St. Nicholas of Tolentine Church

The Bronx New York



AUGUST| 2026

Twenty-second 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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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.

2 PRAYER AND WORSHIP

AUGUST 30, 2026

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, August 31
8:30 a.m. Angela Altagracia Yara Tejada (D)
12:00 p.m. Felicitas Ubando (D)

Tuesday, September 1
8:30 a.m Jose Salvador De La Cruz (D)
12:00 p.m. Cirilo Abrea, Elena Abrea, Cresus Abrea, Jane Weiss (D)

Wednesday, September 2
8:30 a.m. Mercedes Pelaez & Manuel Pelaez (D), Sencion Suriel, Marcelina Fuente, Padre Beinvenido Suriel, Maria Mercedes Suriel (D), Paulina Vozigil (D)
12:00 p.m.

Thursday, September 3
8:30 a.m. Trinidad Rondon (D)
12:00 p.m. Virginia Yatol, Mae Paduala Amnacio Borja, Isidro Apdutan (D)

Friday, September 4
8:30 a.m.
12:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 5
7:45 a.m. Ta on Duc Me
7:00 p.m. Jose Ramon Tavares, Maria De Jesus Espinal (D), Ramon Ceballos (D)- 5 meses, Teresa Nuñez, Sinencio Nuñez, Teofilo Nuñez (D), Ana Castro (D)

Sunday, September 6
8:00 a.m. People of SNT, Louie Dedvukaj (L) Honor of St. Nicholas, Catherine Jackson (L)-birthday
9:30: a.m. Jose Adames, Eduvina Gonzalez, Luis Alberto Gonzalez (D), Alvin Ortiz, Jr. (D), Carlos, Antonio, Rafael Vasquez (D)
11:30 am Miri family -Honor of St. Nicholas, Alicia Gaines (D)
1:30 pm Gioanbaotixita Chau & Giuse Luc

READINGS

First Reading:
I say to myself, I will not mention him,
I will speak in his name no more.
But then it becomes like fire burning in my heart,
imprisoned in my bones. (Jer 20:9)

Psalm:
My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God. (Ps 63)

Second Reading:
I urge you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God,
to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice,
holy and pleasing to God,
your spiritual worship. (Rom 12:1)

Gospel:
"For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it,
but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." (Mt 16:25)

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Readings for the week of August 30, 2026

Sunday:	Jer 20:7-9/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Rom 12:1-2/Mt 16:21-27
Monday:	1 Cor 2:1-5/Ps 119:97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102/Lk 4:16-30
Tuesday:	1 Cor 2:10b-16/Ps 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13ab, 13cd-14/Lk 4:31-37
Wednesday:	1 Cor 3:1-9/Ps 33:12-13, 14-15, 20-21/Lk 4:38-44
Thursday:	1 Cor 3:18-23/ Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 5:1-11
Friday:	1 Cor 4:1-5/Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 27-28, 39-40/Lk 5:33-39
Saturday:	1 Cor 4:6b-15/Ps 145:17-18, 19-20, 21/Lk 6:1-5
Next Sunday:	Ez 33:7-9/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7b, 7c-9/Rom 13:8-10/Mt 18:15-20



Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Matthew 16:21-27

Do you know what it is like to be thrilled by the power of Christian faith one moment and then utterly fail in it the next? I do. That is Peter in today's Gospel. After last week's bold confession, he now hears Jesus speak of suffering and death, and something in him recoils. He takes Jesus aside and tries to correct him. Jesus responds with the shocking rebuke, **"Get behind me, Satan."**

Peter is the mirror of every disciple. We love Jesus until he contradicts the script we have written for our lives. Peter does not reject Jesus. He rejects a ĸĻĠJĸĨĬ Jesus. So do we, whenever we avoid a hard responsibility, resist a demanding relationship, or cling to comfort instead of choosing love. We want a Lord who supports our plans, not one who overturns them.

Yet Jesus does not discard Peter. He redirects him. **"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me."** In effect, Jesus says, stop trying to lead me. Let me lead you. Discipleship does not begin with heroism or clarity but with surrender. It means trusting that God's path to life often passes through places we would never choose.

Peter is all of us. We move from insight to confusion, from confidence to correction. That is why we should have hope. Jesus patiently teaches us again and again. Trust me. Get behind me. Follow me. When we stop fighting the crosses that come and start carrying them with him, we discover a freedom deeper than comfort and a love stronger than fear.

— Father John Muir

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

To Carry the Cross

Carry the cross? Absolutely. I'm happy to! Hand it over. Here's the thing: I just might...set it down for a second, from time to time. That's okay, right?

How else am I supposed to have both hands free to gesture in anger? I can't do that if I'm carrying the cross. Well, fine, then let me just shift its weight, so I can catch my breath and say what I think about this person who's got it all wrong — I'll just lean it against the wall here. No? Okay, fine, I won't put it down! I'll keep holding it. That's better, actually. Then I can use it as a weapon.

What? Am I doing this "Christian" thing wrong?

"Whoever wishes to save his life will lose it," Jesus tells us in today's Gospel. "But whoever loses his life for my sake will find it."

This is not an affirmation of the paradox that if you no longer care about something, you can finally have it once and for all. It's not a judgment about the worthlessness of life in this fallen world or the futility of trying to preserve that life.

It's merely a statement about priorities.

When Peter says, "God forbid!" at the thought of suffering, God is not his priority. His own safety is.

When I say, "God forbid!" at anything that comes from the mouth of God, it's a reminder to look at my hands — because they've probably put down the cross.

How merciful is our Lord — he never takes my cross from me, even when I walk far away from it. He always lets me pick it back up. In his dear and sweet goodness, he even helps me lift its weight. And he gestures, in case I've forgotten: "This way. Follow me."

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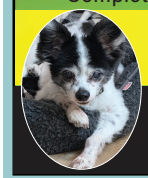

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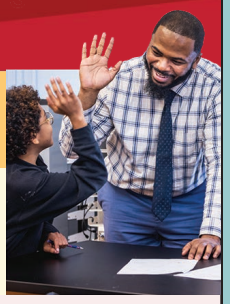

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