



AUGUSTINIAN FRIARS

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Pastor

Pastor@stnicholasoftolentinebronx.org

Fr. Joseph Tran- *Associate*

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
Jesus DeLaRosa

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC
Mr. Daniel Kirk-Foster
Mr. Dang Vu

ACCOUNTING
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.

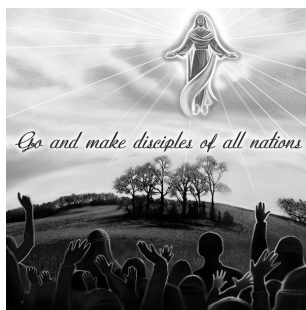
PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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.



THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

“PUSHED” OUT ON MISSION



Go and make disciples of all nations

There is a delightful character in the original *Dr. Dolittle Tales* called the “Pushmi-Pullyu.” It is a beast with two identical halves, with a head at each end. No matter which direction the beast walks, one end is the “push me” and the other is the “pull you.” Today’s feast is a bit like that in the life of the church. In the book of the Acts of the Apostles, it is the ascension of Christ that calls for the Holy Spirit, which consequently sends or “pushes” the church out on its mission. This is the message that we hear from the angels today as they tell the friends of Jesus not to look up into the clouds, but to get busy. It is the message of Jesus himself in Matthew’s Gospel, as he sends them out to baptize. He also tells them, “I am with you always, until the end of the age” (Matthew 28:20). And it is this message, confident in faith that Jesus has ascended to shouts of joy, that “pulls” us along to our final destiny. The life of the faithful disciple, sent into the world on mission, will one day know the same risen, ascended glory.

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TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — Jesus tells the disciples that they will be witnesses to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:1-11).

Psalm — God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord (Psalm 47).

Second Reading — May the Father of glory give you a Spirit of wisdom and revelation (Ephesians 1:17-23).

Gospel — Jesus instructs the Eleven to baptize and teach people of all nations (Matthew 28:16-20).

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.

The key to unlocking the scriptures is in Paul’s letter to the Ephesians as we pray, “May the eyes of your hearts be enlightened.” People see and hear things but simply have a hard time believing they are true. In our first reading from the very beginning of the Acts of the Apostles, Luke starts where his Gospel left off—the ascension of Jesus. For as long as Jesus spent preparing the disciples, they were still foggy about what was happening, and spent time staring at the sky wondering where he went. In today’s Gospel, the disciples still doubt Jesus to the very last minute. In the letter to the Ephesians, Paul speaks to the new Christian community, but could be preaching to each of us in the pews as he says, “I can explain it to you, but I can’t make you believe. This is where faith comes in.” May we all pray for the gift of enlightenment today!

HERE IS THE GAME PLAN

When we hear an excerpt from a particular Gospel, it is easy to get the details and stories from all the Gospels all mixed up and combined into one. Theologian Gerhard Lohfink called this “Making Gospel Soup!” To understand today’s Gospel passage, we must realize that this is material particular to Matthew and in his telling it takes place right after the Resurrection. There has been no “doubting Thomas” or any of the other stories that we’ve heard since Easter.

How often have you made a plan at an event, saying, “If we get split up, just go back to the car and wait” or “Stay at the fountain in the mall—I’ll find you!” Earlier in Matthew, Jesus told the women at the tomb to tell the disciples, “If something happens, head back to Galilee” (28:10). This was the game plan and was both a geographic reference and a spiritual one. “Go back to what you know, what you remember.” They were confused and hurting, but did as Jesus said, returning to Galilee, specifically to the mountain where they had a powerful experience with him before. That would make it understandable that the disciples showed up but were a bit leery or doubting.

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

Look, Up in the Sky!

Around holidays, people tend to look fondly back on past celebrations and romanticize old relationships. For some, remembering the past is the best part of their holiday. That is the image we get from the first reading as the apostles look up to heaven after the Ascension. They think it is Jesus' last Resurrection appearance and that they will never see him again. Maybe they were still amazed at seeing him ascend that way. Or maybe they were remembering all the things he said and did with them.

We too sometimes look at the great feasts of Christmas and Easter in that way. We may dwell on the beauty of the decorations, on the innocence of the baby Jesus, on the horror of his passion and death, or on the wonder of his resurrection. Then when the holy day is over, we go back to our normal routine. Perhaps we need an angel to chide us for "looking at the sky."

The angels were trying to tell the apostles two things. One was that Jesus would return as he left—in glory. This was not a time to say goodbye but a time of hope; the Lord who had changed their lives so radically would change the world next. While they certainly should remember Jesus and all he taught them, they should also expect to see him again. Once they received the Holy Spirit, they would see how Jesus was present in the church, the mystical Body of Christ.

The second thing the angels were telling them was to begin following Jesus' command to spread the good news to all nations. They would soon realize that Jesus was alive in them, not just as a fond memory, but with the power of his Spirit. With this power they would do mighty deeds in Jesus' name and be his witnesses to the world.

Because of what the apostles accomplished, we are now Jesus' witnesses to the world. We celebrate his death and resurrection not as a fond memory, but to encourage each other to spread the Good News. We too have the hope of seeing Jesus come in glory, even as we see him now with the eyes of faith.

Tom Schmidt, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co

The parish office is closed until further notice. If you have an emergency, please call 718-295-6800 and leave a message and someone will get back to you as soon as possible.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK
MAY 25, 2020

Monday: Acts 19:1-8; Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab; Jn 16:29-33
 Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27; Ps 68:10-11, 20-21; Jn 17:1-11a
 Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38; Ps 68:29-30, 33-36ab; Jn 17:11b-19
 Thursday: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11; Ps 16:1-2a, 5, 7-11; Jn 17:20-26
 Friday: Acts 25:13b-21; Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab; Jn 21:15-19
 Saturday: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; Ps 11:4, 5, 7; Jn 21:20-25
 Sunday: Vigil: Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5; Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29-30; Rom 8:22-27; Jn 7:37-39
Day: Acts 2:1-11; Ps 104:1, 24, 29-31, 34; 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13; Jn 20:19-23

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK
MAY 25, 2020

Monday
 9:00am
Tuesday
 8:30am Altagracia, Alba, & Casiano Abreu (D)
 12:10pm
Wednesday
 8:30am Agustina Calixto Garcia (D)
 12:10pm
Thursday
 7:45am
 8:30am
 12:10pm
Friday
 8:30am Thanksgiving
 12:10pm
Saturday
 7:45am
 7:00pm Julia Rodriguez Perez & familia (D)
Sunday
 8:00am People of SNT
 9:30am
 11:30am
 1:30pm

OFFERTORY COLLECTION
MARCH 23, 2020

Tithing: \$265.00
 Children: \$0.00
 Total: \$265.00

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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!

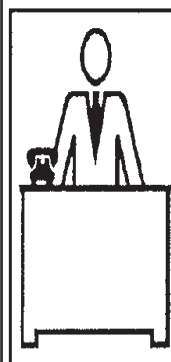
¡VENGA A NUESTRO EVENTO DE PUERTAS ABIERTAS!

December 19 | Diciembre 19
January 23 | Enero 23
February 25 | Febrero 25
March 24 | Marzo 24
5:30PM-6:30PM



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