

# Saint Nicholas Catholic Church

January 22-23, 2022

8603 Contee Road ♦ Laurel, MD 20708

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Website: <http://stnicholaslaurel.org>

Parish Hall Inquiries: Please email  
[stnicholasparishhall@gmail.com](mailto: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 [lpconanan128@verizon.net](mailto:lpconanan128@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](mailto: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.

This week marked the annual March For Life. The foundation for any other human and civil right begins with and depends on the right to life. No one ever got a job, rose from poverty, protected the environment, overcame gender or racial/ethnic discrimination, or advocated for religious freedom if he or she was killed in a mother's womb at any point in the nine months of pregnancy. The right to life is not a right which government can grant and take away. Morally and lawfully, it can only acknowledge, respect and promote it. The "hearts and minds" of our nation are as convinced of this as they have ever been since abortion's widespread legalization in 1973. In response, the desperate opposition is as militantly anti-life as I can remember. To be "pro-life" is not to subscribe to a religious belief. Human life was sacred long before the Church ever took up for it. To be pro-life is to be honest about the truth of the human person. The law must endorse this truth, not oppose it. Then we can talk about the other important human and civil rights as they arise from their true, living, breathing foundation.

*Fr. Baer*

**Welcome to St. Nicholas!** (Check our website & "Flocknote" for the latest updates). Prince George's County currently mandates that masks must be worn indoors by everyone over the age of two (whether vaccinated or not). Effective since Oct. 6, 2021). Thanks.

*Mass Intentions*

|               |           |                                |
|---------------|-----------|--------------------------------|
| Mon. Jan 24   | 8:30 a.m. | +Charles Phillips              |
| Tues. Jan 25  | 8:30 a.m. | Arnie Rausch [For Healing] (L) |
| Wed. Jan 26   | 8:30 a.m. | +Mable Dyer                    |
| Thurs. Jan 27 | 8:30 a.m. | +John Mulligan                 |
| Fri. Jan 28   | 8:30 a.m. | Luz Cunanan [Thanksgiving] (L) |
| Sat. Jan 29   | 8:30 a.m. | +Johanna Vedoch                |

| Masses     | January 22 / 23              | January 29 / 30                                   |
|------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| 5:00 p.m.  | Jumoke Akinbamijo (L)        | Parishioners of St. Nicholas                      |
| 8:00 a.m.  | +David Liscinsky             | +Leonard John MnKande                             |
| 9:30 a.m.  | +Iris Rodriguez              | +Otto Neilson                                     |
| 11:30 a.m. | Parishioners of St. Nicholas | +Evelyne & Victor Njuki [Wedding Anniversary] (L) |

**Mass Intentions** To offer a Mass for a loved one (living/deceased), the Mass Intention book is located in the church office after 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.

**First Friday Eucharistic Adoration** Friday, Feb. 4, First Friday Eucharistic Adoration is from 9:00 a.m.- 6:30 p.m., with Benediction at 6:30 p.m., followed by Mass at 7:00 p.m.

**Thank You** The Winter Shelter Coordinators want to thank all the parishioners who made lunches for the Jan. 15/16 Winter Shelter guests. Thank you for caring for other's needs.

**First Saturday Devotions** Sat., Feb. 5, the Marian Ladies invite everyone to pray, & sing the Rosary after the 8:30 a.m. Morning Mass. The times have been changed for the Winter to take advantage of the daylight during the Winter season. Info: call Luz at (301) 742-5965.

**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 **this** Saturday, January 22, and students in grades 7 - 8 will resume **this coming** Monday, January 24. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to email or call the office.

**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](mailto: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](http://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.

**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Memory Book Sales** Copies of the 50<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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.

**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 for helping many 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.

**Poor Box** Contributions are a valued & gracious gift.

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

**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.

**St. Nicholas Prayer Warriors** Prayer requests may be sent to Rita McGlothlin, ritamarymccg@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 is **this** 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.

**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!

**FREE Books!** The book cabinet in the parish hall has leftover FREE books that parishioners may take home. 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. Come & browse!

**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 & 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 network handles most civil practice areas & criminal expungements.

**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.

**40 Days for Life 2021** There are some amazingly successful statistics for the 2021 Prayer Vigil Campaigns, when you think this prolife endeavor started with 3 people in Texas praying in front of an Abortion Clinic which is now a Center for Life. As of 2021, 20,368 babies lives have been saved, 229 abortion workers quit the abortion industry, 114 abortion facilities have closed, and 1,000,000 individuals have participated in defending life at 612 Prayer Vigil sites. There is hope that the tide for life will keep growing stronger in the world.

**St. Joseph's Regional Catholic School Updates** Considering a Catholic School Education for your children? Check out our St. Nicholas Church website: <https://www.stnicholaslaurel.org/saint-joseph-regional-school>. Please follow us on facebook, @stjosephbeltsville, or twitter, @StJosephsRCS, for videos and updates on what's going on in our school!

**Catholic Schools Virtual Open Houses** Are you interested in finding the right Catholic School for you? Take the first step by attending a virtual open house or admissions event this month. Learn more at [www.adwcatholicsschools.org](http://www.adwcatholicsschools.org).

**Help Our Marriage** Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi with a long i) can help & offers hope for a better relationship. For info visit: [www.HelpOurMarriage.org](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.org), call 443-400-7017, or email 3015@retrouvaille.org.

### **Readings for January 29 / 30**

#### **Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

|                |                                      |
|----------------|--------------------------------------|
| First Reading  | Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19                |
| Second Reading | 1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13 or 13:4-13 |
| Gospel         | Luke 4:21-30                         |

**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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