



AUGUSTINIAN FRIARS

PASTORAL STAFF

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

Pastor@stnicholasoftolentinebronx.org

Fr. Joseph Tran- Associate

Fr. Carlos Urbina, O.S.A - 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

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Mr. Dang Vu

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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.)
	7:45 a.m. Vietnamese (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.

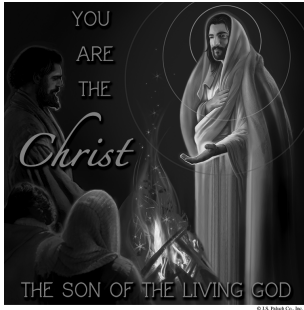
We encourage all parishioners to register at our parish office. We invite new parishioners to make an appointment to meet a member of the parish staff.

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.



TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



TRUST

Keys hold great significance for those who carry them. They represent the trust and authority of the owner when given to another person. We may give our house key to a trusted friend to take care of our matters while we are away. We may give keys to someone responsible for maintaining or working in a particular building. Keys to vehicles are given to people who have proven themselves responsible drivers. The readings today focus on this kind of trust—the trust that conveys authority and responsibility. In the first reading, the symbol is specifically that of a key; but the second reading and the Gospel also speak of trust and leadership as they refer to the earthly church that Jesus established.

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Eliakim is destined by God to be a father to those who live in Jerusalem (Isaiah 22:19-23).

Psalm — Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands (Psalm 138).

Second Reading — How deep are the riches and the wisdom and the knowledge of God! (Romans 11:33-36).

Gospel — Jesus asked the disciples, “Who do you say that I am?” Peter replied, “You are the Christ” (Matthew 16:13-20).

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

Jesus poses the question “But who do you say I am?” in today’s Gospel passage. It is a question posed to Peter and the disciples, to Matthew’s first readers, and to the Church today. Peter’s confession of faith in Jesus as Christ and Son of God was a culmination of what the disciples had experienced in their life with Jesus thus far. Jesus affirms Peter’s declaration as a gift from God. But it was only the beginning of Peter’s understanding of what these words actually meant, and how the disciples saw themselves in light of this truth. As Jesus and the disciples turned toward Jerusalem and to the cross, the disciples perhaps pondered their own identity, together with their dawning understanding of Jesus’ identity. For us, the journey of faith, initiated and sustained by the Holy Spirit, means an ongoing reflection upon who Jesus is and who we are.

AWE AND PRAISE

In today’s passage from Romans, Paul concludes his complex reflections on the Jewish people, the emerging Gentile churches, and God’s work among them. Paul has struggled to understand the responses of both the Jewish and Gentile communities, with their mix of acceptance and rejection of Jesus. He warns the Roman church to avoid any sense of superiority over Jews or non-Christian Gentiles, for everyone is in need of God’s mercy. Paul acknowledges the limits of his understanding, and gives way to prayers of awe and praise. He concludes by marveling at the limitless mercy of God, whose designs are ultimately mysterious.

Sometimes our own prayer can be like that of Paul. In conversation with God, we try to make sense of life, especially its difficulties. The full truth of what’s going on in our lives or in our world eludes us, and so we work humbly with the truth that we can understand. If we believe our mysterious God is indeed trustworthy, we can open our hearts in praise, and allow God to shape our lives.

TO BIND AND TO LOOSE

When Jesus says to Peter “whatever you bind” or “whatever you loose” in today’s Gospel, he describes a distinct power that emerges from Peter’s faith in Jesus. The capacity to bind or to loose suggests a new ability, both to restrain or block forces that harm the community of faith, and also to release or liberate energies that strengthen the community.

It might be helpful to observe, within your own parish or faith community, where God might be working now. Perhaps you can see persons and groups working to restrain toxic forces of resentment or fear. You might see those who are releasing new energies, and empowering the faithful to care for their neighbors. When we are grounded in a prayerful trust relationship with Jesus, we can receive this power to participate in God’s work, to bind and to loose.

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

Rocky

I wonder how many men named Peter know that originally it was a nickname. Jesus gave Simon a name based on the word for "rock." Like any good nickname, Jesus had a reason to give this one. Peter had just acknowledged Jesus to be the Son of God and the Messiah (Christ). Jesus used that as an opportunity to teach us about the importance of faith as the foundation of the church.

The church was initially the Jews who followed Jesus. For them, the tradition of a coming messiah was a symbol of their hope for the future. So believing that Jesus was the Messiah first meant that he was *the* reason to hope. But more importantly, it showed what "messiah" really means.

There were many variations on what people thought the messiah would be. Some expected a political leader who would unite the Jews and maybe even overthrow their Roman masters. Others thought he would be a wonder-worker, like a super-hero, who would use his power to make Israel a great and free nation. Or perhaps the messiah would provide food and riches in abundance.

By calling Jesus the Messiah, we see that he saves us not by royal leadership, or amazing feats or great riches, but by giving his life for us on the cross. He shows that love is a greater power than political power or wealth. And by learning about Jesus, we learn about the love of God for us. We learn that Jesus has fulfilled all messianic hopes. He unites not just the Jews, but all people who believe in him. He sets us free from sin and death. He feeds our spiritual hunger with his own Body and Blood in the Eucharist.

By commending Peter's faith, Jesus shows us that faith is the foundation (rock) of the church. For the church is not just a social club of people who like to worship the same way; it is a family of people who believe all that Jesus taught because we believe in the person of Jesus. That is, we don't just believe that Jesus was real. We affirm that he is alive and important to our lives. We have experienced him in his words, in the sacraments, and in each other. May our faith always be solid as a rock.

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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

AUGUST 24, 2020

Monday: Rv 21:9b-14; Ps 145:10-13, 17-18; Jn 1:45-51
 Tuesday: 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17; Ps 96:10-13; Mt 23:23-26
 Wednesday: 2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18; Ps 128:1-2, 4-5; Mt 23:27-32
 Thursday: 1 Cor 1:1-9; Ps 145:2-7; Mt 24:42-51
 Friday: 1 Cor 1:17-25; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11; Mt 25:1-13
 Saturday: 1 Cor 1:26-31; Ps 33:12-13, 18-21; Mk 6:17-29
 Sunday: Jer 20:7-9; Ps 63:2-6, 8-9; Rom 12:1-2; Mt 16:21-27

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

AUGUST 24, 2020

Monday
8:30am Blas Rodriguez (D); Florangel Medrano (D)
Tuesday
8:30am
Wednesday
8:30am
Thursday
8:30am Jacinta Fabian (D); Felipe Ocampo (D)
Friday
8:30am Santiago Frias (D)
Saturday
7:45am
7:00pm Ernesto Muñoz (D)
Sunday
8:00am
9:30am Ernesto Muñoz (D); Ruben Cespedes (D)
11:30am Virgilio Caballero, Manny Flores, Jorge Cole (D)
1:30pm

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

AUGUST 9, 2020

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 Children: \$0.00
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March 24 | Marzo 24
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