# 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:

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(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

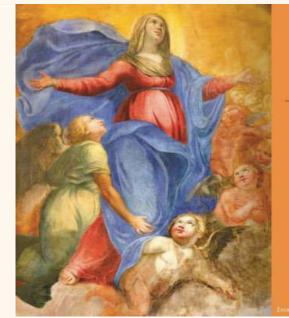
## Saint Nicholas Staff Father Tony VanderLoop, Pastor:

frtonyvanderloop@gachaska.org (952) 679-9415

Joel Swanson, Business Administrator/
Safe Environment Coordinator:

jswanson@gachaska.org (952) 227-4001

Father Jim Devorak, Retired



### 4<sup>™</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb."

- Lk 1:41-42

December 22nd, 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 23rd

#### Tuesday, December 24th

?:?? P.m. Caroling, GA Church
4:00 p.m. Mass, ⊕ Bob and John Worm
10:00 p.m. Mass, ⊕ LaVonne Rademacher

#### Wednesday, December 25th

#### Thursday, December 26th

#### Friday, December 27th

6:00 p.m. Mass (SN)

#### Saturday, December 28th

8:00 a.m. Confessions, GA Church 3:15 p.m. Confessions, GA Church 4:30 p.m. Mass, For the People

#### Sunday, December 29th

8:00 a.m. Mass, ⊕ Floyd and Bertha Kohman 10:00 a.m. Mass, ⊕ LaVonne Rademacher 10:00 a.m. Mass (SN) 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: Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 (4)/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

Monday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Lk 1:57-66

Tuesday: Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Lk 1:67-79

Wednesday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 (2a)/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/

Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25 Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 (Lk 2:11)/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14 Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20 Day: Is 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 (3c)/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

Thursday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17/Mt 10:17-22

Friday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97: 1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Saturday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8/Mt 2:13-18

Next Sunday: 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 (see 5a)/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-5

### STEWARDSHIP UPDATE



The Gospel today tells of the Virgin Mary, pregnant herself, hurrying off to help her cousin Elizabeth. The model of good stewardship, she who had given herself to bear the Savior gave her time and love to others as well.

#### Maintenance Expenses Paid 7/1/24 to Date:

New A/C Compressor Architectural Fees for School Steps

#### Year-To-Date 7/1/24-12/09/24

	Guardian Angels	St. Nicholas
Goal, Year-to-Date	\$313,056	\$28,968
Last Sunday's Collection	\$18,306	\$2,378
Total Giving YTD	\$260,073	\$29,659
Percent of Goal Funded	83%	102%

#### **Guardian Angels Maintenance Fund:**

Contributions this fiscal year:	\$23,609.69
Expenses this fiscal year:	\$44,457
Fund Balance:	\$114,510.99

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





This Sunday's theme of the Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth is very picturesque and has been painted innumerable times by artists of every century. I'll never forget walking into the Church of the Visitation in the Holy Land and seeing the beautiful windows and paintings that seemed to let in the light of Christ.

The moment that most artists have caught for us is the moment of meeting. Mary is coming into Elizabeth's house and greeting her. Mary, the younger one, still just at the beginning of her pregnancy, is embracing Elizabeth, the older woman who had been sterile

and who now, despite her age, has become pregnant by a miracle and is already in her sixth month.

Two pregnant women embrace each other. The subject moves our hearts, particularly in that Mary made haste to visit her cousin, even though the journey was strenuous. Her zeal had given her strength and resolve to share her joy and to share God Himself. Our hearts are moved as each of these women carries beneath her heart a child, and that is always something mysterious. Each of us began our lives there, in our mother's womb. And every mother keeps her child in her heart, even long after the birth.

Yet Luke puts into words what cannot be portrayed pictorially. The children, too, greet each other. Elizabeth can feel how her child, John the Baptist, who will one day prepare the way for Jesus, leaps in her womb. His mother is aware of what is happening at this greeting—in fact, she puts it into words. She greets her young relative as "the mother of my Lord." Elizabeth is not just rejoicing that Mary has come to help her. She rejoices still more that Mary brings with her Jesus, the "blessed fruit of her womb."

In each Hail Mary, Elizabeth's greeting is repeated. The joy is always on account of Mary's bringing Jesus, and that through her Jesus does not just come into "the house of Zechariah" but into every house. Mary is still on her way to bring Jesus, her child, to people everywhere. That is what she wants to do at Christmas in every home. Let us turn to her for her intercession as we allow her to bring us her Son. May God bless you and your family in your home this Christmas!

**Father Tony** 

# 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.

### ¿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.

#### 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.

#### 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.

#### 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

### 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

# AN ANNOUNCEMENT FROM KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



Fr. Tony is accepting a \$5,000 check from Chaska Knights of Columbus Council 9141, which is to be applied to the one to one \$25,000.00 challenge match for the school building front step repair project. They encourage others to also donate to this fund.

The non-profit Knights of Columbus council raises funds through activities such as fall pancake breakfasts, Lenten fish fries, and a dedicated Tootsie Roll Drive (specifically supporting organizations assisting intellectually or developmentally disabled persons such as Special Olympics, Magnifying Abilities, and ARC of MN).

Other organizations that have been and continue to be financially supported by the local K of C council include South West Options for Women, Alpha Women's Center MN mobile clinic, Southern Valley Alliance Women's shelter, Feed my Starving Children, Sharing and Caring Hands, and Bountiful Basket. We also support several local seminarians and of course many GA parish projects such as the School Gym LED lighting, School complex Domestic hot water heater, School Kitchen 3 door refrigerator repair and others.

GA men, perhaps consider joining the local Knights in these endeavors.

#### 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!



### CAROLS & COCOA AT THE CATHEDRAL

Saturday, December 28th, 9-10:30 a.m., Cathedral of Saint Paul, Saint Paul

Bring your family to celebrate the Christmas octave with sing-a-long carols, stories, child-friendly adoration and benediction, and cocoa and cookies.

All are welcome to attend this event, but the language spoken will be English.

Find the registration form at www.archspm.org/carols-cocoa-at-the-cathedral.

#### LIVING GOD'S LOVE

January 17-18, Our Lady of Grace, Edina February 14-15, St. Peter, North St. Paul March 7-8, Our Lady of Grace Edina ...and more!

The Archdiocese offers this marriage preparation program for engaged couples to help them prepare to live our their God-given vocations as husband and wife. Weekends are available 10 months of the year. Register online for the dates listed above. Cost is \$260 per couple.

All are welcome to attend this event, but the language spoken will be English.

Find the link to the registration at www.archspm.org/living-gods-love-marriage-retreats (all dashes included).

#### AVE VERUM CORPUS

Friday, January 17th, 7-8:30 p.m., St. Nicholas, ELKO NEW MARKET

You are invited to experience Christ's peaceful presence at Ave Verum Corpus (Hail True Body). This is an exquisite pairing of Eucharistic adoration and classical sacred music. Our evening will include Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament, classical sacred music and chant, the sacrament of penance, vespers, benediction, and reception following the event. All are welcome. IT IS IN ELKO NEW MARKET, NOT CARVER.

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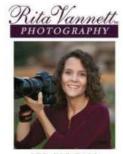
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