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

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Meg Garrison, Administrative Assistant:

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(763) 355-6904

Brittany Kaufmann, Director of Music and Liturgy:

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Viviana Sotro, Latino Ministry Coordinator:

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

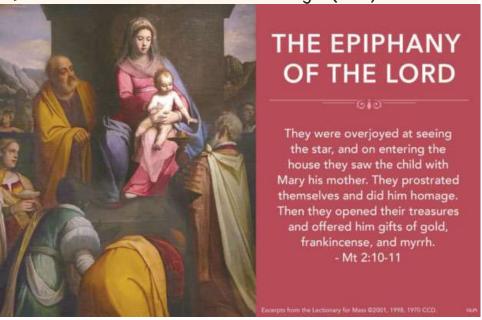
Saint Nicholas Staff Father Tony VanderLoop, Pastor:

frtonyvanderloop@gachaska.org (952) 679-9415

Joel Swanson, Business Administrator/ Safe Environment Coordinator:

jswanson@gachaska.org (952) 227-4001

Father Jim Devorak, Retired



January 5th, 2025

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, January 6th

6:30 p.m. Knights of Columbus Meeting, St. Francis Hall

Tuesday, January 7th

5:30 p.m. Mass, ⊕ Floyd and Bertha Kohman 7:00 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal, Choir Loft

Wednesday, January 8th

8:00 a.m. Mass

6:30 p.m. Faith Formation Family Night, Campus-Wide

Thursday, January 9th

8:00 a.m. Mass

Friday, January 10th

6:00 p.m. Mass (SN)

Saturday, January 11th

6:30 a.m. Father's Group, Room 004 8:00 a.m. Confessions, GA Church

3:15 p.m. Confessions, GA Church

4:30 p.m. Mass

Sunday, January 12th

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

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

Youth, Young Adults, Young Families Commission

10:00 a.m. Mass

10:00 a.m. Mass (SN), ⊕ John Pass

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

Youth, Young Adults, Young Families Commission

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: 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: 1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25 Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8/Mk 6:34-44 Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/Mk 6:45-52 Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17/Lk 4:14-22a

Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Lk 5:12-16 Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b/Jn 3:22-30

Next Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 (1)/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

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: 1 Jn 3, 22—4, 6/Sal 2, 7-8. 10-12/Mt 4, 12-17. 23-25 Martes: 1 Jn 4, 7-10/Sal 71, 1-2. 3-4. 7-8/Mc 6, 34-44 Miércoles: 1 Jn 4, 11-18/Sal 71, 1-2. 10. 12-13/Mc 6, 45-52 Jueves: 1 Jn 4, 19—5, 4/Sal 71, 1-2. 14 y 15. 17/Lc 4, 14-22 Viernes: 1 Jn 5, 5-13/Sal 147, 12-13. 14-15. 19-20/Lc 5, 12-16 Sábado: 1 Jn 5, 14-21/Sal 149, 1-2. 3-4. 5 y 6 y 9/Jn 3, 22-30 Domingo siguiente: Is 40, 1-5. 9-11/Sal 103, 1-2. 3-4. 24-25. 27-28. 29-30 (1)/Tit 2, 11-14; 3, 4-7/Lc 3, 15-16. 21-22

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE



The three kings in today's Gospel traveled a great distance at considerable cost to offer their richest gifts to the Infant Jesus. How far will / go and what will / offer to do homage to this newborn King and Savior?

Maintenance Expenses Paid 7/1/24 to Date:

New A/C Compressor Architectural Fees for School Steps

Year-To-Date 7/1/24-12/23/24

	Guardian Angels	St. Nicholas
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%

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.





Recently, I heard a story about a parent who came home from work and discovered that the three children had taken out the trash, cleaned the kitchen, and tidied their bedrooms. The parent was impressed and asked, "What made you do all this wonderful housework?" The children replied, "The WIFI is down." In another story a grandmother once commented that she knows more about her granddaughter than she ever knew about her daughter. The gentleman hearing this replied, "Yes, young people today talk more easily about so many things." The grandmother said simply, "Well, I don't know about that. I just go to my

granddaughter's Facebook page and her entire life story is all there!"

There was a time when a summer bonfire was an opportunity to tell stories. These days, I am not sure if such a venue is seen as the same opportunity. I am old enough to remember typewriters, busy signals, mass mailings, and calling everyone to say that the meeting time has changed. Many of these things have thankfully been replaced by more efficient means of communication. I wonder, though, what the next new wave – or maybe I should say "waves" – is going to be. It takes at least two people to communicate and it wasn't too long ago that I bought a smartphone because it became clearer and clearer that you are expected to reply by text.

In the Church, electronic communications would be fine if, in the living out of our faith, all we needed was a way to exchange ideas. Yet we not only follow a set of spiritual ideals and central teachings, but we are also in a relationship with a real person – Jesus Christ. The movement of the Holy Spirit transforms people into one body, not into a collection of great thoughts.

In our conversations with each other, there is a noticeable difference when I can see the person's face. I notice the raised eyebrow or the silent nod of the head. But when I am reading something electronic, I need to read between the lines in order to really know what is being communicated. We get a lot more out of face-to-face conversations than from any email or text.

The wise men traveled a long distance to see the newborn king. The road was dangerous, and they had to avoid Herod's threat. They went to see a child and came bearing gifts. They did so amid a world that didn't always have enough time for Jesus as was seen in how the Holy Family didn't have enough room at the inn even though Mary was pregnant. But we must take the time for people because we were made for relationship. We were made for "face time."

Saint Thomas Aquinas wrote about the "beatific vision" – the experience of coming to heaven and meeting God face to face. If the end of our earthly pilgrimage is the opportunity to behold with perfect love the very face of God, then we will do well to practice for this kind of face time. Masses, confessions, times in adoration, daily prayer, and meditations with the scriptures are all good examples of face time with God. Yet, at the same time, we are to not only love God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength, but to love our neighbor as ourselves. We build our relationships with one another in just the same way as we build our relationship with Jesus Christ.

This coming year is the Jubilee Year of Hope as proclaimed by Pope Francis. As we venture into hope, let us consider how we can have real face time with our families and gather as disciples at our parishes even when it means that the meeting's agenda is secondary or that it is time to put away the laptop or cell phone. If anyone wonders why, just say, "I'm trying to be like the wise men" or "I am practicing for the beatific vision."

May God bless your Epiphany Sunday together!

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: Brittany Kaufmann, bkaufmann@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.

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.

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! [©]



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.

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!



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.

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

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/. (All dashes included)

THEATER AND IGNATAN IMAGINATIVE PRAYER WORKSHOP FOR ADULTS

Saturdays, January 18th, 25th, February 1st, 18th, 9-10:30 a.m., St. Thomas More, 1079 Summit Ave, Saint Paul

Immerse yourself in Scripture through a unique blend of imaginative prayer and theater. Over four Saturdays, join a 90-minute workshop each week where you'll explore a single parable from Scripture through imaginative prayer, creative play and theatrical elements. Guided by Father RJ's (pastor of St. Thomas More, St. Paul) Ignatian imaginative prayer meditation and theater expert Elizabeth Teefy McGregor's performance techniques, this workshop is designed for adults with no prior theater experience required—just an openness to explore and express your spiritual journey through theater elements.

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

Register at www.morecommunity.org/ignatiantheater. (all dashes included) LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS Place Your Ad Here and Support Our Parish!

> **CONTACT ME Gina Shaughnessy**

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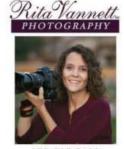
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