



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. Martin Tran
Visiting Priest	Rev. Msgr. John Campbell
Visiting Priest	Rev. Gerald Walker
Visiting Priest	Rev. Brendan Hankins
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

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

Parish Office Hours

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

Dear Parishioners,

This week we continue to hear in Luke's Gospel about our motivation in life. Last week the emphasis was on humility and this week we are challenged to be pure and fully committed to the Lord. Let our "Yes" mean yes and not be distracted by earthly distractions.

Jesus challenges us as He did the people of His time to set our complete attention on Him and not let the distractions of this life interfere with our focus on Him. Earthly distractions like relationships, finance, work, politics, leisure, and many more can affect our attention towards God, and Jesus is cautioning us to put complete trust and focus on Him.

The example of building a tower or going to war without proper preparation or planning can affect the outcome and so to is our need to properly prepare for our final destination in heaven. Our pilgrim journey in this life is to lead a life of Holiness and the best way to do this is to put complete trust, faith, and hope in God. When we do this, our journey toward and through the narrow gate becomes more manageable.

Fr. George

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Eastern Catholic and Orthodox Christians share a love for the Byzantine liturgy because it is during the Eucharist that the Church is most true to its identity, expresses its integrity, and discovers its vocation. Eastern Catholic and Orthodox Christians celebrate essentially the identical liturgy, with only very slight variations. It is a fairly complex ritual weaving together three separate layers of prayers: a liturgy prayed in the sanctuary by priests, often hidden by a curtain or screen; a liturgy sung by the assembly and led by a deacon in front of a screen formed of painted icons; and a third layer of private prayer by the priest, who prays in support of the deacon and the faithful. It is an eyes-wide-open experience, gorgeous in visuals, and filled with the sound of God's people singing prayer. The energy of the worship centers on the presence of Christ, largely through an awareness of heaven touching earth when the Church gathers to celebrate.

In the late twentieth century, Latin Rite Catholics were encouraged to embrace a style of worship that was "full, conscious, and active," a value that has never been lost in the East. The liturgy has great impact in its beauty, in its poetry and contemplation, and by the actions of bowing, signing with the cross, and chanting that are required of the assembly. Contact with the Eastern Church reveals some key values that have been obscured in our own Church and are slowly being recovered.

Pastoral Services Appeal 2019

Thank you to everyone who has participated in this year's PSA. We have reached our diocesan goal of \$116,000 in both pledges and payments. Now, all payments and new pledges will be returned to St. Nicholas in the form of rebates for our on-going parish projects. We are extremely grateful!

AS OF Aug 13th:

Participating families: 384
Amount of pledges: \$185,679
Payments: \$153,169.44

If you have not already participated in PSA, please prayerfully consider joining your fellow parishioners in this important endeavor. Thank you.



Stewardship of Treasure

2019

2018

52-Weekly Required Budget

Due to an early bulletin deadline, collection information will be posted in a future bulletin.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday:

7AM Nicholas and Gertrude Calingasan (d)
9AM Peter Thuy Vu (d)

Tuesday:

7AM Miguel and Dora Bravo
9AM Trang Le

Wednesday

7AM Theresa Becker (d)
9AM Joseph Minh Phan (d)

Thursday:

7AM John Tran
9AM Travis Schumacher (d)

Friday:

7AM Luu Vu
9AM Modesto and Angeles Garnica (d)

Saturday:

9AM Leonicio and Purita Lacangan (d)
4PM For the Parish
7PM In Thanksgiving to St. Joseph

Sunday:

7:30AM Mario Balledos (d)
9:00AM Angela Lee (d)
10:45AM Carl White
12:30PM Marie Spillane

We Remember

All our recently deceased
who entered his 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: Wisdom 9:13-18b

You sent your holy spirit from on high and thus were the paths of those on earth made straight.

Psalms 90

In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

Second Reading: Philemon 9-10, 12-17

Paul asks Philemon to accept back his slave Onesimus as a brother.

Gospel: Luke 14:25-33

Which of you wishing to construct a tower does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if there is enough for its completion?



Parish Calendar This Week

MONDAY

Sewing Group, Small Hall, 8AM
Adult Bible Study, Room 202, 10AM
New Life Filipino Group, Small Hall, 5PM
Hispanic Rosary, Church, 7PM



TUESDAY

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

WEDNESDAY

Adoration, Church, 9:30AM
Charismatic Prayer, Room A, 9:45AM
Devotions and Benedictions, Church, 7PM
Filipino Choir, Small Hall, 8PM

THURSDAY

Faith Alive, Room A, 9:45AM
Adult Bible Study, Room 202, 10AM
Hispanic RCIA, Room B, 6PM
Hispanic Council, Room C, 7PM
St. Nicholas Parish Choir, Small Hall, 7:15PM
Teen Choir, Choir Loft, 7:30PM
RCIA, Parish Center—2nd Floor, 7PM

FRIDAY

Bereavement Ministry, Room B, 10AM
Baptism Preparation, Room C
Hispanic Bible Study, Small Hall, 7PM
Hispanic Choir, Room B, 7PM

SATURDAY

Hispanic Choir, Room B, 5PM

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.



SCHOOL OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!!!

Registration for the 2019-2020 SRE school year is open and we encourage everyone to come and register for the classes!

SRE will have open registration this Sunday, September 8 from 9am to 12:30PM. We will be located outside of church on the large parking lot side.

2019-2020 SRE Class Schedule

First Week of Classes

Elementary

Mon. Tues., Wed., Oct. 14 15 or 16th – 4:15 – 5:30PM

Junior High (Tuesday nights Only)

Starts on Tuesday, Oct. 15 – 7pm – 8:30pm

Confirmation I (Tuesday nights Only)

Starts on Tuesday, Oct. 15 – 7pm – 8:30pm

Confirmation II (Sundays only)

Starts on Sunday, Oct. 20 – 9am concludes after 10:45 am Mass

- Attention High School Students—

All high school students attending public or Catholic schools must enroll in our two-year preparation process in order to be confirmed.

Catechists and Aides are invited to a Catechist Meeting on

Tuesday, Sept. 17 at 6:30PM in the Parish Center

We will have a short "Nuts & Bolts" meeting before hearing, Dr. Anne Herrick, our guest speaker. Dr. Herrick is an experienced religion teacher, has a doctorate degree from Loyola Marymount University and teaches at Mater Dei High School. She is a dynamic speaker and always has a lot of great information to share.

RSVP – School of Religious Education – 949 837-7676

What is Catechetical Sunday?

Since the catechetical Ministry is a ministry of teaching in the name of the Church and is formally commissioned by the Church, Catechetical Sunday is a day set aside to honor and commission all those who are serving in the ministry of teaching in the name of the Church.

Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of faith. All Catechetical Ministers are invited to the commissioning Mass on Saturday, September 14 which will take place during the 4PM Vigil Mass. Catechists and aides may sit with their families anywhere in church. There will not be reserved seating. We thank all those who have so generously volunteered their time and talent to this important ministry. Please pray for all our catechists and for all those with whom they will be bringing the Church's teachings. Thank you for your prayers and support.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Check us out on Facebook and Instagram: @stnickym



SEPTEMBER

Future Events for Youth Ministry and Confirmation:

- *Sept. 8* – Serve coffee & donuts from 8am-1pm
- *Sept. 12* – First choir practice 7:30pm
- *Sept. 26* – Second choir practice
- *Sept. 28* – Teen/Family Mass
- *Oct. 10* – Choir practice 7:30pm
- *Oct. 13* – Coffee & Donuts from 8am to 1pm
- *Oct. 19* – Kidsfest – 12 noon – 6pm
- *Oct. 20* – Confirmation II Class – 9am
- *Oct. 24* – Choir practice 7:30pm
- *Oct. 26* – Teen/Family Mass 7:30pm

Teen/Family choir is looking for new members.



Do you like to sing or do you play an instrument? If you do, then joining our choir is a perfect way to share your talents with others and enhance the Mass with music. We sing during the 4 o'clock Mass on the last Saturday of the month from September through May. Rehearsals are held twice a month on Thursdays at 7:30pm in the Choir Loft – the first rehearsal is Thursday, Sept. 12. For more information, call Gwen at the SRE Office, 949-837-7676. Students from 7th grade and older may join.

Diocesan Ministries Celebration

Saturday, October 12, 2019 from 9:00am to 12:30pm

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations" Mt.28:19

This year's Ministry Celebration will be held at our new Christ Cathedral & Campus. Bishops will lead presentations on the direction of the Dioceses and our increased focus on Evangelization and Faith Formation.

Keynote Speaker: Bishop Kevin Vann

Auxiliary Bishop Timothy Freyer and

Auxiliary Bishop Thanh Nguyen will be presenters.

For more information, call the SRE Office (949) 837-7676

St. Nicholas' 20th Annual



Major SRE Fundraiser

**Saturday, Oct. 19th
2pm to 7:15pm**

Join us for an afternoon of Food, Music, Dancing, Singing & Fellowship!

**Opportunity Raffle Tickets will be mailed to all parishioners in September.
All proceeds go to the SRE!**

KIDSFEST

2:30pm to 6:00pm in Small Hall



Games, face painting, & snacks for kids to enjoy while parents are attending Oktoberfest!

For kids from 4 years old to 12 years old.

Sponsored by Youth Ministry & Confirmation

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Col 1:24 — 2:3; Ps 62:6-7, 9; Lk 6:6-11
 Tuesday: Col 2:6-15; Ps 145:1b-2, 8-11; Lk 6:12-19
 Wednesday: Col 3:1-11; Ps 145:2-3, 10-13ab; Lk 6:20-26
 Thursday: Col 3:12-17; Ps 150:1b-6; Lk 6:27-38
 Friday: 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14; Ps 16:1b-2a, 5, 7-8, 11;
 Lk 6:39-42
 Saturday: Nm 21:4b-9; Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-38;
 Phil 2:6-11; Jn 3:13-17
 Sunday: Ex 32:7-11, 13-14; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 17, 19;
 1 Tm 1:12-17; Lk 15:1-32 [1-10]

St. Nicholas Pasta Dinner

Saturday, September 14th

5:00-6:30PM in the Parish Hall

**Rigatoni/ Marinara
Sauce, Meatballs,
Sausage, Garlic Bread,
Caesar Salad, Dessert,
and Beverages**



\$10 Adults

\$5 Kids

\$30 Families

(Parents with children under 12)



Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus

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, Sept. 13th
from 9:30am to 10:30am in the Social Hall.**

St. Nicholas' Fourth Alpha Session Is Starting in September!

What is Alpha?

Alpha is a program that takes people on a journey leading to a personal encounter with Jesus Christ. Alpha enables people to ask questions, share ideas, build friendships, and experience the love of God through the power of the Holy Spirit. Each session begins with food, followed by a short video presentation that looks at a different aspect of the Christian faith. After that, there is time for discussion in a friendly small group setting.

Who is it for? Those who have given up on church – Those wanting to investigate Christianity – Those who are new to the faith – Those wanting to grow in understanding and faith. In other words – Alpha is open to everyone!

The 10-week Alpha session will begin on Thursday, Sept. 19th and end on Thursday, November 21st.

(Day away will be on Saturday, Nov. 2)

Evening Schedule

6:00pm Arrival/Social time

6:30pm Dinner,

Video Presentation with

Discussion following

8:30pm Dismissal

Registration cards are available on the side tables in church and at the Parish and SRE Offices. For more information, call 949-837-7676.

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

Each bible study consists of ten live presentation sessions.



"The Book of Revelation"

Mondays at 10:00AM, Room 201

"The Book of Exodus"

Thursday at 10:00AM, Room 201

Classes begin this Monday, September 9th and Thursday, September 12th.

**For information relative to course content, biblical source material, Bible editions, etc.
Please call: Al Guevara at (714) 848-1624**

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)



Sessions have started, but it's not too late to join. We would love to meet you and walk with you on your faith journey. Sessions start at 7 pm, Room 201, every Thursday in the Parish Center.

Please call Betty Farrell at 949.400.6875.

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA PARISH SCHOOL FULL SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY!

St. Catherine of Siena Parish School is offering **10 FULL SCHOLARSHIPS** to students of registered families at St. Nicholas Parish. The scholarships apply to **ALL GRADES (transitional kindergarten through 8th grade)** and include field trip costs. If you are interested, please contact Allison at (714) 779-1050.



Spiritual Warfare

What You Need to Know

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH

10:00AM-4:00PM

St. Edward the Confessor School Gym

33926 Calle La Primavera Dana Point

Topics Include:

- **Evil Spirits—Are they for real?**
- **Protection from Spiritual Darkness**
- **Spiritual Warrior Saints**
- **Discernment of Saints**

Speakers:

- **Fr. Bob Garon—Pastor, St. Didacus Church in Sylmar, CA**
- **Dominic Berardino—President of SCRC in Burbank, CA**

For more information and to register, visit scrc.org before September 23rd.