St. Nicholas of Tolentine Church

The Bronx New York



AUGUST| 2026

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor
Fr. Luis A Vera, O.S.A.
pastor@stnicholasoftolentinebronx.org
Associate
Fr. Joseph Tran
Fr. Joseph Murray, O.S.A
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Fr. William Wallace, O.S.A.
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Plant Manager
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.

PRAYER AND WORSHIP

AUGUST 23, 2026

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, August 24
8:30 a.m. Jose Aviles (D), Florangel Medran De Lopez (D), Blas Rodriguez (D)
12:00 p.m. All the deceased people in Colombia & Venezuela

Tuesday, August 25
8:30 a.m. Isabel Mercedes Jimenez (D) - 1er aniversario, Olimpia Abreu Cepeda, Gonzalo Rosario (D)
12:00 p.m.

Wednesday, August 26
8:30 a.m. Cesar Segura Olivero (D)
12:00 p.m.

Thursday, August 27
8:30 a.m. Olinda Salcedo, Anastacio Montero, Fernando Hernandez (D), Ana Felicita Hernandez - conversión, Luis Carlos Flores Ortega (D)
12:00 p.m. Jacinta Fabian (D)

Friday, August 28
8:30 a.m. Ricardo Reyes (D), Francisco Perez, Eladio Perez (D)
12:00 p.m.

Saturday, August 29
7:45 a.m.
7:00 p.m. Fernando Simono (D), Jose Peguero Montero & Luz Erminda Montero (D), Susan Tanco (D), Benera Sufron, Petra Ortiz, Damaris Sanchez, WIlberto Rivera, Angel Luis Figueroa (D), Cesar Segura Olivero (D)

Sunday, August 30
8:00 a.m. People of SNT, Louie Dedvukaj (L) Honor of St. Nicholas
9:30: a.m. Enerio Salcedo, Jaime Salcedo, Salvador Salcedo (D), Acción de gracias a la Milagrosa, Acción de gracias a San Antonio de Padua y Jesus de la Misericordia
11:30 am Miri family -Honor of St. Nicholas,
1:30 pm

READINGS

First Reading:
I will place the key of the House of David on Eliakim's shoulder;
when he opens, no one shall shut,
when he shuts, no one shall open. (Is 22:22)

Psalm:
Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands. (Ps 138)

Second Reading:
For from him and through him and for him are all things.
To him be glory forever. Amen. (Rom 11:36)

Gospel:
"I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven.
Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven;
and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." (Mt 16:19)

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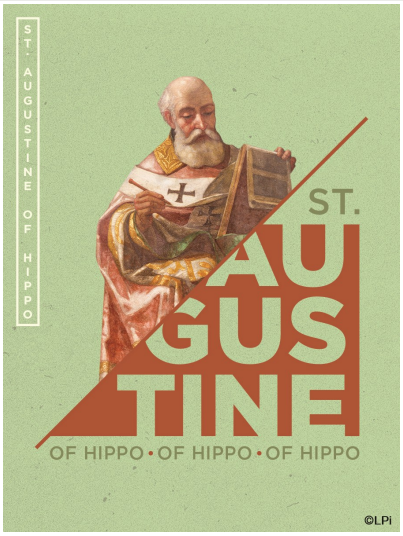
Readings for the week of August 23, 2026

Sunday:	Is 22:19-23/Ps 138:1-2a, 2b-3, 6 and 8/Rom 11:33-36/Mt 16:13-20
Monday:	Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18/Jn 1:45-51
Tuesday:	2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13/Mt 23:23-26
Wednesday:	2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18/Ps 128:1-2, 4-5/Mt 23:27-32
Thursday:	1 Cor 1:1-9/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mt 24:42-51
Friday:	1 Cor 1:17-25/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11/Mt 25:1-13
Saturday:	1 Cor 1:26-31/Ps 33:12-13, 18-19, 20-21/Mk 6:17-29
Next Sunday:	Jer 20:7-9/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Rom 12:1-2/Mt 16:21-27



Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time
Matthew 16:13-20

The first time I stood inside St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, its majesty overwhelmed me. The sheer beauty of Michelangelo's dome seemed to lift my soul right out of my body. Later, I joined the Scavi tour that winds below the basilica, down into the ancient pagan cemetery where Peter was buried. There, in the dim light and narrow passageways, I found myself looking at the bones of a murdered Jewish fisherman, his feet cut off so his crucified body could be taken down more easily.

What a paradox. Above me, the most glorious church ever built. Beneath me, the remains of a backwater fisherman. But this man dared to answer Jesus' question, **"Who do you say that I am?"** And crowning that immense dome above his tomb are the words from today's Gospel, **"You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church."**

Within you and me is the drama of the lowest and the highest. Every time we confess Christ, humbly, imperfectly, maybe even trembling, we enter that same mystery. The dust of our humanity, touched by the splendor of heaven. God's presence and our dry bones together. Humility and glory. May our lives embrace both the lowest and the highest, like that great basilica, as we profess Jesus.

— Father John Muir

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

Only Peter Has the Answer

"What do you think of the Pope?"

After the election of Pope Leo XIV in 2025, all my non-Catholic friends texted me this question. The result of the papal conclave was dominating the news cycle, and everyone was curious about this man who would now be so prominent on the world stage, making me temporarily popular with people who apparently need more (and better) Catholics in their lives.

In today's Gospel, we see Jesus entrust Peter and his heirs with the stewardship of the kingdom here on earth, creating an unbroken line of authority which stretches through the millennia all the way to our current Pope — whoever he is at the time you are reading this.

I don't know if you like the Pope. The same goes for your local bishop and your pastor. If a friend texted you, "What do you think of him?" I have no idea how you would respond.

All I know is this: it doesn't really matter. What really matters is what we would say if a friend texted us the same question about Jesus Christ: "What do you think of him, and why?"

In today's Gospel, Jesus doesn't ask his disciples to take an IQ test. He doesn't try to find out which one is the nicest, the hardest worker, the most humble, or even the holiest.

He asks a very simple question: "Who do you say that I am?"

Peter has the answer.

I am not Catholic because I like the Pope. I am not Catholic because the human representatives of the Church have anything to offer me (they often do, but this is beside the point).

I am Catholic because only Peter has the answer.

STEWARDSHIP

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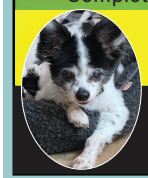

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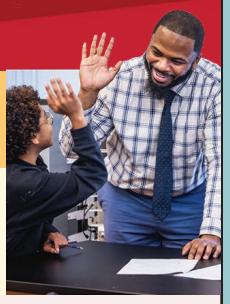

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