The Churches of The Guardian Angels and Saint Nicholas

215 Second Street West, Chaska, MN 55318 • www.gachaska.org • (952) 227-4000 412 Fourth Street West, Carver, MN 55315 • www.stnicholascarver.org • (952) 448-2345

Office Hours

Monday: 8:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m. Tuesday: 8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m. Wednesday: 8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m. Thursday: 8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m. Friday: 8:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.

Guardian Angels Staff

Parish Office Front Desk:

info@gachaska.org 952-227-4000

Father Tony VanderLoop, Pastor:

frtonyvanderloop@gachaska.org (952) 679-9415

Deacon John Cleveland:

jcleveland@gachaska.org

Joel Swanson, Business Administrator/ Safe Environment Coordinator:

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Brittany Kaufmann, Director of Music and Liturgy:

bkaufmann@gachaska.org (952) 466-6969

Fran Oprosko, Director of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry:

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Viviana Sotro, Latino Ministry Coordinator:

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Bulletin:

bulletin@gachaska.org

Prayer Chain:

prayer@gachaska.org

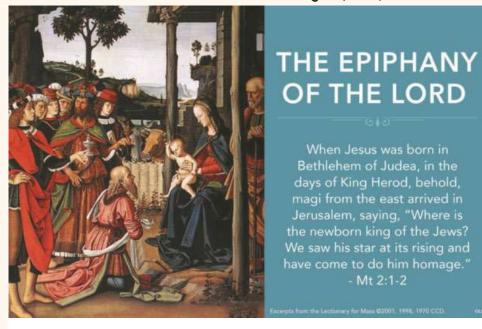
Saint Nicholas Staff Father Tony VanderLoop, Pastor:

frtonyvanderloop@gachaska.org (952) 679-9415

Joel Swanson, Business Administrator/ Safe Environment Coordinator:

jswanson@gachaska.org (952) 227-4001

Father Jim Devorak, Retired



January 7th, 2024

Weekly Liturgy Schedule / Horario de Misas

Sunday Masses:

Saturday: 4:30 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. at Saint Nicholas Sunday: 12:30 p.m. in Spanish

Daily Masses:

Tuesday: 5:30 p.m. Wednesday: 8:00 a.m. Thursday: 8:00 a.m. Friday: 6:00 p.m.

bilingual at Saint Nicholas

Reconciliation:

Saturday: 8:00 -8:45 a.m. Saturday: 3:15 -4:15 p.m. Or by appointment

Eucharistic Adoration:

Thursday: 8:30 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

Misas dominicales:

Sábado: 4:30 p.m.

Domingo: 8:00 a.m. / 10:00 a.m. Domingo: 12:30 p.m. en español

Misas diarias:

Martes: 5:30 p.m. Miércoles: 8:00 a.m. Jueves: 8:00 a.m. Viernes: 6:00 p.m.

bilingüe en San Nicolás

Reconciliación:

Sábado: 8:00-8:45 a.m. Sábado: 3:15-4:15 p.m.

Adoración Eucarística:

Jueves: 8:30 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

Grupo de Oración

Jueves: 7:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m.

Guardian Angels Lay Leadership Positions

Dan Bergner, Trustee: (952) 367-7432 **Kris Janey, Trustee:** (612) 325-9284

Leo Forner, Facilities Council Chair: (952) 448-3312 Steve Rasmussen, Cemetery Board Chair: (952) 227-4000 Scott Guillemette, Finance Council Chair: (952) 227-4000 Bill Van Hecke, Pastoral Council Chair: (612) 812-8615

Saint Nicholas Lay Leadership Positions

JoAnn Hasse, Cemetery: (612) 708-4118

Darlene Mahowald, Prayer Chain/Funeral: (952) 448-4464 John Turek, Trustee, Finance/Property Chair: (952) 448-2345

Dan Svoboda, Trustee: (952) 448-2345

Prayer Garden: (952) 913-4964

BULLETIN SUBMITTALS

Please submit announcements, feature articles, or event summaries for the bulletin for Guardian Angels or St. Nicholas by email at bulletin@gachaska.org by 12 p.m. the Tuesday before. Photographs must be in .jpg format.

ENVÍOS AL BOLETÍN

Si tiene algo que enviar para el boletín de Guardian Angels o St. Nicholas, envíe un correo electrónico a bulltin@gachaska.org antes de las 12:00 p.m. el martes anterior. Fotografía debe estar en formato .jpg.

GET THE BULLETIN EMAILED DIRECTLY TO YOU!

Did you know that you can get this bulletin sent to your email inbox? You can! Text GACHASKA to 84576, add your email address, and join the "Bulletin" group.

RECIBE EL BOLETÍN POR CORREO ELECTRÓNICO ¡DIRECTAMENTE A USTED!

¿Sabías que puedes recibir este boletín en tu bandeja de entrada de correo electrónico? ¡Puedes! Envíe un mensaje de texto con GACHASKA al 84576, agregue su dirección de correo electrónico y únase al grupo "Boletín".

ANOINTING

If you wish to receive an anointing please call the Parish Office: (952) 227-4000.

HOSPITAL, NURSING HOME, AND HOMEBOUND VISITS

Churches are no longer notified by hospitals or nursing homes when a parishioner is admitted unless the family has requested it. If you or a family member are homebound, hospitalized or in a nursing home and would like a visit from a member of the ministry staff, please call the Parish Office.

Church Calendar

Monday, January 8th

4:00 p.m. Huskies Basketball, Gym

6:00 p.m. Daughters of Isabella Meeting, St. Francis Hall

Tuesday, January 9th

4:00 p.m. Huskies Basketball, Gym

5:30 p.m. Mass, ⊕ Delbert and Dorlene Pauly

6:30 p.m. Small Group Practicum, St. Francis Hall

7:00 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal, Choir Loft

Wednesday, January 10th

8:00 a.m. Mass, ⊕ Dianne Eiden

6:00 p.m. Beef and Sausage Dinner Planning, Gym

6:15 p.m. Encounter Faith Formation, Campus-wide

Thursday, January 11th

Friday, January 12th

6:00 p.m. Mass, & Bill and Mary Meyer

Saturday, January 13th

8:00 a.m. Reconciliation, GA Church

9:00 a.m. First Reconciliation Retreat

3:00 p.m. Youth Choir Rehearsal, Choir Loft

3:15 p.m. Reconciliation, GA Church

4:00 p.m. Cursillo: Ultreya, St. Francis Hall

Sunday, January 14th

8:00 a.m. Mass, For the People

9:00 a.m. Coffee and Donuts, Mystery!

11:00 a.m. Coffee and Donuts, Mystery!

10:00 a.m. Mass (SN)

Mass Intentions:

Mass intentions may be for the living and/or the departed, with a \oplus designating in the bulletin a deceased person. There is a \$10 suggested donation per Mass intention. Permission from the sick person or his/her family must be granted before a name's inclusion in these prayers. To schedule a Mass intention, please call the Parish Office.

Baptism:

Our Baptism Belonging Class is required for all parents as a first step to Baptism of your child. Please call Father Tony VanderLoop, Pastor, at 952-679-9415 to sign up for a class. We encourage Godparents to attend. Baptisms are scheduled once per month after the 10:00 a.m. Sunday Mass. Special dates requested for Baptism will be considered and accommodated depending on circumstances.

Matrimony:

Marriage preparation is required. Please call Father Tony VanderLoop, Pastor, at 952-679-9415 at least 8 months in advance.

Communion for the Homebound:

When we come together to pray at our Eucharistic liturgy, we do not forget the members of our community who are unable to be with us because of ill health. We remember them in our prayers, and we wish to include them in our Holy Communion. Members of our community bring the Blessed Sacrament to them to comfort them and to unite us in the Eucharist. We are not always aware of those who have this need. Please call the Parish Office to let us know if you or a member of your family would like to have Holy Communion brought to them. Then we can schedule a time for our ministers to visit and bring the Sacrament.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 (see 11)/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

Monday: Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 (3)/1 Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7-

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Mk 1:21-28 Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/ Mk 1:29-39

Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/Mk 1:40-45 Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/Mk 2:1-12 Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk 2:13-17

Next Sunday: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Ps 40:2, 4 7-8, 8-9, 10 (8a, 9a)/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/Jn 1:35-42

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Domingo: Is 60, 1-6/Sal 71, 1-2. 7-8. 10-11. 12-13 (ver 11)/Ef 3, 2-3. 5-6/Mt 2, 1-12

Lunes: Is 55, 1-11/Is 12, 2-3. 4. 5-6 (3)/1 Jn 5, 1-9/Mc 1, 7-11 Martes: 1 Sm 1, 9-20/1 Sm 2, 1. 4-5. 6-7. 8/Mc 1, 21-28 Miércoles: 1 Sm 3, 1-10. 19-20/Sal 39, 2 y 5. 7-8. 8-9. 10/Mc 1, 29-39

Jueves: 1 Sm 4, 1-11/Sal 43, 10-11. 14-15. 24-25/Mc 1, 40-45 Viernes: 1 Sm 8, 4-7. 10-22/Sal 88, 16-17. 18-19/Mc 2, 1-12 Sábado: 1 Sm 9, 1-4. 17-19; 10, 1/Sal 20, 2-3. 4-5. 6-7/Mc 2, 13-17

Domingo siguiente: 1 Sm 3, 3-10. 19/Sal 39, 2. 4 7-8. 8-9. 10 (8. 9)/1 Cor 6, 13-15. 17-20/Jn 1, 35-42

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE



The three wise men who came from the East to pay homage to the infant Jesus brought Him rich gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh as part of their worship. What gifts have I brought to this celebration to offer to the newborn Savior?

Year-To-Date 7/1/23—1/2/24

	Guardian Angels	St. Nicholas
Budget	\$381,807	\$30,699
Sunday Collection	\$16,458	\$648
Contributions	\$3,538	\$1,000
Total Giving	\$365,852	\$32,812
Amount above or below	-\$15.955	+\$2.113

Maintenance Expenses Paid 7/1/23 to Date:

Friary Doors (1/3 down), Church Fence (2nd half), Repair Sanctuary/Sacristy windows, replace furnace room windows, church boilers (95% Pd), Gym Lights

Guardian Angels Maintenance Fund:

7/1/23—10/31/23 Contributions: \$25,038 7/1/23—10/31/23 Expenses: \$118,510.91 Fund Balance: \$88,729

Please remember the Church of the Guardian Angels or Saint Nicholas in your Will.

THE MEANING OF EPIPHANY



I recall many years ago being very surprised to learn from a letter that I received from a sponsored child in Ethiopia that his family and his country celebrates Christmas on January 6th. I later realized that in Ethiopia and other countries, particularly with Eastern Orthodox tradition, the day of Epiphany includes the celebration of the Nativity. Are these days the same? Did the Magi arrive that night along with the Shepherds? How exactly are these two celebrations connected? The beginning of Chapter 2 of the Gospel according to Matthew makes the timing clearer for us. It says that "when Jesus was born" the Magi arrived in

Jerusalem asking, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews?" Then they first met with Herod before following the star to the birthplace of Jesus. Regardless of exactly when the Magi arrived to see the newborn king the celebration of God's Epiphany has a rich history that is intertwined with Christmas.

The word Epiphany means "to show" or to "make known" or even "to reveal." In terms of our Christian understanding, an epiphany is a manifestation of Christ's glory and divinity. So, in our early Church history, the feast of "epiphanies" was celebrated as a commemoration of many events that revealed the glory of God: the Nativity, the visit of the Magi, Our Lord's Baptism, and the Miracle at the Wedding Feast at Cana. This tradition developed primarily in the East and was introduced in the West after the celebration of the Nativity took root. Therefore, the Church in the West celebrated Nativity and Epiphany in two distinct celebrations, while in the East, the celebration of these events occurred as one holiday. Eventually, at Jerusalem, a tradition developed that on the eve of Epiphany, groups of pilgrims would leave each night from one or another Church in the holy city to Bethlehem and return the next day. This would go on for several days. Traditions like this led to a much closer tie in the celebration of Epiphany to our Savior's birth, of his Baptism, and the miracle at Cana. Then, in the Western Church, the date of the celebration of the Nativity was decided to be December 25th in order to coincide with the pagan celebration of the birthday of the sun at the winter solstice. This transfer was believed to have given rise to the twelve days of Christmas.

All of this history sheds light on the true meaning of Epiphany: God has revealed his glory! That the Magi could be led by a star reveals that God is intimately involved in our lives and has come to save us! That God could continue to show signs of his great love in moments like Jesus' baptism and reveal the love of the Trinity to us is meant to gladden our hearts, give us joy and peace, and give us resolve to follow the one who leads us to salvation!

Father Tony

PRO-LIFE PRESENTATION—ALL ARE WELCOME!

Thursday, January 11th, 6:30 p.m., St. Francis Hall Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life (MCCL) will offer a brief pro-life presentation about new anti-life laws that threaten unborn babies, and what we can do to build a pro-life culture. The meeting will be held on Thursday, January 11st at 6:30 p.m. in St. Francis Hall. For more information, visit mccl.org/12K

DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA MEETING

The Daughters of Isabella will meet in St. Francis Hall, Monday, Jan. 8th 6 p.m. social hour, 6:30 meeting.

PIANO IN NEED OF NEW HOME

For decades, the piano in the gym has provided memories for many parishioners. From school concerts to piano lessons it has been a cherished item at our parish. Today, the piano is now looking for a retirement home. It is starting to show its age in scratches, dents, and significant chips, but still has the same heart on the inside. This piano would be best for someone who likes restoring old pianos or someone who would like a piano who doesn't mind doing a little bit of work.

Free to a parishioner or loving home. Pickup only.



CUT-OUT ON ADVERTIZING PAGE

Some of you may have noticed that there is a new "ad" on the back page. It is not actually an ad, but a cut-out that you may use to show appreciation. Whenever you patronize a business on the back of the bulletin, you may cut out the "Thank You" box and present it. This shows the business owners that they made good use of their advertising budget by advertising in our bulletin.

RETIREMENT FUND FOR THE RELIGIOUS

Our women and men religious offer gratitude. A sister shares, "I thank the Lord for all who give. I don't think we would make it without them." Thank you for giving to the Retirement Fund for Religious last week. Your donation makes a difference in the lives of elderly women and men religious. To learn more about how your gift helps, visit retiredreligious.org.

JOIN US FOR DINNER!

Guess Who's Coming to Dinner is for all parishioners new, old, married, single, ages 21 and up. It is designed to promote and strengthen our parish community by providing an opportunity to get to know those familiar faces we see each week at Mass and at parish events.

If you sign up as a guest participant, you will be assigned to attend a dinner with one of our parishioner hosts in their home. Last year was our first year and everyone had a great time meeting new people, laughing with old friends, and enjoying a variety of dinners with the hosts. Special considerations and assignments will be made if you have allergies to food or pets or if you have mobility concerns. And, if you need a ride we have volunteers for that too! We don't want you to miss out on the fun!

If you sign up as a host—your meal can be simple or formal; potluck, buffet, or family style—you need only provide the main dish and beverages. Guests may be asked to bring a dish to share or you can host the whole meal. It is up to you!

I am looking for Hosts and Guests for our next dinner event on Saturday, Jan. 20th at 6:30 p.m. Won't you join us?

Please contact Laurie Forner, (612) 201-7002 or Iforner2@gmail.com if you have questions or would like to participate as a host or as a guest. If you participated in the past, please note that you can attend as often as you wish and you do not have to host to participate.

BEEF AND SAUSAGE DINNER PLANNING

Calling all men in the parish: we will hold a Beef and Sausage Dinner planning meeting on Wednesday, January 10th at 6:00 p.m. in the Guardian Angels gymnasium for our February 11th dinner. Enter through the main gym doors adjacent to 1st Street. Please help us plan this year's event!

OUR CHRISTMAS WISH LIST

We know that it is a bit after Christmas, but at least our wish list is only one item. Would you be willing to donate to The Church of the Guardian Angel's livestream improvement project?

Each week, Guardian Angels records and streams the 10:00 a.m. Sunday Mass as well as some Holy Days and funerals, etc. The recorded Masses are then available for viewing any time on the parish's YouTube channel linked at our website www.gachaska.org. This ministry helps bring our Masses to the Homebound and family and friends who might not be able to attend a funeral or a wedding.

For the past four years we have been using aging, reused videocams and other equipment that are starting to become unreliable. But now, we have sourced the following equipment that is modern, reliable and affordable:

2 Pan, Tilt, Zoom Cameras able to be remotely controlled \$2,600.00 1 Keyboard/Joystick to control the cameras \$1,250.00

With this equipment, the livestreamer will be able to remotely control the cameras (while singing in the choir) and generate tighter and more professional shots that can be aired on our YouTube channel.

Furthermore, we are working with the city of Chaska to air the Mass on one of the local cable access channels so that those without a computer can simply tune into the Mass on television. This is so important to be able to do and we need reliable and updated cameras in order to do it!

Would you be able to make a donation to this worthwhile project? Thanks to some generous donors, we have already been able to collect money needed for some additional accessories. There is also a donor that is challenging you, the parishioners, with a \$750.00 matching gift. This means that your donation doubles!

Thank you for considering donating to this worthwhile project that will very much help those who cannot come to Mass.

MARCH FOR LIFE: ADULTS AND FAMILY

January 18-21, Washington D.C.

For the first time in recent memory, the Archdiocese is offering a pilgrimage to Washington D.C. for adults and families to attend the National March for Life as well as the trip for high school youth. Though Roe vs. Wade was overturned in June 2022, abortion access is expanding in many states. It is a great tragedy that despite the victory in the Supreme Court, many politicians still support this grave evil. Through this trip we can stand in opposition on the national stage and tell everyone how each life is sacred, from conception to natural death. Go to archspm.org/marchforlife for more information.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO LIVE MORE BY THE HOLY SPIRIT?

January 12-13 at St. Rose of Lima, Roseville January 19-20 at Our Lady of the Lake, Mound

In response to the Archbishop's Pastoral Letter, Father Michael Becker who is the Vicar of Charisms and the Office of Synod Evangelization invites you to a <u>Life in the Spirit Seminar</u> at The Church of Our Lady of the Lake in Mound. It will take place Friday evening and Saturday, January 19th and 20th. This is a tremendous opportunity to grow in your faith. Please pick up a flyer in the back of church in order to sign up and for more information. Or, send an email message to communications@ourladyofthelake.com

CURSILLO ULTREYA

Saturday, January 13th, St. Francis Hall

The Cursillo Wester Ultreya meets at Guardian Angels on the 2nd Saturday of each month. Our next gathering is Saturday, January 13th, after the 4:30 p.m. Mass.

Whether you have participated in the Cursillo 3-day experience or you are just curious, please join us!

We invite you for a potluck after our 4:30 p.m. Mass. We eat about 5:30 p.m. in St. Francis Hall. At 6:30 p.m., we will have our Ultreya. During this time we enjoy songs, a reading from scripture, and a speaker will share a brief witness to their faith. We will also have time for prayer and time to share in small groups. We close before 8 p.m.

Contact Ken at (612) 201-7449 or Laurie (612) 201-7002 (text or call) for more information.

THANK YOU

A big thank you to Gary Klingelhutz for fixing the bell ringer on the Antique Franciscan Chapel by the stable. It has been set out at Christmas since at least 1939. Now the kiddies can drop in a coin and hear the bell ring.

LAUDATE DEUM STUDY SESSION

Monday, January 22nd, 12:30-1 p.m. or Thursday, January 25th, 6:30-8 p.m.

The Laudato Si' Movement Chapter of Minnesota will be hosting Laudate Deum reading groups in January as a precursor to Lent. Laudate Deum is an Apostolic Exhortation released on October 4th, 2023 addressing the need for urgency in addressing climate issues. There will be two study groups for Laudate Deum. If interested in this study group, please fill out the form on the archspm website by January 19th.

FIND YOUR COMMUNITY THIS NEW YEAR!

If you make a resolution to take the next step in your faith journey, you won't be alone. Our parish is launching a new small group ministry this Lent to become, as Pope Francis suggests, "a community of communities." Group leaders from our parish have been praying and preparing for months to welcome you into a small faith community that meets you wherever you are on your faith journey.

But, give me three good reasons to join a small group.

Challenge accepted! Our parish is launching a small group ministry that will:

- 1. Foster personal relationships
- 2. Build community
- 3. Provide formation, so we all may grow as faithful missionary disciples of Christ

Joining a small group will be easy! Look for more information soon as we will have sign-up on Sunday January 20th and 21st.

MIRIAM DINNER

Wednesday, January 24th, 6-8 p.m., Archdiocesan Catholic Center, St. Paul

Archbishop Bernard Hebda, Bishop Michael Izen, and Father David Blume, director of vocations invite women ages 16-35 who are discerning consecrated life. It is typical for women discerners to be accompanied by their pastor, consecrated religious, or youth minister. The evening begins with prayer, followed by dinner with consecrated women sharing their vocations testimonies.

Priests, deacons, and consecrated women in the Archdiocese are encouraged to invite women, ages 16-35, who present a sincere interest in consecrated life.

Register at 10000vocations.org/miriam-dinner.html

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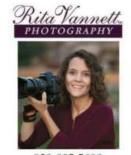
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