



St. Nicholas Parish

24252 El Toro Road, Laguna Woods, CA 92637
(949) 837-1090; FAX (949) 837-9510; 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

Dear Parishioners,

Lent has arrived and this gives us an opportunity to look at ourselves and ask how we are doing in our relationships with God, family, strangers, and ourselves. This is a time to experience growth and conversion as we become better people and better followers of Jesus as we practice our Catholic faith. The purpose of fasting, penance, and alms giving is so that we show the world that we are God's people and are living our lives focused on Him and that we desire to witness that reality throughout our lives.

In the first reading today we hear about the priest in the Old Testament receiving the people's offering and setting them in front of the altar. When we come to Mass, we present not only our gifts but our whole being at the front of the altar as a gift and acknowledgement of God in our lives. Lent gives us the opportunity to refocus our attention on this reality. When we make sacrifices and give things up during Lent, we should do so with the attitude that we are not only making up for our faults but also desire to be better people.

In the Gospel this week, we are reminded that Jesus went into the desert for forty days to pray and He was tempted by the devil during that time. Jesus is like us in all ways but sin, so if He was tempted, then we too will be tempted especially during this season of Lent when we are trying to do and be better. Know that the devil does not like people who acknowledge God and who strive to live the Good News so when we make an extra effort to acknowledge God, then we will surely be under attack from the devil. Pray for strength during this Lenten season so that we may be a great sign of God's love for us and His people.

Fr. George

SECOND COLLECTION—March 16-17th The Church in Latin America/Eastern Europe

This collection provides aid to the Church in Central and Eastern Europe and the ex-Soviet Union to meet the needs of rebuilding the Church. It focuses on training seminarians and lay leaders, supporting social service programs, youth ministry, pastoral and catechetical centers, schools, church construction and renovation, and evangelization through Catholic media. For over 50 years, this collection has been an expression of the solidarity of the Church in the United States with the Church in Latin America and the Caribbean. In northern Peru, great distances and deteriorated roads mean that priests must often travel by foot or mule to rural communities. As a result, some communities are visited by these Church agents only once per month, others just twice per year. Previous collections helped to fund training for 65 pastoral ministers for some of these communities. Through projects like this, you are helping empower the people of Latin America and the Caribbean to deepen their faith and share it with the world.

Thank you for your generous donations.



WE ARE ONE
LIVING THE GOSPEL MESSAGE

Please give generously to the
2019 Pastoral Services Appeal.
Thank you for your support!


PASTORAL SERVICES APPEAL
ADVANCING THE MISSION OF THE DIOCESE OF ORANGE



March 3rd
Electronic Giving 2/24-3/2

Stewardship of Treasure

2019
\$20,709.50
\$2,805.49

2018
\$29,158.01

52-Weekly Required Budget
\$25,856.00

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday:

7AM Deceased Relatives

9AM Bich Huyen Pham

Tuesday:

7AM Adele Yantz (d)

9AM Maria Mau Pham (d)

Wednesday:

7AM Rose Lebarbera (d)

9AM Susy Lopez

Thursday:

7AM Fr. Quyen Truong

9AM Funeral for Joseph Cicchese

Friday:

7AM Paulette David (d)

9AM Thomas Kim (d)

Saturday:

9AM Saveri Piso Jr.

4PM Tim Scheck (d)

7PM Agustin Carmona and Amalia Trujillo (d)

Sunday:

7:30AM Daniel Comisky (d)

9:00AM MaryLou Ellich (d)

10:45AM For the Parish

12:30PM Fr. Hughes (d)

We Remember

**Mary Alice Hanaman and
Arnie Bloemberg**

who entered their 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: Deuteronomy 26:4-10

God brought us into this land flowing with milk and honey.

Psalm 91

Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

Second Reading: Romans 10:8-13

The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart .

Gospel: Luke 4:1-13

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus was led into the desert for forty days

Parish Calendar This Week

MONDAY



Sewing Group, Small Hall, 8AM

Adult Bible Study, Parish Center-2nd Floor, 10AM

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

Hispanic Rosary, Church, 7PM

TUESDAY

Hispanic Book Study, Room 201, 9:45AM,

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

SRE Confirmation II, Parish Center– upstairs, 7PM

7 & 8 Grade SRE, Parish Center– downstairs, 7PM

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

WEDNESDAY

Eucharistic Adoration, Church, 9:30AM

Charismatic Prayer, Room A, 9:45AM

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

Devotions and Benedictions, Church, 7PM

Filipino Choir, Small Hall, 8PM

THURSDAY

Faith Alive, Room A, 10AM

Adult Bible Study, Parish Center—2nd Floor, 10AM

Hispanic RCIA, Room B, 6PM

RCIA, Room 201, 7PM

Alpha, Parish Center– 1st Floor, 6:30PM

Hispanic Council, Room C, 7PM

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

Teen Choir, Choir Loft, 7:30PM

FRIDAY

Stations of the Cross, Church, 9:45AM

Lenten Fish Dinner, Parish Center-1st Floor, 5PM

Hispanic Bible Study, Small Hall, 7PM

Stations of the Cross, Church, 7PM

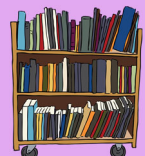
SATURDAY

Hispanic Choir, Room C, 4PM

SUNDAY

Library OPENED

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

SRE classes will meet:

Elementary classes on Mon-Wed., March 11-13th
 Junior High and Confirmation II class on
 Tuesday, March 12th

Elementary Classes will be attending a Reconciliation Service on Monday, March 18th and Tuesday, March 19th during class times. The service will begin at 4:30PM in church. Students, teachers and parents will have the opportunity for individual confessions. (After the confessions, students will return to their classrooms for dismissal.)

Sacrament Dates

Confirmation: Saturday, May 4th at 10AM Mass
 Rehearsal: Tuesday, April 30th at 7PM in the Church.

First Communion: Sunday, May 5th at 12:30PM Mass
 Rehearsal: Monday, April 29th at 7PM in Church.

Our students and catechists are preparing for Lent which started on Ash Wednesday, March 6th. Please continue to pray for all of them as they continue on their journey of faith—especially those who will be receiving their Sacraments.

Reminders for Confirmation II Students

Half Day Retreat in the Parish Center—March 30th from 1:00-6:30PM (Includes 5PM Mass and dinner). More information coming soon.

Be sure to call in for your INTERVIEW WITH THE PRIEST—(949)837-7676. This is a requirement for all students who are being confirmed on May 4th, 2019.

Liturgy of the Word for Children

The main purpose of the Liturgy of the Word is to enrich our children's liturgical experience of God's presence in the proclamation of the Word. Children (grades 1st-6th) and their adult leader(s) are dismissed from Mass after the opening rituals and go to Room C where they listen to the Word, discuss what they heard and then reflect on how the Word can make a difference in their life.



Presently, we are looking for someone to help with Liturgy of the Word. There are Liturgy Preparation guides and "Good News" pamphlets with activities to help plan each Sunday session. If you think you might want to help with this rewarding and important ministry, please contact Gwen at (949) 837-7676. (Note: As a requirement all adults who work with children must be fingerprinted and take a safe environment course in order to volunteer.)

YOUTH MINISTRY

Check us out on Facebook and Instagram: @stnickym



- **Youth Day** is Thursday, March 21st at the Anaheim Convention Center. We'll be sharing a bus with Santiago Youth and leaving at 5:30AM.



Registration forms should be returned to Class by Tuesday, March 12th or to the SRE Office no later than Thurs. March 14th. For more information, call the SRE at (949) 837-7676. First come, first served!

- **COFFEE & DONUTS THIS WEEKEND—**

Sun. March 10th from 8:30-12:30PM. Please come over to Parish Center to help. This will count as service hours AND you get free donuts! Come join us!



- **Tuesday Bible Studies:** March 12th and 26th at 6PM in the Youth Room.
- **Teen/Family Choir:** Rehearsal on Thursday, March 14th and 28th at 7:30PM in the Choir Loft. Teen/Family Mass at 4PM on Saturday, March 30th.
- **Attention Leaders—**Don't forget to mark down the date for **Confirmation II Half Day Retreat** on Saturday, March 30th from 12PM to after the 4PM Mass and dinner for all. We'll be scheduling a meeting to make final plans for this at our next Confirmation II Class on March 12th.

COMING IN APRIL...

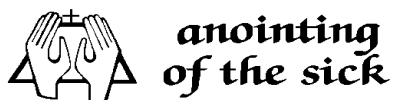
- **Movie night** on April 6th! Let's start off the night by attending the 4PM Mass together followed by pizza, popcorn, and a movie in the Youth Room!

**How's Lent Going for you?**

We invite you to join us for Coffee and Tea to study Sunday Scripture every Thursday at 10:00-11:30AM in Room A.

All are invited and are encouraged to attend. We will share our struggles and successes, joys and pains, and all that is said will remain confidential.





anointing of the sick

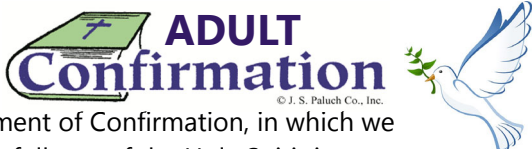
A communal celebration of the Anointing of the Sick will be held this Sunday, March 10th at 2pm in the Church.

We invite all who are ill, elderly, or who are expecting to undergo major surgery, to come and receive this *Sacrament of Healing*. All parishioners are invited to join us. Your prayers are important and your presence a source of consolation to those who are ill. A reception will be held afterwards in the Small Hall.

St. Nicholas Senior Singles

We will gather for lunch on **Friday, March 15th at 12:30PM at the Patsy's Pub—25521 Jeronimo Mission Viejo**. Reservations are required—call Joan Petrine at (949) 855-8755 to RSVP. New members are invited and welcomed to join! Good food, new friends, and good company.

Friendship with the love of God in our hearts
Call Joan Petrine for reservations, (949) 855-8755.



The Sacrament of Confirmation, in which we receive the fullness of the Holy Spirit into our lives, will be offered to adults who have not yet been confirmed, on **Saturday, May 4th within the 10am Mass**. If you are 18 years of age or older, baptized, if married-married in the Catholic Church, and regularly attend Mass and receive the Eucharist, we invite you to come to five Saturday sessions in preparation for the Sacrament. **They will be held from 10am to 11:30am, beginning Saturday, March 23 in Room C.**

Registration forms are available in the Parish Office.

For more information, call Gloria at 768-7228.

ST. NICHOLAS "ADULT FAITH FORMATION" PRESENTS TWO CATHOLIC BIBLE STUDIES

Each bible study consists of ten live presentation sessions.

"The Gospel according to John"
Mondays at 10:00AM, Room 201

"The Book of Revelation"
Thursday at 10:00AM, Room 201

Bible Studies are on Mondays and Thursdays.

For information relative to course content, biblical source material, Bible editions, etc.

Please call: Al Guevara at (714) 848-1624.

Vatican's International Exhibition of Eucharistic Miracles of the World

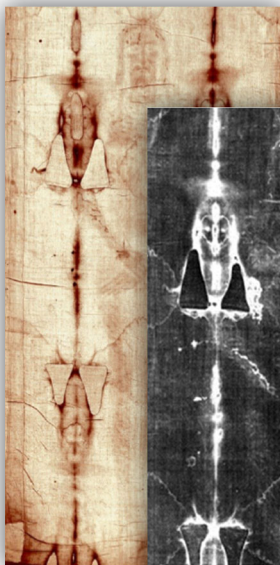
PARISH CENTER—FREE ADMISSION

Passion Exhibit

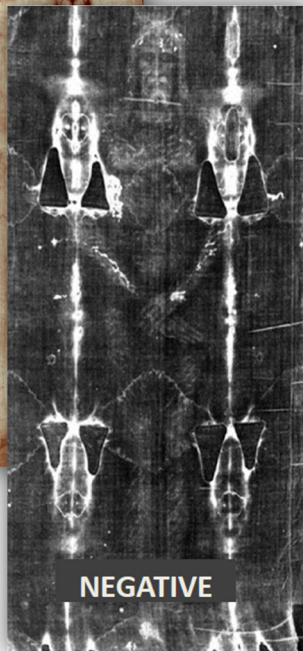
Friday, April 12th 4:00-9:00PM

Sunday, April 13th 10:00AM-12:00PM

Presentations: Friday, April 12th at 5:00PM and Saturday, April 13th at 9:45AM



The **Shroud** of Turin
(Jesus' burial shroud)



The **Sudarium** of Oviedo
(Covered Jesus' head on the cross)

The **Tunic** of Argenteuil
(Jesus' seamless garment)



Vatican Exhibit

Saturday, April 13th 3:00-8:30PM

Sunday, April 14th 8:30AM-1:30PM

Presentations: Saturday, April 13th at 5:15PM and Sunday, April 14th at 8:45AM, 10:15AM, 12PM.

St. Nicholas
CCW
Council of Catholic Women

**Sponsored by the St. Nicholas
Council of Catholic Women**

Senior Grocery Program for those 60+.

Fruit—Vegetables—Meat—Dairy—Bread



PHOTO ID REQUIRED.
No income requirement.



Please bring your own grocery bags.

Sponsored by area churches, this program provides fresh produce, dairy, etc., for seniors at the Lutheran Church of the Cross (back parking lot) 24231 El Toro Rd., Laguna Woods.

Distribution of food will be on Friday, March 15th from 10am to 11am in the Social Hall.



To assist you on your Lenten Journey, we offer:

Community Events

40 Days for Life: Prayer vigil, Monday-Saturday, 8am-8pm, in front of Planned Parenthood, Mission Viejo.

PRAYER

Daily Mass: Monday through Friday at 7AM & 9AM; Saturdays at 9AM.

Morning Prayer: Monday through Saturday at 8:45AM. (This is open to all who desire to join in.)

Monthly Day of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Second Wednesday of the Month beginning at the 9AM Mass and concluding prior to the 9AM Mass on the Second Thursday.

Stations of the Cross: on Fridays during Lent at 9:45AM, 7PM Spanish in Small Hall, and 8PM in Vietnamese.

Divine Mercy Prayer Group: Prays in the Church weekdays at 3PM.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions): Saturdays 9:45AM to 10:15AM and 3PM to 3:45PM.

Parish Lenten Penance Service: Wednesday, April 10th at 7:00PM.

ALMSGIVING

St. Vincent de Paul: helping those in need in our community.

Knights of Columbus: 40 Cans for Lent (donation barrels available at all weekend Masses).

Operation Rice Bowl: Benefitting Catholic Relief Services (bowls available in the Church).



PRAYER



FASTING



ALMSGIVING

Note: All Catholics in the US are encouraged to enter into sacrificial penance, during the 40 days of Lent. Specifically, to refrain from the eating of meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all Fridays of Lent, with the added penance of fasting for those between the ages of 14 and 60 on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. This discipline of penance and fasting is serious, however, it no longer binds you under pain of grave sin. For a sufficiently good reason (family celebration, an ethnic festival, Lunar New Year, etc.), you may substitute another day of the week to fulfill this penance. There is no need for a specific 'dispensation' from the Bishop to lift the penance for these days.



The Knights of Columbus is again sponsoring a "40 Cans for Lent" Food Drive during the 40 days of Lent.

The goal is for each parishioner to contribute one can of non-perishable food each day during Lent, or 40 cans sometime during the Lenten season. Your contributions can be made weekly when you come to Mass. Barrels will be placed outside the entrances to the Church. Please join the Knights of Columbus in this worthwhile effort.

Monetary donations are always welcome!

This Food Drive was very successful last year and we hope for a similar response this Lenten season. During 2018, St. Nicholas Parish donated 14,630 pounds of non-perishable food. That is a great accomplishment—help us to equal or surpass that amount this year!

Lenten Fish Dinner—Every Friday

On Friday evenings during Lent, there will be a "Fish Dinner" served at 5pm in the Parish Center.



Note: No Fish Dinner on April 12 & Good Friday.

Join fellow parishioners on Lenten Fridays for a Fish Dinner prepared by the Knights of Columbus. Dinner includes baked salmon or battered cod, mac n' cheese, zucchini, coleslaw, fries, dessert, punch and coffee. Dine-in only; **NO** take-outs! Donation: \$11.00 Adults; special pricing for children and large families.

We begin serving at 5pm and end at 6:45pm so parishioners can attend the 7pm Stations of the Cross during Lenten Fridays.

Come join us for a delicious fish dinner!

Dynamic Catholic

Book Study

Tuesdays from 9:45AM-11:30AM

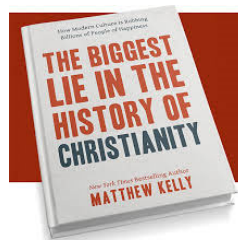
March 12th—April 16th

"Into the Deep" Finding Peace Through Prayer
by Dan Burke

"Why I Love Being Catholic" by Matthew Kelly

This Book Study will be led by Don DiMaggio, Mary Anderson, and Beth Perak.

Books will be available on the first day of class.



Book Study in Spanish

"The Biggest Lie in the History of Christianity"

Tuesdays at 9:45AM
Room 201

The Book Study will begin Tuesday, March 5th. It will be led by Deacon Gerry and his wife Socorro. Join us!