



## 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

*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)

#### 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 (CONFESIONS)

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

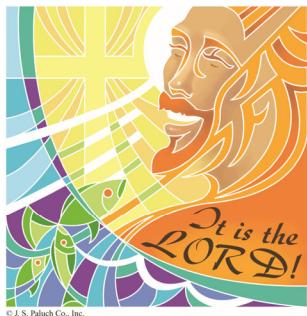
MONDAY - THURSDAY 6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. open

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

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

## THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

## GOD'S OVERFLOWING KINDNESS



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The superabundance of God's kindness ties all of today's readings together. Especially when life overwhelms us, the Lord provides all we need, and then some. In the Acts of the Apostles, Peter takes the lead when facing the Sanhedrin. We might expect the man who denied Jesus to crumble under the imposing glare of the high priest. Instead, the Holy Spirit helps him testify to his faith in Jesus Christ. What Peter had lacked before, courage and conviction, God provides in abundance. Similarly, today's Gospel shows Jesus providing a surplus of fish for the disciples. They have no luck fishing until the Lord intercedes. Jesus supplies an almost ridiculous number of fish, and he cooks it for them, too. As our reading from Revelation affirms, the overflowing riches of God require constant praise. Countless creatures—"everything in the universe"—cry out to honor the Lord, forever and ever.

The Easter season provides us an opportunity to reflect upon who we are as Church, in light of the first experiences of Jesus' followers. From today's Gospel, we realize that all we do is founded on our friendship with and trust in Jesus, as witnessed in Jesus' dialogue with Peter. From Revelation, in the image of Jesus as the sacrificial Lamb, we can anticipate suffering for the sake of love for God and for others. From the apostles' bold speech in Acts, we remember that when we stay true to the Gospel, even at great cost, we must always embody God's forgiveness toward those who resist God's invitation. The early Church struggled to understand how to live the way of Jesus, and we can expect no less struggle for ourselves. And like them, we may also know the joy of growing friendship with God along the way.

## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — Brought before the Sanhedrin, the apostles give witness to Jesus Christ.

(Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41).

**Psalm** — I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me (Psalm 30).

**Second Reading** — In his vision John sees all in heaven and on earth give honor and glory to the one on the throne and to the Lamb (Revelation 5:11-14).

**Gospel** — Jesus appears to the disciples by the sea of Tiberias (John 21:1-19 [1-14]).

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.

## OBEYING GOD

In the first chapters of Acts, the apostles venture out energetically, soon after Pentecost, to proclaim the risen Jesus. Today's reading shows the Sanhedrin, the formal religious body that had condemned Jesus shortly before, now threatening the apostles. The Sanhedrin likely feared that Jesus' followers would, in vengeance for the Crucifixion, stir up a riot or even a violent revolt. The apostles, consistent with Jesus' own dealings with the authorities, proclaim Jesus' message of God's forgiveness of everyone, and refuse to incite violence.

It is a great challenge, as Peter said, to "obey God rather than man." Throughout history, when groups of God's people, inspired by God's dream for a just and free world, have spoken out non-violently against injustice and oppression, they have sought to obey God's summons. We the Church, while always mindful of the dangers of self-deception, are similarly called to discern and obey God in our own time and place.

## REPEATED QUESTIONS

In today's Gospel, John sets the scene for Jesus' encounter with Peter, sitting by a "charcoal fire." There is just one other mention of a charcoal fire in John's Gospel: when Peter warms himself while awaiting Jesus' trial, and Peter goes on to deny knowing Jesus, three times. The evangelist directly links Jesus' three questions of Peter, "do you love me?", to Peter's three denials. Through his repeated questioning, Jesus helps Peter to face his actions fully, and to accept forgiveness fully as well.

When God invites us into prayer, we may be invited to enter into deep conversation with God about our lives. God can pose the same questions to us, again and again over time, to face what we might prefer to avoid: Can you forgive someone who has hurt you? Can you be more generous? Can you let go of obstacles to becoming more loving? And even: Do you love me? Jesus' encounter with Peter suggests that we can face such questions with deep trust in God.

**"Smoting" or Non-"smoting"?**

Some times I get angry at things that frustrate me. I'm driving home and traffic slows to a crawl. The electricity goes out while I'm watching a favorite show. So I have to struggle with the line in our first reading, where the disciples were "rejoicing that they had been found worthy to suffer dishonor for the sake of the name" (Acts 5:41). They weren't just frustrated; they were flogged for believing in Jesus. And still they rejoiced.

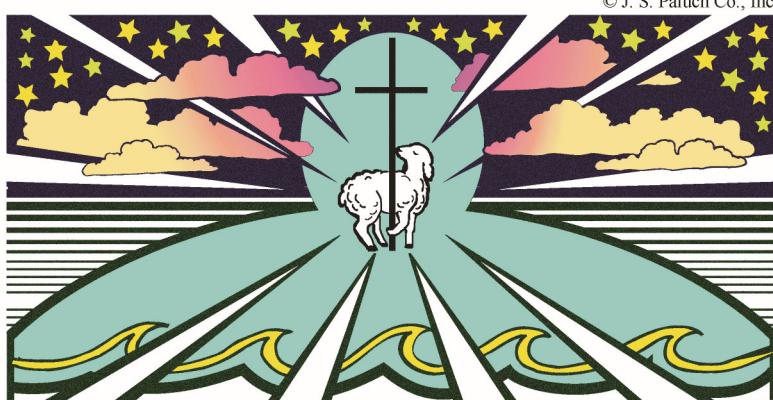
Imagine rejoicing over pain and suffering. These disciples had seen Jesus on the cross. When he rose from the dead, they began to see that his suffering was not a tragic loss, but a sign of his glory. They loved him so much that they took to heart his command to take up the cross. And when they suffered because they believed in him, as is recounted in today's reading, they saw that as a way to imitate Jesus on the cross. Those who had followed him in life could also follow him to the cross—and many did that literally, by dying for their faith.

Most of us today rarely have the chance to die for our faith. We may wonder if we even have the courage it would take. Instead, we usually find ourselves suffering because we have done wrong. God does not use special interventions to smite sinners. Think of the times we were punished as a child. Think of the times we lost a friend because of a cruel remark. Think of the times we got a ticket for speeding. These are the result of our actions. These are sufferings that we would rather avoid.

Jesus, however, suffered for our sins when he was totally innocent. If he could do that, could we not accept suffering for our own sins when it comes? We may not be ready to rejoice in that suffering, but we can at least try to learn from it. If we behave differently because of it, if we can grow to be better persons, then that suffering can be our way of accepting the cross.

Of course, not all suffering is caused by the sins of the person suffering. The suffering of the innocent is a great mystery, a cause for sorrow and a challenge to help where we can. But like growing pains, all suffering is a step to new life in Christ. And that is what Easter is about.

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**OFFERTORY COLLECTION  
APRIL 17, 2022**

Tithing:	\$10,523.09	Easter: \$2,222.00
Children:	\$0.00	Holy Thursday: \$3,667.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$10,523.09</b>	Good Friday: \$1,485.00

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK  
MAY 2, 2022**

Monday:	Acts 6:8-15; Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30; Jn 6:22-29
Tuesday:	1 Cor 15:1-8; Ps 19:2-5; Jn 14:6-14
Wednesday:	Acts 8:1b-8; Ps 66:1-3a, 4-7a; Jn 6:35-40
Thursday:	Acts 8:26-40; Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20; Jn 6:44-51
Friday:	Acts 9:1-20; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Jn 6:52-59
Saturday:	Acts 9:31-42; Ps 116:12-17; Jn 6:60-69
Sunday:	Acts 13:14, 43-52; Ps 100:1-3, 5; Rv 7:9, 14b-17; Jn 10:27-30

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK  
MAY 2, 2022**

<b>Monday</b> 8:30am	
12:00pm	
<b>Tuesday</b> 8:30am	
12:00pm	
<b>Wednesday</b> 8:30am	John Baptist Phan (D)
12:00pm	
<b>Thursday</b> 8:30am	
12:00pm	
<b>Friday</b> 8:30am	
12:00pm	
<b>Saturday</b> 7:45am	
7:00pm	Maria Phi & Anton Lang (D) Sonia Gonzalez (D), Maritza Espinal (D), Rosa America Fraco Cujilan (D), Acción de gracias a la Santísima Trinidad
<b>Sunday</b> 8:00am	People of SNT; Maria Olinda Ramirez (D) Josefina Rosa, Nilda Acosta Agueda Cruz (D); Jose Arturo Flores Manzaba (D). Mercedes Muñoz Aguado, Rebecca Gallardo de San Lucas (D) Ramon Fernandez (D) Phero Thieu & Maria Thong (D)
9:30am	
11:30am	
1:30pm	

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

**We pray for the sick:  
We pray for the dead:**



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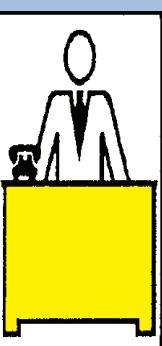
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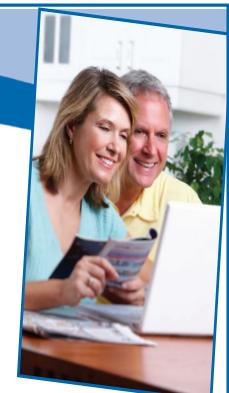
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