



## 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. Liam O'Doherty  
*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. Eric Fortunato  
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RECEPTIONIST  
Ms. Lucy Maldonado

# ST. NICHOLAS OF TOLENTINE CHURCH

2345 UNIVERSITY AVENUE BRONX, NY 10468

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FAX (718) 367-7411

## MASS SCHEDULE

### Saturday Vigil

7:00 p.m. **Spanish** (organ & cantor)

### Sunday

8:00 a.m. **English** (organ & cantor)

9:30 a.m. **Spanish** (organ & cantor)

11:30 a.m. **English** (organ & cantor)

1:30 p.m. **Vietnamese** (keyboard & choir)

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### **Weekdays**

8:30 a.m. **Spanish** (Mon-Fri.)

12:00 p.m. **English** (Mon-Fri)

7:45 a.m. **Vietnamese** (Thu & Sat)

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### **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)**

Saturday 5:30-6:30 p.m. and 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.

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## 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.



## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



## LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

John the Baptist was appointed to prepare the way for the Lord. This Advent, follow his example and prepare the way for the Lord. Invite the Lord to make straight the roads in your life that wind, and to smooth all that is rough in your heart.

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**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

In the year 1995, in the seventeenth year of my life, when Fife Symington was governor of Arizona, Bill Clinton was president of the United States, Chuck Keiffer was pastor of St. Theresa parish in Phoenix, Arizona, and Ron and Mary were my parents, the word of God came to my youth minister Eric and through him I started to see the salvation of God. Soon, Christ came into my life never to leave. I'm thankful beyond words.

Why am I being so specific, you ask? Because in the Gospel this week we hear the specific names of people holding civic and religious authority in first century Palestine when **“the word of God came to John the Baptist:”** Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate, Herod, Philip, Lysanias, Annas, Caiaphas, and Zechariah. All this is meant to help us see that God breaks into our *history*, into real human events. Jesus is no mere myth. He is the Word-which-breaks-in, in concrete moments, you might say. And now we anticipate his coming once again in our specific situations.

Advent challenge: Name as many civic and religious leaders who are in authority currently in your life. Now, name who the potential John the Baptists may be. A spouse? A friend? A podcaster? A work colleague who brings God's word to you? Spend a moment considering that this comprises the concrete, historical setting into which Christ wishes to come. Then, with these specifics in mind, pray: “Come, Lord Jesus. Come.”

— *Father John Muir*

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**Readings for the week of December 8, 2024**

Sunday: Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 (3)/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6  
 Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38  
 Tuesday: Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13/Mt 18:12-14  
 Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30  
 Thursday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47  
 Friday: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Mt 11:16-19  
 Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13  
 Next Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 (6)/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18

**Observances for the week of December 8, 2024****Sunday**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent**Monday**

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed

Virgin Mary

**Tuesday**

Our Lady of Loreto

**Wednesday**

St. Damasus I, Pope

**Thursday**

Our Lady of Guadalupe

**Friday**

St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr

**Saturday**

St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church

**Next Sunday**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

**(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE  
GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS**

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

**The Straight Path**

Ten to fifteen years ago the Department of Transportation decided that it would be fun to give everyone in my zip code something to complain about and replaced most of our major intersections with roundabouts.

This wouldn't be so irksome, I suppose, if I understood how to navigate a roundabout. In theory I do, I've read all the rules and I've watched those cute little YouTube videos where they show you which car is supposed to go at what time. But theory and practice are rather different. And the bottom line is, I never approach a roundabout without taking a deep, anxious breath and tightening my grip on the steering wheel, not entirely sure what my next move should be.

I think of roundabouts every time I hear today's Gospel reading, where John the Baptist echoes Isaiah in beseeching us to make straight the paths of the Lord. See, I always think I've made a straight path between me and God. I go to Mass. I go to Confession. I say my prayers.

*He can get to me if He wants, I tell myself.*

But without realizing it, I put up roundabouts. I make rules. *You go here, God, and then I go here. I'll do this, God, but first You do this. You stay in your lane, and I stay in mine.* Eventually I find myself taking a different route altogether; the road that stretches between me and Him is too daunting. I start avoiding it.

Sometimes I think God wants the path to be straight not for Himself but for us. He can handle a roundabout. But He knows that when we must run to Him, we have to do it without thinking. In the dark. In fear, in anxiety.

So, this Advent, beware the roundabouts. Make straight the path.

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**First Reading:**

“For God will show all the earth your splendor: you will be named by God forever the peace of justice, the glory of God’s worship.” (Bar 5:3-4)

**Psalm:**

The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy. (Ps 126)

**Second Reading:**

So that you may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ. (Phil 1:10-11)

**Gospel:**

“The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.” (Lk 3:5-6)

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

**DECEMBER 9, 2024**

**Monday**

**8:30am** Gilberto Muñoz (D), Cesar Muñoz (D)  
**12:00pm** Dagnon KoKou K. (D), Bertin M. Kossi (D), Thanksgiving to Almighty God, & Holy Spirit, Divine Mercy

**Tuesday**

**8:30am** Ana Felicita Hernandez-convercion & liberación, Anastacio Montero, Rosa Caines, María Vega (D), Luisa Trejo (D), Ángela Espinal Ramos (D), Luis Felipe García (D)  
**12:00pm** Peace (family)

**Wednesday**

**8:30am** Edmanuel Sebastián Torres (D)  
**12:00pm**

**Thursday**

**8:30am** Ricardo Reyes (L)-por su salud, José Antonio Pérez (D)  
**12:00pm** Margaret Grossenbacher (D)  
**7:00pm** Ricardo R. Caro (D)

**Friday**

**8:30am** Francés Negrón (L)-por su salud  
**12:00pm**

**Saturday**

**7:45am** Cau Binh Au  
**7:00pm** Antonio Lopez (D), Maria Isabel Rodriguez & Juan Salcedo (D), Legionares difunto & vivos, Elvis Novas (D) - 2 años

**Sunday**

**8:00am** People of SNT, Felix Antonio Hernandez, Maria Olinda Ramirez, Juan Batista Hernandez (D)  
**9:30am** San Judas Tadeo & acción de gracias, Edison Tapia (D), Marcos A. Cintron (L), Yeudy Francisco Valdez Valdez  
**11:30am** San Anthony Negron (D), Angel Maldonado, Ricardo Reyes Cruz Negron (D), Asa Hartley & Gloria Maria Rivera (D)  
**1:30pm** Stephano & Agatha (D)

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION**

**DECEMBER 1, 2024**

<b>Tithing:</b>	\$7,141.20	Thanksgiving:	
<b>Children:</b>	\$0.00	<b>\$1,376.00</b>	
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$7,141.20</b>		

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

**We pray for the sick:**

**We pray for the dead:**