



## AUGUSTINIAN FRIARS

### PASTORAL STAFF

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

[Pastor@stnicholasoftolentinebronx.org](mailto:Pastor@stnicholasoftolentinebronx.org)

Fr. Joseph Tran- *Associate*

Fr. Carlos Urbina, O.S.A.  
*Associate*

Fr. Joseph 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

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC  
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](http://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)

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<b>Weekdays</b>	8:30 a.m. <b>Spanish</b> (Mon-Fri.)
	7:45 a.m. <b>Vietnamese</b> (Sat)

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### 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. - 5:00 p.m. open (5 p.m. - 6 p.m. closed)

MONDAY - THURSDAY 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.



## THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

### SACRIFICE



Today the Church focuses on the Eucharist. Today's readings remind us how connected to ancient blood sacrifices we are when offering our unbloody sacrifice. The reading from Exodus describes a solemn ritual designed so the Israelites would never forget their covenant with God.

The reading from the Letter to the Hebrews turns us from those ancient animal sacrifices, the first efforts to worship the living God. Our sacrifice is the body and blood of the Son of God. Because of Christ we have a new covenant.

The Gospel from Mark retells the establishment of that covenant, the familiar story of the Last Supper. Juxtaposed with the story of animal sacrifice as it is here, we are challenged to listen with new attention, to remember the great price paid for our salvation. Jesus gave his body and every drop of his blood for us.

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Today's solemnity celebrates Jesus' self-gift to us in the Eucharist, the Living Bread that nourishes us, the perpetual Sacrifice that redeems us, the Real Presence that comforts us on our pilgrimage and challenges us to self-sacrificing love. As in our own Liturgy of the Word, Moses in Exodus solemnly proclaims God's word to the assembled people, who solemnly affirm their acceptance of that word and pledge obedient fulfillment. Then, in a ritual reminiscent of our own liturgy, Moses seals the people's spoken assent by sprinkling the assembly with sacrificial blood. The Letter to the Hebrews portrays Christ as our High Priest, entering the Holy of Holies with his own Blood to seal the New Covenant that frees its participants from death. This Sacrifice Jesus instituted sacramentally at the Last Supper and offered on the altar of the cross, the Sacrifice and Supper of which we partake at every Eucharist.

### WORSHIPING AND SERVING

Through both scripture and tradition, Jesus' Eucharistic self-giving challenges us who partake so frequently of the Eucharist (or hope to do so again once the pandemic is past) to become a community of self-sacrificing love that both worships Christ's presence in the Blessed Sacrament and serves Christ's presence in others. In his Apostolic Exhortation, *The Joy of the Gospel (Evangelii Gaudium)*, Pope Francis praises the presence, in so many communities, of groups devoted to prayer and intercession, prayerful reading of God's Word, and perpetual adoration of the Eucharist. But then Francis repeats Saint John Paul II's warning that such personal devotion must never become a privatized, individualistic spirituality that forgets the demands of charity or the implications of Jesus' incarnation (*EG*, 262). As we receive Jesus' body sacramentally in the Eucharist, so we should touch Jesus' flesh compassionately in the suffering flesh of others (*EG* 270).

**First Reading** — This is the blood of the covenant that the Lord has made with you (Exodus 24:3-8).

**Psalm** — I will take the cup of salvation, and call on the name of the Lord (Psalm 116).

**Second Reading** — Christ is the mediator of a new covenant (Hebrews 9:11-15).

**Gospel** — This is my body. This is my blood (Mark 14:12-16, 22-26).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved

### JESUS' SACRIFICE AND OURS

In presenting the still-familiar four-fold "Shape of the Eucharist"—Jesus takes / blesses / breaks / gives (Mark 14:22)—Mark omits Matthew's specification of purpose "for the forgiveness of sins," and Luke's "for the remembrance of me." But Jesus does recall the covenant, Israel's liberation from Egypt's slavery. And could the disciples—or we—fail to recall that, in Mark's earliest verses, Jesus sits at table "with tax collectors and those known as sinners" (2:15)? Mark also emphasizes the Eucharist as our participation in Jesus' passion and pledge of our share in his future glory. Jesus had earlier referred to his disciples' suffering as "drinking from the cup he would drink" (10:38–39). Soon he would beg his Abba to "take this cup away" (14:36). But while sharing the Eucharistic cup, Jesus promises a day when he would "drink it new" (14:25): the cup of suffering and sorrow is not the last cup he—or we—will drink, the cup of the Garden of Agony will be transformed into the cup of the Kingdom of God

Please visit our website for all the latest information and special Prayer Services, at: [stnicholasoftolentinebronx.org](http://stnicholasoftolentinebronx.org) and join us on Facebook, St. Nicholas of Tolentine Parish

## What's New?

I never noticed it before, but our reading from Mark's gospel is similar to the story in John's gospel of the wedding feast at Cana. They begin with a problem presented to Jesus: Lack of wine (John) and a place for Passover meal (Mark.) They both involve jars of water. Jesus responds to both by giving orders: to the waiters (Jn) and to the apostles (Mk.) And both have miraculous changes: water into wine (Jn) and bread and wine into Jesus' Body and Blood (Mk.)

Now the wedding feast showed Jesus using the water meant for purification and changing it to wine for a wedding. The Jews needed to purify any dishes in order to keep the kosher laws. But Jesus replaced those laws with a new one, the law of love, symbolized by the wedding. In our gospel today, Jesus replaces ordinary food with spiritual food. He is doing something new, beyond the requirements of the Old Testament.

What does that mean for us? Jesus is showing God's love for us in a new way. You might say he is replacing the way he comes to us. The bread and wine at the last Supper were signs of Jesus' body being broken and his blood poured out for us on the cross. When he gave his life for us, he rose from the dead to give us hope. And now we have the Eucharist, in which he becomes our new food and drink. Just as the Passover meal became a sign of Jesus' real death on the cross, our Eucharist is the sacrament of his real presence among us today.

Do we really believe that the Eucharist is Jesus, the Son of God? The way to measure that is to ask, how has Jesus changed your life? Do you love others more because you know God loves you? Do you have less fear of the future, because the Holy Spirit gives you courage? Do your children know Jesus, because you share your faith with them? In the Eucharist, God gives us a new way to be with him. Let us look forward to being renewed in spirit whenever we receive the Body and Blood of Christ.

Tom Schmidt, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

The Augustinian Volunteers are recent college graduates between the ages of 21-29 who feel called to spend a year in service to others while living in an intentional community. Volunteers serve with local community partners in social service, campus ministry, and education placements. By engaging in a way of life inspired by the Augustinian Friars, volunteers experience personal and spiritual development as they build relationships with fellow volunteers and those they serve. Applications are currently being accepted for the 2021-2022 volunteer year for our sites in Lawrence, MA, Philadelphia, PA, San Diego, CA, Ventura, CA and Chulucanas, Peru.

If interested, please visit [www.augustinianvolunteers.org](http://www.augustinianvolunteers.org) or contact us at [info@augustinianvolunteers.org](mailto:info@augustinianvolunteers.org)

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

JUNE 7, 2021

Monday:	2 Cor 1:1-7; Ps 34:2-9; Mt 5:1-12
Tuesday:	2 Cor 1:18-22; Ps 119:129-133, 135; Mt 5:13-16
Wednesday:	2 Cor 3:4-11; Ps 99:5-9; Mt 5:17-19
Thursday:	2 Cor 3:15 — 4:1, 3-6; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Mt 5:20-26
Friday:	Hos 11:1, 3-4, 8c-9; Is 12:2-6; Eph 3:8-12, 14-19; Jn 19:31-37
Saturday:	2 Cor 5:14-21; Ps 103:1-4, 9-12; Lk 2:41-51
Sunday:	Ez 17:22-24; Ps 92:2-3, 13-16; 2 Cor 5:6-10; Mk 4:26-34

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

JUNE 7, 2021

<b>Monday</b> 8:30am	Carmine Fernandez (D)-1st Anniversary; Por la salud Maria De Jesus
<b>Tuesday</b> 8:30am	Lourdes Espinal (D); San Judas Tadeo
<b>Wednesday</b> 8:30am	Maria Josefa Parache & Manuel de Jesus Hernandez (D)
<b>Thursday</b> 8:30am	Ana Felicita Hernandez— conversión y liberación
<b>Friday</b> 8:30am	Maria Khe (D); Paulita Ramos (D)
<b>Saturday</b> 7:45am 7:00pm	Benera Sufron, Petra Ortiz, Damaris Sanchez, Gulberto Rivera (D); Luisa Estevez, Rafael Abreu (D); Cira Martinez (D); Graciela Torres, Fernan Victorio (D), Rafael Flores Slivera
<b>Sunday</b> 8:00am 9:30am	People of SNT; Edna I. Saez Orta (D) Acción de gracias al Divino Niño— Jose y Mayra; Acción de gracias Luis Vera Sr. (D)
<b>11:30am</b> <b>1:30pm</b>	Lorenzo Chi Pham (D)

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

## OFFERTORY COLLECTION

MAY 23, 2021

<b>Tithing:</b>	\$6,847.18	Church in Central Europe:
<b>Children:</b>	\$0.00	\$112.00
<b>Total:</b>	\$6,847.18	