# 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

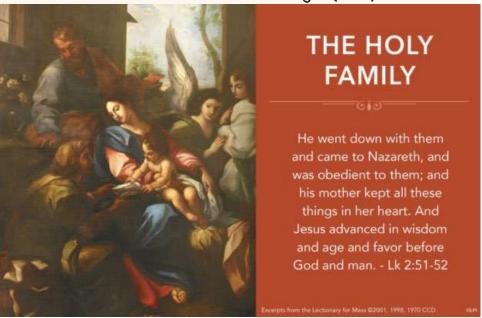
## Saint Nicholas Staff Father Tony VanderLoop, Pastor:

frtonyvanderloop@gachaska.org (952) 679-9415

## Joel Swanson, Business Administrator/ Safe Environment Coordinator:

jswanson@gachaska.org (952) 227-4001

Father Jim Devorak, Retired



### December 29th, 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 30th

#### Tuesday, December 31st

5:30 p.m. Mass

7:00 p.m. Mass (Spanish), Para la Gente

#### Wednesday, January 1st

9:00 a.m. Mass

#### Thursday, January 2nd

8:00 a.m. Mass

#### Friday, January 3rd

#### Saturday, January 4th

8:00 a.m. Confessions, GA Church

8:00 a.m. D of I Rosary, GA Church

8:30 a.m. Mom's Group, Room 004

3:15 p.m. Confessions, GA Church

4:30 p.m. Mass, For the People

#### Sunday, January 5th

8:00 a.m. Mass

9:00 a.m. Coffee and Donuts, St. Francis Hall, Marriage Encounter

10:00 a.m. Mass (SN)

11:00 a.m. Coffee and Donuts, St. Francis Hall, Marriage Encounter

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: 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 (see a)/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

Monday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Lk 2:36-40 Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13/Jn 1:1-18 Wednesday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3,5, 6, 8 (2a)/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 1:19-28 Friday: 1 Jn 2:29—3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6/Jn 1:29-34 Saturday: 1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Jn 1:35-42

Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 (see 11)/

Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-1

#### LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Domingo: 1 Sm 1, 20-22. 24-28/Sal 83, 2-3. 5-6. 9-10/1 Jn 3, 1-

2. 21-24/Lc 2, 41-52

Lunes: 1 Jn 2, 12-17/Sal 95, 7-8. 8-9. 10/Lc 2, 36-40 Martes: 1 Jn 2, 18-21/Sal 95, 1-2. 11-12. 13/Jn 1, 1-18 Miércoles: Nm 6, 22-27/Sal 66, 2-3.5. 6. 8 (2)/Gal 4, 4-7/Lc 2,

16-21

Jueves: 1 Jn 2, 22-28/Sal 97, 1. 2-3. 3-4/Jn 1, 19-28 Viernes: 1 Jn 2, 29—3, 6/Sal 97, 1. 3-4. 5-6/Jn 1, 29-34 Sábado: 1 Jn 3, 7-10/Sal 97, 1. 7-8. 9/Jn 1, 35-42

Domingo siguiente: 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

### STEWARDSHIP UPDATE



The first reading today provides a challenging blueprint for the good stewardship of our family relationships. How do I measure up?

### Perd

## Guardian Angels St. Nicholas

Year-To-Date 7/1/24—12/23/24

 Goal, Year-to-Date
 \$339,144
 \$31,382

 Last Sunday's Collection
 \$12,574
 \$1,030

 Total Giving YTD
 \$286,898
 \$32,159

 Percent of Goal Funded
 85%
 102%

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

New A/C Compressor Architectural Fees for School Steps

#### **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.

#### THE HOLY FAMILY

"When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him."

- Luke 2:39-40

One place that I have always wanted to visit as a pilgrimage site is the Holy house of Loreto in central Italy. According to the guide to pilgrimage destinations published in 2000 by the Official

Catholic Directory "scientific and archeological studies continue to affirm what the faithful have believed for centuries: that Jesus, Mary, and Joseph once lived in this home." According to legend, in 1291 the Blessed Virgin Mary's house was transported by angels from Nazareth to Croatia, and later, in 1294, to the hill of Loreto. Building materials used in the house correspond to those used in the "basement" of the home still in place at the Basilica of the Annunciation in Nazareth. Also, graffiti cuts in the stones match those found at Nazareth.

It is intriguing. In any case, whether we ever have a chance to see this house or not, we can place ourselves in our prayers in the home of the Holy Family and imagine what it would've been like. With the light of the world dwelling in the house, there would have been a great blend of human and the divine, the extraordinary found in the ordinary. We can imagine the extraordinary affection that they had for each other as they served each other in very ordinary ways. Mary would've taken care to prepare meals, mend clothes, and make the house attractive, but modest and a place fitting for God to dwell. Joseph would've had great humility as he taught carpentry to his son, Jesus, the Son of God. And Jesus would've grown in a house of intimate family warmth serving his mother and father by being a good son. For Mary the events of Jesus' ordinary life at home would've been the joy of her soul.

We can think back to those loved ones in our lives who loved us with extraordinary affection through ordinary means. My grandmother of happy memory was one such person in my life. She always gave in ordinary ways, but it added up to extraordinary affection that helped shape my life.

The Holy Family teaches us that we can make holy the everyday things and events in our lives-the everyday work of looking after those closest to us, the work in which the whole family cooperates, and the humor that comes in the face of difficulties and misunderstandings. The Holy Family provides us with a model of family life where God is truly present in cheerfulness, in a spirit of affection for and service toward each other, and in a prayerful way of approaching life.

May God bless your family with holiness, love, and service toward one another in this holy season and beyond!

**Father Tony** 

## 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.

Gracias to our volunteer who signed up to write intercessions en Español.

#### 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.

#### MOM'S GROUP

Saturday, January 4th, 9-10:30 a.m., Room 004 (enter door #2)

Merry Christmas, Mamas! As we look to the new calendar year, make a resolution to attend a Mom's Group meet-up, we'd love to meet you!

We meet 1st and 3rd Saturdays for a morning to pray, reflect, and connect with one another.
Refreshments provided. Childcare available—please RSVP to Jenna Salinas with number of kids (call/text (612) 201-4894)

## 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!

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

#### TAKE OUR PRESCHOOL SURVEY

We are thrilled to share that we are considering opening a Catholic Preschool in autumn 2025! This would be a wonderful opportunity to nurture young hearts and minds in a faith-filled environment that fosters spiritual growth, academic readiness, and a love for learning.

To make this dream a reality, Guardian Angels needs your help! A short survey has been developed to gather input from our parish and community. Your participation is vital—it will help us understand the level of interest, the needs of local families, and how we can best serve our children.

Please take a moment to complete the survey and share it with other families in the community.

Together, we can shape a preschool that reflects our shared values and vision for the future.

Thank you for your prayerful support and involvement in this exciting initiative!

Scan me to take the survey! ©



### 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.

### 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!



## THANK YOU, MEG, FOR SERVING US!

Meg Garrison, our Administrative Associate, has chosen to step away from Guardian Angels and January 3rd will be her last day.

Meg, we thank you for coming to us with such an open heart and enthusiasm for church ministry. We have appreciated getting to know you and your joy in meeting parishioners and all who come through our doors. May God bless you with His new plans for you in this upcoming year!

## WANT TO HEAR A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHBISHOP?

Sign up for Together on the Journey at www.archspm.org/togetheronthejourney (or the myParish app) to see a monthly video and read a weekly message from the Archbishop. He wants to speak to you and be your shepherd!

### WHAT IS OUR STATE LEGISLATURE UP TO?

To find out, go to the Minnesota Catholic Conference's website and download the free Advocacy Report at www.mncatholic.org/advocacy93. Find out how you can make a difference.

### CANA DINNER—LOVE TO GREATER HEIGHTS WITH LUKE SPEHAR

Saturday, January 18th, 5-8 p.m., St. Albert, Albertville

Enjoy a romantic date night with your spouse to elevate your marriage to the next level! The event is open to parishioners and non-parishioners. The night includes: appetizers, dinner, dessert and drinks, live music, and a presentation by Catholic musician and speaker Luke Spehar, Blessing of Marriage, entertainment, and fun! Registration fee is \$75/couple.

The link to the registration can be found at www.archspm.org/cana-dinner-love-to-greater-heights-with-luke-spehar/.

### LIVING GOD'S LOVE MARRIAGE RETREATS

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.

#### MIRIAM DINNER

Tuesday, January 21st, 6-8 p.m., Archdiocesan Catholic Center, 777 Forest Street, Saint Paul

Hosted by Archbishop Bernard Hebda and Fr. Mark Pavlak, vocation director, this dinner is for women ages 16-34, who are discerning consecrated life. It is typical for discerning women 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 and tips for growing in holiness and learning more about how to discern. Registration is required by January 17th. Register at www.10000vocations.org

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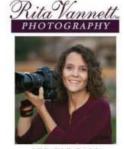
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