



AUGUSTINIAN FRIARS

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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

ACCOUNTING
Ms. Shelly Parkin

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Mr. Jesus Liriano
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Ms. Lucy Maldonado

ST. NICHOLAS OF TOLENTINE CHURCH

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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

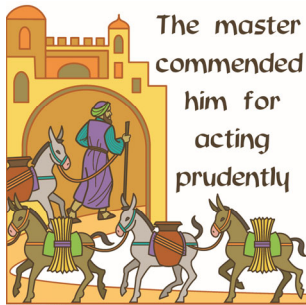
SATURDAY 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

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



TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PRIORITIES



Make a choice. God or money, material things, earthly pleasure. This is what Jesus asks us to do in today's Gospel. The Pharisees and scribes, and many people, want it both ways. God and wealth. But Jesus knows that "no servant can serve two masters." It is not that wealth is inherently bad, but the pursuit of it to the exclusion of what is good and righteous is. Our faith is meant to guide and shape the way we live. If we are followers of Jesus Christ, we will treat others, especially the poor and vulnerable, fairly and justly. We will live with devotion to God and let our lives speak the truth of God's love for all. We will put first things first, or more precisely, put God and God's ways first, assured that when we do, everything else will fall into place.

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When we listen to the scriptures at liturgy, there is kind of an unspoken idea that we will hear something amazing and uplifting, that will stir our hearts into flame and make us better Catholics, better Christians, better people, as we carry the Living Word of God out in our lives. So how surprising is it when we get a day like today, when so much seems to run counter to our expectations? Amos warns us about cheating and taking away someone's rights. In Paul's first letter to Timothy, he explains we must pray for everyone, no matter what we think of them, even if they are in a place of power and authority. And Jesus' praise of the "children of this world" in today's Gospel passage is really disconcerting!

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The Lord never forgets the sins of those who take advantage of the poor (Amos 8:4-7).

Psalm — Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor (Psalm 113).

Second Reading — Pray to the Lord, who wants everyone to be saved (1 Timothy 2:1-8).

Gospel — Be trustworthy in all things. Serve God, the only master, not mammon (Luke 16:1-13 [10-13]).

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.

JUSTICE FOR ALL

When we grasp a better understanding of Amos, it really is a mirror of the Gospel message that we must be good stewards and offer kindness and justice to all. Remember that Jesus is in the midst of speaking through a series of parables. (We left off with the Prodigal Son last week.) When he is speaking of the steward, he is not telling us to get into money laundering or get-rich-quick schemes or engage in multi-level marketing. Rather, we can infer that we are to use our goods and our skills wisely and for the betterment of everyone. In the parable the steward is praised for his quick thinking and for finding a way to resolve the situation. The parable ends with Jesus telling us "You cannot serve God and mammon" and you must make a choice.

EVERYTHING IS A CHOICE

The Gospel parable tells us what the steward did one time to get out of a bind. But we are called to make the right choice, the best choice over and over. Sometimes it is hard. You may not be choosing between good and evil, but sometimes even have to choose between two goods. We frequently have to make choices like, "Do I spend this extra time at work to get that promotion? Do I bring the work home with me? Or am I able to leave it there and be with my family when I am done?" Parents often have to look at their savings account before they determine which activities they can afford for their children to participate in. Music and sports and the arts are wonderful, but all require special equipment and time. But making a sacrifice on everybody's part might reap great rewards. Sometimes, though, the choice is made to just get food on the table, or to clothe the family. We learn to make the choices that are best for ourselves and are decisions we can live with. We learn to discern what is best for those we love.

The Clever Crook

The parable in today's Gospel is another one with a surprise ending. The crooked steward is commended by his master for being prudent, or clever, trying to protect himself. Jesus did not condone dishonesty. He just wanted us to be just as clever in serving the Lord. Let's look at the first two readings and how they challenge us to do more.

The reading from Amos talks about those "who trample upon the needy and destroy the poor" (Amos 8:4). The challenge here is to ask yourself, "What do I do for the poor?" If all you can think of is to throw some change in the monthly collection for the poor, you're not being very clever. Most parishes have organizations to help the needy and are happy to get volunteers. Imagine what you would do to help someone you loved who was laid off or on disability leave. Do you love Jesus enough to help the poor in his name? Do you ever think of praying for the poor? Not just a quick response to one of the Prayers of the Faithful for the homeless, but actually taking time to pray for those who are unemployed or with jobs that don't pay enough to support a family.

Speaking of prayer, our second reading also challenges us to do more. Paul recommends prayers for "kings and for all in authority" (1 Timothy 2:2). It's easy to pray for friends and family; how much time do we give to prayers for government leaders and executives? Even the leaders with whom we disagree could use more guidance from the Holy Spirit. Paul reminds us that God wants everyone to be saved (1 Timothy 2:4), sinners as well as saints, terrorists and embezzlers, atheists and agnostics. I'll bet you don't spend much time praying for the "bad guys." Yet Jesus said, "Love your enemies. Pray for those who hurt you" (Matthew 5:44). I can't say I've ever heard anyone say that was their favorite Bible passage. But if Jesus expects more from those who love him, who are we to let him down?

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READINGS FOR THE WEEK

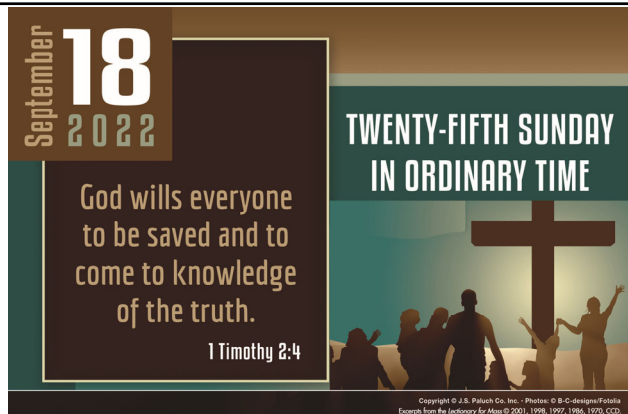
SEPTEMBER 19, 2022

Monday: Prv 3:27-34; Ps 15:2-5; Lk 8:16-18
 Tuesday: Prv 21:1-6, 10-13; Ps 119:1, 27, 30, 34, 35, 44; Lk 8:19-21
 Wednesday: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13; Ps 19:2-5; Mt 9:9-13
 Thursday: Eccl 1:2-11; Ps 90:3-6, 12-14, 17bc; Lk 9:7-9
 Friday: Eccl 3:1-11; Ps 144:1b, 2abc, 3-4; Lk 9:18-22
 Saturday: Eccl 11:9 — 12:8; Ps 90:3-6, 12-14, 17; Lk 9:43b-45
 Sunday: Am 6:1a, 4-7; Ps 146:7-10; 1 Tm 6:11-16; Lk 16:19-31

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

SEPTEMBER 19, 2022

Monday
 8:30am
 12:00pm Julia Guasp (D)
Tuesday
 8:30am
 12:00pm Peter Chi (D)
Wednesday
 8:30am
 12:00pm
Thursday
 8:30am
 12:00pm Rafaela Rodriguez Guzman (D), Chanelle Berroa(D)
Friday
 8:30am Acción de gracias al Sagrado Corazón de Jesus
 12:00pm
Saturday
 7:45am Phero ut (D)
 7:00pm Angel Dariel Rodriguez Hernandez (D); Margarita Pinedo (D); Ramona Moreno Vinicio (D); Edmundo Ortega Garcia (D); Mercedes Caceres (D)
Sunday
 8:00am People of SNT
 9:30am Miguel Angel Vichay Tovar (D); Luiz Alberto Gonzalez, Maria Eriberta Genao, Jose Benito Gonzalez (D)
 11:30am Peter Trang (D)
 1:30pm Phero Trang (D)



OFFERTORY COLLECTION

SEPTEMBER 4, 2022

Tithing: \$6,928.90
 Children: \$0.00
 Total: \$6,928.90

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

We pray for the sick: Eugenia Figueroa Soto, Madeleine Figueroa, Ismael Negron

We pray for the dead:



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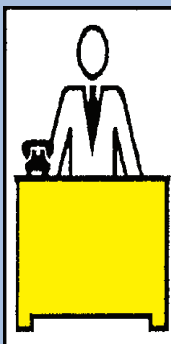
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