

# The Churches of The Guardian Angels and Saint Nicholas

215 Second Street West, Chaska, MN 55318 • [www.gachaska.org](http://www.gachaska.org) • (952) 227-4000

412 Fourth Street West, Carver, MN 55315 • [www.stnicholascarver.org](http://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](mailto:info@gachaska.org)

952-227-4000

### Father Tony VanderLoop, Pastor:

[frtonyvanderloop@gachaska.org](mailto:frtonyvanderloop@gachaska.org)

(952) 679-9415

### Deacon John Cleveland:

[jcleveland@gachaska.org](mailto:jcleveland@gachaska.org)

### Deacon Bob Burns:

[bburns@gachaska.org](mailto:bburns@gachaska.org)

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

[jswanson@gachaska.org](mailto:jswanson@gachaska.org)

(952) 227-4001

### Brittany Kaufmann, Director of Music and Liturgy:

[bkaufmann@gachaska.org](mailto:bkaufmann@gachaska.org)

(763) 355-6905

### Viviana Sotro, Latino Ministry Coordinator:

[vsotro@gachaska.org](mailto:vsotro@gachaska.org)

(952) 227-4010

**Bulletin:** [bulletin@gachaska.org](mailto:bulletin@gachaska.org)

**Prayer Chain:** [prayer@gachaska.org](mailto:prayer@gachaska.org)

## Saint Nicholas Staff

### Father Tony VanderLoop, Pastor:

[frtonyvanderloop@gachaska.org](mailto:frtonyvanderloop@gachaska.org)

(952) 679-9415

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

[jswanson@gachaska.org](mailto:jswanson@gachaska.org)

(952) 227-4001

Father Jim Devorak, Retired



## 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

*The Spirit of the Lord  
is upon me...  
He has sent me to  
proclaim liberty to  
captives  
and recovery of sight  
to the blind,  
to let the oppressed  
go free.  
- Lk 4:18*

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPL

## January 26th, 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  
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](mailto: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 [bulletin@gachaska.org](mailto:bulletin@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 27th

### Tuesday, January 28th

5:30 p.m. Mass, † Al "Butch" Lebens  
6:30 p.m. Fall Festival Planning Meeting, St. Francis Hall  
7:00 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal, Choir Loft

### Wednesday, January 29th

8:00 a.m. Mass, † John & Betty Halloran  
6:30 p.m. Faith Formation, Campus-Wide

### Thursday, January 30th

8:00 a.m. Mass, † Charlie and Phyllis Stacken

### Friday, January 31st

6:00 p.m. Mass (SN)

### Saturday, February 1st

8:00 a.m. D of I Rosary, GA Church  
9:00 a.m. Mom's Group, Room 004  
9:30 a.m. 1st Reconciliation, GA Church  
3:00 p.m. Youth Choir Rehearsal, Choir Loft  
3:15 p.m. Confessions, GA Church  
4:30 p.m. Mass, † Virgil Gestach  
5:30 p.m. K of C Wives Appreciation Dinner, St. Francis Hall

### Sunday, February 2nd

8:00 a.m. Mass, † Austin Retterath  
9:00 a.m. Coffee and Donuts, St. Francis Hall, Welcome Committee  
9:15 a.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal, Choir Loft  
10:00 a.m. Mass, † John Gonsalves  
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 † 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: Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15 (see Jn 6:63c)/  
1 Cor 12:12-30 or 12:12-14, 27/Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21  
Monday: Heb 9:15, 24-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6/Mk 3:22-30  
Tuesday: Heb 10:1-10/Ps 40:2 and 4ab, 7-8a, 10, 11/Mk 3:31-35  
Wednesday: Heb 10:11-18/Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4/Mk 4:1-20  
Thursday: Heb 10:19-25/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Mk 4:21-25  
Friday: Heb 10:32-39/Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 23-24, 39-40/Mk 4:26-34  
Saturday: Heb 11:1-2, 8-19/Lk 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75/Mk 4:35-41  
Next Sunday: Mal 3:1-4/Heb 2:14-18/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

### LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Domingo: Neh 8, 2-4. 5-6. 8-10/Sal 18, 8. 9. 10. 15 (ver Jn 6, 63)/1 Co 12, 12-30 o 12, 12-14. 27/Lc 1, 1-4; 4, 14-21  
Lunes: Heb 9, 15. 24-28/Sal 97, 1. 2-3. 3-4. 5-6/Mc 3, 22-30  
Martes: Heb 10, 1-10/Sal 39, 2 y 4. 7-8. 10. 11/Mc 3, 31-35  
Miércoles: Heb 10, 11-18/Sal 109, 1. 2. 3. 4/Mc 4, 1-20  
Jueves: Heb 10, 19-25/Sal 23, 1-2. 3-4. 5-6/Mc 4, 21-25  
Viernes: Heb 10, 32-39/Sal 36, 3-4. 5-6. 23-24. 39-40/Mc 4, 26-34  
Sábado: Heb 11, 1-2. 8-19/Lc 1, 69-70. 71-72. 73-75/Mc 4, 35-41  
Domingo siguiente: Mal 3, 1-4/Heb 2, 14-18/Sal 23, 7. 8. 9. 10/ Lc 2, 22-40 o 2, 22-32

## STEWARDSHIP UPDATE



The U.S. bishops' pastoral letter on stewardship reinforces today's reading from 1 Corinthians: "Because its individual members do collectively make up the Body of Christ, that body's health and well-being are the responsibility of the members—the personal responsibility of each one of us. We all are stewards of the Church."

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

New A/C Compressor  
Architectural Fees for School Steps

### Year-To-Date 7/1/24—01/20/25

	Guardian Angels	St. Nicholas
Goal, Year-to-Date	\$391,320	\$36,210
Last Sunday's Collection	\$12,531	\$550
Total Giving YTD	\$340,429	\$36,466
Percent of Goal Funded	87%	101%

### Guardian Angels Maintenance Fund:

Contributions this fiscal year:	\$34,793.46
Expenses this fiscal year:	\$44,457
Fund Balance:	\$120,694.76

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



## STATE OF THE PARISHES

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Last week, I wrote about praying for our newly elected president, Congressional leaders, state leaders, and our country. This is a very civic-minded time, it seems to me, with last Thursday (January 22<sup>nd</sup>) as a day of penance as we pray for an end to abortion and a respect for life, as we remember Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and as we remember this week as a week of prayer for Christian Unity.

So now, I thought I'd write about the state of our parishes. We are seeing encouraging results from our preschool survey. As of Tuesday, January 21st, we have received 33 completed surveys, with most indicating a desire for all-day and year-round preschool. Of the respondents, 81% said that the most important factor in selecting a preschool was that the school be based in faith. 54% of the respondents said that it is very likely that, if the preschool were to open this autumn, they would enroll their children in the next 3 years, and 24% said that they would be equally as likely to send them to another preschool. If you feel that you could help us as part of a committee, let me know!

A contractor has been selected for the complete rebuilding of the school front steps. I offer a special thanks to those who have contributed to the school stairs fund, but also to all of you who have participated in the building up of our maintenance fund. This will be instrumental in helping us to open a new preschool and it is certainly not too late to make a donation. We anticipate that we would complete this project by July 15<sup>th</sup> of this year with a goal of opening up our preschool by this autumn.

Our monthly commission meetings to implement our new strategic plan have been productive and, I believe, have helped us to foster each other's collective efforts and begin to build upon successes. The Strengthening Finances Commission has spearheaded the effort to rebuild the school steps and pursue a new preschool with the help of Catholic Schools Center of Excellence (CSCO). The Evangelization Commission has begun efforts toward increasing visibility and understanding of all that we have to offer. Soon we will have additional evangelization initiatives including joining the Latinos this spring and summer. The Youth, Young Adult, and Young Families Commission has helped us with an open house to showcase our faith formation, Catholic School Dollars for Scholars scholarship program, and hope for a preschool. The Sunday Experience Commission promoted a wonderful outdoor Mass last October at the prayer garden. Now it turns our focus on making the Mass time change go as smoothly as possible. Again, on March 2<sup>nd</sup> going forward, we will change our Sunday morning English Mass offerings to 7:30 AM Saint Nicholas and 9:00 AM Guardian Angels, and a Spanish Mass at 12 (noon).

### **A Word about Saint Paul**

This Saturday, January 25<sup>th</sup> is the feast day of the Conversion of Saint Paul. It is the patronal feast day of our archdiocese as we remember our Mother Church, The Cathedral of Saint Paul. Saint Paul was born a Jew in the Roman city of Tarsus, which is now in modern day Turkey. As a Roman citizen, he was a devout Jew who persecuted Christians and approved the martyrdom of Saint Stephen. One can truly say that he was a man who stood at the center of various groups: Jew and Gentile, persecutor of Christians and devout follower of Christ, and missionary to the Gentiles.

In Acts 9: 15-16, Jesus appeared to Ananias and told him to go to Saul, lay his hands on him, heal him, and baptize him. Jesus explained that "this man is a chosen instrument of Mine to carry My name before Gentiles, kings, and Israelites, and I will show him what he will have to suffer for my name." We are all chosen instruments of God. We thank Saint Paul for his example to us of being ever-faithful in carrying out his role!

Father Tony



## WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

*A Weekend of Discovery...  
A Lifetime of Love!*

Want to enhance your marriage?  
Attend a Marriage Encounter Weekend!  
Give the gift of God's love through your love for  
each other. The next weekend is **February 14-16,  
2025** at the Christ the King Retreat Center,  
Buffalo, MN. Register by going to **WWME.ORG**  
or contact Brent & Tracy Chessen (612-234-7440).

2025 Weekends all at Buffalo:  
May 16-18 / Oct. 17-19

*"Love One Another, As I Have Loved You"*  
John 15:12

## LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR

*Friday, January 24th 6-9 p.m. and  
Saturday, January 25th 8:30 a.m.-6:15 p.m. (lunch  
included), Registration \$25, Scholarships available*

The two-day seminar offers a basic presentation of  
the Gospel and what the Lord is willing to do for all  
who come to Him. It will provide a way to learn  
more about living in the Spirit and allowing Jesus  
Christ to establish, restore, or deepen a relationship  
with you. Life in the Spirit Seminars are open to  
everyone.

The seminar is at St. Therese: 18323 Minnetonka  
Blvd, Deephaven.

## BEEF AND SAUSAGE DINNER



All men of the parish are asked to pick up a  
Beef and Sausage Worker's list at the  
entrances of the church.

Making Chaska history since 1949!

## MOM'S GROUP

*Saturday, Feb. 1st, 9-10 a.m., Room 004,  
enter door #2*

We meet 1st and 3rd Saturdays for a morning to  
pray, reflect, & connect with one another.  
Refreshments provided. Childcare available—please  
RSVP to Jenna Salinas with # of kids (call/text 612-  
201-4864).

## TAKE OUR PRESCHOOL SURVEY

We have exciting news! Early survey results show  
strong interest in a Guardian Angels Catholic  
Preschool and we're thrilled about the possibility of  
opening our doors this autumn. 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. While we are eager to move forward,  
enrollment is not yet open. We understand that  
many preschools are currently accepting  
applications, and we encourage families to secure a  
spot elsewhere if needed. However, we sincerely  
hope you'll consider joining the Guardian Angels  
Preschool family when the opportunity arises.

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.

Please keep us in your prayers as we work toward  
making this vision a reality and stay tuned for  
updates on enrollment. We can't wait to welcome  
your little ones!

Scan me to  
take the  
survey! 😊



## FALL FESTIVAL PLANNING MEETING

*Tuesday, January 28th, 6:30-8:30 p.m.,  
St. Francis Hall*

If you have ideas on how to improve our food, raffle,  
entertainment, or volunteer recruiting, please come  
to this planning session.

## CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL NEXT WEEK



We are a culture of doers. We demonstrate love for our families through service – taking aging parents to doctor appointments, hosting holiday gatherings, carting kids to school activities. We climb the ladder of success through long hours of work. So burdened by activities, we often need another rest after returning home from a family vacation. Even in our faith lives, we follow Christ by doing. We evangelize, serve the marginalized, attend Mass, etc. Service is good.

Jesus' ministry was an active one based on service, and as his followers, we are called to continue these good works in his name. But we need to *be* with Jesus, too. We need to contemplate Him, this God-made-man who brings good news to those who suffer. Jesus says, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me." If we let the Holy Spirit rest in us as it did in Him, we will enjoy a deep and abiding friendship with Christ. He desires intimacy with us, and intimacy requires that we slow down and feel the presence of our Lord in our lives.

In Jesus' first sermon, we see that the Spirit dwells in Him, empowering him to establish a kingdom of peace and justice that will never end. Please pray for the success of the Catholic Services Appeal as a way of building the Kingdom of God and ask the Holy Spirit to guide your participation in it.

## WOMEN IN THE NEW EVANGELIZATION CONFERENCE

*Saturday, March 1st, St. Bartholomew Church in Wayzata, 8:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Registration and payment required*

Beginning with Mass at 8 a.m. Saturday, followed by time for registration and a few snacks, the conference will officially start at 9:00 a.m. with our ever-endearing emcee, Alyssa Bormes.

Keynote Speakers Marie Miller (singer-songwriter who helped introduce WINE to the world in 2014), Sr. Rose Marie Tulacz, SND (gifted photographer and founder of Notre Dame Creations Ministry), Terri Savaryn (founder and owner of Sovereign Estate Winery), and Kelly Wahlquist (author, speaker, and founder of WINE) will ignite our souls with faith-filled inspirational talks.

Along with inspirational talks, the day will include the music of Teresa Peterson, motivational entertainment, shopping, personal time to pray with prayer teams, confession, adoration, tons of laughter, a fabulous lunch, CHOCOLATE, door prizes, and a fun raffle!

Registration can be found at [catholicvineyard.com](http://catholicvineyard.com). Register today; price increases after Feb. 12th!

### PIES PIES PIES!



Every parishioner family is asked to donate two pies for the February 9th Beef and Sausage Dinner. Every kind of pie is welcome.

Please drop them off at the School Gym entrance of 1st and Cedar St. during any of these times:  
Friday, February 7th from 8 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Saturday, February 8th from 8 a.m.-10 a.m.  
Sunday, February 9th from 8 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

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 this winter and spring.

## SAINTS JOACHIM AND ANNE WINTERFEST

Join us for a traditional German celebration!

Saturday, February 22nd, 2025, 6 p.m. social, dinner will follow.

Saints Joachim and Anne—Marystown Social Center.

Tickets: \$25 per person  
Payment is due at the time of registration. Reservations required.

Questions? Call coordinators: Gary (612-716-3106) or Diane (612-716-3501).

## "LIFE IS GOOD" SPEAKER SERIES

"The Gift of Peter"  
A Trisomy 18 Story

At this FREE event, Mary Kellett, founder of Prenatal Partners for Life, will speak at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, 680 Mill Street, Excelsior. You can choose from two sessions:

1. Tuesday, February 4th, 6:30-8 p.m.
2. Wednesday, February 5th, 8:30-10 a.m.



Beginning Sunday March 2nd, our new Sunday morning Mass schedule will be:

- 7:30 AM Mass in English at Saint Nicholas
- 9:00 AM Mass in English at Guardian Angels
- 12:00 PM Mass in Spanish at Guardian Angels

Our Archbishop has responded to our strategic plan. He stated in his recent letter to Father Tony that he was pleased with 3 aspects of the plan:

1. The plan envisions going out to evangelize our neighbors. Pope Francis often reminds us that we cannot thrive, or even survive, as a Church that only looks inward. We must find ways to successfully welcome those who are new to the area.
2. Leaders from Guardian Angels and Saint Nicholas collaborated in this planning effort. As we bring the good news of Jesus to our neighbors, we must work together, building upon the strengths of each parish. This is very true for us who have limited financial and staff resources.
3. The plan proposes a reasonable Mass schedule that can be fulfilled by one priest.

Archbishop Hebda looks forward to receiving an extensive update by October 31st, 2025 as to how our progress has unfolded and he assures us of his prayers. The work that we do together in these coming months will surely be of critical importance in growing Jesus' Church in Chaska and Carver. Thank you for your efforts!

Father Tony

## 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](mailto:bkaufmann@gachaska.org).



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