



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

ACCOUNTING
Ms. Shelly Parkin

PLANT MANAGER
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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.



SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

GOOD SEEDS



Today Jesus continues to speak to his followers using parables. What a rich treasure we are given today in three parables about the kingdom of heaven! The kingdom is likened to a man sowing good seed in his field, a mustard seed, and yeast mixed with flour. As they did last week, today the disciples press Jesus for an interpretation of one of the parables—the parable of the man sowing good seed. Let us think that these parables are simply amusing little anecdotes, Jesus’ interpretation should be seen for what it is—a warning. Wailing and grinding of teeth in a fiery furnace await those who are children of the evil one. This parable points to the struggle for today’s believer. Sometimes, through sin, we sow weeds and prevent the love of Christ from blossoming. Let today’s Gospel help put us back on track. Let us recommit ourselves to preparing for the last days, the harvest, by blossoming as the good seeds we were created in love to be.

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TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — You taught your people that those who are just must likewise be kind (Wisdom 12:13, 16-19).

Psalms — Lord, you are good and forgiving (Psalm 86).

Second Reading — The Spirit comes to aid us in our weakness (Romans 8:26-27).

Gospel — Jesus proposes parables to the crowds, teaching them of the reign of God (Matthew 13:24-43 [24-30]).

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.

WHAT IS OUR LEAVEN?

In our own growth, something usually spurs us on and calls us to change. For a young couple who find out they are expecting, this may be the impetus to “grow up” and straighten out their spending habits. For another, perhaps a heart attack or prolonged illness calls one to wake up and gives one a second chance at life. Losing a job or a spouse or surviving a car accident may mean it is time for a “do-over.” Isn’t it amazing to realize that we are blessed with a tender, loving God who will walk through all these changes in our lives, who is cajoling us into a better self? Here is a God who doesn’t pull the plug because of our sins, but is willing to wait and sort and “gather the wheat.” Let us be grateful for this gift of loving mercy. Recall the simple prayer found in Psalm 86:15-16: “You, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, / slow to anger, abounding in kindness and fidelity. / Turn toward me, and have pity on me; / give your strength to your servant.”

A God who judges with leniency and clemency, a Spirit groaning because we know not how to pray, a patient master waiting to separate wheat and weeds, a tiny seed growing into a great bush, and the miracle of yeast and flour! All of these images found in our readings today speak of the unexpected, the countercultural, and of the compassion and intimacy of our relationship with God. Many times we are afraid to come to God in prayer, or we may turn away from our God because of our weakness and sinfulness. We are not presented with a vengeful God who is waiting to smite us, but a God of infinite love and wisdom and patience who will show us the way. What an amazing gift this is!

WE NEED TO GROW

We live in an instant world of microwaves and drive-throughs and a disposable society in which things quickly become obsolete, so today’s message is very strange. In all the readings today, and especially in the Gospel, we see transformation, but it is not something that happens overnight, nor does it take place without effort. We are met with parables of a patient and loving God who can see a positive outcome at the end and is willing to wait and nourish us and help us all get there. The sower’s seeds require a growth period and some careful sorting. To make the bread, one must knead it and wait patiently. In planting a mustard seed, something so tiny yields great results, but not until after completing a period of dormancy and waiting.

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

A Mighty God

The first reading says that God's might is the basis for divine justice. We might take this to mean that God uses mighty power to punish sinners, in the legal sense of justice. But the reading also talks about God's lenience and clemency. So maybe God's power is so great that punishment is not necessary. Sinners can be forgiven. After all, we usually punish those we fear will hurt us again. But God is too powerful to be injured by our sins. God can afford to wait for us to repent. That is the point of the parable of the wheat and the weeds.

We are used to expecting swift justice. We like TV shows in which the bad guy is caught and convicted in an hour. The idea of God giving sinners until the end of time to repent is almost un-American—at least, until we realize that we are sinners, too. "But my sins are so minor." Even the smallest sin says that we know better than God what is right. Yet God is still willing to wait for all of us to repent.

On the other hand, we hear people who say they don't deserve to be forgiven. True, but no one could ever deserve forgiveness. That is the wonder of God's love, that God's Son came to die for sinners, even before we sinned. As we experience that forgiveness, we learn the depth of God's love for us. Hopefully, we also learn to share that love with others.

Of course, that means that we also share forgiveness with others. If God waits till "the end of the age" before burning the weeds, shouldn't we be willing to forgive those who hurt us? The Church encourages us to celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation often. Many people today wait till they have a lot of sins, or at least one whopper, to confess. But the more often we go, the more we are reminded of God's love and forgiveness. Those reminders can help us to be more willing to show mercy ourselves. Let us ask God for the courage to seek forgiveness and the strength to forgive.

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 20, 2020

Monday: Mi 6:1-4, 6-8; Ps 50:5-6, 8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23; Mt 12:38-42
 Tuesday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Ps 85:2-8; Mt 12:46-50
 Wednesday: Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17; Ps 63:2-6, 8-9; Jn 20:1-2, 11-18
 Thursday: Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13; Ps 36:6-7ab, 8-11; Mt 13:10-17
 Friday: Jer 3:14-17; Jer 31:10-12abcd, 13; Mt 13:18-23
 Saturday: 2 Cor 4:7-15; Ps 126:1bc-6; Mt 20:20-28
 Sunday: 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12; Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-130; Rom 8:28-30; Mt 13:44-52 [44-46]

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

JULY 20, 2020

Monday
 8:30am Lourdes Santana (D)
 12:10pm
Tuesday
 8:30am
 12:10pm
Wednesday
 8:30am
 12:10pm
Thursday
 7:45am
 8:30am
 12:10pm
Friday
 8:30am Juan Bautista Hernandez (D)
 12:10pm
Saturday
 7:45am
 5:00PM Lourdes Santana (L)
 7:00pm
Sunday
 8:00am Ignacio Miguel; Victoria Castillo (D)
 9:30am Ramona Emilia Espinal & Ruben Peña (D); Henry Santana Medina (D); Blas Rodriguez (D)
 11:30am
 1:30pm
 3:30PM

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

JULY 5, 2020

Tithing: \$5,849.42
 Children: \$0.00
 Total: \$5,849.42

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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

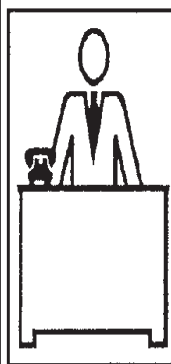


JOIN US FOR OUR OPEN HOUSE!
¡VENGA A NUESTRO EVENTO DE PUERTAS ABIERTAS!
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January 23 | Enero 23
February 25 | Febrero 25
March 24 | Marzo 24
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