

# The Churches of The Guardian Angels and Saint Nicholas

215 Second Street West, Chaska, MN 55318 • [www.gachaska.org](http://www.gachaska.org) • (952) 227-4000

412 Fourth Street West, Carver, MN 55315 • [www.stnicholascarver.org](http://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](mailto:info@gachaska.org)

952-227-4000

### Father Tony VanderLoop, Pastor:

[frtonyvanderloop@gachaska.org](mailto:frtonyvanderloop@gachaska.org)

(952) 679-9415

### Deacon John Cleveland:

[jcleveland@gachaska.org](mailto:jcleveland@gachaska.org)

### Joel Swanson, Business Administrator:

[jswanson@gachaska.org](mailto:jswanson@gachaska.org)

(952) 227-4001

### Brittany Kaufmann, Director of Music and Liturgy:

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(952) 466-6969

### Fran Oprosko, Director of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry:

[foprosko@gachaska.org](mailto:foprosko@gachaska.org)

(952) 466-6984

### Viviana Sotro, Latino Ministry

#### Coordinator:

[vsotro@gachaska.org](mailto:vsotro@gachaska.org)

(952) 227-4010

#### Bulletin:

[bulletin@gachaska.org](mailto:bulletin@gachaska.org)

#### Prayer Chain:

[prayer@gachaska.org](mailto:prayer@gachaska.org)

## Saint Nicholas Staff

### Father Tony VanderLoop, Pastor:

[frtonyvanderloop@gachaska.org](mailto:frtonyvanderloop@gachaska.org)

(952) 679-9415

### Joel Swanson, Business Administrator:

[jswanson@gachaska.org](mailto:jswanson@gachaska.org)

(952) 227-4001

Father Jim Devorak, Retired



## 25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Are you envious because I  
am generous?” Thus, the  
last will be first, and  
the first will be last.”  
- Mt 20:15-16

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

## September 24th, 2023

## 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](mailto: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 [bulletin@gachaska.org](mailto:bulletin@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, September 25th

### Tuesday, September 26th

5:30 p.m. Mass, † MaryAnn Stacken  
7:00 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal, GA Choir Loft

### Wednesday, September 27th

8:00 a.m. Mass, † Deceased Family Members of Jim and Steph Smyth  
5:30 p.m. Altar Server Training and Review, GA Church  
6:15 p.m. Faith Formation, GA Campus-wide \*Family Night\*

### Thursday, September 28th

8:00 a.m. Mass, † Leon E. VanDenBroeke  
8:30 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration, GA Church  
5:00 p.m. Fall Festival Tent Set-up, Playground and Parking Lot  
6:30 p.m. Small Group Leader Formation, St. Francis Hall

### Friday, September 29th

9:00 a.m. Fall Festival Decorating and Set-up, Playground and Parking Lot  
3:00 p.m. Fall Festival Decorating and Set-up, Playground and Parking Lot  
6:00 p.m. Mass (SN), † Clarence and Caroline Lenzmeier

### Saturday, September 30th

8:00 a.m. Reconciliation, GA Church  
9:00 a.m. Fall Festival Final Prep, Playground and Parking Lot  
12:00 p.m. Fall Festival, Playground, Parking Lot, Street  
3:15 p.m. Reconciliation, GA Church  
4:30 p.m. Mass, † Vic and Cole Carlson

### Sunday, October 1st

8:00 a.m. Mass,  
9:00 a.m. Fall Festival Take-down, Playground and Parking Lot  
9:00 a.m. Coffee and Donuts, St. Francis Hall  
10:00 a.m. Mass,  
11:00 a.m. Coffee and Donuts, St. Francis Hall  
10:00 a.m. Mass (SN),  
12:30 p.m. Mass (Spanish), For the People

### Mass Intentions:

Mass intentions may be for the living and/or the departed, with a ☩ 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 55:6-9/Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18 (18a)/Phil 1:20c-24, 27a/Mt 20:1-16a  
 Monday: Ezr 1:1-6/Ps 126:1b-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6/Lk 8:16-18  
 Tuesday: Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/Lk 8:19-21  
 Wednesday: Ezr 9:5-9/Tb 13:2, 3-4a, 4befghn, 7-8/Lk 9:1-6  
 Thursday: Hg 1:1-8/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/Lk 9:7-9  
 Friday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 4-5/Jn 1:47-51  
 Saturday: Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a/Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13/Lk 9:43b-45  
 Next Sunday: Ez 18:25-28/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9, (6a)/Phil 2:1-11 or 2:1-5/Mt 21:28-32

### LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Domingo: Is 55, 6-9/Sal 144, 2-3. 8-9. 17-18 (18)/Flp 1, 20-24. 27/Mt 20, 1-16  
 Lunes: Esd 1, 1-6/Sal 125, 1-2. 2-3. 4-5. 6/Lc 8, 16-18  
 Martes: Esd 6, 7-8. 12. 14-20/Sal 121, 1-2. 3-4. 4-5/Lc 8, 19-21  
 Miércoles: Esd 9, 5-9/Tob 13, 2. 3-4. 4. 7-8/Lc 9, 1-6  
 Jueves: Ag 1, 1-8/Sal 149, 1-2. 3-4. 5-6 y 9/Lc 9, 7-9  
 Viernes: Dn 7, 9-10. 13-14 o Ap 12, 7-12/Sal 137, 1-2. 2-3. 4-5/Jn 1, 47-51  
 Sábado: Zac 2, 5-9. 14-15/Jr 31, 10. 11-12. 13/Lc 9, 43-45  
 Domingo siguiente: Ez 18, 25-28/Sal 24, 4-5. 6-7. 8-9. (6)/Flp 2, 1-11 o 2, 1-5/Mt 21, 28-32

## STEWARDSHIP UPDATE



In today's Gospel, the vineyard owner says, "I am free to do as I please with my money, am I not?" We are likewise free. Is a generous return to the Lord in thanksgiving for His many blessings among the choices we have made?

### Maintenance Expenses Paid 7/1/23 to Date:

Friary Doors (1/3 down), Church Fence (2nd half)

### Year-To-Date 7/1/23—9/18/23

	Guardian Angels	St. Nicholas
Budget	\$169,692	\$13,644
Sunday Collection	\$13,718	\$816
Contributions	N/A	N/A
Total Giving	\$137,391	\$14,456
Amount above or below	-\$32,301	+\$812

### Guardian Angels Maintenance Fund:

7/1/23—08/31/23 Contributions:	\$10,440
7/1/23—08/31/23 Expenses:	\$7,112
Fund Balance:	\$177,580

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

## WALKING IN FAITH TOGETHER

This week at Guardian Angels we kick off the Archdiocesan Synod Small Group Leader Training. We are grateful for the almost twenty-five people who are joining the training and discernment process to learn more about Archbishop Hebda's dream of parishes filled with small groups. These groups will create a parish of individuals supporting each other and learning together to live out our faith in community as Jesus intended.

Recently, I was talking to another parishioner before Mass and we both commented that with the recent discussions of Synod small groups, a previous initiative of the late 80's, came up several times: RENEW.

RENEW groups were small groups of parishioners who met in each other's homes, with a focus on specific readings and topics, and the goal of sharing our insights and prayer with each other. Why is that memory still strong? It was because it had an impact on many of us, friendships were developed, and we were united in our mission as Christians. For me this activity helped me feel welcome as a new parishioner after I married my husband, Ken. It allowed me to get to know many people on a deeper level, in a more significant way than just a "Hello" at Mass. The RENEW small groups introduced me to many other parishioners and provided an opportunity for me to gain experience from them, be inspired by their insights, and pray together. These small group sharing sessions helped me to make friends, to understand and grow more in my faith, and cemented my sense of belonging to the GA Family.

Since 2002 I have consistently met with a small group of Catholic women on a weekly basis. The group members have changed a bit over time yet these intentional and faith centered friendships have allowed me to experience a more holistic or complete friendship, not only socially, but spiritually... discussing our prayer lives, scripture, or other spiritual books, our service for others, our "Holy Spirit" moments when we feel close to God, and our challenges. Our regular sharing with each other with God at the center has provided inspiration, knowledge, and encouragement and has been a catalyst for change in my life and in my relationship with Jesus. It is one of my most cherished hours of the week.

When I reached out to others at our parish asking if they had also benefitted from a small faith sharing group, I received several positive comments. Here is a sampling:

"When I was a young mom, I had a great small group experience with Familia. I had been going to ECFE classes, but I was looking for more. In this group, I found the support of other Catholic moms who were trying their best to pass along the faith to our children and grow in our own faith. This small group was an important experience for me." Cathy

"My participation in a small group for the last 21 years has been foundational to my deepening faith. Close relationships with Jesus and my peers are the fruits of this investment." Ken

"If you asked me several years ago if I thought that being in a small group in which faith sharing was the norm would leave a great impression on my life, I probably would've replied something along the lines of "no", "that seems unlikely", or even "I doubt it would have any significant impact at all". But now I can tell you that I could not have even comprehended the kinds of grace, friendships, and support I would encounter through God and the people I met in small groups. We are not made to trek alone in our faith journey, and while you can dig in your heels and try, you will find it to be a far easier and lighter load when you travel with your brothers and sisters in Christ..." Karie

Pope Francis, in his encyclical, *On Fraternity and Social Friendship [Fratelli Tutti]*, no. 87 says, "Human beings are so made that they cannot live, develop, and find fulfillment except 'in the sincere gift of self to others.' Nor can they fully know themselves apart from an encounter with other persons: 'I communicate effectively with myself only insofar as I communicate with others.' No one can experience the true beauty of life without relating to others, without having real faces to love. This is part of the mystery of authentic human existence.

In Archbishop Hebda's letter, he states: The first "foot-washing" action I will be asking our parishes to take, through the work of their Synod Evangelization Teams, will be to begin the process of creating or growing a small group ministry that fosters personal relationships, builds community, and provides formation to help parishioners grow as joyful missionary disciples of Christ.

The Synod Evangelization Team at Guardian Angels is here to assist Father Tony and prayerfully support the development and growth of a small group ministry so we as a parish can walk in faith together.

"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Matthew 18:15-20.



Saturday  
September 30<sup>th</sup>

12:00-8:00PM

### FOOD

- Hamburgers
- Hotdogs
- Fresh-cut French Fries
- Authentic Homemade Latino Food

### BEER & WINE

## CAR/TRUCK SHOW

- Ca\$h Raffle
  - Kids' Games & Prizes
  - Youth Praise & Worship
  - Latino Folk Dance Exhibitions
  - Crafts, Silent Auction,
  - 4:30 Catholic Mass
  - DJ/Karaoke
- Featuring Classic Rock, Classic Country and Old-time



[www.Gachaska.org](http://www.Gachaska.org)

## YOUTH CHOIR

The Guardian Angels Youth Choir is for young people in Grades 4-10. This choir sings for the 4:30 Mass on the first Saturday of the month, along with a few special days including Christmas Eve. Our first Mass will be on October 7<sup>th</sup>. For more information or to sign up, contact Brittany Kaufmann at [bkaufmann@gachaska.org](mailto:bkaufmann@gachaska.org).

## SERRA LUNCH

Learn more about supporting vocations, come for lunch Friday, Oct. 13. Are you concerned about having enough religious vocations in the future? Please come and learn about The Serra Club of SW Metro Twin Cities. We support religious vocations and encourage those pursuing vocations through individual and group activities and prayer. On Friday, October 13th, we will meet at Our Lady of Grace in Edina. Join us for part or all of the gathering. 11 a.m. Rosary for vocations, 11:25 Mass, Noon luncheon, and meeting.

Please RSVP to Judy Cozzens: [jcozzens@msn.com](mailto:jcozzens@msn.com) or call/text to (303) 941-3965.

## FALL FESTIVAL BASKET DONATIONS

The Daughters of Isabella will have a Silent Auction at the Fall Festival again this year. We are requesting that anyone who can donate something to bid on (such as restaurants, stores, etc.), please bring the item to the Parish Office marked D of I Fall Festival. We would also appreciate items with a theme (such as movie, children's basket, sports, etc.) for baskets. We will assemble baskets or you can do it. We would really appreciate any help you can give. Again, please bring items to the Parish Office, marked D of I Fall Festival. Thank you for considering this appeal. All proceeds from the Silent Auction are given to the church.

## ALTAR SERVING

Guardian Angels is looking for more altar servers! Anyone Grades 4-12 can join to serve in this ministry. Parents will have the ability to choose which weekend Mass your family is able to attend. Remaining training dates this fall are as follows:

5. Wednesday, October 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m.

6. Wednesday, October 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m.

New altar servers are required to go to 3 training sessions.

Attention current servers! You are required to attend one training session for review!

## GUARDIAN ANGELS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SEEKS FALL FESTIVAL DONATIONS

Please consider donating "Spirits" to the Alumni Booth at the Fall Festival. Please bring your donations to the Parish Office.

## THANK YOU!

Thank you to everybody who helped with the Saint Nicholas Pancake Breakfast. There is some sausage left over available for purchase. First come first serve.

The breakfast and bake sale yielded \$1,376 for St. Nicholas.



**Please visit the  
Welcome Desk to sign  
up to volunteer at the  
Fall Festival!**

We need prizes! Lots of prizes like bottles of pop, nail polish, or the all-time favorite cheese balls!

Please leave items in the boxes marked  
“Bottle Blast” in the back of Church.



October is Respect Life Month: Please consider more deeply why every human life is valuable and reflect on how to build a culture that protects life from conception to natural death. Take a moment each day to say the following prayer and add the Memorare Prayer: *“That the life of every person, from conception to natural death, will be protected in our laws and cherished in our hearts.”*

(Project Rachel: 651-291-4515)

**The Memorare Prayer**

Remember, most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help or sought thy intercession, was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, we fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins my Mother; to thee do we come, before thee we stand, sinful and sorrowful; O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not our petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer them. Amen.

**World Needs Fatima Rosary in the Park**

Join us on Saturday, October 14, 12 noon at the Chaska City Gazebo to participate in the World needs Fatima Rosary. We would love to have a huge turnout!!





## G.A. ANNUAL APPLE CRISP WEEKEND

*October 6th-8th*

We are in need of donated apples and workers to peel apples and bake apple crisp. Join the fun Friday the 6th at 3 p.m. in the school kitchen to peel apples and Saturday the 7th at 8 a.m. to bake. Early Bird sale starts at 11 a.m. Saturday in the gym. This event is eligible for a matching grant from Catholic United Financial of up to \$1000.

Call Tina at (952) 448-7569 to donate apples.

Local Catholic United Financial Sale Representative  
Team Countryside: (763) 656-8603

Local Catholic United Sales Rep Bill McMullen  
1-800-568-6670



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for Women

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**REGISTERING ONLINE IS EASY!** SIMPLY SCAN QR CODE →  
OR GO TO OUR WEBSITE AT: [SWOPTIONSFORWOMEN.ORG](http://SWOPTIONSFORWOMEN.ORG)



**BE AN EVENT SPONSOR:** Sponsorship Includes: Table of 12, advertising, and two bottles of wine.  
RSVP by September 29, 2023 (after this date, or if you have questions, please call 952-395-6248)



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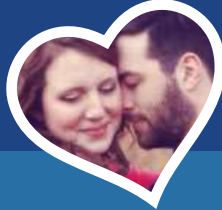
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Hosted by St. Hubert and St. John the Baptist Respect Life Ministries



# Changing Hearts and Minds on Abortion

*An Interactive Workshop*

*Led by*



*September 30, 2023 • 9:00 AM*

**St. Hubert Catholic Church**  
8201 Main St, Chanhassen, MN

*Schedule:*    **Presentation**                      **9:00 - 10:00 AM (Check in at 8:30am)**

**Workshop**                                      **10:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

Learn practical ways to make a difference in the lives of unborn children, and learn three skills to transform your abortion conversations from a debate to a dialogue.

**Lunch**    **12:00 - 12:30 PM**

**Advanced Training**                      **12:30 - 2:30 PM**

Learn how to respond to common pro-choice arguments in a winsome, productive, and Christ-honoring way.

*Register:*    [www.jfaweb.org/register](http://www.jfaweb.org/register)

*Place:*        St. Hubert Catholic Church, 8201 Main St, Chanhassen, MN 55317

*Cost:*         FREE

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## Archbishop's Dream for Our Parish

Archbishop Bernard Hebda has a dream for our parish, and every parish in this Archdiocese: a dream in which all Catholics are in a small group. He dreams such things because being in small groups can help our faith come more fully to life and help us draw closer to Jesus. In the earliest days of the Church, small groups spread the good news of Jesus – and they can do it again today.

**Did you know?** Since January, 16 of your fellow parishioners have been meeting regularly to help make Archbishop's dream of Catholics in small groups a reality: developing a small group ministry right here at Guardian Angels Parish.

If you feel inspired by this or any other aspect of the Archdiocesan Synod process, consider the following action steps:

- (Re)read the Pastoral Letter, "You Will Be My Witnesses," [www.archspm.org/synodletter](http://www.archspm.org/synodletter) (also available via podcast).
- Prayerfully discern participating in Small Group Leader Formation, a FREE seven-week series held **Sept 21 – Nov 9**, right here at our parish, facilitated virtually by Bishop Joseph Williams.
  - Contact **Terry Schepers**, [tschepers@gmail.com](mailto:tschepers@gmail.com) or call 612-599-9901 to learn more or to register.
  - Small Group Training will provide information on successful small group interactions and allow for the discernment of your participation as a small group leader, as support for small group administration or hospitality, or as a group participant.
- Small groups We will kick off small groups at Guardian Angels for Lent 2024. - Watch for details and an invitation to come!

### Small Group Leader Training and Discernment Schedule

Kick Off and Invitation for Small Group Leader Training		
Sept 9, 10	Sat, Sun	All Masses
Synod Leader Training -Small Group Training, Discernment		
Sept 21	Thur	6:30 pm SFH
Sept 28	Thur	6:30 pm SFH
Oct 5	Thur	6:30 pm SFH
Oct 12	Thur	6:30 pm SFH
Oct 26	Thur	6:30 pm SFH
Nov 4	Sat	9:00 am SFH
Nov 9	Thur	6:30 pm SFH



**Your Synod Evangelization Team (SET) at Guardian Angels  
Invites You to Help Make Archbishop Bernard Hebda's Dream Come True**



**You are Invited to Join Us on the Synod Journey!  
Pray for GA's Wholehearted Participation in Synod Small Groups**

Holy Spirit, come like a mighty rushing wind and awaken us out of our complacency, our apathy, our indifference. Disturb us, for we are too content to let things go on as they are, and to let people go on not knowing you. Penetrate the closed gates of our hearts and make us live again. O Holy Spirit, create among us a mighty Christian revolution and cast the fear of the unknow out of our lives.

Authors: Michail Hollings and Etta Gullick



# ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

(Formerly RCIA)



Have you (or a family member or friend) considered becoming Catholic?

Do you have a desire to learn more about the Gospel and the teachings of the Catholic Church?

Do you have a desire to know and love God more?

Do you believe that God is calling you to find your place in His Catholic community?

Maybe time or life circumstances just got in the way and now you (and/or your children) are ready!

We invite you to join OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults).

The Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA) is a process of prayer, learning, and reflection designed for those seeking to become Catholic or those seeking the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, or First Holy Communion as an adult.

The (OCIA) Adapted for Children is designed for those children who have now reached a catechetical age (usually age 7 or older). In this case the parent walks with the child or youth in this process that culminates with sacraments at Easter time.

Through OCIA, the Church invites you to learn more about its rich traditions and deep roots as the family of God. Please call Father Tony VanderLoop at 952-679-9415 or

send him an email at [trtonyvanderloop@gachaska.org](mailto:trtonyvanderloop@gachaska.org). We will also have an inquiry night on Tuesday, September 26th at 6:15-6:45 PM in Saint Francis Hall, which will

give you an opportunity to ask questions and learn more about exploring the possibility of becoming Catholic or returning to the Catholic Church.