

Saint Nicholas Catholic Church

January 15-16, 2022

8603 Contee Road ♦ Laurel, MD 20708

Office: (301) 490-5116 ♦ Fax: (301) 490-1527

Email: st.nicholaschurch@verizon.net

Website: <http://stnicholaslaurel.org>

Parish Hall Inquiries: Please email
stnicholasparishhall@gmail.com

Welcome to Saint Nicholas Parish!

We are glad you have joined us for worship. We invite you to join in our worship and singing as much as you feel comfortable. Songbooks can be found at the back of church near the entrances. Restrooms are in the back of church to the right of the stained glass window. A cry room can be found on the left side of church. Please let an usher know if you need anything. We hope you will come again soon.

Parish Vision Statement

Saint Nicholas Catholic Church is a community of grace, healing and salvation. Jesus Christ and his Gospel are the heart of our parish and it is in this sanctuary that we find a sense of meaning and purpose. The celebrations of Mass and the sacraments are the means by which we give glory to God. The Eucharist is the food that nourishes our life with Christ, and in him alone do we have faith and find our hope. Our love for Jesus makes us willing to share our time, talent and treasure with our neighbors on earth to build the Kingdom of God. St. Nicholas Church is our support and our family, and we welcome all to join us in worship and service.

Parish Staff

Pastor: Reverend Timothy K. Baer
Weekend Assistant: Reverend Paul Hill
Permanent Deacons: Deacon Eric C. Simontis
Deacon Perry Iannaconi

**Dir. of Religious Education
& Youth Ministry (Ext 109):** Hope Benson

**Dir. of Evangelization
(Ext 111):** Kathy Schmitt

Dir. of Music (301) 213-3031: Stu Knazik

Parish Secretary: Kathy Garnes

Support Staff: Debbie Rausch

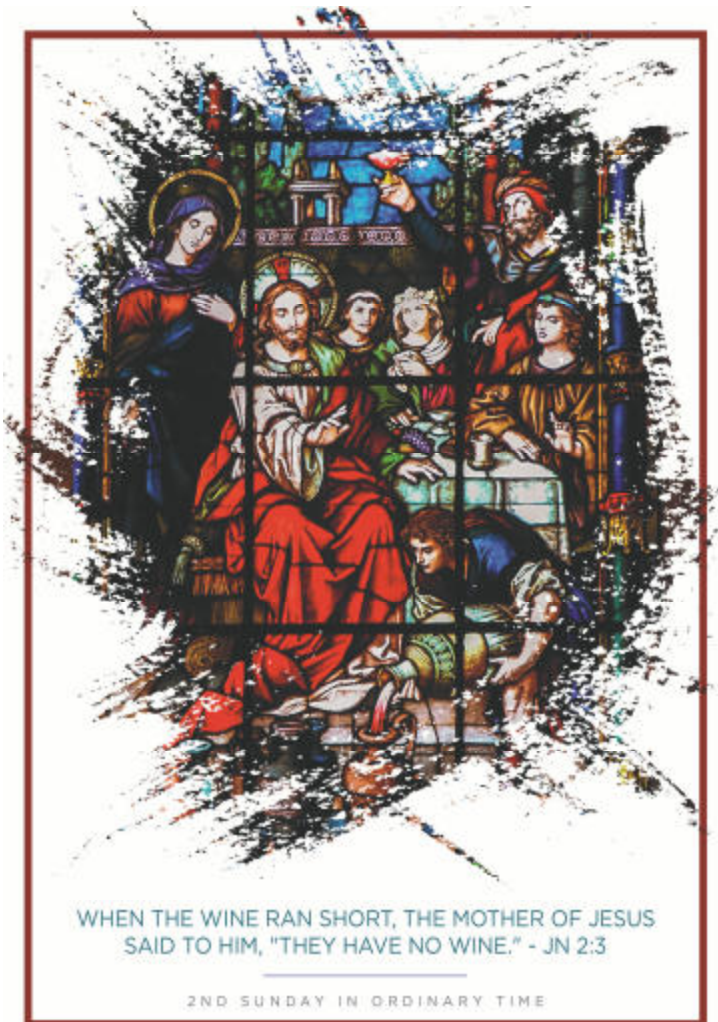
Rectory Hours Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri., 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
The Rectory Office is closed on Wednesdays.

Daily Mass Monday to Saturday at 8:30 a.m.; additionally, First Friday Mass & Eucharistic Adoration from 9:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Benediction at 6:30 p.m., with Mass at 7:00 p.m. in the Church.

Confessions Saturday from 4:00-4:45 p.m. or by appointment.

Sunday Masses Saturday (Vigil) at 5:00 p.m. and on Sunday at 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., and 11:30 a.m.

New to the Parish? Welcome! Contact the Rectory Office or see an usher to register.



Sacrament of Baptism Congratulations on the birth of your child. To arrange your child's Baptism, parents shall be registered in the parish for at least three (3) months, then attend one required Baptism Preparation Class on Sun., Feb. 13, Mar. 13, or April 10, after the 11:30 a.m. Mass; finally, the Baptismal Application & the *Godparent Form* must be completed and submitted **before** attending the class. Baptismal Application Forms are located in the office in the back of the Church. The Sacrament of Baptism is scheduled after the 11:30 a.m. Sunday Mass on Jan. 30, Feb. 27, or Mar. 27. *Please confirm the date with the Baptism Coordinator before making arrangements.* For more information, contact Luz Cunanan, 301-742-5965, or lp Cunanan128@verizon.net.

First Reconciliation, Holy Communion, and Confirmation Contact the Director of Religious Education for more information.

RCIA If you are interested in learning more about the Catholic faith or wish to complete the Sacraments of Initiation, contact Kathy Schmitt (kschmitt123@yahoo.com).

Marriage Archdiocesan regulations require that preparation with a priest or deacon begins no less than six months prior to the date of marriage. Pre-nuptial counseling and instructions are required. Contact the rectory for more information.

Vocations Contact Father Baer, Deacon Eric, or Deacon Perry if you are interested in vocations to the Priesthood, Permanent Diaconate, or religious life.

Anointing of the Sick Please notify us concerning any parishioners who are sick or homebound, in hospitals or in nursing homes. In case of serious illness or sudden death, notify the rectory immediately.

Funerals Please call the rectory to make arrangements.

Although we have entered into a period of Ordinary Time in the Church’s liturgical year, the Gospel account of Jesus’ first miracle at Cana--thanks to the intercession of His Mother Mary--is traditionally associated with the Epiphany of the Lord. Here he manifests the abundant graces of his new Kingdom. When I went on pilgrimage to the Holy Land in 2017, Cana was one of the places we visited. What I remember the most is how HUGE the water jars were. Think of a hot-tub, only encased in stone. Jesus’ point, other than getting the bride and groom’s families out of a social jam, is how GOOD the graces are which come from him through Mary, and how BIG, HUGE, ABUNDANT, they are. These graces come to us through His Church, and especially through the gift of Himself in the Eucharist. May we be mindful and thankful for so great a gift as this.

Fr. Baer

Welcome to St. Nicholas! (Check our website & “Flocknote” for the latest updates). Effective October 6, Prince George’s County expanded its mask mandates (whether vaccinated or not) indoors. Everyone over the age of two (2) is to be masked while indoors.

Mass Intentions

Mon. Jan 17	8:30 a.m.	Arnie Rausch [For Healing] (L)
Tues. Jan 18	8:30 a.m.	Bernadette Marlow [97th Birthday] [L]
Wed. Jan 19	8:30 a.m.	+Lucy Eberhardt
Thurs. Jan 20	8:30 a.m.	+William Lammers
Fri. Jan 21	8:30 a.m.	+Paul Zugay
Sat. Jan 22	8:30 a.m.	+Jeffrey Schultess

Masses	January 15 / 16	January 22 / 23
5:00 p.m.	+Alan Pohland	Jumoke Akinbamijo (L)
8:00 a.m.	+Thelma Bopp	+David Liscinsky
9:30 a.m.	Parishioners of St. Nicholas	+Iris Rodriguez
11:30 a.m.	+Catherine Elko	Parishioners of St. Nicholas

Mass Intentions To offer a Mass for a loved one (living/deceased), the Mass Intention book is located back in the church office after all weekend Masses. During the week, contact the rectory office with the name/s & Mass date/s being requested. A suggested donation of \$10-15 is requested.

Please Pray For: Stefan Abresch, Paz Belandres, Sandra Harris, Mia Jackson, Florence Jermann, Merle Joseph, Gene Kearney, Doris Menjivar, Zaida Morris, Arnie Rausch, Doris Rosenberg, Erin Tiamson, Ernestine & Oliver Wilford, Jennifer Woods, & our parishioners who are in assisted living, are homebound, in nursing homes, & their caregivers. Call the office to add/remove anyone.

Christmas Flower Donations A list of donors and their memorialized/honored loved ones has been inserted into this week’s bulletin.

Religious Education Update Due to the increasing numbers of Covid-19 cases in the county, Fr. Baer and Hope Benson believe it prudent to extend the Religious Ed Christmas Break. Students in grades 1 - 6 will resume on Saturday, January 22, and students in grades 7 - 8 will resume on Monday, January 24. Hope will be sending out an email with an assignment for the students to complete before they return. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to email or call the office.

Youth Rally & Mass for Life All are invited to join us on Friday, Jan. 21, for a virtual, live-streamed Youth Rally & Mass for Life to be broadcasted on the Archdiocese of Washington’s *You Tube* channel from the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle in downtown Washington! Limited seating for the in-person event will be available to local students. For more information, go to www://adw.org.

Knights of Columbus Movie & Supper Night The movie night & supper is being held in the parish hall from 6:00-9:00 p.m., next Sat., Jan. 22. They are showing the 2016 movie, “Risen”, about a Roman Tribune who is tasked to investigate the mystery of what happened to Jesus after the Crucifixion. In his search, he questions his own beliefs. All are welcome!

Retreat for Survivors The Archdiocese of Washington is offering a women’s retreat for survivors of abuse on Feb. 20, 2022. This retreat is an occasion for survivors to reflect on God’s plan for their lives and for healing through prayer & the sacraments. Info: <https://adw.org/the-way-retreat>. To register: email mcdonald@adw.org, or call Deborah McDonald at 301-853-4466.

Domestic Violence & Human Trafficking If help is needed now, contact the National Domestic Violence Hotline, 800-799-7233 (24 hours); 800-787-3224 (TTY); www.ndvh.org. If you are in immediate danger, call 911. If you need help, 2-1-1 is the number to call. In Baltimore, call 410-685-0525. Elsewhere in Maryland, call 1-800-492-0618.

Catholic Charities Lenten Food Drive During these difficult economic times and pandemic, many families need food assistance and many parish food pantries and local community food banks need donations to meet increasing requests. St. Nicholas’s Lenten Food Drive benefiting LARS, Laurel Advocacy and Referral Services, Inc., will be held on the weekend of Mar. 26-27. Thank you in advance for helping families during Lent!

Palms As we look ahead to Lent, there will be a basket in the parish hall for parishioners to deposit their old palm leaves that are used on Ash Wednesday (Mar. 2nd this year). Thank you.

Children's Choir The children's choir is welcoming all children to help us lead the singing at Mass. We sing every 4th Sunday at 9:30 Mass. If your child can read well & enjoys singing, please contact Rolanda Brown for more information on how to join the choir. Her email address is: rolanda7687@gmail.com.

50th Anniversary Memory Book Sales Copies of the 50th Anniversary Memory Book are available for purchase (\$20 cash or check made out to "St. Nicholas Church"). If you wish to obtain one, contact Debbie Rausch, rauschda@gmail.com, or 301-395-9912. We can arrange a time/place for you to buy/pickup a copy after Mass or in the Church Office in the back of the church. Proceeds benefit the parish hall. Thank you.

FREE Books! There are milk crates in the parish hall with leftover FREE books that parishioners may take home. The religious books in the cabinet are also free. Our little library was conceived to allow people to take home and read these books and if they have some to donate, to add them to the cabinet. Feel free to browse!

St. Nicholas Prayer Warriors Prayer requests may be sent to Rita McGlothlin, ritamarymcg@gmail.com, or 301-498-7019.

International Catholics of St. Nicholas ICSN meet on the 4th Sunday of the month, after the 11:30 a.m. Mass. The next meeting will be **next Sun., Jan. 23rd**, in the Cry Room. Info: Jane Okebugwu, jokebugwu@aol.com.

In the Spirit Charismatic Prayer Group Meets every Wednesday, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. All are invited to join us praising God and worshipping together!

Knights of Columbus The Deacon John Lynn Council business meeting is held on the 2nd Tues. of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. (**Next** business meeting: Tues., Feb. 8). The Knights lead the Glorious Mysteries of the Holy Rosary at 11:00 a.m. every Sunday before the 11:30 a.m. Mass. All are invited to pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy each Friday at 3:00 p.m. Info: mike.woodruff@mac.com.

St. Nicholas Capital Campaign Please continue to fulfill your pledge to our Capital Campaign.

Faith Direct Join the parishioners who are using *Faith Direct* for automated giving. *Faith Direct* offers a safe and secure way to donate to our parish. You can sign up from your computer, smart phone or tablet to set up a recurring donation or a one-time gift. Recurring gifts help sustain our parish, as we work to reopen our programs, services, & ministries to meet our parish & community's needs. To sign up: <https://membership.faithdirect.net/MD607>, or text 'Enroll' to (301) 690-8484. Thank you!



Holy Land Pilgrimage with Father Jack Fr. Jack Kennealy, Pastor of St. Matthias Catholic Church in Lanham, MD, will be the Tour's Spiritual Leader on a 12 day-10 night visit to the Holy Land, from May 22-June 2, 2022, with a cost of \$4280.00 per person, based on double occupancy. (See the flyer posted on the bulletin board or on the parish hall table). More information may be obtained from Fr. Jack Kennealy, at Kennealyj@adw.org, or rtemmaus@gmail.com. (Israel requires a COVID19 vaccine certificate as a condition prior to entering the country).

Supporting Afghan Refugees Two programs supporting Afghan refugee families, one at a military base in Quantico (support being provided by the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops) & one in Prince George's County (a nonprofit group called Homes Not Borders). For info: Peggy Arizzi at: USC-CBleadQuantico@USCCB.org & Laura Osuri, Founder & Director, at: laura@homesnotborders.org.

Pro-Life The Hyde Amendment has kept tax payers from paying for abortions for 45 years. It is in danger. We (the Archdiocese of Washington & the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops) are asking parishes to join us in support of the Hyde Amendment by sharing the following resources in bulletins & social media: <https://www.notaxpayerabortion.com/>.

VITA Tax Services The Catholic Charities Financial Stability Network is again offering free tax preparation services to low or moderate income people. The Vita Network assists residents of DC, Montgomery, Prince George's, Calvert, Charles, & St. Mary's Counties. For more info: <https://www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/vita>, or reach out to: Jim.Shanahan@cc-dc.org. Thank you.

Catholic Charities Legal Network Catholic Charities Legal Network counsels and provides legal representation to low-income & poor residents throughout the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C., and relies heavily on volunteer lawyers to fulfill its mission. If you are a lawyer in active status who wants to make a real difference in the lives of families and individuals struggling in our community, please reach out to Dan Collopy at 301-615-0949, or email: Daniel.collopy@cc-dc.org, to discuss how you can help. The Legal Network handles most civil practice areas & criminal expungements.

Poor Box Contributions are a valued & gracious gift.

Readings for January 22 / 23

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading	Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10
Second Reading	1 Corinthians 12:12-30 or 12:12-14, 27
Gospel	Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21

Parish Bulletin Deadline Please submit items by Thurs., at Noon for publication in the parish bulletin 10 days later to Debbie at rauschda@gmail.com. Thank you.

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"Her Treatments are Life-Changing"

A local acupuncturist is helping folks live free from the suffering of **CHRONIC PAIN**

Richard S.. of Laurel, MD found himself living in constant pain. He had received a diagnosis of peripheral neuropathy and everyday he felt as though he was walking on pins and needles. He was becoming weaker and weaker. "I was beginning to be worried that one day I would be wheelchair-bound."

Unfortunately Richard's story is all too familiar for those living with chronic pain.

Whether it's the numbness or tingling from NEUROPATHY, the burning pain of SCIATICA, the unbearable swelling and stiffness of ARTHRITIS, or the constant fatigue associated with FIBROMYALGIA, chronic pain makes it difficult to do things others take for granted.

Often, the only solution doctors have for these complex conditions are surgery or prescription medications with no guarantee of success.

PAIN-RELIEVING TREATMENTS FOR:

Migraines Fibromyalgia
Back Pain Neuropathy
Knee Pain Arthritis
Fatigue Sciatica
Stress/Anxiety

Fortunately for Richard, a local licensed acupuncturist, Shiopei Low, is using the time-tested science of Acupuncture and modern technology, originally developed by NASA to assist in increasing blood flow and expediting recovery, to treat these conditions.

"We have a beach condo on the second floor. One morning after treatments I walked right down the stairs and got in the car," Richard shared. "I remember thinking 'that's become so easy for me', I didn't have to hold on to the handrail or anything! It's life-changing to have my strength and mobility back!"

The kind of treatments Shiopei Low, L.Ac provides has been reversing the effects of conditions like Neuropathy, Sciatica, Arthritis, and Fibromyalgia for over 20 years without invasive surgeries or medications that come with uncomfortable side effects. If you're living a life of constant pain and discomfort, Shiopei Low, L.Ac at Patapsco Acupuncture & Integrative Medicine can help!

Shiopei is now accepting new patients but only for a limited time. To determine whether or not you are a good candidate for her personalized and comprehensive treatments an initial consultation is required.

**Call 443-774-5441 today
to schedule!**



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