24th Sunday
in Ordinary Time

“There will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need of repentance.” - Lk 15:7b
**Mass Intention and Readings**

**Saturday, September 14—Exaltation of the Holy Cross**
8:00am Intentions of the Parishioners
Numbers 21:4b-9 / Philippians 2:6-11 / John 3:3-17

**Sacrament of Reconciliation 3:00—3:30pm**
4:00pm †Stephanie & Frank Raucci by Lorraine Sagnella

**Sunday, September 15—24th Sunday in Ordinary Time**
8:00am †James McCartin (1st anniversary remembrance) by Parish
10:30am Joan Farrington (living) by the Tuesday Prayer Group
4:30pm †Elaine Vanni (5th anniversary) by Frank & Mary Lussier
Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14 / 1 Timothy 1:12-17 / Luke 15:1-32

**Monday, September 16—St. Cornelius**
7:30am †Miriam Cronkright Ferrary by John & Barbara Suo
1 Timothy 2:1-8 / Luke 7:1-10

**Tuesday, September 17—Weekday**
7:30am †Marion Stovall by Ed & Jean Rostowski
1 Timothy 3:1-13 / Luke 7:11-17

**Wednesday, September 18—Weekday**
7:30am †Albert Youle by his Brother
1 Timothy 3:14-16 / Luke 7:31-35

**Thursday, September 19—Weekday**
7:30am †William Savia by Mary & Pat Patterson
1 Timothy 4:12-16 / Luke 7:36-50

**Friday, September 20—Ss. Andrew Kim Tae-gon and Paul Chong Ha-sang & Companions**
7:30am Richard James Martinez & Family (living) by Tuesday Prayer Group
1 Timothy 6:2c-12 / Luke 8:1-3

**Saturday, September 21—Memory of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
8:00am Intentions of the Parishioners
Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13 / Matthew 9:9-13

**Sacrament of Reconciliation 3:00—3:30pm**
4:00pm †Bendler & Salzano Families

**Sunday, September 22—25th Sunday in Ordinary Time**
8:00am †Kevin Henry by Anthony & Dawn Dota
10:30am A Special Intention by Rosemary Henault
4:30pm †James Lederer by Anne Boffen
Amos 8:4-7 / 1 Timothy 2:1-8 / Luke 16:1-13

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**Stewardship**

“Fostering Stewardship as a Way of Life”
Caring for and Sharing with Each Other

“GI F T S”
Giving In Faith Through Stewardship
Discover your God-given gifts and find a place in our community to give your gift back to God in gratitude and service.

**Treasure (Resources): Financial Report**

- $2,320.00 Envelope Offertory for September 8, 2019
- $557.00 Loose Offertory for September 8, 2019
- $1,393.00 Monthly for September
- $770.00 Previous weeks & other donations
- $5,040.00 Sub-total
- $353.00 Cathedraticum
- $4,687.00 Total that stays in the parish for our use.

Thank you for giving your “first fruits” back to the Lord! May God return your generosity to you 100-fold!

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**Staff**

Father John Kuzhikottayil, Administrator
Father Binny Issac and Father Joy Jacob,
Parochial Vicars
Mary Sciarretta, Child Care Center Director
Thomas Festa, Facilities Manager
Jeff Bingham, Parish Secretary
Helen Finateri, Bookkeeper
Anita Gawronski, Parish Council President
Nancy Hanson, Parish Minister
Cornell Bialicki, Music Director & Organist

**Finance Council**

Father John, Matt Fortney, Michael Mason, David Whidden, Don Duman (Trustee) & Cindy Russo (Trustee)

**Ministries**

Virtus Facilitator: Annette Whidden
Pro-Life: Dorothy Deitelbaum
Raffle: Don & Jackie Duman
Attic Treasures: Joan Bettencourt
Food Bank: Barbara Salerno & Mabel Herring
Cooking Club: Joanne Ramos
Adult Faith Formation Minister: Sherri-Lyn Raimo
Retreat Coordinator: Mary Welch
Holy Name Society President: Don Duman
Our Lady’s Guild Co-Presidents: Mabel Herring and Jackie Duman

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**Rest in Peace**

Concetta “Tina” Ruccio / Shari Ann Senese / Ann Thomas
To their families & friends, we offer our prayers & sympathy.
We continue our look at the importance of the Mass.

In what ways is Jesus present at Mass?

It is true that God is everywhere, including when we pray to him alone or when two or three of us gather in his name. However, in the Eucharist, where are at least four extraordinary ways that the Lord Jesus is present that transcend the ways he is present outside the liturgy of the Catholic Church.

First, Christ is present in the community.

Even when it’s hard to see Christ in our fellow Mass-goers, he’s really there. People gather from various places; some of them are distracted and preoccupied. As they come into that church, though, they’re no longer just scattered individuals but members of Christ’s body. At Mass we deepen our communion not only with Christ but with the whole Church, including the saints and our beloved deceased.

Second, Christ is present in the person of the priest.

Some Catholic priests are astounding in holiness and powerful in their preaching. Others are not. The good news is that Christ’s presence doesn’t depend on the priest’s personal virtue. Christ makes himself present through a unique charism the priest has been given through the sacrament of holy orders.

This is one of the reasons the Catholic priest wears vestment when he celebrates the Eucharist: it signifies that he’s acting in the person of Christ (in persona Christi), not in his own person. The ordained priest is an icon of Christ, the true Priest. Through him, Jesus makes his priesthood present in a very special way.

Third, the Lord is present in the Eucharist in the word of God.

Some describe the Protestant Church as the church of the Bible and the Catholic Church as the church of ritual. This is certainly not the case. The Catholic Church sees the word of God as a tremendous gift, and this understanding is reflected in the Eucharist. The first part of the Sunday Mass centers on readings from Scripture: one passage from the Old Testament, a psalm response, another passage from the New Testament, and then the Gospel. These readings are arranged so the Sunday Mass-goers hear the most important passages from the entire Bible over the course of three years. It is a comprehensive and ongoing Bible study.

But this liturgy of the word isn't a corporate catechism lesson intended to present abstract doctrine. Through the readings the Lord wants to speak to us personally, penetrating to the depths of our hearts with a nourishing, challenging word that draws us to conversion. This has happened time and time again in the church’s history.

The final and most special way that the Lord is present in the Eucharist is in his Body and Blood, present to us under the signs of bread and wine. Jesus is God, and so he is omnipresent. But Jesus is now and forever man as well as God; his humanity can’t be present everywhere in the same way as his divinity. Jesus’ glorified humanity is at the right hand of the Father. In the Eucharist, and only in the Eucharist, he makes his Body and Blood present to us in a real way. This is why the sacramental presence of Christ’s Body and Blood is so extraordinary. In all of the other sacraments Jesus gives us his grace, says St. Thomas Aquinas; while in the Eucharist, the “sacrament of sacraments” he gives us his whole self, his divinity and his humanity.

How is this possible? The transformation of the bread and wine happens the same way Mary’s virginal conception did: through the power of the word and the power of the Spirit. The incarnation may seem impossible, yet all Christians believe it. It is accomplished the same way creation was: God spoke and the world was made out of nothing through the power of the word and the Spirit. Likewise, in the Eucharist, the One who said, “Let there be light,” says, “This is my Body,” and “This is my Blood.” Through the power of the Spirit invoked upon the gifts, the awesome change takes place.
Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst.” (John 6:35)

Parents (who are registered here) and godparents are prepared at a class next held October 1 at 6:30pm. Please call the Office to sign up. If you missed a class you previously signed up for, you must sign up again for the new class; nothing is assumed.

Godparents must be confirmed and obtain a Sponsor Certificate from their own Catholic parish. Baptisms normally take place here on the 2nd or 3rd Sundays of the month after the 10:30am Mass, but other weekends are possible depending on other events.

MONEY COUNTERS
September 15 Caryn Robinson / Mabel Herring
September 22 Donna Hanlon / Helen Kelly / Joan Bettencourt

Have you checked out our advertisers page lately? There are many local businesses who publish their information right on the back page of this bulletin each week. Our bulletin is actually funded by these advertisers! So, take a look...perhaps you’ll find something great!

As we announced recently, the Book of Mass Intentions for the year 2020 is open. If you would like to have a Mass offered for a loved one, please stop by the Parish Office any weekday between 10am and 3pm.

In addition, the Sanctuary Lamp is available for a week at a time, for you to honor or remember your loved ones.

Registration at St. Hedwig School for CCD classes for the students from St. Vincent Ferrer Parish will continue on the next three Sundays, September 15, 22, and 29. If you have any questions, please call Lenny, the Director of Religious Education, at 203-490-9861.

Classes are scheduled to begin on Sunday, September 15th at St. Hedwig School. Classes start at 9:15am. Students from St. Vincent Ferrer Parish will be dismissed at 10:15am in order to attend the Mass with their families at 10:30am at St. Vincent Ferrer.

St. Vincent Ferrer Parish is seeking new Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers for the weekend Masses. Please contact the Parish Office if you are interested in either of these important ministries.

The Ecumenical Food Bank relies on our parish each year in September to provide volunteers to help on Tuesdays from 2—4pm and on Fridays from 10am—12noon. Sometimes there is a bit of lifting involved, so we ask that some of the men assist with this. There is a signup sheet on the glass table. THANK YOU!

Parishioners in active ministries (lectors, catechists, aides, ministers, etc) need to attend a training session in child protection. The Virtus Training session entitled “Protecting God’s Children” is being offered at various locations throughout the Archdiocese.

Important: Register online only at: www.virtusonline.org

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel School—Waterbury
Tuesday, September 24—6:00pm
Assumption—Ansonia
Thursday, October 3, 2019—6:00pm
“Let Us Journey With Christ” Pope Francis

Tuesday
8:00am to 9:00am
Eucharistic

Wednesday
6:30pm to 7:30pm
Adoration

SAINT VINCENT FERRER
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
1006 New Haven Rd. Naugatuck, CT 06770
Phone: 203-723-7497
Monday-Friday 10am-3pm
Church email: stvincentfer@sbcglobal.net
Parish website: saintvincentferrerchurch.org
Email Father John: kcjohnsdb@gmail.com
Phone Father John: (203)729-4543 ext. 101

EVENT SUMMARY THIS WEEK AT ST. VINCENT FERRER

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<th>Confessions</th>
<th>Church</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>9/15/19 @ 8am and 10:30am</td>
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REFLECTION ON THE TWENTY FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

The episode in today’s First Reading has been called “Israel’s original sin.” Freed from bondage, born as a people of God in the covenant at Sinai, Israel turned aside from His ways and fell to worshipping a golden calf. Moses implored God’s mercy, just as Jesus will later intercede for the whole human race. Just as He still pleads for sinners at God’s right hand and through the ministry of the Church. Israel’s sin is the sin of the world. It is your sin and mine. Ransomed from death and made His children in Baptism, we fall prey to the idols of this world. We remain a “stiff-necked people,” resisting His will for us like an ox refuses the plowman’s yoke.

Like Israel, in our sin we push God away and reject our divine sonship. Once He called us “my people.” But our sin makes us “no people,” people He should, in justice, disown. Yet in His mercy, He is faithful to the covenant He swore by His own self in Jesus. In Jesus, God comes to Israel and to each of us—as a shepherd to seek the lost, to carry us back to the heavenly feast, the perpetual heritage promised long ago to Abraham’s children.

“Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners,” Paul cries in today’s Epistle. These are the happiest words the world has ever known. Because of Jesus, as Paul himself can testify, even the blasphemer and persecutor can seek His mercy. As the sinners do in today’s Gospel, we draw near to listen to Him. In this Eucharist, we bring Him the acceptable sacrifice we sing of in today’s Psalm—our hearts, humbled and contrite. In the company of His angels and saints, we rejoice that He has wiped out our offense. We celebrate with Him that we have turned from the evil way that we might live.

Scott Hahn

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL DINNER

Our next meal for the St Vincent de Paul Shelter is on Sunday, September 22, 2019. The meal will be Breaded Chicken Thighs and Drumsticks, Mashed potatoes, Salad and Ambrosia. We are asking our Parishioners to provide us with instant mashed potatoes, fruit cocktail, flaked coconut and mini marshmallows. We thank you for your continued support.

Our weekly Bible Study continues on Friday of this week, September 20th at 7pm in the Vern Maxwell Family Center. Everyone is welcome to come and learn about God’s holy word.

Come pray the Rosary with us! Sundays at 10AM in the chapel!

September 15th —
Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The shepherd searches for one lost sheep and the woman searches for one lost coin. Through their determination they find what is lost. Are you willing to search for the “lost” as a priest or deacon, brother or sister? Call Fr. Michael Casey, Director of Vocations / Pastoral Center Telephone: 860-761-7456
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