



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 Bui
Parochial Vicar	Rev. Phuong Nguyen
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: 8:30AM

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)
7PM (Vietnamese)**

RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION) *

Wednesday: 6:00PM (month of December)

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 held inside the church.**

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

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

Pastor's Message

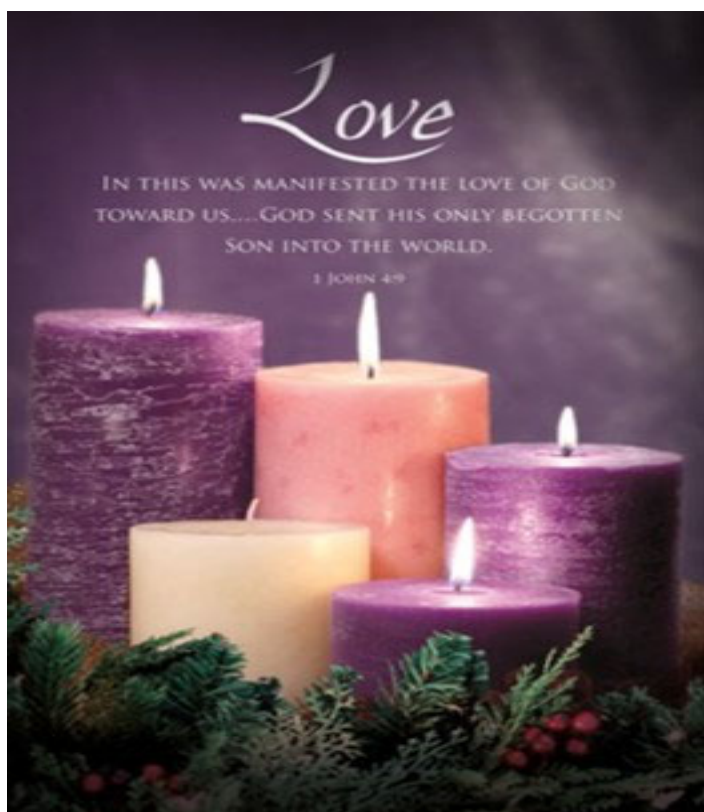
Dear Parishioners,

This week, our readings shift to how the birth of Jesus came about. We hear from the Gospel of Matthew about Mary being with child through the power of the Holy Spirit. Mary and Joseph were engaged to be married, but not yet married and the law was extremely strict against women found to be with child outside of marriage. Joseph was visited in a dream by an angel who said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her."

Sometimes we too need encouragement from God or an angel not to be afraid of something we may not understand or something that does not make sense to us. It is important to always have faith and trust in God's messages to us so that we can truly be His instruments in the world. Advent is a time to reflect on God's presence and message to us in our lives.

Joseph is reminded of the words of the Prophet Isaiah; "The virgin shall be with child and give birth to a son, and they shall call him Emmanuel." This name means "God is with us." As we enter this final week of Advent, let us remember that "God is truly with us" always and this is the reason for the season. We need to remember that God will never abandon us, and He came to set us free and bring us the gift of salvation.

Fr. George P. Blais



CONFESSIONS IN THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

Saturday	December 17	9:00am
Monday	December 19	9:30am 6:00pm
Tuesday	December 20	9:30am
Wednesday	December 21	9:30am 6:00pm
Thursday	December 22	9:30am
Friday	December 23	9:30am
Saturday	December 24	9:00am

Please note: evening confessions in the month of December will be at 6:00 PM.

May the joy and peace that were present at the birth of Christ be present in your home this season.



Mass Intentions for the Week

Sunday:

7:30 AM For the Parish
9:00 AM Marlene Schmitt (D)
11:00 AM John Schulte (D)

Monday:

9:00 AM Louis Ignacio Ojeda (D)

Tuesday:

9:00 AM Stan Riggs (D)

Wednesday:

9:00 AM Junior Pastrana (D)
Dewey Glenn (D)
Miles Christopher Eubanks (D)
Antonio V. Locanas (D)
Denny Kouri (D)

Thursday:

9:00 AM Deceased Relatives
of Vu Family

Friday:

9:00 AM Mona G. Morris (L)
Raul & Rosita De La Barra (D)
Maria Mau Pham (D)
Tess Gargantiel (D)

Saturday:

8:30 AM Alicia S. Terrado (L)
4:00 PM Myriam Kouri (L)
6:00 PM Lino Flores (D)
11:00 PM For the Parish

We remember all our recently deceased who have entered their new and eternal life in Christ, especially Nhue Van Nguyen. Grant to all our dearly departed, eternal rest, O Lord, and may your light shine on them forever.

ADORATION

Our monthly day of adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is on the 2nd Wednesday of the month beginning after the 9AM Mass and continues until just prior to the 9AM Mass on Thursday



HOLY HOUR

Saint Nicholas Church celebrates a HOLY HOUR every Wednesday at 7:00 PM.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK



Monday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
Tuesday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38
Wednesday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
Thursday: 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56
Friday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-34; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66
Saturday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79
Sunday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27-29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25] Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14 Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20
Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading-You will be given this sign: the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel (Isaiah 7:10-14).

Psalms-The king of glory shall come in (Psalm 24).

Second Reading-God has called us to belong to Jesus Christ (Romans 1:1-7).

Gospel-The son born of Mary shall be called Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins. He shall be Emmanuel, "God is with us" (Matthew 1:18-24).

Saints of the Week and Special Observances

Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Advent;
Hanukkah begins
Wednesday: St. Peter Canisius;
Winter Begins
Friday: St. John of Kanty
Saturday: The Vigil of Christmas
(Christmas Eve)



We want to communicate more effectively with you and make it easy for you to control what types of announcements you get from us and how you are notified when we make them. And in order to do this we are using a simple service called FLOCKNOTE. (Like sending "notes" to your "flock".) This is all totally free for you to use and makes it easy for you to get Father George's Weekly Messages, important Parish News, and stay plugged in to the ministries or groups that you care about, all by text message or email updates. Your information will be completely safe and secure. And you can unsubscribe from any updates at any time!

Join FLOCKNOTE by Texting:

SNC1 To: 84576

or

Connect online with us at:

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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.

MONDAY MORNING PRAYER

The Knights of Columbus lead the Rosary in the church, Monday mornings at 8:05am.

Everyone is invited to attend.

The Rosary will last 15-20 minutes. All prayer intentions welcome. Please join us.



St. Nicholas Parish Library

The Parish Library is open on the first and third Sunday of the month from 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM. Library is in Room "C" which is located behind the Parish Office.

JOIN US FOR COFFEE AND DONUTS AT THE PARISH CENTER THIS SUNDAY AFTER ALL THE MASSES.

Come gather with friends or come make new ones. Thank you for your support.



FAITH ALIVE

Come and join us every Thursday in room "A" from 10:00am – 11:30am for "Faith Alive". We study the upcoming Sunday Scripture and follow the Sunday missal using "Living with Christ".

Don't miss the fellowship, coffee and snacks. We sometime get together for lunch afterwards, but that is optional. For questions, please call Rosalie Souza 949-457-1092.

TAMALES FUNDRAISER



Hispanic Community would like to thank all who supported the tamale sale held on November 19th/20th, it was a great Success! Funds were used for the Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Un agradecimiento a todos los que ayudaron a hacer los tamales y los que donaron, fue un éxito. Que Dios los bendiga a todos. Los fondos se usaron para la celebración de La Virgen de Guadalupe.

Advent Reflection



Deacon Gerry de Santos and his wife Socorro held a morning Reflection and Prayer Session on Saturday, November 26th in the Parish Hall. It was a wonderful way to prepare for Advent.





Confirmation & Youth Ministry

Confirmation Classes have begun for the 2022-2023 academic year. All classes are held upstairs in the parish hall.

Next Class Meeting:
C1: 12/18/22 9AM

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).

Volunteer to Carry a Candle



The seventh annual Homeless Persons' Interreligious Memorial Service on **December 21** at the Lutheran Church of the Cross in Laguna

Woods needs volunteers. More than 300 people are needed to carry candles. Each candle symbolizes a person experiencing homelessness who died on the streets of Orange County in 2022.

In addition to the Diocese of Orange, the Homeless Persons' Interreligious Memorial Service is organized by Our Father's Table, the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange, Volunteer Network OC, the Interfaith Network of Orange County and Lutheran Church of the Cross. If you have questions, please contact the Office of Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs at 714-282-3008 or www.volunteermatch.org to sign up.

AS THE HOLIDAYS APPROACH US BEWARE OF EMAIL AND TEXT MESSAGE SCAMS

If you received an email or phone text messages from Father George Blais or anyone else from the parish requesting assistance with money transfers, iTunes gift card purchases, or any other type of monetary support, PLEASE DISREGARD, these are scams. Always check with the office directly before responding to any such email to verify authenticity.



SRE classes continue on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Please check your class schedule for specific times and dates. For questions regarding SRE classes please call 949-837-7676.

Donate a Poinsettia in Memory of a Loved One



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 plants to the Parish Office. Thank you.

PARKING LOT ETIQUETTE

Please exercise safety and patience as you maneuver the parking lot. Watch your speed 5 - miles per hour, do not enter the parking lot through the exit lane at the light, park in designated spots only – not in the red zone, golf carts in designated spots only. Thank you for your cooperation.



Fr. George P. Blais, Pastor

Website Bulletin: St. Nicholas news continues after the ads, on page 8. Please scroll down.



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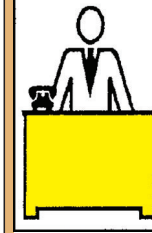
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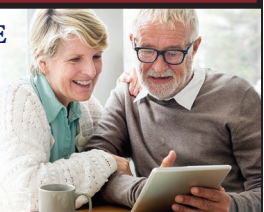
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CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE**Saturday, December 24**

8:30am - regular weekend Mass

**Christmas Vigil Masses -
December 24**

4:00 PM (English)

*Parish Choir & String Quartet
(3:40pm CHORAL PRELUDE)*

6:00 PM (Spanish)

8:00 PM (Vietnamese)

11:00 PM (English)

St. Nicholas Chorale

**Sunday, December 25 -
Christmas**

7:30 AM (English)

9:00 AM (English)

11:00 AM (English)

5:00 PM (Vietnamese)

Organ and Cantor at all the Masses

**SIMBANG GABI****Sunday, December 18th**

Come and join us in celebrating Simbang Gabi here at St. Nicholas on **Sunday, December 18, 2022 at 6:30 PM**. This is a Filipino tradition and normally a devotional 9 day series of Masses in preparation for Christmas. Mass will be officiated by Fr. George P. Blais. After the Mass there will be a reception at the Large Hall 1st Floor. Any questions call Mary Ann Puzon at 949-294-5625 or email preciousgem14@cox.net



**Parish Office will be closed on Friday,
December 23rd at 12 noon, thru
Monday, December 26th. Office will
re-open on Tuesday, December 27th.**

**Blessed Christmas and Happy New
Year wishes to all.**