



## AUGUSTINIAN FRIARS

### PASTORAL STAFF

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*Pastor*

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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.



## FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## GOD'S WORDS



Each day we are bombarded with thousands of words. From the moment our clock radios click on in the morning, until the last moment of the day when the television is turned off or someone bids us “good-night,” our life is filled with words. Some words that we hear bring news that leaves us feeling low. Some words lift our spirits. Many of the words we hear are trying to get us to buy something. Some words are hurtful. Today the Church focuses our attention on hearing the word of God. Are God’s words just more of the same—part of the endless stream of words that flow into our ears each day? The challenge today is to allow God’s word to inspire us in new ways so that our outlook and attitudes align themselves more closely with the heart and mind of Christ Jesus.

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## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — My word will achieve the end for which it was sent (Isaiah 55:10-11).

**Psalm** — The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest (Psalm 65).

**Second Reading** — We, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan within ourselves awaiting the redemption of our bodies (Romans 8:18-23).

**Gospel** — Some seed fell on rich soil and produced fruit (Matthew 13:1-23 [1-9]).

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.

Here in the middle of summer, many people grow vegetable and flower gardens, or appreciate the work of others by buying produce from roadside stands and farmer’s markets. All our readings today embrace one of God’s smallest but most common miracles as a metaphor: the seed and its cycle, and all that it stands for. Isaiah reminds us that just as God waters the earth and cares for it so that seeds may grow, so the Word of God will come and not return to God until it has borne fruit. Psalm 65 describes the cycle of growth and personifies fields that “shout for joy.” Romans has “creation groaning in labor pains” as it waits for its seed to come to fruition, redemption of the body. Similarly, Jesus teaches the crowds by using the parable of the sower and the seed.

## GROWTH REQUIRES PATIENCE

Every child in school has experienced the excitement of growing a simple bean seed planted in a paper cup or watched a time lapse video of the growth process. We watch this miracle sprout in a matter of days, and marvel at the whole process. A seed must be planted and die to itself in order to create a new life. Then it must be fertilized and watered and cared for. But most importantly, one must be patient and wait. Seeds take a certain amount of time to develop and may require being dormant for a while. Similarly, a human baby takes nine months to grow from the time the seed is fertilized.

But no matter what we do, and how well we do it, not all seeds will yield fruit. Sometimes the conditions are just not right to allow it. Not all pregnancies go full term. Farmers know the pain of a drought year, or storms that ruin a crop before it can be harvested. Diseases and blight and other things can take hold.

## SOME WILL BE LOST

Growing up in the Western states, beautiful fields of wheat and beans were a common sight for me, but I did not fully understand this parable until going to the Holy Land and seeing the rocky ground that Jesus spoke of. This was an “aha” moment, as I witnessed what a miracle it was when something had the strength and tenacity to grow among the crags despite the arid conditions. What a sign of faith and trust and hope even to plant crops there, knowing that some would be lost! It would seem easier to write them all off, or even less work not to plant them at all.

Jesus could do that to us, but he has not. He has faith and trust that a number of the seeds planted in us will bear great fruit. They will not wither and fade away, but will produce fruit, a hundred-, or sixty- or thirty-fold. And his faith in us gives us hope.

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

Parables, Anyone?

When Jesus answers the apostles' question about why he speaks in parables, it may seem as if he is using them to confuse people. We know he is trying to spread the good news of God's kingdom. So he talks to the crowds in parables, easily understood stories that usually have a moral or that end with a question for the hearers. He uses these stories to teach the crowd.

Jesus threw out parables like a farmer sowing seeds. Some of them fell on the ears of those who would be disciples. But most fell on the ears of people not ready to understand. So how do we receive his word? Do we hear it without understanding, letting it go in one ear and out the other? Do we hear it joyfully, but then forget it when troubles or difficulties come along? Do we listen to the word but ignore it in the face of some later temptation?

If we want the word to grow strong in us, we can take steps to help ourselves understand it. We can come to church early and spend a few minutes with the readings before Mass. After Mass we can talk about the readings or the homily with our family over breakfast. We can pick out one practical point to practice that week.

Keeping the word in difficult times is not easy. The cross teaches us to expect troubles, but we have to endure them to really learn that we can go through suffering to a new life.

To be strong enough to resist temptations, we have to decide each day that we want to follow Jesus' word. We can pray for that strength and ask God to help us remember that word when temptations come. And we can decide to stay away from the places, people, or situations that so tempt us.

God's word can be likened to a ball game. We can sit back and watch, not really involved or caring who wins. Or we can jump in and participate and make the game ours. Let us ask God how we can take the word and run with it.

Tom Schmidt, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

You must wear a mask to attend mass. If you are not wearing a mask, you will be turned away at the door. Attendance is also limited to a certain amount of people so it is on a first come, first served basis. Temperatures will be checked upon entering and anyone presenting with a fever will be turned away. You will be seated upon entering the church and you are asked to remain in that seat until instructed to rise from it. There will be people there to guide you through all of these new steps. We ask all of this for your safety and the safety of our church family.

The parish office is now opened.  
Confessions are by appointment only. Please call 718-295-6800 for an appointment time.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

JULY 13, 2020

Monday: Is 1:10-17; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23; Mt 10:34 — 11:1  
 Tuesday: Is 7:1-9; Ps 48:2-8; Mt 11:20-24  
 Wednesday: Is 10:5-7, 13b-16; Ps 94:5-10, 14-15; Mt 11:25-27  
 Thursday: Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19; Ps 102:13-14ab, 15-21; 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 10:1-4, 7-8, 14; Mt 12:14-21  
 Sunday: Wis 12:13, 16-19; Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16; Rom 8:26-27; Mt 13:24-43 [24-30]

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

JULY 13, 2020

**Monday**  
 8:30am Por sabidurias en la busqueda de empleo  
 12:10pm  
**Tuesday**  
 8:30am Marisol Ramirez  
 12:10pm  
**Wednesday**  
 8:30am Felix Antonio Hernandez (D); Keren Hernandez (D) Francia Vargas De Gomez (D)  
 12:10pm  
**Thursday**  
 7:45am  
 8:30am Francisco Moran (D)  
 12:10pm  
**Friday**  
 8:30am  
 12:10pm  
**Saturday**  
 7:45am  
 5:00PM Ana Paulina Bautista (D), John Meyers (D); Francia Vargas De Gomez (D)  
 7:00pm  
**Sunday**  
 8:00am People of SNT  
 9:30am Germania Perez (D)  
 11:30am Peter & Phyllis Keon (D)  
 1:30pm  
 3:30PM

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

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Tithing: \$8,626.88  
 Children: \$0.00  
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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**



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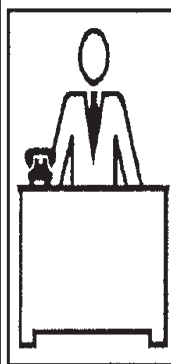
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