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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
In Residence

CATHOLIC FAITH
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Mr. Dang Vu

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Ms. Shelly Parkin

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ST. NICHOLAS OF TOLENTINE CHURCH

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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.



FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

SOMETHING NEW IN CHRIST

Jesus knew that the scribes and Pharisees were trying to trap him. They put him in what seemed to be a no-win situation. Let the woman who was caught in adultery go, and he would have been accused of ignoring the law. Let her be stoned, and he would fail to show mercy toward her, contradicting his life's message. Jesus' response teaches three crucial lessons: none of us is free of sin; we are not the ultimate judges of others; Jesus is the mercy of God, in whom we can always trust. In Christ, God does something new. When we give our hearts to Christ, we have the hope of new life, a life in which mercy reigns.

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Isaiah prophesies for the Lord: “Remember not the events of the past, the things of long ago consider not; see, I am doing something new!” One of the most dangerous things that we can do is get stuck in our old ways. As individuals, as parishes, as nations we can say, “We’ve always done it that way,” and miss calls to growth and change. Throughout this Lent and our lives, God continues to call us to life, and we should celebrate that! The psalmist reminds us that “The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy!” Saint Paul realizes this as he explains, “I continue my pursuit toward the goal, the prize of God’s upward calling, in Christ Jesus.” In the Gospel, Jesus offers a new way of looking at a tricky situation and provides a kinder, less judgmental response.

TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — The LORD does something new for the chosen people (Isaiah 43:16-21) *or Ezekiel 37:12-14*.

Psalm — The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy (Psalm 126) *or Psalm 130*.

Second Reading — The supreme good is knowing Jesus as Lord (Philippians 3:8-14) *or Romans 8:8-11*.

Gospel — A woman caught in the act of adultery is brought to Jesus. He challenges anyone without sin to throw the first stone (John 8:1-11) *or John 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]*.

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.

DRAWING IN THE SAND

Awaiting the response of those challenging him, Jesus bent over and wrote in the sand. According to scripture scholar John Pilch, this was a simple technique that peasants used to buy time in a discussion or argument. Instead of looking the scribes and pharisees in the eye, he looked down and did his own thing while they all slipped away. The scriptures do not tell us what the woman was doing during this time. But by not looking at her, Jesus gave her a chance to restore her own dignity. He didn’t comment on her innocence or guilt. Rather, he instructed her to go forth and sin no more. It is not our past that matters as much as the choices we make now and in the future. Again and again, God gives us the chance to start our life over. This is our challenge this Lent, to continue to use the opportunities we are given to repent and grow.

AN AGE-OLD STORY OF JUDGEMENT

In our Gospel today we hear an ancient story, but one that feels like it could be taken out of the headlines today. We can be very quick to pass judgment on others, those with different political or cultural backgrounds, or perhaps with a different sexual orientation. Jesus was teaching in the temple, and the scribes and Pharisees did not like the message that he was proclaiming or the popularity he was gaining. When a nearby woman was caught in adultery, they thought it was the perfect chance to trip Jesus up, wondering how he would respond when the Mosaic Law provided clear consequences for such behavior. Many would be able to quote instantly chapter and verse of the law pertaining to the infraction. Instead of answering their question, Jesus turned it back on the accusers: “Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.”

God's Justice

The story of Jesus and the woman caught in adultery is sometimes considered as a put-down of the scribes and Pharisees. While their motive for bringing the woman to Jesus was to test him, they were technically trying to uphold the law. But they were hoping to get Jesus to cause a scandal by refuting the law, or, if he upheld the law, the woman would be killed with Jesus' approval. Jesus had a better idea. He shows that God's justice is mercy and forgiveness. When he told them that the one without sin could be first to throw a stone, he knew that they all were sinners one way or another. And a sinner could not judge another sinner. He also knew that someone whose sins were forgiven would be willing to forgive the woman.

That's what St. Paul means in the second reading when he says he did not have "any righteousness of my own based on the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ" (Philippians 3:9). He says he has given up the idea of making himself righteous (right with God) by keeping the laws of his people. Now he depends on his faith in Christ and Christ's forgiveness, which was shown in his death and resurrection. He is even willing to follow Christ in suffering and eventually death, so that he too can share the Resurrection. Why did Paul come to this kind of faith? Because he had been forgiven for persecuting Christians. And he had persecuted them, not because he was evil, but because he thought he was keeping the law.

Jesus probably surprised the woman when he let her go. He was the only one who could have judged her, but he chose to forgive. Just as the woman was changed by the mercy of Christ, Paul too was affected by being forgiven by the One whom he was persecuting (Acts 9:4).

So is keeping the law a bad thing? No, but the important thing is why we keep the law. We can do it like the Pharisees—keeping the law as a status symbol: "I'm too good (or too important) to break the law." Or we can choose to follow Jesus' way of love. Then we still keep the laws and commandments, only because they are examples of how to love God and love each other. For we too have been forgiven by Jesus on the cross. As we approach Holy Week, let us remember how much Jesus has done for us.

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Fifth Sunday of Lent

By your help, we beseech you, Lord our God,
 may we walk eagerly in that same charity
 with which, out of love for the world,
 your Son handed himself over to death.
 Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
 who lives and reigns with you
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 God, for ever and ever.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION
 MARCH 20, 2022

Tithing: \$7,335.20
 Children: \$0.00
 Total: \$7,335.20

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

APRIL 4, 2022

Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 [41c-62]; Ps 23:1-6; Jn 8:1-11
 Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9; Ps 102:2-3, 16-21; Jn 8:21-30
 Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Dn 3:52-56; Jn 8:31-42
 Thursday: Gn 17:3-9; Ps 105:4-9; Jn 8:51-59
 Friday: Jer 20:10-13; Ps 18:2-7; Jn 10:31-42
 Saturday: Ez 37:21-28; Jer 31:10-12abcd, 13; Jn 11:45-56
 Sunday: Lk 19:28-40 (procession); Is 50:4-7; Ps 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24; Phil 2:6-11; Lk 22:14 — 23:56 [23:1-49]

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

APRIL 4, 2022

Monday
 8:30am Maria Josefa Parache, Manuel de Jesus Hernandez (D)
 12:00pm
Tuesday
 8:30am Angel Dariel (D); Hermenegilda Lozano Santos (D)
 Giuse Binh (D)
 12:00pm
Wednesday
 8:30am Joseph & Maria Nghi (D); Lidia Mesa (D)
 12:00pm
Thursday
 8:30am Isabel Diaz (D)
 Carmin Fernandez (D); Edward Bird (D)
 12:00pm
Friday
 8:30am Maria Josefa Parache, Manuel de Jesus Hernandez, Manuel de Jesus Hernandez, hijo, Fernando Hernandez(D)
 12:00pm
Saturday
 7:45am Terexa Huong (D)
 7:00pm Sonia Gonzalez (D); Maria Magdalena Veloz (D); Rafael Amaguaya y esposa - por la salud, Segundo Roldan y esposa - por la salud
Sunday
 8:00am People of SNT
 9:30am Fruebel Ortega (D); Acción de gracias a la Virgen de la Milagrosa; John Fernandez & Eddie Fernandez (D); Ricardo Evangelista (D)
 11:30am Phero Ngo (D)
 1:30pm Lorenzo Nguyen & Madalena Gia (D)

We pray for the People of St. Nicholas of Tolentine.

We pray for the sick:

We pray for the dead: Rosa Ramos



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Don't ignore it!

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

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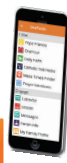
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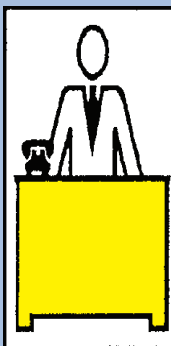
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