



AUGUSTINIAN FRIARS

PASTORAL STAFF

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

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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
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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.)	12:00 p.m. English (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. - 5:00 p.m. open (5 p.m. - 6 p.m. closed)

MONDAY - THURSDAY 6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. open

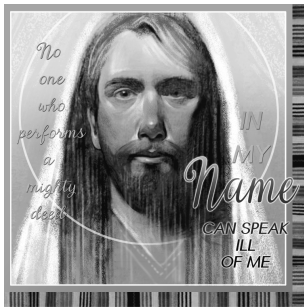
SATURDAY 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

SUNDAY 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.



TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PROCLAIM THE WONDER OF GOD



The gift of the Spirit is given freely, not according to human expectations, but according to the generosity of God. Joshua wants Moses to stop Eldad and Medad from prophesying in the camp, when they were not with the others as the spirit was bestowed on them. Moses, so close to God's mind in the matter, wishes everyone could possess the spirit of God and proclaim it to the nations.

Psalm 19 celebrates the perfection of God's law, and how it brings joy and delight. It is better than the finest gold or the sweetest honey. Moreover, God gives the wisdom of the prophets to everyone, especially the simple and lowly ones, even to children. It is the "little ones" who proclaim the wonder of God to all.

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Today's readings remind us that God is free: God acts as God wills regardless of what human beings might expect. In the reading from Numbers, God's spirit enters two men, Eldad and Medad, even though they had not been with the others who had received the spirit of God. And in Mark's Gospel, Jesus endorses an unknown exorcist, who did God's work in the name of Jesus but was not officially sanctioned by the disciples. That God's spirit is shared widely does not threaten Moses or Jesus. They celebrate the notion that God's spirit blows where it wills. Moses was shaping the people of Israel, and Jesus similarly was shaping the community of disciples, to encounter a radically free God who doesn't fit their preconceptions. This encounter, when received with humility, widens their vision and deepens their faith. God continues to shape the Church similarly today, to open us up to God's freedom.

First Reading — Moses said, "Would that all the people of the LORD were prophets!" (Numbers 11:25-29).

Psalm — The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart (Psalm 19).

Second Reading — Come now, you rich. The wages you withheld from the workers who harvested your fields are crying aloud (James 5:1-6).

Gospel — Whoever is not against us is for us (Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48).

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.

LOOK WITHIN

A wrestling match of sorts takes place in this section of Mark's Gospel. Jesus tries mightily to describe what it will mean to be his followers, and the disciples try mightily to avoid the subject. They point to an outsider, and the dangers *he* poses. Jesus turns the tables and asks his disciples to look within themselves: how are *they* a danger to Jesus and his work? Jesus uses graphic language, invoking self-amputation, to underscore his point.

Sometimes our most difficult obstacles lie deep within. Like our hands and feet, some attitudes and habits are deeply a part of us, and their removal would be traumatic for us. Yet we know that some beliefs (such as idolatries based on race, wealth, or gender) or behaviors (such as addictions) seriously harm ourselves and many others. We need a prayerful, non-neurotic watchfulness about our inner life. When necessary, we need a fierce resistance to anything that places us or others in danger.

UNITY IN CHRIST

Jesus, in today's Gospel from Mark, says "whoever is not against us is for us." Mark was speaking to his own Christian community. From its beginnings, there were tensions in the Church about who speaks for Jesus. Jesus himself always called for unity of heart and a diversity of expression as a sign of the truth of the Gospel. It is no secret that in Christian history and continuing today, divisions have seriously damaged the message and cause of Christ.

In our own time and place, cultural and political divisions have reduced our ability to solve problems and to live together in a just and peaceful society. Perhaps this is a time for Christians to step up, to remember that our unity in Christ is far deeper than the differences that we perceive. We are called to reach out and listen to each other, to honor each other as members of the Body of Christ. Christians can lead the way, and show everyone watching how it's done.

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

Exclusive Membership

The first reading might be what Jesus was talking about when he scolded the disciples. They wanted to stop an exorcist whom they didn't know. In both cases, whether prophesying or driving out demons, someone wanted them to stop. Why? Because the persons doing those things were not members of the group. In the gospel, the disciples objected simply because they didn't know the ones who were casting out demons. Back in Moses' days, the two "renegades" were actually on the list, they just weren't present with the rest gathered around Moses. Both Joshua and the disciples of Jesus thought they should control who could do God's work and who couldn't.

It reminds me of the pastor sprinkling people with holy water during Easter season. If I didn't feel the water, I was disappointed because I was "left out." But Father was intending to bless everyone; he just couldn't control where the holy water went. I wanted to control the pastor, to make him throw the water more carefully.

The temptation to control things is pretty common, but we can't be truly at peace till we allow God to be the one in control. God loves all people, even those who don't know him. So if we see someone who has a spiritual gift, it could be God's way of helping that person to know about His love. It might not be prophesying or driving out demons. There are many non-Christians who are very generous or patient or wise, who could come to faith if they realized that God was acting through them. You don't have to bowl them over with evangelistic fervor. Just the observation that you see God's love in them might get them thinking about their faith.

The Apostles Creed reminds us that the Church is catholic, or universal. All are welcome, because Jesus died for everyone. As Moses said in the first reading, wouldn't it be great if God sent his gifts of the Spirit to them all?

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

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought overwhelming grief to many families. At FEMA, our mission is to help people before, during and after disasters. We are dedicated to helping ease some of the financial stress and burden caused by the virus.

FEMA is providing financial assistance for COVID-19-related funeral expenses incurred after January 20, 2020.

Visit the parish office for more information.

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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK
SEPTEMBER 27, 2021

Monday: Zec 8:1-8; Ps 102:16-21, 29, 22-23; Lk 9:46-50
 Tuesday: Zec 8:20-23; Ps 87:1b-7; Lk 9:51-56
 Wednesday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a; Ps 138:1-5; Jn 1:47-51
 Thursday: Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12; Ps 19:8-11; Lk 10:1-12
 Friday: Bar 1:15-22; Ps 79:1b-5, 8-9; Lk 10:13-16
 Saturday: Bar 4:5-12, 27-29; Ps 69:33-37; Mt 18:1-5, 10
 Sunday: Gn 2:18-24; Ps 128:1-6; Heb 2:9-11; Mk 10:2-16 [2-12]

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK
SEPTEMBER 27, 2021

Monday
8:30am America Garcia Peña (D); Margarita Felipe (D)
12:00pm Maria Ninh (D)
Tuesday
8:30am Petronila Sosa, Teofilo Gonzalez, Ezequiel Gonzalez, Elpidia Gonzalez, Serafina Gonzalez, Hermonejes Gonzalez Brunilda Gonzalez (D)
 Maria Ninh (D)
12:00pm
Wednesday
8:30am Honor a San Miguel Arcangel; Alberto Ponsiano Sanchez (D)
12:00pm
Thursday
8:30am Familia Reyes Rosario (D); Jose Miguel Peña (D); Beatriz Lendof (D); Ramon Dilercio Flores, Almas del purgatorio Maria Ninh (D)
12:00pm
Friday
8:30am Thanksgiving
12:00pm
Saturday
7:45am Maria Thuan (D)
7:00pm Pacuala Jimenez, Pascual Jimenez, Hilaria Reyes, Pedro Antonio Jimenez, Daniel Jimenez, Brigida Jimenez Cecilia Jimenez, Martina Santana (D)
Sunday
8:00am People of SNT
9:30am Olga Delia Baquerizo Roble (D); Pedro Reyes Basulto (D); Celeste Amalfi Perez (D)
11:30am Maria Ninh (D)
1:30pm Phero & Magarita Han (D)

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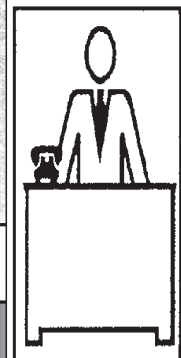
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