



AUGUSTINIAN FRIARS

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Fr. Frank Barr, O.S.A.
In Residence

Fr. William Wallace, O.S.A.
In Residence

Br. Bienvenido Rodriguez, O.S.A.
In Residence

CATHOLIC FAITH
FORMATION
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Mr. Daniel Kirk-Foster
Mr. Dang Vu

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Ms. Shelly Parkin

PLANT MANAGER
Mr. Jesus Liriano
917-579-6720

RECEPTIONIST
Ms. Lucy Maldonado

ST. NICHOLAS OF TOLENTINE CHURCH

2345 UNIVERSITY AVENUE BRONX, NY 10468

TEL. (718) 295-6800 www.stnicholasoftolentinebronx.org FAX (718) 367-7411

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil

7:00 p.m. **Spanish** (piano & cantor)

Sunday

8:00 a.m. **English** (organ & cantor)

9:30 a.m. **Spanish** (piano & choir/cantor)

11:30 a.m. **English** (organ & choir/cantor)

1:30 p.m. **Vietnamese** (keyboard & choir)

Weekdays	8:30 a.m. Spanish (Mon-Fri.)	12:10 p.m. English (Mon-Fri)
	7:45 a.m. Vietnamese (Thu & Sat)	

CATHOLIC FAITH FORMATION

All those who are called to follow Jesus in the Catholic faith along with Catholics already baptized (adults, youth & children) who desire to celebrate the sacraments of First Confession, First Communion and Confirmation can make contact with the coordinator of this area for information about the various programs available. Registration for these programs are announced in the bulletin during various times of the year. Also appointments can be made in the parish office at anytime.

Parents wishing to baptize their children (ages 1-5) are invited to make an appointment in the parish office to speak with a staff member in order to make arrangements for participating in the Baptismal Program.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSIONS)

Saturday 4:00-5:00 p.m. and at the parish office by appointment.

MARRIAGE

Couples planning to be married should call for an appointment six months in advance of the wedding.

VISITS TO THE SICK

In emergency, call the parish office at any hour. Please inform the office of sick or homebound who desire the sacraments.

NEW PARISHIONERS

Welcome to all parishioners.

We encourage all parishioners to register at our parish office. We invite new parishioners to make an appointment to meet a member of the parish staff.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00 a.m. - 12 Noon open (12 pm - 1 pm closed)
1:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m. open (5 p.m. - 6 p.m. closed) 6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. open
SATURDAY 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
SUNDAY 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.



FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

GIVE GLORY TO GOD



On the Fifth Sunday of Lent, just before we begin to enter Holy Week, we are summoned to Bethany. If we had been friends of Mary, Lazarus, and Martha, and found out that Lazarus was gravely ill, we probably would have dropped everything to be with them. This was what was so surprising about the behavior of Jesus. Although he was their close friend, he chose to stay away, that God's glory would be manifested. This is a persistent theme in John's Gospel. Right to the very end, Jesus' works were meant to give glory to the Father. As our Lenten journey reaches a crescendo, let us be mindful that, as people who have "put on Christ" in baptism, we are also called, by our attitudes and actions, to give glory to God.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Thus says the Lord GOD: I will open your graves, have you rise from them, and settle you on your land. Then you shall know I am the LORD, O my people! (Ezekiel 37:12-14).

Psalms — With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption (Psalm 130).

Second Reading — If Christ is in you, the spirit is alive even if the body is dead because of sin (Romans 8:8-11).

Gospel — Lazarus, dead for four days, came out of his tomb when Jesus called his name

(John 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

Fifth Sunday of Lent

As we approach Holy Week, our readings speak of a God who, in the midst of death, brings new life to the people. In Ezekiel, we hear that God will open the graves of the people of Israel, who faced near extinction. In the Gospel of John, Jesus gives new life to Lazarus in a manner that prefigures the resurrection of Jesus. Paul tells the Romans that in Christ, God will not only give life to our bodies after death, but God offers us abundant life here and now. We observe that the external conditions for the people described in these readings did not radically change. Israel was still in exile. Lazarus would eventually face death again. But now God's presence and power are revealed. Even when our situation in life is difficult and perhaps not likely to change soon, we remember that the Spirit dwells within us.

EZEKIEL'S COUNTER-STORY

It is difficult to overstate the bleak situation faced by the people of Israel described in today's reading from Ezekiel. Babylon had invaded Jerusalem, killed many of its inhabitants, and destroyed the temple. Some of them were forced into exile in Babylon. Their captors and neighbors likely concluded that the Babylonian deity had pummeled the Hebrew deity into submission. Israel's God was as good as dead, and the people of Israel as well.

In the midst of this catastrophe, Ezekiel announces a counter-story. The narrative of God's death is false. Israel's God is alive, and God's own breath will restore their life. They will be lifted out of the grave of their grief and despair, and be returned to their land. Ezekiel's message speaks to all of us who know of profound disorientation, of separation from loved ones, and of deep loss. God will bear our unbearable sorrow, and God's spirit will offer new life and hope.

RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE

Today's Gospel tells us of the raising of Lazarus. In Jesus' exchange with Lazarus' sister Martha, she refers to the general resurrection of the dead on "the last day." Jesus then shifts the perspective by identifying himself as "the resurrection and the life." What does this mean? Jesus earlier had spoken of the hour "when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live" (John 5:25). When Jesus cries out in a loud voice—"Lazarus, come out!"—Jesus fulfills that role in the present, offering resurrection and life here and now, in a new relationship with him.

Resurrection is offered not only on the last day, and not only at our physical death, but in the mix of our present daily lives. Sometimes we are buried in tombs of suffering or of entrapment in sin. When we encounter death in its many forms, in faith we can hear Jesus, who summons us out of death and into life.

Please visit our website for all the latest information and special Prayer Services, at: stnicholasoftolentinebronx.org and join us on Facebook, St. Nicholas of Tolentine Parish

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday
Fifth Sunday of Lent
Wednesday
April Fool's Day
Thursday
St. Francis of Paola
Friday
First Friday; Abstinence
Saturday
St. Isidore; First Saturday

Greater Than You Expect

Sometimes a prophet says more than he intended. Ezekiel in the first reading is talking about restoring Israel after the Babylonian exile. The Jews saw the Exile as punishment for their sins, especially the sin of relying on false gods or political leaders for their safety. God demonstrates forgiveness by bringing them back to Israel; God also shows them divine power and glory so that they return to the Lord for their protection.

Ezekiel uses the image of the dead rising from their graves (37:12). Jesus came to show us God in a new way and to fulfill the promises of all previous prophecies. Notice how the first reading repeats two phrases: "open your graves" and "know that I am the LORD." Jesus demonstrates that God's promise is much greater than anything Ezekiel expected.

First, the Gospel. When Jesus went to the tomb of Lazarus, he apparently waited till his friend had died. He knew that he was going to raise Lazarus from death to help his disciples believe. So why was he "perturbed and deeply troubled"? It could be that he was disappointed that his friends did not seem to believe that he could raise Lazarus. Notice Jesus became perturbed again when some of the crowd question Jesus' ability to do so (John 11:37-38). Like Ezekiel, the people of Jesus' time did not expect him literally to raise the dead. But God used the prophet's message to prepare for Jesus' message that not only would he rise from the dead, but we will also. And like the friends and relatives of Lazarus, we too may find it hard to believe, or at least question how it could be possible. Fortunately, Jesus helps with that, too.

Look at the second reading to the Romans. Because we have God's Spirit living in us, we who are sinners can be raised to new life by that Spirit. When our sins are forgiven, we begin to live a new life by loving the people we hurt by our sins, forgiving people who have hurt us, being more concerned for the poor than for our own comfort. We are freed from worrying about the future, from holding onto grudges, and perhaps even from the fear of death itself—all because we have experienced the new life of God's Spirit and, as Ezekiel says, know that God is the LORD.

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READINGS FOR THE WEEK
MARCH 30, 2020

Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 [41c-62]; Ps 23:1-6; Jn 8:1-11
Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9; Ps 102:2-3, 16-21; Jn 8:21-30
Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Dn 3:52-56; Jn 8:31-42
Thursday: Gn 17:3-9; Ps 105:4-9; Jn 8:51-59
Friday: Jer 20:10-13; Ps 18:2-7; Jn 10:31-42
Saturday: Ez 37:21-28; Jer 31:10, 11-13; Jn 11:45-56
Sunday: Mt 21:1-11 (procession); Is 50:4-7; Ps 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24; Phil 2:6-11; Mt 26:14 — 27:66 [27:11-54]

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK
MARCH 30, 2020

Monday
8:30am Rene Alvarez (D)
12:10pm
Tuesday
8:30am
12:10pm
Wednesday
8:30am
12:10pm
Thursday
7:45am Maria Vu Phuong (D)
8:30am
12:10pm
Friday
8:30am
12:10pm
Saturday
7:45am Gioanbaotixta Linh (D)
7:00pm Sr. Irene Freely (D); Lourdes Araujo (D)
Sunday
8:00am People of SNT
9:30am
11:30am
1:30pm Gioan Chat (D)

OFFERTORY COLLECTION
MARCH 15, 2020

Tithing: \$323.00
Children: \$0.00
Total: \$323.00

Helping Seniors Stay Healthy and Independent



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David Rubaltelli, MD
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WHY IS IT

A man wakes up after sleeping under an ADVERTISED blanket on an ADVERTISED mattress and pulls off ADVERTISED pajamas bathes in an ADVERTISED shower shaves with an ADVERTISED razor brushes his teeth with ADVERTISED toothpaste washes with ADVERTISED soap puts on ADVERTISED clothes drinks a cup of ADVERTISED coffee drives to work in an ADVERTISED car and then . . . refuses to ADVERTISE believing it doesn't pay. Later if business is poor he ADVERTISES it for sale.

WHY IS IT?



1430 AM
1160 AM

America's Catholic Talk Radio Network

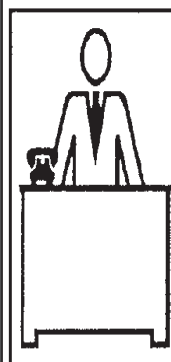


JOIN US FOR OUR OPEN HOUSE!
¡VENGA A NUESTRO EVENTO DE PUERTAS ABIERTAS!
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January 23 | Enero 23
February 25 | Febrero 25
March 24 | Marzo 24
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