

# St. Nicholas Parish

**24252 El Toro Road, Laguna Woods, CA 92637**  
**(949) 837-1090; FAX (949) 837-9510; [www.st-nicholaschurch.org](http://www.st-nicholaschurch.org)**  
**School of Religious Education: (949) 837-7676**

## *Our Parish Mission Statement*

*St. Nicholas Parish is a Catholic community, celebrating our faith through the Sacraments, Liturgy, Prayer and Service. We strive to nurture family life and to create one body out of many in the Lord. We share the Good News with people of all ages, cultures and faith backgrounds.*

*Adopted July, 1996*

### CLERGY

Pastor	Rev. George P. Blais
Parochial Vicar	Rev. Quyen Truong
Visiting Priest	Rev. Msgr. John Campbell
Visiting Priest	Rev. Gerald Walker
Visiting Priest	Rev. Charbel Grbavac
Visiting Priest	Rev. Jack Sewell
Visiting Priest	Rev. Chin Dang
Deacon	Wayne Thompson
Deacon	Chau Tran
Deacon	Gerardo De Santos

### MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 4:00PM, 7:00PM in Spanish  
 Sunday: 7:30AM, 9:00AM, 10:45AM, 12:30PM, and 5:00PM in Vietnamese.

Monday through Friday: 7:00AM and 9:00AM  
 Saturday: 9AM

Holy Days: 4PM Vigil, 7PM Spanish Vigil, 7AM, 9AM, 12PM, 6PM, and 7:30PM in Vietnamese.

### RECONCILIATION (Confession)

Saturday: 9:45AM to 10:15AM and 3:00PM to 3:45PM or by appointment.

### BAPTISM

Contact the Parish Office for Baptism scheduling and information.

### MARRIAGE

Arrangements must begin at least six months in advance with a priest of the parish.

### ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Call Parish Office in an emergency.  
 Special Service celebrated in fall/spring as announced.

### FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

At the death of a family member, please call the Parish Office at your earliest convenience to plan for the Mass of Christian Burial.

### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION DAY

24-hour adoration begins the second Wednesday of the month at the 9:00AM Mass.

### DEVOTIONS & BENEDICTION

Wednesday evenings at 7:00PM;  
 Vietnamese—2nd Wednesday of the month at 8PM.  
 Recitation of the Holy Rosary and Benediction.  
 Filipino—1st Saturday of the month Novena and Rosary Devotion from October-June after the 4PM Mass.

### Parish Office Hours

**Sunday: 8:30 AM—1:30 PM; Monday through Friday: 9AM— 12Noon; 1PM— 5:15PM**  
**Saturday: 9 AM—12 Noon**

***Communion During Cold and Flu Season***

As we enter another cold and flu season and to assist in scheduling the proper number of Eucharistic Ministers for Mass, we will once again temporarily discontinue the distribution of the cup of Precious Blood during Mass. Just a reminder that when we receive the Host, we are receiving the Body and Blood of Christ. We know and understand that some people need to be gluten free for health reasons. If you need gluten free hosts, please contact Fr. George so that we can make appropriate arrangements. This action of not having the cup at Mass will begin this weekend and continue until the end of the cold and flu season. Thank you for your understanding.

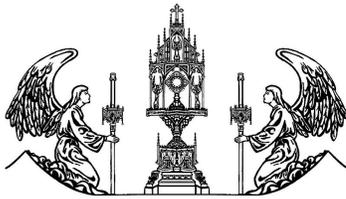
***Attention Parishioners***

This is cold/flu season, so please do not be offended if other parishioners do not offer their hand during the Sign of Peace or at the Our Father. Additionally, a firm handshake can be a painful experience for someone with arthritis!

Thank you for your compassion!



***Our Monthly Day of Adoration***



Our Monthly Day of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament begins this Wednesday, December 12, at the 9AM Mass and continues until just prior to the 9AM Mass on Thursday, December 13. We invite and encourage you to spend some time with Our Lord in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament - praying especially for the strengthening and unity of Christian family life and for vocations to religious life and the priesthood.



**Dear Parishioners,**

On this Second Sunday of Advent, our focus shifts to John The Baptist. John's purpose was to point the way for the Lord Jesus and prepare the people of his time to recognize Jesus as the Messiah. As it was proclaimed by the prophet Isaiah, John came to proclaim a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. He encouraged people to prepare the way for the Lord.

This season of Advent is a time for us to prepare to meet the Lord when He comes to us and this week we encounter John calling for a preparation of all to recognize Jesus as He is about to begin His public ministry. John is an important figure in the role of our salvation. Like John, we are to point the way to Jesus and encourage one another to repent and prepare the way for the Lord. This season of Advent gives us the opportunity to stop and take time to reflect on the meaning of Jesus in our lives.

On Wednesday this week we celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe who is the Patroness of the United States, and all of the Americas. This is an important Feast in the lives of our Hispanic brothers and sisters. We invite all parishioners to join us for Mananitas at 6:00 A.M. on Wednesday. This will take place in the parish hall followed by a procession to the church for the 7:00 A.M. Mass which will be mostly in Spanish. We will have a reception in the hall after Mass and all are invited to share in Tamales, Pan Dulce and Hot Chocolate. Mary our Blessed Mother, like John always points the way to her son Jesus and reminds us to participate in the sacraments especially confession and eucharist.

*Fr. George*



December 2nd

**Stewardship of Treasure**

<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
\$18,501.00	\$26,213.86

**52-Weekly Required Budget**

\$25,856.00

**Mass Intentions for the Week**Monday:

7AM Ann Gauger (d)

9AM Maria Sanchez (d)

Tuesday:

7AM All Souls in Purgatory

9AM Steven Carpenter (d)

Wednesday:

7AM Deloris Zajac (d)

9AM Deceased Members of Caldeo Family

Thursday:

7AM Peter Paniagua (d)

9AM Evangelina Barreras (d)

Friday:7AM Joseph Thuan Nguyen and Maria  
Thuoc Tran (d)

9AM Peter Thuy Vu (d)

Saturday:

9AM Ron Evans (d)

4PM Mary Teresco (d)

7PM \_\_\_\_\_

Sunday:

7:30AM Dominic Ngoc La (d)

9:00AM For the Parish

10:45AM William Downes (d)

12:30PM Apolina Retuya (d)

**We Remember****All of our recently deceased who entered her new  
and eternal life in Christ.*****Grant to all our dearly departed, eternal rest, O Lord,  
and may your light shine on them forever.*****TODAY'S READINGS****First Reading: Baruch 5:1-9**Take off your robe of mourning and misery; put on the  
splendor of glory from God.**Psalms 126**The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled  
with joy.**Second Reading: Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11**I am confident that the one who began a good work in  
you will continue to complete it until the day of Christ  
Jesus.**Gospel: Luke 3:1-6**The winding roads shall be made straight, and the  
rough ways made smooth.**Parish Calendar This Week****MONDAY**

Sewing Group, Small Hall, 8AM

Religious Education for Elementary, Parish Center, 4:15PM

Hispanic Rosary, Church, 7PM

**TUESDAY**

Religious Education for Elementary, Parish Center, 4:15PM

St. Nicholas Chorale, Small Hall, 7:15PM

Hispanic Community, Church, 6PM

SRE Confirmation I, Parish Center—upstairs, 7PM

7 &amp; 8 Grade SRE, Parish Center—downstairs, 7PM

**WEDNESDAY**

Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration, Parish Center, 6AM

Eucharistic Adoration, Church, 9:30AM

Charismatic Prayer Group, Room A, 9:45AM

Bereavement Group, Room B, 10AM

Religious Education for Elementary, Parish Center, 4:15PM

Devotions and Benedictions, Church, 7PM

Filipino Choir, Small Hall, 8PM

**THURSDAY**

Faith Alive, Room A, 10AM

Hispanic RCIA, Room B, 6PM

RCIA, Room 201, 7PM

Hispanic Council, Room C, 7PM

St. Nicholas Parish Choir, Small Hall, 7:15PM

**FRIDAY**

Hispanic Nativity Practice, Room A, 6PM

Hispanic Bible Study, Small Hall, 7PM

Vietnamese Baptism Preparation, Room C, 7PM

**SATURDAY**

Wedding, Church, 1PM

Hispanic Choir, Room C, 4PM

**SUNDAY**

Library OPEN

**The St. Nicholas Library****The Library is open the 1st & 3rd  
Sundays of the month, from  
8:45am—12:45pm. We are located in  
Room C, behind the Parish Office.****Freebie Cart: Rosaries, prayer cards and more!**

SCHOOL OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

- ⇒ **Elementary Classes** are this Monday through Wednesday, **December 10th-11th** from 4:15-5:30PM.
- ⇒ **Junior High Class** is on Tuesday, **December 11th** from 7-8:30PM.
- ⇒ **Confirmation I Class** is on Tuesday, **December 11th** at 7PM.



At last It's complete!



Parents, the SRE staff and teachers thank you for your cooperation in dropping off and picking up your student(s) during the parking lot renovation. We know that it has been very inconvenient for everyone, but well worth the effort because, in addition to the new parking lot, the lighting in the lot will be improved, making it safer for everyone.



PLEASE NOTE:

There will be NO classes during the weeks of December 23rd and December 30th. We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! May 2019 be a year of blessings for all!

SRE classes will resume in 2019, starting:

- Elementary classes on Monday, Jan. 7th
- Confirmation I class on Tuesday, Jan. 8th
- Confirmation II class on Tuesday, Jan. 15th
- Junior High Classes on Tuesday, Jan. 22nd

If you have questions about the 2019 schedule, please call the SRE Office, (949) 837-7676.

Christmas Eve Family Mass at 4PM with Nativity Pageant beginning at 3:30PM in the Church

Members of our SRE classes will take part in reenacting the story of the nativity at 3:30PM, preceding the 4PM Mass. Plan to attend this Mass with your family and celebrate the birth of our Savior together. Our teen/family choir will be singing at this Mass.



YOUTH MINISTRY



Check us out on Facebook and Instagram: @stnickym

DECEMBER



Coffee and Donuts is this Sunday from 8-12:30PM followed by Christmas Caroling. For Caroling, we will be meeting in the parking lot at 12:30PM and we will carpool to two local retirement homes.

Bible Study will resume on January 15th at 6PM in the Youth Room.

Confirmation I and II students, if you missed a Confirmation Class, attending a bible study will count as a makeup class AND you might enjoy the knowledge and friendship that you will gain.



Come to our second annual Christmas Party and "White Elephant" Gift Exchange on Saturday, December 15th

at 6PM in the Youth Room. Bring a wrapped gift (appropriate for either male or female) and a dish to share. Bring a friend and join in the fun!



Confirmation II students will be preparing backpacks filled with necessities like gloves, scarves, toiletries, wrapped candy or granola bars, etc. for the homeless who frequent the homeless shelter in Laguna Beach. If you would like to donate items for this project, please bring them to the SRE Office which is located on the second floor of the Parish Center NO LATER than Thursday, December 13th. Thank you for your generosity.

On Monday, Dec. 24th, the Christmas Eve Pageant will be performed at 3:30PM on Christmas Eve before the 4PM Mass. We will be looking for volunteers to help with this.



Teen Mass will be on Dec. 29th at 4PM. Teen/Family Choir Rehearsal is on Thursday, Dec. 20th at 7:30PM in the choir loft in the Church.

Angel Tree Gifts



Please be sure to bring your gifts to the Parish Office no later than Dec. 14th so that they can be distributed to the charitable organizations in the county. Thank you for your generosity!

*The Knights of Columbus  
& The American Red Cross*



invite you to a *Community Blood Drive* on Thursday, January 17th—7:45am to 7:45pm at St. Nicholas Church in the Parish Center.

To schedule appointments call one of the following: 949-831-0208, 949-581-5503, 949-350-3282



Walk-ins are welcome or make an appointment for faster service!

**Please note: EARLY DEADLINES FOR BULLETIN ARTICLES**

With holidays and other Publisher requirements, articles for our bulletin have early deadlines. Please note the following deadlines if you have an article that needs to be in a bulletin for the dates shown below. Articles submitted after the required “Due Date” will not be published in the bulletin.

Bulletin Date	Articles Due By
December 23rd	December 10th
December 30th	December 17th
January 6th	December 19th
January 13th	December 26th

**SIMBANG GABI**

St. Nicholas Parishioners are invited to come on Sunday, December 16th at 6:30PM in the Church. Simbang Gabi is a Filipino Catholic tradition celebrated as an Advent Novena Mass to prepare for the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.



Feel the spirit of Christmas by joining us at 6:30 pm for the Simbang Gabi Mass. Join and listen to the singing of the Holy Rosary Philippine Chamber Chorale. Light refreshments will follow the celebration in the Parish Center. Any questions or for more information contact: Del Moses (714)931-0820 or Mary Ann Puzon at (949)294-5625.

**Christmas Flower Donations**



We will be accepting donations of Poinsettias in memory of a loved one to help decorate the Church and Parish Center for Christmas. Please bring the flowers to the Parish Office between December 17th-20th. Thank you.

**A Heartfelt Thank You To...**

The Knights of Columbus and the Hispanic Prayer Group for hosting the St. Nicholas Thanksgiving Dinner on Thanksgiving Day. Great big HUGS to all the volunteers who worked for days to prepare food, serve the attendees and work on Thanksgiving Day. God bless you all!



*Some of the workers who donated their time and talent to cook and serve Parishioners a delicious Thanksgiving Dinner on November 22nd*



**2nd Collection Retirement Fund for Religions**

Your gift in the collection this weekend, helps to provide prescription medications, nursing care, and more for thousands of elderly religious sisters, brothers and religious order priests who worked for many years for little, if any, pay. Like many Americans, religious communities face the monumental challenge of funding eldercare. By 2027, retired religious are projected to outnumber wage-earners by more than three to one. Please make all checks out to the Parish.

We appreciate your generosity.

**Our Lady of Guadalupe**

On Wednesday, December 12th, the Hispanic Group will be having a celebration for Our Lady of Guadalupe.

- 6AM** - Procession from the Parish Center
- 6:30AM** - Las Mananitas in the Church
- 7AM** - Mass in Church
- 8AM** - Reception in the Parish Center following Mass. Tamales and sweet bread will be served .



**St. Nicholas Senior Singles**

We will gather for lunch on Friday, Dec. 21st at 12:30PM at Olive Garden—24256 El Toro Rd. Laguna Hills. Reservations are a must. New members are welcomed and invited.



Call Joan Petrine for reservations, (949) 855-8755. FRIENDSHIP WITH THE LOVE OF GOD IN OUR HEARTS.

**St. Nicholas Advent Penance Service—10 Priests**

**Wednesday, December 19th at 7:00PM in the Church**

**Christmas/New Year’s Mass Schedule, 2018**

**Monday, Dec. 24, 2018 Solemnity of the Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord**

4:00pm, (English) SRE Family Mass with Teen Choir  
[3:30pm Christmas Pageant and Christmas Carols.]

6:15pm, (English), with St. Nicholas (9am) Choir and String Quartet  
[Prelude and Carols at 10:30pm]



8pm, Spanish Mass in the Parish Center

8:30pm, Vietnamese Mass in the Church



11:00pm with St. Nicholas (10:45am) Chorale with oboe & flute  
[Prelude at 11:00pm]

**Tuesday, December 25, 2018**

***Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord:***



8:00am, with Cantor and Piano

10:00am, with St. Nicholas Chorale

12:00 Noon, with Cantor and Organ



**Wednesday, December 26, 2018—Day after Christmas**

Masses at 7am and 9am

**Monday, December 31, 2018 —Vigil Mass for Mary, Holy Mother of God:**

Masses at: 7am, 9am, 4pm Vigil, 6PM in Spanish

**Tuesday, January 1, 2019**

**Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God:**

No 7am, only 9am Mass

*(Not a Holy Day of Obligation in Diocese of Orange.)*

