mere spiritual sentiment. It must be expressed from hearts of

love put into action for the good of others. Jesus is God's love for us put into action through his life and death that we might imitate his example.

Our love and reverence of God is born and flows from the love and reverence God has already shown us. Too often, we think we must earn and work our way to God through our own efforts. In our desire for God, we seek to please God by obeying rules and following the ways of Church and religion. This is a good thing. However, it does miss a critical point.

Christian spirituality is a relationship between God and the self. God holds each of us with immeasurable value. Each of us is unique and we each have a personal way of knowing, seeking, experiencing, and loving God. As human beings, we all seek and build a personal sense of identity. As we mature through the years, ideally, so does our sense of self. Through the normal selfishness of youth, we have all matured to our present age through many different faces of personal identity. Our image of self and our image of God will naturally mature through the years as our immaturity falls away.

In the end, we have only one true identity; the Christ-self. What we seek in God through faith, religion, and Jesus, we already have. God is already in each of us. When we find or realize our true self, our passion, our greatest meaning, we will find God there. There is not one answer for all. Who has God created you to be? Where or how do you most know and experience God in your life?

In this way you discover and awaken more fully to yourself and to God. This will become your joy and hope with a deep realization that you are with God and God is with you. This is the purpose and intention of an ordered life through the Ten Commandments. These are intended to guide and direct us through the missteps of life to find our way to God who is already in us waiting to be realized and embraced.

It is from this inner space that we most fully reverence, honor, and worship God. This is the wisdom of the words of Jesus. Love God with your whole self to the best of your ability, despite any failure or loss. Knowing yourself in God will open you to self-love. In self-love you will more fully love God. Then loving your neighbor will be the most natural and satisfying thing to do. You will be at home to yourself and with God. It is an arduous path. Never forget that the Light/Love you seek is already there. Love God, yourself, and others.

Father John Esper



Liturgical Schedule

DAILY MASS

8:00am Monday thru Thursday

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday - 4:00pm

Sunday - 9:00am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 3:00 - 3:45pm
in Chapel



Live Streaming of Mass
Monday thru Thursday 8:00am
and Sunday 9:00am

Adoration on Tuesdays
8:45am to 10:00am

Livestream of Rosary on
Thursdays following Mass

Search for St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church (in Madison Heights) on youtube to find our channel or connect via our APP or website



Contact Information

ST VINCENT FERRER PARISH OFFICE

28353 Herbert St., Madison Heights, MI 48071
248-542-8720 Fax 248-542-8721
Website: www.stvincentferrer.net

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday
9am to Noon - 1:00pm to 4:30pm,
Friday 9am to Noon, Closed Saturday & Sunday

Parish Office Staff

Reverend John C. Esper, Priest in Solidum
Deborah Tourville, Bus. Mgr/Adult Faith Formation
Sheryl Brown, Parish Secretary/Bulletin
Jim Balistreri, Music Coordinator
Mary Ann Przybysz, Evangelical Charity Coordinator/
Order of Christian Initiation of Adults(OCIA) Coordinator
Carl Copen, Facilities Supervisor
Alex Mototolea, Maintenance

FAITH FORMATION OFFICE

248-398-1743 – call for appointment

Matthew Zinser, Childhood Faith Formation Coordinator

For information on Baptisms, OCIA and
Funerals contact the Parish Office 248-542-8720



Mass Intentions

MONDAY, November 4, 2024

8:00am Mass: Leonard Vertel, Sr.† (20th R.A.) req. by Bernadette Gutowski

7:00pm **MASS OF REMEMBRANCE**: for the deceased in our parish this past year

TUESDAY, November 5, 2024

8:00am Mass: Deceased members of St. Vincent Ferrer req. by Regina Juska-Svoba

WEDNESDAY, November 6, 2024

8:00am Mass: Fred Karolski† (3rd. R.A.) req. by Tom Karolski

THURSDAY, November 7, 2024

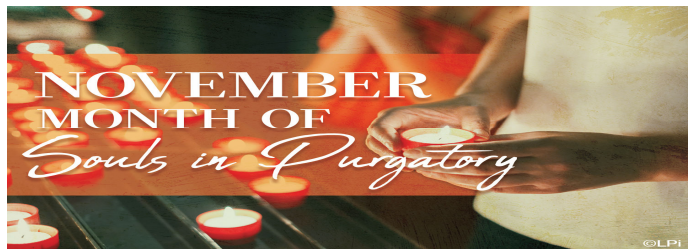
8:00am Mass: Christopher Hudy (Special Intention) req. by Mom

SATURDAY, November 9, 2024

4:00pm Mass: Parishioners of St. Vincent Ferrer John Skorna† req. by John Nantais Family
All deceased clergy who ministered in our Archdiocese

SUNDAY, November 10, 2024

9:00am Mass: Parishioners of St. Vincent Ferrer Joseph Dong Kim Pham† req. by Family
John Anderson (successful surgery) req. by Bene Living & deceased members & families of Fr. Heary Knights of Columbus




Readings for the Week

November 3, 2024

- Sunday: Dt 6:2-6/Ps 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51 (2)/
Heb 7:23-28/Mk 12:28b-34
- Monday: Phil 2:1-4/Ps 131:1bcde, 2, 3/Lk
14:12-14
- Tuesday: Phil 2:5-11/Ps 22:26b-27, 28-30ab,
30c, 31-32//Lk 14:15-24
- Wednesday: Phil 2:12-18/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Lk
14:25-33
- Thursday: Phil 3:3-8a/Ps 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Lk
15:1-10
- Friday: Phil 3:17—4:1/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab,
4cd-5/Lk 16:1-8
- Saturday: Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-
9/1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17/Jn 2:13-22
- Next Sunday: 1 Kgs 17:10-16/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10
(1b)/Heb 9:24-28/Mk 12:38-44 or
12:41-44

All Soul's Mass of Remembrance



Monday, November 4th - 7:00pm

All are invited to our Mass of Remembrance this Monday, November 4th at 7:00pm to pray for all of our beloved deceased, especially those from our parish who died this past year.

We Remember..

- | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>Gloria Glomski</i> | <i>Anthony Milko</i> | <i>Frances Kwapis</i> |
| <i>Glenn Magill</i> | <i>Antonia Brillantes</i> | <i>Linda Karolski</i> |
| <i>Paul Morello</i> | <i>Catalina Ramirez</i> | <i>Leona Ingels</i> |
| <i>Alice Palardy</i> | <i>Dolores Pietrzak</i> | <i>Theresa Ingels</i> |
| <i>Dianne Karolski</i> | <i>Leonard Kwapis</i> | <i>Frederick Ortvals</i> |
| <i>Mary Merkel</i> | <i>David Rudy</i> | <i>Regis Welsh</i> |
| <i>Bonnie Riley</i> | <i>Su Phan</i> | <i>Michael Starosta</i> |

May all our deceased loved ones be welcomed into paradise.

**WHY DO WE DO THAT?
CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED**

FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Question: How can we pray for the dead throughout the year?

Answer: We commemorate the faithful departed on November 2nd, All Souls Day each year. However, we can and should continue to pray for the dead. Our growth in Christian perfection takes a long time. At the time of our death, many of us might not be saints yet. But God, in His mercy, allows for those who love Him to experience purification after death. Our word for that state is Purgatory. It's the antechamber of heaven, so to speak. We know we're getting in the house, but we're not quite ready to go all the way in. There's rain to shake off our coats and dirt that's clogging our shoes.

Here on earth, we can pray for the souls in Purgatory. One way is to request that your parish offer a Mass for the intention of a specific loved one. We can also remember the departed in our daily prayers. Just as we have special intentions for family and friends here on earth, we can pray for those who have died. It's also a good act of Christian charity to pray for the forgotten, those who have no one else to pray for them. God knows who they are!

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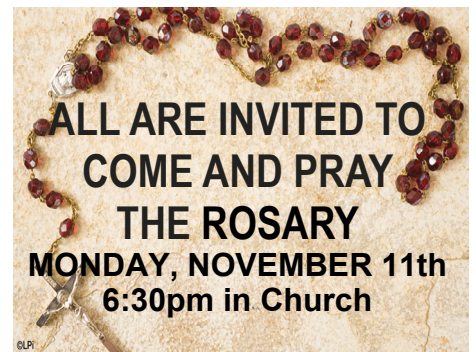


BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS

Our Parish Nurse, Angela, will be checking blood pressures after the 9:00am Mass next Sunday at our Coffee & Donut Hospitality

NO SENIOR FOOD COLLECTION

Our Thanksgiving Dinner Food Drive replaces the CCSEM Senior food collection in the month of November.



COLLECTION FOR THE SACRAMENTAL & SPIRITUAL NEEDS OF OUR MILITARY

Every three years, the Archdiocese asks for a donation to support the work of priest chaplains who serve the sacramental/spiritual needs of our active members in the military and their families.

This collection will be taken next weekend. Envelopes for this collection are at the church entrances. **Please make checks payable to St. Vincent Ferrer Church.**



During the month of November, the Book of Life, remembering our beloved deceased will be displayed in church. In it, you will find the names of the deceased of our parish and those whose funerals were celebrated at St. Vincent

Ferrer this past year. You are invited to write in the names of your deceased loved ones for our remembrance.



Fr. John's Ordination Celebration Mass & Vocations Dinner

In support of Vocations to the Priesthood, join us in celebrating Fr. John's 41st Ordination Anniversary

**Mass: 4pm Dinner: 5:30pm-Parish Hall
Saturday, December 7th**

MENU

Appetizers, London Broil, Chicken Marsala,
Meatless Mostaccoli, Mashed Potatoes, Vegies,
Relish Tray, Salad, Rolls/Butter
Dessert & Beverages

Raffles

Tickets: \$25 per person

No tickets available at the door.
Purchase tickets after Mass next weekend in back of church
or at the Parish Office during the week.



**Help us provide a hearty
Thanksgiving Dinner to a local family!
Non-Perishable Food Collection
November 2 - 17**

**PLEASE MAKE DONATION CHOICES ONLY FROM
THE REQUESTED ITEMS LISTED BELOW:**

Gravy	Yams	Canned Fruit
Rice	Stuffing	Cookies
Pickles	Canned Vegetables	Applesauce
Olives	Fried Onion Rings	Cranberry Sauce
Soups		

Monetary donations for perishable food items can be put in envelopes marked "Thanksgiving Dinner" and be left in the collection baskets or brought to the Parish Office. **OR**
Make an electronic donation through our website: www.stvincentferrer.net

You are invited to
Advent Tea
"The Incarnation: Making Room for Jesus"

Presentation:
"The Incarnation from a Practical and Lived Manner" by Br. Bob Malloy, OFM Cap.

Date: Sunday, December 1
Time: 2:00 - 4:00 pm
Location: St. Vincent Ferrer Administration Bldg.

It will be a prayerful, peaceful, relaxing atmosphere in which you can escape the hustle and bustle of the holiday season for a few hours. Join with friends to reflect upon the Incarnation and to invite Jesus into our hearts as we begin this advent season.

If you would like to host a table, or be a guest at someone's table, please sign up at the back of church after Masses or call the parish office at (248) 542-8720 to RSVP by Monday, November 25. More information will be provided to you.

A free will offering of a baby gift will be donated to Women's Pregnancy Aid Center in Madison Heights.

Sign up sheets will be available in church the weekends of Nov 9/10, Nov 16/17 and Nov 23/24.

CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Question: What does salt symbolize during a Baptism? ©LPI **Answer:** Wisdom

Observances for the Week

- Sunday: 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time; Daylight Saving Time Ends; National Vocation Awareness Week
- Monday: St. Charles Borromeo, Bishop
- Tuesday: Election Day
- Saturday: The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica
- Next Sunday: 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time ©LPI

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Christ tells us that we must love God with all our heart, all our soul, all our mind and all our strength. Live that love loudly. Hold nothing back. Give God all you have.

©LPI

A heartfelt THANK YOU to all who helped make this year's Mercy In Action Day a true gift to all. The St. Vincent Ferrer faith community truly is a blessing. With your generosity we were able to provide: 300 snack bags to needy children in the Detroit schools

200 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches to the needy in Macomb county
80 plus decorated squares for our Prayer Blanket Ministry

Several food items, blankets, towels, etc for the Madison Heights Animal Shelter
20 plus people prayed the rosary at 10:30 am for the world

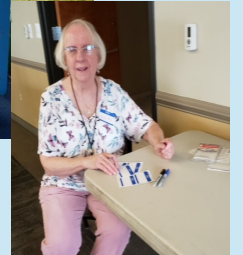
A number of people prayed with the Lord in Adoration throughout the morning.

Multiple bags of clothing were brought to the St. Vincent de Paul bins.

38 persons participated in providing 30 pints of blood at our blood drive.

Not only were the parishioners generous with monetary and item donations, but they gave generously of their time in performing the above activities. As Mother Teresa would say,

"We did ordinary things with extraordinary LOVE."



EUCHARISTIC SAINTS SERIES

**VENERABLE MARTHE ROBIN
1902-1981**



Venerable Marthe Robin was a French layperson and mystic whose story is truly wonderful. Born in Châteauneuf-de-Galaure (Drôme), in France to a farming family, she would spend her entire life in her family’s farmhouse. Marthe met suffering early when at just 1 year old she lost her older sister to typhus and contracted the disease herself.

As an adolescent, Marthe was struck by encephalitis, a swelling of the brain. By the age of 17, the disease paralyzed her legs. She suffered from headaches, pain in the eyes, fainting, fever, vomiting, and periods of coma. In March 1925, her arms also paralyzed, she offered a solemn prayer consecrating her life and her sufferings to God to help spread love in the world.

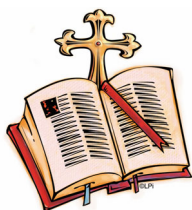
Marthe entered the Franciscan Third Order in 1928. Two years later the disease would paralyze her digestive track making it almost impossible for her to swallow. From this time on, she would survive on the Eucharist alone, unable to take any other nourishment. Beginning in October of 1930 she suffered an intense reliving of the Passion of Christ each Friday, bearing the stigmata, the wounds of Christ.

In 1939 her illness attacked her ocular nerve, and she was forced to live in near darkness until her death. Despite her confinement and suffering, Marthe led an intense mystical life and performed the ministries of listening, counsel, and compassion for the more than 100,000 people who visited her bedside.

With the help of Fr. Georges Finet, she founded the “Foyers of Charity”, homes of light and charity run by single people, couples, and priests living in community. Today there are 60 Foyers throughout the world. Marthe was declared Venerable on November 7, 2014, by Pope Francis. Venerable Marthe Robin, pray for us! ©LPi

MEN’S FELLOWSHIP & SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

**Saturday, November 9th at 9am
Faith Formation Office in School**



The men’s fellowship group gathers for a scripture reflection/sharing every other Saturday. All men are welcome. No fees or registration are required.



...all government leaders to seek wisdom in finding peaceful solutions to world wars and tensions.
 ...medical and humanitarian aid for those suffering from hardship due to catastrophic weather, fires, wars, floods, earthquakes and disasters.
 ...respect for life from conception to natural death
 ...the safety of men and women dedicated to protecting lives and freedom.
 ...the homeless, the addicted and all who are suffering physically, spiritually, mentally, and emotionally.
 ...the respect for life from conception to natural death
 ...all who are sick, homebound, undergoing or recovering from surgery, medical procedures, treatments or testing, and those who have made specific prayer requests.
 Lord Jesus,

You are the Divine Physician and Healer. To You, we lift up in prayer all who are lonely, homeless, sick or addicted; all who are unemployed or underemployed; all who are anxious or depressed and all who are suffering in any way spiritually, physically or emotionally. In their pain and brokenness, we ask that you bring them the comfort of your loving presence. In You, may they find strength for the day and hope for the journey. Amen



Hosted by:

Fr. Heary K of C Council

Where: St. Vincent Ferrer - Social Hall 28353 Herbert St. Madison Heights, MI 48071

When: November 16th – Registration starts @ 5:30pm

Entry Fee \$20.00 Cash per player – Cost covers one Food & one Beverage item per player. Additional food and beverages available for purchase.

1st Place Cash Prize!

2nd Place Cash Prize!

3rd Place Entry Fee Returned!

There will be 50/50 drawings & gift basket raffles.

Please help make this a successful event for Fr. Heary K of C Council #7239 to support our 4 key principles: Charity, Unity, Fraternity & Patriotism.

Please share this flyer with friends and family.

Questions regarding this Euchre Tournament - Call Darren @ 248-302-8918

Please support this K of C Fundraiser



Ministry Schedule		
November 9/10, 2024		
Mass	4:00pm	9:00am
Sacristan	D Tourville	C McCarthy
Reader #1	T Riley	J Kosnak
Reader #2	D Tourville	C McCarthy
EME	M Kairis	L Yolkiewicz
	J McCown	M Black
	T Riley	T Karolski
Greeters	R Bertolini	B Gutowski
	L Collins	T Lane
	R Pasiak	R Juska-Svoba
	M Smith	S Bosetti
Traveling Chalice Host beginning week of November 9/10 Sean & Jennifer Ballantine		

THE DAILY EXAMEN OF STEWARDSHIP

“Stewardship” can get a bum rap these days. When folks hear the term “stewardship” from the pulpit, their eyes tend to kind of glaze over. “Here’s Father asking for more money,” they groan inwardly, “Get ready for the passing of the pledge cards.”

Christ refutes this idea when he gives us what he calls the greatest commandments — instructing us to love God and to love our neighbor. Now, Christ is a man who chose his words carefully. He meant exactly what he said — and he didn’t say that the greatest commandments were to tithe and to give money to charity. If he had wanted stewardship to be only about money, he would have said so.

Sometimes we are indeed called to show our love for God and neighbor in the form of a financial gift. But the concept of Everyday Stewardship — living mindfully in prayer, grateful for our blessings, and gracious to our neighbors, committed to God, and accountable to each other — is about so much more...

How did I love God today? In whom did I love Him? What did God give me today? With whom did I share it? What did I give to Him? To whom did I reach out today? Who reached out to me? Where was God on my list of priorities today? First? Second? Third, fourth?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS
©LPi

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK FOR REFLECTION

First Reading: Dt 6:2-6

Moses taught the Israelites the importance of passing on the faith and keeping the Jewish prayer, the great *Shema* (“Hear, O Israel...”). What are some faith traditions your family practices?

Second Reading: Heb 7:23-28

In Hebrews we hear that Jesus is the eternal and perfect high priest who intercedes for us before God. Do you have a friend or co-worker who needs you to pray for them this week?

Gospel: Mk 12:28b-34

Jesus and the scribe find common ground on agreeing that the two greatest commandments are to love God and our neighbor. Do you value making peace with people you disagree with? ©LPi

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP GIVING - WEEK ENDING OCT 26/27, 2024				
<i>Fiscal Year 7-1-24 to 6-30-25</i>	Budgeted	Actual	Over/Under	YTD
Offertory Env. Used & e-fund participants	245	101		
Offertory	\$ 5,185.00	\$5,194.53	9.53	5,056.56
Energy, Coffee/Donuts, Flowers/Trees, Candles, Mass Intentions	472.00	249.00	(223.00)	(2,413.55)
Fundraising: includes Budget Deficit envelope, CSA returned	1,673.00	120.00	(1,553.00)	(1,843.66)
Bequests		21.00		508.00
AOD Collections: Propagation of the Faith				1,042.00
All Holy Days: All Saints		25.00		1,448.00
CSA 2024 Pledged 74,560.34				Paid 71,110.34

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Cell: **(248) 808-4353**

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