



## 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  
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RECEPTIONIST  
Ms. Lucy Maldonado

# ST. NICHOLAS OF TOLENTINE CHURCH

2345 UNIVERSITY AVENUE BRONX, NY 10468

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## 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

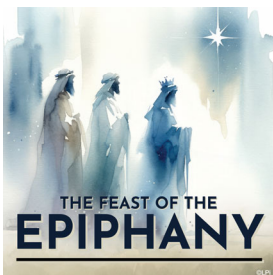
MONDAY - THURSDAY 6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. open

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

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



## THE EPIFANY OF THE LORD



## LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

The news of the Messiah unsettled Herod. We see his anxiety clearly in today's Gospel. This is what Christ has come to do, after all. He has come to shake things up. Are we ready to be unsettled?

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### The Epiphany of the Lord Matthew 2:1-12

Have you ever wondered *why* the magi had gold, frankincense, and myrrh? Matthew's Gospel tells us, "Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh" (Matt. 2:11). Why are these things their "treasures"? One possible answer is they were magicians and astrologers, and these three items were the tools of their questionable trade. In offering them to Christ, they demonstrate that they will cease using such items to predict or control life. They place this baby-king, the God of Israel, at the center of their lives, and not their own devices of control, manipulation and prediction.

Isn't that what we need to do, too? Consider, for example, the magical power of money, symbolized by the magi's gold. Seemingly whatever we ask of money, it does. It wields a god-like power over the world. It can predict the future by guaranteeing better outcomes for us — which is why it is such a tempting alternative to trusting in God. The problem is such absolute trust in money enslaves us to the economic forces that make money so powerful. In paying homage to Jesus with "gold" (i.e., tithing), we participate in his authority over (and therefore freedom from) the magical sway of money.

What things in your life do you use to predict or control your future? What in your life seems to give you power over the world? Those are your treasures. Are you tired of feeling enslaved to them? Find a way to open them and give them to Christ, and you will be freer.

— *Father John Muir*

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### Readings for the week of January 5, 2025

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 (see 11)/ Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12  
 Monday: 1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25  
 Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8/Mk 6:34-44  
 Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/Mk 6:45-52  
 Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17/Lk 4:14-22a  
 Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Lk 5:12-16  
 Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b/ Jn 3:22-30  
 Next 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

### Observances for the week of January 5, 2025

#### Sunday

The Epiphany of the Lord

#### Monday

St. André Bessette, Religious

#### Tuesday

St. Raymond of Penyafort, Priest

#### Next Sunday

The Baptism of the Lord

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

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

**Mini Reflection:** The journey of the magi would have been treacherous and uncomfortable. Imagine the peace in their hearts as they approached the young Messiah and fell to their knees. The new, vibrant awareness of what their own purpose was. It was an epiphany for them. It can be the same for us.

**The Answer**

Have you ever had an epiphany?

I'll confess that I've never spent much time reflecting on the term "epiphany." In my head, there has always been a strict separation of church and state when it comes to this word. I think of the religious feast of the Epiphany, when we celebrate the magi's encounter with the Christ Child, as totally distinct from our modern understanding of the ancient Greek word *epipháneia*, which means "manifestation" or "appearance."

"I've had an epiphany," I have said many times before, and what I mean is that I have come to a long-awaited realization. I have received the answer to a question which has perplexed me, perhaps troubled me. I now know what course of action I must take.

"Today is the Epiphany," I say to my children when we make a king cake and bring the little magi figures to our Nativity beneath the Christmas tree (which will, after today, be put back into storage, for the Christmas season has come to its fulfillment).

And I've always thought I meant I was saying two very different things.

But today, I ponder the journey of the magi, one that must have often been treacherous and uncomfortable. I think about their meeting with Herod, a situation that certainly was fraught with tension and fear. And I imagine the feeling in their hearts as they approached the young Messiah and fell to their knees. I think of the peace they must have felt. The new, vibrant awareness of what their own purpose was.

It was an epiphany for them — a discovery of truth. An answer.

It should be the same for us.

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**First Reading:**

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you. (Is 60:1)

**Psalm:**

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you. (Ps 72)

**Second Reading:**

It was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. (Eph 3:5-6)

**Gospel:**

"Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." (Mt 2:2)

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

**JANUARY 6, 2025**

**Monday**

**8:30am** Las benditas almas del purgatorio, Teófilo Peláez, Elbira Arichabala (D)

**12:00pm**

**Tuesday**  
**8:30am** Las benditas almas del purgatorio, Felicia Díaz, María Tereza Álvarez, José Ulises García, José Ramón García (D)

**12:00pm**

**Wednesday**  
**8:30am** Las benditas almas del purgatorio, Santo Nino de Atocha, Damariz Gordillo Castillo (D)

**12:00pm**

**Thursday**  
**8:30am** Secundino Burgos (D), Las benditas almas del purgatorio

**12:00pm**

**Friday**  
**8:30am** Las benditas almas del purgatorio, Ana Felicita Hernandez-conversion y liberación, Fernando Hernández, Anastacio Montero, María Josefa Parache(D)

**12:00pm**

Thanksgiving to the Holy Spirit, God Almighty, and the Mercy of God

**Saturday**

**7:45am** Cac Linh Hon luyen toi  
**7:00pm** Las benditas almas del purgatorio, Acción de gracias al Sagrado Corazón de Jesus, Rosa Minchala, Ros Carucci, Joseph Girone (D), Jose Antonio Perez (D), Ana Luzon (D), Luisa Trejo (D)

**Sunday**

**8:00am** People of SNT  
**9:30am** Las bendiatas almas del purgatorio, Feliz Evangelista Gonzalez, Serafin Alfredo Gonzalez, Joseph Girone (D)  
**11:30am** Margaret Grossenbacher (D)  
**1:30pm** Maria Phi & Anton Lang (D)

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION**

**DECEMBER 29, 2024**

<b>Tithing:</b>	\$9,273.12	<b>Christmas:</b>	
<b>Children:</b>	\$0.00	<b>\$6,246.00</b>	
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$9,273.12</b>		