

# St. Nicholas of Tolentine Church

THE BRONX



NEW YORK

FEBRUARY | 2026

First Sunday of Lent

## 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

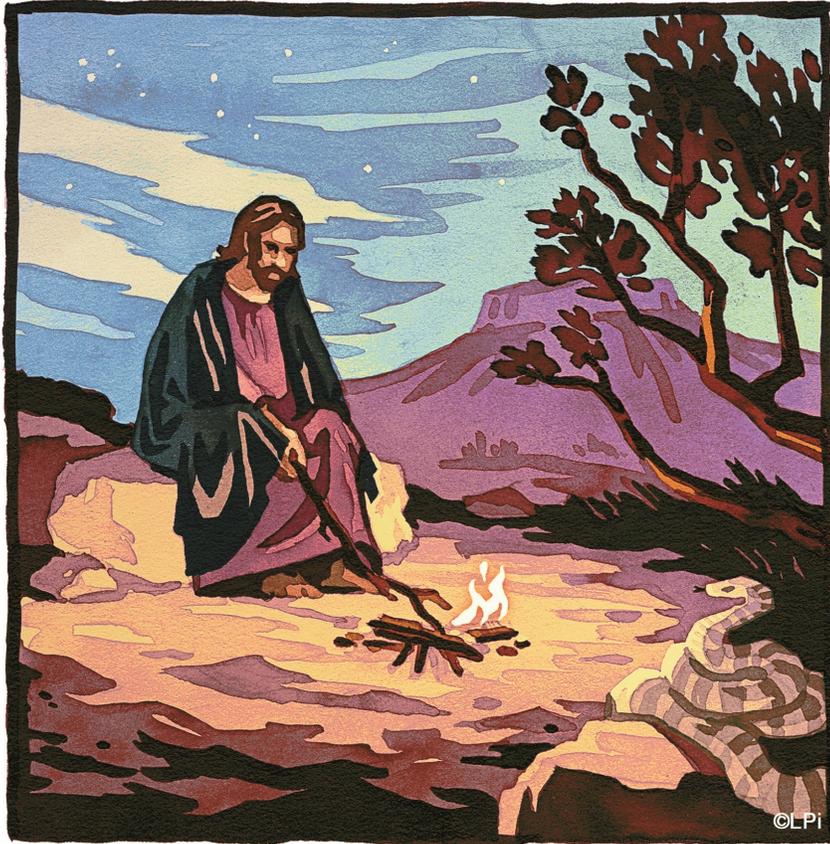
Ms. Shelly Parkin

### 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

FEBRUARY 22, 2026

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Monday, February 23

8:30 a.m.

12:00 p.m.

### Tuesday, February 24

8:30 a.m.

12:00 p.m.

### Wednesday, February 25

8:30 a.m. Isabel Mercedes Jimenez (D)

12:00 p.m. Jose Pangulinan (D) - 40th anniversary

### Thursday, February 26

8:30 am Luis Carlos Flores Ortega (D); Elpidia Taveras  
Feliz dia para Altagracia Garcia

12:00 p.m.

### Friday, February 27

8:30 a.m. Olinda Salcedo, Anastacio Montero, Fernando Hernandez (D), Ana Felicita Hernandez—  
conversión, Maria Mercado (D), Filomena Rosario (D)

12:00 p.m.

### Saturday, February 28

7:45 a.m. Gioanbaotixita a Mata (D)

7:00 p.m. Filomena & Ricardo Reyes (D), Ricardo Reyes, hijo (D), Maria Salcedo Soto Martinez (D), Tommy Febles (D), Vilfrida Dolores Peña (D), Jose Peguero Montero (D), Luz Montero Urives (D)

### Sunday, March 1

8:00 a.m. People of SNT, Pascual Antonio Nuñez (D)

9:30: a.m. Ramon Marte (D), Acción de gracias a la Milagrosa

11:30 am Patrick Keon (D), Kosongo Family (Thanksgiving), Jose Ramon Taveras, Maria Espinal Hernandez (D)

1:30 pm Phero Luc & Ana Thuy (D)

## READINGS

### First Reading:

The LORD God formed man out of the clay of the ground and blew into his nostrils the breath of life. (Gn 2:7)

### Psalms:

Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned. (Ps 51)

### Second Reading:

For just as through the disobedience of the one man

the many were made sinners,

so, through the obedience of the one,

the many will be made righteous. (Rom 5:19)

### Gospel:

At that time Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert

to be tempted by the devil.

He fasted for forty days and forty nights. (Mt 4:1-2)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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## Readings for the week of February 22, 2026

Sunday: Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17/Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/Mt 4:1-11

Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19/Mt 6:7-15

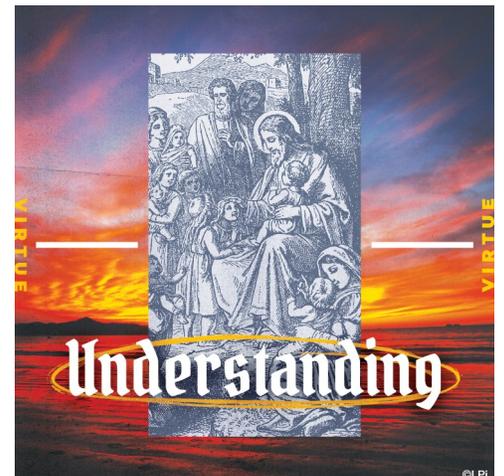
Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19/Lk 11:29-32

Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8/Mt 7:7-12

Friday: Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8/Mt 5:20-26

Saturday: Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8/Mt 5:43-48

Next Sunday: Gn 12:1-4a/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22/2 Tm 1:8b-10/Mt 17:1-9



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## 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent

### Matthew 4:1-11

In my second-to-last year of seminary, I woke up one September morning to devastating news: two beloved classmates had died in a car crash. I was overwhelmed with grief and anger like I had never known. I entered therapy for the first time and had intense conversations with my spiritual director. For months I felt lost in a spiritual wilderness. But something unexpected happened: I encountered Christ there. The fear and sorrow didn't destroy me. In fact, that spiritual desert was a time of intense growth in faith.

Today's Gospel begins: **"Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil" (Matthew 4:1).** The word "led" denotes a gentle, humble submission to the Spirit. Jesus does not send himself into this desolate place where wild beasts roam and Satan tempts. Who wants to be around roaming, wild beasts? The Church Fathers saw them as symbols of our inner chaos: fears, temptations, wounds. The Spirit leads us there, sometimes against our wishes. But those same Fathers also saw that this deserted place is also where angels ministered to Jesus, amidst his great trial and temptation.

**Lenten Challenge:** This Lent and throughout life's struggles, the Spirit leads you and me into the wilderness. Name one "desert" into which the Spirit has led you: perhaps grief, fear, silence, change, disappointment. Ask for the grace to go there willingly. The beasts may be real, but they will not harm you. There, the angels are waiting to minister to the Christ living in you, who always goes where the Spirit leads.

— *Father John Muir*

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## Pilgrimage of St. Nicholas of Tolentine Parish Following St. Augustine's footsteps in Italy: Rome, Cascia, Assisi, Florence & Milan Sept. 21st- Oct 1st, 2026 Spir. Dir.: Fr. Luis Vera, OSA

- 21-Sep NY -Rome
- 22-Sep Parish of St. Aurea in Ostia, Basilica of Saint Paul Outside the Walls
- 23-Sep Audience with Pope, St. Peter and St. Augustine Basilica, P. Navonna & Trevi
- 24-Sep Bas. of Our Lady of Good Counsel, Roccaponera, St. Rita of Cascia Basilica
- 25-Sep St. Rita of Cascia Convent, St. Francis of Assisi, St. Clare, and St. Carlo Acutis
- 26-Sep St. Mary of Angels (Porziuncula), St. Gimignano
- 27-Sep Holy Cross, Di Santo Spirito and St. Mary the Fiore Basilica. Piazza de la Repubblica, Porcellino market and Ponte Vecchio
- 28-Sep San Pietro in Ciel d'Oro (skeletal remains of St. Augustine), Certosa di Pavia
- 29-Sep Cassago Brianza
- 30-Sep Duomo, St Ambrosio Basilica and Saint Lawrence Maggiore Parish.
- 01-Oct Departure to NY

\$4,190 per person (double room) (\$600 registration / \$900 Mar 30 / \$900 Apr 30 / \$900 Jun 30 / \$890 Jul 30) **Registration deadline June 20th, 2026**

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**Not Included:** Travel insurance, lunch, alcohol beverages and bus parish-JFK-parish

**Contact:**

Ana Tejada  
Ricardo Avalos



646-281-3434  
646-500-4719 / peregrinamariainc@gmail.com

Peregrina a Maria



## LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Our Lord is so humble that he allows us to see him experience temptation. The vulnerability of this moment is awesome to behold. Let us learn from Jesus' interaction with the devil, and be transformed by it. Let us say, with him: "Get away, Satan."

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## STEWARDSHIP

### Weekly Offering - February 15, 2026

Envelopes	\$8,638.45
Peter's Pence	\$510.00
Utility Fund	\$148.00

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