

*St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church*

Madison Heights, MI - [www.stvincentferrer.net](http://www.stvincentferrer.net)

July 12th  
2026

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“A SOWER  
WENT OUT TO  
**SOW.**”

— MATTHEW 13:3 —

# LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

## ST VINCENT FERRER MASS TIME

**SUNDAY - 9:00AM - LIVESTREAMED**



**Liturgy of the Word 9:00am**  
(also livestreamed)  
followed by  
**Silent Adoration on**  
**Tuesdays until 10:30am**



**Liturgy of the Word 9:00am**  
(also livestreamed)  
followed by Rosary on  
**Thursdays**



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

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

**St. Mary:** 730 S Lafayette, Royal Oak 48067

**Tuesday:** 7:30 to 8:30pm

**Friday:** 6:30 to 7:30am

**Saturday:** 3:00 to 4:00pm

**National Shrine:** 2100 W 12 Mile Royal Oak 48073

**M thru F:** following 6:30 Mass until all heard but no later than 8am

**Saturday:** following 8:30 Mass until all heard but no later than 10am

## MASS INTENTIONS SUNDAY, JULY 19, 2026

9:00am Mass: Parishioners of St. Vincent Ferrer  
Richard McCarthy† req. by Corrine McCarthy  
Martin Daryl† req. by Family  
Thomas Moran† (Memorial Birthday) req. by Moran Family  
Theresa Kowalski† req. by Friend

## 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](http://www.stvincentferrer.net)

### SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

**Monday through Thursday**

**9am to Noon - 1:00pm to 4:30pm**

**Closed Friday, Saturday, & Sunday**



Reverend Paul Snyder, Family of Parishes Moderator  
Deborah Tourville, Bus. Mgr/Adult Faith Formation  
Sheryl Brown, Parish Secretary/Bulletin Editor  
Jim Balistreri, Music Coordinator  
Carl Copen, Facilities Supervisor  
Alex Mototolea, Maintenance

**For sacramental information or funerals  
contact the Parish Office 248-542-8720**



I would like to offer this article to introduce myself. My name is Fr. Paul Snyder. I have served as the priest at St. Mary in Royal Oak for the past eleven years and for the past six years as a priest and the moderator for our family of parishes. The family includes National Shrine of the Little Flower Basilica in Royal Oak, St. Justin-St. Mary Magdalen in Hazel Park, St. Mary in Royal Oak, and St. Vincent Ferrer. Over these past years, I have worked with Fr. John Esper as we shared the responsibilities of pastoring our parishes together. I am so grateful to Fr. John for his wisdom, leadership and service as a brother priest. I am grateful for all his service to all of you at St. Vincent. Although I am hopeful that Fr. John can enjoy some time in his retirement, but I know that transitions are difficult and it is sad to lose the spiritual father that you know so well. As an archdiocese we are facing the challenge of restructuring as we all know. The archdiocese has asked that I take the lead on administrative duties and guidance at St. Vincent and has appointed Fr. Jude Inweregbu as the priest to celebrate the 9am Sunday Mass. This also means that in the foreseeable future there will not be a Saturday evening Mass celebrated. If we look for a grace in this circumstance, my hope is that worshipping united at one Sunday Mass will bring together and strengthen the community at St. Vincent. I know that this too means more changes, but I am confident in the Lord's providence. Please know of my prayerful support.

Sincerely in Christ,  
Fr. Paul

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Sunday:** Is 55:10-11/Ps 65:10, 11, 12-13, 14/  
Rom 8:18-23/Mt 13:1-23 or 13:1-9

**Monday:** Is 1:10-17/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/  
Mt 10:34-11:1

**Tuesday:** Is 7:1-9/Ps 48:2-3a, 3b-4, 5-6, 7-8/  
Mt 11:20-24

**Wednesday:** Is 10:5-7, 13b-16/Ps 94:5-6, 7-8, 9-10,  
14-15/Mt 11:25-27

**Thursday:** Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19/Ps 102:13-14ab and  
15, 16-18, 19-21/Mt 11:28-30

**Friday:** Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8/Is 38:10, 12abcd,  
16/Mt 12:1-8

**Saturday:** Mi 2:1-5/Ps 10:1-2, 3-4, 7-8, 14/  
Mt 12:14-21

**Next Sunday:** Wis 12:13, 16-19/Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-  
16/Rom 8:26-27/Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30

## Prayer For Our Incoming Priests

Heavenly Father and Sovereign Lord,

We thank You for guiding Fr. Paul and Fr. Jude to our church family. We pray for a smooth and joyful transition for them and our parish. Grant them a spirit of wisdom and discernment. Put a hedge of protection around them. We pray that you freshly anoint their hearts and voice with sermons grounded in Your truth, delivered with boldness, and received by our congregation with open hearts. Use them to comfort the brokenhearted, challenge the complacent, and inspire us all. Remind them to seek rest in You, and grant them peace when the burdens of ministry feel heavy.

Open their eyes to see this community through Your lens. Give them a clear vision for the future of our church family, and give us the willingness to follow as they lead us closer to You. Bind our parish together in unity, that we may support, love, and encourage one another as we step into this new season together. In Jesus' name, Amen.



The St. Vincent de Paul Ministry will meet this Tuesday at 6:00pm in back of church.

## 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sometimes I feel capable of absorbing almost anything except God's Word. My mind soaks up song lyrics, sports trivia, and endless online content. But what was the reading at Mass this morning? I struggle to recall. That realization discourages me, and it leads to an uncomfortable question. What is my heart really for? Is it shaped for constant information and distraction, or is it truly designed for God? Am I capable of deeply receiving His Word?

Jesus speaks directly to this today with a simple image. "The seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it." By comparing the Word of the Kingdom to a seed, Jesus reveals something hopeful about us. The human heart is made for that seed. Soil and seed belong together. No matter how compacted, rocky, or overgrown the ground has become, the Sower never stops sowing.

God loves our hearts. He sees them as a farmer sees his fields, full of potential. Human hearts can indeed "understand the Word." Understanding does not mean mastering information. It means letting the Word sink in, interacting with it, and giving it a home. It means trusting that, beneath the surface, God is at work in quiet and hidden ways.

When we allow the Holy Spirit to loosen the soil of our hearts through prayer, repentance, and simplicity, the same Word that created the universe begins to bear fruit in us, 30, 60, even a hundredfold.

Lord Jesus, Sower of life, soften the soil of my heart. Let Your Word take root in me again, and bring forth the fruit You desire. Amen.

— Father John Muir

©LPi

# SCHOOL SUPPLY

# DRIVE

## JULY 4-26

| REQUESTED ITEMS                    |
|------------------------------------|
| Backpacks                          |
| 2 Pocket folders                   |
| Composition notebooks              |
| Markers/Washable markers           |
| Highlighters                       |
| Glue sticks                        |
| Colored pencils & Erasers          |
| Scissors - blunt-tipped & regular  |
| 24 pack crayons                    |
| Rulers                             |
| 5-star spiral notebooks: 1 subject |
| White binders 1 1/2"               |
| Wide & college ruled paper         |
| Index cards                        |
| #2 pencils/Pens                    |
| Pencil cases & pencil sharpeners   |

**HELP  
STUDENTS  
START THE  
SCHOOL YEAR  
RIGHT**

## MEN'S FELLOWSHIP & SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

Saturday, July 18 at 9:00am

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.





...government leaders everywhere 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, floods, wars, 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.

...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*

## QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK FOR REFLECTION

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Is 55:10-11

**Question:** Isaiah encourages us to trust in the reliability of God's word and purposes. When do you find yourself trusting in the Lord?

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** Rom 8:18-23

**Question:** Paul places his hope in God's promised future, when both people and creation itself will be freed from corruption and decay. Is there something you or your family have been hoping for lately?

**Gospel:** Mt 13:1-23 or 13:1-9

**Question:** Jesus teaches his disciples to be open (be "rich soil") to the often mysterious meaning of the parables about the kingdom of Heaven. Are you someone who is open to new or different ideas? ©LPI



**Our target for this year is  
\$ 39,101.00.**

Thank you to all who have responded. St. Vincent Ferrer Parish has received \$32,184.00 in pledges or gifts. That amount is 82% of our target.

Checks must be made payable to *Archdiocese of Detroit-CSA* and mailed to the gift processing center in Minnesota using the return envelope included in the packet mailed to parishioners. To make an electronic donation, please follow the directions on the pledge cards. If you did not receive a CSA letter packet and wish to make a donation, please call the Parish Office.

### Traveling Vocations Chalice

Families and individuals are needed to host the Traveling Vocations Chalice for a one week commitment. Prayers are included with the chalice.

Please sign up at the table outside the chapel wall near the Herbert St. entrance.

### What's Planted in Your Heart?

Over the years I have wasted a lot: a lot of money, a lot of time, and a lot of talent. Sometimes I didn't realize I was wasting these things but, after reflection, I realized I could have done more and accomplished much greater things. Of course, I think that is part of our imperfect humanity. It truly is easier for us to waste our gifts than grow them into something more.

The parable of the sower speaks about the word of God that gets planted in our hearts. If the soil of our heart is rich, then the word will grow and change us. If that soil is rocky or full of weeds, the word will lie there without any impact, bearing no fruit.

This parable can be applied to living a stewardship way of life as well. As sowers, we have been given the seeds of our time, talent, and treasure. We have a choice of where to plant these gifts. As good everyday stewards, we are called to plant them wisely and prudently. Oftentimes it is not enough to simply give away what we have. We need to discern the best places to sow these gifts so the maximum harvest can grow. This takes prayer, reflection, and study. Without a solid discernment process, we can find ourselves sowing seeds endlessly without much to show for it. But joyful is the person who has used one's gifts wisely, for the bounty of the harvest is great.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS  
© Liturgical Publications Inc

## COME PRAY THE ROSARY

Join the Immaculata Prayer Group in praying the rosary every Monday evening at 6:30pm on the Admin Bldg Patio. Bring a chair. Rosaries are available for those who need one.



## WHY DO WE DO THAT? CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

### *Sharing Your Faith*

**Question:** My friend has never heard of Christ and I want to share the Gospel with her but I'm afraid to. How do I share my faith?

**Answer:** There are a lot of ways to bring up the topic of religion, without being judgmental or pushy. Begin by asking what her thoughts are about religion, or what her experience was growing up. Finding common ground is often easier than you think, because the questions and problems we have about God, the presence of evil, our purpose in life, and our relationship with God are universal concerns.

Why are you afraid? If you do not want to insult or offend someone, don't be pushy or judgmental. If you are uncertain about how to explain your own faith, do a little reading or practice with a friend. If you measure success only by this person converting, focus your attention more on beginning the conversation, not on bringing it to a perfect close! Faith is a journey of many acts of belief, many discussions about God, and many choices about how we practice what we preach. In some we will have great success; in others we will need forgiveness and perseverance. The most important thing to keep in mind is that the Holy Spirit is always at work and our most humble efforts can bear great fruit. Have faith in God because he has faith in you!

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## Observances of the Week

Sunday: 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
 Monday: St. Henry  
 Tuesday: St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin  
 Wednesday: St. Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor of the Church  
 Thursday: Our Lady of Mount Carmel  
 Saturday: St. Camillus de Lellis, Priest  
 Next Sunday: 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

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## VIRTUES, EXPLAINED! CONNECT WITH TRADITION AND GROW YOUR FAITH

Forgiveness, Explained!

The virtue of forgiveness is described to us in detail by Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew, Chapter 18, when he tells Peter that he must forgive his brother “not seven times, but seventy-seven times” before relating the parable of the unforgiving servant. Here we see that exercising forgiveness is an absolute requirement of the Christian life. What we have received from God through no merit of our own, we must likewise extend to others.

Forgiveness is love in action — and as is the case with most virtues, if we find it hard to practice, that means we're doing it right. The Catechism says that forgiveness “bears witness that...love is stronger than sin” (CCC 2844) and points out that it “is not in our power not to feel or to forget an offense; but the heart that offers itself to the Holy Spirit turns injury into compassion and purifies the memory in transforming the hurt into intercession.” (CCC 2843) ©LPi

## MINISTERS SCHEDULE

July 19, 2026

| MASS      | 9:00AM        |
|-----------|---------------|
| Sacristan | L Yolkiewicz  |
| Reader #1 | M Kairis      |
| Reader #2 | J McCown      |
| EME       | M Waskowski   |
| EME       | T Karolski    |
| EME       | C McCarthy    |
| Greeter   | B Turchin     |
| Greeter   | R Juska-Svoba |
| Greeter   | L Collins     |
| Greeter   | B Gutowski    |

Traveling Chalice Host Beginning July 19, 2026  
 Stan & Linda Yolkiewicz



## THE GARDENER AND THE SOIL

by Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

I began writing this piece by googling “how do you make soil fertile?” which should tell you everything you need to know about my own abilities as a gardener.

I remember seeing a packet of seeds in the store one summer as a child and convincing my mother to buy them. They were delphiniums, which bloom into a beautiful cone shape if you know what you’re doing. Alas, I didn’t. I chose for my garden a particularly dry spot of earth right next to my backyard playset, scattered the seeds, congratulated myself, and went on my merry way. I returned occasionally to water the area, but only when I remembered to.

Nothing grew, not even a little sprout. I was more than heartbroken — my faith was shaken. I had planted these seeds! I had watered them! (A little.) There was sunlight! All my childhood books and rhymes said this was all you needed. Was it all a lie?

Of course it wasn’t a lie. Seeds need soil, sunlight, water, and oxygen — good soil, adequate sunlight for whatever the plant is, and consistent water.

So what seeds need more than anything is a gardener. (At least, delphiniums do.)

When I hear the parable of the rich soil and the rocky ground in the Gospel of Matthew, I often miss the point. I think Jesus is trying to give me a message about how I should be. “Be better.” That’s what I think he’s telling me.

I forget that I am only the soil. I cannot enrich myself; all my efforts to do so will come to nothing. What he is telling me is to ask the gardener: “Make me what I need to be.”

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## FAMILIES OF PARISHES MASS SCHEDULES

*National Shrine of the Little Flower Basilica*

2100 W Twelve Mile, Royal Oak, 48073

SATURDAY - 8:30am and 4:30pm (livestreamed)

SUNDAY - 7:30am, 9:30am, 11:30am, 6:00pm  
3:30pm (Spanish)

MONDAY THRU FRIDAY

6:30am (livestreamed), 8:30am

*St. Mary Magdalen*

50 E Annabelle Ave, Hazel Park, 48030

WEDNESDAY - Noon

SATURDAY - 4pm & SUNDAY - 10:00am

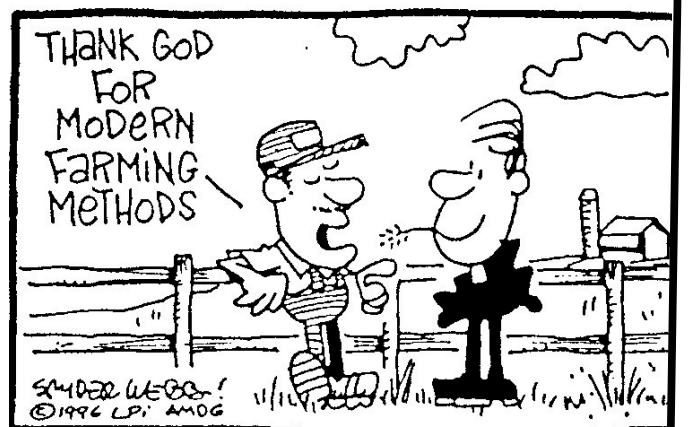
*St. Mary*

730 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak, 48067

SATURDAY - 4:30am

SUNDAY - 9:00am & 11:00am

MON., TUES., THURS., FRI. - 7:30am



**CATHOLIC TRIVIA - JUST FOR FUN**

**Question:** In what country did both the Christmas Tree and the Advent Wreath originate? ©LPi

**Answer:** Germany

**INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK**

Our hearts are fertile ground for the Word of God, but we must be careful gardeners. Be conscious of what damages and depletes the soil of your heart. Pay attention to what nourishes it, so that the goodness of the Word can bloom forth into the world.

©LPi

**REPORT ABUSE**

**To make a report or contact the Abuse Hotline:**

**EMAIL** reportabuse@aod.org

**PHONE** 313-237-6060

**TOLL FREE** 866-343-8055



To support St. Vincent Ferrer Church with a financial contribution scan the QRcode to connect to our tithe.ly giving site.

**Financial Stewardship Giving - Week Ending June 28, 2026**

| <b>Fiscal Year 7-1-25 to 6-30-26</b>               | <b>Budgeted</b> | <b>Actual</b> | <b>Over/Under</b> | <b>YTD</b>         |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Offertory Envelopes Used & e-fund participants     | 240             | 103           |                   |                    |
| Offertory                                          | 5,185.00        | \$ 5,227.77   | 42.77             | 27,764.41          |
| Energy/Hospitality/Flowers/Candles/Mass Intentions | 472.00          | 90.00         | (382.00)          | 1,906.25           |
| Fundraising: Budget Deficit Envelopes/CSA Refunds  | 1,673.00        | **275.00      | (1,398.00)        | 45,014.68          |
| Bequests: Free Will                                |                 |               |                   |                    |
| AOD Collection: Peter's Pence                      |                 | 830.00        |                   | 830.00             |
| Holy Days                                          |                 |               |                   | 5,303.00           |
| CSA 2026 Pledged 27,844.00                         |                 |               |                   | CSA Paid 24,974.00 |
| **includes 180.00 final refund payment CSA 2025    |                 |               |                   |                    |

**Financial Stewardship Giving - Week Ending July 5, 2026**

| <b>Fiscal Year 7-1-26 to 6-30-27</b>               | <b>Budgeted</b> | <b>Actual</b> | <b>Over/Under</b> | <b>YTD</b>         |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Offertory Envelopes Used & e-fund participants     | 240             | 82            |                   |                    |
| Offertory                                          | 5,185.00        | \$ 3,550.57   | (1,634.43)        | 29,832.69          |
| Energy/Hospitality/Flowers/Candles/Mass Intentions | 472.00          | 376.00        | (96.00)           | 1,934.25           |
| Fundraising: Budget Deficit Envelopes/CSA Refunds  | 1,673.00        | 50.00         | (1,623.00)        | (46,802.68)        |
| Bequests: Free Will                                |                 |               |                   |                    |
| AOD Collection: Peter's Pence                      |                 | 340.00        |                   | 1,170.00           |
| Holy Days: Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary       |                 | 10.00         |                   | 5,313.00           |
| CSA 2026 Pledged 32,184.00                         |                 |               |                   | CSA Paid 28,854.00 |



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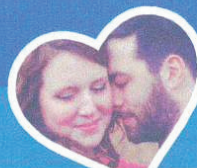
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