St. Nicholas of Tolentine Church

The Bronx New York



SEPTEMBER| 2026

Twenty-fifth 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
In Residence
Fr. William Wallace, O.S.A.
Catholic Faith Formation
Jesus DeLaRosa
Director of Music
Mr. Daniel Kirk-Foster
Mr. Dang Vu
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Ms. Shelly Parkin
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

SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, September 21
8:30 a.m.
12:00 p.m.

Tuesday, September 22
8:30 a.m
12:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 23
8:30 a.m.
12:00 p.m.

Thursday, September 24
8:30 a.m.
12:00 p.m.

Friday, September 25
8:30 a.m.
12:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 26
7:45 a.m.
7:00 p.m. Margarita Pinero (D), Fernando Simono (D), Susan Tanco (D), Cesar Segura Olivero (D), Ayamiki Matos Segura (D), Orabio Olivero (D), Edmundo Ortega Garcia (D),Mercedes Mejia (D), Tommy Febles (D), Santo Angel Araujo Cabrera (D)

Sunday, September 27
8:00 a.m. People of SNT, Olinda Salcedo, Anastacio Montero, Fernando Hernandez (D), Ana Felicita Hernandez - conversión
9:30: a.m. Jose Aviles (D), Alvin Ortiz, Jr. (D), Mercedes Muñoz De Aguro (D)
11:30 am Ramon De Los Santos (D), Virginia Vera (L) - salud
1:30 pm Phero & Maria (D), Peace

READINGS

First Reading:
Seek the LORD while he may be found,
call him while he is near. (Is 55:6)

Psalm:
The Lord is near to all who call upon him. (Ps 145)

Second Reading:
I am caught between the two.
I long to depart this life and be with Christ,
for that is far better. (Phil 1:23)

Gospel:
"'What if I wish to give this last one the same as you?
Or am I not free to do as I wish with my own money?
Are you envious because I am generous?'" (Mt 20:14-15)

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Readings for the week of September 20, 2026

Sunday:	Is 55:6-9/Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18/Phil 1:20c-24, 27a/Mt 20:1-16a
Monday:	Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Mt 9:9-13
Tuesday:	Prv 21:1-6, 10-13/Ps 119:1, 27, 30, 34, 35, 44/Lk 8:19-21
Wednesday:	Prv 30:5-9/Ps 119:29, 72, 89, 101, 104, 163/Lk 9:1-6
Thursday:	Eccl 1:2-11/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 and 17bc/Lk 9:7-9
Friday:	Eccl 3:1-11/Ps 144:1b and 2abc, 3-4/Lk 9:18-22
Saturday:	Eccl 11:9-12:8/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 and 17/Lk 9:43b-45
Next Sunday:	Ez 18:25-28/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Phil 2:1-11 or 2:1-5/Mt 21:28-32



Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Matthew 20:1-16

Every December, the priests of my diocese gather for a Christmas dinner with our bishop. Nearly 200 of us in one room: newly ordained and long retired, pastors of large parishes and quiet confessors, men full of energy and others moving more slowly. Some carry visible success; others bear hidden wounds. It is a tapestry of vocations and lives. When the bishop thanks us, I am always moved. For a moment, none of our differences matter. What matters is that we belong to one another.

I usually leave that evening with a deep sense of peace, but also with a sober realization. Nothing drains joy from the vineyard of the Lord faster than comparison. The quiet habit of measuring, ranking, and resenting can creep in even among those who sincerely serve God.

That is what Jesus exposes in today's parable of the workers in the vineyard. The early laborers are not upset because they were treated unjustly; they are angry because others were treated generously. Their resentment blinds them to the gift already in their hands. When the landowner asks, "Are you envious because I am generous?" he names the real wound.

This tension echoes throughout salvation history: the elder brother resenting the prodigal, the faithful servant scorning the latecomer. Jesus does not deny the labor of those who have borne the heat of the day, but he refuses to let God's mercy become a zero-sum game.

In the end, the vineyard's reward is not about fairness but belonging. The joy offered is communion with a generous Father, who delights in gathering early and late, strong and weak, into one household of grace.

— Father John Muir

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

The Why

Sometimes, the Gospel takes everything you think you know about Jesus, throws it in a box, shakes it violently, dumps it on the floor, looks you in the eye and says: "Clean it up."

And there you are, picking up the pieces, wondering how, after 2,000 years, someone can still keep you guessing.

Today is one of those Gospels. We know Jesus as a champion of the poor. We envision him as a social justice warrior. And now he's advocating for time theft in the workplace? Make it make sense.

Well, at its heart, today's Gospel is a story about who gets what. A story about comparison, which we are told is the thief of joy — but without comparison, nothing would ever get done. In this world, wages are set, court cases are settled, international borders are drawn, all by comparing one entity to another and evaluating that comparison to make a judgment.

What this Gospel doesn't tell us is the "why." The workers who labored longest in the vineyard feel cheated because those who showed up later earn the same wage. This would be egregious — unless we consider that the only criteria used in the comparison is the length of the work day's duration. Quality and efficiency of work is never even mentioned. For all we know, those all-day workers could have been standing around fanning themselves, and should feel lucky to get what they did.

"Why" is a question we ask a lot in this life. Why did my dad die? Why did I get cancer? Why did my husband lose his job? As we pick up the pieces of today's Gospel, we should ask ourselves this: when we know what we know about Who decides who gets what, do we have to know the "why?"

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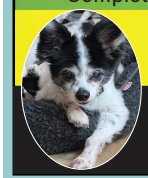

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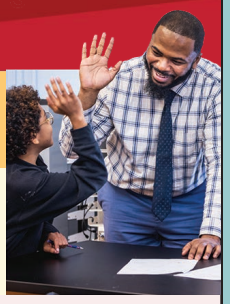

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