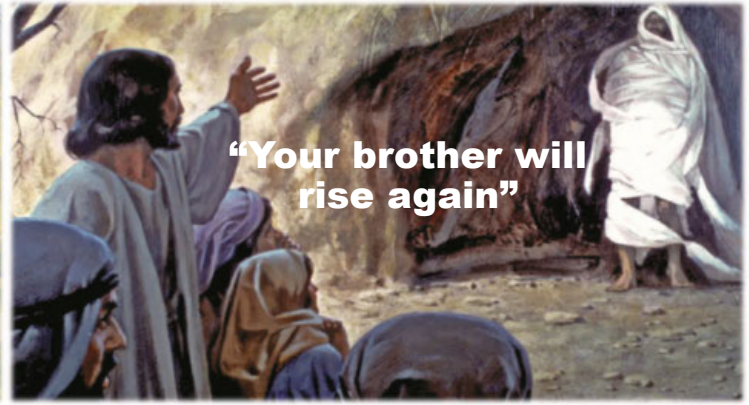


**MARCH 26, 2023**

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**



## **ST. NICHOLAS PARISH**

**24252 El Toro Road, Laguna Woods, CA 92637**

[www.st-nicholaschurch.org](http://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**

<b>Pastor</b>	<b>Rev. George P. Blais</b>
<b>Parochial Vicar</b>	<b>Rev. Martin Bui</b>
<b>Parochial Vicar</b>	<b>Rev. Phuong Nguyen</b>
<b>In-Residence</b>	<b>Bishop Thanh Nguyen</b>
<b>Visiting Priest</b>	<b>Rev. Jack Sewell</b>
<b>Visiting Priest</b>	<b>Rev. Chin Dang</b>
<b>Deacon</b>	<b>Gerardo de Santos</b>
<b>Deacon</b>	<b>Carlos Pineda</b>
<b>Deacon</b>	<b>Chau Tran</b>

#### **MASS SCHEDULE**

<b>Monday-Friday:</b>	<b>9AM (English)</b>
<b>Saturday:</b>	<b>8:30AM (English)</b>
<b>Saturday Vigil:</b>	<b>4PM(English) 6PM(Spanish)</b>
<b>Sunday:</b>	<b>7:30AM, 9AM, 11AM (English) 5PM (Vietnamese)</b>
<b>Holy Day Vigil:</b>	<b>4PM (English), 6PM (Spanish)</b>
<b>Holy Days:</b>	<b>7AM, 9AM, 12PM (English) 7PM (Vietnamese)</b>

#### **RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION) \***

See Lenten Schedule

#### **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,

On this Fifth Sunday of Lent, we hear the story of the raising of Lazarus from the dead. In this story, we hear about some human emotions that are expressed by the loved ones of Lazarus that those who have experienced the loss of a loved one can readily identify in themselves.

"Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." This emotion of blame and doubt is a common emotion experienced by sons and daughters, husbands and wives, but especially parents who don't expect to experience the death of a child. As difficult as it is during the time of death of a loved one, we must hear what Jesus says to Martha: "Your brother will rise again." Upon reaching the tomb, Jesus calls for Lazarus to come out and tells the people to untie him and set him free.

This week, we experience the Third Scrutiny with our Elect preparing for the Easter Sacraments. These Scrutinies are also meant for each of us to reflect upon to help us prepare to renew our own Baptismal promises on Easter Sunday. The first Scrutiny invited us to reflect on what we are thirsting for in our life, especially spiritually. The second Scrutiny invited us to ask what we are blind to in our lives and what we need to open our eyes, mind, and heart to in our walk with the Lord. This week, the Third Scrutiny calls us to rise from the deadness that may exist in our hearts and lives so that we too can be untied of the burdens and things that prevent us from fully experiencing God's love through His compassion and mercy.

You will notice that all statues, images, and crosses will be covered in the Church in anticipation of the final journey of the Lord to His passion and death. These will be uncovered for the Easter Vigil as a reminder that He is risen. This will encourage us to look forward to our own resurrection when we will be untied of all earthly shackles.

Fr. George P. Blais, Pastor

## WEEKLY DONATIONS SUMMARY

	Week of March 13-19, 2023	Week of March 13-19, 2023
Envelopes	\$7,634.00	\$10,752.00
Loose	\$6,474.00	\$5,052.71
Electronic	\$2,339.42	\$2,634.38
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$16,447.42</b>	<b>\$18,439.09</b>

### Electronic Giving Made Easy

For simple step-by-step instructions on how to start making donations electronically, there is a one-page guide on a table in the vestibule (entry area) of the church. If you need further assistance, please contact Len Goswitz (Parish Business Manager) at (949) 837-1090 or [lgoswitz@st-nicholaschurch.org](mailto:lgoswitz@st-nicholaschurch.org)

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## LENTEN CONFESSIONS



We will be having additional confession time during the Lenten Season. These additional times will replace the communal penance service.

**Monday - Saturday,  
after the morning Mass  
and  
Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday  
at 6:00 PM**

Please consider taking the time to go to confession during Lent.

## Mass Intentions for the Week

### Sunday:

7:30 AM	For the Parish	
9:00 AM	Aleyamma Samuel	(L)
	Samuel Leon	(D)
	Jennie Piazza	(D)
	Isagan Salvacion	(D)
11:00 AM	Gunawan Hasan	(D)

### Monday:

9:00 AM	Deborah Cheves	(D)
---------	----------------	-----

### Tuesday:

9:00 AM	Fausta McIntosh	(L)
	Ernesto Sanchez	(D)
	Thomas Herrick	(D)
	Liwayway Relador	(D)

### Wednesday:

9:00 AM	Dolores Abenis	(D)
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### Thursday:

9:00 AM	Michael Galano	(D)
---------	----------------	-----

### Friday:

9:00 AM	Cardenas Family	(L)
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### Saturday

8:30 AM	Tess Gargantiel	(D)
4:00 PM	Fauls Family	(L)
6:00 PM	Ana Isabel Diaz	(D)

We remember all our recently deceased who have 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.

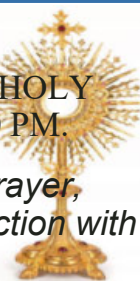
## Saints of the Week & Special Observances

Sunday:	Fifth Sunday of Lent
Friday:	Abstinence
Saturday:	First Saturday; April Fool's Day

## HOLY HOUR

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

*Come and spend an hour of Prayer, Reflection, Adoration, and Benediction with the Blessed Sacrament.*



## TODAY'S READINGS

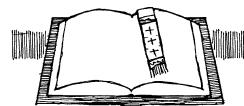
**First Reading** - Thus says the LORD GOD: I will open your graves, have you rise from them, and settle you on your land. (Ezekiel 37:12-14).

**Psalm** - The Lord is kind and saves us (Psalm 130).

**Second Reading** - If Christ is in you, the spirit is alive even if the body is dead because of sin (Romans 8:8-11).

**Gospel** - Lazarus, dead for four days, came out of his tomb when Jesus called his name. Many of those who had seen what had happened began to believe in Jesus (John 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]).

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK



Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 [41c-62]; Ps 23:1-6; Jn 8:1-11

Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9; Ps 102:2-3, 16-21; Jn 8:21-30

Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Dn 3:52-56; Jn 8:31-42

Thursday: Gn 17:3-9; Ps 105:4-9; Jn 8:51-59

Friday: Jer 20:10-13; Ps 18:2-7; Jn 10:31-42

Saturday: Ez 37:21-28; Jer 31:10, 11-13; Jn 11:45-56

Sunday: Mt 21:1-11 (procession); Is 50:4-7; Ps 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24; Phil 2:6-11; Mt 26:14 - 27:66 [27:11-54]



Fifth Sunday of Lent  
March 26, 2023

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD;  
LORD, hear my voice!

— Psalm 130:1



**MARCH 26, 2023**

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

**DON'T MISS OUR LAST**

**LEN†EN**  
**FISH DINNER – ON FRIDAY**

**March 31ST**  
**From 5 PM - 6:30 PM**  
**in the Parish Hall.**

**Cost per person: \$10**  
**family prices available**



Prepared by The Knights of Columbus



**GET IN THE LOOP!**

***HEAR every word  
by turning on  
your T-Coil!***

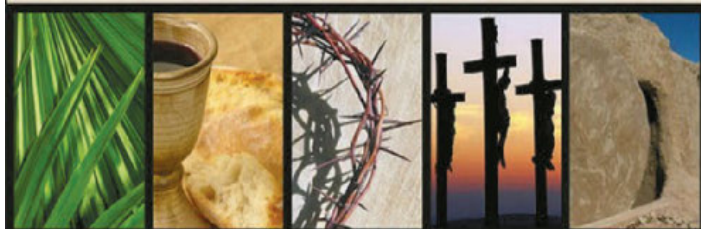
St. Nicholas Parish has installed a HEARING LOOP in the church for those of you that wear a hearing aid or for those that have trouble hearing every word.

*If you are wearing a hearing aid please set it in the **"T-COIL" SETTING.***

If you do not know if you have a T-Coil please take the card, available in the church pews, to your audiologist.

*If you do not wear a hearing aid and would like to listen in the loop please go to the sacristy at least 15 minutes prior to the beginning of Mass to check out a listening device.*

**HOLY WEEK**



**Schedule**

**Holy Thursday, April 6**

9:00AM - Morning Prayer  
6:00PM - Mass of the Lord's Supper (Vietnamese)  
8:00PM - Mass of the Lord's Supper (Eng/Span)  
*With procession to and Adoration at the Altar of  
Repose until Midnight.*

We will have a special collection for the needs of the poor in our community on Holy Thursday.

**Good Friday, April 7**

9:00AM - Morning Prayer  
12:00PM (NOON) - Stations of the Cross  
1:30PM - Celebration of the Passion of the Lord (English)  
5:00PM - Celebration of the Passion of the Lord (Vietnamese)  
7:30PM - Celebration of the Passion of the Lord (Spanish)

*We will have a Collection for the Holy Land on Good Friday.*

**Holy Saturday, April 8**

9:00AM - Morning Prayer  
7:30PM - Easter Vigil (Trilingual)

***PLEASE NOTE: THERE IS NO 4:00 PM  
MASS ON HOLY SATURDAY.***

**Easter Sunday Masses, April 9**

**7:30AM**

**9:00AM - Parish Choir with String Quartet**

**11:00AM - St. Nicholas Chorale**

**5:00PM Vietnamese**

## Confirmation & Youth Ministry



In observance of Holy Week and Easter, there will be no Confirmation classes on April 2nd and April 9th. Classes will resume on the following dates:

**Next Class Meetings:**  
**C2: 4/16/23 9AM**  
**C1: 4/23/23 9AM**

Our Next Faith Sharing event will be held on **Saturday, April 1st** in the Parish Hall immediately following the 4PM mass. Students are encouraged to bring their sponsors, family, friends, etc.

Please visit the Ministry's Google Calendar (link available on the parish website) for updated info.

## Palm Sunday Mass Schedule, April 1 - 2



**Saturday Vigil**  
**4:00PM English**  
**6:00PM Spanish**

**Sunday**  
**7:30AM**  
**9:00AM**  
**11:00AM**  
**5:00 PM in Vietnamese**

## Catholic Church's Disposal of Blessed Palms



Because they have been blessed by a Priest, and therefore, are holy objects, the palm branches used for Catholic Church services, especially those used on Palm Sunday, should not be disposed of like trash. After the Palm Sunday service, palms may be collected from the worshipers by an usher for disposal. If you would prefer to take your palms home, it may be kept as a holy item. Should you wish to dispose of it, you may bury it or burn it and spread the ashes outside. If you have old palms, bring them to the Parish Office before April 5th and we will burn them at the Easter Vigil.

## Religious Education



SRE in person classes continue on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Please check your class schedule for specific times and dates.

If you have any questions, please contact  
**Mr. Lopez at 949-837-7676**

## 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.

***I CAN, YOU CAN, WE CAN***



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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.



We want to communicate more effectively with you. To easily get Father George's Weekly Messages, important Parish News, and stay plugged in to the ministries or groups that you care about join FLOCKNOTE,

**by Texting: SNC1**

**To: 84576**

**or**

**Connect online with us at:**  
[snchurch.flocknote.com/SNC1](http://snchurch.flocknote.com/SNC1)

You can unsubscribe from any updates at any time! Text STOP to 84576 to stop txt notifications at any time. Text HELP for help.

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



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St. Nicholas Church, Laguna Woods, CA

A 4C 05-4184



**MARCH 26, 2023**

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

**ST. NICHOLAS  
CHRIST CATHEDRAL TOUR  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 2023**



**COST: \$20.00**  
(checks or correct change please)

**Bus limit is 50. You are welcome to bring own lunch sack or snack. Depending on the weather, lunch will on the bus or in the Cathedral's outdoor area. *If interested, please call office to check for availability.***

- ♦ **Bus departs at 11:45 AM. (please arrive by 11:30 AM to St. Nicholas large parking lot)**
- ♦ **Bus departs Christ Cathedral approx. 3:30 PM.**

**We look forward to a faith-filled day.**

**Event sponsored by  
St. Nicholas Adult Faith Formation**

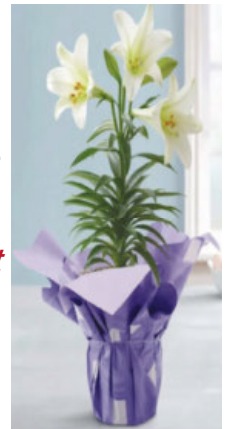
**PANCAKE & SAUSAGE  
BREAKFAST**



Next Sunday, **April 2, 2023**, the Knights of Columbus will have a pancake and sausage breakfast after the 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Masses. Please plan to attend this parish event with your family and friends.

**Easter Church Decor**

Easter Lily donations will gladly be accepted to help decorate the church for Easter. Please bring plants to the Parish Center starting **Monday, April 3. *Please do not bring them before then.*** Altar will be decorated on Holy Saturday, April 8. *Monetary donations for flowers are also accepted.*



St. Nicholas Parish  
***A COMMUNAL CELEBRATION OF THE  
ANOINTING OF THE SICK WILL BE HELD ON  
SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 2023  
AT 12:15 PM IN THE CHURCH.***



We invite all who are suffering from chronic or acute illnesses, all who are elderly, preparing for hospitalization or are having surgery, all who are terminally ill or are in hospice care, 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 (*service is after the 11 AM Mass*).

**Why should you receive the Sacrament?**

The Anointing of the Sick conveys several graces and imparts gifts of strengthening in the Holy Spirit against anxiety, discouragement, and temptation, and conveys peace and fortitude. These graces flow from the atoning death of Jesus Christ, for "this was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah, 'He took away our infirmities and bore our diseases.'" (Matt. 8:17)