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

Deacon Bob Burns:

bburns@gachaska.org

Joel Swanson, Business Administrator/ Safe Environment Coordinator:

jswanson@gachaska.org (952) 227-4001

Meg Garrison, Administrative Assistant:

mgarrison@gachaska.org

(763) 355-6904

Brittany Kaufmann, Director of Music and Liturgy:

bkaufmann@gachaska.org (763) 355-6905

Viviana Sotro, Latino Ministry Coordinator:

vsotro@gachaska.org (952) 227-4010

Bulletin: bulletin@gachaska.org
Prayer Chain: prayer@gachaska.org

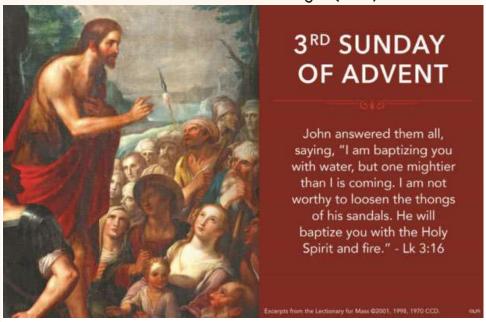
Saint Nicholas Staff Father Tony VanderLoop, Pastor:

frtonyvanderloop@gachaska.org (952) 679-9415

Joel Swanson, Business Administrator/ Safe Environment Coordinator:

jswanson@gachaska.org (952) 227-4001

Father Jim Devorak, Retired



December 15th, 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

Larry Schmid, Trustee: (612) 670-7655 **David Pohlen, Trustee:** (952) 428-9649

Steve Rasmussen, Facilities Council Chair: (612) 802-6442 Francis Kerber, Cemetery Board Chair: (952) 836-5467 Scott Guillemette, Finance Council Chair: (952) 227-4000 Bill Van Hecke, Pastoral Council Chair: (612) 812-8615

Saint Nicholas Lay Leadership Positions

Elaine Ess, Cemetery: (571) 315-4980

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! Call the Parish Office to get signed up.

RECIBE EL BOLETÍN POR CORREO ELECTRÓNICO ¡DIRECTAMENTE A USTED!

¿Sabías que puedes recibir este boletín en tu bandeja de entrada de correo electrónico? ¡Puedes! Llame a la oficina parroquial para registrarse.

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, December 16th

Tuesday, December 17th

5:30 p.m. Mass

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

Wednesday, December 18th

8:00 a.m. Mass

9:00 a.m. Cathy's Small Group, St. Francis Hall 6:30 p.m. Faith Formation, Campus-wide

Thursday, December 19th

8:00 a.m. Mass, ⊕ Ruth and Tony Pass Family

Friday, December 20th

6:00 p.m. Mass (SN), ₽

Saturday, December 21st

6:30 a.m. Father's Group, Room 004

8:00 a.m. Confessions, GA Church

1:00 p.m. Combined Choir Rehearsal, Choir Loft

3:15 p.m. Confessions, GA Church

4:30 p.m. Mass,

Tony & Marie Koll

Sunday, December 22nd

8:00 a.m. Mass, ⊕ Vic & Cole Carlson
9:15 a.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal, Choir Loft
10:00 a.m. Mass, ⊕ Bob and John Worm
10:00 a.m. Mass (SN), For the People
12:30 p.m. Mass (Spanish)

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: Zep 3:14-18a/ls 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 (6)/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9/Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17/Mt 1:1-17 Wednesday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25 Thursday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25

Friday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38

Saturday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21/

Lk 1:39-45

Next Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 (4)/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Domingo: Sof 3, 14-18/Is 12, 2-3. 4. 5-6 (6)/Flp 4, 4-7/Lc 3, 10-18

Lunes: Nm 24, 2-7. 15-17/Sal 24, 4-5. 6 y 7. 8-9/Mt 21, 23-27 Martes: Gn 49, 2. 8-10/Sal 71, 1-2. 3-4. 7-8. 17/Mt 1, 1-17 Miércoles: Jr 23, 5-8/Sal 71, 1-2. 12-13. 18-19/Mt 1, 18-25 Jueves: Jue 13, 2-7. 24-25/Sal 70, 3-4. 5-6. 16-17/Lc 1, 5-25 Viernes: Is 7, 10-14/Sal 23, 1-2. 3-4. 5-6/Lc 1, 26-38 Sábado: Cant 2, 8-14 o Sof 3, 14-18/Sal 32, 2-3. 11-12. 20-21/ Lc 1. 39-45

Domingo siguiente: Miq 5, 1-4/Sal 79, 2-3. 15-16. 18-19 (4)/ Heb 10, 5-10/Lc 1, 39-45

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE



Today's Gospel provides a blueprint for good stewardship: "Let the man who has two coats give to him who has none. The man who has food should do the same."

Maintenance Expenses Paid 7/1/24 to Date:

New A/C Compressor Architectural Fees for School Steps

Year-To-Date 7/1/24-11/18/24

	Guardian Angels	St. Nicholas
Goal, Year-to-Date	\$300,012	\$27,761
Last Sunday's Collection	\$11,545	\$1,245
Total Giving YTD	\$246,845	\$27,281
Percent of Goal Funded	82%	98%

Guardian Angels Maintenance Fund:

Contributions this fiscal year:	\$23,532
Expenses this fiscal year:	\$44,457
Fund Balance:	\$109,433

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

WHAT IS ADVENT AND WHY IS IT SO IMPORTANT FOR US?

Happy New Year! No, it is not January 1st, 2025, yet. But the liturgical year begins with Advent. The term "Advent" is derived from the Latin word *adventus* which means "coming," and it focuses not only on the coming of Jesus in history on the first Christmas, but also on the future coming of Jesus at the end of the world, when he will come to judge the living and the dead.

We often hear in our first readings from the prophet Isaiah, who announces that God will come like a bud blossoming on a tree, and that he will lift a veil that veils all peoples, and he will bring good tidings to the poor, and make the deaf hear, the lame walk, and the blind see. These are indeed great promises and beautiful images of God's coming. We want to be fascinated by the fact that God has come to dwell among us, His people.

But we also, in our fascination that God could come among us, want to be prepared and found ready and waiting when He comes. We hear in our Advent gospels Saint John the Baptist telling his hearers to make straight the pathway for the Son of God to come. For us, that path is a path to our hearts. In Jesus' time, some were ready for his coming and some were not. We follow the examples of those who waited for centuries to come. We look to the examples of Mary, Joseph, Elizabeth and Zechariah, John the Baptist, Simeon and Anna, the shepherds, and the wise men who had their ears open ready to hear the promises of God and follow the way of the Lord. They were ready to receive him.

Are you ready to meet Jesus? Do you hope in his coming to you this Advent season? One way that we could answer that question in the affirmative is to think about what the day of Christmas was like for those who were ready. They didn't miss him! What if you were to meet Jesus as they did on that day and at that time? What if you were to die on Christmas day and you knew it? How would you prepare if you had a matter of days before he came to you? Perhaps you would think of how you could do one act of kindness toward someone who is less fortunate. Maybe you would call your relative who is elderly and living alone and who would appreciate a telephone call. Possibly there is someone to whom you need to say, "I am sorry" or to just say, "Let's talk about what happened." Maybe it is time to go to confession or to say some special prayers around the Advent wreath or Christmas tree as a family.

Today we light the rose-colored candle on the Advent wreath because it is Gaudete Sunday – named for the entrance antiphon for the Sunday Mass: "Rejoice (Gaudete) in the Lord, always, again I say, rejoice." We rejoice because we know that the Lord is coming soon. We rejoice with firm hope. Our rejoicing is a deep and true rejoicing in contrast to the bells and whistles of the commercial world.

All of us will meet Jesus face-to-face someday, but every day is a day when we can prepare by welcoming him into our lives in a new way, a new coming of Jesus. So, let this Advent be a time of great meaning. Let's prepare for him to come with great hope, attention, and joy.

Father Tony

MASS INTENTIONS

The Mass Intentions Calendar for 2025 is open! To schedule a mass intention, come to the Parish Office, call, email, or write us a letter (including your phone number). Intentions are \$10.

Also, we still have December 2024 intentions Available at both GA and SN.

MOM'S GROUP

There will be no Mom's Group meeting on December 21st, but make a New Year's resolution to join us in the new year!

Our next regularly scheduled meet-up will be January 4th from 9-10:30 a.m. (and generally the 1st & 3rd Saturdays of each month).

¿TE GUSTA ESCRIBIR O CREAR? ¡ÚNETE A NUESTRO EQUIPO DE ESCRITURA DE INTERCESIONES!

Estamos buscando voluntaries para ayudar a escribir las intercesiones de nuestra parroquia. Si te gusta escrebir o tienes un espíritu creative, esta es una excelente manera de contribuir a nuestras celebraciones litúrgicas. Se ofrencerá capacitación, por lo que no se necesita experiencia previa; solo se requiere disposición para aprender y compartir tus dones.

Para más información o para ofrecerte como voluntario, comunícate con: Fr. Tony, frtonyvanderloop@gachaska.org, (952) 227-4000.

DO YOU LOVE TO WRITE OR CREATE? JOIN OUR INTERCESSION WRITING TEAM!

We're seeking volunteers to help write intercessions for our parish. If you enjoy writing or have a creative spirit, this is a wonderful way to contribute to our liturgical celebrations. Father Tony will provide training, so no previous experience is necessary—just a willingness to learn and share your gifts.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact: Meg Garrison, mgarrison@gachaska.org, (952) 227-4000.

GIVING TREE

Put your gift(s) under the trees at the entrance of the church by SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15TH. All gifts will be organized and delivered that week.



CHRISTMAS WISH LIST FOR GA

This list includes items that are not included in our current budget year. You can provide a part of an item or in its entirety.

\$75 each—UPS (Uninterrupted Power Supply) batteries to replace for:

- 1. Boiler system computer PURCHASED
- 2. Video the Mass online PURCHASED
- 3. Staff office video equipment PURCH.
- 4. School video equipment PURCH.

\$150 each for one new UPS (Uninterrupted Power Supply)

\$35 each—2 Burse to hold a Pyx for Holy Communion PURCHASED!

\$59 each—2 Pyx for Holy Communion PURCHASED! \$750—Labor to professionally install additional speakers in back of church

\$500—Pascal Candle for 2025 PURCHASED!

\$100—Sponsor a GA Faith Formation student \$400 \$1,300—TV and Cart for Faith Formation Classes PURCHASED!

\$5,000—Sponsor a GA child for area Catholic School \$1,750—Railings and labor for Sanctuary steps— PURCHASED!

\$200,000—NEW School Steps in Spring 2025—For every dollar you donate another dollar will be donated up to \$25,000 until year end.

\$250 each—replate chalices

CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIAL DONATIONS



This Christmas, consider donating money towards the purchase of Christmas flowers in memory or honor of a loved one. You can use your church envelope marked "Christmas Flowers," list the name(s) of your loved ones on the back side, and drop it in the collection basket. Alternatively, you could find Christmas Flower Donation envelopes in the back of church. Thank you!

ST. BENEDICT AND HOSPITALITY

Our history at Guardian Angels started with the Benedictines who lived by the Rules of St. Benedict. One theme in his Rules is Hospitality. He says, "Let all guests that come be received like Christ Himself, for He will say, 'I was hungry and you gave Me food, I was thirsty and you gave Me drink, I was a stranger and you took Me in."

We enjoy serving our guests and parishioners at Guardian Angels after Masses each Sunday. Our menu includes juice, coffee, tea, donuts, fruit, bagels and cream cheese, and some gluten free treats as well. Please consider joining us and signing up to serve. It is a great way to be hospitable to our neighbor, to meet new people, or catch up with old friends. Individuals, families, and each of our ministry groups are welcome and encouraged to provide hospitality. We will order the supplies and provide easy directions for those who would like to assist. Call or text Laurie Forner at (612) 201-7002 to sign up for Sundays in December.

COOKIE WALK

Today in St. Francis Hall we are hosting our 22nd Annual Christmas Cookie Walk Bake Sale. Come and build your own tray of your favorite cookies, candies, and bars. This is a matching grant fundraiser hosted by our Guardian Angels Catholic United Financial council 19.







WOMEN AND MEN RELIGIOUS OFFER GRADTIUDE

"Sincere thanks to the donors of the Retirement Fund for Religious. I hope we meet, if not in this world, then in the next," says Sister Teresa Korycka, 81, of the Sisters, Servants of Mary Immaculate. Your gift impacts over 24,000 senior women and men religious, providing them a dignified retirement. To learn how your donation helps, visit retiredreligious.org.

CANTORS FOR MASS

Have you ever thought about becoming a cantor? We are looking for new cantors for both Guardian Angels and Saint Nicholas. You will get trained in on how to lead the congregation in joyful praise to the Lord!

For more information or to sign up, contact Brittany Kaufmann at bkaufmann@gachaska.org.

WE ARE STILL COLLECTING **CANS**

If you would like to drop off your cans, small bags can go in the bin outside of the can shed behind church. Large bags of cans can go on the ground next to the bin. Thanks.

COMMUNION MINISTRY FOR VICTIM/SURVIVORS

If you are a victim/survivor who would like to receive Communion but cannot come to church, the Eucharist can be brought directly to you, by a victim/ survivor. Find out more at safe-environment.archspm.org/communion-ministry

"LET THERE BE CHRISTMAS" CHOIR CANTATA

Sunday, December 15, 3 p.m., Mary, Mother of the Church, Burnsville

This cantata features Mary Mother's combined choirs, youth choir, bell choir, full orchestration, and Christmas narratives. All are welcome, a free will offering will be taken.

CHRISTMAS IDEAS

T-shirts and mugs for sale!

T-shirt: \$25 Coffee Mug: \$10

Contact Gary Klingelhutz at garyklingelhutz@yahoo.com or call (952) 288-7402





NEW STATUES AT THE PRAYER GARDEN!

The St. Nicholas Prayer Garden recently installed new granite statues of a Guardian Angel and St. Padre Pio. If you have not had a chance to stop by and check them out, please do. We appreciate Fr. Tony doing the blessing during our installation celebration! We also give thanks to God for the many individuals who give in so many ways to make the St. Nicholas Prayer Garden the beautiful, peaceful place that it is. The Prayer Garden will celebrate 10 years in 2025! Look for more to come during the 10 year Anniversary celebration!



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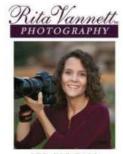
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