



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.
In Residence

Fr. Joe Murray, 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. 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 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)

3:30 p.m. **Spanish** (piano & cantor)

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)

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.

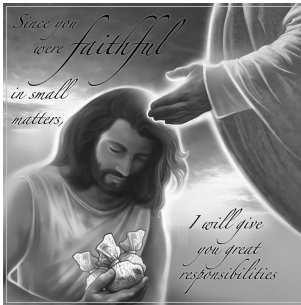
PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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.



THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

CHANGE OUR LIVES



The letters of Paul to the Thessalonians are among his earliest writings, and are driven by his belief and the belief of the entire early Christian community that the return of Christ was imminent, and that devoting time or attention to anything else was foolish.

As time progressed, this fervor subsided a bit. Today we may wonder, when we hear these readings about the coming end-times, if we should take them to heart, if we really believe that Christ still may come upon us as a “thief at night” (1 Thessalonians 5:2). Does this mean that we are to stop our long-range goal-setting, get rid of our yearly calendars and planners, or stop putting money in the college education fund? Of course not. What it does mean is that we need to change our lives, living like children of the light and illuminating the world around us with the light of the gospel. Then, on that day, when the details of our daily living become unimportant, we will be ready to find our peace and security in Christ Jesus.

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First Reading — The woman who fears the LORD is to be praised (Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31).

Psalm — Blessed are those who fear the Lord (Psalm 128).

Second Reading — Brothers and sisters, you are children of the light (1 Thessalonians 5:1-6).

Gospel — Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities (Matthew 25:14-30 [14-15, 19-21]).

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.

Paul Harvey was a popular radio broadcaster with a daily program during which he would relate a historical anecdote, but it would have a twist at the end, and then he would intone “and now you know the rest of the story.” Our scriptures today are like that. We await the coming Christ as the readings describe for us how to be good servants, but they give us a limited picture. The famous Proverbs passage, “The Valiant Wife” is edited down from the full selection (31:10–31) to just a few verses. Take a couple moments to explore the fuller selection. Psalm 128 proclaims, “Blessed are those who fear the Lord,” but in this context “fear” doesn’t mean dread and trepidation. Rather, this kind of fear means “to show awe,” and there are wonderful promises made to those who do. The letter to the Thessalonians continues the call to be alert, and Matthew shows us various ways that people might respond to God in the parable of the talents. The Gospel is presented in long and shortened versions; be sure to read the whole thing so you can get “the rest of the story.”

BEAR MUCH FRUIT

When the head of the household returned, the outcomes were just as varied as we and our responses might be. Some people are multitasking, and capable of accomplishing many great things, like the servant who turned five into ten. Others may be more inclined to do one or two things very well and may excel in them. Still, there are some who may struggle in life, and their accomplishments are very small. But those who made use of their gifts were praised and told, “Well done, good and faithful servant.” When it came to the second coming, the return of their master, they both made some effort. The only one in whom the head of household showed any disappointment was the one who made absolutely no effort, the one who was frozen by fear or indifference. As we journey toward the kingdom, there are not always clear instructions. We are simply asked to try, to give it our best effort. There is nothing in the passage to say that these servants didn’t make mistakes along the way, but their master saw them and loved and praised them for their actions, their attempts, as God will do with us. And now you know the rest of the story.

REMAIN IN ME

In the story of the talents, the head of the household leaves the servants “talents” or money, which they are expected to foster and develop during the leader’s absence. Today we think of talent as an innate ability or a skill. It is interesting that they were distributed “according to ability,” which would express a certain intimacy as we realize that the master knew each one, and already had an idea of their capabilities. They were not given explicit instructions like “put this in the bank” or “invest this in your portfolio” or “take piano lessons.” Rather, we are told that the goods were divided unequally. One received five, one received two, and the last received one.

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

Use It or Lose It

When I hear the Gospel reading for this Sunday, I wonder what that third servant was doing all that time, after he buried the talent he was given. Probably nothing. What strikes me is that the word for money in this reading is "talent," which in our language is an ability or skill. So maybe this parable can remind us to use our abilities and not let them go to waste.

It is sad to see someone who is not very good at his job just because he never developed his inborn talents. But if you know what gifts or abilities God gave you, you can develop them to be much more than you expected. A person might be strong and fast, but if she exercises and practices, she could be a great athlete. The same with a spiritual gift. Just having one doesn't make you a saint. So how do you know what gifts you have?

First, ask God in your prayers to show you what gifts you have been given. Find a spiritual director, or even your parish priest, and talk about your life, your strengths and weaknesses. Read about saints and how they used their gifts to serve the Lord. Read the scriptures, especially the Acts of the Apostles or the Letters of Paul (e.g., 1 Corinthians 12:1-11). Listen humbly to friends or loved ones who can tell you what strengths they see in you.

Second, look for ways to use your gifts. Check the parish bulletin or website or your diocesan newspaper for activities and organizations that you could take part in. Hospitals, schools, shelters, and nursing homes frequently offer opportunities for volunteers. If one kind of service seems attractive to you, that could be God's way of telling you to try it. On the other hand, a job that seems very challenging could be what you need to stretch your spiritual muscles. Or you may see a need for some service that you can get started in the parish or community.

Just remember that you are called to service by your baptism and confirmation. Don't bury that calling by procrastinating or being afraid to try. Remember the "useless servant" with the one talent who was fearful and lazy (Matthew 25:25-26). At least he can remind us to use it or lose it.

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Confessions are by appointment only. Please call 718-295-6800 for an appointment time.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK
NOVEMBER 16, 2020

Monday:	Rv 1:1-4; 2:1-5; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 18:35-43
Tuesday:	Rv 3:1-6, 14-22; Ps 15:2-5; Lk 19:1-10
Wednesday:	Rv 4:1-11; Ps 150:1b-6; Lk 19:11-28, or (for the memorial of the Dedication) Acts 28:11-16, 30-31; Ps 98:1-6; Mt 14:22-33
Thursday:	Rv 5:1-10; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b; Lk 19:41-44
Friday:	Rv 10:8-11; Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131; Lk 19:45-48
Saturday:	Rv 11:4-12; Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10; Lk 20:27-40
Sunday:	Ez 34:11-12, 15-17; Ps 23:1-3, 5-6; 1 Cor 15:20-26, 28; Mt 25:31-46

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK
NOVEMBER 16, 2020

Monday 8:30am	Familia Rosario, Colon (D); Ane The (D)
Tuesday 8:30am	Maria Ngo & Maria Tin
Wednesday 8:30am	Eida Mercedes Ovando Castillo (D); Por la salud de Olga & Ricardo Reyes Mendoza (L)
Thursday 8:30am	Germania Perez (D); Maria Sanchez (D)
Friday 8:30am	All Souls; Elsie Ortiz Ramirez, Ramona Then Peña, Grecia Almanzar Sanchez (D)
Saturday 7:45am 7:00pm	Ana Lao & Giuse Hue (D) Bergani Moya, Cornelia Iliana, Ulda Bratini (D); Acción de gracias a la Santisima Trinidad
Sunday 8:00am	Thanksgiving (family); Maria Manuela Lago (D)
9:30am	Santa Diaz (D); Alicia Acosta (D); Maria Elena Calderon (D); Eladia Rodriguez Vasquez (D)
11:30am	Miguel Pereira (D)
1:30pm	Phaolo Binh (D)
3:30pm	Phero Luc (D)

OFFERTORY COLLECTION
NOVEMBER 1, 2020

Tithing:	\$9,275.07
Children:	\$0.00
Total:	\$9,275.07

We pray for the People of St. Nicholas of Tolentine.

We pray for the sick: Marilyn Torain
We pray for the dead: Celestina Garcia

Helping Seniors Stay Healthy and Independent



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