

St. Nicholas of Tolentine Church

THE BRONX



NEW YORK



JULY | 2026

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor

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

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Fr. Joseph Murray, O.S.A.

In Residence

Fr. William Wallace, O.S.A.

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Mr. Eric Fortunato
347-856-3573

Receptionist

Ms. Lucy Maldonado

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

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 INTENTIONS

Monday, July 20

8:30 a.m. Dando gracias a Dios y la Virgen por todo lo recibido

12:00 p.m. Jane Weiss, Emanuel Ramos Jovan Ramos (D), Sinencio Nuñez, Olimpia Guzman, Virgilio Nuñez (D)

Tuesday, July 21

8:30 a.m. Armando, Esperanza Rivero (D)

12:00 p.m. All Souls

Wednesday, July 22

8:30 a.m. Acción de gracias a la Virgen de Altagracia (D)

12:00 p.m. Jane Weiss (D), Antigua Nuñez (D), St. Raphael, St. Michael, God Almighty, Divine Mercy, Holy Spirit, the Blessed Trinity

Thursday, July 23

8:30 a.m.

12:00 p.m. Jane Weiss (D), Regino Figura Sr, Trinidad Tapongot (D)

Friday, July 24

8:30 a.m. Jose Aviles (D)

12:00 p.m. Elena Abrea (D) - 2nd anniversary

Saturday, July 25

7:45 a.m. Giuse Sinh (D)

7:00 p.m. Susana Tanco (D), Leonardo Hernandez (L), Maria Victoria Meneess Hernandez (D)

Sunday, July 26

8:00 a.m. People of SNT, Anton Dedvukaj (L), Honor of St Anthony, Baby Jesus

9:30 a.m. Acción de gracias a la Virgen de la Milagrosa, Alvin Ortiz, Jr (D), Diego Garcia & Concepcion Garcia (D) Tapia (D)

11:30 am Peter & Philomena Keon (D), Betsy Dedvukaj (L), Honor of St. Anthony & Baby Jesus

1:30 pm Giuse & Maria (D)

READINGS

First Reading:

For your might is the source of justice;

your mastery over all things makes you lenient to all. (Wis 12:16)

Psalms:

Lord, you are good and forgiving. (Ps 86)

Second Reading:

And the one who searches hearts

knows what is the intention of the Spirit, because he intercedes for the holy ones according to God's will. (Rom 8:27)

Gospel:

"The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that a person took and sowed in a field.

It is the smallest of all the seeds,

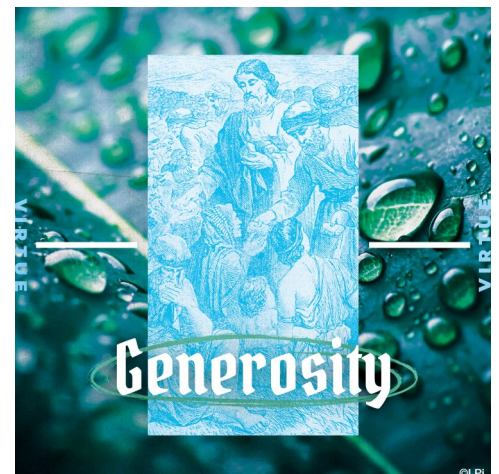
yet when full-grown it is the largest of plants." (Mt 13:31-32)

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Readings for the week of July 19, 2026

Sunday: Wis 12:13, 16-19/Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16/Rom 8:26-27/Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30
Monday: Mi 6:1-4, 6-8/Ps 50:5-6, 8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/Mt 12:38-42
Tuesday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 85:2-4, 5-6, 7-8/Mt 12:46-50
Wednesday: Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 20:1-2, 11-18
Thursday: Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13/Ps 36:6-7ab, 8-9, 10-11/Mt 13:10-17
Friday: Jer 3:14-17/Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13/Mt 13:18-23
Saturday: 2 Cor 4:7-15/Ps 126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6/Mt 20:20-28
Next Sunday: 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12/Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130/Rom 8:28-30/Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46



Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Matthew 13:24-43

A man recently told me he was losing patience with the Church. **"It's supposed to be God's Kingdom on earth,"** he said, **"but it's full of contradictions and hypocrisy. Why can't the Church just be better?"** That last word landed with a judgmental thud. It hurt. Because at times the Church can look painfully ordinary, even disappointing.

But Jesus' parables in today's Gospel meet that frustration head-on. He says, **"The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field,"** yet the weeds grow up with the wheat, and the master allows both to grow together until harvest. To his listeners, this sounded strange, even offensive. They expected God's reign to be pure, powerful, and glorious, anything but mixed up, hidden, or small.

Jesus is showing us something essential. The Kingdom always begins small and grows amid imperfection. Grace and weakness exist side by side until the harvest. That is why the Church often looks messy. Yet within that mess, God's quiet work continues. The weeds do not stop the wheat from growing.

When we see the Church's flaws or our own, it helps to remember that this is exactly the field in which Christ chose to plant. The miracle is not that everything looks perfect, but that his Word keeps taking root anyway.

Lord, give me patience with Your field, the Church. Help me see Your hidden life growing even among the weeds. Amen.

— Father John Muir

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS
 By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

The Weeds We Need

Driving up my street in late spring, you can see which yard is mine from a whole block away: it's the one covered in dandelions. And I like it that way.

I fear neither my husband's shame nor the snarky comments of neighbors: I will never apologize for my dandelion-filled yard. "It's for the pollinators," I say, but it's a total lie. I just think it looks lovely. Who doesn't like a splash of yellow after a long, dreary winter?

People call dandelions "weeds," but it's just not true. Weeds are, by definition, any plant growing where it isn't wanted. A rosebush is a weed, if it's in the middle of a cornfield. I want my dandelions. Plants that are commonly considered weeds can even have beneficial properties. They attract pollinators, for instance, and they promote nutrient cycling, whereby soil health is improved.

We all have metaphorical "weeds" in the garden of our lives. I certainly do: facets of my personality I loathe, realities of my life I resent, limitations in my abilities I dread—these are my weeds, and their roots run deep, coiling closely around those of the plants I try to cultivate. But if I could rid my garden of any one of these weeds, would it really benefit me? And if I examined them all closely, could I tell them apart—the blessing from the curse, the struggle from the triumph?

One day, it will all become clear: what is the wheat, and what is the weed. We will be put to our ultimate purpose, and we will see ourselves for what we are meant to be.

Until then, we need the weeds. It's not harvest time yet.

STEWARDSHIP

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