



## AUGUSTINIAN FRIARS

### PASTORAL STAFF

Fr. Luis A Vera, O.S.A.  
*Pastor*

[Pastor@stnicholasoftolentinebronx.org](mailto: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](http://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)

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

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### 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.

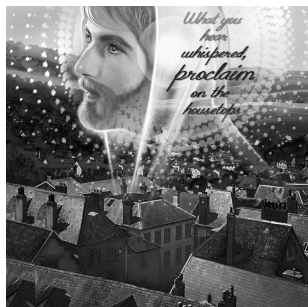
## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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.



## TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## ENTHUSIASM AND GRAMMAR



There is a good reason that the writings of St. Paul don't show up as examples in grammar textbooks. Today's reading is a case in point. It begins with one of those long Pauline run on sentences that leave lecturers gasping for breath. So what? Take a closer look at how Paul's fervor for his subject matter derails the grammar. There is something admirable about being so caught up in his convictions that the words cannot come fast enough to express them, much less in an orderly fashion. Scripture scholars usually take this grammatical ineptness as a sign of a passage's early importance in the Christian community, something they were so ardent about that their language never got refined.

What leaves us in this condition? Re-telling the plot line of an action movie or the play-by-play of a sporting event? When was the last time any of us was so excited by our faith in Christ that we were left grasping for words, stumbling over our own errors in speech? It may be bad grammar, but it is an excellent way to inspire others with the message of Christ!

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## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — The LORD has rescued the poor from the clutches of the wicked (Jeremiah 20:10-13).

**Psalm** — Lord, in your great love, answer me (Psalm 69).

**Second Reading** — The grace of God overflows for all (Romans 5:12-15).

**Gospel** — All who acknowledge Jesus before others will likewise be acknowledged by Jesus before the Father (Matthew 10:26-33).

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.

## DO NOT BE AFRAID

In our world today, it seems there are many things to make us fearful. We can become distraught over personal finances, relationships, poor choices our children are making, issues with jobs, the changing climate, the way our parish is being run, or a zillion other things. The problems may not be even evil but may be simply life and all its challenges. But these struggles are real, and sometimes we seek unhealthy solutions. Many people suffer with issues of anxiety and depression, and fear leads others to addiction as a means of coping. In our Gospel today, God lovingly calls us beyond that darkness to light.

The psalmist cries out to God, "Lord, in your great love, answer me." In each of our readings today, there is movement from darkness and despair to trusting in God as our source of salvation. Jeremiah sounds almost a madman as he describes the evil and vileness that surrounds him. In the midst of that terror, he professes his faith in God. Similarly, in Saint Paul's letter to the Romans, we are reminded that one man, Jesus Christ, came into the world for the sake of many, to overcome the evil and sin that have been prevalent since Adam. In Mark, Jesus calls us from fear, sin, and darkness to live in the light. He reminds us that we are not alone and how very precious each of us is in the eyes of God. Indeed, God hears our cries!

## YOU ARE WORTH MORE THAN MANY SPARROWS

Sometimes we look for very complex answers when a simple promise or solution is right in front of us. As I am writing and looking out the window, I see half a dozen little birds sitting in a bush. Their presence is a reminder to me of God's love and care for each and every one of us. If something that seems so insignificant or incidental is known by God, how much more are we loved and cared for! Take a moment, look at the world around you, breathe, take it in, and ask God for the help you in your need. Turn matters over and place your trust in a loving God.

Remember, though, Jesus seldom heals without some sort of action on our part. When you have given your concern over to God, other concrete steps may be necessary. Is it time to schedule an appointment with a professional? Time to name an issue? Or time for the sacrament of reconciliation? Evil's power comes from remaining in the darkness. When we no longer close ourselves off or suffer alone but share our concerns with someone, we can begin to grow and heal and move past them. It is seldom magical or instantaneous. It is a long arduous process. But we hold on to the simple reminder, "You are worth more than many sparrows!"

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

The Paradox of Faith

“Fear no one,” Jesus says. He is talking about fearing those who persecute you for your faith. In the verses before this Gospel passage, he tries to prepare us for that persecution and says that since it was done to him (Jesus), it would be done to his followers.

But what happened to Jesus? He was crucified, but rose from the dead. So he triumphed over his persecutors; they could not stop him. And that is what he promises us. Whatever persecution, ridicule, or discrimination we suffer for our faith, we cannot be destroyed as long as we keep that faith.

Now the best way to keep that faith is to give it away. That sounds like a paradox, but it means that when we spread the faith, our faith grows, too. Sure, it takes courage to talk about our faith to another, but when we share our stories about what God means to us, we relive those experiences; we remind ourselves what God has done for us. And when we allow others to share their faith with us, we are encouraged and supported. That is why Jesus says that what is hidden will be made known: True faith never stays hidden; it needs to be shared.

Sometimes we may hesitate to talk about our faith. If we let ourselves be tempted to silence, we are letting the devil have his way. That is the only thing to fear: not Satan’s power, but our weakness. That’s why Jesus said whoever denies him will be denied by him. Yet Jesus died for our sins, so even they cannot destroy us if we turn back to the Lord. Just as God knows every sparrow that falls, so he knows us when we fall and values us more than sparrows.

So thank him for his forgiveness, but don’t forget to spread the news that you are forgiven. You might give someone else the courage to come back to the Lord, and so score another victory for faith over fear.

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

JUNE 22, 2020

Monday: 2 Kgs 17:5-8, 13-15a, 18; Ps 60:3-5, 12-13; Mt 7:1-5  
 Tuesday: 2 Kgs 19:9b-11, 14-21, 31-35a, 36; Ps 48:2-4, 10-11; Mt 7:6, 12-14  
 Wednesday: Vigil: Jer 1:4-10; Ps 71:1-6, 15, 17; 1 Pt 1:8-12; Lk 1:5-17  
Day: Is 49:1-6; Ps 139:1-3, 13-15; Acts 13:22-26; Lk 1:57-66, 80  
 Thursday: 2 Kgs 24:8-17; Ps 79:1b-5, 8-9; Mt 7:21-29  
 Friday: 2 Kgs 25:1-12; Ps 137:1-6; Mt 8:1-4  
 Saturday: Lam 2:2, 10-14, 18-19; Ps 74:1b-7, 20-21; Mt 8:5-17  
 Sunday: 2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a; Ps 89:2-3, 16-19; Rom 6:3-4, 8-11; Mt 10:37-42

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

JUNE 22, 2020

Monday  
 8:30am Jose Cuevas (D)  
 12:10pm  
Tuesday  
 8:30am  
 12:10pm  
Wednesday  
 8:30am  
 12:10pm  
Thursday  
 7:45am  
 8:30am  
 12:10pm  
Friday  
 8:30am  
 12:10pm  
Saturday  
 7:45am  
 7:00pm  
Sunday  
 8:00am People of SNT  
 9:30am  
 11:30am  
 1:30pm

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

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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?**



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