



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
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PLANT MANAGER
Mr. Jesus Liriano
917-579-6720

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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)

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.



OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE



THE SHEPHERD KING

The job of shepherd and the job of king couldn't be more different from each other. Shepherds are on the lowest rung of society, kings are at the top. But God says, through the prophet Ezekiel, that the Messiah will lead in a way very different from earthly authorities who lord it over their people and cause harm with their poor leadership.

Our King takes on the job himself. Christ, like a shepherd, will give rest, seek out the lost, bring back the strayed and scattered ones. He will heal the wounded and bind up the injured. He does not delegate, but will "shepherd them rightly." We have a king who cares for us and who is not afraid to "judge between one sheep and another" (Ezekiel 34:17).

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First Reading — I will rescue my scattered sheep (Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17).

Psalm — The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want (Psalm 23).

Second Reading — As in Adam all die, so too in Christ all shall be brought to life (1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28).

Gospel — Whatever you did to the least ones, you did to me (Matthew 25:31-46).

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.

As we celebrate the solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, many of the traditional hymns and images for the day are joyful and triumphal. For some, these connotations may be perceived as negative. In these days when there are strong divisions within the Church, and when some government leaders are so far away from the people, we need to hear all of today's scriptures, and draw a bigger, fuller picture of Christ as servant king. In Ezekiel, we see God as both the tender, loving shepherd and the one who will judge at the Second Coming. This ties in with Matthew's Gospel and separation of sheep and goats and "whatsoever you do." We pray Psalm 23 with great familiarity and hope. First Corinthians carefully explains to us the order in which all will happen. This is not an evil dictatorship, or a power-hungry leader, but the culmination of a plan that was carefully laid out in love.

INHERIT THE KINGDOM

The world in which we live is complex. We are a diverse, global society and there are many issues and opinions ranging from climate change to politics to creed. Sometimes we try and sort it all out, and it is hard to know who and what to believe. One can find multiple takes on the same news story, and social media can easily sway us. Yet when we focus on the Gospel story, it seems very simple indeed. We do not have to know it all or figure it all out. We are not the one on the throne during the Last Judgment. When God starts separating the sheep from the goats, the formula is a simple rule of thumb. "When did you see Christ in others? When did you respond accordingly?" It does not ask if you are Catholic or even Christian; whether you had a police record or an incurable disease; whether you had a PhD or a fifth-grade education, or what languages you spoke. The call is to remember that "Whatsoever you did to the least you did for me." And then there will be the invitation, "Come you who are blessed. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world."

OLD IDEA, RECENT ADDITION

Perhaps it is important to remember that while the image of Christ as King has been known throughout Christianity, this feast was founded in 1925 as a reaction and a response to growing secularism, communism, and atheism that were becoming prevalent after World War I. If we pull back the lens even further, we will remember that throughout history there has seldom been a peaceful time in the Christian world. The Holy Land itself has frequently been a battle ground. There have been schisms and divisions in the history of the church itself, and every church council was convened to try to correct some mistaken notion, world event, or church heresy. Nor has church leadership always had clean hands, and there have been wars, genocides, and insurrections "in the name of Christ." Today, when more and more people are leaving organized religion altogether, and people identify themselves as "spiritual but not religious" or "nones," the need for Christ as leader and ruler and guide is more pressing than ever.

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

Leap of Faith

Today's Gospel could be seen as an example of what St. Paul is explaining in the second reading. First, he tells us that the resurrection of Christ is not the end of God's reign, but the beginning. Since death came into the world with the sin of Adam, Christ's death saved us from sin and his resurrection saves us from death. Now that he is risen, he will complete his reign over all creation, meaning that everything in creation that turned away from God will now be subject to God. Since Christ had to die before he could rise, the last enemy to be subjected is death; so too do we have to die before we can rise.

When all this happens, everything will show God's glory. God will be seen in all of creation. Jesus will be seen as equal to the Father, not just a man, but the Son of God. The Gospel gives us the image of a king on his throne, surrounded by his subjects. And then comes the final judgment.

The rest of the Gospel is symbolic description of that judgment. I always thought the point of this parable was that we recognize God in the poor, the sick, the homeless, prisoners, etc. But the people in the parable who helped all those in need did not recognize Christ in the needy. That's why he tells them that whatever we do for "these least ones," we do for Christ.

That is actually good news, because it is not always easy to recognize Christ in others. I used to think that once I start seeing Christ in all people, I'll be more willing to help them. But it also works the other way. When you help someone in need, you begin to see Christ there, too. This means that we cannot use not seeing Christ in others as an excuse to put off helping them. ("Sure, I'll help those drug addicts—as soon as I see Jesus in them.") Whether it is a death-row prisoner or a homeless family, we need to take that leap of faith to help, not knowing if we will ever see Christ in them. Remember, God forgives and saves us because we need God, not because we deserve it.

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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK
NOVEMBER 23, 2020

Monday:	Rv 14:1-3, 4b-5; Ps 24:1bc-4ab, 5-6; Lk 21:1-4
Tuesday:	Rv 14:14-19; Ps 96:10-13; Lk 21:5-11
Wednesday:	Rv 15:1-4; Ps 98:1-3ab, 7-9; Lk 21:12-19
Thursday:	Rv 18:1-2, 21-23; 19:1-3, 9a; Ps 100:1b-5; Lk 21:20-28
Friday:	Rv 20:1-4, 11 — 21:2; Ps 84:3-6a, 8a; Lk 21:29-33
Saturday:	Rv 22:1-7; Ps 95:1-7ab; Lk 21:34-36
Sunday:	Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Mk 13:33-37

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK
NOVEMBER 23, 2020

Monday 8:30am	Acción de gracias al Sagrado Corazón de Jesus; Petronila Sosa, Esequiel Gonzalez, Teofilo Gonzalez, Ermojene Gonzalez (D)
Tuesday 8:30am	Blas Rodriguez (D); Vicente Nhi (D); Elpidia Gonzalez (D) y para todas las Animas; Pascual Jimenez & Hilaria Reyes (D)
Wednesday 8:30am	Gisela Perez Colon (D); Brijida Jimenez, Pascuala Jimenez, Pedro Antonio Jimenez (D)
Thursday 9:00am	Juana Curbelo, Ramon Bonet & Carmelo Bonet (D); Cecilia Jimenez; Daniel Gonzalo Jimenez, Maria Gertrudis Sosa (D)
Friday 8:30am	Maria Thuan (D)
Saturday 7:45am 7:00pm	Henry Rodriguez, Sergio & Martina Moya (D), Ofelio Morales (D)
Sunday 8:00am 9:30am	People of SNT; Dominico Phu (D) Ana Caona Nuñez, Ana Mercedes Nuñez, Fulci Juan Nuñez, Luis Nuñez (D); Luz Mejia (D)
11:30am	Joseph McQuade (D); Cecilia Jimenez Ritchie (D)
1:30pm 3:30pm	Giuse Maria Luong (D) Maria Thuan (D); Cesar Segura (D)

OFFERTORY COLLECTION
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