The mission of St. Nicholas Catholic Church is to proclaim and spread the gospel of Jesus Christ through celebration of our faith and sharing our time, talent and treasure in service of the Kingdom of God.

**Mass/Reconciliation Schedule**

- **Saturday Penance/Vigil**: 4:30 p.m. / 5:30 p.m.
- **Sunday**: 8:30 a.m. (Live Stream) & 11:00 a.m.
- **Tuesday Eucharistic Adoration**: 10:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. (Live Stream)
- **Tuesday - Friday**: 10:00 a.m. (Live Stream)

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**Office Hours**

Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**Website**: www.stnicholasvb.com

**Email**: stnicholas@stnicholasvb.com

**Phone**: (757) 340-7231
**Fax**: (757) 340-2727

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**A Stewardship Parish - Founded in 1963**

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**Parish Administration**

Fr. Venancio R. Balarote, “Jun”
Pastor
frvb@stnicholasvb.com

Lora DiNardo
Pastoral Associate, Business Manager
lardinor@stnicholasvb.com

James Gardner
Director of Music Ministry
jgardner@stnicholasvb.com

Steve Branning
Dir. of Christian Formation, Evangelization
sbranning@stnicholasvb.com

Ryan Castro
Youth Minister
rcastro@stnicholasvb.com

Mary Margaret Scott
Social Ministries Coordinator
stnicholas@stnicholasvb.com

Charlene Brehl
Administrative Assistant
stnicholasadmin@stnicholasvb.com

James K. Throne
Maintenance Manager
jamest@stnicholasvb.com

Edward Hill, Tom Pannullo
Maintenance Assistants

Denise Foster
Sacramental Records Volunteer

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**Councils**

Ken Inglesby - Pastoral Council Chair
Julie Ghassab – Pastoral Council Vice Chair
Paul Battaglia - Finance Council Chair

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Then Jesus said to her in reply, “O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And the woman’s daughter was healed from that hour. - Mt 15:28

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ST. NICHOLAS CATHOLIC CHURCH

SACRAMENTS

Baptism: Due to our current pandemic situation, the Sacrament is scheduled privately outside of Mass. Parents must be registered in the parish for at least three months and participate in the preparation sessions held prior to the celebration of the sacrament. Baptism classes are offered as needed to individual couples. Please call Steve Branning to register to attend.

RCIA: Are you or someone you know interested in learning more about joining the Catholic Church? RCIA meets on Sundays at 12:15 p.m. in the Fall. Please contact Steve Branning for more information.

First Reconciliation: Preparation sessions for parents and children are held in the fall and early winter in the 2nd grade First Communion Class. Adults are needed to assist with workshops, retreats and office. Children must be registered in Christian Formation Class.

First Eucharist: Preparation sessions for parents and children are held in the winter. Adults are involved with the children as leaders, aides, assistant coordinators, and at social events. Children, usually 2nd graders, must be registered in Christian Formation Class. It is Holy Communion that draws us into a deeper intimacy with Christ.

Confirmation: The appropriate age for preparation and reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation is “when an individual is both at least 15 years of age and enrolled in at least the tenth grade.” “Preparation for Confirmation must be a separate and distinct program from the parish youth ministry or religious education program.” (Diocesan Policy and Guidelines for Preparation of Baptized Adolescents to Receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, 2010 Summit Edition, Catholic Diocese of Richmond). For further information, contact Ryan Castro.

Anointing of the Sick: Please contact Lora DiNardo so that the hospitalized and homebound may receive Holy Communion or request Anointing of the Sick.

Holy Orders and Religious Life: Men and women who are considering Holy Orders or Religious Life are encouraged to call the Pastor.

Marriage: Requires six month’s advance notice before wedding date is set. Instructions offered by parish priest. Please call Lora DiNardo in the parish office to schedule an appointment.

POPE FRANCIS PRAYER INTENTION

The Maritime World: We pray for all those who work and live from the sea, among them sailors, fishermen and their families

VOCATION GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

That more men and women will have the faith to hear God’s call in their lives and respond with hope in His promise and love for the Savior by following Him as priests, deacons and in the consecrated life, we pray to the Lord.

ST. NICHOLAS CATHOLIC CHURCH

YOUR STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

AUGUST 16, 2020

PARISH OFFERTORY & STEWARDSHIP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week Ending</th>
<th>Offertory Received</th>
<th>ACH &amp; Electronic Giving</th>
<th>Total Giving</th>
<th>Offertory Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/2/2020</td>
<td>$ 5,957</td>
<td>$ 1,462</td>
<td>$ 7,419</td>
<td>$ 9,763</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/9/2020</td>
<td>$ 10,879</td>
<td>Electronic giving will be updated next week</td>
<td>$ 10,879</td>
<td>$ 9,763</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/16/2020</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/23/2020</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/30/2020</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$ 16,836</td>
<td>$ 1,462</td>
<td>$ 18,298</td>
<td>$ 48,815</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

July

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>July Offertory</th>
<th>July Offertory Budget</th>
<th>Year to Date Offertory July</th>
<th>Year to Date Offertory Budget July</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$ 49,730</td>
<td>$ 49,725</td>
<td>$ 49,730</td>
<td>$ 49,725</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thank you for your consideration and support of St. Nicholas.

LIVING OUR MISSION, LOVING OUR CHURCH

Capital Improvement Giving

Week: $398
Month: $1071
To Date: $258,642

Living Our Mission Campaign Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pledged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fulfilled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Write-Offs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outstanding Pledges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legacy Pledge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outstanding Balance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOM Cash Gifts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2020 Total

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parish Share Collected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diocesan Share Collected</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% of Goal vs Raised Target: 98.23%
% of Goal vs Collected Target: 82.46%
**PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MASS INTENTIONS</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, August 18</strong></td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, August 19</strong></td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday, August 20</strong></td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Friday, August 21</strong></td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday, August 22</strong></td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday, August 23</strong></td>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday, August 23</strong></td>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>R/B Just Seniors</strong></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PHASE THREE UPDATES**

**Reception of Holy Communion by the Faithful**

During Phase III of reopening, Holy Communion may be distributed to the faithful outside of Mass with permission from the pastor. Communion to the Homebound has inherent risks to vulnerable individuals. Caution must be considered when taking communion to someone’s home. Those bringing communion are strongly encouraged to exercise caution when bringing communion to the infirm, elderly homebound, or nursing homebound (e.g., wearing a face covering and gloves; maintaining social distancing; disinfecting the pyx following distribution; following any other recommendations from the CDC). If those bringing communion are making multiple communion visits in a given day, they may wish to consider a separate pyx.

**Dispensation from Sunday Mass Obligation**

The vulnerable to COVID, those concerned about the safety of gathering, and those 65 and over are encouraged not to attend weekend Masses but rather continue celebrating weekend Masses via Livestream. Wednesday's Daily Mass is designated specifically for those vulnerable to COVID-19. Bishop Barry Knestout has extended the dispensation from Sunday Mass attendance for those in this category.

**Mass Livestreaming**

Due to COVID-19, Mass is being livestreamed for use on various Diocesan and parish digital media accounts including, but not limited to, the parish website and The Catholic Virginian, and social media platforms. If you do not wish to be captured by live streaming, please refrain from attending that particular Mass time.

**If you have an urgent pastoral need, such as last rites, confession, funeral Masses, or more, please contact the parish emergency number at 757-286-7256.**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>THIS SUNDAY’S READINGS:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Is 56:1, 6-7/Rom 11:13-15, 29-32/Mt 15:21-28 (118) Pss IV</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NEXT SUNDAY’S READINGS:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**GOSPEL MEDITATION**

**20th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

We are hardwired for wholeness and crave it. When something is broken, we want it fixed. If a part of our body is not working properly, we want it healed. How often do we find ourselves saying, “I’m tired of struggling with this cold, I can’t wait for my surgery to heal, or I want my treatments to make me better.” Wholeness and healing restore our relationships and make us free to love as we desire. We know very well how our limitations, imperfections, and brokenness really limit us. They can easily prevent us from being and doing what we want to do.

Our physical and emotional wounds and maladies are easier to identify. If my back hurts, I feel it and know what part of my body needs attention. If I am feeling intense anger, I can identify the emotion and take necessary steps to uncover its cause. Being persistent often brings greater and quicker results. But will pursuing and even achieving our physical and emotional healings really be enough? We forget that there is a deeper healing that we seek and desperately need. As we look around at humanity, there are some physical and emotional wounds and scars that cannot be made whole. They are limitations that must remain and, for one reason or another, cannot be rectified. Does this mean that the wholeness and healing that my being longs for is not possible for me? Must I settle with less than what God promises?

The answer is no. Ultimately, there is a desire that goes deeper than the physical and emotional. It is a desire that resides in our soul. What we really seek and thirst for is healing and wholeness for our soul. Inner strength, conviction, focus, grounding, love, hope, faith, courage, determination, peace, and connectedness are all words that center us on eternity. They direct us to a presence we discover in our core, which is none other than the presence of God. In God, we are healed. When we are persistent in reaching out to and establishing our relationship with God, real healing and wholeness begin to happen.

There are some limitations and some of our brokenness with which we may simply have to live. This does not mean that we have to abandon our journey to wholeness and healing. If we have done our inner soul work, we have worked toward and acquired what and who we ultimately need and desire.

©LPI
EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

The Challenge of Stewardship

Every day we are called by Christ to respond in some way. The more practice we have at giving of ourselves freely and living in His presence, the easier it is to discern that call. Once we hear the call, the choice is ours: will we respond with yes or no? We could say that we are not required to say yes because God has given us free will. However, our response speaks much to where we are in our maturity of faith. When we were children, the word “no” used to be one of our favorites. If we continue to say that as we get older, well, that says something about where we are in our walk with the Lord. If we truly are disciples of Jesus Christ and are serious about growing in our faith, we will say “yes.” We are not required to say yes, but we say yes because that is who we have become.

This is the challenge of a stewardship way of life. Have we matured enough to say yes when God calls, regardless of how much our answer may cost us? What matters more to us: what it will cost us or our relationship with Jesus? Some days we much our answer may cost us? What matters more to us: what matured enough to say yes when God calls, regardless of how this is on those days that we find ourselves at a true crossroads of a challenge. The choice is always ours. Hopefully, our faith will be strong enough. His call is never for himself. He calls us because the world he created and His own sake. He calls us because the world he created and the Church he instituted need us. They wait just as he does for our response.

— Tracy Earl Welliver

CATHOLIC Q&A: THE GIVING OF TREASURE

Question: Why are Catholics required to give money to the Church?

Answer: Offering money and other goods to God and the Church is, before all else, a statement of gratitude. We see this when we look at how our spiritual ancestors showed their gratitude to God for the gifts they had received (e.g. Genesis 14:18-20 and Genesis 28:16-22). One of the ways they offered thanks to God was through a practice called “tithing,” in which 10 percent of a person’s goods (crops, livestock, money, etc.) were given back to God.

Today, the practice of tithing — giving 10 percent — is still common in many Protestant communities, but it is not required for Catholics. Instead, the Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches us that, “The faithful also have the duty of providing for the material needs of the Church, each according to [their] own abilities” (no. 2043). This means that, although we are not bound to practice “tithing” in the traditional sense, we do share a responsibility to share our money or other resources with our parish communities. Like our spiritual ancestors, we give as a sign of our gratitude for the many gifts that God has given to us. Beyond this, we also share our resources with other Catholic organizations to help them finance their ministries, to continue and grow their outreach to the poor and the needy, and to provide just wages for their employees.

How much we give depends on our individual circumstances, but since we share a responsibility for the programs, outreach, and health of our parish communities and Catholic organizations, this question gives us a wonderful opportunity to ask some important questions about the quality of our giving and what our priorities are. Remember, we are only stewards of our time, talents, and treasures and as the First Letter of Peter reminds us, “As each one of you has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God’s varied graces” (4:10).

FLEA MARKET

Donations are now being accepted for our flea market in the Social Hall. We could use your unwanted furniture, housewares, toys, books, sporting goods, etc. Please call Peggy Rose or Janet McCarraher for large items or with any questions. Thank you for your generosity!

CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Catholic Charities Accepting Companion Care & Respite Care Clients

Catholic Charities’ is currently accepting clients for its Companion Care and Respite Care Programs. Respite Care provides caregivers with a short-term, affordable break from the rigors of 24/7 caregiving. Companion Care provides companionship, safety monitoring, medication reminders, and more while allowing seniors to live independently at home. (Overnight assistance available if needed.) For more information on either program, call 757-456-2366 or email vdunlap@ccева.org.