

MARCH 6, 2022

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



ST. NICHOLAS PARISH

24252 El Toro Road, Laguna Woods, CA 92637

www.st-nicholaschurch.org

Parish office (949) 837-1090 • 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
In-Residence	Bishop Thanh
Nguyen	
Visiting Priest	Msgr. John Campbell
Visiting Priest	Rev. Jack Sewell
Visiting Priest	Rev. Chin Dang
Deacon	Gerardo de Santos
Deacon	Carlos Pineda
Deacon	Chau Tran

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday-Friday:	9AM (English)
Saturday Vigil:	4PM(English) 6PM (Spanish)
Sunday:	7:30AM, 9AM, 11AM
(English)	
	5PM (Vietnamese)
Holy Day Vigil:	4PM (English), 6PM
(Spanish)	
Holy Days:	7AM, 9AM, 12PM (English)

RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION) *

Wednesday: 5:00PM
Saturday: 9:00AM

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.

***Confessions are back inside the church.**

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Sunday: 8:30AM - 12:30PM; Monday - Friday: 8:30AM - 12:00PM, 1:00PM - 5:00PM

Pastor's Message

Dear Parishioners,

We have begun our Lenten season which is a time of penance and conversion in our lives. During this season we are invited and encouraged to reflect on our lives and discern where we may have gone astray or need to experience conversion of mind, heart, or action. This is not an easy task for most people because it may lead us to discover unpleasant things about ourselves.

In today's Gospel, we hear how Jesus was led into the desert for 40 days and was tempted by the devil. He was able to defeat the devil because He is God the Son. We need to look to Him for grace and strength to battle the devil who may attempt to attack us during our journey through these 40 days of Lent.

Our actions of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving are opportunities for us to atone for our faults and failures and help us to refocus our attention and our lives on the Lord. Our acts of penance and giving things up during this season are ways to make us better people and better followers of Christ who is the head of our Catholic faith. Everything we do in this life, we do for the Lord, and this season is a time to help us reconnect with our baptismal call to purify ourselves and be examples of God's love in the world.

Jesus was tempted but did not fall. The devil does not like it when we strive to be more Christ-like; therefore, the devil will challenge us as we strive to be better people. I pray that God will give us the strength to defeat any attacks by the devil during our days in the desert. Please consider using the resource materials that we have provided to assist in your Lenten journey.

Fr. George P. Blais

WEEKLY DONATIONS SUMMARY

	Week of Feb. 21-27, 2022	Week of Feb. 21-27, 2021
Envelopes	\$8,437.00	\$9,630.00
Loose	\$3,502.00	\$1,988.50
Electronic	\$2,274.33	\$1,825.19
Total	\$14,213.33	\$13,443.69

We invite you to consider using electronic/online giving, a convenient and secure way to make your donations. To do so, you may go to the parish website or call the office for assistance in setting it up. Thank you for supporting our parish!

Pastoral Services Appeal



Our faith. Our future.

It is time for our annual Pastoral Services Appeal. This year our diocesan goal is \$110,000. Please pick up a brochure and prayerfully consider making a pledge for this year's appeal.

Thank you to those who have already made a pledge in response to the letter that you received from the diocese.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Sunday:

7:30AM Lauro de Mesa & Paz Ramos (D)

9:00AM For the Parish

11:00AM Susan Christensen (D)

Monday:

9AM Fernando Mallory (L)

Tuesday:

9AM Richard Boulton (D)

Wednesday:

9AM Laurentia Sauter (D)

Thursday:

9AM Therese Blais (D)

Mary Morley (D)

Hector Tenorio (D)

Friday:

9AM Gregory Ritter (L)

Saturday:

4PM Nicholas Rusnov (D)

6PM Jose Esquivel (D)

We remember all our recently deceased who have entered their new and eternal life in Christ, especially, *Ursula Kim, Audrey Glenn and Rebecca Turno.*

Grant to all our dearly departed, eternal rest, O Lord, and may your light shine on them forever.

Saints of the Week and Special Observances

Sunday: First Sunday of Lent; Girl Scouting Sunday

Monday: Ss. Perpetua and Felicity; Julian calendar Lent begins

Tuesday: St. John of God

Wednesday: St. Frances of Rome

Friday: Abstinence



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

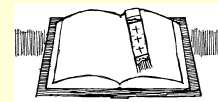
Our Monthly Day of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is this Wednesday, March 9th beginning after the 9AM Mass and continues until just prior to the 9AM Mass on Thursday, March 10th.

We invite and encourage you to spend some time with Our Lord in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament.

DEVOTIONS

2nd Wednesday of the month
7:00PM (English) and 8:00PM (Vietnamese).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK



Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8-10, 15;
Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7, 16-19; Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19;
Lk 11:29-32

Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Ps 138:1-3,
7c-8; Mt 7:7-12

Friday: Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-8; Mt 5:20-26

Saturday: Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8;
Mt 5:43-48

Sunday: Gn 15:5-12, 17-18; Ps 27:1, 7-9, 13-14;
Phil 3:17 — 4:1 [3:20 — 4:1];
Lk 9:28b-36

**TODAY'S READINGS
First Sunday of Lent**

First Reading — The Israelites show their faith by offering the LORD first fruits of the products of their new land (Deuteronomy 26:4-10).

Psalm — Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble (Psalm 91).

Second Reading — All who express faith in the risen Christ and confess that he is Lord will be saved (Romans 10:8-13).

Gospel — Jesus was led into the desert by the Spirit and was tempted (Luke 4:1-13).



Register Now!

Saint Nicholas offers Word on Fire ENGAGE “Lenten Traditions” and “Praying as a Parish this Lent” Series.

These special **Bishop Robert Barron** offerings are provided free to Parishioners via our partner at **Flocknote**. To begin receiving these entertaining and inspirational series by way of Text or Email:

Text: **SNWOFE**
To: **84576**

Or

Connect online with us at:
snchurch.flocknote.com/SNWOFE

While doing this you will also be given the chance to join (by checking) the “**Saint Nicholas Church**” Group that receives all of Father George’s “Weekly Messages” and other timely parish news.

Text STOP to 84576 to stop txt notifications at any time. Text HELP for help. There is no charge for this service, but your carrier message and data may apply. Full view of privacy policy and terms at flocknote.com/txt.



MASKS ARE ENCOURAGED.

**CLASSES CONTINUE FOR
ST. NICHOLAS PARISH
ADULT FAITH FORMATION
“ACTS OF THE APOSTLES”**

Classes include live lecture presentations, open book reading and analysis of the biblical text, Catholic teachings and interpretation of the Sacred Scriptures in accordance with the Magisterium of the Catholic Church. Live Q and A is encouraged during class. Learn what and why we believe, through this book from the Christian Canon... the New Testament, beginning with this account of the Early Christian Church by St. Luke.

**“ACTS OF THE APOSTLES”
MONDAYS AT 10:00 AM**

March 7, 14, 21, 28 and April 4

Saint Nicholas Parish Hall, 2nd floor Rm. 201.

For additional information,
please call Al Guevara at (714) 848-1624.



**Southern California
GIVEN Gathering**

**MARCH 12, 2022
9AM—4PM**

**Christ Cathedral
Diocese of Orange**

Develop Your God-Given Gifts at a
Local Event for Women.

Women of all ages are invited to a GIVEN Gathering event at the Diocese of Orange’s Christ Cathedral. Created by the GIVEN Institute, this community event will inspire all women to receive the gift that they are, realize the gifts they’ve been given, and respond with the gift only they can give, activating their unique talents for the service of the Lord. For More information & registration info visit, www.giveninstitute.com/socal-given-gathering



Freede Theater at Christ Cathedral

13280 Chapman Ave., Garden Grove, CA

Speaker: Kathleen Beckman
for more information call 949-345-9130.
Register by March 15.



Confirmation & Youth Ministry

Upcoming Classes: All classes are held upstairs in the parish hall after the 9AM Mass. Classes are as follows:

C2—3/6/2022

C1—3/13/2022

Our Next Faith Sharing Event will be held on **Saturday 3/26/2022** after the 4PM Vigil Mass downstairs in the Parish Hall. Please call the SRE office 949-837-7676 to confirm if you plan on attending this event.

Please keep an eye out for further announcements regarding important dates for Confirmation and Youth Ministry in the coming weeks, or feel free to check the Ministry's Google Calendar (link available on the parish website).



Confirmation Classes For Adults

Register Now!
Forms available at Parish Office.

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 been confirmed on **Saturday, April 30th, within the 10:00 AM Mass.**

If you are 18 years of age or older, baptized, 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 10 AM to 11:30 AM, beginning Saturday, March 19th, in Room A** [the building behind the Parish Office].

Registration forms are available in the Parish Office.

If you wish more information, please call Gloria at (949) 768-7228.



New Spiritual Book Available at St. Nicholas Library

The Parish Library would like to announce the availability of a new book in preparation for Lent that is titled Interior Freedom by Catholic priest Rev. Jacques Philippe. This small book is packed with spiritual treasures to help us to achieve being fully human as God created us. There are 2 copies available for check-out."



The Parish Library is open on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month from 9:00am to 12:30pm.



ANOINTING OF THE SICK St. Nicholas Parish

A COMMUNAL CELEBRATION OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY, **MARCH 20, 2022 AT 12:30PM IN THE CHURCH.**

All are invited. Your prayers are important and your presence a source of consolation.

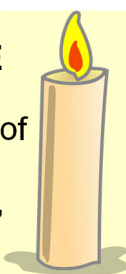
Stations of the Cross

Please join us on the Fridays of Lent, for Stations of the Cross after the 9AM Mass & in the evening, at 7PM-English & 8PM-Vietnamese.



CANDLE PRICE INCREASE

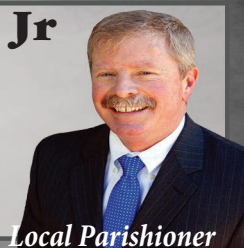
Due to an increase in our cost of candles, candle prices will increase from \$2.00 to \$3.00, starting March 1, 2022.





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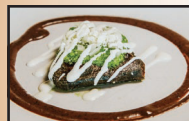
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MARCH 6, 2022

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

40 CANS FOR LENT FOOD DRIVE



Donate 40 items (cans or boxes) of non-perishable food items during Lent via the weekly parish food drive. (One item for each day of Lent.) All donated items will be distributed to members of our community who are in need.



I CAN, YOU CAN, WE CAN



Sponsored by:
St Nicholas Knights of Columbus



The Knights of Columbus is again sponsoring a "40 Cans for Lent" Food Drive during the 40 days of Lent. This is an effort to increase the awareness of our weekly food drive at St. Nicholas Parish. 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.



2nd Collection

We will have a 2nd collection next weekend, March 12th & 13th, for the Church in Africa, Latin America and Eastern Europe. Thank you for your generosity.

The St. Nicholas Council of The Knights of Columbus invites all parishioners to attend the 9AM Mass with them, on Friday, March 25, as this parish demonstrates their support for pro-life causes during this "Mass For Life".



Fish Bake Dinner of Lent



The Knights of Columbus will offer their first Fish Bake Dinner of Lent to parishioners on **Friday, March 11th**. The dinner will be served beginning at 5:30pm and will consist of deep fried Cod, fries, coleslaw, dessert and beverages. The charge for the meal will be \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Family pricing will be available. We anticipate a great turn-out for this parish event.



**JOIN US FOR
COFFEE AND DONUTS,
Sunday after the 7:30am, 9:00am and
11:00am Masses in the parish center.**

2021 DONATION STATEMENTS MAILED

Year-end donation statements were mailed out to all those who donated \$250 or more to St. Nicholas Church in 2021. If that includes you, and for some reason you did not receive your statement, please contact Len Goswitz (Parish Business Manager) at (949) 837-1090 or

lgoswitz@st-nicholaschurch.org

Please also contact Len if you gave less than \$250 during 2021 and would like to receive a statement. Thank you for supporting our parish!



**Daylight Saving Time
Weekend of March 13th.**