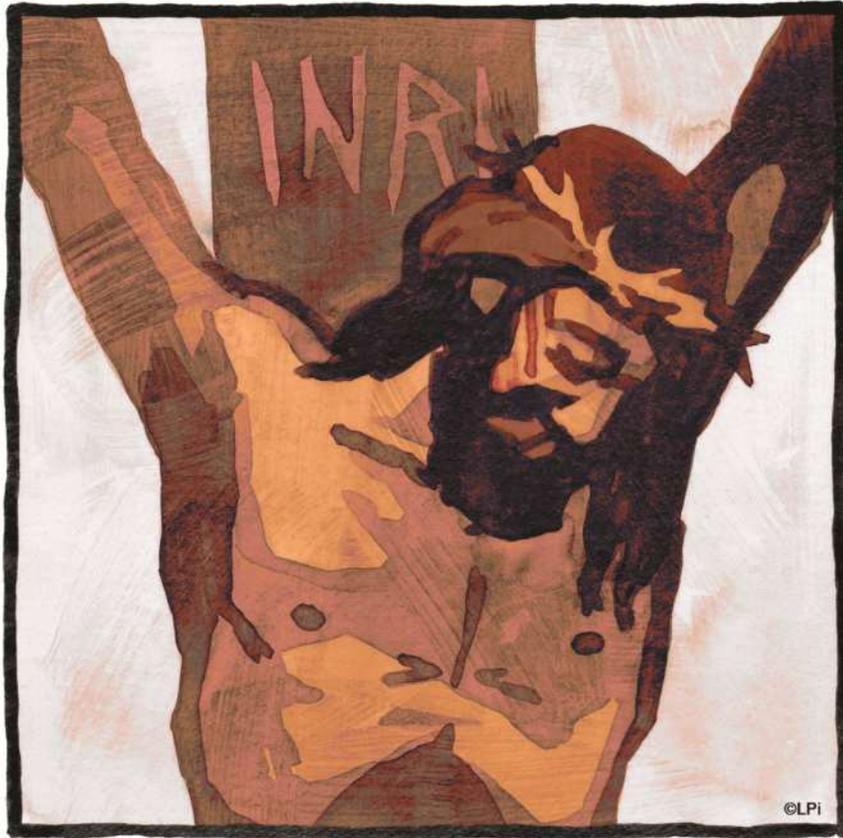


St. Nicholas of Tolentine Church

THE BRONX



NEW YORK



NOVEMBER | 2025

The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus
Christ the King

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor

Fr. Luis A Vera, O.S.A.
pastor@stnicholasoftolentinebronx.org

Associate

Fr. Joseph Tran
Fr. Carlos Urbina, O.S.A.
Fr. Joseph Murray, O.S.A.

In Residence

Fr. William Wallace, O.S.A.

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

SACRAMENTS

Confession, First Communion and Confirmation

Make contact with the coordinator of this area for information about the various programs available. Appointments can be made in the parish office at anytime.

Baptism

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.

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.

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend

Saturday Vigil

7:00pm Spanish (organ & cantor)

Sunday

8:00am English (organ & cantor)
9:30am Spanish (organ & cantor)
11:30am English (organ & cantor)
1:30pm Vietnamese (keyboard & choir)

Weekdays

Monday - Friday

8:30am Spanish 12:00pm English

Thursday & Saturday

7:45am Vietnamese

2 PRAYER AND WORSHIP

NOVEMBER 23, 2025

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, November 24

8:30 a.m. Acción de gracias al Sagrado Corazón de Jesus por la salud de Carmen Rosa, Jessica Carolina Bonilla Sanchez & Bryan Sanchez

12:00 p.m.

Tuesday, November 25

8:30 a.m.

12:00 p.m. Teresa & Giuse Đam (D)

Wednesday, November 26

8:30 a.m.

12:00 p.m.

Thursday, November 27

9:00a.m. Acción de gracias al Sagrado Corazón de Jesus, Anastacio Montero, Joel Delfiner, Telly Williams (D), Acción de gracias a la Virgen de la Milagrosa, Ricardo Cabrera (L) - cumpleaños

Friday, November 28

9:00 a.m. Ricardo Reyes (D)

Saturday, November 29

7:45 a.m. Lorenzo Nguyen & Madalena Gia (D)

7:00 p.m. Maria Mercado (D), Jose Peguero Montero (D), Elpidio Antonio Vasquez, Lucia Altagracia Santos (D), Marta Tolozano (D)

Sunday, November 30

8:00 a.m. People of SNT,

9:30: a.m. Maria Soledad Soto Martinez (D), Vilfrida Dolores Peña (D), Acción de gracias a la Virgen de la Milagrosa

11:30 am Patrick, Peter, Philomena Keon (D)

1:30 pm Gioanbaotixita & Ana (D)

READINGS

First Reading:

"And the LORD said to you, 'You shall shepherd my people Israel and shall be commander of Israel.'" (2 Sm 5:2)

Psalm:

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord. (Ps 122)

Second Reading:

For in him all the fullness was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile all things for him, making peace by the blood of his cross through him, whether those on earth or those in heaven. (Col 1:19-20)

Gospel:

He replied to him, "Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise." (Lk 23:43)

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Readings for the week of November 23, 2025

Sunday: 2 Sm 5:1-3/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5 (see 1)/Col 1:12-20/Lk 23:35-43

Monday: Dn 1:1-6, 8-20/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/Lk 21:1-4

Tuesday: Dn 2:31-45/Dn 3:57, 58, 59, 60, 61/Lk 21:5-11

Wednesday: Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28/Dn 3:62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67/Lk 21:12-19

Thursday: Dn 6:12-28/Dn 3:68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74/Lk 21:20-28

Friday: Dn 7:2-14/Dn 3:75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81/Lk 21:29-33

Saturday: Dn 7:15-27/Dn 3:82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87/Lk 21:34-36

Next Sunday: Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Rom 13:11-14/Mt 24:37-44



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ST. NICHOLAS OF TOLENTINE

3

THE SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST THE KING

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE
GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Mini reflection: It's taken me a few hundred read-throughs of this Gospel passage to finally understand a painful truth: I am Gestas, "the bad thief." I am as close to Jesus as he was, and I ask for all the wrong things.

The King Who Hangs Beside Us

We love to hate the bad thief.

Ancient Christian tradition has called him by the name "Gestas." In contrast to Dismas, "the good thief" who recognized and repented of his own sins, Gestas goes down bitter and swinging. With his last breaths he taunts Jesus, poking fun at the absurdity of a deity who allows himself to be crucified by mortals. "Are you not the Christ?" he sneers.

But his final words betray an undercurrent of desperation. Of terror. In the end, Gestas just wants Jesus to save him.

It's taken me a few hundred read-throughs of this Gospel passage to finally understand a painful truth: I am Gestas. I hang from my own cross — we all do, in this life. But I'm lucky enough that my cross is right beside Jesus, because the sacraments bring him as close to me as he was to Gestas — closer, even. How unfathomable is the mercy of God.

And yet, I am not grateful. I don't rejoice at my proximity to my Lord, to the flesh and blood that have bought my salvation. I don't do what I should do, and what Dismas does. I don't say, "Wherever you are King, please, let me be your subject. Wherever you are going, please, take me with you."

"Are you not the Christ?" I say instead. And what I mean is exactly what Gestas meant: "Get me down. Take this cross away. I don't want it. I can't take it."

What a tragedy it would be, if all Christ had to offer us was an easier life.

None of this looks like anyone thought it would. The long-foretold Messiah, whose majesty and might would eradicate violence and establish peace. The guy who was going to make everything okay again. The King of the Jews. And here he hangs: bleeding and dying and doing what looks like nothing. Staring at Gestas. Staring at me. Staring at you.

What will you say to him?

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe Luke 23:35-43

Not long ago, I was called to a hospital to anoint a woman in her early 80s. She was dying, and visibly in pain. But what struck me most wasn't her suffering — it was the atmosphere in the room. She had eight children and 30 foster kids, and many of them were gathered around her. You'd expect sorrow, fear, maybe even despair. But the room was filled with something else entirely — a quiet strength, a kind of sweetness. It was as if she was suffering not just with them, but for them. And they, in love, were suffering for her. The pain was real. But so was the peace. I didn't want to run. I felt as if I was in a little paradise, beeping machines and all.

I think of that moment when I hear today's Gospel. Jesus, hanging on the cross, doesn't look like a king. But one of the crucified, dying men beside him sees through the suffering and says, "**Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom**" (Luke 23:42). That word — *remember* — literally means to make someone a member again. He's asking to be joined to Christ, to become part of his Body. And Jesus says, "**Today you will be with me in paradise.**"

He doesn't say, "I'll take your suffering away." He says, "**You will be with me.**"

That's the strange power of Christ the King. He doesn't rule by avoiding suffering. He reigns by entering into it, and transforming it with love.

What are you suffering right now in your life? Likely you want it to stop. But if we are willing to suffer with him — paradise begins even today.

— Father John Muir

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Our king wears a crown of thorns, not a crown of gold. His glory is not in riches but in suffering. His law is written in his own blood, shed for the love of us. Do we understand the gift that it is, to be subject to such a king?

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