



# 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** (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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## 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. 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

347-856-3573

### RECEPTIONIST

Ms. Lucy Maldonado

### 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.

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. open

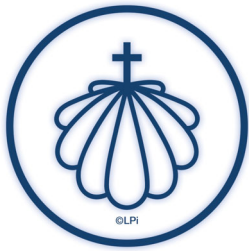
MONDAY - THURSDAY 6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. open

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

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



## THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



## LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

“The people were filled with expectation,” writes Luke. And so we find ourselves, two thousand years later, filled with expectation, with longing. Who can give us what we seek? Only the one upon whom the dove descended. Follow him.

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**The Baptism of the Lord****Luke 3:15-16, 21-22**

In my second year of theology studies, I went to confession to a priest visiting the seminary for a three-day retreat. My heart wasn't in it. I was going through the motions. I confessed my sins and waited for his response. The priest said, “For your penance, I'd like you to go into the chapel and repeat the words ‘**You are my beloved Son, with you I am well pleased**’ (Luke 3:22) until they mean something to you.” Easy penance, I thought.

But to my surprise, I struggled to say those words. I sensed a strong interior resistance blocking them. How could God be well-pleased with *me*? He couldn't be, I thought. A battle within me ensued. Two hours later, the resistance vanished, and I found myself able to speak, and claim as my own, those marvelous words. I emerged from the chapel with a new, deep, peaceful conviction that I was indeed God's beloved son.

Those words are a precious gift from heaven to all of us. Jesus' baptism, which we celebrate this week, offers them to us. Are we willing to receive these words anew? Many things can block this deepening of our baptismal identity: failings, sins, disappointments, traumas, problems, and so on. Yet God's love is always greater. This week I challenge you to prayerfully repeat these words over yourself — or perhaps over someone you're struggling to love — until those words find a home in your heart.

— *Father John Muir*

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**Readings for the week of January 12, 2025**

Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 (1)/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22  
 Monday: Heb 1:1-6/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 6 and 7c, 9/Mk 1:14-20  
 Tuesday: Heb 2:5-12/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9/Mk 1:21-28  
 Wednesday: Heb 2:14-18/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9/Mk 1:29-39  
 Thursday: Heb 3:7-14/Ps 95:6-7c, 8-9, 10-11/Mk 1:40-45  
 Friday: Heb 4:1-5, 11/Ps 78:3 and 4bc, 6c-7, 8/Mk 2:1-12  
 Saturday: Heb 4:12-16/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/Mk 2:13-17  
 Next Sunday: Is 62:1-5/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10 (3)/1 Cor 12:4-11/Jn 2:1-11

**Observances for the week of January 12, 2025****Sunday**

The Baptism of the Lord

**Monday**

St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

**Friday**

St. Anthony, Abbot

**Saturday**

January 18-25 is the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

**Next Sunday**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

**Mini Reflection:** It makes perfect sense that everyone thought John the Baptist was the Messiah. He was the guy pouring the water. But the Messiah was the man who came to be baptized. He was the one who descended into the waters, submerging himself in our experience of death and pain and sorrow.

**Beneath the Surface**

When I was seventeen, I wasn't sure that I wanted to be confirmed. It was a rough period in my life, and I was having some intense questions and doubts. It upset my mother, understandably. She knew that, at such a pivotal and difficult moment, I needed the grace of the sacrament more than ever. So, she called our priest and asked him to talk to me.

After that meeting, I made the decision to be confirmed.

To be honest, I can't remember anything he said to me. All I remember is that he sat with me. He listened to me. He let me talk and talk and talk (and cry). And when he said whatever he said, whatever it is that I cannot remember, it was obvious that he had listened to me.

Reading today's Gospel, it makes perfect sense that everyone thought John the Baptist was the Messiah. He was the guy pouring the water. Of course it seemed natural that he would be "the one." The one they were all waiting for.

But instead, the Messiah was the man who came to be baptized. He was the one who descended into the waters, submerging himself in our experience of death and pain and sorrow — and in doing so, he sanctified it. He made it a means of redemption.

Jesus is our Savior, yes. When we dig ourselves a hole of sin and confusion and we can't climb out, he is the one who brings us back to the surface. But he doesn't pull us out; he lifts us. He jumps down into the pit. He looks around. He offers his hand, gives us a leg up, and by his strength and not our own, we are brought back into the light.

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**First Reading:**

Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken. (40:5)

**Psalm:**

O bless the Lord, my soul. (Ps 104)

**Second Reading:**

He saved us through the bath of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. (Ti 3:5)

**Gospel:**

After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

JANUARY 13, 2025

**Monday**

**8:30am** Las benditas almas del purgatorio, Ricardo Reyes (L)-por su salud  
**12:00pm** St. Expeditus and all Souls of Saints in Purgatory

**Tuesday**

**8:30am** Las benditas almas del purgatorio, Dimas Acevedo (D), Ramón Antonio López (D)

**12:00pm**

**Wednesday**

**8:30am** San Anthony Negrón (D), Felix Antonio Hernández, María Olinda Ramírez, Keren Hernández, Juan Bautista Hernández (D), Antonio Ferreira & Héctor Tejada (D)

**12:00pm**

**Thursday**

**8:30am** Yeison Barreiro, Heney Barreiro, Alba N. Riasco (D)  
**12:00pm** Thanksgiving to the Holy Spirit, God Almighty, and the Mercy of God

**Friday**

**8:30am** María Olinda Ramírez, Dolores Hernández, Manuel de Jesús Hernández, Gladys Hernández (D), Grace Archibald (D), Domingo Castillo (D), Jaime Negrón (D)

**12:00pm**

**Saturday**

**7:45am** Phero Diep & Phero Tan (D)  
**7:00pm** Maria Franco (D), Diodoro Perez (D), Viterbo Baz (D), Miriam Gonzalez (D), Lillie Jones (L) - birthday, Grace Archibald (D), San Antonio de Padua—por favores concedidos

**Sunday**

**8:00am** People of SNT  
**9:30am** Sagrada Familia - dando gracias, Domingo Castillo, Acción de gracias a la Virgen de la Milagrosa

**11:30am**

**1:30pm** Phero Thong & Magarita Han (D)

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION**

JANUARY 5, 2025

<b>Tithing:</b>	\$7,462.10	Solemnity of Mary:
<b>Children:</b>	\$0.00	<b>\$1,711</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$7,462.10</b>	Catholic University:
		<b>\$1,094</b>