



AUGUSTINIAN FRIARS

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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

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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.

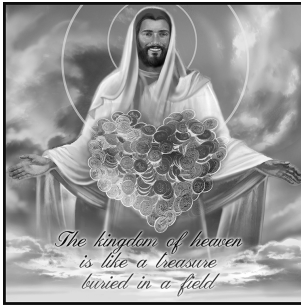


SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

A SHARE IN GOD'S KINGDOM

Today concludes a three-week series of Gospel texts in which we have listened to a total of seven parables about the Kingdom. The believer is asked to consider the request that God made of Solomon in today's first reading: "Ask something of me and I will give it to you" (1 Kings 3:5). Today's parables about the treasure buried in the field and the pearl of great price should prompt us to answer, "A share in your kingdom, O God!" Today we discover that the kingdom of God is beyond value, a priceless treasure. Unfortunately, our culture bombards us with things that it believes are priceless treasures—the bigger and better SUVs, anti-aging and anti-balding creams and salves, miracle diets, and so much more. Having a share in God's kingdom and helping to bring about that kingdom are the greatest treasures that we can ever hope to gain.

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Solomon prays for an understanding heart (1 Kings 3:5, 7-12).

Psalm — Lord, I love your commands (Psalm 119).

Second Reading — All things work for good for those who love God (Romans 8:28-30).

Gospel — The one who knows of the kingdom of heaven brings new and old from the storeroom (Matthew 13:44-52 [44-46]).

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.

GIVING UNDERSTANDING TO THE SIMPLE

This message again seems very countercultural. We live in an age of instant gratification. Consumer debt is at an all-time high. Houses get bigger and bigger and more luxurious. Instead of saying "I can't afford a new car," people stretch payments out over six or seven years in an attempt to afford the unaffordable. Today we are called to put it all in perspective, to follow the "pearl of great price," to put all things aside that we might seek the kingdom of God and reach our heavenly goal, our salvation. This may require a paradigm shift and making radical changes in our lifestyle, in how we spend our time, our money, our energy, how we define what is important to us. May each of us find the wisdom of Solomon to guide us in making the right choices.

An old expression admonishes, "Be careful what you wish for." Another one warns about money "burning a hole in your pocket" as you try and determine all the possibilities about how you will spend it. If God were to grant you a wish, what would it be? Our readings are about making wise choices and following God's ways. When Solomon is given this opportunity, he does not make a rash or selfish decision but requests an "understanding heart" so that he might better govern the people with justice. The responsorial psalm is part of a long acrostic poem about the beauty of following God's law. Saint Paul speaks to the Romans about being God's master plan, in which we each have a special calling and purpose. The Gospel provides several parables about the kingdom of heaven, and how we might take right action and necessary steps in order to obtain it.

THE REVELATION OF YOUR WORD SHEDS LIGHT

Jesus is speaking in parables and offers three different images for the kingdom of heaven. Remember that popular line from a phone commercial: "Can you hear me now?" Jesus is trying to teach and basically says, "Do you understand me now? Do you get it now? Then let me explain it another way." He is shedding light on just how very important his mission is, that the kingdom of God is the most important thing, and that we must make every choice, every effort to strive for it. To use a sports metaphor, Jesus is telling us we must not look for immediate satisfaction, but we must "play the long game" because in the end, this is the only thing that really matters.

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 Truly Wise Person

The ending of today's Gospel speaks about "the new and the old." Jesus is saying that a person "instructed in the kingdom" has wisdom both old and new; in other words, that person learns from the past as well as from the present. Let's look at each of those.

We learn from the past by studying it. So the wisdom of the Kingdom comes first from the scriptures. The more familiar we are with the word of God, the more wisdom we possess. Along with studying the scriptures, we must pray over them and ask the Spirit to show us how they apply to our lives. We can also learn from the lives of the saints and writings of the Church. The saints may have lived extraordinary lives, but they all began as ordinary people who gave their lives to Christ. The writings of the Church, though sometimes very technical, contain the wisdom of centuries of living the faith. If you only have time to go to Mass on Sunday, just listening to the homily can help to apply the scriptures to your life.

One way we can learn from "the new" is to learn from our mistakes. That includes learning from our sins. When we are truly sorry, we make an effort to change our ways. You might say we have to learn a new way to respond to that situation. In the Bible, the word repentance itself means a change of heart, a new way of seeing and doing things.

We can also learn from the mistakes and the successes of our friends. As we share our faith with them, we share the stories of our lives, both good and bad. These stories can teach how to live our faith (or how not to!). One of the advantages of having friends whom we trust enough to confess our faults to is that we do not have to figure out life on our own. God can speak to us through a friend or relative whose advice we seek. A truly wise person is one who has received a lifetime of good advice.

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 27, 2020

Monday: Jer 13:1-11; Dt 32:18-21; Mt 13:31-35
 Tuesday: Jer 14:17-22; Ps 79:8, 9, 11, 13; Mt 13:36-43
 Wednesday: Jer 15:10, 16-21; Ps 34:2-11; Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42
 Thursday: Jer 18:1-6; Ps 146:1b-6ab; Mt 13:47-53
 Friday: Jer 26:1-9; Ps 69:5, 8-10, 14; Mt 13:54-58
 Saturday: Jer 26:11-16, 24; Ps 69:15-16, 30-31, 33-34; Mt 14:1-12
 Sunday: Is 55:1-3; Ps 145:8-9, 15-18; Rom 8:35, 37-39; Mt 14:13-21

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

JULY 27, 2020

Monday
 8:30am Maria Pascal (L)
 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
 5:00PM
 7:00pm Maria Pascal (L)
Sunday
 8:00am Rosa Caines (D); Ignacio Miguel, Victoria Castillo (D)
 Maria Pascal (L); Animas del Purgatorio
 9:30am
 11:30am
 1:30pm Giuse Le Hung (D)
 3:30PM

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

JULY 12, 2020

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Children:	\$0.00	\$663.00
Total:	\$5,471.12	

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WHY IS IT?