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

and Saint Nicholas 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

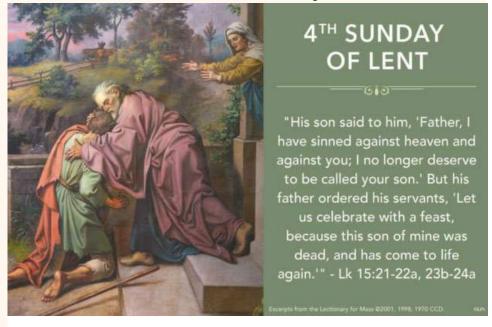
Brittany Kaufmann, Director of Music and Liturgy:

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



March 30th, 2025

Weekly Liturgy Schedule / Horario de Misas

Sunday Masses:

Saturday: 4:30 p.m. Sunday: 9 a.m.

7:30 a.m. at Saint Nicholas Sunday: 12:00 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: 9 a.m.

Domingo: 12:00 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 Beth Buesgens, Finance Council Chair: (952) 227-4000 Kayla Pascoe, Pastoral Council Chair: (952) 412-4712

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, March 31st

Tuesday, April 1st

5:30 p.m. Mass, ⊕ Ethel Schnider

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

Wednesday, April 2nd

8:00 a.m. Mass, 🕆 Rose Raser

Thursday, April 3rd

8:00 a.m. Mass

8:30 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration, GA Church

6:30 p.m. Respect Life Meeting, St. Francis Hall

7:00 p.m. Latino Prayer Group, GA Church

Friday, April 4th

6:00 p.m. Mass (SN), ⊕ Dinah Mahowald 7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross, Both Churches

Saturday, April 5th

8:00 a.m. Confessions, GA Church

9:00 a.m. Moms' Group, Room 004

3:00 p.m. Youth Choir Rehearsal, Choir Loft

3:15 p.m. Confessions, GA Church

4:00 p.m. D of I Rosary, Ravoux Chapel

4:30 p.m. Mass, ⊕ Ruth and Tony Pass

The pick-up will be here for packing-up!

Sunday, April 6th

7:30 a.m. Mass (SN), Comfort and Peace for Joanne Aronson

8:15 a.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal, Choir Loft

9:00 a.m. Mass, For the People

The pick-up will be here for packing-up!

10:00 a.m. Cinnamon Rolls and Coffee, St. Francis Hall, Catholic United Financial

12:00 p.m. Mass (Spanish)

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE



The stewardship message in the parable of the prodigal son is that it is never too late to become a good steward. Blessed is the elder brother who had been a good steward all along, but blessed, too, is the prodigal, who had to lose all he had in order to understand the value of what he'd been given.

Guardian Angels Year-To-Date

Regular Operating Income Need Yearly: \$678,300 Monthly: \$56,525

Weekly: \$13,045

	Amount Given	Above/Below
July	\$42,613	\$13,912
August	\$42,611	\$13,914
September	\$48,155	\$8,370
October	\$41,630	\$14,895
November	\$48,209	\$8,316
December	\$77,740	\$21,215
January	\$35,490	\$21,035
February	\$39,044	\$17,481
Total thru February	\$375,492	\$76,708
Need thru February	\$452,200	
March (thru 3/24)	\$43,198	
Week 3/17-3/24	\$12,398	\$647

Please give \$10 more per week or \$50 more per month.

Guardian Angels Maintenance Fund:

Contributions 7/1/24—3/24/25: \$56,560 Expenses since 7/1/24: \$50,610

New A/C Compressor Architectural Fees for School Steps **Regulators for Church Boiler**

Fund Balance thru 3/24/25: \$136,219

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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: Jos 5:9a, 10-12/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 (9a)/2 Cor 5:17-21/ Lk 15:1-3. 11-32

Monday: Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b/Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5:1-16 Wednesday: Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18/Jn 5:17-30 Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23/Jn 5:31-47 Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23/Jn 7:1-2. 10. 25-30

Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12/Jn 7:40-53 Next Sunday: Is 43:16-21/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 (3)/Phil 3:8-14/Jn 8:1-11

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 9:00 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.

Saint Nicholas Regular Operating Income

Need for Entire year:	\$66,450
Need for 7/1/24—3/24/25:	\$48,560
Weekly Income need:	\$1,280
Week 3/17—3/24 Collected:	\$775
Total Giving, Fiscal Year-to-Date:	\$41,959

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO REPENT AND WHY IS LENT SUCH A POWERFUL TIME TO DO SO?

Lent is an ideal time to draw closer to God as we remember the gospel stories of Jesus that lead up to His passion. Jesus said, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me" (Luke 9:23). So, as Jesus' passion nears, we do just this as His disciples in a more intense way. But as we do so, we find those areas in our lives in which we are not walking with Him and turn back to Him.

To repent is to turn away from sin and self-centeredness and to turn to God through a return to the Sacrament of Reconciliation and to prayer. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a place to meet again with the God who loves us. He loves us so much that there is more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over 99 who have no need for repentance (Luke 15:7).

Prayer comes in two major forms: communal and private. We do not live as autonomous individuals. We need community and it is God's design that we come together as His baptized family to worship the one Lord, Jesus. Please plan to attend Mass every Sunday. Mass is also offered on weekdays and isn't it beautiful that we can receive His body and blood during the week as well as on Sunday? We also have the Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 7:00 PM as another Lenten devotional practice. And we have Eucharistic Adoration each Thursday in front of the Blessed Sacrament in the monstrance. What a great opportunity to come to our Lord Jesus!

Private prayer is the other half of a well-balanced prayer life. This Lent please reserve some time each day to be alone. We have many ways to pray including silent meditation, scripture reading and reflection, the rosary and other composed prayers, singing sacred music, a prayer walk outside, or viewing and meditating upon religious artworks. But in any case, prayer is not doing much, it is loving much. So we become aware of the thoughts, feelings, and desires of our hearts and relate them to God, rather than just thinking and ruminating about them. Then, we be quiet and wait for God to respond. Sometimes it doesn't seem at all that God is responding, but He is. We can only look back at our lives over a longer period of time to know this and see His goodness! Regular communication is key to any relationship and it is no different for ourselves and God. If we hope to be closer to God, regular prayer is indispensable.

Why Don't Catholics Eat Meat on Fridays?

Catholics abstain from flesh meat on days of penance, such as Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and the Fridays of Lent, and this is called abstinence. Abstinence is one of the oldest Christian traditions. "From the first century, the day of the crucifixion has been traditionally observed as a day of abstaining from flesh meat to honor Christ who sacrificed his flesh on a Friday" (Klein, P., Catholic Source Book, 93). Canon law actually calls for abstinence from eating meat on all Fridays of the year. However, the bishops of the United States have determined that, outside of the Fridays of Lent, Catholics may choose to substitute another penance that is particularly meaningful to them, although the bishops continue to recommend abstinence on all Fridays for Catholics. It is required of all Catholics age fourteen and older. Fish has never been understood in our tradition to be considered meat. In former times, meat was more expensive, eaten occasionally, and associated with feasting and rejoicing; whereas fish were cheaper, eaten more often, and not associated with celebrations. Of course, we do not want to defeat the self-denying purpose by giving up flesh meat only to feast on lobster or king crab. May God bless our Lenten practices of self-denial together.

Father Tony

DIRECTOR OF PRESCHOOL POSITION OPEN

Guardian Angels Catholic Preschool will be opening this autumn 2025. We are excited to share this new beginning with many members of our surrounding community. Our director position is open for the 2025-2026 school year. Please share the opportunity with your friends and acquaintances who may be qualified. Go to our website, gachaska.org, and scroll down to preschool to view the job description and application instructions. May God bless our journey of hope for our parish and the young ones and their families who join our school.

HOMEMADE CINNAMON ROLL SUNDAY IS BACK

Sunday, April 6th after the 9 a.m. Mass, St. Francis Hall

Come down and enjoy a free roll and coffee with your fellow parishioners. Hosted by our GA Catholic United Financial Council 19 members.



RUMMAGE SALE

We will be having the Rummage Sale this year in June, so keep us in mind when you're doing your spring cleaning.

We will be accepting donations on June 9-11th from 8 a.m.- 8 p.m.

MOMS' GROUP

Saturday, April 5th, 9:00-10:30 a.m., School Basement, Room 004 (enter door #2)

With Lent upon us, please join us at our next Moms Group meet-up to reflect and discuss how we can prepare ourselves and our families for Easter.

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

*Note: there will be no April 19th meet up

PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT IS OPEN

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

With great joy and gratitude to God, I am thrilled to announce that Guardian Angels Catholic Preschool, opening in Fall 2025, is now accepting enrollment! This moment is the fruit of much prayer, dedication, and the steady support of our faith community. Rooted in the teachings of Christ, our preschool will nurture young hearts and minds, forming children in faith, wisdom, and love from their earliest years.

Your encouragement and prayers have been instrumental in bringing this vision to life. Let's keep praying for its success! As we embark on this mission, we remain steadfast in our commitment to providing a loving, faith-filled environment where children can grow academically and spiritually. I invite you to learn more and secure a place for your child by visiting www.gachaska.org/preschool.

May God bless this new chapter for our parish, and may our children grow in the knowledge and love of the Lord. Thank you for your prayers, support, and commitment to Catholic education!

Father Tony VanderLoop

MEAL TRAIN FOR FATHER TONY



We know Father Tony often works late and doesn't eat supper sometimes until he gets home around 9:30-10:00 p.m. So we've set up a Meal Train for parishioners to sign up to bring a meal to the Parish Office so he can eat at the office on those late nights. Sign up as often as you like!

Meal Train URL for Father Tony: www.mealtrain.com/01zk13

Father Tony likes healthier food choices and does have a hearty appetite! No desserts.

- Bring food to the Parish Office kitchen during office hours (8:30-4:40 T-Th, 8:30-12:30 M & F)
- Include heating instructions
- Put your name on your containers
- Pick up your containers in the Parish Office

May God bless you and Father Tony in this ministry! Questions? Call Jean at (612) 245-9252.

RESPECT LIFE MEETING

Our next Respect Life Meeting will be on Thursday, April 3rd from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

GLOBAL SOLIDARITY SUNDAY

This Saturday and Sunday is Global Solidarity Sunday as we celebrate that "We are ambassadors for Christ appealing through us" (2 Cor. 5:20). This is an invitation to share God's love in solidarity with our brothers and sisters overseas. We invite you to offer gifts of support, and expression of Lenten almsgiving, by contributing to this collection for four global initiatives designated by the U.S. Catholic Bishops: The Church in Africa, Latin America, Central and Eastern Europe, as well as humanitarian activities of Catholic Relief Services. Please be as generous as you are able. You can make a donation through our electronic giving at gachaska.org/giving and click "Setup or Login to Your Account" or you will see envelopes in the back of church. Thank you.

AN ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT A YOUNG PARISHIONER



Congratulations to Charlotte Smyth who has earned her Light of Christ religious emblem for Cub Scouts. The Light of Christ can be earned by any Catholic 1st or 2nd grader participating in Scouting America's Cub Scout program. Through the Religious Emblem Program, Scouts from 1st-12th grade delve deeper into their faith than what is just required to earn their respective ranks.



PACK-UP A PICKUP BOUNTIFUL BASKET FOOD SHELF

We will be having our food and hygiene items drive on Saturday, **April 5th** at the 4:30 p.m. Mass and on Sunday **April 6th** at the 9 a.m. Mass. We need brown paper bags! Please drop them off in the Kiosk ASAP!

Please drop off your food and hygiene products donation at the truck located in front of the church before the Saturday and Sunday Masses.

Envelopes will be available in the pews for your monetary donations. You may drop them in the collection basket.

Thank you for your generosity!

Last week's bulletin had a fairly major error. We apologize for the confusion.

The Bountiful Basket is in need of the following items (or monetary donations):

- Fresh Produce
- Cereal and Oatmeal
- Instant Potatoes and Instant Rice
- Peanut Butter and Jelly
- Spaghetti Sauce, pasta, and ramen
- Canned Chicken, Tuna, Fruit, Hearty Soup, Chili
- Salad Dressing
- Granola Bars
- Cooking Oil and Butter
- Spices, Salt and Pepper
- Ketchup and Mustard
- Flour, Sugar, Cake Mix, Frosting
- Toilet Paper, Diapers (sizes 3, 4, 5, and 6),
 Feminine Hygiene Products, Dish and Laundry
 Soap

BOUNTIFUL BASKET CURRENT NEEDS - March 2025



- Hearty Soups
- Easy Mac
- Spaghetti Sauce & Pasta
- Canned Tuna
- Canned Pineapple &
 Mandarin Oranges
- Canned Carrots & Diced Tomatoes
- White Rice

- Cereal
- Crackers
- · Cooking Oil
- Mayonnaise
- Flour and SugarBaking mixes
- Dish soap
- Laundry detergent
- Diapers size 3, 4, 5, 6

We could also always use your brown paper bags!



44TH ANNUAL MN FOODSHARE MARCH CAMPAIGN

March 1st, 2025 to April 6th, 2025 All food and funds proportionally matched!

Now in its 44th year, the Minnesota Food Share statewide campaign brings awareness to the need for food shelves while collecting critical food and funds at a time when inventories are at their lowest following the holidays. This collaborative effort unites organizations, businesses, faith communities, and individuals to support over 300 food shelves across the state.

At Bountiful Basket Food Shelf, we're committed to eliminating food insecurity for the 9,000+ individuals we serve annually. Over the past year, we experienced a 72% increase in individuals served, underscoring the growing need in our community. In response, we expanded our capacity with the opening of a second site in Cologne in 2023 and an off-site pantry at West Creek Apartments in 2024. These milestones, alongside launching additional mobile deliveries, school snack and weekend food programs to our local schools, foster care and immunization food bag initiatives with the county, and more—have resulted in a remarkable 226% increase in individuals served since 2022.

This growth is part of a larger trend across Minnesota, where food insecurity is rising at unprecedented rates. Feeding America reports that 537,890 Minnesotans, including 34% under age 10, are facing hunger. In 2024, Minnesotans made a record-breaking 9 million visits to food shelves, a 20% increase from the previous record of 7.5 million in 2023 and 150% higher than pre-pandemic levels. The state's charitable food system, including food shelves like Bountiful Basket, is operating at capacity as families struggle with rising food prices, inflation, and stagnant wage growth. While statewide efforts have made strides in combating hunger, the demand for emergency food assistance continues to grow.

With your support, Bountiful Basket Food Shelf remains determined to meet these challenges and needs head-on. Together, we can ensure that everyone who walks through our doors feels welcomed, supported, and empowered to address their food needs. Thank you for being part of this critical mission.

FREE ESTATE PLANNING WORKSHOP AT GUARDIAN ANGELS

Tuesday, April 22nd 9-10 a.m., St. Francis Hall

Everything is the opposite in retirement. All your working career you learned how to be a good saver. Now learn how to be a good spender.



We're excited to welcome Fiat Wealth Management, a local financial planning firm in Wayzata, to lead this free workshop on estate planning. This is your chance to learn from local experts who truly care about your financial well-being and taking care of the gifts that have been given to you.

Attendees will receive free resources, including a book by financial expert Brad Gotto (Owner and CEO of Fiat Wealth Management), and the opportunity, if desired, to schedule a complimentary 30-minute follow-up visit to discuss your own personal estate planning needs.

Light snacks and refreshments provided.

Please RSVP by calling Bill Van Hecke at (612) 812-8615. Signups are also located at the entrances of the church.



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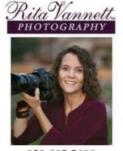
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Coffee and Cinnamon Roll Sunday April 6th

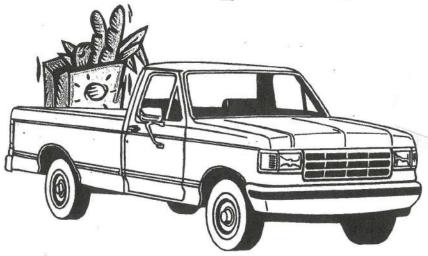
Homemade cinnamon rolls & coffee after 9am Mass in Saint Francis Hall



Member Advisor
Team Countryside (612) 322-3228



Pack-Up-A-Pickup



April 8

Donations from **Guardian Angels Catholic Community**go to



Food Shelf Serving Eastern Carver County

Donations of food or money are welcome!

