



AUGUSTINIAN FRIARS

PASTORAL STAFF

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Pastor

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

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

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** (Thu & 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

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

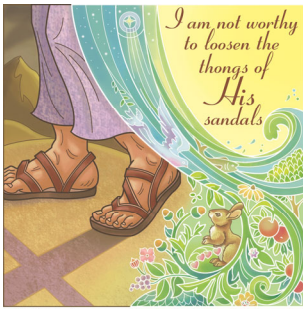
SATURDAY 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

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



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

REJOICE



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The prophetic writings we hear in today's scriptures call us to rejoice and celebrate the goodness of God. Zephaniah, Isaiah, Saint Paul, and John the Baptist in Luke's Gospel all follow the rich tradition of the Biblical prophets, a tradition that reaches full expression in Jesus. The prophets warn that human failings have truly disastrous consequences. All are summoned to repent, and to change their lives. Today we hear the Good News that God's gracious love exceeds and overcomes all human corruption. God has not given up on us. Indeed, God keeps pursuing us, and eagerly seeks to reconcile with us. God's initiative to set the world aright culminates with Jesus, whose coming John the Baptist announces. John's prophetic message summons us to join in God's reconciling work, by living generously and justly in our daily lives. As we rejoice in God's grace, we then extend the fruits of this grace to all.

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JOY AND EXULTATION

Joy and exultation ring through the first reading, as Zephaniah's ancient messianic prophecy pictures God "rejoicing over (us) with gladness, renewing (us) in his love, singing joyfully because of (us) as one sings at festivals." This joyful God is not distant: the prophet declares twice that God "is in your midst." Zephaniah so trusts this joyful God's love for us that he declares our deliverance "a done deal": both from inward fear and guilt—"the Lord has removed the judgment against you"—and from external threats: "he has turned away your enemies." The Responsorial Psalm, from Advent's principal prophet, Isaiah, echoes an exultant joy that should prompt us to be "confident and unafraid," "for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel." Paul likewise exhorts the Philippians—and us—to joy, to a kindness that should be evident to all, to prayer free from anxiety, serene and thankful.

WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

But then John the Baptist cries out on Jordan's bank: Repent! Prepare for a Messiah whose baptism "with the Holy Spirit and fire," unlike John's water baptism, will utterly transform its recipients. His winnowing fan will clear away the dead wood, bundling wheat and burning chaff in unquenchable fire. If this is going to be "good news" for us, then well might we, like the crowds, tax collectors, and soldiers who first heard John, ask "What should we do?" When John responds to the people then, and to us today, the answer, while supremely challenging, is almost surprisingly simple. Nobody is ordered to abandon the place in which their personal life's journey or the realities of a history beyond their control have put them. God saves us not despite or apart from our real-life circumstances but in them and through them. Our call now is to practical, generous charity: we are to share clothing and food; practice justice and professional and personal integrity; and be honest toward others and with ourselves. Such is the teaching of the Messiah that John heralded.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Shout for joy! Sing joyfully! Be glad and exult! The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a mighty savior (Zephaniah 3:14-18a).

Psalms — Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel (Isaiah 12).

Second Reading — Rejoice! The Lord is near. Make your requests known to God (Philippians 4:4-7).

Gospel — John tells his hearers to share their possessions with the needy; be honest; do not threaten or accuse others falsely (Luke 3:10-18).

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.

Today is known as Gaudete—Rejoice—Sunday, the day's Latin nickname is taken from today's ancient official Entrance Antiphon, "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near." The optional rose vestments—reminiscent of winter's early morning skies as the solstice draws near, the festal organ music, the floral arrangements, all these ancient traditions together with the antiphon are meant to anticipate, in sight and sound, the soon-to-break-upon-us Christmas joy. How well today's scriptures illustrate the struggle between Advent's contrasting moods: "joyful expectation" in light of Christ's nativity, and "serious repentance" inspired by John the Baptist's preaching, reminding us that Christ's next coming—at death or at the end of time—will be for judgment as well as redemption.

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.

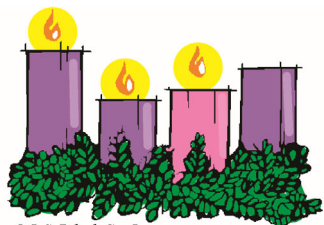
Not Ready? No Problem!

While Advent is a beautiful time to prepare for the coming of the Lord, we often get so caught up in all the things we do to prepare for Christmas that we forget Advent all together. The readings remind us that in spite of the stress we may feel thinking about how close Christmas is, we are called to rejoice for the Lord is near.

The stress we feel may be from fear: Fear that I won't get the shopping done by Christmas, fear that people won't like the gifts I bought, or fear that I forgot someone that should be on my list. But did you ever notice how much easier it is when you have someone to shop with you, or write the Christmas cards, or decorate the tree? "Shout for joy...fear not!" says the prophet Zephaniah in the first reading. (Zeph 3:14) He tells us the Lord is not coming to punish us for waiting till the last minute to put up the tree. The prophet says the Lord is in our midst, we are not alone. "He has turned away your enemies" (Zeph 3:15), enemies like fear, doubts, and loneliness.

And as if that wasn't good enough, he says that the Lord rejoices over us! How many times have you wondered if you could ask the Lord for help? Zephaniah reminds us that the Lord is happy to help. And St. Paul says the same thing in the second reading: "Have no anxiety at all...make your requests known to God." (Phil 4:6) That is where Advent comes in. We can look forward to the Lord's presence in our lives. We can be confident of his love for us. That is why faith and hope are central to the theme of Advent. Our faith in God's love for us gives us hope that he will support us in our weakness and fill us with the joy he has over us.

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

OFFERTORY COLLECTION
NOVEMBER 28, 2021

Tithing: \$5,486.13
Children: \$0.00
Total: \$5,486.13

READINGS FOR THE WEEK
DECEMBER 13, 2021

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6, 7bc-9; Mt 21:23-27
Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-19, 23; Mt 21:28-32
Wednesday: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 7:18b-23
Thursday: Is 54:1-10; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-12a, 13b; Lk 7:24-30
Friday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17
Saturday: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK
DECEMBER 13, 2021

Monday
8:30am Felix Antonio Hernandez (D); Manuel Roman (D) All Souls
12:00pm All Souls
Tuesday
8:30am All Souls
12:00pm Peace (family)
Wednesday
8:30am Felix Anotnio Hernandez & Maria Olinda Ramirez (D) Peace (family)
12:00pm Peace (family)
Thursday
8:30am Santa Maria Zapata (D)
12:00pm Rev. Giuse Chau (D)
Friday
8:30am Romulo Anibal Berges Perez (D)
12:00pm Maria Ninh (D)
Saturday
7:45am Giuse Quong & Ine Huong (D)
7:00pm Noel C. Rodriguez (D); Luis A Serrano, Hector Serrano, Freddy Serrano, Mary Velez (D); Luis Ramon Corona (D)
Sunday
8:00am Maria Ninh (D)
9:30am Serafin Alfredo Gonzalez, Eduvina Gonzalez, Luiz Alberto Gonzalez (D); Estilf Miguel Santos (D)
11:30am People of SNT; Maria Truc (D)
1:30pm Phero Triêu & Maria Thông (D)

We pray for the People of St. Nicholas of Tolentine.
We pray for the sick: Marilyn Torain, Neil Kirby, Robert Weber
We pray for the dead: Maria Perez, Zacarias Fortunato



Do you have an unhealed wound on your foot?

Don't ignore it!

See a specialist now - especially if you are at risk.

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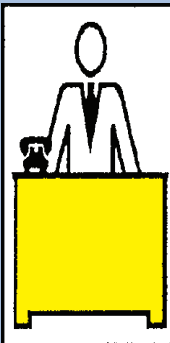
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