



AUGUSTINIAN FRIARS

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ST. NICHOLAS OF TOLENTINE CHURCH

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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.



PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

HOLY WEEK



For the Palm Sunday Gospel, we return to the Gospel according to Mark. The account of the Passion takes up nearly one-third of Mark's entire Gospel and, of all the evangelists, he is the one who presents the details most graphically. He depicts the humanity of Jesus most intensely, describing his sufferings thoroughly. Mark portrays Jesus as a complete fulfillment of the "Suffering Servant" of Isaiah, the obedient, humble slave dying on a cross of whom Paul speaks in Philippians. But it is important to remember that we call this "Holy Week" and not "sad week" or "suffering week," for each of the readings today, even the lamentations of the psalm, end in the promise of the strength and hope that is granted by God to those who faithfully give of themselves in love. As we enter into this week through these readings, we must reflect deeply on the sufferings of Jesus, but still be confident in the joy of risen, eternal life that awaits all of us who faithfully walk with him through these days.

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Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week and previews its themes and events. Today's liturgy begins with the commemoration of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. The Roman Missal gives three options for how this can be done, the most elaborate of which begins with the priest, ministers, and the entire assembly outside. The Gospel account of the entry is read, after which palms are blessed and distributed. Then everyone enters the church in procession, singing songs or psalms. However, the joy is temporary; the Passion narrative recounts how, after an intimate meal with his disciples a few days later, Jesus is arrested, tortured, crucified, and buried. The reading from Isaiah is one of four Suffering Servant songs, while the psalm likewise gives voice to the suffering of the innocent. The reading from Philippians affirms the Incarnation as God's embrace of the entire human situation, including suffering and death.

SUFFERING . . .

It may be Palm Sunday, but the Passion is far more prominent in today's liturgy, which invites us to follow Jesus from his triumphant entrance into Jerusalem to his crucifixion and burial. It simply overflows with the sorrow and intimacy that will be dominant themes in Holy Week.

The first reading from the book of Isaiah gives voice to the suffering of an innocent person—perhaps a prophet—or the people as a whole. The refrain for the Psalm is Jesus' cry from the cross (Mark 13:14), a cry of absolute, existential loneliness. The great kenotic (emptying) hymn in Philippians provides a stunning portrait of Jesus' ultimate emptying, simultaneously intimate and cosmological.

Gospel at the Procession with Palms — Jesus' entry into Jerusalem (Mark 11:1-10 or John 12:12-16).

First Reading — In spite of my sufferings I am not disgraced. I am not put to shame (Isaiah 50:4-7).

Psalm — My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? (Psalm 22).

Second Reading — Christ emptied himself, and God filled this emptiness with exaltation (Philippians 2:6-11).

Gospel — The account of Christ's passion according to Mark (Mark 14:1 — 15:47 [15:1-39]).

... AND INTIMACY

All four Gospels have a Passion narrative. While there is agreement on the main events—an intimate meal shared by Jesus and the disciples, betrayal by Judas, prayer in Gethsemane followed by Jesus' arrest, trial, and crucifixion—each Gospel has unique variations that give it a particular meaning or tone. In today's Gospel from Mark, Jesus is anointed by an unnamed woman in the house of Simon the leper. All the Gospels have Jesus being anointed by a woman, but only Mark puts this scene just before the Last Supper. Jesus says the anointing is preparation for his burial; it is as if the woman could see a prophet's suffering in Jesus' life and feel it in his presence. Moved by compassion, she empties her jar of expensive nard on his head, pouring out her love in a profoundly intimate act. Perhaps she will also join the women who witness the crucifixion from afar (Mark 15:40-41), after the Twelve seem to be long gone.

Palm Sunday invites us to follow Jesus through the rest of Holy Week. By moving us to feel the injustice and the suffering endured by Jesus, this week's liturgies and devotions present us with those same choices. Perhaps, like the unnamed woman, we can open ourselves to others' suffering and respond with love and compassion. Or perhaps, like the Twelve, we will be conspicuous by our absence.

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

Brothers and Sisters,

New York State and the Archdiocese of New York protocols, which are established to prevent the spread of COVID-19, require us to make some changes in our liturgical celebrations this Holy Week:

1. On Palm Sunday weekend (March 28) palm will be blessed beforehand and distributed by ushers as people enter the church.
2. Monday, March 29 will be Reconciliation Monday. We will be celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. If you need to come during the day, you may call the office for an appointment with one of the priests.
3. Our Holy Thursday celebration of the Lord's Last Supper on April 1, will begin at 8:00 pm. The celebration this year will not include the foot washing ceremony - nor the Eucharistic procession to the Altar of Repose. At the end of the Mass, one large ciborium containing the Blessed Sacrament will be placed on the main altar and incensed. After Mass, the church will remain open for one half hour for private adoration.

4. Our Good Friday Services:

- 12:00 N English
- 3:00 pm Spanish
- 6:30 pm Vietnamese

During these services a large Cross will be placed for veneration in the sanctuary. People will come to the front, following the usher's instructions, through the middle aisle and bow or genuflect to the Cross. This year people will not be able to touch or kiss the Cross.

The Passion Gospel will be dramatically proclaimed. There will NOT be a procession this year. Holy communion will be distributed.

5. Our Easter Vigil on April 3 will begin at 8:00 pm.

Service will begin with the blessing of the fire and the Paschal Candle outside the church. Only the Elect and their sponsors will be outside, all the faithful will be inside the church. We will not use congregational candles. This year 12 Elect will celebrate the Easter Sacraments.

6. Masses on Easter Sunday:

- 8:00 am English
- 9:30 am Spanish
- 11:30 am English
- 1:30 pm Vietnamese

No 3:30 pm bilingual Mass on Easter Sunday.

7. On Easter Monday, April 5 there will be only one bilingual mass at 9:00 am.

Remember that seating will still be limited according to state regulations.

While we regret that some of our beloved traditions will not be part of this year's celebrations, we rejoice that we will be able to celebrate these holiest days as a parish community once again!

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

MARCH 29, 2021

- Monday: Is 42:1-7; Ps 27:1-3, 13-14; Jn 12:1-11
 Tuesday: Is 49:1-6; Ps 71:1-6, 15, 17; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38
 Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a; Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31, 33-34; Mt 26:14-25
 Thursday: Chrism Mass: Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9; Ps 89:21-22, 25, 27; Rv 1:5-8; Lk 4:16-21
Lord's Supper: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18; 1 Cor 11:23-26; Jn 13:1-15
 Friday: Is 52:13 — 53:12; Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-17, 25; Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9; Jn 18:1 — 19:42
 Saturday: a) Gn 1:1 — 2:2 [1:1, 26-31a]; Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35; or Ps 33:4-7, 12-13, 20-22;
 b) Gn 22:1-18 [1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18]; Ps 16: 5, 8-11;
 c) Ex 14:15 — 15:1; Ex 15:1-6, 17-18;
 d) Is 54:5-14; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13;
 e) Is 55:1-11; Is 12:2-6;
 f) Bar 3:9-15, 32 — 4:4; Ps 19:8-11;
 g) Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28; Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3-4 or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 or Ps 51:12-15, 18-19;
 h) Rom 6:3-11; i) Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23; Mk 16:1-7
 Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23; Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

MARCH 29, 2021

- Monday**
8:30am Caridad Negron (D)
Tuesday
8:30am Richard Jones (D)
Wednesday
8:30am Jesus de Nazareth
Thursday
8:00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper
Friday
12:00pm Passion (English)
3:00pm Passion (Spanish)
6:30pm Passion (Vietnamese)
Saturday
9:00am Morning Prayers
7:00pm Easter Vigil; People of SNT
Sunday
8:00am Thanksgiving
9:30am Juana Garcia (D)
11:30am Phero & Magarita (D)
1:30pm Gioan Chat & Maria Nghi (D)

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

MARCH 14, 2021

Tithing:	\$7,352.99	Catholic Relief:
Children:	\$0.00	\$1,268.00
Total:	\$7,352.99	

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

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